

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

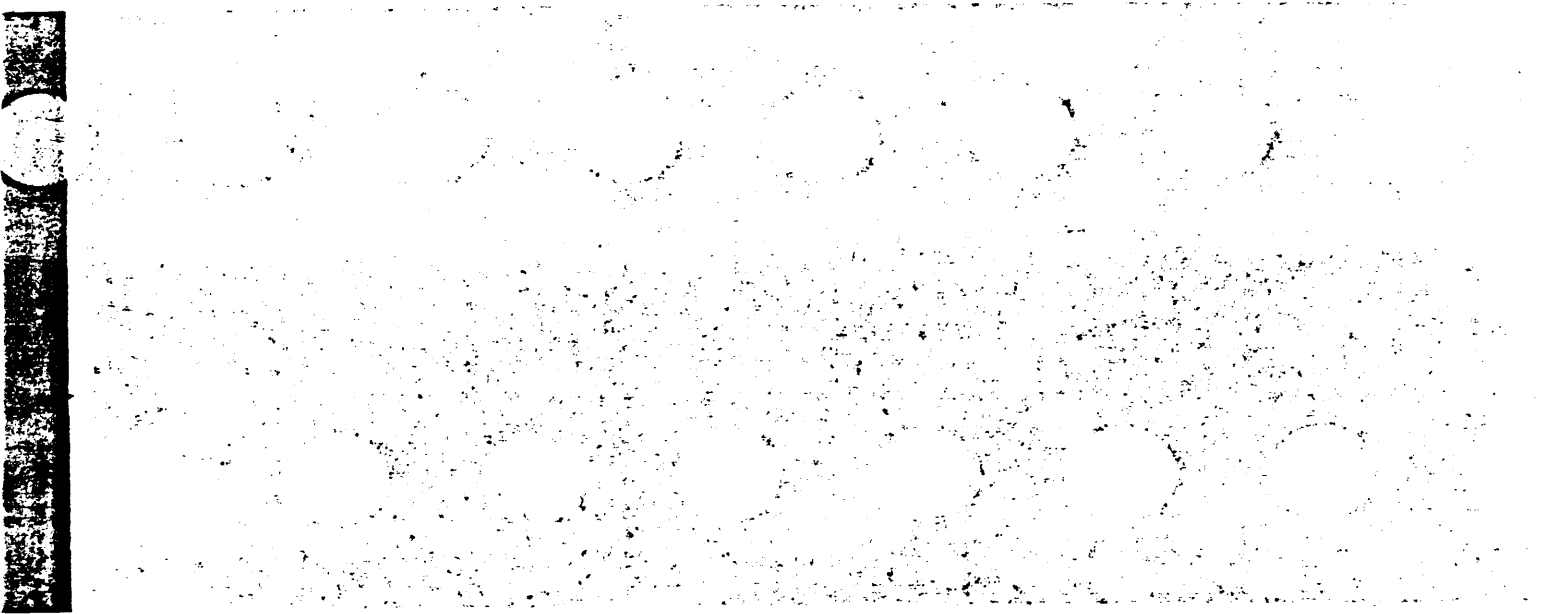
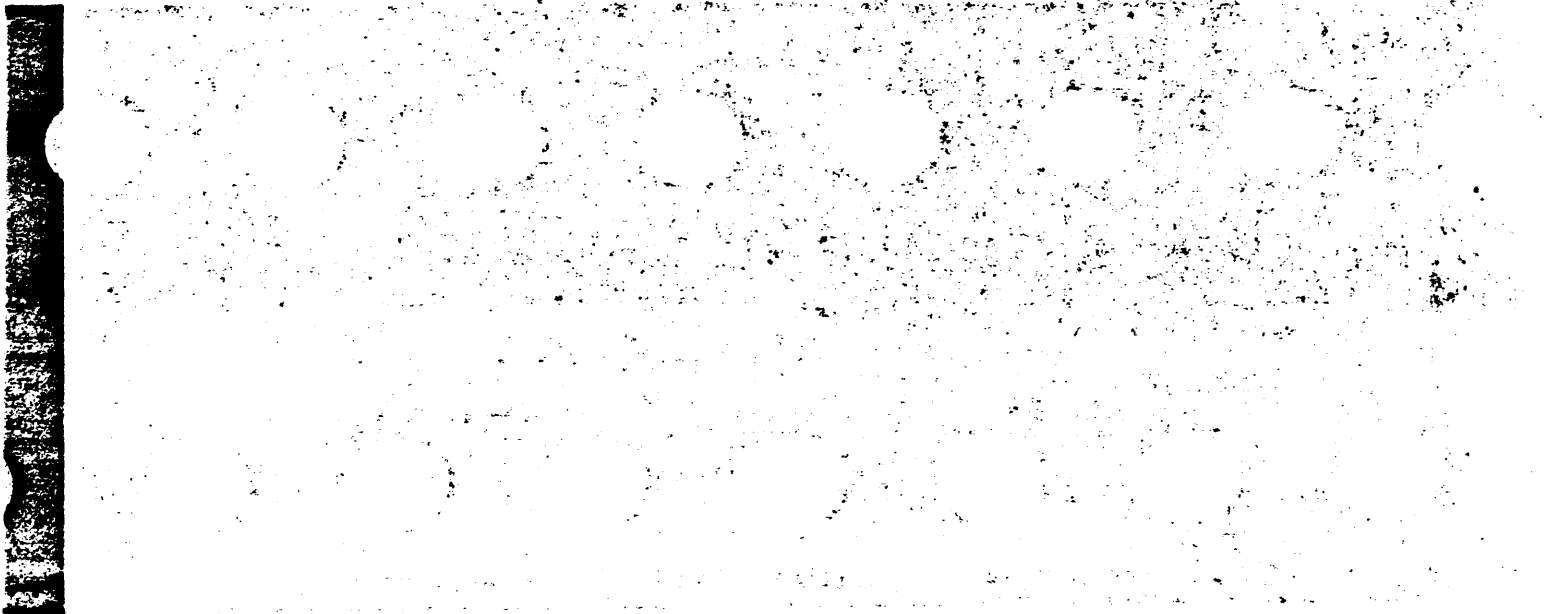
Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CINCINNATI

REPORT MADE AT KANSAS CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 2/19/54	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/10, 17/54	REPORT MADE BY WILLIAM M. HAWKINS jbm
TITLE ALVIN KARPIS, was. (deceased); ARTHUR R. BARKER; was. (deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS, was.; et al EDWARD GEORGE BREMER-VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE KIDNAPING
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>VOLNEY DAVIS has detainer at U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Ks. from State Penitentiary, McAlester, Okla., charging escape-life sentence for murder. DAVIS' article entitled "Trial and Error" published in prison publication in summer of 1953.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-RUC-</p> <p><b>DETAILS: AT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS:</b></p> <p>C. F. ZARTER, Record Clerk, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, advised that VOLNEY DAVIS, inmate # 47101, is a prisoner at that institution, and that a detainer was received by the prison on June 27, 1953 from the State Penitentiary, McAlester, Oklahoma for DAVIS. He said the detainer charges "escape-life sentence for murder."</p> <p>Mr. ZARTER said that the prisoners at this prison publish a magazine called "The New Era". He said the Summer-1953 edition contains an article on Page 6 by VOLNEY DAVIS, entitled "Trial and Error". Mr. ZARTER furnished two copies of this publication.</p> <p><b>ENCLOSURES: TO THE MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE:</b></p> <p>Two (2) copies of "The New Era", Summer-1953 Edition.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-RUC-</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED 168 MAR 26 1955 3-Bureau (7-576) 5-Minneapolis (7-43) 2-Cincinnati (7-43) 1-Kansas City (7-37)		3/2/54 100-7-576-15330 FEB 23 1954 RECORDED - 94 EX-126	

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE: Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA dated 2/12/54 at Minneapolis.





# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

CINCINNATI

REPORT MADE AT St. Louis, Missouri	DATE WHEN MADE 2-18-54	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2-16 thru 18-54	REPORT MADE BY ROBERT J. AHSENS <span style="float: right;">RMS</span>
TITLE ALVIN KARPIS, was. (deceased); ARTHUR R. BARKER, was. (deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS, was.; ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE KIDNAPING
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>JOHN E. BRENNAN, former Special Agent, reaffirmed all facts set out in his affidavit 4-15-40 concerning VOLNEY DAVIS. Stated that the subject of counsel was discussed with VOLNEY DAVIS and DAVIS was never informed by him, BRENNAN, nor by anyone else in BRENNAN's presence that a plea of guilty would result in a reduced sentence.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p>DETAILS: <u>At St. Louis, Missouri</u></p> <p>On February 17 and 18, 1954 JOHN E. BRENNAN, formerly an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for over twenty years and presently residing at 4410 Dresden Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri was interviewed concerning the petition for writ of habeas corpus filed by VOLNEY DAVIS on December 5, 1952.</p> <p>BRENNAN carefully reviewed the sworn affidavit which he made April 15, 1940 at St. Louis concerning a previous petition by DAVIS. He also reviewed the allegations set out in the petition of DAVIS dated December 5, 1952. BRENNAN reaffirmed all the facts which were set out in his affidavit of April 15, 1940 and advised in addition that the subject of counsel was discussed with VOLNEY DAVIS and that DAVIS had preferred to use such funds as he had available for use of his mother rather than "waste" it on attorney's fees. BRENNAN also stated that VOLNEY DAVIS was never informed by him, BRENNAN, nor by anyone else in BRENNAN's presence that a plea of guilty would possibly result in a reduced sentence rather than life imprisonment. BRENNAN gave a signed statement to this effect which is set out as follows:</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>		7-576-15331 FEB 23 1954 RECORDED - 28	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau (7-576) (AM) 2 - Cincinnati (7-43) 3 - Minneapolis (7-30) (Encl.-1) (RM) (1 - USA, St. Paul, Minn.) 1 - St. Louis (7-40) 3/2/54			

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50355-2

"February 18, 1954  
St. Louis, Missouri

"I, John E. Brennan, make the following signed statement voluntarily to Robert J. Ahsens, Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, concerning the petition of Volney Davis dated December 5, 1952.

"I have been a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, for over twenty years, and I am presently retired from that organization, residing at 4410 Dresden, St. Louis, Missouri.

"I have carefully read the affidavit made by me April 15, 1940 concerning Volney Davis, and I have read Davis's petition dated December 5, 1952 for release on habeas corpus.

"I reaffirm all facts which were set out in my affidavit on April 15, 1940 concerning this matter, and of independent recollection recalled these facts prior to reading this affidavit.

"In addition to the information set out in this affidavit, I reiterate that the subject of counsel was discussed with Volney Davis, and he preferred to use such funds as he had available for use of his mother rather than 'waste' it on attorney's fees. As set out in this affidavit, he was advised fully as to his right to counsel.

"Volney Davis was never informed by me nor by anyone else in my presence that a plea of guilty would possibly result in a reduced sentence rather than life imprisonment.

"The above statement has been read by me, and it is true to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

"/s/ John E. Brennan  
JOHN E. BRENNAN

"Witnesses:

"Robert J. Ahsens, Spec. Agent, F.B.I.  
St. Louis, Mo."

This statement is being forwarded to the Minneapolis Office.

It is to be noted that BRENNAN, prior to reviewing his affidavit of April 15, 1940 and the allegations set out in DAVIS's petition dated December 5, 1952, recollected independently the facts

SL 7-43

in this matter, his activities in connection with DAVIS, and statements made between himself and DAVIS, all of which were the same as he had set out in his affidavit dated April 15, 1940.

ENCLOSURE TO MINNEAPOLIS: (1) Signed Statement obtained from JOHN E. BRENNAN dated February 18, 1954.

- RUC -

SL 7-43

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE: Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA, February 12, 1954, Minneapolis.

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION, FEBRUARY 18, 1954 RTTEL

Transmit the following message to:  
SAC, CINCINNATI (7-43)(MAIL)  
MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)(AIR MAIL)  
CHICAGO (7-82)(AIR MAIL)  
KANSAS CITY (7-37)(AIR MAIL)  
MIAMI (7-24)(AIR MAIL)  
NEW YORK (7-120)(MAIL)  
OMAHA (7-4)(AIR MAIL)  
PHILADELPHIA (MAIL)  
ST. LOUIS (7-43)(AIR MAIL)  
SAN ANTONIO (AIR MAIL)  
SAN DIEGO (AIR MAIL)  
SAN FRANCISCO (7-33)(AIR MAIL)  
SAVANNAH (MAIL)

*mk*  
*ak*

**BREKID. REREP SA SIGURD FLAATA DATED FEBRUARY 12, 1954, AT  
MINNEAPOLIS. ALL OFFICES EXPEDITE INVESTIGATION AND SUREP TO  
REACH THE BUREAU NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 26, NEXT.**

HOOVER

MTC:eck  
*ule*

*True*

*R*

RECORDED-42

*17-576-15332*

EX-112

FEB 19 1954  
130

COMM - FBI  
FEB 18 1954  
MAILED 19

RECEIVED-WH 800M

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*1245*  
MAR 1 1954

SENT VIA \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FBI, KANSAS CITY

2/19/54

AIRTEL-AIRMAIL

DIRECTOR, FBI

BREKID REREP SA SIGURD FLAATA, MPLS., 2/12/54. C. F. ZARTER, RECORD

CLERK, USP, LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, SAID USM WOULD REMOVE VOLNEY DAVIS TO

ST. PAUL, MINN. ON 2/24/54.

WMH:JBM

7-37

lcc- Minneapolis (7-30)  
lcc- Cincinnati (7-43)

12-576-15333

FEB 20 1954

RECORDED - 28

EX-110

55 FEB 26 1954

236 Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **CINCINNATI**

REPORT MADE AT <b>PHILADELPHIA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/23/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/19/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>ROBERT E. CULLISON (kcc)</b>
TITLE <b>ALVIN KARPIS, was. (deceased); ARTHUR R. BARKER, was. (deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS, was.; ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>KIDNAPING</b>
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p><b>MAXWELL CHAFFETZ, 6635 McCallum Street, Philadelphia, Pa., former Special Agent of Federal Bureau of Investigation, was interviewed and furnished signed statement setting forth his recollection concerning the apprehension, interrogation and treatment afforded VOLNEY DAVIS, who was arrested in Chicago, Ill., on 6/1/35, in connection with the kidnaping of EDWARD GEORGE BREMER.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- R U C -</p> <p>DETAILS: <u>At Philadelphia, Pa.</u></p> <p>On February 19, 1954, MAXWELL CHAFFETZ, 6635 McCallum Street, a former Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, was interviewed for the purpose of obtaining the facts and circumstances surrounding the arrest, interrogation and treatment afforded VOLNEY DAVIS during the time the latter was in the custody of the Chicago Office. CHAFFETZ furnished the following signed statement;</p> <p style="text-align: right;">"Philadelphia, Pa. February 19, 1954</p> <p>"I, MAXWELL CHAFFETZ, presently residing at 6635 McCallum Street, Philadelphia 19, Pa., make the following statement to Special Agent ROBERT E. CULLISON covering my recollection of the apprehension and subsequent questioning of VOLNEY DAVIS.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
<p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>③-Bureau (7-576)</p> <p>2-Cincinnati (7-43)</p> <p>3-Minneapolis (7-3) (Air Mail)</p> <p>(1-USA, St. Paul) 3/2/54</p> <p>6-Philadelphia (7-45) / cc to RST</p> <p><b>FILE</b></p>		<p><b>7-1576-15334</b></p> <p><b>RECORDED-23</b></p> <p><b>21 1954</b></p>	

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

"I recall that on or about June 1, 1935, at which time I was assigned to the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and where I had been assigned for some time previous to that, I participated in the apprehension of VOLNEY DAVIS. I recall that this occurred on a Saturday morning and that I participated in his arrest along with MELVIN PURVIS, who was then Special Agent in Charge at Chicago, and Special Agents H. A. MARTIN, R. C. SURAN, and EARL WILLIAMS. DAVIS was apprehended as he was making his exit from an apartment house on the outskirts of Chicago. He put up a token resistance, and apparently on seeing that he was completely covered, meekly surrendered.

"DAVIS was then taken in handcuffs to the Chicago Bureau Office and placed in a conference room there for interview. Upon his arrival there the handcuffs were removed, and it is my recollection that I took his fingerprints, which were given by him voluntarily. DAVIS at this time signed a waiver of removal and agreed to his being detained by us for complete questioning concerning his complicity in the kidnapping of EDWARD G. BREMER. He was questioned in detail by Special Agent SURAN and myself. He was advised at the outset that any statement that he might make would have to be voluntary on his part, and that if he desired to contact an attorney, that he had the right to do so. It is my recollection that DAVIS indicated a desire, now that he was in custody, to clean up this situation as quickly as possible. He evidenced a desire to furnish complete details concerning all of his previous activities in connection with this case, and advised that the quicker he was given the opportunity of pleading guilty the better he would like it. At no time was he kept in chains, and never made any request that he be permitted to make a telephone call or to contact an attorney. He was furnished with food at any time that he desired it, and was furnished with such food as he requested. He was allowed to sleep when he indicated a desire to do so, and was given clean clothing to wear.

"The complete statement taken from DAVIS was furnished voluntarily, and, in fact, it is my recollection that he was most anxious to make a clean breast of his activities and



"wanted to do so as quickly as possible. At no time was a promise ever made to VOINEY DAVIS, as far as I am concerned or, for that matter, on the part of any agents present with me, to the effect that if DAVIS were to plead guilty to conspiracy he would be sentenced to less than life imprisonment. In fact, nothing was said to DAVIS concerning his pleading guilty or what sentence he would receive. DAVIS made the statement in my presence that he was anxious to plead guilty so that he could start serving his sentence and get it over with. The writer has no recollection whatsoever of the statement ever being made to DAVIS that 'we are all lawyers and we will take care of you.'

"I have read the preceeding statement, consisting of this and one other page, and it is true to the best of my recollection.

/s/ "MAXWELL CHAFFETZ

MAXWELL CHAFFETZ

"WITNESSED: /s/ ROBERT E. CULLISON

ROBERT E. CULLISON, Special Agent,  
FBI, Philadelphia, Pa., 2/19/54."

- R U C -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

MAXWELL CHAFFETZ, at time of interview on 2/19/54, advised that in the event the United States Attorney, St. Paul, Minn., deems it necessary to subpoena him as a witness, he will accept service by being notified by the Philadelphia Office that a subpoena has been issued.

REFERENCE:

Report of SA SEGUARD FLAATA at Minneapolis dated 2/12/54.

Minneapolis teletype dated 2/18/54.

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

2-18-54 AIR-TEL AIR MAIL

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)

*mg*  
**BREKID** BUREAU SHOULD BE ADVISED BY DAILY SUMMARY OF  
PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COURT ACTION IN THIS CASE.

HOOVER

Bufile 7-6

Jts:ush  
*W*

*Bm*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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FEB 19 1954  
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EX-112

COMM - FBI  
FEB 18 1954  
MAILED 19

MAR 1 1954

SENT VIA \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

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

FEB 19 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASH 22 FROM NEW YORK

19

1156 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

BREKID. REBUFILE SEVEN DASH FIVE SEVEN SIX. RE MINNEAPOLIS TEL  
TO BUREAU FEBRUARY EIGHTEEN LAST. INVESTIGATION, NY, REFLECTS  
HAROLD E. ANDERSON PRESENTLY EMPLOYED NATIONAL BOARD OF FIRE  
UNDERWRITERS, BOX THREE ELEVEN, WHITTIER, CALIF. COPY OF INSTANT  
REPORT FORWARDED TO LA THIS DATE, AMSD.  
LA INSTRUCTED TO MEET FEBRUARY TWENTY SIX DEADLINE.

KELLY

CINCINNATI AND MINNEAPOLIS ADVISED

END ACK PLS

5 WASH 22 1954 BW

TH DSC PLS

RECORDED-17-576-15336  
FEB 24 1954

Mr. Rosen

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FD-36
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Trotter
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
GOB:RSK

AIRTEL (AIRMAIL)  
Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FBI MINNEAPOLIS 2/18/54 12:55 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI (Bufile 7-576)

BREKID. REBUAIRTEL 2/17/54. REPORT OF SA SIGURD FLAATA  
SUBMITTED TO THE BUREAU 2/12/54.

HOWARD

END  
7-30

Mr. Rosen

see Mr. Capping

RECORDED-12

17-576-1537  
FEB 23 1954

MAR 3 1954

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

February 23, 1954

Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Olney III  
Director, FBI

VOLNEY DAVIS  
HABEAS CORPUS  
(YOUR REFERENCE 109-39-1, RSE)

Attached hereto is one copy of the report of  
Special Agent Sigurd Flaata dated February 12, 1954, at  
Minneapolis, which sets forth the results of this Bureau's  
investigation to date regarding the above-captioned matter.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Attachment

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Gearty
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Sizoo
- Miss Gandy

MTC:eck

58 FEB 26 1954

236

MAILED 5  
FEB 23 1954  
COMM-FBI

RECORDED-130

FEB 24 1954  
130

17-576-15338

*[Handwritten signatures: Ror, Mike, JPH]*

29147

FEBRUARY 24, 1954 AIRTEL

SAC, MINNEAPOLIS & (AIRMAIL)  
CINCINNATI

*a* **BREKID.** RE MP TEL FEBRUARY TWENTY THREE LAST. MP IS  
DESIGNATED OFFICE OF ORIGIN THIS CASE. MP IMMEDIATELY  
REVIEW FILE AND ADVISE AUXILIARY OFFICES BY AIRTEL OF  
CHANGE IN OFFICE OF ORIGIN

HOOVER

7-576  
MTC:dmo

*ad*  
RECORDED - 36 7-576-15339  
FEB 25 1954  
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FEB 25 1954  
FEB 25 1954  
FEB 25 1954

COMM - FBI  
FEB 24 1954  
MAILED 28

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*245*  
55 MAR 1 1954  
FEB 24 1954

February 19, 1954

URGENT

SAC, SAVANNAH

BREXID. RE REP SA SIGURD FLATTA, FEBRUARY TWELVE LAST, MINNEAPOLIS. LEAD SET FORTH IN RE REP FOR SAVANNAH OFFICE TO INTERVIEW AND OBTAIN SIGNED STATEMENT FROM FORMER SAC MELVIN H. PURVIS AT FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA, SHOULD BE HANDLED BY TWO MATURE AND EXPERIENCED AGENTS OF YOUR OFFICE. FURNISH BUREAU RESULTS OF INTERVIEW PROMPTLY. IN THE EVENT PURVIS NOT LOCATED AT FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA, BUREAU'S INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED HEREIN SHOULD BE MADE KNOWN TO OFFICE HANDLING THIS INTERVIEW.

HOOVER

cc: 1 - Minneapolis (7-30) (Airmail)  
1 - Cincinnati (7-43) (Airmail)

Bufile 7-576

MTC:smh

NOTE: Subject Volney Davis, who was sentenced in this case (Bremer Kidnaping) on June 7, 1935, to life imprisonment, after entering plea of guilty to charges of kidnaping and conspiracy, filed a petition on December 5, 1952, for release on habeas corpus in United States District Court, St. Paul, Minnesota. Davis based his petition on eight separate points which included, among other things, the allegations that he was not represented by counsel, did not waive this right, was held incommunicado in chains and secrecy following his arrest, and was told by his captors that if he entered a plea of guilty he would be given a term of years rather than a death or life sentence. AUSA Alex Dim, St. Paul, Minnesota, has requested that all Agents who participated in the apprehension, questioning, search, and transportation of Davis, be located and interviewed and signed affidavits obtained. Dim has indicated that upon receipt of the requested affidavits he will review them and determine which Agents will be necessary for the hearing to be held in connection with the habeas corpus proceedings. The Bureau has previously instructed Minneapolis that Bureau approval should be obtained before any former Special Agents are subpoenaed. Former SAC Purvis was in charge of the apprehension of Davis at Chicago and in addition Davis gave a signed waiver of removal to former SAC Purvis.

Ladd  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Harbo  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Gearty  
Mohr  
Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
 Sizoo  
Miss Gandy

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

FEB 19 1954

FEB 25 1954

TELETYPE

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INITIALED  
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

17-576-13340  
FEB 25 1954  
50 FEB 1954



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (7-576)

DATE: February 23, 1954

FROM : SAC, Cincinnati (7-43)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, was (deceased), et al  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, VICTIM  
KIDNAPING

Rerep SA SIGURD FLAATA dated February 12, 1954, at Minneapolis.

Numerous leads have been set forth in referenced report for various divisions in preparation for hearing regarding subject VOLNEY DAVIS. There are, however, no leads outstanding at this time for the Cincinnati Division. The Cincinnati Division has not had any active investigation regarding the above-captioned matter since approximately June, 1951.

In view of the above circumstances, it appears that this matter could be supervised more economically if Minneapolis were designated at this time as office of origin, and accordingly, it is requested that that office be so designated.

RDH:LM

cc: Minneapolis (7-30)

Air-TEL  
MP & CI  
2/24/54  
Designated  
MP as origin  
RDH

RECORDED - 6

EX-126

7-576-1534  
FEB 24 1954  
27 25

Cummins

MAR 2 1954

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

FEB 27 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy  
MMD

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

2-27-54

2-42

DIRECTOR, FBI

U R G E N T

BREKID. RE BUREAU FILE SEVEN DASH FIVE SEVEN SIX. RE

MINNEAPOLIS TEL FEBRUARY TWENTY-SIX LAST. FOR INFORMATION

OF BUREAU THE FOLLOWING LIST OF WITNESSES TO BE FURNISHED

AUSA ALEX DIM, ST. PAUL, ON MARCH ONE, NEXT., SA-S SAMUEL W.  
HARDY, MINNEAPOLIS., RAYMOND C. SURAN, SAN DIEGO., E. E. KUHNEL  
SAN ANTONIO., EARL H. WILLIAMS, OMAHA., MICHAEL CASSIDY, SAN  
FRANCISCO. FORMER AGENTS MELVIN H. PURVIS, FLORENCE, SOUTH  
CAROLINA., MAXWELL CHAFFETZ, PHILADELPHIA., JOHN E. BRENNAN, ST.  
LOUIS., JAMES M. KLAUES, ST. PAUL., HAROLD E. ANDERSEN, WHITTIER,  
CALIFORNIA., HARRY W. STEWART, WEST PALM BEACH, FLA., HAROLD A.  
MARTIN, JACKSONVILLE., FRANK M. HEADLEY, NEW YORK., A. H. JOHNSON,  
CHICAGO. OTHER WITNESSES, GEORGE HEISEN, FORMER ASSISTANT USA,  
MINNEAPOLIS., FOLLOWING RESIDE ST. PAUL, NORTON RISEDORPH, FORMER  
CHIEF JAILER, ST. PAUL., THOMAS GIBBONS, SHERIFF., MRS. VERGINIA  
SCHWEITZ, SECRETARY TO SHERIFF GIBBONS., JOHN C. DECOURCY,  
ATTORNEY., WILLIAM H. ECKLEY, USC., JOSEPH T. LYNCH, FORMER DEPUTY  
CLERK OF COURT., JACK B. MACKAY, ASSOCIATED PRESS., RONALD HAZEL,  
ATTORNEY., EARL MORRISON, CHIEF DEPUTY MARSHAL., LOUIS GOLLOP,

END PAGE ONE

52 MAR 8 1954

RECORDED - 93

MAR 2 1954

Mr. Rosen

CC - Cummings

PAGE TWO

REPORTER., EDWARD I. PICHUA, FORMER COURT BAILIFF, ALEXANDRIA,  
MINNESOTA., ROBERT THOMPSON, REPORTER, CHEVY CHASE, MD., CLERK  
OF COURT OF U. S. DISTRICT COURT FOR NORTHERN DISTRICT OF  
CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN DIVISION, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.  
BUREAU WILL BE KEPT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

~~CORRECTION PAGE TWO LNE ONE WRD 4 SHD BE PICHUA~~

END AND ACK PLS

3-50 OK FBI WA IS

TU DISC

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

FEB 23 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS 2-23-54 10-15 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI

URGENT

BREKID. RE BUREAU AIRTEL TO MINNEAPOLIS FEBRUARY EIGHTEEN, LAST,

CINCINNATI AIRTEL TO MINNEAPOLIS FEBRUARY EIGHTEEN, LAST MINNEAPOLIS

AIRTEL TO BUREAU FEBRUARY EIGHTEEN LAST, AND REPORT OF SA SIGURD

FLAATA FEBRUARY TWELVE, LAST, KANSAS CITY AIRTEL TO BUREAU FEBRUARY

NINETEEN, LAST. ALEX DIM, AUSA, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA, ADVISED TODAY

THAT NO CHANGE IS CONTEMPLATED BY HIS OFFICE FOR HEARING OF VOLNEY

DAVIS, SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY TWENTYSIX, NEXT AT ST. PAUL, MINN. DIM

ADVISED HONORABLE MATTHEW M. JOYCE, JUDGE, UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

HAS ADVISED DIM THAT INSTANT CASE WAS REVIEWED BY JUDGE JOYCE WITH

HONORABLE GUNNAR H. NORDBYE, SENIOR US DISTRICT COURT JUDGE, AND

DECISION MADE THAT JUDGE NORDBYE WILL CONDUCT HEARINGS FOR VOLNEY

DAVIS INASMUCH AS JUDGE JOYCE FURNISHED AN AFFIDAVIT OPPOSING DAVIS

PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS IN NINETEEN FORTY. DIM ADVISED POSS-

IBLY THAT JUDGE JOYCE MAY BE CALLED AS A WITNESS. DIM ALSO ADVISED THAT

LIST OF WITNESSES INCLUDING FORMER AGENTS TO BE SUBPOENAED WILL BE

FURNISHED MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE SHORTLY AFTER HEARING ON FEBRUARY TWENTY-

SIX. FOR INFORMATION OF CINCINNATI, NO LEADS FOR CINCINNATI OFFICE

AT THIS TIME. A REVIEW OF MINNEAPOLIS FILES REFLECT CINCINNATI LAST

OFFICE OF ORIGIN IN THIS CASE AND BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO DESIGNATE

ORIGIN. CINCINNATI ADVISE BY AIR MAIL.

HOWARD

RECORDED-96

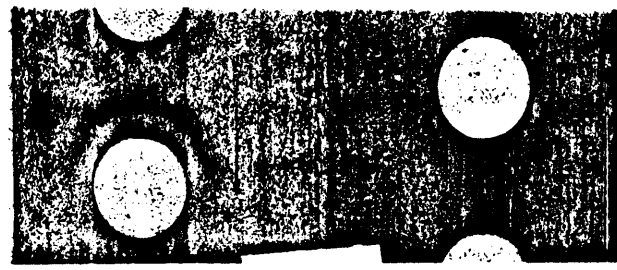
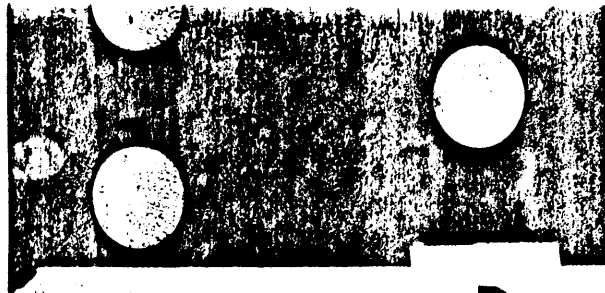
FEB 25 1954

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53 MAR 8 1954

11-21 PM OK FBI WA, BW

BTSCM

Mr. Rosen



D

jk

MARCH 1, 1954 (URGENT)

SAC, MINNEAPOLIS

C

BREKID. REURTEL TODAY. SA A. E. FARLAND, DECEASED APRIL TWENTYTHREE, FORTYSEVEN. SA EDWARD L. COCHRAN CURRENTLY ASSIGNED BALTIMORE.

HOOVER

7-576  
330:1000000

h

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7-576-15344  
MAR 2 1954  
130  
EB  
R

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Gandy
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Sizoo
- Miss Gandy

COPIES DESTROYED  
100 MAR 30 1965

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

MAR 1 - 1954

TELETYPE

742  
MAR 5 1954

10-27 A nb

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FD-36 Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

AIRTEL  
Transmit the following ~~Teletype~~ message to:

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

2/27/54

*6 Cummings*

DIRECTOR, FBI

BREKID. RE BUREAU FILE 7-576. RE BUREAU AIRTEL 2/24 LAST  
IN WHICH THE BUREAU DESIGNATED MINNEAPOLIS AS OFFICE OF  
ORIGIN IN THIS CASE AND INSTRUCTED THAT AUXILIARY OFFICES  
BE ADVISED BY AIRTEL OF CHANGE IN OFFICE OF ORIGIN. THE  
CINCINNATI OFFICE IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE THE MINNEAPOLIS  
DIVISION IF ANY OFFICES IN ADDITION TO THE AUXILIARY  
OFFICES LISTED BELOW SHOULD BE NOTIFIED OF ABOVE AND WHETHER  
CINCINNATI HAS ANY LEADS OUTSTANDING IN THIS CASE.

HOWARD

Mr. Rosen

7-30

SF:sjs

cc: Chicago  
Cincinnati  
Kansas City  
Los Angeles  
Miami  
New York  
Omaha  
Philadelphia  
St. Louis  
San Antonio  
San Diego  
San Francisco  
Savannah  
Washington Field

RECORDED - 60

EX - 104

*A*  
7-576-15345  
MAR 2 1954

60 MAR 5 1954  
Approved: *E. B. Howard*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CINCINNATI

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAN DIEGO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/18/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/17/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>RAYMOND C. SURAN jml</b>
TITLE <b>ALVIN KARPIS, was. (deceased); ARTHUR R. BARKER, was. (deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS, was.; et al; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>KIDNAPING</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

SA RAYMOND C. SURAN, presently assigned San Diego Office of FBI, assisted in the apprehension and interview of VOLNEY DAVIS at Chicago, Illinois, on June 1, 1935, and was in charge of the group of Special Agents assigned to transport DAVIS from Chicago, Illinois, to St. Paul, Minnesota on June 2, 1935. Actions of agents toward DAVIS were consistent with the necessary precautionary measures to maintain custody of DAVIS and to prevent his possible rescue by the associates of DAVIS who were not in custody. DAVIS given proper clothing to wear in Chicago and no threats or promises were made to him. His arms and legs were never at any time handcuffed or chained to a bed or other object. DAVIS was not denied the services of an attorney but he indicated he might secure the services of "DOC" BARKER's attorney after his removal to St. Paul. Gave voluntary statement concerning his association with so-called KARPIS-BARKER Gang but never admitted direct participation in the BREMER kidnaping while in custody of agents assigned to the Chicago Office.

-RUC-

**DETAILS:**

Special Agent RAYMOND C. SURAN executed the following signed statement:

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>7-576-15346</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau (7-576) (AM) 5 - Minneapolis (7-30) (Enc. 1) (AM) (1 - USA, St. Paul) 2 - Cincinnati (7-43) 1 - San Diego (7-11)		<b>RECORDED-34</b> <b>FEB 23 1954</b> <b>PERF. FILES</b>

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★ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1952—O-210618

16-56255-2

EX-111-111

San Diego, California  
February 17, 1954

I, RAYMOND C. SURAN, give the following statement of my own free will concerning my present recollection of the apprehension and detention of VOLNEY DAVIS at Chicago, Illinois, on June 1 and 2, 1935, and the subsequent transportation of DAVIS from Chicago, Illinois, to St. Paul, Minnesota. I have been a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation since September 2, 1930, and was so employed on June 1, 2, and 3, 1935.

At approximately 1:00 PM on June 1, 1935, I proceeded to a point near [redacted] Chicago, Illinois, with MELVIN PURVIS, who was at the time the Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. We were also accompanied by Special Agent MICHAEL J. CASSIDY and MAX CHAFFETZ, who was at that time also a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The purpose of this trip was to effect the apprehension of VOLNEY DAVIS, who was known to be under indictment by a Federal Grand Jury in St. Paul, Minnesota, for participation in the kidnaping of EDWARD G. BREMER.

In the vicinity of the above address, we contacted HAROLD A. MARTIN and EARL H. WILLIAMS who were Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on that date. The arrest of DAVIS was effected an hour or so after our arrival near the Waller Street address. DAVIS was immediately handcuffed and placed in an automobile to be transported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Office in the Bankers Building, Chicago, Illinois, by PURVIS, CASSIDY, myself, and probably one other agent. I recall that almost immediately after the trip was started for the office DAVIS made a remark to the effect that he hoped we would not hold against him the fact that he had a few months before escaped from two Special Agents whom he presumed got into trouble over the escape as he had read something to that effect in the newspaper. He also stated that this escape was not the first he had made from the "law" and that he had been successful in making other escapes but I do not recall further details of his remarks. I do have knowledge that DAVIS had the reputation of being an "escape artist" and his record showed that he had in the past been involved in capital offenses. It is my recollection that for these reasons PURVIS issued instructions that every precaution be taken to prevent the escape of DAVIS and to prevent his liberation by other persons who were involved in the kidnaping of Mr. BREMER and who were still at large.



After the arrival at the Chicago Office, DAVIS was turned over to other agents to be carefully searched and thereafter he was interviewed by CHAFFETZ and myself. I am unable to describe at this date the clothing DAVIS was wearing during this interview but I am certain he was furnished with wearing apparel other than his own, that this wearing apparel was not incriminated with blood and dirt but was sanitary and clean. I do not recall whether leg irons were on DAVIS during the course of the interview but I can positively state that at no time during this interview or at no time in my presence was DAVIS handcuffed to a bed or any other object and at no time during this interview or in my presence were his legs fastened to a bed or any other object.

During the course of the interview, DAVIS voluntarily made a statement alleged by him to contain true information concerning his association with the so-called KARPIS-BARKER Gang without admitting his direct participation in the kidnapping of Mr. BREMER. He was made no promises by me or by others in my presence and at no time did he request to contact an attorney but I do recall that he made some remarks that if he was to be immediately removed to St. Paul, Minnesota, he would think about whether he might contact "DOC" BARKER's attorney.

It is noted DAVIS alleges that some agent made the statement "We are all lawyers and will take care of you." This statement was never made by me or in my presence by any other agent. Likewise he was not told by me or by any agent in my presence that the last man that asked for a lawyer went through a window.

During the time DAVIS was being interviewed he was given food and permitted to rest on a cot. I have no present recollection of the number of times he ate or the length of time he was permitted to rest. It is my present recollection that Mr. PURVIS was seriously concerned about the possibility that an attempt might be made to liberate DAVIS and as Mr. PURVIS termed it he did not want another "Kansas City massacre" and he thoroughly instructed the agents assigned to the case of the responsibility that was theirs in maintaining safe custody of DAVIS. For this reason it was not desired to transport DAVIS in a regularly scheduled common carrier. It is my recollection that there was considerable delay in securing a chartered plane for the transfer of DAVIS to St. Paul. I do not recall whether the delay was because of unavailability of the plane or because of adverse weather reports.

I recall that PURVIS designated me to take charge of the assignment of removing DAVIS from Chicago to St. Paul. I secured a waiver of removal from DAVIS. DAVIS voluntarily executed this waiver. The details of this document are not available to me at the time of the preparation of this statement and I do not recall the wording of the waiver. Sometime during the late afternoon of June 2, 1935, we were successful in chartering a plane at the Chicago Airport. I do not recall the name of the company from whom we chartered the plane. I was accompanied on the transfer of DAVIS by Special Agents MICHAEL J. CASSIDY, ERNEST E. KUHNEL, and former Special Agents EARL H. WILLIAMS and H. W. STEWART. I do not remember the identity of the agent who drove us to the airport or whether blinds were drawn in the car. I do not recall that the car was so equipped but I am of the opinion that possibly the rear window only had a blind on it and it is possible that this blind could have been drawn.

En route to St. Paul in the chartered plane, we encountered inclement weather and the pilot, name not recalled, decided to land at an airport at or near Madison, Wisconsin. We were delayed at this airport for more than six hours during which time we made two unsuccessful attempts to continue the journey. Handcuffs and leg irons were on DAVIS from the time we left the Chicago Office until we turned him over to the custody of HAROLD E. ANDERSEN who was then Special Agent in Charge of the St. Paul Office.

On one of the occasions while we were grounded at the airport DAVIS made several requests to have his handcuffs removed in order that he would be more comfortable when he went to the toilet. These requests were denied.

When the plane finally proceeded to St. Paul, DAVIS admitted to me that if his handcuffs had been removed he would have tried to escape and recalled that the last time agents had tried to transport him in an airplane he had been successful in escaping and he thought that he might do so again.

We arrived at St. Paul in the early morning of June 3, 1935, probably 5:00 or 6:00 AM and I had no further contact with DAVIS subsequent to the time I turned him over to the custody of Special Agent in Charge ANDERSEN and other agents from the St. Paul Office.

---

RAYMOND C. SURAN  
Special Agent, FBI

SD 7-11

ENCLOSURE: TO MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE

Original signed statement of Special Agent  
RAYMOND C. SURAN.

- R U C -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE

Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2/12/54.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **CINCINNATI**

REPORT MADE AT <b>OMAHA, NEBRASKA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/22/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/18/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>EARL H. WILLIAMS</b> <span style="float: right;">jmg</span>
TITLE <b>ALVIN KARPIS, Was. (deceased); ARTHUR R. BARKER, Was. (deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS, Was.; ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>KIDNAPING</b>
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>Signed statement furnished by SA EARL H. WILLIAMS, Omaha Office, FBI, regarding arrest of VOLNEY DAVIS at Chicago, Illinois, on 6/1/35, and his transportation to St. Paul, Minnesota, on 6/2/35, secured and set forth.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC - <span style="float: right;">(no)</span></p> <p><b>DETAILS: <u>At Des Moines, Iowa</u></b></p> <p>SA EARL H. WILLIAMS furnished a signed statement regarding his knowledge of the arrest of VOLNEY DAVIS in Chicago, Illinois on June 1, 1935, and his transportation to St. Paul, Minnesota, on June 2, 1935. This statement is being set forth as follows:</p> <p><b>"STATEMENT MADE BY SPECIAL AGENT EARL H. WILLIAMS, OMAHA OFFICE, FBI, DATED FEBRUARY 18, 1954.</b></p> <p>"I, Earl H. Williams, 720-4th Street, West Des Moines, Iowa, a special agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, Omaha, Nebraska, make the following voluntary signed statement regarding my knowledge concerning the arrest and transportation of Volney Davis in June, 1935.</p> <p>"I state that I am an agent of the FBI and have been since March 19, 1934. I state that in May and June, 1935, I was assigned as said agent to the Chicago Office, FBI. I state that on or about May 29, 1935, I was assigned to an investigation in Chicago,</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau (7-576) (AM) 2 - Minneapolis (7-30) (1-USA, St. Paul) (AM) 2 - Cincinnati (7-43) (AM) 1 - Omaha (7-4)		<div style="text-align: center;"> <b>7-576-15347</b>  <b>FEB 23 1954</b>  <b>RECORDED-34</b> </div>	

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50355-2

"Illinois relating to the location and possible apprehension of Volney Davis who was wanted as a participant in the kidnaping of Edward George Bremer in St. Paul, Minnesota. I was ordered on this assignment by the then Special Agent in Charge Melvin L. Purvis. I was instructed to assist Special Agent H. A. Martin and the purpose of the assignment was to determine if Davis appeared at an address in Chicago known as 1046 North Weller Avenue.

"I state that this assignment continued May 29, May 30, May 31, 1935 without receiving any information or developing any information regarding Volney Davis. I state that on the afternoon of June 1, 1935 at approximately 2:30 PM information was furnished to SA H. A. Martin to the effect that Davis might appear at the 1046 North Weller Avenue address. Martin contacted the Chicago Office, FBI, advising of the possible appearance of Davis and requested assistance. Shortly thereafter SA Martin and myself proceeded in an automobile belonging to the FBI to the vicinity of 1046 North Weller Avenue. Martin did the driving while I made some preparations to effect Davis' apprehension should no assistance arrive.

"After SA Martin and myself arrived near the Weller Avenue address, we proceeded on north past the address and across an intersection. We turned around and came on back toward Weller Avenue address and parked the car on the northwest corner of the intersection where we awaited the possible appearance of Davis. SA Martin and myself had taken about fifteen or twenty minutes to get into position. We then waited about five more minutes until about 2:55 PM when we noticed a small Ford roadster, red in color, coming up the street from the south in our direction. We had previously been supplied the license number of the Davis car. It was supposed to bear Georgia license plates with #'s 37216C. As this car approached it was possible for SA Martin and myself to observe that it bore the Georgia license plate. Agent's car was parked close to the intersection and headed in a southerly direction down the street. Agents noticed the Ford roadster approach the intersection and instead of proceeding on past agent's car it made a U turn and drove south and parked in front of the address at 1046 North Weller Avenue. As this car was making this U turn the driver of the car was visible and easily observed. Both SA Martin and myself readily identified Volney Davis as the driver of this car. I had never seen Davis in person but from photographs in possession of agents there was no question but that it was Davis. I observed Davis park his car get out and walk into the house at 1046 North Weller Avenue.

"At approximately 3:05 PM, June 1, 1935 SAC Melvin Purvis and Special Agents Max Chaffetz, M. J. Cassidy, R. C. Suran arrived. At this time

"SA Martin and myself apprised SAC Purvis of the situation and that Davis was at that moment in the house. I was instructed by SAC Purvis to go with SA Chaffetz to the rear of the house at 1046 North Weller Avenue to prevent any possible escape in that direction. Chaffetz and myself awaited about five or ten minutes and then heard some commotion or shouting in the front of the house. From our position I could see alongside of the house into Weller Avenue but I could not see anything that went on in front of the house to where Davis' car was parked. Upon receiving information that Davis had come out of the house and gone to his automobile SA Chaffetz and myself immediately proceeded to the front of the house and to the place Davis had parked his car.

"At the scene of the Davis car I observed that Davis was surrounded and in custody of SAC Purvis and Agents Suran, Cassidy and Martin. I arrived within a couple of minutes after he had been taken into custody. I observed Davis standing beside his car. He was immaculately dressed and gave no appearance of having his clothing disarranged in any manner whatsoever. I observed no confusion at this point. SAC Purvis instructed SA Martin to take the Davis car to the Clark-Van Buren Garage and he instructed SA Chaffetz to follow the other FBI car. After these instructions were given Davis was handcuffed and led to an awaiting FBI car. SA Cassidy occupied the driver's seat and I sat in the front seat on the right. The back seat was occupied by SAC Purvis and SA R. C. Suran with Davis in the middle. Davis did not appear to be alarmed or excited in any way. He talked in a calm fashion. I would state that from the time Davis walked out of the house until he was captured and placed in the automobile for transportation to the Chicago Office, FBI, would occupy a period of about twenty-five minutes at the most.

"On the way to the Chicago Office, FBI, I had an occasion to talk to Davis. I asked him if he had noticed SA Martin and myself parked at the intersection as he turned around to park in front of the 1046 North Weller Avenue address. He stated that he had never noticed the agents. On several occasions he remarked that he would like to know how the FBI had learned that he would be at 1046 North Weller Avenue on that date. On one occasion I recall he stated that he knew he shouldn't have talked to that 'girl' and that he felt that something was going to happen that day. I recall he remarked that this was to be the last time that he was going to see the girl at the Weller Avenue address. I recall he stated that he usually had appeared at the Weller Avenue address immediately after he called but that he had on this occasion broken his routine. He stated that he had telephoned the Weller Avenue address and had then sat down and eaten his dinner. He indicated that he had ordered a good meal and that he had taken his time to eat it.

"From the time Davis was placed in the FBI car until he was delivered at the Chicago Office FBI was approximately twenty or thirty minutes. Davis was taken to the rear of the Bankers Building where the Chicago Office was housed. He was taken into the back door and into a freight elevator. He was not taken into the building and up the public entrance or elevators. During the entire trip Davis seemed content that he was finally captured and did not have to worry about being taken. He did not talk much but when he did he joked or seemed relieved that it was over.

"After Davis was taken to the 19th floor of the Bankers Building he was taken to a room to await further disposition. I had nothing further to do with him and had no part in questioning him. I do not recall to whom he was placed in custody after arrival at the Chicago Office. I do recall that when I last saw him somewhere around 4PM, June 1, 1935 he presented a neat appearance and he seemed to be under no strain whatsoever.

"I state that I next saw Davis, so far as I can recall, sometime around 3PM on June 2, 1935. I was instructed by SAC Melvin Purvis to assist in the transportation of Davis from Chicago, Illinois to St. Paul, Minnesota. He stated that Davis was to be transported by airplane.

"Immediately thereafter I assisted in bringing Volney Davis from the Chicago Office, FBI, to the elevator (freight) and out the rear door to an awaiting FBI car. I recall on this occasion there was present beside Davis the following agents: R. C. Suran who was in charge of delivering Davis to St. Paul, Minnesota, M. J. Cassidy, E. E. Kuhnle, H. W. Stewart, F. M. Headley and myself. At the time that I saw Davis on the afternoon of June 2, 1935 he appeared to me to be rested and gave the appearance of one not under any strain. I recall no indication that he had undergone any abuse of any kind whatsoever. He still gave a well dressed appearance, was clean shaven and did not appear to be regretting his experience in any way.

"I did not ride with Davis to the airport. I do not know who the agents were who transported him to the airport. I rode in another FBI car. I do not recall who accompanied me in that car. I did observe the FBI car in which Davis was taken to the airport. At the time I observed the car there were no drawn curtains or any other means taken to conceal the occupants of the car. Davis was handcuffed for safe transportation to the airport but he had no other means of restraint so far as I could observe.

"On arrival at the Chicago airport there was a chartered plane awaiting Davis. We all went aboard and Davis took a seat near the front of the plane



"on the right side. The other seven agents seated themselves about the plane within close proximity to Davis. I was seated behind Davis on the same side as he was seated but about two seats back of Davis. Davis made no objections to his being taken to St. Paul, Minnesota. He was handcuffed until he got aboard the plane. Davis did not ask for any food, rest room privileges or make any other demands from the Chicago Office to the airport.

"At about the time the plane was ready to take off at the airport I believe SA Suran told Davis that he would remove his handcuffs. I believe that Davis rode all the rest of the way to St. Paul without cuffs. As the plane neared Madison, Wisconsin we ran into a heavy storm. We landed at Madison. I do not know when we got to Madison but I do know that it was dark and rainy. I suppose it might have been somewhere around 7 or 8PM. At about the time we landed I recall that someone, my recollection is that it was SA Suran, asked Davis if we could get him anything to eat in Madison or whether we could do him any good in Madison. I remember that Davis joked about his situation and remarked that the only good the FBI could do him was to put him out in an open field and give him either a hundred yards start or ten minutes start. Davis so far as I know did not ask for or obtain anything to eat in Madison. He was asked if he wanted food but so far as I can recall he turned it down.

"I recall we were several hours in Madison and that after about three starts the plane was finally able to raise and take off. I cannot recall whether Davis left the plane or not but my recollection is that he remained on the plane.

"I recollect that we left Madison sometime around 3AM, June 3, 1935. I remember arriving at the Chamberlain-Wold Airport, St. Paul-Minneapolis after daylight. I believe it was sometime around 5:30 AM or 6 AM. At the airport Davis was turned over to agents from the St. Paul Office. I then boarded the plane and returned to Chicago.

"I recall that when Davis surrendered at the St. Paul airport that he did not look too well rested but then neither did the agents. He had been subjected to no more physical abuse in staying up than had the accompanying agents, none of whom had secured any rest on the flight.

"I state that to my knowledge at no time did Davis request the use of a telephone or demand the services of an attorney. At no time in my presence was there ever a discussion of the crime for which Davis was being held and no promises were ever made to secure the cooperation of Davis. I state

"that at no time in my presence were any threats made against or promises made to Davis. I state that at no time did I, or any agent in my presence, ever say to Davis, 'We are all lawyers and we will take care of you.' At no time did I ever hear Davis complain about inadequate food, lack of clothing, loss of sleep or any mistreatment.

"I state that I have read the forgoing statement consisting of this and three other typewritten pages which I have signed and initialed and state that everything therein contained is true and correct to the best of my recollection.

S/ Earl H. Williams"

The foregoing statement is being placed in the Omaha file of instant case.

- RUC -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE: Report of SA SIGURD FLA<sup>TM</sup> dated 2/12/54 at Minneapolis.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

CINCINNATI

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAVANNAH</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/23/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/19, 20/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>KENNERLY R. CORBETT</b> <span style="float: right;">dl</span>
TITLE <b>ALVIN KARPIS, was. (Deceased); ARTHUR R. BARKER, was. (Deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS, ETAL EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>KIDNAPING</b>
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>Former SAC MELVIN H. PURVIS denies knowledge of any inhuman treatment accorded VOLNEY DAVIS either at the time he was arrested or during confinement.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p>DETAILS: <u>AT FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA</u></p> <p>MELVIN H. PURVIS, 1356 Cherokee Road, former Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, furnished the following signed statement of his recollections of the case involving VOLNEY DAVIS:</p> <p>"Florence, South Carolina.....February 20, 1954.</p> <p>"I, Melvin H. Purvis, do hereby voluntarily and of my own free will and accord made this statement to Kennerly R. Corbett and Lionel L. J. Meunier, whom I know to be special agents of the F. B. I.</p> <p>"I was special agent in charge of the Chicago office of the F. B. I. on June 1, 1935 and up through August of the same year. I held this official position during the period of time when the case of Volney Davis was being investigated. I supervised the investigation and apprehension of Volney Davis who was charged with conspiracy to violate the federal kidnapping</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
<p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>③ - BUREAU (7-576) (AM)</p> <p>2 - CINCINNATI (7-43) (AM)</p> <p>3 - MINNEAPOLIS (7-30) (AM)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(1 - USA, St. Paul)</p> <p>1 - SAVANNAH (7-2)</p>		<p style="text-align: right;">RECORDED-34</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FEB 24 1954</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PERS. FILES</p>	

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statutes.

"I recall that Volney Davis was arrested by special agents of the F. B. I. including myself, on or about June 1, 1935, in a residential area of Chicago. Previous to the date of his arrest the F. B. I. had maintained a surveillance of the house to which he was expected to pay a visit. Upon notification of his arrival at this house I, with several other special agents proceeded there-to and certain special agents were stationed at the rear of this house, others were stationed in front and in automobiles for the purpose of completely surrounding same and capturing him. Special agent R. C. Suran was stationed in front of the next neighboring house, to the house, in which Davis was located. I was stationed in front of the next house to the North. Within a few minutes after this, Volney Davis started to leave the house, in which he was visiting. Special agent R. C. Suran and I observed his movements toward his car, and proceeded to converge on Davis, so that it happened the Suran and I arrived at the person of Davis and his automobile at the same time. In our efforts to capture Davis, we grabbed for his arms and told him to put his hands up, he stumbled and fell with his shoulders hitting the floor board of his car, the door of which was open. Davis made efforts to rise and in doing so his arm struck the arm of Suran and by some accident the weapon (pistol) of Suran was discharged, hitting no one and causing no injury. Immediately the other special agents arrived at the scene and Davis was placed in an automobile and transported to the Chicago offices of the F. B. I. My recollection is, he was handcuffed, in normal fashion, as soon as possible after arrest.

"Upon arrival at the Office with Davis, special agent R. C. Suran was instructed to search Davis, with the assistance of other special agents. He was also instructed to follow our normal procedures. I visited from time to time, the office in which these steps were taken.

"I have been told that Volney Davis has stated that he was treated in an inhumane manner by being deprived of food, by being chained to a cot or radiator pipe, and being furnished unclean clothing, not being allowed to make phone calls and not being allowed to contact an attorney, and was kept awake for forty (40) hours under continuing questioning.

"Naturally in view of my position, I could not and did not perform all the work on this case. I gave it as close supervision as was possible and I saw Volney Davis on several occasions while he was in our office, and at no time did I observe any inhumane treatment and at no time, did I instruct any employee of the F. B. I. to give him inhumane treatment, or to deprive him of food, or to deprive him of his constitutional rights.

"With regard to statements made by Volney Davis, to the effect that various promises were made to him, such as a promise that he would be given a short term of years if he would plead guilty, I did not make any promise of this sort and I know of none being made by any other employee of the F. B. I. It was always our policy to make no promises with regard to such things to any person involved.

"I do not recall whether Volney Davis asked me for permission to call an attorney, but I know I did not refuse such permission. I did not tell Volney Davis that I or any other special agent would act as his lawyer. I do not recall what arrangements were made for clothing and food for Davis, but I do know that he was treated in a normal manner.

"I have read the above statement consisting of three (3) pages and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge."

"/s/ Melvin H. Purvis

MELVIN H. PURVIS

MP/wc

"Witness:

"/s/ Kemnerly R. Corbett, Special Agent, FBI, Savannah, Ga.

"/s/ Lionel L. J. Meunier, Special Agent, FBI, Savannah, Ga."

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- RUC -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE:

Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA, Minneapolis, 2/12/54.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CINCINNATI

REPORT MADE AT MIAMI, FLORIDA	DATE WHEN MADE 2/24/54	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/16-19/54	REPORT MADE BY JOHN RILEY SMITH :mcj
TITLE ALVIN KARPIS, was., (deceased); ARTHUR R. BARKER, was., (deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS, was., ETAL: EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE KIDNAPING
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>Former Special Agent HAROLD A. MARTIN, Jacksonville, Florida, submitted signed statement in which he stated he was present during the apprehension of VOLNEY DAVIS at Chicago, Illinois. MARTIN stated he saw no mistreatment of DAVIS during or after the apprehension and never made any promises or threats to DAVIS. Former Special Agent HARRY W. STEWART in a signed statement denied any mistreatment of DAVIS during the apprehension or following the apprehension.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RUC</p> <p><b>DETAILS:</b> <span style="float: right;"><u>AT JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA</u></span></p> <p>Mr. HAROLD A. MARTIN, 1790 Pine Grove Avenue, Manager Industrial Department of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, furnished the following signed statement concerning his knowledge of the arrest of VOLNEY DAVIS:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"February 19, 1954</p> <p>"I, Harold A. Martin, make the following statement to Special Agent John Riley Smith of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.</p> <p>"I was formerly employed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a special agent, and served in that capacity from November 1934 until November 1939. In the spring of 1935, while working on the Barker-Karpis case, I assisted in the apprehension of one Volney Davis on North Waller Street in Chicago, Illinois, on June 1st of that year. Special Agent E. H. Williams and I had been waiting for several</p>			
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<p style="text-align: center;">A. 3/2/54</p> <p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>② - Bureau (7-576)</li> <li>3 - Minneapolis (7-30) (1 USA, St. Paul)</li> <li>2 - Cincinnati (7-43)</li> <li>1 - Miami (7-24)</li> </ul>		<p style="text-align: center;">17-576-15349</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FEB 28 1954</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3-4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RECORDED-34</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FILES</p>	

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"days for a telephone call from Miss Helen Byrnes, 1046 North Waller St. While waiting we were living in a rented room nearby. On June 1st, she called and informed me that Volney Davis would be at her home in about one half an hour. This information was immediately relayed by me to the Chicago Bureau Office. Following this, Special Agent Williams and I proceeded with the Bureau car to the intersection of Waller and Thomas Streets where at approximately 2:55 P.M. we observed a Ford V-8 coupe driven by the subject Volney Davis which he parked immediately in front of Miss Byrnes' home. Davis went into Miss Byrnes' home and while he was still in there, Special Agent in Charge Melvin H. Purvis arrived, accompanied by several other agents of the Bureau. Purvis and Special Agent Suran took a position between two neighboring houses where they could observe me. I had driven the Bureau car into a position shortly behind the Ford which was being driven by the subject where I could command a clear view of the house. When Miss Byrnes and the subject came out of the house I gave the signal to Purvis and Suran. My present recollection is that Suran, in taking the subject into custody just as he was opening his car door, pushed Davis into the car and a shot was fired. There was no other altercation and Davis was quickly handcuffed, placed in the Bureau car and taken to the Chicago Bureau Office. I was instructed by Special Agent in Charge Purvis to take Davis' car to Clark-Van Buren Garage where it was to be searched and examined for fingerprints. I was assisted in the search by Special Agent Max Chaffetz. I also collected the heavier fire arms from the other agents at the scene and returned them to the Bureau Office in the subject's car.

"I have no present recollection of seeing the subject Davis subsequent to that time except momentarily while he was in custody at the Chicago Bureau Office. I have no recollection of how long he was kept at the Chicago Office.

"At no time during the arrest or subsequent thereto have I ever had any conversations with Volney Davis. It is my recollection from the momentary glance that I had of him during the period of his custody at the Chicago Office that he was shackled with leg irons and handcuffs. I have no recollection that these shackles were attached to a cot, pipe, radiator or any other piece of furniture or fixture. I have no knowledge of whether he was allowed visitors or permitted to see anyone during this period of custody. I never heard Davis make any request to make a phone call or to see a lawyer. It is my recollection that at the time of the arrest there was no resistance on the part of Davis.

"I can categorically deny that I made any promises to Davis of any sort or ever told him that "We are all lawyers and we will take care of you." Since I have no recollection of every having guarded Davis while in custody I cannot testify regarding food and refreshments furnished him during the period of his custody in the F.B.I. Office.

"I have read the above statement consisting of two (2) pages, of which this is the second (2nd) and last page, and acknowledge it to be true to the best of my knowledge and belief."

/s/  
Harold A. Martin"

Witness:

JOHN RILEY SMITH, FBI, Miami, Florida.

Mr. MARTIN stated that in his opinion VOLNEY DAVIS was completely surprised when placed under arrest. He believes that DAVIS threw up his hands as he fell back into the car and that his hand hit the gun hand of Special Agent SMITH causing the gun to be discharged in the car. He stated that he did not see any mistreatment of DAVIS during the arrest or following the arrest.

AT WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

This investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT W. WISEMAN:

Mr. HARRY W. STEWART, Law firm of Wardlaw and Stewart, 1401 Harvey Building, furnished the following signed statement concerning his knowledge of the arrest of VOLNEY DAVIS:

"West Palm Beach, Florida  
February 19, 1954

"I, Harry W. Stewart, Jr., do hereby make the following true and voluntary statement to Robert W. Wiseman who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I reside at 225 El Pueblo Way, Palm Beach, Florida, and am a member of the law firm of Wardlaw & Stewart with offices at 1401 Harvey Building, West Palm Beach, Florida.

"My recollection of events surrounding the arrest of Volney Davis, a Federal fugitive, in Chicago, Illinois, during June 1935, is as follows:

"I was then a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation assigned to the Chicago office. On a Saturday, about June 1, 1935, our Chicago office received information that Volney Davis was in town and expected to visit a girl friend, name and address not recalled other than in Austin, in metropolitan Chicago, at her apartment and was expected to take this girl friend to a beauty shop, address not recalled but not far distant from her apartment. I was assigned to go to the beauty shop. Later we were informed that Volney Davis had been arrested by our agents at his girl friend's apartment and to return to the Chicago office. Davis was arrested during the afternoon at approximately 3 o'clock, to my recollection.

"Upon my return to our office I was assigned, with a group of other agents, to serve a shift as guard for Davis. I remained at the office until the early morning of the following day, Sunday, and looked in upon Davis off and on during this time. Davis was being held in a private office at headquarters and to my recollection was not restrained by handcuffs or other devices other than the watchfulness of the agents. Davis's attitude was most co-operative, pleasant and friendly at all times. I recall hearing Davis say on one occasion that it was a relief to be picked up, that he was thinking of turning himself in because he was tired of running. I have no recollection that Davis was ever shackled to a cot, radiator or otherwise during the time he was at the Chicago office. At no time in my presence did Davis ask to use a phone or to call an attorney nor were promises made to Davis that if he entered a plea of guilty he would get a term of years, nor did anyone make the statement to Davis "we are all lawyers and we will take care of you." Neither, in my presence, was Davis refused food, refreshments, or sleep when he so desired, and I have a faint recollection of having seen food on a tray upon the table.

"As previously stated, I went off duty during the very early morning of Sunday and was re-called to the Chicago office that evening to be a member of a squad of six agents who were to transport Volney Davis to St. Paul, Minnesota. We left Chicago that evening by private plane and Davis was transported handcuffed and with leg irons. I sat in the seat directly in front of Davis and during the entire trip he was quite pleasant and uncomplaining except as to the

"very bumpy nature of the ride when we encountered extremely bad weather conditions. The weather forced us to make two emergency landings at an airport at Madison, Wisconsin. The first time we were grounded for about an hour and then departed, but were forced to return after about 20 or 30 minutes in the air, and this time we remained grounded until near day break. Davis made no complaints during the trip other than as to the weather and roughness of the ride, and slept a good part of the time our plane was on the ground. During one part of the grounded waiting period, Davis was taken out of the plane at his request so he could urinate, stretch his legs and get some fresh air, the roughness of the ride having made his stomach uneasy. He was talkative and in a good humor during this rest interval. We were finally able to leave about day break on Monday arriving shortly thereafter at the U. S. Naval Air Station in Minneapolis, Minnesota and turned Davis over to agents of our St. Paul, Minnesota FBI office.

"I have read this statement of two pages and it is true and correct to the best of my recollection."

"HARRY W. STEWART JR."

Witness:

ROBERT W. WISEMAN, Special Agent, FBI, Miami, Florida, February 19, 1954.

These signed statements are being maintained in the case file at Miami.

RUC

REFERENCE

Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA, 2/12/54, Minneapolis.

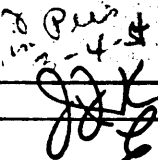
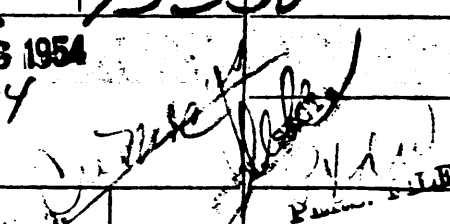
# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

CINCINNATI

PHM

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/25/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/19, 23, 24/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>EUGENE R. CLARK, JR.</b>
TITLE <b>ALVIN KARPIS, was (deceased); ARTHUR R. BARKER, was (deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS, was; ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>KIDNAPING</b>
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>Former SA HEADLEY furnished signed statement concerning his recollection of the apprehension and transportation of VOLNEY DAVIS. HEADLEY did not participate in the actual apprehension or interrogation of DAVIS; however, he recalls that DAVIS was handcuffed and put in leg irons while detained in the Chicago Office and while being transported to St. Paul. HEADLEY stated that DAVIS was treated as a regular fugitive and recalls that he was fed several occasions while in his presence. At no time while in HEADLEY'S presence did DAVIS request an attorney nor were any promises made to DAVIS in his presence. Investigation in NY reflects former SA ANDERSON presently residing in Whittier, California.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p><b>DETAILS:</b> On February 24, 1954, FRANK M. HEADLEY was interviewed by SA JOHN W. JOYCE and the writer, at which time he furnished the following signed statement concerning his recollection of VOLNEY DAVIS at the time of his capture in Chicago on June 1, 1935.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">New York, N.Y. February 24, 1954</p> <p>"I, Frank M. Headley, made the following free and voluntary statement to John W. Joyce and Eugene R. Clark, Jr., who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I realize that this statement may be used in a court of law.</p>			
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 SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		<b>7-567-15350</b> <b>RECORDED-3</b> <b>FEB 26 1954</b> <b>20 3-4</b>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau (7-567) 1 - USA, St. Paul 2 - Cincinnati (7-43) 2 - Minneapolis (7-30) 2 - New York (7-120) <b>62 MAR 8 1954</b>			

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"I am President of H-R Representatives, Inc., 380 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y., and I was formerly employed as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation from January, 1934 through December, 1936.

"I was assigned to the Chicago office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation under Special Agent in charge, Melvin Purvis, during the period approximately March 25 through August 15, 1935.

"On Saturday afternoon, June 1, I was assigned with several other agents to assist in the apprehension of Volney Davis. I was not immediately present at the time of his apprehension, but was in the general vicinity. After Davis was apprehended, we joined the other agents who had made the capture, and all returned to the office. He was taken to one of the rooms in the office where he was hand-cuffed and leg irons put on him. This was done as a precautionary measure because Davis had previously escaped from agents of the Bureau some time previously.

"I was not in attendance during the time of his interrogation, which lasted until the following day. During the time he was there, he was provided with sleeping facilities and food. We left the office sometime in the middle of the afternoon on Sunday, June 2, and took him out to the Chicago airport, where the office had arranged for a chartered airplane to fly him to St. Paul. All the time he was in the airplane, he was hand-cuffed and in leg irons, for security reasons. En route to St. Paul, we were delayed six or seven hours at Madison, Wisconsin because of bad weather conditions; however, while on the ground at the airport in Madison, food was provided to him. We completed the trip to St. Paul, arriving there Monday morning, June 3, at about 9:00 AM. He was immediately turned over to Special Agents from the St. Paul office who were there with cars to transport him into town.

"At no time when I was present do I recall his making any request to see an attorney, nor were any promises made to him in my presence that if he entered a plea of guilty he would be given leniency.

"At all times that he was in my custody he was treated as any other fugitive and was accorded all privileges commensurate with the situation.

"I have read the above statement and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"/s/ Frank M. Headley

"Witnessed:

Eugene R. Clark, Jr., Special Agent, F.B.I., 2/24/54 at NYC.  
John W. Joyce, Special Agent, F.B.I., 2/24/54 at NYC."

In addition to the above statement, HEADLEY advised that he was not actually assigned to the case and that he merely assisted in the apprehension and transportation of the subject, VOLNEY DAVIS.

HEADLEY explained that he could not recall whether DAVIS was represented by counsel, arraigned before a United States Commissioner, or whether he was advised of his constitutional rights, inasmuch as he did not sit-in on the interrogation of DAVIS.

HEADLEY advised that he did not recall whether DAVIS was shackled to a cot, pipe, or radiator while being held in the Chicago Office of the Bureau. HEADLEY stated that at no time while DAVIS was in his presence did he hear anyone make the statement "We are all lawyers and we will take care of you."

Investigation at New York City reflects that former SA HAROLD E. ANDERSON is presently employed by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, Box 311, Whittier, California, and that he presently resides at 546 Tedemory Drive, Whittier, California.

The signed statement by HEADLEY is being retained as an exhibit in instant file.

-EUC-



ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

LEADS

LOS ANGELES

At Los Angeles, California

Will interview former SA HAROLD E. ANDERSON as set forth in NY air-tel, 2/19/54.

Will interview SA ANDERSON according to lead set out in report of SA SIGURD FLAATA, Minneapolis, 2/12/54, a copy of which was forwarded to Los Angeles by referenced air-tel.

REFERENCES: Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA, Minneapolis, 2/12/54.  
Minneapolis teletype to Bureau, cc NY, 2/18/54.  
Bureau air-tel to Cincinnati, cc NY, 2/18/54.  
NY air-tel to Los Angeles, 2/19/54.  
NY teletype to Bureau, 2/19/54.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT MINNEAPOLIS

FILE No.

REPORT MADE AT <b>MINNEAPOLIS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/25/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/11, 15-19, 23/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>SIGURD FLAATA</b>	<b>DMD</b>
TITLE <b>VOLNEY DAVIS, was., ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>KIDNAPING</b>	
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>GEORGE HEISEY, former AUSA, stated he handled prosecution of defendants who entered pleas of not guilty in instant case and that GEORGE SULLIVAN, USA (deceased) represented government at arraignment and sentencing of VOLNEY DAVIS. HEISEY stated that he interviewed VOLNEY DAVIS' girlfriend EDNA MURRAY who became witness for government; however, advised he made no promises to EDNA MURRAY that VOLNEY DAVIS would receive light sentence if plea of guilty entered. HEISEY advised no information ever came to him indicating any mistreatment of DAVIS or any violation of DAVIS' constitutional rights by anyone. NORTON RISEDORPH, former chief jailer, Ramsey County Jail, stated DAVIS incarcerated Ramsey County Jail 6/3-13/35 and that on day of departure for Leavenworth Penitentiary DAVIS shook hands with RISEDORPH and thanked him for kind and courteous treatment received. RISEDORPH stated that not once during ten days in custody did DAVIS make any complaint concerning treatment received at hands of Bureau agents and made no complaints that he had ever been denied right to call an attorney. JOHN C. DE COURCY, attorney, reaffirmed his affidavit and stated DAVIS, when interviewed at Ramsey County Jail, advised he did not want an attorney. Signed statements reaffirming affidavits obtained from JOHN C. DE COURCY, WILLIAM H. ECKLEY, JAMES M. KLEES, JOSEPH T. LYNCH, JACK B. MACKAY and EDWARD R. PICHA. PICHA, former court bailiff, advised he was hired as guard by USM and was handcuffed and leg-ironed to DAVIS on trip to Leavenworth Penitentiary. PICHA stated that as train was passing over a bridge DAVIS told him he would have taken "a dive" through the train window into the river if he wasn't manacled. PICHA also stated DAVIS threatened "to get him" on arrival at Leavenworth after PICHA pointed out DAVIS to prison officials as having something in his hands which was determined to be a piece of watch spring. USM Office, St. Paul, advised all deputies assignment lists prior to 1940 destroyed. RONALD HAZEL, attorney, St. Paul, advised he recalled attending arraignment of DAVIS and</p>				
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES		
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau (7-576) (AMSD) 1 - USA, St. Paul 2 - Cincinnati (7-43) 2 - Chicago 2 - Washington Field 5 - Minneapolis (7-30)		7-1576-15351 RECORDED-34 MAR 2 1954 PERS. FILE		

67 MAR 8 1954

SYNOPSIS CONTINUED

advised indictment read to DAVIS and that DAVIS told the court he did not want an attorney. Victim EDWARD GEORGE BREMER stated he was unable to recall whether he was in court at arraignment and sentencing of VOLNEY DAVIS and unable to recall any conversation with DAVIS. LOUIS GOLLOP, reporter, stated he wrote article "I can't Win" which appeared St. Paul "Daily News" June 3, 1935, wherein DAVIS stated that he had considered giving himself up six months before his apprehension. GOLLOP stated "Daily News" out of business and no records available to reflect reporters assignments in 1935. Identification record for VOLNEY DAVIS, FBI 400-441, set out.

- P -

DETAILS:

At Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota

Mr. GEORGE HEISEY, referee in bankruptcy, 309 Old Post Office, Minneapolis, advised that he was an Assistant United States Attorney in St. Paul in the Department of Justice in 1935. Mr. HEISEY stated that he handled the major portion of the trial work of the United States Attorney's Office at St. Paul during the period that he was an assistant and that he recalled that whenever any of the defendants in the Bremer Kidnaping case or other major cases handled by United States Attorney's Office at that time, indicated that they desired to enter a plea of guilty, Mr. HEISEY stated that Mr. GEORGE SULLIVAN, United States Attorney at that time, (now deceased) would represent the government in court. Mr. HEISEY stated that he definitely recalls that with reference to VOLNEY DAVIS, Mr. SULLIVAN represented the government in court at DAVIS' arraignment and sentencing and that he (HEISEY) was occupied in his office in St. Paul preparing cases against the other defendants in the Bremer Kidnaping case. Mr. HEISEY stated further that he had no conversation or direct contact with DAVIS and that he knew no promises were made to DAVIS to enter a plea of guilty. Mr. HEISEY stated that he recalled that he had conversations with VOLNEY DAVIS' girlfriend, EDNA MURRAY, who became a witness for the government and that he made no promises to EDNA MURRAY that VOLNEY DAVIS would receive a light sentence if he entered a plea of guilty. Mr. HEISEY stated that no information ever came to him which would indicate any mistreatment of VOLNEY DAVIS.

MP #7-30

or any violation of DAVIS' constitutional rights by anyone or that DAVIS was held incommunicado and not permitted to see an attorney if he desired one.

NORTON RISEDORPH, Criminal Deputy Sheriff, Ramsey County Sheriff's Office, Ramsey County Court House, St. Paul, advised that according to his records, VOLNEY EVERETT DAVIS was received at the Ramsey County Jail on June 3, 1935, charge conspiracy to kidnap. Mr. RISEDORPH stated that his records reflected that the United States Marshal at St. Paul took custody of DAVIS on June 13, 1935, on which date DAVIS was taken to Leavenworth Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. RISEDORPH stated that he recalled a letter which VOLNEY DAVIS wrote to his mother and relatives from the Ramsey County Jail on June 3, 1935, and stated that inasmuch as he was chief jailer at Ramsey County Jail at the time, he took VOLNEY DAVIS' letter to Sheriff THOMAS GIBBONS who instructed his secretary, Mrs. VIRGINIA SCHWITZ, to make a censored copy of the same, which is still maintained in the files of the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office.

Mr. RISEDORPH stated that he was unable to locate any visitors record sheet for VOLNEY DAVIS; however, recalled that DAVIS had the privilege of calling any attorney he desired and that it was his recollection that DAVIS never made any complaints that he had been denied his right to calling an attorney. Mr. RISEDORPH also stated that it was his recollection that DAVIS had never made any complaints concerning treatment which he had received at the hands of FBI agents or anyone else and recalled further that on the day DAVIS departed for Leavenworth Penitentiary, DAVIS shook hands with RISEDORPH and thanked him for the kind and courteous treatment which he had received at the Ramsey County Jail. Mr. RISEDORPH advised that although he had no written record of cell assignment for VOLNEY DAVIS, he recalled personally that VOLNEY DAVIS was incarcerated in Cell B on the second floor of the Ramsey County Jail and that Cell B has never been considered any form of solitary confinement and that he recalled that no extra guard was maintained for DAVIS.

In conclusion Mr. RISEDORPH stated that it was his recollection that DAVIS was a model prisoner who was always in good spirits and that for the above reasons he asked DAVIS if he would care to meet Mrs. VIRGINIA SCHWITZ, secretary to Sheriff GIBBONS.

Mr. RISEDORPH stated that he recalled introducing Mrs. SCHWITZ to VOLNEY DAVIS and that VOLNEY DAVIS made no complaints whatsoever to her and that their conversation was entirely pleasant.

MP #7-30

Mrs. VIRGINIA SCHWITZ, Secretary to Sheriff TOM GIBBONS, Ramsey County, St. Paul, stated that she recalled obtaining permission from chief jailer RISEDORPH to interview VOLNEY DAVIS in RISEDORPH'S presence and that although she is unable to recall any specific details concerning her conversation, she stated that DAVIS appeared in good spirits and made no complaints whatsoever concerning the treatment which he had received.

JOHN C. DE COURCY, attorney at law, St. Paul Building, St. Paul, furnished the following statement reaffirming his affidavit:

"Feb. 16, 1954

"I, John C. DeCourcy, give the following statement of my own free will to Special Agent Sigurd Flaata of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I was an attorney at law duly licensed to practice at the City of St. Paul, Minnesota in 1935 and have continued to be so engaged since said year, and have my office at 306 St. Paul Building, St. Paul. On April 12, 1940, I made an affidavit concerning matters with respect to Volney Davis which transpired on or about June 3, 1935 at St. Paul, Minnesota. A copy of this affidavit is before me at the present time and I have read it. That affidavit given by me was true when it was made and there is nothing further I can add to it. I reaffirm the affidavit.

"/s/ John C. DeCourcy

"Witness:

"/s/ Sigurd Flaata

"Sigurd Flaata, Special Agent, FBI

Mr. DE COURCY stated that he recalled that EDNA MURRAY, a girlfriend of VOLNEY DAVIS, came to his office concerning the title to a car and that although he was unable to recall many specific details concerning this transaction, Mr. DE COURCY stated that he believed EDNA MURRAY paid him \$300 and was to pay \$500 additional when his work was finished. Mr. DE COURCY stated that he believed EDNA MURRAY inquired concerning repossession of an automobile which VOLNEY DAVIS was believed to have title to at the time. Mr. DE COURCY stated that he recalled he had no difficulty making an appointment to confer with VOLNEY DAVIS at the Ramsey County Jail and that he interviewed DAVIS privately and that DAVIS made no request of him for legal assistance or indicated that any of his rights had been infringed upon in any way.

MP #7-30

Mr. WILLIAM H. ECKLEY, United States Commissioner, St. Paul, Minnesota, furnished the following statement reaffirming his affidavit:

"St. Paul, Minnesota  
February 17, 1954

"I, William H. Eckley, give the following statement of my own free will to Special Agent Sigurd Flaata of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been a deputy clerk of the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota since September 15, 1931, and United States Commissioner for the District of Minnesota since October 26, 1949, and that I am so employed in both positions at the present time, and have been constantly from the aforementioned dates.

"That on or about April 9, 1940, I made an affidavit concerning matters with respect to Volney Davis which transpired on or about June 3, 1935, at St. Paul, Minnesota. A copy of this affidavit is before me at this time. I have read it. Said affidavit was in connection with a writ of habeas corpus which Volney Davis had filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California.

"Said affidavit given by me was true to the best of my knowledge and belief when made. My recollection at that time was much clearer than it now is. I therefore reaffirm said affidavit.

"/s/ William H. Eckley  
William H. Eckley

"WITNESS:

"/s/ Sigurd Flaata  
Sigurd Flaata, Special Agent, FBI

"

Mr. JAMES M. KLEES (formerly special agent) attorney in charge, St. Paul Branch, Securities and Exchange Commission, 400 Pioneer Building, St. Paul, furnished the following signed statement reaffirming his affidavit:

"St. Paul, Minnesota  
February 15, 1954

"I, James M. Klees, give the following statement of my own free will to Special Agent S. Flaata of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I was a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation from March, 1934 until August 1936 and am now employed as an Attorney for the U. S. Securities & Exchange Commission.

"On April 12, 1940, I made an affidavit concerning matters with respect to Volney Davis which transpired on or about June 3, 1935 at St. Paul, Minnesota. A copy of this affidavit is before me at the present time. I have read it. This affidavit was in connection with a writ of habeas corpus which Volney Davis had filed in the United States District Court of the Northern District of California.

"That affidavit given by me was true when it was made. It is true now. There is nothing further I can add to it. I reaffirm the affidavit.

"/s/ James M. Klees  
James M. Klees

"Witness:

"/s/ Sigurd Flaata  
Sigurd Flaata, Special Agent, FBI

"

Mr. KLEES stated that due to the notorious character of the defendants in this case and also due to the widespread newspaper publicity given to the trial, he has had frequent occasion to refresh his memory of the events which transpired in the case through discussion of various incidents with his friends and acquaintances. Mr. KLEES stated that he recalled that DAVIS requested the indictment be read at the arraignment on June 3, 1935 and that he also recalls that Judge JOYCE inquired of DAVIS whether he desired an attorney and that DAVIS answered Judge JOYCE in obscene, blasphemous, flippant manner, in effect "I don't want any \_\_\_\_\_ shyster representing me."

JOSEPH T. LYNCH, former deputy clerk of court, furnished the following statement reaffirming his affidavit:

"St. Paul, Minnesota  
Feb. 16, 1954

"I, Joseph T. Lynch, give the following statement of my own free will to Special Agent Sigurd Flaata of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I reside at 1610 Beach Street, St. Paul, Minn. and I am presently employed as bartender at 1784 East Minnehaha Avenue, St. Paul, Minn. I was on the third day of June, 1935, and for more than a year prior thereto and for about a year subsequent to said date, an acting Deputy Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota attached to that office at St. Paul, Minnesota, in the Third Division of said District.

"On April 9, 1940, I made an affidavit concerning matters with respect to Volney Davis, which transpired on or about June 3, 1935 at St. Paul, Minn. A copy of this affidavit is before me at the present time and I have read it. This affidavit was in connection with a writ of habeas corpus which Volney Davis had filed in the United States District Court of the Northern District of California. That affidavit given by me was true when it was made and there is nothing further I can add to it. I reaffirm the affidavit.

"/s/ Joseph T. Lynch

Witness: /s/ Sigurd Flaata, Special Agent, F.B.I.

Mr. JACK B. MACKAY, Associated Press, 403 Dispatch Building, St. Paul, furnished the following statement reaffirming his affidavit:

"I, Jack B. Mackay, give the following statement of my own free will to Special Agent Sigurd Flaata of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"On the third day of June, 1935, and ever since that time I have been employed by The Associated Press with offices at St. Paul, Minn., and among other duties it has been my duty to gather and report news for The Associated Press. On the third day of June, 1935, I wrote a story which set forth in substance an interview which was correctly published in the St. Paul Pioneer Press on June 4, 1935, under the caption of "Can't Beat These G-Guys," Davis says, "Had It On Me." I furnished an affidavit



MP #7-30

"concerning this matter on April 12, 1940, a copy of which I have read, and I have also read a copy of the above mentioned story which I wrote on June 4, 1935. That affidavit given by me was true when it was made and there is nothing further that I can add to it. I reaffirm the affidavit.

"/s/ Jack B. Mackay

"Witness:

"/s/ Sigurd Flaata  
"Feb. 18, 1954.

Mr. MACKAY stated that he recalled that when he interviewed VOLNEY DAVIS, DAVIS did not appear in any manner to have been mistreated and appeared to be in good humor and made no complaint to Mr. MACKAY whatsoever concerning his treatment. Mr. MACKAY stated that he recalled that he interviewed VOLNEY DAVIS privately and that DAVIS made no request of him to obtain the assistance of counsel or any other assistance.

Mr. MACKAY advised that ROBERT THOMPSON, former reporter for the St. Paul "Dispatch Pioneer Press" was presently in Washington, D.C., and could be located through the offices of the St. Paul Dispatch, 808 Albee Building, Washington, D.C.

By letter dated February 19, 1954, the Washington Field Office was requested to locate and interview ROBERT THOMPSON and also refresh THOMPSON'S memory with a clipping of a story "Volney Davis Brought Here By Plane, Pleads Guilty to Bremer Conspiracy" published in the St. Paul "Dispatch" June 3, 1954, which was mentioned in the affidavit submitted by ROBERT THOMPSON in 1940.

At Alexandria, Minnesota

EDWARD R. PICHA, residence 1419 Broadway, Alexandria, furnished the following statement reaffirming the affidavit which he submitted in 1940:

"Alexandria, Minn.  
Feb. 17, 1954

"I, Edward R. Picha, give the following statement of my own free will to Special Agent Sigurd Flaata of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. On the third of June, 1935, and for several



"Witness: /s/ Sigurd Flaata, Special Agent, F.B.I.

PICHA stated that he recalled that as the train was passing over a bridge enroute to Leavenworth, DAVIS told him that he would have taken "a dive" through the train window into the river in an attempt to escape if he was not mannaled. PICHA stated that he also recalled that upon arrival at Leavenworth Penitentiary, DAVIS threatened "I'll get you for this" after PICHA pointed DAVIS out to prison officials at Leavenworth as having something in his hands, which, upon search, turned out to be a piece of watch spring. PICHA stated further that prison officials immediately took DAVIS into a room where he was stripped and a thorough search of DAVIS' clothing revealed four or five more pieces of watch spring which PICHA stated DAVIS might use to pick locks or handcuffs.

At St. Paul, Minnesota

RONALD HAZEL, partner, law firm, Bundlie, Kelly, Finley and Maun, Hamm Building, St. Paul, stated that he recalled that he was a law clerk for the Honorable JOHN B. SANBORN, United States District Court Judge, St. Paul, during the trial of the defendants in the Bremer Kidnaping case during 1935. Mr. HAZEL advised that he was present at the arraignment of VOLNEY DAVIS on June 3, 1935 and recalled that DAVIS asked that the indictment be read to him. Mr. HAZEL stated he clearly recalled this for the reason that the indictment was exceedingly lengthy and stated that he also recalled that Judge MATTHEW M. JOYCE, who presided, questioned DAVIS whether he wanted an attorney and that DAVIS stated that he did not want a lawyer.

EARL MORRISON, Chief Deputy Marshal, United States Marshal's Office, Federal Courts Building, St. Paul, stated that he was hired as a guard by the Marshal's Office to assist in the transportation of prisoners to Leavenworth in 1935. Mr. MORRISON stated that he was unable to recall any conversation with DAVIS enroute and that JOHN FARRELL, United States Marshal, who was in charge of the office is presently deceased. Mr. MORRISON stated no record are available relative to the deputies assignments prior to 1940 inasmuch as the same have been destroyed. In this regard, Mr. MORRISON stated that he had no recollection concerning the names of any deputies who may have transported VOLNEY DAVIS from the Ramsey County Jail to the Federal Courts Building on the date DAVIS was sentenced, on June 7, 1935.

EDWARD GEORGE BREMER (victim in instant case) President, Commercial State Bank, St. Paul, upon interview stated that he was unable to recall whether he was in attendance at the arraignment or sentencing of VOLNEY DAVIS in 1935. Mr. BREMER stated that the only incident pertinent to DAVIS that he could recall was that former SAC HAROLD ANDERSEN requested him to come to the offices of the FBI in the Federal Courts Building to personally observe DAVIS. However, Mr. BREMER stated that he was unable to recall any conversation with DAVIS.

LOUIS GOLLOP, reporter, St. Paul "Dispatch Pioneer Press", St. Paul, Minnesota, advised that he wrote the article "Gangman In On Story Explains Plea" by VOLNEY DAVIS (As Told to A Daily News Reporter)" which appeared in the St. Paul "Daily News" June 3, 1935. This article stated VOLNEY DAVIS considered giving himself up six months before he was apprehended. Mr. GOLLOP stated that this article makes reference to an interview which he had with EDNA MURRAY and that the above entitled



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<u>Contributor of Fingerprints</u>	<u>Name and Number</u>	<u>Arrested or Received</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
*	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

MP #7-30

<u>Contributor of Fingerprints</u>	<u>Name and Number</u>	<u>Arrested or Received</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

MP #7-30

Contributor  
of  
Fingerprints

Name  
and  
Number

Arrested  
or  
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MP #7-30

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Contributor of Fingerprints	Name and Number	Arrested or Received	Charge	Disposition
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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

By teletype dated February 12, 1954, the Bureau advised that A.H. JOHNSON, former agent who was assigned to the Chicago Office in 1935, could be located care of Investigators, Incorporated, Suite 405, 1209 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois.

By airtel dated February 16, 1954, the Chicago Office was requested to locate and interview former agent A. H. JOHNSON and obtain a signed statement.

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

LEADS

CHICAGO DIVISION

At Chicago, Illinois

Will locate and interview Mr. A. H. JOHNSON (former agent) care of Investigators, Incorporated, 1209 South LaSalle Street, along the same lines as set out in the leads for the Miami Office in referenced report, and obtain a signed statement from Mr. JOHNSON. It is noted in the report of SA R. C. SERAN that A. H. JOHNSON participated in the search of VOLNEY DAVIS after his apprehension on June 1, 1935. (Instant lead was set out for the Chicago Division by Minneapolis airtel to Chicago February 16, 1954.)

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

At Washington, D.C.

Will locate, interview and obtain a signed statement from ROBERT THOMPSON reaffirming affidavit which he furnished in 1940. (It should be noted this lead was set out in referenced air mail letter from Minneapolis to Washington Field dated February 19, 1954, which enclosed a newspaper clipping published in the St. Paul "Dispatch" June 3, 1935, under the heading "Volney Davis Brought Here By Plane, Pleads Guilty to Bremer Conspiracy".)

MINNEAPOLIS DIVISION

At Minneapolis, Minnesota

Will advise the Bureau by daily summary of pertinent developments and the court action in this case as instructed by the Bureau in referenced airtel dated February 18, 1954.

REFERENCE

Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA dated 2/12/54 at Minneapolis.  
Minneapolis teletype to Director dated 2/18/54.  
Minneapolis letter to Washington Field dated 2/19/54.  
Bureau airtel dated 2/18/54.  
Minneapolis teletype to Director dated 2/23/54.



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

CINCINNATI

REPORT MADE AT <b>CHICAGO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/25/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/19, 22-24/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>ROSWELL T. SPENCER RTS:njb</b>
TITLE <b>ALVIN KARPIS, was (deceased); ARTHUR R. BARKER, was (deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS, was; et al EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>KIDNAPING</b>
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>Former agent A. H. JOHNSON unable to recall VOLNEY DAVIS being in the Chicago Office or participating in the search of an individual under the circumstances set out concerning the search of DAVIS in the Chicago Office June 1, 1935. A review of the Chicago files fails to locate any logs or records which set forth the date and time DAVIS was received at the Chicago Office or data concerning departure from Chicago to St. Paul other than investigative reports. Chicago files contain: 1) original notes of former FBI stenographer LENORA MARSCH taken at the time the signed statement of DAVIS was dictated. Original statement was dictated at 11:10 PM, June 1, 1935, but contained nothing in addition to contents of statement; 2) an original waiver of removal signed by DAVIS June 1, 1935 witnessed by SAs MELVIN H. PURVIS and R. C. SURAN; 3) original (believed to be in DAVIS' handwriting) manuscript entitled "My Career in Crime" dated August 9, 1935 signed VOLNEY DAVIS. Review of Chicago files reflects DAVIS interviewed subsequent to sentence on June 29, August 9, and August 23, 1935 during which he made no allegations of mistreatment at time of arrest.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-RUC-</p> <p><u>DETAILS:</u> <span style="float: right;"><u>AT CHICAGO:</u></span></p> <p>Interview of Former SA A. H. JOHNSON</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mr. A. H. JOHNSON, Investigators Incorporated,</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau (7-576) (AM) 3 - Minneapolis (7-30) (1 USA St. Paul) (AM) 2 - Cincinnati (7-43) 2 - Chicago (7-82)		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>7-576-15352</b> <b>RECORDED-34</b> <b>FEB 26 1954</b> <i>[Handwritten notes and signatures]</i>	

PROPERTY OF FBI - THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

Rookery Building, Suite 405, 209 South La Salle Street, Chicago, Illinois was interviewed by SAs RAYMOND DRISCOLL and CLIFFORD A. GRILL on February 23, 1954. Mr. JOHNSON advised that as of June 1, 1935 he was employed as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and assigned to the Chicago Office. He stated that he could not recall VOLNEY DAVIS having been at the Chicago Office and could not recall participating in the search of VOLNEY DAVIS or any other individual under the circumstances set out concerning the search of DAVIS in the Chicago Office on June 1, 1935. Mr. JOHNSON expressed his desire to cooperate with the FBI in any way and stated that if in the future he could recall the incident of the search of VOLNEY DAVIS, he would immediately contact the Chicago Office.

Original Documents of Chicago  
FBI Files Concerning VOLNEY DAVIS:

The files of the Chicago Office concerning instant case were reviewed by SAs CLIFFORD GRILL, JOSEPH A. LEHMAN, ROBERT J. DENEEN, RAYMOND J. DRISCOLL, EDWARD KINZER, JR., JOSEPH WHEELER and the reporting agent. The files of the Chicago Office contain the following:

1. A note book containing the original stenographic notes of former FBI stenographer LENORA MARSCH taken at the time the signed statement of VOLNEY DAVIS was dictated in the Chicago Office on June 1, 1935. The stenographic notes were reviewed by Assistant Chief Clerk MARY GRAY. Miss GRAY stated that according to the stenographic notes of LENORA MARSCH the statement was dictated at 11:10 PM on June 1, 1935. Miss GRAY stated that the stenographic notes contained nothing further in addition to the contents of the signed statement executed by VOLNEY DAVIS on June 1, 1935.

which statement, according to the stenographic notes, was witnessed by R. C. SURAN, Special Agent and M. CHAFFETZ, Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Chicago, Illinois. In addition, Miss GRAY advised that LENORA MARSCH is well known to her and she believed that LENORA MARSCH is still located in Chicago, Illinois.

2. An original waiver of removal dated at Chicago, Illinois June 1, 1935 signed by VOLNEY DAVIS, witnessed by MELVIN H. PURVIS, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Chicago, Illinois and R. C. SURAN, Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Chicago, Illinois.

3. An original manuscript (believed to be in the handwriting of VOLNEY DAVIS) entitled "My Career in Crime" dated August 9, 1935, signed VOLNEY DAVIS.

This manuscript was furnished to SA A. E. FARLAND of the Kansas City Office of the FBI by VOLNEY DAVIS at which time SA A. E. FARLAND stated that this document was written in longhand by VOLNEY DAVIS and was given to him with the reservation that the same should be kept strictly confidential.

A review of the Chicago files failed to locate any logs or records which set forth the time and date DAVIS was

received at the Chicago Office or data concerning arrangements made for food and refreshments to be served to DAVIS and no data as to the time and date DAVIS departed from Chicago to St. Paul other than that set out in investigative reports.

Interviews With DAVIS  
Subsequent to Time of  
Sentence

On June 28, 1935 VOLNEY DAVIS was interviewed by SAs A. E. FARLAND and E. L. COCHRAN at the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. At the time of the interview DAVIS stated that his parents, particularly his mother and father, had come to the prison for the purpose of visiting him and the visit was not allowed; that he had been visited by an attorney, Mr. LEE BOND of Leavenworth, Kansas, who had called on him at the request of his mother and father for the purpose of getting certain property which had been taken from him, particularly his money; that he wanted his parents to get what money he had which had been taken from him. He was advised that his automobile had been confiscated by the Government, however, agents were unable to give any information as to what disposition would be made of the cash which had been taken from him.

DAVIS further stated that he had entered a plea of guilty believing he would be shown some consideration by entering a plea but that he had been given life imprisonment and had been sent to the penitentiary and had been in solitary confinement since his arrival there. He did not believe, in view of this fact, it would do him any good to furnish the Government any information, however, he stated he was in a position to furnish some information if he thought it would do him any good. He mentioned the fact that if it were not for his father and mother, he would do away with himself. Several hours were spent with DAVIS but he would furnish no information other than what had already been given and is contained in reports of this case.

On July 15, 1935 VOLNEY DAVIS was contacted by SAs A. E. FARLAND and A. S. REEDER at which time he executed a

sworn statement indicating that he desired his property, including cash in the sum of \$1,143.43, be turned over to his mother, Mrs. RODNEY E. DAVIS, Box #2, Neo Sho, Missouri. A copy of this sworn statement, signed by VOLNEY DAVIS in the presence of a notary public, E. W. ECKBOLDT at Leavenworth, Kansas, is presently in the files of the Chicago Office.

On August 23, 1935 VOLNEY DAVIS was interviewed by SAs A. E. FARLAND and A. J. NORSTROM at the Federal Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas after word had been received from Mrs. L. B. HOFFMAN, Mrs. BERTHA WILLIAMS, and Mrs. RUBY LAMBERSON, sisters of VOLNEY DAVIS, that VOLNEY DAVIS desired SAs FARLAND and NORSTROM to call on him at the penitentiary. At the time of this interview, DAVIS was advised that no promises of leniency could be made to him but that any information he could furnish would be treated with strictest confidence. DAVIS advised he expected no favors to be shown him but in view of the assistance the Bureau had rendered to his family in releasing his personal effects to them, he wanted to disclose information that would be of possible value. DAVIS then proceeded to furnish additional information to that which he had previously furnished.

The files of the Chicago Office contain a receipt signed by Mrs. RODNEY DAVIS dated November 21, 1935 at Neo Sho, Missouri. This receipt is for the property of VOLNEY DAVIS, including cash in the sum of \$1,143.40. This statement was witnessed by Mrs. RUBY LAMBERSON, RFD #2, Neo Sho, Missouri, by A. J. NORSTROM, Federal Bureau of Investigation, A. E. FARLAND, Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Kansas City, Missouri. This receipt is presently in the files of the Chicago Office.

It is to be noted that a review of the files reflected that during the interviews of DAVIS on June 29, August 9, and August 23, 1935 by special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, DAVIS had at no time made allegations of mistreatment at the time of arrest and no allegations as to promises made to him by agents prior to sentence.

-RUC-

## ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

ADMINISTRATIVE

As to the interview with former SA A. H. JOHNSON, every effort was made to refresh Mr. JOHNSON's memory as to the search of VOLNEY DAVIS in the Chicago Office on June 1, 1935.

On February 23, 1954 a teletype was sent to the San Francisco Office requesting a synopsis of the interview with former SA CASSIDY so that it could be used in an effort to refresh the memory of former SA A. H. JOHNSON. The San Francisco Office, in teletype dated February 23, 1954, advised that SA CASSIDY recalled that VOLNEY DAVIS had been brought to the Chicago Office and searched by he and A. H. JOHNSON; that DAVIS was furnished with clean coveralls, slippers and placed in a detention cell. CASSIDY advised that he did not engage in any discussion with DAVIS and did not hear JOHNSON do so.

Former SA A. H. JOHNSON was again contacted and again advised that he would do anything in his power to cooperate with and assist the FBI, however, he still could not recall the incident. In the event anything is developed from other interviews concerning the details of this search which might assist in refreshing Mr. JOHNSON's memory, it is suggested such data be furnished to the Chicago Office.

Concerning the original stenographic notes of former stenographer LENORA MARSCH as was pointed out in the details of this report, LENORA MARSCH is thought to be still located in Chicago, however, she will not be interviewed concerning this incident until instructions are received from St. Paul. This exhibit is located in Chicago file K-7-82-3673. This exhibit also contains waiver of removal signed by VOLNEY DAVIS June 1, 1935.

Attention is directed to the portion of instant report entitled "Interviews with DAVIS Subsequent to Time of

-Sentence." This information was compiled from the following serials in this file:

Report of SA A. J. NORSTROM dated July 5, 1935 at Kansas City, Missouri starting page 9, (Chicago file #K-7-82-3932, page 9)

Letter to Mr. E. J. CONNELLEY, Chicago, Illinois from Special Agent in Charge, Kansas City (Chicago file #7-82-5096)

Copy of sworn statement of VOLNEY DAVIS regarding disposition of personal property (Chicago file #7-82-5095)

Report of SA A. J. NORSTROM dated August 24, 1935 at Kansas City, a copy of which was furnished to the St. Paul Office, starting page two (Chicago file 7-82-4315)

Receipt signed by Mrs. RODNEY DAVIS dated November 21, 1935 for property and money of VOLNEY DAVIS returned to her. Appears as exhibit. (Chicago file #7-82-5390).

As to original manuscript and statement of VOLNEY DAVIS entitled "My Career in Crime" dated August 9, 1935, the contents of this statement were set out in detail in the report of SA A. E. FARLAND, Kansas City, Missouri dated September 5, 1935, two copies of which were furnished to the St. Paul Office. (Chicago file #7-82-4433) The original of this document is contained in Chicago file 7-82-4432. It is pointed out that this information was originally furnished by VOLNEY DAVIS to be treated in strictest confidence. Whether or not the contents of this information is furnished to the United States Attorney at St. Paul is being left to the discretion of the St. Paul Office.

REFERENCE

Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA, dated 2/12/54 at Minneapolis.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 2/25/54

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-03)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, was. (deceased);  
 ARTHUR R. BARKER, was. (deceased);  
 VOLNEY DAVIS et al;  
 EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, VICTIM  
 KIDNAPING

Reference is made to the enclosed report of SA THOMAS J. JENKINS dated February 25, 1954, at Washington, D.C., and to the letter from Minneapolis dated February 19, 1954. The report of SA SIGURD FLAATA dated February 12, 1954, at Minneapolis, was not received as an enclosure from Minneapolis in referenced report & LETTER

A photostatic copy of ROBERT THOMPSON's affidavit was obtained from the Bureau's files and was used in connection with the interview of THOMPSON. In connection with the leads set forth for the Minneapolis Office on Page 84 of referenced report, requesting that the newspaper morgue of the St. Paul Dispatch and Pioneer Press be reviewed, during the course of the interview with ROBERT THOMPSON, he was questioned as to the individuals present in the courtroom at the time the events occurred on June 3, 1935. He stated that he believed LOUIS GALLOP and NORMAN HEMLE, formerly with the St. Paul Daily News, were in the courtroom at the time. He thinks also there was a third reporter present either from one of the wire services or one of the Minneapolis papers.

He stated that he also believed that the then Chief Deputy Marshal, STEVE PICHA and his son EDWIN who was a bailiff for Judge JOYCE, were also in the courtroom. He stated that he could furnish the identity of no other individuals who were present.

This information was not set forth in the investigative report because the extent of the Minneapolis investigation is not known to WFO and it is not known whether HEMLE and GALLOP have been contacted or the former Chief Deputy Marshal, PICHA and his son, and interviews with these individuals are being left to the Minneapolis Office.

EXP. PROC.

TJJ:BT

2 - Minneapolis (7-30) (Encl.-4) (AMSD) (AMRRR)

3/2/54 RECORDED-34

1 cc To Dept.

MTC/dmc

FEB 26 1954

3-4

Cunningham



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT MINNEAPOLIS

REPORT MADE AT <b>WASHINGTON, D.C.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/25/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/24, 25/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>THOMAS J. JENKINS</b> <span style="float: right;">BT</span>
TITLE <b>ALVIN KARPIS, was. (deceased); ARTHUR R. PARKER, was. (deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS et al; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>KIDNAPING</b>
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(2)</p> <p>ROBERT THOMPSON, formerly of St. Paul Dispatch Newspaper, furnished signed statement that his present recollections of events on June 3, 1935, are the same as appearing in his affidavit dated 4/18/40.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p>DETAILS: <u>AT WASHINGTON, D.C.</u></p> <p>ROBERT THOMPSON, 6201 Melville Place, Chevy Chase 15, Maryland, advised that he was a Reporter for the St. Paul Dispatch on June 3, 1935. He stated that at the present time, he is not employed but doing free-lance work. A photostatic copy of the affidavit given by Mr. THOMPSON on April 18, 1940, was exhibited to him, at which time he advised that his present recollection concerning the events on June 3, 1935, is the same as set forth in the instant affidavit.</p> <p>Mr. THOMPSON furnished the following signed statement:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">"Washington, D.C. "Feb. 25, 1954</p> <p>"I ROBERT THOMPSON make the following voluntary statement to THOMAS J. JENKINS Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats or promises have been made to me to make this statement. I know I do not have to make any statement and any statement I make can be used in any court of law.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		ENCLOSURE	
② - Bureau 3 - Minneapolis (7-30) (Encl.-1) (AMSD) (MURRAY) (1-USA, St. Paul) 1 - Washington Field (7-63)		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">12-576-15353</div> <div style="text-align: center;">FEB 26 1954</div> <div style="text-align: center;">3-4</div>	
		RECORDED-34	

EXP-3-PROE

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

WFO 7-03

"I reside at 6201 Melville Place Chevy Chase 15 Maryland. I have reviewed the affidavit given by me on April 18 1940 in the case of VOLNEY DAVIS Petitioner VS. JAMES A. JOHNSTON Warden United States Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, Respondent. The facts set forth in that affidavit are the same as I recall them today. There is no change in my recollection from the facts set forth in the affidavit.

"I have read the above statement of one page and it is true to the best of my recollection and belief.

"/s/ ROBERT THOMPSON

"Witness: THOMAS J. JENKINS, Special Agent FBI 2/25/54 "

ENCLOSURE TO MINNEAPOLIS:

1 newspaper clipping which bears the headline:  
"VIS, Brought H Guilty To Brem," dated June 3,  
1953.

- RUC -

WFO 7-63

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE: Letter from Minneapolis dated February 19, 1954

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

FEB 26 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson ☒  
Mr. Ladd ☒  
Mr. Nichols ☒  
Mr. Belmont ☒  
Mr. Clegg ☒  
Mr. Glavin ☒  
Mr. Harbo ☒  
Mr. Rosen ☒  
Mr. Tracy ☒  
Mr. Mohr ☒  
Mr. Winterrowd ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Mr. Holloman ☒  
Miss Gandy ☒

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

2-26-54

DIRECTOR, FBI

URGENT

G.I.R.-2

D1-05 PMP

BREKID. RE BUREAU AIRTEL FEBRUARY TWENTY-FOUR, LAST. FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU, LOS ANGELES ADVISES BY TELETYPE 2-1 FEBRUARY TWENTY-FIVE AS FOLLOWS, QUOTE REREP SA SIGURD FLAATA

DATED FEB TWELVE LAST LISTING LEAD TO INTERVIEW FORMER SAC HAROLD E. ANDERSEN AT NEW YORK. ANDERSEN NOW RESIDES FIVE FOUR SIX TEDEMORY DRIVE, WHITTIER, CALIF., IS EMPLOYED BY NATIONAL BOARD OF FIRE UNDERWRITERS. SIGNED STATEMENT OBTAINED FROM ANDERSEN TODAY. ORIGINAL BEING FORWARDED VIA AMSD. STATES WHEN DAVIS WAS BROUGHT TO FBI OFFICE, ST. PAUL, HE WAS HAND-CUFFED AND HAD LEG IRONS TO WHICH TRAVELLING CHAIN WAS ATTACHED.

AS OFFICE HAD NO DETENTION FACILITIES AND DAVIS HAD PREVIOUSLY EFFECTED ESCAPE FROM AGENT GUARD, ANDERSEN DECIDED FOR REASONS OF SAFETY TO HAVE TRAVELLING CHAIN FROM LEG IRONS ATTACHED TO A RADIATOR. WHEN THIS WAS DONE, HANDCUFFS WERE REMOVED. DAVIS SAT IN CHAIR PERHAPS THREE OR FOUR FEET FROM RADIATOR. DENIED

THAT DAVIS ASKED TO TALK WITH ANYONE OR TO SEE AN ATTORNEY OR THAT ANYONE IN HIS PRESENCE TOLD DAVIS THAT FBI AGENTS WERE

END PAGE ONE

59 MAR 9 1954

RECORDED-12

MAR 2 1954

Mr. Rosen

~~LAWYERS~~ AND WOULD CARE FOR HIM. DENIED THAT ANY PROMISES OF ANY KIND WERE MADE TO DAVIS RE PLEA OF GUILTY. STATED DAVIS APPEARED NORMAL BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY AND WELL KNEW FACTS AND PROBABLE SENTENCE WHEN ENTERED PLEA. ALTHOUGH ANDERSEN IS NOT ANXIOUS TO APPEAR AT HEARING, HE DESIRES TO ASSIST IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE. WOULD MAKE TRIP TO MPLS IF SUBPOENAED. MALONNE UNQUOTE. ALSO FOR THE INFORMATION OF BUREAU, VOLNEY DAVIS HEARING SET FOR ONE P.M. TODAY BEFORE JUDGE GUNNAR NORDBYE AT ST. PAUL, AT WHICH TIME DAVIS DESIRES FOR ATTORNEY WILL BE ASCERTAINED BY THE COURT AND A DATE WILL BE SET FOR HEARING. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED FULLY OF RESULTS OF HEARING AND OF WISHES OF USA-

S OFFICE, ST. PAUL, AS TO SUBPOENA OF WITNESS FOR HEARING. REPORT OF SA SIGURD FLAATA DATED FEBRUARY TWENTY-FIVE AT MINNEAPOLIS BEING FURNISHED AMSD.

HOWARD

END AND ACK

2-14 PM OK FBI WA EAB

M

cc: MR. ROSEN  
AND SUPERVISOR  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FD-36
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

AIR-TEL  
Transmit the following ~~Teletype~~ message to: DIRECTOR, FBI

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS  
DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

3/1/54

AIR MAIL

*6 Cummings*

BREKID. RE BUREAU FILE 7-576. REMYTEL TODAY. ALEX DIM, AUSA, ST. PAUL, MINN., ADVISED THAT AT CONFERENCE TODAY WITH HARLAN STRONG, COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY FOR VOLNEY DAVIS, THAT STRONG DOES NOT DESIRE TO SET DATE FOR HEARING UNTIL END OF WEEK. DIM STATED HE DESIRES TO GIVE STRONG ALL THE TIME NECESSARY AND WOULD RECONTACT STRONG MARCH 5, 1954, RELATIVE TO SETTING DATE FOR HEARING. DIM STATED ACCORDINGLY THE ISSUANCE OF ANY SUBPOENAS WILL BE HELD IN ABEYANCE UNTIL DATE FOR HEARING IS AGREED UPON. FOR THE INFORMATION OF BUREAU, WILLIAM H. ECKLEY, DEPUTY CLERK OF U. S. DISTRICT COURT AND U. S. COMMISSIONER, ST. PAUL, MINN., ADVISED TODAY HE HAD LOCATED HANDWRITTEN PENCILED NOTES IN HIS FILES REFLECTING ARRAIGNMENT OF DAVIS AS FOLLOWS: "NUMBER 6096, CRIMINAL, JUNE 3, 1935, (JOYCE - J.) GEO F. SULLIVAN; VOLNEY DAVIS IS ARRAIGNED AND ON BEING QUESTIONED BY THE COURT, STATED THAT HE DID NOT DESIRE THE ADVICE OF COUNSEL AND ENTERED A PLEA OF GUILTY. SENTENCE DEFERRED TO JUNE 7, 1935." JOSEPH T. LYNCH, ST. PAUL FORMER DEPUTY CLERK, *e*

7-30

SF/mt

RECORDED-49

17-216-15355

Mr. Rosen

MAR 3 1954

53 MAR 9 1954

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

-----

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

PAGE TWO

RECONTACTED AND IDENTIFIED PHOTOSTATIC COPY OF NOTES AS HIS  
HANDWRITING. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THIS EVIDENCE CORROBORATES DATA  
SET FORTH IN OFFICIAL TERM MINUTES OF THE COURT AND STATEMENTS  
OF WITNESSES. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

MARCH 1, 1954 AIRTEL  
SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (7-33) (AIRMAIL)

ALVIN KARPIS, WA., ET AL, KIDNAPPING. BREKID - RE YOUR LTR  
2/23/54. A REPORT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN THIS CASE BY  
RETURN MAIL CONTAINING THE STATEMENT OF SA MICHAEL J.  
CASSIDY. THE REPORT SHOULD BE SUITABLE FOR DISSEMINATION  
TO THE DEPARTMENT.

HOOVER

RECORDED - 36

EX - 107

7-576  
MTC:dmc

MAR 2 1954  
130

7-576-15356

COMM - FBI  
MAR 1 - 1954  
MAILED 27  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
B I  
RECEIVED

Tolson  
Ladd  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Harbo  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Laughlin  
Mohr  
Winterrowd  
Tele. Rm.  
Holloman



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

MAR 1 - 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

3-1-54

4-05 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI

U R G E N T

BREKID, BUFILE SEVEN DASH FIVE SEVEN SIX. RE MP TELS  
FEBRUARY TWENTY SEVEN LAST. ALEX DIM, AUSA, ST. PAUL,  
MINN., ADVISED USDC JUDGE GUNNAR NORDBYE NAMED HARLAN  
STRONG, MINNEAPOLIS LAWYER, TO REPRESENT VOLNEY DAVIS.  
MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE INDICES NEGATIVE ON STRONG. DIM

ADVISED HE MAY BE READY TO ISSUE SUBPOENAS FOR WITNESSES  
MARCH SECOND NEXT WHEN DEFINITE DATE FOR HEARING EXPECTED

TO BE SET BY COURT. DIM REQUESTED SPECIAL AGENTS, MENTIONED  
IN REPORT SA ROSWELL T. SPENCER DATED FEBRUARY TWENTY FIVE  
LAST AT CHICAGO, WHO CONDUCTED INTERVIEWS WITH VOLNEY DAVIS  
SUBSEQUENT TO TIME OF SENTENCE AT LEAVENWORTH PENITENTIARY  
BE LOCATED AND QUESTIONED AS TO WHETHER DAVIS MADE ANY  
ALLEGATIONS OF MISTREATMENT AT TIME OF ARREST OR ALLEGATIONS  
AS TO PROMISES BY AGENTS PRIOR TO SENTENCING. REREP REFLECTS  
DAVIS INTERVIEWED JUNE TWENTY EIGHT, NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE,  
BY SA-S A. E. FARLNAD AND E. L. COCHRON., ON JULY FIFTEEN,  
THIRTY FIVE BY SA-S FARLAND AND A. S. REEDER., AND ON

END PAGE ONE

MAR 9 1954

RECORDED - 15

EX-126

MAR 8 1954

Mr. Rosen

PAGE TWO

AUGUST TWENTY THREE, THIRTY FIVE BY SA-S FARLAND AND A. J. NORSTROM. DENVER IS BEING FURNISHED A COPY OF THE REPORT OF SA ROSWELL T. SPENCER DATED FEBRUARY TWENTY FIVE LAST AT CHICAGO AND A COPY OF THE REPORT OF SA SIGURD FLAATA DATED FEBRUARY TWELVE LAST AT MINNEAPOLIS FOR THE PURPOSE OF HAVING SA A. S. REEDER SET FORTH SUMMARY OF RECOLLECTION OF ABOVE INTERVIEW. FOR INFORMATION DENVER MINNEAPOLIS OO. BUREAU REQUESTED TO FURNISH MINNEAPOLIS DIVISION AVAILABLE ADDRESSES SA-S A. E. FARLAND AND E. L. COCHRON AND ALSO HAVE SUPERVISOR A. J. NORSTROM AT THE BUREAU FURNISH THE MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE SUMMARY OF HIS RECOLLECTION OF THE ABOVE INTERVIEW WITH DAVIS ALONG THE LINES REQUESTED BY MR. DIM. THE BUREAU WILL BE KEPT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

CORRECTIONS LNE 3 WRD 2-3 ARE ADVU ADVISED USDC

END AND ACK PLS

5-13 OK FBI WA IS

CORR FOR PAGE ONE

TU DISC

M

cc: Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo

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

MAR 4 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI, LOS ANGELES 3-3-54 10-23 PM PST L.D.  
DIRECTOR AND SAC, MINNEAPOLIS . . . U R G E N T . . .

BREKID. REBUTEL MARCH TWO LAST REQUESTING LA INTERVIEW FORMER SA  
EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN, SIX TWO FOUR TWENTYTHIRD ST., SANTA MONICA,  
CALIF., RE INTERVIEW WITH VOLNEY DAVIS AT U.S. PENITENTIARY,  
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, ON JUNE TWENTYEIGHT, NINETEEN THIRTYFIVE.  
SIGNED STATEMENT OBTAINED TODAY FROM COCHRAN. HE DOES NOT RECALL  
INTERVIEW WITH DAVIS ON THAT OR ANY OTHER OCCASION. HE HAS NO  
RECOLLECTION THAT DAVIS ALLEGED MISTREATMENT OR PROMISES BY  
FBI AGENTS AT ANY TIME. SIGNED STATEMENT BEING FORWARDED MINNEAPOLIS  
VIA AMSD. REPORT FOLLOWS. *ev*

MALONE

END AND ACK IN ORDER PLS

WA 125 AM OK FBI WA ELR 17-576-15358

MP OK FBI MP DA

MAR 4 1954

MAR 15 1954

Mr. Rosen

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

FEB 26 1954

TELETYPE

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

2-26-54

5-52 PM

AW

DIRECTOR, FBI

U R G E N T

BREKID. RE BUREAU FILE SEVEN DASH FIVE SEVEN SIX. REMYTEL

TODAY AND RE BUREAU AIRTEL FEBRUARY NINE, LAST. FOR INFORMATION

TION OF BUREAU, VOLNEY DAVIS APPEARED BEFORE HONORABLE GUNNAR

H. NORDBYE, U. S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE, ST. PAUL, IN HEARING

AT ONE P. M. THIS DATE, AT WHICH TIME ALEX DIM, AUSA, ST. PAUL,

REQUESTED THAT THE COURT QUESTION DAVIS CONCERNING HIS WISHES

FOR AN ATTORNEY. IN ANSWER TO JUDGE NORDBYE-S QUESTION AS TO

WHETHER DAVIS HAD FUNDS TO HIRE AN ATTORNEY, DAVIS STATED THAT

HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, WISHED THE COURT TO APPOINT AN ATTORNEY

WHOM DAVIS DESIRED TO CHOOSE. THE COURT ASKED DAVIS IF HE

HAD ANY STATEMENT TO MAKE IN THIS REGARD AND DAVIS REPLIED

THAT HE HAD READ SOME LAW THAT HE HAD A RIGHT TO CHOOSE AN

ATTORNEY, AND THAT HE HAD A LIST OF THE FOLLOWING FIVE

INDIVIDUALS WHOM HE WISHED THE COURT TO CONSIDER AS AN ATTORNEY

TO REPRESENT HIM.. ONE, HARLAN STRONG, FORMER PRESIDENT, HENNEPIN

COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION, MINNEAPOLIS.. TWO, SIDNEY GOFF, PROMINENT

ST. PAUL ATTORNEY, WHO RECENTLY SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED MRS.

325 PAGE ONE

3-1-54  
N. Rosen  
has instructed  
to hold off discussion  
with USA pending further  
advice of N. Rosen

RECORDED-12

4-576-15359  
MAR 2 1954

Mr. Rosen

MAR 10 1954

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

PAGE TWO

LILLIAN CARLSON IN AN EMBEZZLEMENT CASE WHICH WAS THE LONGEST CRIMINAL CASE IN RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORY, AND TOOK TEN WEEKS TO TRY.. THREE, WARREN BURGER, PRESENT ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL AND HEAD OF CIVIL DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT, PARENTHESIS THE COURT ADVISED DAVIS OF MR. BURGER-S PRESENT EMPLOYMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT PARENTHESIS.. FOUR, ALFRED LINDLEY, MINNEAPOLIS, PARENTHESIS THE COURT ADVISED DAVIS THAT LINDLEY WAS DECEASED PARENTHESSES.. AND FIVE, DASH LEVANDER, PARENTHESIS TWO BROTHERS, BERNHARDT AND HAROLD PARENTHESIS, BOTH PROMINENT LAWYERS IN MINNEAPOLIS. THE COURT THEREUPON ADVISED DAVIS THAT IT WOULD APPOINT AN ATTORNEY FOR HIM AND THAT THE COURT WOULD CONFER WITH DAVIS ATTORNEY AND MR. ALEX DIM TO SET A DATE FOR THE HEARING.. HOWEVER, WOULD GIVE DAVIS ATTORNEY AMPLE TIME TO CONFER WITH DAVIS. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE HEARING, ALEX DIM ADVISED THAT HE HAD A CONFERENCE WITH JUDGE NORDBYE IN HIS CHAMBERS AND THAT HE RECOMMENDED TO THE JUDGE THAT HARLAN STRONG BE APPOINTED BY THE COURT AS DAVIS ATTORNEY, AND MR. DIM ASKED THAT THE COURT SET MARCH TWENTY-THIRD, NINETEEN FIFTYFOUR, AS THE DATE FOR DAVIS HEARING, AND THAT THE SAME WOULD

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

BE THE DATE FOR ANSWERING TO SUBPOENAS FOR WITNESSES. MR. DIM ADVISED THAT HE CONTEMPLATED HAVING SUBPOENAS ISSUED FOR ALL FORMER AGENTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE APPREHENSION, SEARCH, QUESTIONING AND DEPORTATION OF DAVIS, AND MR. DIM ADVISED THAT HE WOULD GO OVER THE LIST OF WITNESSES TO BE SUBPOENAED WITH SA SIGURD FLAATA AT NINE A. M. ON MARCH ONE, NINETEEN FIFTYFOUR. IN VIEW OF BUREAU INSTRUCTIONS SET FORTH IN RE BUREAU AIRTEL DATED FEBRUARY NINE, NINETEEN FIFTYFOUR, WHICH SETS FORTH, BEFORE ANY FORMER SPECIAL AGENTS ARE SUBPOENAED CLEARANCE SHOULD BE OBTAINED FROM THE BUREAU. THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO SUTEL MINNEAPOLIS DIVISION BY NINE A. M. CST MARCH ONE, NINETEEN FIFTYFOUR, ANY ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS, COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS RELATIVE TO SUBPOENA OF FORMER AGENTS. THE BUREAU WILL BE KEPT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

CORR PAGE TWO LINE NINE WORD ONE IS BERNHARDT

PAGE TWO LINE FIFTEEN WORD ELEVEN IS HIS

PAGE THREE LINE SIX SHD BE SA SIGURD FLAATA

END AND ACK PLS

7-05 PM OK FBI WA NRB

M

*cc Mr. Rosen*

SAC, Minneapolis (7-30)

March 5, 1954

Director, FBI (7-576)

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

VOLNEY DAVIS, was., et al  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPING

Reurtel March 1, 1954.

Attached hereto are the original and one copy of a signed statement furnished by Bureau Supervisor Arthur J. Norstrom concerning his recollection of interviews conducted by him with Volney Davis at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, during the year 1935.

For your information, the results of these interviews were incorporated in reports submitted by this Agent dated August 24, 1935, and September 26, 1935, at Kansas City, Missouri. His recollection of the interviews was refreshed from reviewing the above-mentioned reports; also, many of the details of the interviews were independently recalled because of the importance of the subject matter discussed.

It is noted that SA Norstrom was accompanied on each of his interviews with Davis by former SA A. E. Farland, who is now deceased.

The statement furnished by SA Norstrom should be incorporated in the next investigative report submitted by your office. A subpoena for SA Norstrom should be addressed to him at the Seat of Government.

Attachment

RECORDED - 5

7-576-15360

MAR 8 1954  
130

MTC:mrs

Tolson  
Ladd  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Harbo  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Garry  
Mohr  
Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Miss Gandy

0 MAR 16 1954

MAILED 2  
MAR 5 1954  
COMM-FBI

Washington, D. C.

March 3, 1954

I, Arthur J. Norstrom, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., make the following statement with reference to interviews with Volney Davis at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1935 in which I participated:

I entered on duty with the Federal Bureau of Investigation on July 30, 1934, and for a period of time while I was assigned to the Kansas City Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation I was exclusively engaged in the investigation relating to the kidnaping of Edward George Bremer. On August 23, 1935, together with the late SA Albert E. Farland, I interviewed Volney Davis at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, for the greater portion of a day. During this and two subsequent interviews with Davis on August 26, 1935, and September 9, 1935, conducted by myself and SA Farland, Davis talked freely without restraint. He furnished important detailed information concerning certain aspects of the investigation and persons involved therein.

No promises were made to him and he advised that he expected no favors. At no time during the interview did he make any allegation of mistreatment at the time of his arrest, nor did he allege that promises were made to him prior to the imposition of sentence.

Arthur J. Norstrom  
Special Agent

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

AJN:mrs

*mrs*

7-576-15360  
ENCLOSURE

*gr*



## Office Memorandum • UNITED

S GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: March 1, 1954

FROM : Mr. Price

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, was. (DECEASED)  
 ARTHUR R. BARKER, was. (DECEASED)  
 VOLNEY DAVIS, et al,  
 EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
 KIDNAPING

Tolson  
 Ladd  
 Nichols  
 Belmont  
 Clegg  
 Glavin  
 Harbo  
 Rosen  
 Tracy  
 Gearty  
 Mohr  
 Winterrowd  
 Tele. Room  
 Holloman  
 Sizoo  
 Miss Gandy

On 1-22-35, subject Volney Davis was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury, St. Paul, Minnesota, on two counts charging him and others with conspiring to transport the kidnaped victim, Bremer, from St. Paul, Minnesota, to Bensenville, Illinois, and to hold him for \$200,000 ransom in violation of the laws of the United States.

On 2-6-35, Volney Davis was arrested by Bureau Agents at Kansas City, Missouri, but effected his escape at Yorkville, Illinois, on the same date. Davis was again taken into custody by Bureau Agents at Chicago, Illinois, on 6-1-35 and removed the following day to St. Paul by Bureau Agents in a chartered plane. On 6-3-35, Davis entered a plea of guilty in U. S. District Court, St. Paul, to the above-described indictment and on 6-7-35, he was sentenced to serve life imprisonment.

On 12-5-52, Volney Davis filed a petition in U. S. District Court, St. Paul, for release on habeas corpus. Davis' petition was based on eight separate points which included, among other things, the allegation that he was not represented by counsel at the time of his sentencing, did not waive this right to representation by counsel, was not advised of his constitutional rights, was held incommunicado in chains and secrecy following his arrest, and was told by his captors that if he entered a plea of guilty he would be given a term of years rather than a death or life sentence.

On 2-26-54, Davis appeared before U. S. District Judge Gunnar H. Nordey, St. Paul, at which time he was advised that the court would appoint an attorney to represent him in the pending habeas corpus action. AUSA Alex Dim, St. Paul, has advised that following this hearing, he conferred with Judge Nordey and recommended to the Judge that Harlan Strong, former president, Hennepin County Bar Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota, be appointed by the court as Davis' attorney. Mr. Dim also advised that he requested the court to set Davis' hearing for 3-23-54. At the specific request of Mr. Dim, signed statements have been obtained from all Agents and former Agents who participated in the apprehension, questioning, search, or trans-

MTC:sal

SE-32

MAR 8 1954

RECORDED - 28  
EX - 107

PERS. FILES

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen

portation of Davis following his arrest in Chicago. Mr. Dim has advised that he will probably subpoena all Agents and former Agents who participated in this matter as Government witnesses at the forthcoming hearing.

The following Agents will, therefore, be subject to subpoena: Samuel W. Hardy, Minneapolis Office; Raymond C. Suran, San Diego Office; E. E. Kuhnle, San Antonio Office; Earl H. Williams, Omaha Office; Michael Cassidy, San Francisco Office. Each of these Agents has denied Davis' allegations against the Bureau.

The following listed former Agents will also be subject to subpoena as Government witnesses:

Melvin H. Purvis, 1356 Cherokee Road, Florence, South Carolina, former SAC of the Chicago Office. Purvis supervised the investigation and apprehension of Davis and in his signed statement denies that Davis received any inhuman treatment from any employee of the FBI. He further stated that Davis was not deprived of his constitutional rights and that Davis was not promised that he would be given a short term of years if he would plead guilty. Purvis stated "I did not make any promise of this sort and I know of none being made by any other employee of the FBI. It was always our policy to make no promises with regard to such things to any person involved."

Maxwell Chaffetz, 6635 McCallum Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, participated in the arrest of Davis at Chicago, Illinois, on 6-1-35 and in his signed statement denies each of the allegations made by Davis against the Bureau.

John E. Brennan, 4410 Dresden Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, denies each allegation made by Davis against the Bureau and stated that Davis was never informed by him nor by anyone else in his presence that a plea of guilty would result in a reduced sentence.

James M. Klees, attorney, St. Paul, Minnesota, denies the allegations made against the Bureau by Davis and states that Davis, while in the custody of Bureau Agents at St. Paul, impressed him as being fully aware of the charges against him in the indictment as well as the probable penalty that could be imposed.

Harold E. Andersen, Whittier, California, who was SAC of the St. Paul Office at the time of Davis' sentencing and who is presently employed by the National Board of Fire

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen

Underwriters, stated that when Davis was brought to the FBI Office at St. Paul, he was handcuffed and had leg irons to which a traveling chain was attached. He stated that as the St. Paul Office had no detention facilities and Davis had previously effected an escape, he decided for reasons of safety to have the traveling chain from the leg irons attached to a radiator. He stated that when this was accomplished, Davis' handcuffs were removed and Davis, thereafter, sat in a chair perhaps three or four feet from the radiator. He denies each of the allegations made by Davis against the Bureau and states further that Davis appeared to be normal both physically and mentally and was well aware of the facts and the probable sentence at the time he entered his plea.

Harold A. Martin, manager, Industrial Department, Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, Jacksonville, Florida, states that he was present during the apprehension of Davis at Chicago and categorically denies the allegations made against the Bureau by Davis.

Harry W. Stewart, attorney, West Palm Beach, Florida, in his signed statement denied any mistreatment of Davis during the apprehension or thereafter.

Frank M. Headley, president, H-R Representatives, Inc., New York, New York, who assisted in the apprehension of Davis, in his signed statement emphatically denies the allegations made against the Bureau by Davis.

A. H. Johnson, Investigators, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, stated that he is unable to recall Volney Davis or participating in the arrest or detention of this individual.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Due to the seriousness of the charges made by Volney Davis against both present and former Bureau personnel, it is recommended that the Bureau interpose no objection to the proposed subpoena of any of the individuals named herein as Government witnesses at the forthcoming hearing to be held in this matter in U. S. District Court, St. Paul, Minnesota.

*mic*  
*(EHW)*  
*3-1-54*  
*OK*  
*1-3-*

Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Olney III

March 4, 1954

Director, FBI

VOLNEY DAVIS  
HABEAS CORPUS  
(Your reference 109-39-1, RSE)

Attached hereto are copies of the following reports which contain the results of investigation conducted in this matter to date:

Report of Special Agent Sigurd Flaata dated February 25, 1954, at Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Report of Special Agent Roswell T. Spencer dated February 25, 1954, at Chicago, Illinois.

Report of Special Agent Eugene R. Clark, Jr., dated February 25, 1954, at New York, New York.

Report of Special Agent William M. Hawkins dated February 19, 1954, at Kansas City, Missouri.

Report of Special Agent John Riley Smith dated February 24, 1954, at Miami, Florida.

Report of Special Agent Earl H. Williams dated February 22, 1954, at Omaha, Nebraska.

Report of Special Agent Robert E. Cullison dated February 23, 1954, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Report of Special Agent Robert J. Ansens dated February 18, 1954, at St. Louis, Missouri.

Report of Special Agent E. E. Kuhnelt dated February 18, 1954, at San Antonio, Texas.

Report of Special Agent Raymond C. Suran dated February 18, 1954, at San Diego, California.

Report of Special Agent Kennerly R. Corbett dated February 23, 1954, at Savannah, Georgia.

Report of Special Agent Thomas J. Jenkins dated February 25, 1954, at Washington, D. C.

MAILED 2  
MAR 5 1954  
COMM-FBI

RECORDED-37

7-576-15362

Tolson  
Ladd  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Harbo  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Gearty  
Mohr  
Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Miss Gandy

Attest

MTC:rs

MARCH 2, 1954

URGENT

SAC, MINNEAPOLIS & LOS ANGELES

BREKID. RE MINNEAPOLIS TEL MARCH ONE LAST AND BUTEL TO  
MINNEAPOLIS SAME DATE. REVIEW OF BUFILES REVEALS THAT INDIVIDUAL REFERRED TO IN REFERENCED MINNEAPOLIS TELETYPE AS SA E. L. COCHRAN IS IDENTICAL WITH FORMER SA EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN WHO RESIGNED FROM BUREAU IN FORTYONE AND NOT IDENTICAL WITH SA EDWARD L. COCHRAN, CURRENTLY ASSIGNED BALTIMORE DIVISION. FOR INFO LOS ANGELES, AUSA ALEX DIM HAS REQUESTED THAT ALL AGENTS AND FORMER AGENTS WHO CONDUCTED INTERVIEWS WITH VOLNEY DAVIS SUBSEQUENT TO THE TIME OF HIS SENTENCE AND DURING PERIOD OF HIS INCARCERATION AT LEAVENWORTH PENITENTIARY BE LOCATED AND QUESTIONED AS TO WHETHER DAVIS MADE ANY ALLEGATIONS OF MISTREATMENT AT TIME OF ARREST OR ALLEGATIONS AS TO PROMISES BY AGENTS PRIOR TO SENTENCING. FORMER SA EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN PARTICIPATED IN INTERVIEW OF DAVIS AT LEAVENWORTH TOGETHER WITH SA A. E. FARLAND (DECEASED) ON JUNE TWENTYEIGHT THIRTYFIVE. COCHRAN IN JANUARY FIFTYTWO RESIGNED HIS POSITION WITH THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS, USAF, WASHINGTON, D. C., AND LEFT A FORWARDING ADDRESS OF SIX TWO FOUR TWENTYTHIRD STREET, SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA, WHICH IS THE MOST RECENT ADDRESS AVAILABLE FOR HIM. LA IMMEDIATELY ATTEMPT TO LOCATE COCHRAN AND SECURE STATEMENT FROM HIM COVERING HIS RECOLLECTION OF ABOVE INTERVIEW. HE SHOULD BE QUESTIONED SPECIFICALLY ON THE TWO POINTS MENTIONED HEREIN. SUTEL BUREAU AND MINNEAPOLIS RESULTS OF YOUR INVESTIGATION.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_  
rowd \_\_\_\_\_  
loom \_\_\_\_\_  
dy \_\_\_\_\_

MAR 2 1954

79 JUN 25 1954 TELETYPE COPIES DESTROYED

MTC:mrs

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

MAR 26 1954

HOOVER

749 P-uh

RECEIVED - BOSTON

NOTE:

On 3-1-54 AUSA Alex Dim, St. Paul, Minnesota, advised that he is now ready to issue subpoenas for the Government witnesses who will be used in this case. He has indicated that he may desire to subpoena Cochran and the other Agents who participated in the interviews of Davis during the period of his confinement at Leavenworth.

Information as to 1952 address for Cochran obtained from Office of Special Investigation, USAF, by supervisor E. S. Sanders, Liaison Section.

Edward Louis Cochran identified as Agent who conducted interview at Leavenworth by Supervisor A. J. Norstrom, Division 5, who was stationed in Kansas City at the time and also participated in interviews of Davis.

Los Angeles office cognizant of current investigation.

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
F.B.I.  
MAR 5 2 51 PM '54  
REC'D - LOS ANGELES OFFICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

AIR-TEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to: DIRECTOR, FBI

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

3/5/54

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

AIR MAIL

BREKID. RE BUREAU FILE 7-576) AND RE BUTEL 3/2/54. FOR INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU, HOWARD MILTON MASON, FBI #1842312, SUBJECT IN BANK ROBBERY CASE, BUREAU FILE 91-7231, AND WHO HAS ENTERED PLEA OF GUILTY TO BANK ROBBERY AND IS PRESENTLY AWAITING SENTENCE AT RAMSEY COUNTY JAIL, ST. PAUL, ADVISED BUREAU AGENTS WHEN CONTACTED ON BANK ROBBERY CASE, THAT HE IS A FELLOW PRISONER OF VOLNEY DAVIS. MASON STATED DAVIS TOLD HIM HE HOPES TO ACT AS CO-COUNSEL IN HIS OWN DEFENSE AT HEARING AND HOPES TO WIN NEW TRIAL FOR THE REASON, IN DAVIS' OPINION, THAT A SECOND CONVICTION WOULD BE DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF UNAVAILABILITY OF WITNESSES AND LACK OF EVIDENCE DUE TO GREAT PERIOD OF TIME WHICH HAS ELAPSED SINCE HE WAS SENTENCED. ALEX DIM, AUSA, ST. PAUL, ADVISED TODAY HE WILL HOLD CONFERENCE WITH HARLAN STRONG, COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY FOR DAVIS, ON MARCH 10, NEXT, AND ANTICIPATES COURT WILL SET HEARING FOR FIRST WEEK IN APRIL, AND THAT SUBPOENAS WILL BE ISSUED FOR WITNESSES AFTER DEFINITE DATE SET FOR HEARING. BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

7-30

SF/mt

Approved: CPH

Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED - 40

MAR 8 1954

EX-129

Mr. Rosen

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

70 MAR 16 1954

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MARCH 11, 1954

URGENT

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

RECORDED - 50

7-576-15364

Transmit the following message SAC, MINNEAPOLIS

BREKID. REURTEL MARCH TEN. COPY REPORT SA LOGAN J. LANE, LA,

MARCH FIVE, LAST, SHOULD BE FURNISHED USA, ST. PAUL, INASMUCH AS  
LATTER ENTITLED TO INFORMATION THEREIN AND TO PRECLUDE USA BEING  
SURPRISED BY ANDERSEN'S PROBABLE TESTIMONY. POINT OUT TO USA  
DISCREPANCY BETWEEN STATEMENT OF ANDERSEN AND RECOLLECTIONS OF  
OTHER AGENTS MENTIONED REFERENCED TEL.

HOOVER

FWD:eckel

Note: Volney Davis is currently seeking relief from life sentence  
via habeas corpus, arrested by Bureau Agents 6-1-35,  
Chicago, Illinois, after having previously escaped Bureau  
custody on 2-6-35. On 6-2-35, Davis conveyed by Agents  
via chartered plane to St. Paul, Minnesota, where, on  
6-3-35, he pleaded guilty to kidnaping. On 6-7-35, he  
received life sentence. Former SAC Andersen recalls that,  
at St. Paul office, the traveling chain from leg irons  
on Davis was attached to radiator as safety factor.  
Davis' handcuffs were then removed and he sat in a chair  
three or four feet from the radiator. As noted in  
incoming teletype, other Agents present have no  
recollection re Davis being chained to radiator.

COPIES DESTROYED

100 MAR 26 1965

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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

MAR 11 1954

TELETYPE

MAR 23 1954

SENT VIA

Per



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

MAR 10 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Boardman

Mr. Belmont

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Harbo

Mr. Mohr

Mr. Winterrowd

Tele. Room

Mr. Holloman

Miss Gandy

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

3/10/54

4-55 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI

U R G E N T

BREKID, KIDNAPPING. REBUFILE SEVEN DASH FIVE SEVEN SIX.

REPT OF SA LOGAN J. LANE DATED MARCH FIVE LAST AT LOS ANGELES

RE REPT SETS FORTH SIGNED STATEMENT FORMER SAC HAROLD E. ANDERSON

WHICH REFLECTS HIS RECOLLECTION VOLNEY DAVIS CHAINED WITH TRAVELING-

CHAIN FROM LEG IRON TO RADIATOR IN ST. PAUL OFFICE ON JUNE THREE

THIRTYFIVE. IT SHOULD BE NOTED OTHER AGENTS INCLUDING SA SAMUEL

W. HARDY, MP OFFICE, FORMER SA JOHN E. BRENNAN, ST. LOUIS AND

FORMER SA JAMES M. KLEES, ST. PAUL, PRESENT WITH DAVIS ON JUNE

THREE, THIRTYFIVE, AND DENY DAVIS WAS HANDCUFFED TO RADIATOR IN

ST. PAUL OFFICE. IN VIEW OF PUBLIC INTEREST AND P<sup>T</sup>ENTIAL PUBLICITY

WHICH THIS CASE WILL ATTRACT, THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE ANY

SPECIAL HANDLING OF INFORMATION IN REREP. UACB COPY OF RE REPT

WILL BE FURISHED AUSA ST. PAUL, MINN. TEN O-CLOCK CST ON MARCH

TWELVE NEXT. FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU, AUSA DIM ADVISED TODAY

HE WILL CONFER WITH COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY HARLAN STRONG

MARCH TWELVE NEXT TO SET DATE FOR HEARING. BUEAU WILL BE KEPT

ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

RECORDED - 50

EX - 107

HOWARD

MAR 12 1954

CORR PLS

LINE TEN WD TEN SHD BE

"POTENTIAL"

Mr. Rosen

END AND ACK PLS

/S 6-02 OK FBI WA IS

TKS AND DISC PLS

CC: MR. ROSEN  
AND SUPERVISOR  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Olney III

March 16, 1954

Director, FBI

VOLNEY DAVIS  
HABEAS CORPUS  
(YOUR REFERENCE 109-39-1, RSE)

Attached hereto are copies of the following reports which contain the results of investigation conducted in this matter to date:

Report of Special Agent Philip G. Bowser, Jr., dated March 3, 1954, at San Francisco, California.

Report of Special Agent Logan J. Lane dated March 5, 1954, at Los Angeles, California.

*captured  
prisoner*

*JK*  
Attachment

MTC:eck  
*ide*

*mc jll*

*JP*

APR 10 8 02 AM '54  
RECEIVED-RECORDS ROOM

RECORDED-88

EX-129

7-576-75365

MAR 17 1954

*Rm*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMM - FBI  
MAR 16 1954  
MAILED 31

5 5 MAR 16 1954

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **CINCINNATI**

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/3/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/23/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>PHILIP G. BOWSER, JR. wap</b>
TITLE <b>ALVIN KARPIS, was. (Deceased); ARTHUR R. BARKER, was. (Deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS, was., et al EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>KIDNAPING</b>
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b> SA MICHAEL J. CASSIDY advises participated in apprehension of VOLNEY DAVIS on June 1, 1935 at Chicago, Illinois and accompanied DAVIS on June 2, 1935 on flight to St. Paul, Minnesota. At no time was there any discussion with DAVIS regarding his case by any of the agents in the presence of CASSIDY nor did he have discussion with DAVIS about his having a lawyer to represent him. SA CASSIDY did not hear DAVIS ask any Special Agents if he could talk with a lawyer nor did he hear any agents say to DAVIS, "we are all lawyers, we will take care of you".</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-- RUC --</p> <p><b>DETAILS:</b></p> <p><u>AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA</u></p> <p>Special Agent MICHAEL J. CASSIDY furnished the following statement concerning the apprehension of VOLNEY DAVIS at Chicago, Illinois and subsequent transportation to St. Paul, Minnesota on June 1 and 2, 1935:</p> <p>"This is to advise that acting upon instructions of MELVIN H. PURVIS, then Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the writer, accompanied by Mr. PURVIS and Special Agents RAY C. SURAN and MAX CHAFFETZ, proceeded to 1046 Waller Street on the afternoon of June 1, 1935 and there took into custody VOLNEY DAVIS. He was thereafter brought to the Chicago Office of the FBI where a detailed search of his person was made by the writer and Special Agent A. H. JOHNSON. DAVIS was then furnished with clean coveralls and a pair of slippers and was placed in a detention cell which was maintained as part of the Chicago Office.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> <b>COPIES DESTROYED</b>		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
100 MAR 26 1954		7- 576-15366	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		RECORDED - 76	
3 - Bureau (7-576) (AIRMAIL) 2 - Cincinnati (7-43) 3 - Minneapolis (7-30) (1-USA, St. Paul) 1 - San Francisco (7-33)		MAR 8 1954 <i>[Signatures]</i>	

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50255-2

EX-100

"The writer did not engage in any discussion with DAVIS regarding his case and did not hear Special Agent JOHNSON in any discussion with DAVIS regarding his case. The writer took no part in the interview of DAVIS following his arrest, it being understood that such interview with DAVIS would be conducted by Special Agents SURAN and CHAFFETZ.

"On the afternoon of June 2, 1935 the writer was assigned to assist Special Agent SURAN and other agents in transporting VOLNEY DAVIS from Chicago, Illinois to St. Paul, Minnesota. Travel to the Municipal Airport was accomplished in a regular passenger car and it had no curtains. Travel to St. Paul was accomplished in a chartered airplane and it is recalled that a landing at Madison, Wisconsin was made necessary because of bad flying weather. After the weather cleared, the trip was made without further incident to St. Paul, arrival there being at approximately 6:00 AM on June 3, 1935. At this point, VOLNEY DAVIS was given into the custody of Special Agent in Charge HAROLD E. ANDERSON and Special Agent JOHN E. BRENNAN, of the St. Paul Office. The writer and the other Special Agents of the Chicago Office returned directly to Chicago from the St. Paul airport.

"During the travel from the Chicago Office to the St. Paul airport there was no discussion with DAVIS regarding his case by any of the agents who traveled with DAVIS.

"At no time did the writer have any discussion with DAVIS about his having a lawyer to represent him, nor did the writer at any time hear DAVIS ask any of the other Special Agents if he could talk to a lawyer. Further, the writer never heard any agent say to DAVIS, "we are all lawyers, we will take care of you".

- RUC -

- 2 -

San Francisco 7-33

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

It may be noted that copies of the statement from SA MICHAEL J. CASSIDY were forwarded to the Bureau and Minneapolis Office by letter dated February 23, 1954.

REFERENCE - Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA dated February 12, 1954 at Minneapolis.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 3/9/54

FROM : SAC, DENVER (7-5)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, was. (deceased); ARTHUR  
 R. BARKER, was. (deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS,  
 was. et al; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER -  
 VICTIM  
 KIDNAPING

Reference is made to Minneapolis teletype to Bureau dated 3/1/54, 2:15 PM, entitled BREKID, which reflects that on 7/15/35 VOLNEY DAVIS was interviewed at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas by SAs A. E. FARLAND (deceased) and A. S. REEDER.

Reference is also made to the report of SA ROSWELL T. SPENCER dated 2/25/54 at Chicago, on pages four and five thereof, which refers to an interview had by SA A. E. FARLAND and SA A. S. REEDER, at which time he executed a sworn statement, indicating that he desired this property to be delivered to his mother, who at that time resided at Neosho, Missouri.

This is to advise that SA A. S. REEDER recalls quite vividly details concerning this and other interviews had by SA A. E. FARLAND, deceased, with the subject VOLNEY DAVIS. At no time during any of the interviews, at which time Agent REEDER was present did DAVIS ever complain of any mistreatment on the part of any FBI Agents or anyone else. Further, that at all times DAVIS appeared to be very friendly towards the Bureau and its Agents and was particularly interested in writing the manuscript as referred to on page three of the report of SA ROSWELL T. SPENCER in order that same might be used by the Director in combating juvenile delinquency.

A review of the allegations allegedly made by DAVIS as set forth in report of SA SIGURD FLAATA dated

ASR:JD  
 CC: 2 - Minneapolis (7-30)

RECORDED - 25

68 APR 8 1954

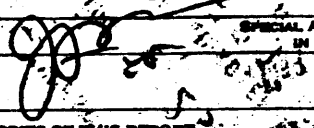
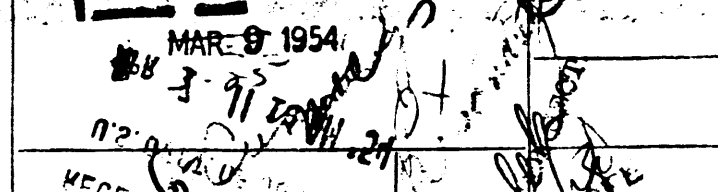
DN 7-5

February 12, 1954 at Minneapolis, Minnesota, have been made by SA A. S. REEDER and at no time during any interviews with DAVIS at the U. S. Penitentiary did he make any such complaint or even indicate in any manner that he had not received fair and partial treatment, not only by Bureau Agents, but by the Court and other officials that he had appeared before during his appearance at St. Paul, Minnesota.

- R U C -

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **MINNEAPOLIS**

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/5/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/24, 25; 3/2, 3/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>LOGAN J. LANE ab</b>
TITLE <b>BREKID</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>KIDNAPPING</b>
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>Signed statement 2/25/54 by former SAC HAROLD E. ANDERSEN reflects his recollection of activity relating to treatment of VOLNEY DAVIS in FBI office at St. Paul prior to DAVIS' entering plea of guilty in federal court. This statement supplements affidavit furnished by ANDERSEN under date 4/23/40 at Oklahoma City. Signed statement of former SA EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN regarding interview of DAVIS at U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, 6/28/35, by COCHRAN and former SA A. E. FARLAND, reflects interview unrecalled by COCHRAN. Text of above statements set forth.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p><b>DETAILS:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>At Los Angeles, California.</u></p> <p>On February 25, 1954, former Special Agent in Charge HAROLD E. ANDERSEN, who now resides at 546 Tedemory Drive, Whittier, California, and is employed as a Special Agent by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, was interviewed concerning his recollection of the activity surrounding the handling of subject VOLNEY DAVIS in the St. Paul Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on or about June 3, 1935.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
 SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		7-576-15368 MAR 8 1954 RECORDED - 25	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau (7-576) AM 3 - Minneapolis (7-30) AM 1 - Los Angeles (7-42) <b>53 APR 8 1954</b>			

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50855-1 K 046



Mr. ANDERSEN was shown the text of his affidavit made at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on April 23, 1940. Supplementing that affidavit, Mr. ANDERSEN dictated the following statement, which was transcribed by a stenographer, and then was signed by Mr. ANDERSEN. The original of the statement dated February 25, 1954, was forwarded to the Minneapolis Office via Registered Mail on February 25, 1954. The statement is quoted:

Los Angeles, California  
February 25, 1954

"I, HAROLD E. ANDERSEN, am making this statement to Special Agent LOGAN J. LANE, JR. of the Federal Bureau of Investigation relative to an affidavit I made in Oklahoma City, April 23, 1940 in connection with habeas corpus proceedings then instituted by VOLNEY DAVIS. Since it now appears material I wish to add the following as a matter of information:

"When we brought DAVIS to the FBI office in the old Post Office Building in St. Paul, he was handcuffed, and had leg irons to which was joined what is known as a traveling chain. This chain is attached to the protective devices and held by the custodian of the prisoner as an added safety precaution.

"At that time the FBI did not have any detention room so it was necessary to keep DAVIS in an office used by several agents. I decided that for reasons of safety it would be advisable to attach the traveling chain, which ran from the leg irons of DAVIS, to a radiator. When this was done, his handcuffs were removed. I wish to point out that DAVIS was not chained to the radiator in the sense of being near it. He sat in a chair, perhaps three or four feet away.

"I might point out that I was fully aware that DAVIS had effected his escape on a prior occasion by attacking an agent guard. Therefore, safety was uppermost in my mind.

"I chatted with DAVIS about mutual hoodlum acquaintances and asked him if he would like breakfast. After he made a selection and under my orders food was provided for him. I had occasion to be in and out of the office and I might say I has left Agent JACK BRENNAN in charge.

"DAVIS expressed surprise at what the FBI had learned about him and his activities and exhibited a lack of faith in anyone. As a matter of fact, he said he knew he was hooked and wanted to get it over with as soon as possible.

"DAVIS did not ask to confer with any of his co-defendants or anyone else. He certainly did not request to use the telephone nor did he ask for an attorney. Had DAVIS requested permission to contact or hire an attorney his request certainly would have been granted.

"As to his mental and physical condition, he appeared normal in every respect.

"I have been informed that DAVIS now contends he was made promises in the event he pleaded guilty. As Agent in Charge of the FBI office any such promise would have come to my attention and I distinctly recall that no promises whatsoever were made to him--certainly not by me to whom he would have looked for promises.

"DAVIS' sole concern seemed to be to dispose of his case as soon as possible. When he told me he would like to plead guilty, immediately I informed him I would confer with the United States Attorney as the FBI had no authority insofar as court procedure was concerned. I did talk with United States Attorney SULLIVAN, who was later U. S. District Judge in Minnesota. He in turn talked with DAVIS before the two of us conferred with the District Judge.

"It is my firm conviction there was nothing illegal in any of the proceedings and that DAVIS well knew the facts and probable sentence when he stood up in court and entered his plea of guilty to kidnapping.

"DAVIS now contends, I am informed that when he requested to see a lawyer he was informed by FBI agents: 'We are all lawyers. We will take care of you.' This statement to my knowledge was never made and appears illogical and since DAVIS well knew the position of the FBI agents in the case.

"Even though these many years have passed salient facts are clear in my mind. A full discussion of the circumstances naturally would open my mind and memory to additional facts.

"/s/ HAROLD E. ANDERSEN

"Witness:

"/s/ LOGAN J. LANE, JR., Special Agent, FBI, Los Angeles, California.

"/s/ FRANK H. TOWNSEND, Special Agent, FBI, Los Angeles, California."

On March 3, 1954, former Special Agent EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN, 624 23rd Street, Santa Monica, California, who is now employed as an investigator for the Reconstruction Finance Company, with offices in Room 601, Subway Terminal Building, 417 South Hill Street, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed. Mr. COCHRAN was asked for his recollection of an interview conducted by former Special Agent A. E. FARLAND (now deceased) and Mr. COCHRAN with subject VOLNEY DAVIS, on or about June 28, 1935 at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas.

Mr. COCHRAN furnished the following signed statement, the original of which was forwarded to the Minneapolis office via Registered Mail on March 4, 1954. The statement is quoted:

"Santa Monica, California  
March 3, 1954

"I, the undersigned, EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN, 624 Twenty-third Street, Santa Monica, California, make the following voluntary statement to Special Agent LOGAN J. LANE, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"In June, 1935, I was employed as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, assigned to the Kansas City Division. My official investigations caused me to accompany Special Agent A. E. FARLAND, who was likewise assigned to the Kansas City Division, on interviews with persons incarcerated at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas. As Special Agent FARLAND was at that time more experienced in investigative work than I, the interviews were conducted almost entirely by him in my presence.

"I recall the name of VOLNEY DAVIS as a person connected with an official investigation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have no independent recollection of ever having participated with Special Agent FARLAND, or with any other Special Agent, in an interview with VOLNEY DAVIS at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, On June 28, 1935, or on any other date at any other place.

"Such an interview may have taken place, and due to the passage of time, I do not now recall it. I have no recollection that VOLNEY DAVIS at any time or place, stated or alleged in my presence that he had been subjected to mistreatment in any manner, or had been promised anything by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, before or after being sentenced for any offense. It is my belief that if VOLNEY DAVIS had made such allegations in my presence, I would now recall them.

"/s/ EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN

"Witness:

"/s/ Special Agent LOGAN J. LANE, FBI, Los Angeles, California."

- RUC -  
- 5 -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Copies of the signed statements of HAROLD E. ANDERSEN and EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN are retained as exhibits in the Los Angeles Office file on this case for possible reference purposes.

A copy of this report was not indicated for the United States Attorney, Minneapolis, it being left to the discretion of the Minneapolis Office to direct such copy of report to the United States Attorney if it is deemed desirable.

Teletype summary of Mr. ANDERSEN'S statement was sent the Minneapolis office on February 25, 1954.

Teletype summary of Mr. COCHRAN'S statement was sent the Bureau and Minneapolis office on March 3, 1954.

REFERENCES:

New York Airtel February 19, 1954 to Los Angeles.  
Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA, dated February 12, 1954 at Minneapolis.  
Los Angeles Teletype to Minneapolis dated February 25, 1954.  
Los Angeles Letter to Minneapolis dated February 25, 1954.  
Butel to Minneapolis and Los Angeles dated March 2, 1954.  
Los Angeles Teletype to Bureau and Minneapolis dated March 3, 1954.  
Los Angeles letter to Minneapolis dated March 4, 1954.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AIRTEL  
Transmit the following ~~161/4/54~~ message to:

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS 3/15/54  
DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

BREKID REBUTEL 3/11/54. ALEX DIM, AUSA, ST. PAUL, ADVISED HE CONFERRED TODAY WITH HARLAN STRONG, COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY FOR VOLNEY DAVIS, REGARDING SETTING A DATE FOR HEARING FOR DAVIS, AND THAT STRONG REQUESTED MORE TIME TO PREPARE FOR THE HEARING. DIM STATED STRONG INDICATED HE IS ATTEMPTING TO LOCATE A WITNESS IN TOKYO (WHOM STRONG DID NOT IDENTIFY.) DIM ADVISED HE DOES NOT FEEL HE SHOULD RUSH STRONG ON HEARING DATE AND PREFERS TO GIVE STRONG ALL THE TIME HE DESIRES. DIM STATED HE NOW ANTICIPATES HEARING WILL BE SET FOR DATE EARLY PART OF APRIL. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

SF:JVR

7-30

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED-75

7-576-15369  
MAR 17 1954

CC: MR. ROSEN  
AND SUPERVISOR  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

55 APR 2 1954  
Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

AIRTEL  
Transmit the following ~~Teletype~~ message to:

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30) 3/31/54  
DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

AIR MAIL

*mw*  
BREKID. AUSA ALEX DIM ADVISED TODAY HE WILL MEET WITH  
HARLAN STRONG, COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY FOR VOLNEY DAVIS,  
ON APRIL 2 NEXT TO SET DATE FOR HEARING, FOR DAVIS.  
DIM STATED HE ANTICIPATES JUDGE NORDBYE WILL APPROVE  
DATE FOR HEARING AGREED UPON BY ATTORNEY AND DIM  
ADVISED HE WILL REQUEST AT LEAST TWO WEEKS' INTERVAL  
TO PERMIT SUBPOENA OF WITNESSES. BUREAU WILL BE KEPT  
ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

7-30  
SF:PJW

RECORDED - 23

17-576-15370  
APR 1 1954

EX-104

5 5 APR 9 1954

Approved: *CPH*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Rosen

APRIL 19, 1954

AIRTEL

SAC, MINNEAPOLIS

(AIRMAIL)

**BREKID.** SUAIRTEL SUMMARY COVERING ANY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS  
THIS MATTER. INCLUDE ADVICE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT DATE FOR  
VOLNEY DAVIS HEARING HAS BEEN SET.

HOOVER

7-576

MTC:dmc dmc

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parrow \_\_\_\_\_

APR 26 1954

MAILED 7  
APR 19 1954  
COMM - FBI

RECORDED - 122

APR 21 1954  
132

15371



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT MINNEAPOLIS

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT MINNEAPOLIS	DATE WHEN MADE 4/23/54	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/26; 3/1, 11, 12; 4/2, 20/54	REPORT MADE BY SA SIGURD FLAATA s jm
TITLE VOLNEY DAVIS was. ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE KIDNAPING
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>VOLNEY DAVIS appeared before Honorable GUNNAR NORDBYE, U.S. District Court, St. Paul, Minn., 2/26/54 and upon his request, HARLAN STRONG, attorney, Minneapolis, Minn., was appointed to represent DAVIS at his hearing which Judge NORDBYE stated he would set for a date which would give ample time to attorney for DAVIS. Statements of Bureau Supervisor ARTHUR J. NORSTROM, Washington, D.C. and former SA EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN, Santa Monica, Calif. who interviewed DAVIS at U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, set forth. SA A. S. REEDER, Denver, advised that at no time during any interviews with VOLNEY DAVIS at U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, did DAVIS make any complaint of mistreatment by Bureau agents or any other officials. JOSEPH T. LYNCH, St. Paul, former Deputy Clerk of Court, identified penciled notes on file in office of U.S. Clerk of Court, St. Paul, as made by him at arraignment of VOLNEY DAVIS 6/3/35 which reflect, "#6096 C, June 3, 1935 (JOYCE - J), GEO. F. SULLIVAN, VOLNEY DAVIS is arraigned and on being questioned by the court stated that he did not desire the advice of counsel and entered a plea of guilty. Sentence deferred to June 7, 1935." A. A. BERG, former Deputy U.S. Marshal, Minneapolis, gave signed statement which reflects Judge JOYCE offered to appoint attorney for DAVIS at his arraignment which offer DAVIS declined. AUSA ALEX DIM, St. Paul, advised HARLAN STRONG, court appointed attorney for DAVIS, has requested postponement of hearing.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-P-</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
<p style="text-align: center;">SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">7-1576-15372 RECORDED - 60</p>	
<p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>③ - Bureau (7-1576) (AMSDY)</p> <p>1 - USA, St. Paul</p> <p>2 - Minneapolis (7-30)</p> <p>COPIES DESTROYED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">169 MAR 26 1965</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">COPY IN FILE</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">20 APR 26 1954</p>	

PROPERTY OF FBI - THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-59255-1

DETAILS: At St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota

VOLNEY DAVIS appeared before the Honorable GUNNAR NORDBYE, Judge, U.S. District Court, St. Paul, February 26, 1954, and requested the court to appoint an attorney for him from a list of five attorneys which DAVIS read to the court. This list included HARLAN STRONG, attorney, Minneapolis, who was later appointed by Judge NORDBYE to represent VOLNEY DAVIS at his hearing which the court stated would be set on a date to give ample time to DAVIS' attorney.

By letter dated March 5, 1954, the Bureau furnished the following signed statement furnished by Bureau Supervisor ARTHUR J. NORSTROM concerning his recollection of interviews conducted by him with VOLNEY DAVIS at the U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, during the year 1935:

"Washington, D.C.

"March 3, 1954

"I, Arthur J. Norstrom, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., make the following statement with reference to interviews with Volney Davis at the U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1935 in which I participated:

"I entered on duty with the Federal Bureau of Investigation on July 30, 1934, and for a period of time while I was assigned to the Kansas City Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation I was exclusively engaged in the investigation relating to the kidnaping of Edward George Bremer. On August 23, 1935, together with the late SA Albert E. Farland, I interviewed Volney Davis at the U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, for the greater portion of a day. During this and two subsequent interviews with Davis on August 26, 1935, and September 9, 1935, conducted by myself and SA Farland, Davis talked freely without restraint. He furnished important detailed information concerning certain aspects of the investigation and persons involved therein.

"No promises were made to him and he advised that he expected no favors. At no time during the interview did he make any allegation of mistreatment at the time of his arrest, nor did he allege that promises were made to him prior to the imposition of sentence.

"/s/ Arthur J. Norstrom  
Arthur J. Norstrom  
Special Agent "

By letter dated March 4, 1954, the Los Angeles Division furnished the following signed statement from former SA EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN, 624 23rd Street, Santa Monica, California, concerning interview with VOLNEY DAVIS conducted by former SA A.E. FARLAND (deceased) and SA EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN at the U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, on June 28, 1935:

"Santa Monica, California  
March 3, 1954

"I, the undersigned, EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN, 624 Twenty-third Street, Santa Monica, California, make the following voluntary statement to Special Agent LOGAN J. LANE, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"In June, 1935, I was employed as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, assigned to the Kansas City Division. My official investigations caused me to accompany Special Agent A. E. FARLAND, who was likewise assigned to the Kansas City Division, on interviews with persons incarcerated at the U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas. As Special Agent FARLAND was at that time more experienced in investigative work than I, the interviews were conducted almost entirely by him in my presence.

"I recall the name of VOLNEY DAVIS as a person connected with an official investigation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have no independent recollection of ever having participated with Special Agent FARLAND, or with any other Special Agent, in an interview with VOLNEY DAVIS at the

U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, on June 28, 1935, or on any other date at any other place.

"Such an interview may have taken place, and due to the passage of time, I do not now recall it. I have no recollection that VOLNEY DAVIS at any time or place, stated or alleged in my presence that he had been subjected to mistreatment in any manner, or had been promised anything by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, before or after being sentenced for any offense. It is my belief that if VOLNEY DAVIS had made such allegations in my presence, I would now recall them.

"/s/ EDWARD LOUIS COCHRAN

"Witness:

"/s/ Special Agent LOGAN J. LANE,  
FBI, Los Angeles, Calif."

By letter dated March 9, 1954, the Denver Division advised that SA A. S. REEDER, who is assigned to the Denver Division, recalls quite vividly details concerning interviews had by SA A. E. FARLAND (deceased) with VOLNEY DAVIS at the U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, at which interviews A. S. REEDER participated. According to the letter from the Denver Division, SA REEDER advised that at no time during any of the interviews at which REEDER was present did DAVIS ever complain of any mistreatment on the part of any FBI agents or anyone else. Further, that at all times DAVIS appeared to be very friendly toward the Bureau and its agents and was particularly interested in writing a manuscript in order that the same might be used by the Director in combating juvenile delinquency. SA REEDER advised further that at no time during any interviews with DAVIS at the U.S. Penitentiary did he make any complaints or indicate in any manner that he had not received fair impartial treatment not only by the Bureau agents but by the court and other officials, that he had appeared before during his appearance in St. Paul, Minnesota.

WILLIAM H. ECKLEY, Deputy Clerk of Court, U.S. District Court, St. Paul, Minnesota, advised that penciled notes of the arraignment of VOLNEY DAVIS dated June 3, 1935, from which the official court minutes for that date in criminal docket number

6096 were drawn, are on file in his office. Mr. ECKLEY furnished the Minneapolis Division with a photostatic copy of the penciled notes which Mr. ECKLEY stated were in the handwriting of JOSEPH T. LYNCH, former Deputy Clerk of Court, U.S. District Court, St. Paul, which read as follows: "#6096 Criminal, June 3, 1935 (JOYCE - J), GEO. F. SULLIVAN, VOLNEY DAVIS is arraigned and, on being questioned by the Court, stated that he did not desire the advice of Counsel and entered a plea of guilty. Sentence deferred to June 7, 1935."

A photostat of the above penciled notes were shown to JOSEPH T. LYNCH, former Deputy Clerk of Court, St. Paul, at his place of employment, Minnehaha and White Bear Avenues, St. Paul, on March 1, 1954, at which time Mr. LYNCH identified the handwriting positively as his own. Mr. LYNCH stated that he made the court minutes from his penciled notes and that it was customary to maintain both the penciled notes and the court minutes in the files of the Clerk of Court, St. Paul.

Upon interview ERNEST J. MEILI, Chief U.S. Probation Officer, U.S. Court House, Minneapolis, advised that he was not present at the arraignment or sentencing of VOLNEY DAVIS. Mr. MEILI suggested, however, that A. A. BERG, 4049 Bryant Avenue South, Minneapolis, former Deputy United States Marshal, may have been in court at the time of the arraignment or sentencing of DAVIS. Mr. MEILI pointed out that his former Assistant Probation Officer, JOHN E. BUCKLEY, who was formerly assigned to St. Paul, was deceased and probably covered the sentencing of VOLNEY DAVIS.

ALLIE ALBIN BERG, employed by D. W. Onan & Sons, Incorporated, 2500 University Avenue Southeast, Minneapolis, was interviewed at his residence 4049 Bryant Avenue South, Minneapolis. Mr. BERG advised that he served as a Deputy United States Marshal from 1924 to 1935 and stated that he was present in the court room in St. Paul at the time DAVIS was arraigned and sentenced in 1935. BERG stated he recalled transporting DAVIS from the Ramsey County Jail to the Federal Courts Building however, stated that he did not have any conversation with DAVIS. BERG gave the following signed statement concerning his recollection of the events which transpired at the arraignment of VOLNEY DAVIS on June 3, 1935:

"Minneapolis, Minn.  
Mar. 12, 1954

"I, Allie Albin Berg, 4049 Bryant Avenue South, Minneapolis, furnish the following statement to Special Agent Sigurd Flaata, Federal Bureau of Investigation, freely and voluntarily. I was a United States Deputy Marshall in St. Paul on June 3, 1935 and was in the courtroom of the Federal Courts Building, St. Paul, on that date when Volney Davis was arraigned before Judge Matthew M. Joyce. I recall that Volney Davis was asked how he desired to plead and he stated wanted to get his case over with and enter a plea of guilty. I recall Judge Joyce warned Davis that he was charged with commission of a serious crime and that he might face a life sentence upon his conviction. Judge Joyce offered to appoint an attorney for Davis, however, Davis declined and entered a plea of guilty. I have read the above statement and the facts contained therein are true.

"/s/ Allie Albin Berg

"Witness:

"/s/ Sigurd Flaata,  
Special Agent, F.B.I."

Assistant United States Attorney ALEX DIM, St. Paul, advised on April 20, 1954, that no date has been set for the hearing of VOLNEY DAVIS for the reason that court appointed attorney HARLAN STRONG has requested more time.

-P-

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

LEADS

THE MINNEAPOLIS DIVISION

At Minneapolis, Minnesota

Will keep the Bureau advised of pertinent developments and court action in this case, and when hearing is set, will furnish Bureau daily summary of developments, as instructed by the Bureau in referenced air-tel.

REFERENCES

Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA dated February 12, 1954, at Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA dated February 25, 1953, at Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Bureau air-tel to Minneapolis dated April 19, 1954.

Minneapolis air-tel to Bureau dated April 20, 1954.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FD-36

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

AIR TEL

Transmit the following Teletype Message to:

AIR MAIL

SF:DP

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)

4/20/54

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

BREKID. REBUAIRTEL APRIL 19, 1954. ALEX DIM, AUSA, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA, ADVISED THAT HARLAN STRONG, COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY FOR VOLNEY DAVIS, HAS REQUESTED MORE TIME IN LINING UP WITNESSES, AND THAT STRONG HAS NOT MADE ANY REQUEST FOR DATE TO BE SET UP FOR HEARING FOR DAVIS. DIM STATED THAT JUDGE GUNNAR NORDBYE, WHO WILL PRESIDE AT HEARING, HAS A FULL COURT CALENDAR AT PRESENT TIME AND DIM INDICATED POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT HEARING MAY NOT BE SET FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. DIM ADVISED THAT WHEN JUDGE NORDBYE SETS DATE FOR HEARING, A REQUEST WILL BE MADE FOR AT LEAST TWO WEEKS INTERVAL TO PERMIT SUBPOENA OF WITNESSES. BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED-48

EX-123

7-576-15373

21 APR 21 1954

52 MAY 6 1954

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per



Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Olney III

May 18, 1954

Director, FBI

RECORDED - 4

7-576-15374

VOLNEY DAVIS  
HABEAS CORPUS  
(YOUR REFERENCE 109-39-1, RSE)

EX-108

This is to advise that the hearing on Volney Davis' petition for release on habeas corpus has been set by United States District Judge Gunnar Nordbye for June 7, 1954, at St. Paul, Minnesota.

Assistant United States Attorney Alex Dim, St. Paul, Minnesota, has advised that subpoenas are being issued for all Government witnesses.

The above is being furnished for your information and you will be advised of additional developments in this matter.

(7-576)

MTC:eck

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
FBI

RECEIVED  
MAY 18 1954  
COMM - FBI

52 MAY 26 1954

*Perence*

ALR-10

*R-2*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following air-tel to:

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576) 5/10/54

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)

VOLNEY DAVIS, WAS., ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM,  
KIDNAPPING. REREP SA SIGURD FLAATA DATED MARCH 23, 1954.

ALEX DIM, ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, ST. PAUL,  
ADVISED THAT JUDGE GUNNAR NORDBYLL HAS SET HEARING FOR  
VOLNEY DAVIS FOR JUNE 7, 1954, AT ST. PAUL. MR. DIM FUR-  
NISHED FOLLOWING LIST OF WITNESSES NECESSARY FOR HEARING  
AND STATED THAT SUBPOENAS BEING ISSUED FOR ALL WITNESSES  
EXCEPT BUREAU AGENTS:

BUREAU SUPERVISOR ARTHUR J. NORSTROM, WASHINGTON, D. C.

SA MICHAEL J. CASSIDY, SAN FRANCISCO

SA SAMUEL W. HARDY, MINNEAPOLIS

SA E. E. KUHNEL, SAN ANTONIO

SF:CK  
7-30

- cc: 2 - Denver (7-5)  
2 - Los Angeles (7-42)  
3 - Miami (7-24)  
2 - New York (7-120)  
2 - Omaha (7-4)  
2 - Philadelphia (7-45)  
2 - St. Louis (7-43)  
2 - San Antonio (7-41)  
2 - San Diego (7-11)  
2 - San Francisco (7-33)  
2 - Savannah (7-2)  
2 - Washington Field (7-63)

RECORDED - 4

9 MAY 12 1954

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Handwritten notes and signatures at bottom right, including "Memo for..." and "cc: Mr. Tolson".

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FBI, ST. LOUIS

4-17-54

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576) AND SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30) . . . A I R

VOLNEY DAVIS, WAS., ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM, KIDNAPING.

RE MINNEAPOLIS AIRTEL 5-10-54. FORMER SA JOHN E. BRENNAN ADVISED  
BEING SUBPOENAED FOR HEARING AT MINNEAPOLIS RE VOLNEY DAVIS ON

6-7-54.

MILNES

END

RJA:MAF

7-43

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED-17

7-576-15375

EX-112

MAY 19 1954

MAY 24 1954

Approved: JEM  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (7-33)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, wa., etal  
KIDNAPPING

DATE: February 23, 1954

Rerep SA SIGURD FLATA dated February 12, 1954 at Minneapolis.

Forwarded, herewith, to the Bureau and Minneapolis Office are two copies each of memorandum submitted by SA MICHAEL J. CASSIDY concerning the events surrounding the apprehension of VOLNEY DAVIS and his subsequent transportation to St. Paul, Minnesota on June 1 and June 2, 1935 respectively.

RUC.

PCB:wap  
2 Encls.cc: Cincinnati  
cc: Minneapolis (2 Encls.)

2 - handled separately

RECORDED - 70  
INDEXED - 70

MAR 1 1954

17-576-15376

MAY 20, 1954

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

AIRTEL  
AIR MAIL

Transmit the following message tSAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)

VOLNEY DAVIS, WAS., ET AL; EDWARD BREMER - VICTIM; KIDNAPING.

FURNISH BUREAU WITH COMPLETE LIST OF ALL INDIVIDUALS

SUBPOENAED AS GOVERNMENT WITNESSES FOR FORTHCOMING HEARING.

INDICATE WHETHER PRESENT OR FORMER BUREAU EMPLOYEES OR  
OTHERWISE CONNECTED WITH THE ORIGINAL SENTENCING OF DAVIS.IN VIEW OF THE NUMBER AND SERIOUSNESS OF THE ALLEGATIONS  
PREVIOUSLY MADE BY DAVIS AGAINST THE BUREAU, AS WELL AS  
BOTH FORMER AND PRESENT BUREAU EMPLOYEES, YOU SHOULD BE  
PREPARED TO FULLY REFUTE ON THE RECORD ANY SUCH ALLEGATIONS  
WHICH ARE MADE BY DAVIS DURING THE COURSE OF THE IMPENDING  
HEARING. SUAIRTEL.

HOOVER

(7-576)

MTC:eck

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

EX-106  
RECORDED-42MAY 21 1954  
132COMM - FBI  
MAY 20 1954  
MAILED 19

68 MAY 25 1954

SENT VIA

M

Per

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

AIRTEL

Transmit the following ~~Teletype~~ message to:

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

5-21-54  
Breki

VOLNEY DAVIS, WAS., ET AL; EDWARD BREMER - VICTIM; KIDNAPING.

REBUAIRTEL 5-20-54 AND MP AIRTEL TO BUREAU 5-10-54. FOR INFO  
OF BUREAU, COMPLETE LIST OF GOVERNMENT WITNESSES, INCLUDING  
AGENTS, FORMER AGENTS AND OTHERS, FURNISHED TO BUREAU AND  
AUXILIARY OFFICES IN REFERENCED MP AIRTEL 5-10-54. ALEX  
DIM, AUSA, ST. PAUL, ADVISED TODAY RECEIPT OF FOLLOWING LIST  
OF WITNESSES DESIRED SUBPOENAED BY HARLAN STRONG, COURT  
APPOINTED ATTORNEY FOR VOLNEY DAVIS: (1) MELVIN PURVIS,  
FORMER SAC, PRESENTLY UNDER SUBPOENA BY GOVERNMENT. (2)  
JOHN BRENNAN, FORMER SA, PRESENTLY UNDER SUBPOENA BY GOVERNMENT.  
(3) STRONG DESIRED NAME OF AGENT IN CHARGE OF AIRPLANE FLIGHT  
FROM CHICAGO TO MP WHEN DAVIS WAS FLOWN TO MP ON 6-3-35. MR.  
DIM GAVE STRONG NAME OF MELVIN PURVIS, FORMER SAC, CHICAGO  
DIVISION, WHO IS PRESENTLY UNDER SUBPOENA BY GOVERNMENT. (4)  
STRONG ADVISED THAT "WHEN DAVIS WAS ARRESTED AN AGENT TOOK  
A SHOT AT HIM AND WAS, ACCORDING TO DAVIS, REPRIMANDED BY  
PURVIS." MR. DIM GAVE NAME OF SA R. C. SURAN, PRESENTLY UNDER  
SUBPOENA BY GOVERNMENT. IT WAS POINTED OUT TO MR. DIM THAT

SF:mlm  
7-30

cc: CHICAGO (7-82) (INFO)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED-23

7-576-15378

MAY 24 1954

EX-123

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_

Transmit the following ~~Teletype~~ message to:

SA R. C. SURAN REPORTED AT TIME OF APPREHENSION OF DAVIS ON 6-1-35 IN CHICAGO, THAT DAVIS RESISTED ARREST AND IN STRUGGLE WITH AGENT SURAN STRUCK SURAN'S ARM CAUSING HIS REVOLVER TO BE ACCIDENTALLY DISCHARGED. REPORT OF SA KENNERLY R. CORBETT 2-23-54 AT SAVANNAH SETS FORTH SIMILAR INFO FROM FORMER SAC PURVIS SURROUNDING THE ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE OF SURAN'S REVOLVER AT THE TIME OF ARREST OF DAVIS. (5) STRONG FURNISHED THE NAME

[REDACTED]

(6)

(7) GEORGE HEISEY, US REFEREE IN BANKRUPTCY, MP, AND

CO: MR. ROSEN  
AND SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

-----  
AIRTELTransmit the following ~~teletype~~ message to:

PAGE THREE

FORMER AUSA, ST. PAUL. REPORT OF SA SIGURD FLAATA 2-25-54  
AT MP REFLECTS HEISEY, UPON INTERVIEW, STATED THAT HE HANDLED  
PROSECUTION OF DEFENDANTS, WHO ENTERED PLEAS OF NOT GUILTY  
IN INSTANT CASE, AND THAT USA SULLIVAN (DECEASED) REPRESENTED  
GOVERNMENT AT ARRAIGNMENT AND SENTENCING OF DAVIS. HEISEY  
STATED HE INTERVIEWED DAVIS' GIRLFRIEND, EDNA MURRAY, WHO  
BECAME WITNESS FOR GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, ADVISED HE MADE NO  
PROMISES TO EDNA MURRAY THAT DAVIS WOULD RECEIVE LIGHT SENTENCE  
IF PLEA OF GUILTY ENTERED. ALEX DIM, AUSA, ADVISED TODAY  
GEORGE HEISEY NOW BEING SUBPOENAED AS WITNESS FOR GOVERNMENT.  
(8) JAMES JACK WILSON, WAS., WHO WAS SENTENCED WITH DAVIS ON  
6-7-35 TO FIVE YEARS US REFORMATORY, CHILLICOTHE, OHIO. MR.  
DIM STATED HE HAS ADVISED MR. STRONG IN THOSE INSTANCES WHERE  
SUBPOENAS HAVE ALREADY BEEN ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT FOR WITNESSES  
STRONG DESIRES AND THAT SUBPOENAS FOR OTHER WITNESSES TURNED  
OVER TO USM, ST. PAUL. BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF  
DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_



RECORDED-39

MAY 25, 1954

URGENT

7-576-15378 SACS, MINNEAPOLIS, CHICAGO  
BREKID. RE MINNEAPOLIS AIRTEL MAY TWENTY-ONE LAST.

EX-123

CHICAGO MAKE DISCREET INQUIRY  
PRESENTLY  
RESIDING THAT ADDRESS. IF NEGATIVE, CHECK CRIMINAL AND CREDIT  
RECORDS, CITY DIRECTORIES, AND OTHER LOGICAL SOURCES IN EFFORT  
TO ASCERTAIN RESIDING CHICAGO. NO ADDITIONAL INVESTI-  
GATION TO LOCAT SHOULD BE CONDUCTED WITHOUT PRIOR BUREAU  
APPROVAL.

LIST OF GOVERNMENT WITNESSES

REFERRED TO TELETYPE SECTION MAY 25 1954  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Tolson  
Ladd  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Harbo  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Mohr  
Trotter  
Wiggin  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Miss Gandy

7-576  
TELETYPE  
COPIES DESTROYED  
MAR 26 1966

HOOVER

NOTE:

Volney Davis, who is currently seeking relief from life sentence via habeas corpus will be afforded hearing in USDC, St. Paul, June 7, 1954.

b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

MAY 25 1954

TELETYPE

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

529 PC.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy  
ROS-NJC

AIRTEL

Transmit the following message to:

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

6/3/54

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

VOLNEY DAVIS, WAS., ETAL, EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM; KIDNAPPING.

RE MINNEAPOLIS AIRTEL TO BUREAU 5/10/54, BUREAU AIRTEL TO MINNEAPOLIS 5/21/54, MINNEAPOLIS AIRTEL TO BUREAU 5/21/54, AND MINNEAPOLIS TELETYPE TO BUREAU, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN ANTONIO, DENVER, SAN DIEGO AND OMAHA 6/3/54.

AUSA ALEX DIM, ST. PAUL, ADVISED THIS DATE THAT JUDGE GUNNAR NORDBYE HAS RESET THE HEARING FOR VOLNEY DAVIS FROM 6/7/54 AT ST. PAUL UNTIL WEDNESDAY, 7/7/54, AT ST. PAUL, AT 9:00 A.M. BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICES WHICH HAVE AGENTS SUBPOENAED THEREFROM WERE ADVISED BY REFERENCED TELETYPE THAT NECESSARY AGENT WITNESSES SHOULD BE IN ST. PAUL AT 9:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY, 7/7/54. AUSA DIM IS SENDING TELEGRAMS TO ALL OTHER WITNESSES WHICH WERE PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN REFERENCED 5/10/54 AIRTEL AND WHO WERE SUBPOENAED. ABOVE BEING FURNISHED FOR INFORMATION OF OFFICES WHO HAVE WITNESSES UNDER SUBPOENA.

7-30

HOWARD

cc: 2 - DENVER (7-5)  
2 - LOS ANGELES (7-42)  
2 - MIAMI (7-24)  
2 - NEW YORK (7-120)  
2 - OMAHA (7-4)  
2 - PHILADELPHIA (7-45)  
2 - ST. LOUIS (7-43)  
2 - SAN ANTONIO (7-41)  
2 - SAN DIEGO (7-11)  
2 - SAN FRANCISCO (7-33)  
2 - SAVANNAH (7-2)  
2 - WASHINGTON FIELD (7-63)

RECORDED-31

Mr. Rosen

cc: Mr. Rosen

801

JUN 7 1954

55 JUN 11 1954

Approved:

SAMUEL HARDY, MINNEAPOLIS

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. *[initials]*  
Mr. *[initials]*  
Mr. *[initials]*  
Mr. T. *[initials]*  
Mr. *[initials]*  
Mr. *[initials]*  
Mr. *[initials]*  
Tele. *[initials]*  
COL. *[initials]*  
Mr. *[initials]*  
Miss Gandy  
*[Signature]*

**AIRTEL**

Transmit the following ~~Teletype~~ message to:

**FBI, MINNEAPOLIS**

5/26/54

**DIRECTOR, FBI**

DIRECTOR, FBI  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER

BREX ID. REBUTEL 5/25/54 AND MINNEAPOLIS AIRTEL 5/10/54. REFERENCED

TELETYPE STATES THAT LIST OF GOVERNMENT WITNESSES REFERRED TO IN  
REFERENCED MINNEAPOLIS AIRTEL DATED 5/10/54 NOT RECEIVED AT BUREAU.  
ENCLOSED HERewith ARE THREE COPIES OF MINNEAPOLIS AIRTEL 5/10/54.

**HOWARD**

7-30

**Encs.**

**Mr. Rosen**

**RECORDED-80**

**EX - 107**

17 MAY 27 1954

7-576-15380

**Approved:**

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

**Per**

2 JUN 1 8 1954

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FD-36  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

AIRTEL

Transmit the following TELETYPE message to:

DIRECTOR FBI (7-576) 5/10/54

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)

VOLNEY DAVIS, WAS., ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM, KIDNAPPING.

REREP SA SIGURD FLAATA DATED MARCH 23, 1954. ALEX DIM, ASSISTANT  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, ST. PAUL, ADVISED THAT JUDGE GUNNAR NORDBYE  
HAS SET HEARING FOR VOLNEY DAVIS FOR JUNE 7, 1954, AT ST. PAUL. MR.  
DIM FURNISHED FOLLOWING LIST OF GOVERNMENT WITNESSES NECESSARY FOR  
HEARING AND STATED THAT SUBPOENAS BEING ISSUED FOR ALL WITNESSES  
EXCEPT BUREAU AGENTS:

BUREAU SUPERVISOR ARTHUR J. NORSTROM, WASHINGTON, D. C.

SA MICHAEL J. CASSIDY, SAN FRANCISCO

SA SAMUEL W. HARK, MINNEAPOLIS

SA E. E. KUHNEL, SAN ANTONIO

SA A. S. REEDER, DENVER

SA RAYMOND C. SURAN, SAN DIEGO

SA EARL H. WILLIAMS, OMAHA

MELVIN H. FURVIS, FORMER SAC, FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA

MAXWELL CHAFFETZ, FORMER SA, PHILADELPHIA

JOHN E. BRENNAN, FORMER SA, ST. LOUIS

JAMES M. KLEES, FORMER SA, ST. PAUL

HAROLD E. ANDERSEN, FORMER SAC, WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA

HARRY M. STEWART, FORMER SA, WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

COPIES DESTROYED

100 MAR 26 1965

Approved:

SF:CK  
7-30

Mr. Rosen

Special Agent in Charge

ENCLOSURE

7-576-15380

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

-2-

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

HAROLD A. MARTIN, FORMER SA, JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

FRANK M. HEADLEY, FORMER SA, NEW YORK CITY

ROBERT THOMPSON, FORMER REPORTER, CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND

EDWARD R. PICH, FORMER COURT BAILIFF, ALEXANDRIA, MINNESOTA

NORTON RISEDORPH, FORMER CHIEF JAILER, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

THOMAS GIBBONS, SHERIFF, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

MRS. VIRGINIA SCHWEITZ, SECRETARY TO SHERIFF, ST. PAUL

JOHN DE COURCY, ATTORNEY, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

WILLIAM H. ECKLEY, U. S. COMMISSIONER, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

JOSEPH T. LYNCH, FORMER DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT, ST. PAUL

JACK B. MACKAY, REPORTER, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

RONALD HAZEL, ATTORNEY, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

EARL MORRISON, DEPUTY U. S. MARSHAL, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

LOUIS GOLLOP, REPORTER, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

CLERK OF COURT FOR U. S. DISTRICT COURT, NORTHERN DISTRICT OF

CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN DIVISION, SAN FRANCISCO, WHO WILL BRING FILES AND  
RECORDS RE VOLNEY DAVIS.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU, MR. DIM ADVISED FURTHER THAT HOWARD  
GELB, ATTORNEY, ST. PAUL, MINN., AND FORMER ASSISTANT UNITED STATES  
ATTORNEY, IS ASSISTING HARLAN STRONG, COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY FOR  
VOLNEY DAVIS. DIM ALSO STATED THAT ALTHOUGH NO SUBPOENA IS BEING

ISSUED, JUDGE MATTHEW M. JOYCE, U. S. DISTRICT COURT, MINNEAPOLIS, WHO

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

-3-

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

SENTENCED VOLNEY DAVIS JUNE 7, 1935, WILL UNDOUBTEDLY TESTIFY FOR  
GOVERNMENT AT HEARING FOR DAVIS. BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF  
DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

*c c m l Rosen.*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

AIRTEL

Transmit the following TELETYPE message to:

FBI, CPICAGO (7-82)

June 3, 1954

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

BREKID. REBUTEL 5/25/54. USM, CHICAGO, ADVISED THEY RECEIVED SUBPOENAS

[REDACTED], BUT  
HAD BEEN UNABLE TO SERVE EITHER AS THEY ARE UNKNOWN AT THAT ADDRESS. USM  
WILL ADVISE IF SERVICE OBTAINED WHICH USM BELIEVES UNLIKELY. CREDIT,  
CRIMINAL, CITY DIRECTORIES AND DISCREET INQUIRY AT [REDACTED] DEVELOPED  
NOTHING AS TO PRESENT WHEREABOUTS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WITNESS FORMER SA FRANK HEADLY ADVISED TO BE IN ST.  
PAUL JUNE SEVENTH NEXT. NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION WILL BE CONDUCTED TO  
LOCATE [REDACTED] UACB. RUC.

BANISTER

RTS:LMA

1 - MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED-96

EX-128

10 JUN 7 1954

55 JUN 16 1954

Approved: W. J. [REDACTED]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_



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

JUL 8 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

FBI, OKLAHOMA CITY 7-8-54 11-20 AM CST

DIRECTOR AND SACS MINNEAPOLIS AND SAN FRANCISCO

DC  
URGENT

BREKID. RE MINNEAPOLIS TEL JULY EIGHT, FIFTY FOUR. ETHEL LAWRENCE, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, CARDIN, OKLA., ADVISES LUELLA STANLEY, MOTHER OF EDNA MURRAY, IS SENILE AND MENTAL CONDITION IS POOR. LAWRENCE STATES HOWEVER, THAT SHE HERSELF CORRESPONDS WITH EDNA MURRAY, AND ADVISED THAT EDNA MURRAY IS NOW MARRIED TO [REDACTED] AND RESIDING [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FOR INFO SF USA GEORGE MACKINNON, ST. PAUL, REQUESTED IMMEDIATE DETERMINATION OF EDNA MURRAY-S WHEREABOUTS FOR PURPOSE OF SUBPOENA. SF IMMEDIATELY VERIFY EDNA MURRAY-S PRESENT RESIDENCE AT ADDRESS GIVEN ABOVE AND SUTEL MINNEAPOLIS.

JOHNSON

END

SF ADVISED

Mr. Rosen

A IN O PLS

WA 1-23 M PM OK F BI WA JG

MP OK FBI MP MJA

DISC PLS

M

68 JUL 13 1954

365

Serial 15382  
EX-106  
RECORDED - 15

2-576-15383  
20 JUL 9 1954

①

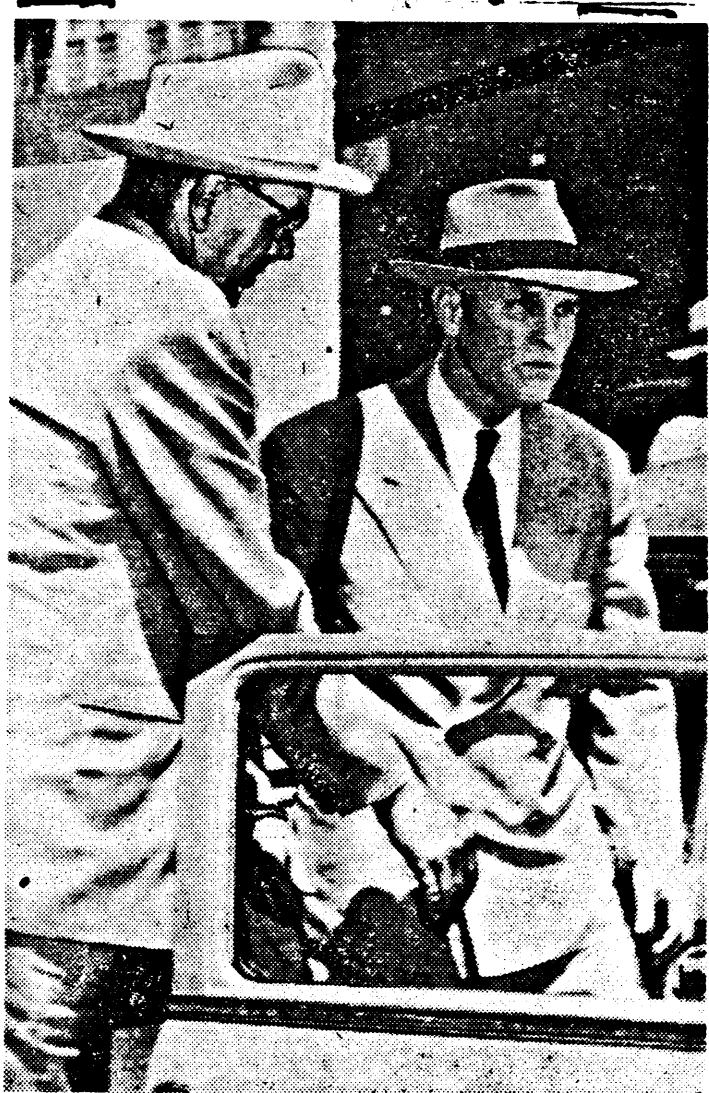
rebid

Ex-7-576

-in hearing begun 7/7/54 all witnesses,  
with exception of Volney Davis, who have testified  
thus far, have refuted allegations made by  
Davis

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

6 Cunningham

file note  
6-

**KIDNAPER SEEKS FREEDOM—St. Paul.**—Slim, gray-haired Volney Davis, 52 (right) who received a life sentence in the 1935 kidnaping of Edward Bremer, St. Paul brewer, prepares to get into a car with United States Marshal Enard Erickson to return to prison after appearing in Federal Court in an attempt to gain his freedom. Davis claimed his constitutional rights were violated and that he traveled with the Barker-Karpis gang, but did not take part in the kidnaping. —AP Wirephoto.

7-576  
NOT RECORDED  
46 JUL 14 1954

Wash. Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
Wash. News \_\_\_\_\_  
Wash. Star A-1  
N. Y. Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: July 8, 1954

7-576

4-568

5-100-20

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

29149

JUL 8 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

7/7/54

11-21 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI 7-576 AND SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY 2-URGENT

Bremer kidnapping  
BREKID

RE MINNEAPOLIS AIRTEL TO BUREAU JULY SIX LAST. HEARING FOR

VOLNEY DAVIS BEGAN AT TEN AM THIS DATE WITH HARLAN STRONG, COURT-  
APPOINTED ATTORNEY FOR VOLNEY DAVIS, AGREEING NOT TO CONTEST CHARGE  
NUMBER TWO IN DAVIS PETITION "WAS NEVER TAKEN BEFORE A USC." DEFENSE  
CALLED VOLNEY DAVIS AS FIRST WITNESS AND DAVIS REPEATED ALL CHARGES SET  
FORTH IN HIS PETITION. MELVIN H. PURVIS, FORMER SAC AT CHICAGO, CALLED  
BY DEFENSE AS SECOND WITNESS, AND RELATED DETAILS SURROUNDING APPREHEN-  
SION OF DAVIS AND TAKING OF WAIVER OF REMOVAL. NOTHING UNFAVORABLE  
TOWARD BUREAU IN TESTIMONY OF PURVIS. ONLY UNFAVORABLE ELEMENT AT  
HEARING TODAY DEVELOPED BY HARLAN STRONG WHO, IN QUESTIONING DAVIS  
CONCERNING BACKGROUND AND CAREER OF DAVIS IN CRIME, ALSO BROUGHT OUT  
ESCAPE OF DAVIS FROM FBI AGENTS ON FEBRUARY SEVEN, THIRTYFIVE, AT  
YORKVILLE, ILL., WHILE DAVIS WAS BEING TRANSPORTED IN CHARTERED AIR-  
PLANE FROM KANSAS CITY TO CHICAGO. DAVIS TESTIFIED IN THIS REGARD  
THAT TWO AGENTS, ONE OF WHOM HE IDENTIFIED AS WALTER TRAINOR, AND  
ANOTHER AGENT WHOSE NAME HE DID NOT RECALL WHO WAS BELIEVED TO BE  
THOMAS E. STAKEM WERE TRANSPORTING DAVIS TO CHICAGO WHEN THEIR PLANE  
RAN INTO A SNOW STORM AND WITH ONLY TWENTY MINUTES- SUPPLY OF GASOLINE  
WERE FORCED TO MAKE A FORCED LANDING IN FIELD NEAR YORKVILLE, ILLINOIS.  
DAVIS TESTIFIED FURTHER THAT DURING THIS FLIGHT WHEN FORCED LANDING WAS  
EMINENT, HE ASKED THE OTHER AGENT, WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS SCARED, AND WHO  
HAD NEVER FLOWN BEFORE, TO REMOVE HIS HANDCUFFS AND LEG IRONS  
BECAUSE OF  
THE POSSIBILITY OF FIRE IN EVEN OF A CRASH LANDING, AND DAVIS  
TESTIFIED THIS AGENT, WHOSE NAME HE WAS UNABLE TO RECALL, SAID "I CAN-T  
DO IT." DAVIS TESTIFIED FURTHER THAT AFTER A SUCCESSFUL FORCED LAND

G. I. R. -9

RECORDED - 90

7-576-15384

13 JUL 1954

PAGE TWO

M. JOYCE, WHO SENTENCED DAVIS IN NINETEEN THIRTYFIVE, AS FIRST WITNESS JULY EIGHT, NEXT. GEORGE MAC KINNON, USA, ST. PAUL, HAS REQUESTED WINONA BURDETT, FORMER GIRLFRIEND OF HARRY CAMPBELL, ONE OF FORMER SUBJECTS IN INSTANT CASE, BE LOCATED IN ORDER THAT A SUBPOENA CAN BE ISSUED FOR HER APPEARANCE AT HEARING PRESENTLY BEING CONDUCTED FOR VOLNEY DAVIS AT ST. PAUL. FOR INFORMATION OF OKLAHOMA CITY, SUGGEST SA CLARENCE HURT, RA, MC ALESTER, OKLAHOMA, BE CONTACTED RE WHERE-  
- ABOUTS OF BURDETT. FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU, USA DESIRES TESTIMONY OF BURDETT TO VERIFY ACTIVITIES OF VOLNEY DAVIS DURING NINETEEN THIRTYFOUR AND THIRTYFIVE. OKLAHOMA CITY SUTEL.

HOWARD

END ACK PLS

~~CORRECTION-GROUP TWELVE LINE TWENTYTWO IS BECAUSE OF~~  
OKLAHOMA CITY TO BE ADVISED

ACK NOW PLS

1-34 AM OK FBI WA WS

TU DISC

CC: MR. ROSEN  
AND SUPERVISOR  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AIRTEL

Transmit the following ~~Teletype~~ message to:

AIR MAIL

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

7/6/54

3:45 p.m.

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

*Bremer Kidnaping*  
BREKID.

RE MINNEAPOLIS AIRTEL TO BUREAU 6/3/54. ALEX DIM, AUSA, ST. PAUL, MINN., ADVISED HARLAN STRONG, COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY FOR VOLNEY DAVIS, RECEIVED PERMISSION TO HAVE PSYCHIATRIST EXAMINE VOLNEY DAVIS IN RAMSKY COUNTY JAIL, ST. PAUL, MINN. DIM STATED THAT DR. LESLIE CAPLAN, MINNEAPOLIS PHYSICIAN AND PSYCHIATRIST, HAS EXAMINED VOLNEY DAVIS (GRATIS) AND THAT ACCORDING TO HARLAN STRONG, DR. CAPLAN WILL TESTIFY, ON BASIS OF HIS EXAMINATION OF VOLNEY DAVIS, THAT DAVIS WAS MENTALLY INCOMPETENT AT TIME OF HIS ARRAIGNMENT IN 6/35, TO WAIVE THE RIGHT TO COUNSEL ON THE BASIS OF DAVIS' EDUCATION, BACKGROUND AND PRIOR YEARS OF IMPRISONMENT. DIM STATED FURTHER CAPLAN WILL BE OUT OF THE CITY THE REMAINDER OF THIS WEEK AND WILL BE UNABLE TO TESTIFY IN DAVIS' DEFENSE UNTIL 7/12/54. DIM STATED HE HAS WIRED ALCRATRAZ, LEAVENWORTH AND MCALESTER PRISONS FOR MEDICAL FILES ON DAVIS AND FOR NAMES OF PRISON PSYCHIATRISTS WHO HAVE EXAMINED DAVIS AND IS CONSIDERING CALLING THEM TO TESTIFY 7/12/54 TO REFUTE DR. CAPLAN'S TESTIMONY. ALEX DIM ADVISED THAT AFTER THE DEFENSE HAVE PUT ON THEIR CASE AT THE HEARING, WHICH WILL BE HELD AS SCHEDULED AT 10:00 A.M., 7/7/54

Mr. Rosen

SF:pw  
7-30

6 JUL 15 1954

Approved: *CRK*

Special Agent in Charge

EX-136  
RECORDED - 63

7-576-15385  
11 JUL 7 1954

Sent *M*

Per *CRK*

Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

-----

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

PAGE 2

AT ST. PAUL, MINN., DIM CONTEMPLATES CALLING MELVIN PURVIS AS  
FIRST WITNESS FOR THE GOVT. OTHER WITNESSES IN FOLLOWING ORDER  
FOR THE GOVT'S CASE: SURAN, CHAFFETZ, CASSIDY, HEADLEY, MARTIN,  
STEWART, KUHNAL, EARL WILLIAMS, HAROLD ANDERSEN, BRENNAN, HARDY,  
KLETS, JUDGE JOYCE, LYNCH, ECKLEY, HAZEL, PICHA, MAC KAY, GOLLOP,  
MORRISON, SHERIFF GIBBONS, RISEDORF, SCHWEITZ, ROBERT THOMPSON,  
DE COURCY, NORSTROM, REEDER, CARL M. TAYLOR, CHIEF DEPUTY CLERKS,  
CLERK OF COURT, SAN FRANCISCO, WITH FILES. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED  
OF DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

*CC M Rosen*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

JUL 10 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

7-10-54

7-35

DIRECTOR, FBI SEVEN DASH FIVE SEVEN SIX AND SACS CLEVELAND AND KANSAS CITY

BREKID. USA GEORGE E. MAC KINNON, ST. PAUL, MINN., DESIRES WHERE

ABOUTS IMMEDIATELY DETERMINED FOR PURPOSE OF SUBPOENA OF BYRON BOLTON, WAS., BYRON BOLTON, CARTER, BOWEN D. CARTER, OWEN G.

CARTER, ANDY ALLEN, MONTY CARTER, B. BOLTON. USA MAC KINNON DESIRES

BOLTON- S TESTIMONY INASMUCH AS BOLTON PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED VOLNEY DAVIS WAS IN POSSESSION OF RANSOM MONEY. MINNEAPOLIS FILES REFLECT

MOST SERIALS CONCERNING BOLTON HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED TO CLEVELAND DIVISION. BUREAU WILL CHECK CRIMINAL RECORDS FOR LATEST WHEREABOUTS

OF BOLTON. CLEVELAND OFFICE REVIEW FILES FOR ANY INFO CONCERNING

BOLTON- S WHEREABOUTS. KANSAS CITY WILL CHECK FILES FOR BOLTON- S

WHEREABOUTS AND CHECK FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTER, SPRINGFIELD, MO.,

WHERE BOLTON CONFINED AS TB PATIENT, FOR INFO LEADING TO HIS WHEREA-

BOUTS. EXPEDITE LEADS AS BOLTON- S PRESENCE AS WITNESS DESIRED ST.

PAUL, JULY TWELVE, NINETEEN FIFTYFOUR.

HOWARD

EN

CORRECTIONS

LINE THREE WORD FIVE SHOULD BE OWEN

LINE FIVE WORD ONE SHOULD BE BOLTON- S

E KANSAS CITY ADVISED

END AND ACK PLS

9-42 PM OK FBI WA RD

RECORDED-96

13 JUL 12 1954

Mr. Rosen X-103

OK FBI CY DIC

TO DISCIPLINE

7-576 15386

29151

JULY 11, 1954

TELETYPE  
URGENT

SAC, MINNEAPOLIS

BREKID. REURTEL JULY TEN LAST. LATEST IDENT RECORD FOR  
BOLTON REFLECTS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MAY BE IDENTICAL WITH FBI NUMBER,  
EIGHT FOUR ONE ONE EIGHT EIGHT.

HOOVER

WDC:rom

7-576-15386

RECORDED-66

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

EX-103

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

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MAR 26 1964

JUL 11 1954

TELETYPE

8:26am

F-467

Comm. [Signature]  
7/14/54

[Handwritten signatures and initials]



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

MINNEAPOLIS

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT <b>MINNEAPOLIS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>7/13/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/7-9,12/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>SA SIGURD FLAATA jvr</b>
TITLE <b>VOLNEY DAVIS, was., ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>KIDNAPPING</b>
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>Hearing afforded VOLNEY DAVIS on his petition in USDC, St. Paul, Minn., 7/7-12/54, before Judge GUNNAR NORDBYE, who after hearing testimony, took case under advisement, stating that he would render a written opinion.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- P -</p> <p><b>DETAILS:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>AT ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA</u></p> <p>A hearing was afforded VOLNEY DAVIS on his petition in United States District Court, St. Paul, Minnesota, beginning July 7, 1954, and ending July 12, 1954, before Judge GUNNAR NORDBYE, pursuant to the ruling of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, St. Louis.</p> <p>After hearing testimony, Judge NORDBYE took the case under advisement, stating that he would render a written report.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- P -</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>He</i></p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES DESTROYED 100 MAR 26 1965		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (3-Bureau (7-576) (AM) 1-USA, St. Paul 2-Minneapolis (7-30) <b>COPY IN FILE</b> JUL 20 1954		<div style="text-align: center;"> <b>576-15287</b>  <b>JUL 14 1954</b>  <i>[Signature]</i> </div>	
		RECORDED - 87 <b>EX-115</b>	

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★ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

16-50355-2

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

LEAD

MINNEAPOLIS DIVISION

At St. Paul, Minnesota

Will follow and report the opinion to be handed down by Judge NORDBYE in this case.

REFERENCE

Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA, at Minneapolis, 4/23/54.

JUL 9 1954

TELETYPE

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

7-9-54

8-34 PM BDM

DIRECTOR, FBI

U R G E N T

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

BREKID. RE MINNEAPOLIS TEL JULY EIGHT LAST. FOLLOWING WITNESSES CALLED BY GOVERNMENT TO TESTIFY IN VOLNEY DAVIS HEARING AT ST. PAUL TODAY: ECKLEY, LYNCH, STEWART, KUHNEL, KLEES, HEISEY, HAROLD ANDERSEN, HARDY, GIBBONS, RISEDORPH, MRS. VIRGINIA SCHWEITZ, DECOURCY, PICHA, NORSTROM, REEDER, MORRISON, MACKAY, GOLLOP. ANDERSEN TESTIFIED RE MEETING DAVIS ON ARRIVAL MINNEAPOLIS AIRPORT MORNING JUNE THREE, THIRTYFIVE, AND TRANSPORTATION OF DAVIS TO ST. PAUL BUREAU OFFICE. ANDERSON TESTIFIED FURTHER THAT ON ARRIVAL AT OFFICE IN FEDERAL COURTS BUILDING, THAT FOR REASON OF LACK OF DETENTION ROOM FACILITIES IN BUREAU OFFICE, AND KNOWING OF DAVIS-S PRIOR ESCAPE FROM BUREAU AGENTS IN FEBRUARY, THIRTYFIVE, HE PERSONALLY ATTACHED TRAVELING CHAIN TO RADIATOR PIPE FROM DAVIS LEG IRONS AND TOLD DAVIS "NOW VOLNEY, IF YOU WANT TO GO OUT THE WINDOW, YOU WILL HAVE TO TAKE THE RADIATOR WITH YOU." IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT DEFENSE COUNSEL NO PARTICULAR ISSUE OF CHAINING OF DAVIS IN CROSS EXAMINATION OF ANDERSEN AND OVER OBJECTIONS OF COURT APPOINTED DEFENSE COUNSEL. ANDERSEN WAS PERMITTED TO TELL WHAT HE HAD HEARD ABOUT DAVIS- ESCAPE FROM FEDERAL AGENTS IN FEBRUARY, THIRTYFIVE. ANDERSEN TESTIFIED THAT DAVIS WAS IN CUSTODY OF TWO AGENTS, ONE A VETERAN, AND THE OTHER AN INEXPERIENCED AGENT, WHO WERE TAKING DAVIS BY PRIVATE PLANE WITH A SINGLE PILOT FROM KANSAS CITY TO CHICAGO AND THAT WHEN THE PLANE WAS FORCED DOWN BY WEATHER NEAR YORKVILLE, ILL., THE INEXPERIENCED AGENT MISUNDERSTOOD THE VETERAN AGENT-S INSTRUCTIONS AND REMOVED NOT ONLY DAVIS-LEG IRONS, BUT ALSO HIS HANDCUFFS, AND THAT THE THREE THEN WENT TO A TAVERN.

END PAGE ONE

Mr. Rosen

61 JUL 23 1954

F-467

RECORDED-80

EX-123

PERS. FILES

Set me have memo re this escape in 1935.

7/12/54 mrc

PAGE TWO

WHERE THE OLDER AGENT WENT TO A PHONE BOOTH AND DAVIS INVITED THE IN-  
EXPERIENCED AGENT TO GO TO THE BAR FOR A BEER AND THAT AS THE BEER WAS  
SERVED THEM DAVIS ~~WAS~~ ESCAPED BY THROWING THE GLASS AND CONTENTS INTO  
THE INEXPERIENCED AGENT-S FACE AND ESCAPING. JOHN DECOURCY, LOCAL  
ST. PAUL ATTORNEY, REPUTED TO HAVE BEEN ATTORNEY FOR DOC BARKER AND  
EDNA MURRAY WAS ADVERSE WITNESS AND UNABLE TO RECALL MAKING AFFIDAVIT  
RE <sup>✓</sup>BOLNEY DAVIS IN NINETEEN FORTY. IT WAS NECESSARY TO CROSS EXAMINE  
DECOURCY AS AN ADVERSE WITNESS AFTER AUSA CLAIMS SURPRISE IN DECOURCY-S  
TESTIMONY, AFTER WHICH DECOURCY THEN ADMITTED SEEING DAVIS IN RAMSEY  
COUNTY JAIL AT WHICH TIME DECOURCY WAS REPRESENTING EDNA MURRAY AND WAS  
SEEKING TITLE OF PONTIAC AUTOMOBILE WHICH BELONGED TO DAVIS. ALL OTHER  
WITNESSES FAVORABLE TO GOVERNMENT CASE. AUSA HAS ADVISED DR. SETTLE, CHIEF  
PHYSICIAN, USP, LEAVENWORTH, WILL TESTIFY AT HEARING TO BE RECONVENED AT  
ST. PAUL, ELEVEN AM, JULY TWELVE NEXT, TO REFUTE TESTIMONY OF DR. LESLIE  
CAPLAN, MINNEAPOLIS PSYCHIATRIST WHO IS BEING CALLED BY DAVIS. GOVERNMENT  
HAS RESERVED RIGHT TO CROSS EXAMINE DAVIS FURTHER AND COMPLETE THE GOVER-  
MENT-S CASE AFTER THE DEFENSE RESTS AND THE RIGHT TO CALL OTHER WITNESSES  
TO COMPLETE THE GOVERNMENT-S CASE. ONLY WITNESSES NOT CALLED BY GOVERN-  
MENT TODAY AS LISTED IN PREVIOUS TELETYPE WERE RONALD HAZEL, ST. PAUL  
ATTORNEY, AND CARL M. TAYLOR, CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK, SAN FRANCISCO, WHOM  
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

AUSA DECIDED NOT TO PUT ON THE STAND, HOWEVER, GOVERNMENT MADE USE OF FILES BROUGHT BY TAYLOR FROM SAN FRANCISCO. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

HOWARD

END AND ACK PLS HOLD  
MCCORRECTIONS -

~~LINE FOUR FOURTH WORD SHOULD BE VIRGINIA PAGE ONE~~  
~~LINE SEVEN SECOND WORD SHOULD BE VOLNEY PAGE TWO~~  
~~LINE TWELVE LAST WORD SHOULD BE CHIEF~~

END AND ACK

K

10-49 PM OK FBI WA WS

.7 DISC PLS

CC: MR. ROSEN  
AND SUPERVISOR  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: July 12, 1954

FROM : Mr. Price

SUBJECT: VOLNEY DAVIS ET AL;  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPING

Tolson	✓
Ladd	✓
Nichols	✓
Belmont	✓
Clegg	✓
Glavin	✓
Harbo	✓
Rosen	✓
Tracy	✓
Gearty	✓
Mohr	✓
Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holloman	✓
Sizoo	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

This memorandum is in response to the Director's inquiry relative to the escape of Volney Davis from Bureau Agents at Yorkville, Illinois, on February 6, 1935.

Volney Davis was apprehended at Kansas City, Missouri, on February 6, 1935, as a subject in the Bremer kidnaping case by five Special Agents of the Bureau. On this same date, Davis executed a waiver of removal and an airplane was chartered for the purpose of conveying him to Chicago, Illinois, where better facilities were available for questioning. The plane which was chartered had facilities for three passengers besides the pilot, and Special Agents Walter F. Trainor and Thomas E. Stakem, Jr., were designated to accompany Davis.

The plane was forced down at 6:45 p.m. in a cornfield one mile south of Yorkville, Illinois. A farmer was contacted and requested to drive the Agents with their prisoner to Yorkville. To prevent attracting attention and disclosing the identity of the prisoner, his leg irons and handcuffs were removed. Upon their arrival in Yorkville, the two Agents and the prisoner entered the Hotel Nading Cafe. Trainor entered a phone booth in order to call the Chicago Office while Stakem remained with the prisoner in the cafe. Stakem and Davis each ordered a glass of beer. After it was served to them and while Trainor was still in the telephone booth, Davis struck Stakem in the face with his fist and effected his escape by jumping through a window. Stakem fired two shots at the fleeing Davis, but the bullets did not strike him.

Davis made his way out of Yorkville by stealing an automobile off the street.

For his part in permitting Davis to escape, Stakem was requested to submit his resignation which was accepted as of February 26, 1935. Trainor was suspended without pay for a period of 90 days beginning on February 8, 1935. Because of his good attitude, displayed during the period of his suspension, he was restored to duty on March 18, 1935.

b6  
MTG

JUL 23 1954

F-467

PERS. FILES

Volney Davis was again apprehended by Bureau Agents on June 1, 1935, at Chicago, Illinois. In United States District Court, St. Paul, Minnesota, Davis was sentenced to life imprisonment on June 7, 1935, after entering a plea of guilty for his complicity in the Bremer kidnaping. It is noted that a hearing is currently being held in St. Paul in connection with a petition for a writ of habeas corpus that Davis has filed in Federal court in which he seeks to have the life sentence set aside in favor of a sentence involving a term of years.

True  
JTH  
ene

V.

JTH

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

JUL 8 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd\_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman\_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy\_\_\_\_\_

FBI, SAN FRANCISCO 7-8-54 4-48 PM

ENB

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, MINNEAPOLIS URGENT

BREKID RE OC TEL TODAY. RESIDENCE OF EDNA MURRAY, NOW [REDACTED]

b7c [REDACTED] VERIFIED AS [REDACTED]

RUC.

WHELAN

END AND ACK PLS

OKWV88

OK FBI MP DEN

7-50 OK FBI WA PC

Mr. Rosen

5 5 JUL 16 1954

RECORDED-89

X-127

13 JUL 12 1954

7-576-15390

F-467



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

JUL 8 1954

TELETYPE

PM CST

2-43

7-8-54

URGENT

FBI, OKLAHOMA CITY

DIRECTOR AND SAC, MINNEAPOLIS

BREKID.

RE MINNEAPOLIS TEL JULY SEVEN LAST AND OCTEL EARLIER  
TODAY. SA CLARENCE O. HURT, RA, MCALESTER, OKLA., DOES NOT  
KNOW PRESENT WHEREABOUTS WYNONA BURDETT AND IS UNABLE TO

SECURE INFO IN MCALESTER RE HER WHEREABOUTS. CONTACTS MADE  
WITH NELLIE KIMES, MCALESTER, AND AUSTIN SMITH AND LOUIS  
MOHLER, INMATES OSP, MCALESTER, WHO ALL ADVISED THEY ARE

ACQUAINTED WITH VOLNEY DAVIS AND REMEMBER HE LIVED WITH WYNONA  
BURDETT, BUT NONE OF THEM HAVE ANY IDEA AS TO WHERE WYNONA  
BURDETT IS AT THIS TIME. RECORDS OKLA. STATE CRIME BUREAU ALSO

CHECKED RE BURDETT WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. RUC.

JOHNSON

END

A IN O PLS

WA

O FBI MP DPMO

WA 4-45 PM OK FBI WA RD

Mr. Rosen

JUL 21 1954

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

EX-115

RECORDED - 51

7-576-1534

13 JUL 12 1954

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

JUL 8 1954

TELETYPE

7-8-54

8:39

PM

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

URGENT

Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

BREKID. BUR FILE SEVEN DASH FIVE SEVEN SIX. RE MINNEAPOLIS TEL TO DIRECTOR JULY SEVEN LAST AND RE SF TEL JULY EIGHT. FOLLOWING WITNESSES CALLED BY DEFENSE AT VOLNEY DAVIS HEARING, ST. PAUL, TODAY - SURAN, CHAFFETZ, MARTIN, CASSIDY, HEADLEY, EARL WILLIAMS, BRENNAN. FOLLOWING WITNESSES CALLED BY GOVERNMENT TODAY - JUDGE MATTHEW JOYCE, ROBERT THOMPSON, ECKLEY. IT SHOULD BE NOTED ALL WITNESSES WITH EXCEPTION OF VOLNEY DAVIS, WHO HAVE TESTIFIED THUS FAR, HAVE REFUTED ALLEGATIONS MADE BY DAVIS. DEFENSE HAS COMPLETED PRESENTATION OF CASE WITH EXCEPT- OF TESTIMONY OF DR. LESLIE CAPLAN, MINNEAPOLIS PHYSICIAN AND PSYCHIATRIST, WHO WILL TESTIFY FOR DEFENSE ON JULY TWELVE NEXT. USA CONTEMPLATE REFUTING DR. CAPLAN-S TESTIMONY WITH TESTIMONY OF PSYCHIATRIST FROM USP, LEAVENWORTH, FOR WHOM SUBPOENA HAS BEEN ISSUED TO APPEAR ALSO JULY TWELVE. FOR INFORMATION SAN FRANCISCO, USA, ST. PAUL, EXTREMELY ANXIOUS TO HAVE [REDACTED] - EDNA MURRAY- AVAILABLE TO TESTIFY JULY TWELVE RE ACTIVITIES OF VOLNEY DAVIS IN NINETEEN THIRTYFOUR AND THIRTYFIVE. SUGGEST SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION FOLLOW THIS MATTER WITH USM, SF, AND SUTEL WHEN SUBPOENA SERVED ON [REDACTED]

HOWARD

SF TO BE ADVISED

END AND ACK PLS

10-45 OK FBI WA PC

Mr. Rosen

13 JUL 12 1954

THU DISV 1954

MR. ROSEN  
AND SUPERVISOR  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

RECORDED - 51

EX-1157-576-15392

RECORDED EX-115

URGENT  
JULY 8, 1954

SAC  
MINNEAPOLIS

G.I.R.-9

7-576-15393

BREKID. REURTEL EIGETH INSTANT. IDENTIFICATION FILES REFLECT

b3  
7/3

HOOVER

TELETYPE

MLB

mlb

*Quintana 4716*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
JUL 8 1954

1-358 TELETYPE  
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189 MAR 26 1965

*V. K. B.*  
*Q.T.*

*wh.*

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

JUL 8 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Sizoo	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

7-8-54

1- WT 1-25 AM

DIRECTOR FBI 7-576 AND SAC OKLAHOMA CITY URGENT (4)

**BREKID.** USA GEORGE MAC KINNON ST. PAUL DESIRES WHEREABOUTS IMMEDIATELY DETERMINED FOR PURPOSE OF SUBPOENA OF EDNA MURRAY WITH ALIASES - MRS. E. V. DAVIS, EDNA STANLEY, WELMA TIPPETTS, VELMA CHAMPAIGN, RABBIT, G. R. HANSON, GRACE R. DOYLE, EDNA SULLIVAN, DORIS FARRELL, EDNA GRACE, GRACE R. HANSEN, MRS. E. J. SNYDER, EDNA PRICE, MRS. CURLY HANSON, EDNA STANLEY, MRS. G. L. HARPER, MARTHA MURRAY, VELMA TIPPITTS, BLONDIE, GRACE HANSON, RABBITS, MRS. E. J. POWELL. MINNEAPOLIS FILES REFLECT EDNA MURRAY-S IDENTIFICATION NUMBER TO BE NINE THREE NINE SEVEN. AT TIME OF KARPIS TRIAL MURRAY BROUGHT FROM MISSOURI PENITENTIARY WHERE SHE WAS SERVING TWENTY YEARS SENTENCE FOR HIGHWAY ROBBERY. IDENTIFICATION RECORDS SHOULD BE CHECKED FOR HER LATEST WHEREABOUTS. MINNEAPOLIS FILES REFLECT MURRAY WAS DAUGHTER OF LUELLA STANLEY RESIDING AT CARDIN, OKLAHOMA IN NINETEEN THIRTY FOUR.

OKLAHOMA

CITY EXPEDITE LEADS TO DETERMINE MURRAY-S WHEREABOUTS AND SUTEL.

HOWARD

END AND ACK PLS

WA 3-29 AM OK FBI WA WS

OC OK FBI OC DCM

Mr. Rosen

TU DISC

cc-Mr. Rosen

EX-115  
RECORDED - 51

Called Ident

13 JUL 12 1954

M 11:20 3-334

By

WJ

7-576-155073

Handwritten notes: "Hired One" and other illegible scribbles.

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

JUL 9 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Sizoo	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI SAN FRANCISCO

7-9-54

2-50 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI SAN SAC, MINNEAPOLIS

U R G E N T

BREKID. RE MINNEAPOLIS TEL JUL. EIGHT LAST. USM, SF SERVED

SUBPOENA ON [REDACTED] AKA. EDNA MURRAY THIS AM.

WHELAN

END AND ACK PLS

WA 5-52PM OK FBI WA JN

MP OK FBI MP JAF

TU DISC

Mr. Rosen

58 JUL 21 1954

RECORDED - 4 JUL 13 1954

EX-115

cc Rosen [initials]

G. I. R. -9..

PMTB. 7/19/54

July 19, 1954

INDEXED - 60

RECORDED - 60

7-316-15395

EX-127

Mr. Maxwell Chaffetz  
Sales Manager  
\*Pretz-L Products Corporation  
1436-38 Cotton Street  
Reading, Pennsylvania

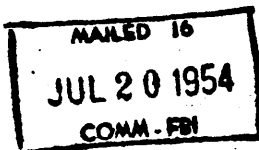
Dear Mr. Chaffetz,

It was indeed a pleasure to receive your letter of July 12, 1954, concerning the case of Volney Davis.

You were most thoughtful to inform me of your favorable opinion of the work of Special Agent Sigurd Flaata in this matter, and I know that Mr. Flaata will be deeply grateful for your generous comments. Such heartening remarks have always been a source of great encouragement for my associates and me.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



RECEIVED READING ROOM  
JUL 19 5 12 PM '54  
FBI

2 cc's - Minneapolis, with 2 copies of incoming.

cc - Personnel File of SA Sigurd Flaata, with copy of incoming.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Sigurd Flaata EOD 1-5-48, was assigned to Minneapolis as Resident Agent in St. Paul, Minn. Chaffetz eod as Clerk 2-10-30; as Agent 2-12-34. Resigned 4-19-46. Service satisfactory.

MLL:grs

AUG 2 1954

F-467

*mojta*  
*Viper*  
*jam*  
*MLL*

Pretz-L Products Corp.

2915

BITE SIZE  
**PRETZ-L NUGGETS**  
NO CRUMBS



1436-38 COTTON STREET

July 12, 1954

Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Phone 2-5259	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
9th & Pennsylvania Aves.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I was recently under subpoena in St. Paul, Minnesota in the matter involving Volney Davis. I believe I would be remiss if I did not bring to your attention the excellent job performed by Special Agent Sig Flaata of the Minnesota office to whom the matter was assigned at the time of the hearing.

Agent Flaata had a complete and thorough knowledge of all matters pertaining to the case which, as you know, is quite involved. He was most cooperative and of great assistance in making available everything needed both by Special Agents Ex-Special Agents and members of the office of the U. S. Attorney.

Since this was my first contact with Agent Flaata, I was very much impressed and thought that you would appreciate knowing of his capability. With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

PRETZ-L PRODUCTS CORP.

*Maxwell Chaffetz*  
Maxwell Chaffetz,  
Sales Manager

MC:m

INDEXED - 80  
RECORDED - 80  
EX-127

7-576-  
13 JUL 26 1954

PERS. FILES

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

JUL 12 1954

TELETYPE

G.I.R. 9

7-12-54 8-35 PM

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

DIRECTOR, FBI

*Bremer Kidnaping*  
BREKID

U R G E N T

RE MINNEAPOLIS TELETYPE JULY NINE LAST.

SA

ERNEST KUHNEL, FIRST WITNESS FOR GOVERNMENT AT VOLNEY DAVIS HEARING TODAY, ADDING TO TESTIMONY PREVIOUSLY GIVEN AND TESTIFYING RELATIVE TO TRANSPORTATION OF DAVIS FROM CHICAGO TO MINNEAPOLIS, JUNE THREE, NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE, TESTIFIED THAT DAVIS OBTAINED REST AND WAS OBSERVED SLEEPING ON PLANE ENROUTE. DEFENSE PUT DR. LESLIE CAPLAN, MINNEAPOLIS PHYSICIAN AND PSYCHIATRIST, ON STAND AND DR. CAPLAN TESTIFIED THAT SEQUENCE OF EVENTS ALLEGED IN HYPOTHETICAL CASE CONCERNING DAVIS FROM CHILDHOOD DAYS TO TIME OF ARRAIGNMENT IN ST. PAUL, JUNE THREE, NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE, INCLUDING INCIDENTS OF DAVIS-S CRIMINAL CAREER, INCARCERATION IN VARIOUS PRISONS, INCLUDING LONG PERIODS OF SOLITARY CONFINEMENT, AND OTHER EVENTS IN DAVIS-S CAREER TO WHICH CAPLAN TESTIFIED THAT FACTS, IF TRUE, SUBJECTED DAVIS TO HARROWING EXPERIENCES WHICH MAY HAVE AFFECTED HIS JUDGEMENT AS TO WAIVER OF COUNSEL AND HIS JUDGEMENT AS TO ENTERING A PLEA AT TIME OF ARRAIGNMENT ON JUNE THREE, NINETEEN THIRTYFIVE. ON CROSS EXAMINATION OF DR. CAPLAN, ADMISSION MADE BY CAPLAN TO COURT THAT DAVIS-S VARIOUS EXPERIENCES IN AIRPLANE TRIPS WITH FBI MAY NOT HAVE RESULTED IN ANY EFFECT

END PAGE ONE

66 SEP 2 1955

RECORDED-48

13 JUL 15 1954

Mr. Rosen

5-5 JUL 20 1954 EX - 107



PAGE TWO

ON HIS JUDGEMENT AS TO WAIVING RIGHT TO COUNSEL AND HIS JUDGEMENT AS TO ENTERING A PLEA. GOVERNMENT ALSO EMPHASIZED IN CROSS EXAMINATION OF DOCTOR CAPLAN THAT DAVIS-S EXTENSIVE CRIMINAL RECORD AFFORDED DAVIS BACKGROUND AND KNOWLEDGE OF COURT PROCEDURE AND KNOWLEDGE OF HIS RIGHT TO COUNSEL AND KNOWLEDGE OF RESULTS OF ENTERING A PLEA OF GUILTY. DOCTOR RUSSELL O. SETTLE, PHYSICIAN AND PSYCHIATRIST, U.S.P. LEAVENWORTH, TESTIFIED FOR GOVERNMENT THAT MEDICAL FILE OF VOLNEY DAVIS FROM U.S.P. LEAVENWORTH FAILED TO REFLECT ANY EVIDENCE OF MENTAL ILLNESS OR PSYCHOTIC TRENDS. DOCTOR SETTLE ADVISED THAT A LETTER WRITTEN BY VOLNEY DAVIS DATED JUNE THREE, NINETEEN THIRTYFIVE, FROM THE RAMSEY COUNTY JAIL, SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA, ADDRESSED QUOTE MY DEAR MOTHER, FATHER, AND SISTERS UNQUOTE, WHICH IS SET FORTH IN DETAIL FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU ON PAGE SEVENTY SIX OF THE REPORT OF SA SIGURD FLAATA DATED FEBRUARY TWELVE FIFTY FOUR AT MINNEAPOLIS, WAS WRITTEN BY A PERSON OF MATURE JUDGEMENT WITH NO HINT OF IRRATIONALITY AND THAT THE PERSON EXPRESSED HIMSELF WELL AND WAS ALSO WELL SATISFIED WITH THE DECISIONS WHICH THE PERSON HAD MADE FOR HIMSELF AS SET FORTH IN THIS LETTER TO HIS RELATIVES. VOLNEY DAVIS AGAIN TOOK THE STAND FOR CROSS EXAMINATION BY THE GOVERNMENT, AND USA GEORGE MAC KINNON PURSUED QUESTIONS OF DAVIS-S ASSOCIATION WITH THE BARKER-KARPIS GANG FROM PERIOD PRIOR TO KIDNAPPING OF EDWARD BREMER ON JANUARY SEVENTEEN, THIRTYFOUR, TO

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

PERIOD AFTER BREMER-S RELEASE ON FEBRUARY SEVEN, THIRTYFOUR.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED DAVIS APPEALED TO JUDGE NORDBYE RELATIVE TO QUESTION OF BEING TRIED FOR KIDNAPPING AT THE PRESENT HEARING.

HOWEVER, THE COURT RULED THAT THE DEFENSE HAD BROUGHT UP THE QUESTION OF DAVIS-S GUILT IN THE BREMER CASE AND THAT DAVIS, WHEN QUESTIONED SPECIFICALLY BY THE DEFENSE, HAD DENIED ANY PARTICIPATION IN THE KIDNAPPING. DAVIS AGAIN SPECIFICALLY DENIED ANY PARTICIPATION IN THE KIDNAPPING OR THE RECEIPT OF ANY PORTION OF THE KIDNAPPING MONEY. EDNA MURRAY, TRUE NAME [REDACTED]

b7c [REDACTED] A FORMER GIRL FRIEND OF VOLNEY DAVIS, TESTIFIED CONCERNING HER RELATIONS WITH VOLNEY DAVIS AND TESTIFIED THAT DAVIS TOLD HER THAT THE MONEY HE RECEIVED WAS FROM THE BREMER RANSOM MONEY. MURRAY TESTIFIED THAT SHE MADE TRIP TO NEW YORK STATE FROM TOLEDO, OHIO, AFTER RANSOM PAYOFF AND THAT BREMER RANSOM CURRENCY WAS EXCHANGED FOR WRITTEN CURRENCY BY BOTH SHE AND DAVIS JUST PRIOR TO TRIP TO GLASGOW, MONTANA, IN SEPTEMBER,, NINETEEN THIRTYFOUR. BOTH GOVERNMENT AND DEFENSE RESTED, AND IN PRESENTING CLOSING ARGUMENTS FOR THE DEFENSE, HARLAN STRONG, COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY FOR DAVIS, STATED THAT WHEN HE WAS FIRST ASKED TO TAKE THE CASE FOR DAVIS, HE HESITATED TO ACCEPT BECAUSE HE FELT THAT THERE WAS AN UNWARRANTED ATTACK BY DAVIS ON THE FBI. STRONG STATED THAT IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE DEFENSE CLAIMED NO  
END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR .

CHARGES HAD BEEN MADE BY DAVIS THAT HE WAS BEATEN OR PHYSICALLY ABUSED BY THE FBI AND STRONG POINTED OUT THAT UNDOUBTEDLY DUE TO THE EXCESSIVE AMOUNT OF CRIMINAL GANG ACTIVITY DURING THE EARLY NINETEEN THIRTIES, THE SECURITY PRECAUTIONS TAKEN BY THE FBI RELATIVE TO DAVIS WERE UNDOUBTEDLY NECESSARY-- NEVERTHELESS, STRONG STATED THAT THE TREATMENT RECEIVED BY DAVIS COULD HAVE AFFECTED HIS JUDGEMENT AS TO HIS WAIVER OF COUNSEL AND PLEA.

AUSA ALEX DIM PRESENTED CLOSING SUMMARY FOR GOVERNMENT AND RESTED CASE. JUDGE GUNNAR NORDBYE ADVISED THAT HE WAS TAKING THE CASE UNDER ADVISEMENT AND WOULD RENDER WRITTEN OPINION. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED OF RESULTS OF COURT ACTION.

HOWARD

END AND ACK PLS

10-52 PM OK FBI WA RD

CC: MR. ROSEN  
AND SUPERVISOR  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
AND REFER TO  
INITIALS AND NUMBER

GEN:EM

United States Department of Justice

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA  
221 FEDERAL COURTS BUILDING  
ST. PAUL 2, MINNESOTA

July 14, 1954

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We have just finished a trial in the nature of  
habeas corpus, which involved one Volney Davis and his  
participation in the Bremer Kidnapping of January 17, 1934.

The attempt to reconstruct events which happened  
20 years ago afforded us considerable difficulty, but I was  
impressed by the efficiency of the Federal Bureau of Inves-  
tigation and the willing cooperation we received from Mr.  
B. Howard, Special Agent in Charge, in handling the problem  
and particularly with respect to the most difficult problem  
of locating the witness Edna Murray. She was located on  
very short notice and we were able to have her produced in  
court to the advantage of the Government.

Respectfully yours,

*George E. MacKinnon*  
GEORGE E. MacKINNON  
United States Attorney

EXP. PROC.  
JUL 16 1954

46542-62  
RECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-46542-62

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Noted cc of  
incoming has been  
disseminated for SAE Howard's  
personnel file. 6-1-54  
Rat

RECORDED-117

EX-130

7-576-15396

28-  
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mcl  
PERS. FILES

July 19, 1954

RECORDED-117 7-576-15376

G. I. R. 27

EX-130

Honorable George E. MacKinnon  
United States Attorney  
District of Minnesota  
221 Federal Courts Building  
St. Paul 2, Minnesota

My dear Mr. MacKinnon:

Thank you very much for your letter  
of July 14, 1954, concerning the case of Volney  
Davis.

It was most thoughtful of you to write  
me in this regard and to advise me of your favor-  
able opinion of the work of Mr. C. B. Howard and  
my other associates in our Minneapolis Office. I  
know that they will deeply appreciate your generous  
comments, and you may be sure that it is a pleasure  
to cooperate with you whenever possible.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Minneapolis, with copy of incoming.

cc - (with copy of incoming) Personnel File of C. B. Howard

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

53 AUG 6 1954

MAILED 16  
JUL 20 1954  
COMM-FBI

53 JUL 19 1954

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-46542-63

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **MINNEAPOLIS**

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT <b>MINNEAPOLIS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>8/11/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8/11/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>SIGURD FLAATA</b> <span style="float: right;">MM</span>
TITLE <b>VOLNEY DAVIS, was., ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>KIDNAPPING G.I.R. - 7</b>
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>Honorable GUNNAR H. NORDBYE, Chief Judge, USDC, Minneapolis, issued court order 8/11/54 denying VOLNEY DAVIS' motion for an order vacating and setting aside his life sentence on kidnapping charge. Photostatic copy of court's opinion furnished Bureau as enclosure.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- C -</p> <p><b>DETAILS:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>AT ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA</u></p> <p>On August 11, 1954, Mr. GEORGE E. MacKINNON, United States Attorney, and Mr. ALEX DIM, Assistant United States Attorney, both advised the writer that the Honorable GUNNAR H. NORDBYE, Chief Judge, United States District Court, Minneapolis, had on the same date issued a court order denying VOLNEY DAVIS' motion for an order vacating and setting aside life sentence imposed upon him on June 7, 1935, upon a plea of guilty entered on June 3, 1935, to an indictment charging that he conspired with others to, and did, kidnap one EDWARD GEORGE BREMER of St. Paul, Minnesota, and transport him to the State of Illinois. Mr. MacKINNON furnished the writer with two copies of the court order which was set forth in a fourteen-page opinion, and one copy of same is being furnished as an enclosure with this report to the Bureau and one copy is being retained in the files of the Minneapolis Division.</p> <p>ENCLOSURE TO THE BUREAU: 1 photostatic copy of 14 page opinion re subject VOLNEY DAVIS.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- C -</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED <b>COPIES DESTROYED</b> <b>MAR 26 1965</b>		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>7-1576-15397</b> <b>RECORDED-1</b> <b>EX-121</b> <b>16 AUG 12 1954</b>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2 - Bureau (Encl. 1) (AM) 1 - USA, St. Paul 1 - Minneapolis (7-30) <b>376</b> <b>AUG 26 1954</b>			

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE

Report of SA SIGURD FLAATA, Minneapolis, dated 7/13/54.

7-576-15387

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA  
THIRD DIVISION

No. 6096 Cr.

Volney Davis,

Petitioner,

vs.

United States of America,

Respondent.

ORDER

This matter comes before the undersigned, one of the Judges of the above-named Court, upon petitioner's motion for an order vacating and setting aside a life sentence imposed upon him on June 7, 1935, upon a plea of guilty entered on June 3, 1935, to an indictment charging that he conspired with others to, and did, kidnap one Edward George Bremer, of St. Paul, Minnesota, and transport him into the State of Illinois. The hearing commenced on July 7, 1936, and was concluded on July 12, 1936.

Mr. Marian B. Strong, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Mr. Howard H. Galt, of St. Paul, Minnesota, were appointed by the Court to represent petitioner and appeared in his behalf;

and

Mr. George H. MacKinnon, United States Attorney, and Mr. Alex Din, Assistant United States Attorney, both of St. Paul, Minnesota, appeared in behalf of the United States of America.



The proceedings are instituted under Section 2255, Title 28, U.S.C.A. Petitioner contends that he was sentenced without the advice of counsel; that he did not know of his right to counsel; that he did not waive counsel; that he was led to believe that if he entered a plea of guilty he would be given a term of years; that he was not taken before a United States Commissioner; that he was not given a copy of the indictment; and that he was held incommunicado. The trial court who sentenced Davis denied the motion without a hearing. An appeal was taken and in Davis v. United States, 310 P. 2d 118, the Court of Appeals held that, while the files and records sustained the trial court's finding that petitioner stated that he did not desire the advice of counsel at the time of his plea, that there was no requirement on the date of the arraignment and plea that he be furnished with a copy of the indictment, and that it was not necessary that he be taken before a United States Commissioner when he was arrested pursuant to a Grand Jury indictment, nevertheless, the allegations in the petition that he did not know of his constitutional right to counsel and that, not knowing of that right, did not voluntarily waive it by entering a plea of guilty, and in that the record did not conclusively show that defendant was entitled to no relief on his allegations that he had been deprived of counsel, he should not be deprived of his right to a hearing on his motion to vacate his sentence. The complaint that he had been held incommunicado was held by the Court of Appeals to be incidental to his claim that he did not know of his right to counsel and that he did not waive that right. The Court of Appeals thereupon reversed the order of the trial court and remanded the matter for further proceedings.

After the mandate had been returned by the Court of Appeals, petitioner was removed from the place of his incarceration to St. Paul a substantial period prior to July 7, 1950, when the hearing was held, so as to arrange for the

appointment of counsel and to enable counsel thus appointed adequate time to prepare for the hearing. The right to subpoena witnesses at the expense of the Government was accorded petitioner and all the witnesses he desired to call and who could be located were made available to him.

It appears from the evidence that petitioner is now 32 years of age; that in 1935 he had schooling equivalent to a sixth grade education; that when he was 17 years of age he was sentenced and served a term in the Oklahoma Penitentiary for a felony; that in February, 1923, when he was 21 years of age, he was tried before a jury, found guilty of murder, and sentenced to the Oklahoma Penitentiary for life. At that trial, he was represented by counsel. He was confined in the Oklahoma Penitentiary until November 3, 1932, at which time he was granted an eight months' leave of absence by the Governor of that State. During the time he was incarcerated, he was in solitary confinement for a substantial period by reason of one escape and one attempted escape from the penitentiary. Subsequently, his eight months' leave was extended twelve months, but after that extended stay expired, he deliberately failed to return to the penitentiary and became a fugitive. During this furlough from prison, he became associated with the notorious Barker-Karpis gang, some of whose members, among other crimes, committed the kidnapping of Edward Bremer at St. Paul. Bremer was kidnapped on January 17, 1934, and transported to Bensenville, Illinois. He was held for \$200,000 ransom, and when the ransom was paid, he was released. On January 22, 1935, two indictments were returned by the Grand Jury of the District of Minnesota -- one charging Arthur Karpis, Arthur Barker, Volney Davis, and many others, with the crime of conspiracy to kidnap Bremer at St. Paul and transport him to Illinois, and the other charging certain defendants, including Davis, with the substantive offense of kidnapping Bremer. In February, 1935, Davis was captured by agents of the F.B.I. at Kansas City, but made his escape.

when the airplane in which he was being transported to Chicago became grounded. On April 15, 1935, Arthur E. Barker and several other defendants named in the conspiracy indictment were placed on trial at St. Paul, Minnesota. On May 17, 1935, Barker and several other defendants were found guilty. Barker and one Oliver A. Berg were sentenced to life imprisonment. Davis was arrested again on June 1, 1935, by the F.B.I. at Chicago. Upon his arrest, he was taken to the F.B.I. headquarters at 1900 Bankers Building in that city, where he was questioned and where he made a written statement to F.B.I. agents Suran and Chaffetz setting forth his association with the Barker-Karpis gang; that he was living in St. Paul and associated with them at the time of the Bremer abduction; that he left St. Paul on or about January 18 or 19, 1934, and went to Chicago; that he continued to remain with the Barkers, receiving money from them off and on thereafter; that after the kidnapping, he, as well as Arthur Barker and others, were operated on by one Dr. Moran to remove the fingerprint patterns from their fingers and to change their facial expressions by operations on their noses and ears. He denied in the statement any participation in or connection with the Bremer kidnapping or that he had knowingly received any of the Bremer ransom money.

In support of his petition herein, he states that when he was arrested in Chicago on June 1st, he was struck on the head by a gun or some blunt instrument and that a gun was discharged dangerously near to his head when he was ordered to put up his hands. He contends that, by reason of this experience, he became frightened and unnerved. It is his position that he was held incommunicado by the F.B.I. after his arrest; that he was questioned during the afternoon of June 1, 1935, and until late that night; that he was not given any food or permitted to call a lawyer; and that he was told by the representatives of the F.B.I. that he did not need a lawyer in that they were all lawyers and

would look after his rights. He states that while he was in the F.B.I. headquarters in Chicago he was held a prisoner in a small room, handcuffed and shackled, and obtained very little, if any, sleep. He states that he was removed from Chicago on a chartered plane en route to St. Paul some time during the afternoon of June 2nd, but that turbulent weather was encountered near Madison, Wisconsin, so that the plane was forced to land; that thereafter two attempts were made to take off from Madison for St. Paul, but the stormy weather required the pilot to return to Madison. It is his testimony that this harrowing experience unnerved him and when on the third attempt the plane was able to proceed to St. Paul, he was exhausted mentally and physically; that he had had no sleep and no food until he arrived in St. Paul early Monday morning, June 3rd; that he was handcuffed and shackled during the entire airplane trip and when he arrived in St. Paul he was taken to the Federal Building there and placed in one of the rooms occupied by the F.B.I.; that he arrived at the F.B.I. headquarters in St. Paul about six o'clock A.M.; that he was taken to court at about ten o'clock A.M. on the morning of June 3rd, where he was arraigned on the indictment charging him with the crime of conspiracy. He contends that he was told by various representatives of the F.B.I. that if he entered a plea of guilty to the crime of conspiracy, he would get a term of years and that he did not need a lawyer; that his association with the Barker-Karpis gang was sufficient to connect him with the conspiracy charged in the indictment. Upon his arraignment, he states that the court asked him if his name was Volney Davis, and thereafter the indictment charging conspiracy was read to him. He contends that he asked the court what the penalty was and that the court stated that it was up to life. Thereafter, he contends he entered a plea of guilty. He states that he was not asked by the court if he was represented by counsel, or if he desired counsel. After entering his plea, sentence was deferred until June 7th and he was removed



to the Ramsey County Jail. He contends that between June 3rd and June 7th, he did talk to a lawyer; that the lawyer did not come to see him regarding his case, but that there was casual conversation between them regarding the plea that had been entered by petitioner to the conspiracy indictment in the Bremer case. Davis contends that he asked the lawyer whether or not he could withdraw his plea, but that he was informed by the lawyer that it would be impossible for him to withdraw his plea; and that he, Davis, was "sunk". Thereafter, on June 7, 1935, he states he was brought into court for sentence, and he contends that thereupon the court said, "You have entered a plea of guilty to conspiracy," to which he responded "Yes." Then he contends the court said, "Do you have a lawyer?" And he responded, "No, I don't need one, do I?" And that the court thereupon stated, "No, you don't." Whereupon, he contends that the court sentenced him to life imprisonment on his plea of guilty on June 3rd.

It was petitioner's position on this hearing that he believed the F.B.I. agents when they told him that his association with the Barker-Karpis gang would be sufficient to connect him with the crime of conspiracy as charged; that he did not know that he had a constitutional right to counsel; that he was never informed by the court that he was entitled to have counsel, or that the court would appoint counsel for him if he was unable to retain counsel; and that his plea of guilty was brought about by the suggestion of the F.B.I. agents, his mental confusion and exhaustion because of the events that took place between June 1st and June 3rd and his assumption that he would obtain a term of years and also to avoid going back to Oklahoma where he had been kept in solitary confinement prior to his furlough due to two attempts to escape.

Obviously, if Davis' relation of the facts herein is sustained, it seems evident that there is substance to his contention that he never intelligently, understandingly, and in a competent manner, waived the aid of counsel. But

after hearing all the evidence, I am convinced that, as observed by the Court of Appeals with reference to petitions of this kind, "lapse of time and wishful thinking ripen into a conviction that events were as alleged, when in fact they were not." (p. 122, 210 F. 2d).

The escape of Davis from the State Prison in Oklahoma and from the F.B.I. agents in February, 1935, fully warranted the authorities in taking adequate safety precautions to prevent another escape. His preclivities in that regard were demonstrated again after he was sentenced on June 7, 1935, and when, in removing him to a Federal institution, the Deputy Marshals found concealed on his person a small spring which he evidently intended to use to spring his handcuffs and thus aid him in making his escape. In any event, though he was handcuffed and shackled between the 1st and 3rd of June, prior to being taken into court, Davis does not contend that he was mistreated or abused in any way by the F.B.I. He does state that he was struck over the head by something when arrested, but that alleged episode is not sustained by the evidence. True, a gun of one of the arresting officers was discharged, but that occurred when Davis suddenly threw up his hands and unintentionally struck the arm of an officer, causing the gun to be accidentally discharged. When he was confined at the F.B.I. headquarters in Chicago, he was offered food and drink and, to the extent that he participated therein, was prompted by his own desires. That he slept at times in the Chicago headquarters and when the plane was waiting for some hours in Madison is made to appear by the testimony of various witnesses. The statement which he gave to the F.B.I. indicates a coherent and alert mind. It sets forth in great detail his association with the Bremer kidnapers, but he took particular pains in giving his statement to make it appear that he was not directly involved in the kidnapping or in any conspiracy to perpetrate that crime. It persuasively appears from the

testimony of many of the F.B.I. agents that when Davis was in their custody, he was affable, cooperative, and evidently greatly relieved that he had been captured and was no longer a fugitive. There was nothing in his manner or speech which indicated in any way that he was not entirely normal and fully possessed of all of his faculties. Before he was removed to St. Paul, the special agent in charge of the F.B.I. at Chicago discussed with him the question of his removal and told him that he had a right to be taken before a duly authorized court commissioner for the purpose of determining whether under the law he should be removed. But after having been informed of his rights in this regard, he freely and voluntarily signed a consent to be removed without appearing before any court commissioner for a hearing.

It is evident from the testimony that before June 3, 1935, Davis knew of the result of the Barker trial and the verdict of guilty on May 17, 1935, and that life sentences had been imposed upon some of the defendants. No doubt the airplane trip from Chicago to St. Paul was fraught with some worry and anxiety on the part of all of the passengers, but when the weather permitted the continuation of the flight from Madison, Wisconsin, to St. Paul, the trip was uneventful and good flying weather was encountered. The contention that Davis was so mentally distressed and exhausted upon arriving in St. Paul that his mental faculties were not normal is entirely overcome and is not sustained by the evidence before me. And if it be suggested that there was an unseemly haste between his arrest and the date of his arraignment, that was apparently brought about by reason of Davis' own desire to have the matter over with as soon as possible. No doubt there was conversation between the F.B.I. agents and Davis regarding the retaining of counsel, but the evidence does not sustain Davis' contention that the agents told him that he did not need counsel or that they were lawyers and would look out for his interests. It is incredible that

the agents would be so naive as to suggest any such plan to a seasoned criminal who had been a close associate of the Barker-Karpis gang. In any event, the agents unequivocally deny any such suggestion and testified that they repeatedly told Davis in Chicago and in St. Paul before his arraignment that he was entitled to have a lawyer represent him and that if he was unable to hire a lawyer, the court would appoint counsel for him. Davis had told the F.B.I. agents before he went into court that he was going to enter a plea of guilty to the conspiracy charge but not to the indictment charging him with the actual kidnapping; that the F.B.I. had the "goods" on him and that it would not do him any good to fight. The persuasive evidence is that Davis told the agents that he did not want a lawyer because Barker's lawyer had not accomplished anything for him, and instead of paying money to a lawyer he wanted to use his available funds for the purpose of helping out his parents. Davis had some \$300 on his person when arrested, and an additional sum of \$800 available to him in a place which he did not disclose at that time to the agents. I am firmly of the opinion from the evidence that Davis made up his mind to enter a plea of guilty to the conspiracy charge because he was convinced he would be found guilty if he stood trial and that he was reconciled to a life sentence because he was a fugitive from the Oklahoma Penitentiary where he was under such a sentence. The evidence does not sustain Davis' contention that any of the F.B.I. agents or Mr. Heisey, the Assistant United States Attorney, told him that if he entered a plea of guilty he would get a term of years, or that his association with the Barker-Karpis gang was sufficient to convict him of conspiracy. Mr. Heisey testified that he had never talked to Davis at any time.

It should be stated that in 1946 Davis sought a writ of habeas corpus in the Northern District of California when he was confined at Alcatraz, upon the grounds that his sentence in this Court was illegal and that he had been deprived



of his liberty without the benefit of counsel. The writ was denied upon the grounds that "the records of the case disclose that the petitioner intelligently waived the right to counsel." The habeas corpus proceeding was submitted upon affidavits in an ex parte proceeding, and although the Court of Appeals in Davis v. United States, 210 F. 2d 118, found that the affidavits before the California court furnished ample justification for the conclusion that Davis' claims were without merit, it concluded that the decision of the California court on ex parte affidavits did not deprive appellant of his right to have a hearing under Section 2255, at which time he could be present and present his evidence before the court.

In light of the evidence at the hearing herein, did Davis make a competent and intelligent waiver of his constitutional rights to counsel, with a full understanding of the implications of such waiver, when he entered his plea of guilty on June 3, 1935? In answering that question, I am fully apprised of the duty and responsibility which rest upon a trial court to determine whether an accused understandingly waives the aid and assistance of counsel and the implications therefrom, and that the fact that "an accused may state that he is informed of his right to counsel and desires to waive such right does not automatically end the responsibility of the court." Snell v. United States, 174 F. 2d 580, 582. The question whether an accused has waived his rights under the Sixth Amendment in a competent manner necessarily must be determined on the particular facts and circumstances of each case. An inexperienced and bewildered individual brought into court for the first time to face a criminal charge may require a long and thorough examination by the court in order to be assured that he understandingly waives the assistance of counsel. On the other hand, many individuals with a criminal background and long association with the underworld are so fully apprised of their rights to

the prevailing conditions from previous court experience and their associations that a fast thorough examination may not suffice, but any extended examination would be an utter superfluity. Then, again, the demeanor, the facial expression, and the responses made by the accused even may convincingly disclose to an experienced trial judge whether the accused is intelligently and understandingly waiving his constitutional rights. And, of course, the law does not require the court to force an attorney upon an accused. The trial judge concluded from all the facts and circumstances made to appear to him when Davis was arraigned on June 3, 1935, that Davis intelligently and competently waived the assistance of counsel. Judge Joyce, the trial judge, appeared as a witness at this hearing and testified that his recollection of the Davis case had been refreshed over the years because of his correspondence with members of the Davis family and with Davis himself, and also by reason of the habeas corpus proceeding instituted by Davis in California in 1946. Judge Joyce testified that when Davis appeared before him on June 3, 1935, he asked him if he had a lawyer and that Davis responded in the negative. Then he asked him if he wanted a lawyer and Davis again responded in the negative. Thereupon, Judge Joyce testified that he asked him if he had funds with which to hire a lawyer and that if he did not, a lawyer would be appointed by the court without cost to him. Then, according to Judge Joyce, Davis stated that he did not want a lawyer, but that he wanted the conspiracy indictment read to him. The clerk was thereupon ordered to read the indictment, which was done, and the clerk then asked Davis what his plea was -- guilty or not guilty, and that Davis responded "guilty." The indictment was not phrased in involved legal language which would be difficult for a layman to understand or comprehend. Judge Joyce testified that upon observing Davis' demeanor and appearance, and in light of the questions propounded and the answers made, he was of the firm opinion, and still

is, that Davis intelligently and understandingly waived the services of counsel; that when Davis was sentenced on June 7, 1935, there was no colloquy whatsoever between him and Davis regarding counsel, and the testimony given by Davis that at that time in response to the court's question as to whether he had counsel he asked the court if he needed counsel and the court stated that he did not, is unequivocally denied by Judge Joyce, as well as by many other witnesses who appeared for the Government at this hearing.

The clerk's record is silent on the question of the petitioner's knowledge of his right to counsel and his waiver of such right. It merely states, "Upon being questioned by the court, said defendant stated that he did not desire the advice of counsel and entered a plea of guilty to the charge in the indictment." But the trial court's recollection of the colloquy between him and Davis on June 3, 1935, is corroborated in the main and with some additions by court attaches, newspaper men, deputy marshals, and F.B.I. representatives. One or more of the witnesses testified that they distinctly recollected that Judge Joyce called to Davis' attention the seriousness of the charge when he advised him about his right to have counsel. One of the newspaper men called as a witness by the Government testified that on June 3, 1935, after Davis had entered his plea, he talked to Davis at the Ramsey County Jail and that Davis at that time stated in substance that when he heard the indictment read he knew that "the Government had the stuff on him and that he expected that the Government would throw the book at him and give him life." As indicative of the normal mental outlook of Davis and the full understanding and appreciation of what his plea of guilty involved and of the sentence he would probably obtain, reference may be made to a letter he wrote to his parents and sister on June 3, 1935, when he was in the Ramsey County Jail and after he had entered his plea of guilty. The first paragraph of this letter reads, in part,

"At last I am in a position where I can write to you all again, and I am sure glad that I can for it has been awful to be running around over the country and not being able to write to the only ones in this world that really love me. I am here in jail and have entered a plea of guilty to conspiring in this case. I guess you have read about it in the papers. I will be sentenced on Friday this week. I don't know what I will get but I expect it will be a life sentence."

Moreover, in support of the testimony given by the F.B.I. agents that Davis stated to them that he did not care to hire a lawyer with the funds that were available to him but preferred instead to turn this money over to his parents, a receipt was introduced in evidence dated November 21, 1935, which, according to the testimony of an F.B.I. agent, was received from Davis' mother when he delivered to her at Davis' request the sum of \$1,153.40. This money was in the possession of, or available to, Davis at the time of his arrest. Davis does claim that he was told by the F.B.I. agents that he, Davis, did not have any money to hire a lawyer because his money would be confiscated, but the testimony of the agents denying any such statement and the ultimate disposition of the money to Davis' mother strongly negate the testimony of Davis in this regard.

The testimony given by Davis that the attorney who interviewed him after he had entered his plea of guilty, but before sentence, that he could not withdraw his plea of guilty and was "out", or words to that effect, is categorically denied by the attorney in question, who testified in behalf of the Government.

The issue of a petitioner's guilt or innocence is not before the court on a motion under Section 2255. But petitioner here voluntarily injected that issue into the proceeding when he testified that he was not guilty of the charges contained in the indictment and had no connection with the Bremer kidnapping.

conspiracy. In light of that testimony, the Court permitted the Government to call a witness who was closely associated with Davis during the period in question and who gave damaging and convincing testimony as to Davis' complicity and participation in the offense to which he entered a plea of guilty. This testimony was competent, at least in so far as it tended to bear upon the credibility of Davis' testimony on the material issues herein.

After due reflection and consideration of all of the evidence, I have come to a sustained and abiding conviction that when Volney Davis entered his plea of guilty on June 3, 1935, he competently, intelligently, and understandingly waived his constitutional rights to be represented by counsel under the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, with a full understanding of the implications thereof. The above may be considered as the Court's findings of fact herein. It follows, therefore, as a conclusion of law that the petitioner's motion must be denied. It is so ordered.

An exception is allowed.

Dated this 11th day of August, 1954.

BY THE COURT:

GUNNAR H. NORDBYE

Chief Judge.

Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Olney III

August 16, 1954

Director, FBI

VOLNEY DAVIS  
HABEAS CORPUS  
(YOUR REFERENCE 109-39-1, RSE)

This is to advise that the hearing on Volney Davis' petition for release on habeas corpus began at 10:00 a.m., July 7, 1954, in United States District Court, Minneapolis, Minnesota, with the Honorable Gunnar Nordbye, Chief Judge, United States District Court, Minneapolis, presiding.

The hearing was concluded on July 12, 1954, at which time Judge Nordbye stated he would take the case under advisement and would render a written opinion.

On August 11, 1954, Judge Nordbye issued a court order denying Volney Davis' motion for an order vacating and setting aside the life sentence imposed upon Davis on June 7, 1935.

The above data are for your information and for the completion of your file.

MTC:eck

RECORDED - 6

17-576-15398

AUG 18 1954

EX-103

113

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 11

AUG 16 1954

COMM - FBI

AUG 23 1954

RECEIVED

RECEIVED - CONVOY

MTC



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

AUG 11 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

8-11-54 11-58 AM

DIRECTOR,

URGENT

BREKID. REREP SA SIGURD FLAATA DATED JULY THIRTEEN,

FIFTYFOUR, MINNEAPOLIS. HONORABLE GUNNAR NORDBYE, CHIEF JUDGE,

USDC, MINNEAPOLIS, ISSUED COURT ORDER TODAY DENYING VOLNEY DAVIS-S

MOTION FOR AN ORDER VACATING AND SETTING ASIDE A LIFE SENTENCE

IMPOSED UPON HIM ON JUNE SEVEN, THIRTYFIVE, UPON A PLEA OF GUILTY

ENTERED ON JUNE THIRD, THIRTYFIVE, TO AN INDICTMENT CHARGING THAT

HE CONSPIRED WITH OTHERS TO, AND DID, KIDNAP ONE EDWARD GEORGE

BREMER OF ST. PAUL, MINN., AND TRANSPORT HIM INTO THE STATE OF

ILLINOIS. THE COURT-S ORDER IS SET FORTH IN A FOURTEEN PAGE

OPINION, COPY OF WHICH IS BEING FURNISHED THE BUREAU AM.

HOWARD RECORDED - 71

Mr. Rosen AUG 18 1954

SENT DIRECTOR

CC: MR. ROSEN  
AND SUPERVISOR  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

END ANC ACK PLS  
60 AUG 24 1954  
2-03 PM OK FBI WA RD

8/16/54  
memo to  
AAG Olney  
UTC

October 5, 1954

Director, FBI

7-576-15400

RECORDED-37

EX-124

MRS. VADA HOWARD  
aka MRS. WARREN W. HOWARD  
CLAIM FOR REWARD FOR CAPTURE  
OF ALVIN KARPIS  
RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

Reurlet of September 27, 1954.

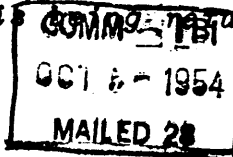
As you are aware, Alvin Karpis was apprehended at New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 1, 1936. Mrs. Vada Nyberg, then of Hot Springs, Arkansas, was not interviewed by Bureau Agents until May 19, 1938, when investigation was being conducted at Hot Springs concerning harboring matters arising from the apprehension of Karpis. When interviewed on May 19, 1938, Mrs. Nyberg stated that in November, 1935, she had been requested by a Hot Springs police officer to furnish him any information that might come to her concerning Karpis, apparently this officer having in mind that Karpis might be in the area. In December, 1935, Mrs. Nyberg did actually recognize Karpis in Hot Springs, and a few days later she called upon Chief of Police Joseph Wakelin and allegedly offered to furnish information as to Karpis' whereabouts if Wakelin would divide the reward with her. Wakelin, however, already knew of Karpis' whereabouts in Hot Springs, and merely laughed at Mrs. Nyberg, indicating to her that her information could not possibly be true. After the arrest of Karpis in New Orleans, she talked again to Wakelin and he supposedly admitted to her, according to her statements, that she was correct in her identification. Subsequently, Mrs. Nyberg testified as a Government witness concerning these facts at the time of the prosecution of Wakelin.

On June 30, 1939, Mrs. Nyberg appeared at the Bureau and, among other things, she expressed her interest in obtaining a reward. It was pointed out to her that the facts in her possession in December, 1935, were not then made known to the Bureau and, as a matter of fact, did not come to our attention until she was interviewed by Bureau Agents in May, 1938, two years after the apprehension of Karpis, and that, of course, her information had nothing whatever to do with the apprehension. It was explained to her that the information she had furnished in 1938 and the investigation conducted at that time had to do solely with the prosecution of certain individuals in Hot Springs in connection with the harboring of Karpis and that no reward whatever had been offered in that regard.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Attachment (Enclosure is returned)

MLL:jsm



61 OCT 14 1954



TO: SAC, Houston (62-0-2072)  
FROM: Director, FBI  
SUBJECT: MRS. VADA HOWARD  
aka MRS. WARREN W. HOWARD  
CLAIM FOR REWARD FOR CAPTURE  
OF ALVIN KARPIS  
RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

10-5-54

Mrs. Nyberg seemed entirely reconciled to the facts and admitted that the above was entirely true and that she had never spoken to a Bureau Agent until 1939.

For your information, the files reflect that Mrs. Nyberg may be of questionable reputation, and members of the Hot Springs Police Department, not involved in the harboring matter, indicated that her reputation was that of a "shakedown artist"

b7c

Mrs. Howard's letter is returned herewith. You should communicate with her and refresh her memory as to the explanation given her when she was interviewed at the Bureau on June 30, 1939. It should be indicated to her that this is the Bureau's final and unalterable position in this regard, and we can be of no assistance to her.

NOTE: Background per Bufile 7-576. Copy of Mrs. Howard's letter being retained for the file.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 9/27/54

FROM : SAC, Houston (62-0-2072)

SUBJECT: Mrs. VADA HOWARD, <sup>TEXAS</sup>  
aka Mrs. Warren W. Howard  
CLAIM FOR REWARD FOR CAPTURE  
OF ALVIN KARPIS

Re Houston letter to Director dated 9/27/53, captioned ALVIN KARPIS and DUTCH AKERS. Reflet indicated that Mrs. WARREN W. HOWARD, Port Arthur, Texas, advised she had seen DUTCH AKERS on the streets of Port Arthur and was worried about her personal safety. She also alleged she furnished information which had aided in the conviction of AKERS, former Chief of Detectives, Hot Springs, Arkansas, in about 1938.

On 9/22/54 Mrs. HOWARD, who is now using the name of Mrs. VADA HOWARD, 2210 Indiana Avenue, Houston, Texas, called at the office and advised she desired to make a claim for information furnished by her which assisted in the apprehension of ALVIN KARPIS. Mrs. HOWARD appeared to be very nervous, emotionally up-set, and stated she was in a serious condition because of cancer. For the foregoing reasons, I asked her to go home and send a letter to me making her claim and advised her I would forward her claim to Washington for appropriate attention.

I have received a letter from Mrs. HOWARD, dated September 24, 1954, which is attached.

At the time I talked to Mrs. Howard on 9/22/54, I advised her I was not familiar with the conditions of the reward for KARPIS or, in fact, whether there had been such a reward offered. I advised her the Bureau had nothing to do with offering such a reward to my knowledge and I did not know if anything could be done to assist her. She nevertheless persisted in making the claim.

COPIES DESTROYED

186 MAR 26 1965

GCB:nk

Encl. (1)

(ret. by let 10-4-54)

RECORDED-37

INDEXED-37

SEP 30 1954

let Sac Houston  
10-8-54  
mcl.

EX-124

CRIM

For the Bureau's information, the Little Rock Office by letter dated 10/2/43 advised that a review of the KARPIS file reflects that VADA NYBERG, the name Mrs. Howard was using at that time, was a witness in the KARPIS case. However, she was just one of many witnesses. The Little Rock Office advised that Captain JERRY WATKINS, of the Hot Springs PD, showed the photograph of KARPIS to Mrs. Howard in late November or early December, 1935. Several days later Mrs. Howard called Captain WATKINS and advised that while visiting at 202 Fincel Street she had seen a man in the back yard of 124 Club Street, adjacent to 202 Fincel, and recognized this man as ALVIN KARPIS. She reported this on two occasions to WATKINS who told her KARPIS was not in or near Hot Springs at that time and no action was taken.

Inasmuch as I am not aware of the particulars surrounding the alleged reward for the capture of KARPIS, I would appreciate advice from the Bureau as to whether or not I should communicate with Mrs. Howard. Since the letter was written at my request and since it was sent Return Receipt Requested and I signed the card, I do not feel the letter itself need be acknowledged.

7-576-1540

ENCLOSURE

From: Mrs. Vada Howard  
2210 Indiana  
Houston 19, Texas

Phone Ly-8827

Houston, Texas

September 24, 1954

Subj.: Reward for capture of ALVIN KARPIS

Mr. George Burton,  
Agent in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Federal Office Building  
Houston 2, Texas

Dear Mr. Burton:

In connection with our conversation of September 22, 1954, concerning the \$10,000 reward for furnishing information that brought about the capture of Alvin Karpis in Hot Springs, Arkansas, during the latter part of 1937.

At that time my name was "Vada Juanita Nyberg" and I have since married Mr. Warren W. Howard.

I believe that I am entitled to this reward for the following reasons:

- (1) I cooperated with and gave information to Captain Jerry Watkins of the Hot Springs police department that brought about the arrest of Alvin Karpis;
- (2) After Alvin Karpis was arrested I identified him and appeared as a Government witness in Little Rock, Arkansas, when he was tried;
- (3) My life was in constant danger and it was necessary for me to be under police protection at all times due to the threats that had been made against my life by friends of Karpis;
- (4) During the time I was working with the police and FBI I had to give up my job at Perry Brothers and I suffered great financial loss;
- (5) The constant danger that I was in also caused me physical and mental suffering.

I honestly believe I am entitled to receive this reward and I will greatly appreciate your attention given it.

Original returned SAC, Houston  
by letter of October 2, 1954.

Yours very truly

*Mrs. Vada Howard*

Mrs. Vada Howard  
2210 Indiana St., Houston 19,  
Texas

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. J. PARSONS

DATE: January 14, 1955

FROM : MR. T. D. BEACH

SUBJECT: BREKID

*Edward George Bremer*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

The specimens listed below have been retained in the Laboratory's Bulky Exhibit File since their receipt on July 23, 1938.

K8 Four .45 caliber cartridge cases

K11 .45 caliber projectile fired by suspect's Karpis and Campbell

The source and identity of these specimens are set out in Serials 14996, 15007 and 15022 of Bureau File 7-576.

## RECOMMENDATION:

It is requested that the Investigative Division advise whether or not these specimens may be destroyed.

7-576

RAF:rls  
(4 copies)

RECORDED-27

JAN 27 1955

7-576-15482  
13 JAN 1955

*1/14/55*

SEVEN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. FD-36  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

Transmit the following ~~teletype~~ <sup>AIRTEL</sup> message to: BUREAU (7-576)

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS 10/12/54

SF:KM

DIRECTOR

VOLNEY DAVIS, WAS, ETAL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, VICTIM KIDNAPING.

7-576-1534  
REREP SA SIGURD FLAATA DATED 8/11/54. AUSA ALEX DIM, ST. PAUL, ADVISED

TODAY APPEAL FILED BY VOLNEY DAVIS FROM DECISION HANDED DOWN BY HON.

GUNNAR H. NORDBYE, JUDGE, USDC, ST. PAUL, ON 8/11/54. DIM STATED JUDGE

NORDBYE ON BASIS OF AFFIDAVIT FILED BY DAVIS SIGNED ORDER GRANTING APPEAL

AND PERMITTED DAVIS TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS AND ORDERED COURT REPORTER

TO FURNISH WITHOUT COST TO DAVIS TWO COPIES OF TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING AND

ORDERED CLERK OF COURT TO PREPARE WITHOUT COST TO DAVIS COPIES OF

FOLLOWING RECORDS: 1. ALL OF THE ORIGINAL RECORDS OF THE ARRAIGNMENT

HELD ON JUNE 3, 1935; 2. ALL OF THE ORIGINAL RECORDS AND ORIGINAL MINUTES

AND SENTENCE AND COMMITMENT MADE JUNE 7, 1935; 3. A COMPLETE RECORD OF

THE AMENDMENT OF THE RECORD WHICH WAS MADE ON OCTOBER 10, 1939. DIM

ADVISED VOLNEY DAVIS APPEAL TAKEN ON FOLLOWING POINTS: "1. THAT PETITIONER

HAD ON FILE IN THE ABOVE NAMED COURT A COURT ACTION PURSUANT TO TITLE 28,

SECTION 2255, IN WHICH DISPOSITION WAS MADE IN THE FORM OF DENIAL; 2. THE

COURT EXCEEDED ITS AUTHORITY IN THIS HEARING BY ALLOWING PETITIONER'S COMMON

LAW WIFE TO TESTIFY ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S CONTENTIONS; 3. THE COURT

ERRORED IN ALLOWING A WITNESS THAT ADMITTED SHE HAD BEEN A GOVERNMENT WITNESS

IN OTHER BREMER KIDNAPING TRIAL AND WHO, HERSELF, HAD BEEN CHARGED IN THE

7-30 Mr. Rosen EX - 109 17 OCT 13 1954

Approved: CM Sent: CM Per: CM

Special Agent in Charge

61 OCT 25 1954

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

PAGE TWO

BREMER KIDNAPING INDICTMENT TO TESTIFY IN A HEARING BY A MOTION OF TITLE 28, SECTION 2255. 4. THE COURT ERRORED IN ALLOWING MANY WITNESSES TO TESTIFY CONCERNING INCIDENTS THAT HAPPENED BEFORE AND AFTER PETITIONER HAD BEEN ARRAIGNED AND SENTENCED, TESTIMONY THAT HAD NO BEARING ON A MOTION UNDER TITLE 28, SECTION 2255. 5. WITNESSES ASKED FOR BY PETITIONER WERE NOT BROUGHT TO THE COURT FOR THE HEARING, WHICH IS IN VIOLATION OF THE SIXTH ARTICLE OF THE TEN ORIGINAL (BILL OF RIGHTS) TO THE CONSTITUTION, WHICH STATES 'TO HAVE COMPULSORY PROCESS FOR OBTAINING WITNESSES IN HIS FAVOR.' 6. THAT THE HONORABLE JUDGE GUNNAR H. NORDBYE IN ALLOWING THE ABOVE MENTIONED FACTS TO OCCUR CAUSED CROSS PREJUDICE TO PETITIONER'S CAUSE." DIM ALSO STATED IN VIEW OF THE DELAY NECESSARY IN PREPARING TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING, AND FOR FILING THE RECORD ON APPEAL AND DOCKETING, THE APPEAL WAS EXTENDED BY THE COURT TO DECEMBER 15, 1954. BUREAU WILL BE KEPT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS. CLOSED.

HOWARD

DEC 14 8 11 AM '54

RECEIVED

40 WYV

RECEIVED

DEC 13 3 04 PM '54

DEC 12 8 53 PM '54

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen *Re*

DATE: January 19, 1955

FROM : Mr. Price *HP*

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, WAS. (DECEASED)  
 ARTHUR R. BARKER, WAS. (DECEASED)  
 VOLNEY DAVIS, ET AL  
 EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
 KIDNAPING

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons ☒  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

2-1  
 1-1  
 5-1  
 3-1

*Beach*  
*Parsons*

Memorandum from <sup>Mr.</sup> Beach to Mr. Parsons, January 14, 1955, stating four .45 caliber cartridge cases and a .45 caliber projectile have been in the Laboratory's Bulky Exhibit File since July 23, 1938. The memorandum requested the Investigative Division advise whether or not these specimens may be destroyed.

On January 21, 1935, subject Volney Davis was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury, St. Paul, Minnesota, on two counts charging him and others with conspiring to transport victim from Minnesota to Illinois and to hold him for ransom. On June 3, 1935, Davis entered a plea of guilty in U. S. District Court, St. Paul, Minnesota, and on June 7, 1935, was sentenced to serve life imprisonment.

On December 5, 1952, Davis filed a petition in U. S. District Court, St. Paul, for release on habeas corpus. On August 11, 1954, Chief Judge Gunnar H. Nordbye, U. S. District Court, Minneapolis, issued a court order denying Davis's motion for an order vacating and setting aside his life sentence on a kidnaping charge. On October 12, 1954, Davis filed an appeal from the decision of Judge Nordbye. The appeal is still pending.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that in view of the current legal action being taken by Volney Davis that the evidence presently in the Laboratory be retained, and this memorandum be routed to the Laboratory for the information of the Laboratory.

cc: Mr. Parsons

RJG:fc  
 (7)

7-576

~~RECORDED-27~~

13 JAN 20

7-576-15403

SEVEN  
*RE*

64 JAN 25 1955 4440

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

AIRTEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to: DIRECTOR

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

1-18-55

SF:MAT

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

VOLNEY DAVIS, WAS., ETAL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, VICTIM, KIDNAPING. RE

MP AIRTEL TO BUREAU 10-12-54. ALEX DIM, AUSA, ST. PAUL, MINN., WHO HANDLED CASE FOR GOVERNMENT AT HEARING GRANTED VOLNEY DAVIS AT ST. PAUL, ADVISED THE MP DIVISION TODAY THAT THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS, ST. LOUIS, ADVISED HIM THAT VOLNEY DAVIS APPEAL DOCKET #15229 WAS RECEIVED BY THE CIRCUIT COURT AT ST. LOUIS 12-13-54 AND THAT DAVIS HAS PETITIONED THE COURT OF APPEALS TO APPOINT AN ATTORNEY FOR HIM. DIM STATED THE NEXT STEP WAS FOR DAVIS TO FILE A BRIEF WITH THE CIRCUIT COURT, AFTER WHICH DIM WILL FILE A BRIEF FOR THE GOVERNMENT, OPPOSING DAVIS' BRIEF. DIM ADVISED THAT ALL TRANSCRIPTS AND COPIES OF TESTIMONY AND GOVERNMENT EXHIBITS MENTIONED IN IN REFERENCED AIRTEL HAVE BEEN FURNISHED TO DAVIS AT LEAVENWORTH PENITENTIARY. BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWARD

END  
7-30  
(4)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED - 115

7-576-15407  
JAN 19 1955

64 JAN 21 1955

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

3-8-55

AIRTEL

RECORDED - 97

SAC'S CHICAGO (7-82) AIR MAIL  
MINNEAPOLIS (7-10) AIR MAIL

IS SUFFERING FROM CANCER AND WAS TO ENTER THE MICHAEL REASE HOSPI-  
TAL CHICAGO. CHICAGO ESTABLISH LIAISON WITH U.S. PROBATION OFFICE  
IN ORDER TO BE ADVISED OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS IN SAWYER'S CONDITION.  
KEEP THE BUREAU AND MINNEAPOLIS ADVISED.

HOOVER

RJG:EAM  
(6)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMM - FBI  
MAR 8 1955  
MAILED 30

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FD-36

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

FBI, KANSAS CITY (7-37)

3/3/55

AIR-TEL, AIR MAIL

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

BREKID. CI OO. ON 3/1/55 C.F. ZARTER, RECORD CLERK, USP, LEAVEN-  
WORTH, KS., ADVISED THAT HARRY SAWYER, FBI #421335, WAS PAROLED  
FROM THAT PRISON ON 2/22/55 TO REPORT TO THE U.S. PROBATION OFFICER,  
CG. HE SAID THAT SAWYER HAS CANCER OF THE PROSTATE, DOES NOT  
HAVE LONG TO LIVE, AND WAS TAKEN FROM THIS PRISON ON A BED, VIA  
TRAIN, TO CG, WHERE HE WAS TO ENTER THE MICHAEL REASE HOSPITAL,  
CG. HUC.

SIMON

WHH/nlr  
(6)

cc - 1 - CINCINNATI (7-43)

cc - 1 - CHICAGO (7-82) (INFO)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED - 97

EX-103

7-576-1540  
29 MAR 7 1955

Approved: LSM  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT: BARKER/KARPIS GANG  
BREMER KIDNAPPING**

**FILE NUMBER: 7-576**

**SECTION : 276**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

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SUBJECT Barker/Karpis Gang (Bremer Kidnapping)

FILE NUMBER 7-576

SECTION NUMBER 276

SERIALS 15406 - 15472

TOTAL PAGES 201

PAGES RELEASED 201

PAGES WITHHELD 0

EXEMPTION(S) USED b7c

IARNOLD: WITH THE ARREST AND SUBSEQUENT CONVICTION OF ALVIN KARPIS,  
 2 J. EDGAR HOOVER AND THE SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE F.B.I.  
 3 WROTE FINIS TO THE VIOLENT HISTORY OF THE BARKER-KARPIS  
 4 GANG. THE END RESULT..TWENTY-FIVE CONVICTIONS, THREE  
 5 PERSONS KILLED RESISTING ARREST, THREE MORE KILLED BY  
 6 THEIR OWN ASSOCIATES. -- WE ASKED THE DIRECTOR IF HE  
 7 HAD ANY COMMENT TO ADD TO TONIGHT'S PRESENTATION. HE  
 8 ASKED US TO SAY THIS...THAT THERE ISN'T ONE HERO IN THE  
 9 WAR AGAINST CRIME...BUT MANY....THOUSANDS OF LAW  
 10 ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AT EVERY LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT....  
 11 AND MORE THOUSANDS OF COURAGEOUS AND ALERT PRIVATE  
 12 CITIZENS WITHOUT WHOSE CO-OPERATION NO LAW ENFORCEMENT  
 13 AGENCY COULD FUNCTION. IN THE WORDS OF MR. HOOVER....  
 14 THE WAR AGAINST CRIME IS TOTAL WAR. WINNING IT IS  
 15 EVERYBODY'S JOB.

RS

*Gradually we know  
 you'd be glad to  
 know Mr. Bremer  
 is alive & well  
 since Mr. B can  
 testify to the  
 excellent situation  
 back in the 30s*



well get the power to get in  
for the Rept 1090  
At 4 PM

1 HOOVER: -- Alright gentlemen, report at 4:00.  
(CONT'D)

2 ~~issuance of arms and ammunition.~~

3 MUSIC: QUICK BUILDING BRIDGE...OUT FOR:

4

5 SOUND: TRAFFIC NOISE ON BIG BOULEVARD. OFF...CAR MOTOR UNDER:

6 TOLSON: Two more blocks, sir. The other groups are already in

7 position,

8 SOUND: OLD HORSE CLOP-CLOPPING ON SUDDENLY...SQUEAL OF BRAKES.

9 TOLSON: Oh, no! ...Cut right in front of us.

10 VENDOR: (OFF) (STREET CHANT) Shrimp-ees...Crab-ees..Devil

11 Crab-ees.

12 SOUND: CAR SLOWED TO CRAWL...FAST TRAFFIC OFF...HORSE OFF

13 VENDOR: (OFF) My crebs are new an' brown...

14 I sell 'em all aroun' (CONTINUE OFF MIKE)

15 TOLSON: (ON MIKE) Too much When you are hungry an' blue

16 traffic, sir. We can't Wait for de crab man to pass

17 get around him. through, Crab-ees...Devel

18 HOOVER: Maybe he'll turn off Crab-ees.

19 at the next corner.

20 TOLSON: (AFTER PAUSE) No. Still with us.

21 SOUND: HORSE CLOP-CLOP...EVEN SLOWER

22 VENDOR: Crab-ees...Devil crab-eeees.

23 TOLSON: I thought white horses were supposed to bring luck.

24 HOOVER: Yes...to Karpis. It's 5:02:15 right now.

25 TOLSON: I can try forcing him onto the sidewalk.

26 HOOVER: Attract too much attention. We'll just have to stick it

27 out.

28 SOUND: THE HORSE...STILL CLOP-CLOPPING.

29 VENDOR: (OFF) ~~Crab-ees...Devil Crab-ees.~~

30 TOLSON: Look there...coming out of the apartment house....

1 HOOVER: Yes. -- Ye that's Karpis, all right. Come on.  
2 SOUND: FAST PATTERN...SQUEAL OF BRAKES...CAR DOOR OPENS....  
3 RUNNING FOOTSTEPS....HORSE FADING OFF UNDER:  
4 HOOVER: All right, Karpis. Federal Officers. You're under arrest.  
5 KARPIS: What the -- hey!  
6 SOUND: HANDCUFFS SNAPPED INTO PLACE  
7 KARPIS: Well, I be a -- it's Mr. G-Man in person. What d'ya know.  
8 SOUND: HORSE FADE OFF...CLOP-CLOPPING  
9 VENDOR: (WAY OFF) ~~Crab-ees...~~ Devil Crab-ees.  
10 HOOVER: It's my duty to warn you that --  
11 KARPIS: Yeah...yeah, G-Man, I know. Anything I say'll help me  
12 fry. (THIN SMILE) ~~It's kinda too bad though.~~  
13 HOOVER: ~~Think so, Karpis?~~  
14 KARPIS: If you'd shown up just two minutes sooner, I coulda  
15 welcomed you in style....fireworks'n everything.  
16 BRYANT: (STEP ON) That's right, sir. I just checked the  
17 apartment. It's practically an arsenal.  
18 TOLSON: (SMILES) Guess it's true after all, sir -- about white  
19 horses, I mean.  
20 KARPIS: Huh?  
21 HOOVER: Come on, Karpis. Let's go.  
22 MUSIC: FIGURE ... BRIDGE TO:  
23  
24

RS

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols ✓

DATE: March 9, 1955

FROM : M. J. Hughes

Edward &amp; George Bremer

SUBJECT: APPREHENSION OF ALVIN KARPIS

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Nichols	_____
Belmont	_____
Harbo	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Sizoo	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

In accord with your request to get the facts, once and for all, concerning the apprehension of Alvin Karpis, I wish to advise we have located in the Bremer Kidnaping files a memorandum dated May 2, 1936, prepared by T. D. Quinn based on a telephone call he received from the Director at 5:25 A.M. on May 2, 1936, concerning the apprehension of Alvin Karpis, Fred Hunter and Connie Morris in New Orleans at about 5:15 P.M. on the previous day, namely, May 1, 1936. A Photostat of this memorandum is attached.

We have also located in the Bremer Kidnaping files a copy of the chart made prior to the raid reflecting the raid plans. This chart showed the hide-out of Karpis and Hunter and the names of the Agents to be used on the raid and the various positions they were to take in surrounding the hide-out.

The Director raised the question, <sup>recently</sup> as to whether Jefferson Davis Street crossed Canal Street at the point of the hide-out as indicated in a script presented on the "Hallmark Hall of Fame" giving incidents concerning the Karpis arrest. According to the raid plan chart, the apartment of Fred Hunter and Connie Morris which had served as a hide-out for Karpis was located at the corner of "Jeff Davis Pkwy" and Canal Street. It was catty-cornered from a drug store on Canal Street and the Jeff Davis Parkway had trees and grass in the center of the street.

The Director also stated that the horse which interfered with the proposed raid plans was actually a horse of a policeman. The script merely refers to this part of the happenings as an "OLD HORSE CLOP-CLOPPING ON SUDDENLY" and the script in its sound effects gives the clop-clop of the horse on several occasions thereafter. Mr. Quinn's memorandum, referred to above, indicates the Director told him that "a policeman came along the boulevard on a horse, and the raid had to be delayed until he had passed."

The apprehension of Alvin Karpis is set forth in the Director's book, "Persons in Hiding" on page 71 and 72. Regarding the incident of the horse, the book contains the following information which could not be verified in the Bremer Kidnaping files:

2 <sup>CL</sup> <sup>OK</sup>  
Attachments (3)

1357  
BMS:blw B lu  
MAR 25 1955

7-516  
RECORDED - 837-516-15407  
u pms

March 9, 1955

"The signal for the beginning of the raid had been delayed. This was to take place on a boulevard crowded with swift-moving traffic, leaving only a narrow lane at one side. And just at the moment when we had planned to start toward the house in our automobiles, thus beginning the raid, a man on an old white horse had sauntered into that lane beside the through traffic.

"We could not dislodge him without creating attention. We could not pass him--all other space was jammed with fast-moving cars. So we must wait until the jogging man on the old white horse went slowly down the street--clop-clop--clop-clop--clop-clop....

"At last he was gone. The raiding party moved forward, just in time to see two men leave the apartment house and enter a car. It was Karpis and a pal. We closed in swiftly. The wrists of Alvin Karpis were handcuffed before he could even whirl for his gun. Those few minutes, occupied by a man on an old white horse, had meant the difference between a bloodless capture and what might have been a desperate battle, for there was a small arsenal in the apartment which these two men had just vacated."

RECOMMENDATION: (1) It is recommended that a copy of this memorandum, along with a Photostat of Mr. Quinn's memorandum of May 2, 1936, and a Photostat of the proposed raid plans be filed in the Bureau's Library in the Alvin Karpis folder for future reference.

(2) It is also recommended that a card be prepared in the Bureau's Library on Alvin Karpis indicating that the true version of the raid is contained in the attachments to this memorandum.

OR  
Hm

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FD-36 (Rev. 1-25-54)  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

*Airtel*

Transmit the following ~~Teletype~~ message to:

FBI, CHICAGO (7-82)      APRIL 6, 1955

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

BREKID. BEN MEEKER, CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER, ADVISED  
ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OPERATED SAWYER IN MARCH IN UNSUCCESSFUL  
EFFORT TO RELIEVE A PARTIAL PARALYSIS. SAWYER CONFINED TO  
BED. HIS LIFE EXPECTANCY IS ABOUT THREE MONTHS.

HOSTETTER

FWM/jeb  
(4)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED-42

EX-116

7-576-15408

7 APR 8 1955

1357  
71 APR 13 1955

Approved: DST  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Airtel  
Transmit the following ~~Teletype~~ message to:

FBI, CHICAGO (7-82) 5/11/55

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

BREKID

SAWYER's condition has taken slight change for worse. Prognosis unchanged.

HOSTETTER

FWM:RMB  
(4)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED-99

EX-115

7-576-15409  
9 MAY 13 1955

F410  
67 MAY 19 1955

Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AIR-TEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FBI, CHICAGO (7-82)

JUNE 21, 1955

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

BREKID.

U.S. Probation Officer BEN MEEKER presently out of town and will not return until end of week. Because of manner this case being handled U.S. Probation Office no other Probation Officer wants to delve into the file to determine SAWYER's present condition.

MEEKER will be contacted upon his return and Bureau advised.

HOSTETTER

FJM:MKR  
(4)

RECORDED - 71 7-576-15410

Mr. Rosen

JUN 23 1955

53 JUN 27 1955

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

FD-36	
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Sizoo	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

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

JUN 28 1955

TELETYPE

FBI, CHICAGO

DIRECTOR, FBI

6-28-55

4-02 PM

URGENT

BREKID. BUFILE SEVEN DASH FIVE SEVEN SIX. RE CG AIRTEL JUNE TWENTYONE  
LAST. U. S. PROBATION OFFICER MEEKER, CG, ADVISED THIS DATE THAT  
HARRY SAWYER DIED LAST JUNE TWENTY THREE LAST. NO FURTHER ACTION BEING  
TAKEN.

HOSTETTER

RECORDED-99

END AND ACK

LINE E WORD 4 " LAST " SHOULD BE OMITTED

5-03 PM OK FBI WA NG

FOR 2 MGS

DISC

Mr. Rosen

65 JUL 5 1955

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

27 JUN 29 1955

7-576-15411



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7-576-15412

**United States Court of Appeals**  
**For The Eighth Circuit**

**No. 15,229**  
**Civil**

**VOLNEY DAVIS,**

*Appellant,*

**vs.**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,**

*Appellee.*

On Appeal from the United States District Court  
For the District of Minnesota  
Third Division

**BRIEF FOR THE UNITED STATES**

**COUNTER-STATEMENT OF FACTS**

There is no printed record in this appeal. There is an original transcript of the record of proceedings consisting of 715 pages, a copy of which was furnished to appellant, Volney Davis, at Government expense. There is a printed supplement to the original record.

Pursuant to this Court's order of January 25, 1954, reported in *Davis v. United States*, 8 Cir., 210 F.2d 118, a full-scale hearing was held on the motion of Volney Davis pursuant to 28 U.S.C., Section 2255, before the Honorable Gunnar H. Nordbye, Chief Judge, which resulted in an order denying the motion. See *Volney Davis, Petitioner, v. United States of America, Respondent*, D.C., Minn., decided August

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FD-36	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

AIRTEL

Transmit the following ~~teletype~~ message to:

FBI, CHICAGO (7-82) MARCH 14, 1955

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

BREKID. REURAIRTEL 3/8/55. PROBATION OFFICER WAYNE KEYSER, CG., ADVISED SAWYER PAROLED 2/21/55 FOR LIFE AND LEFT LEAVENWORTH ON A STRETCHER VIA AMBULANCE TO CG. PRESENTED ARRIVAL NOTICE AT CG. 2/24/55. HE IS UNDER CARE OF DR. ABRAHAM SERBY, 104 S. MICHIGAN, CG. CASE BEING SUPERVISED PERSONALLY BY BEN MEEKER, CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER, WHO HAS REQUESTED FROM DR. A MONTHLY PROGRESS RPT TO BE SUBMITTED AT THE END OF EA. MO. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED MONTHLY OF SAWYER'S CONDITION.

END

HOSTETTER

FWM:MDW  
(4)

Mr. Rosen

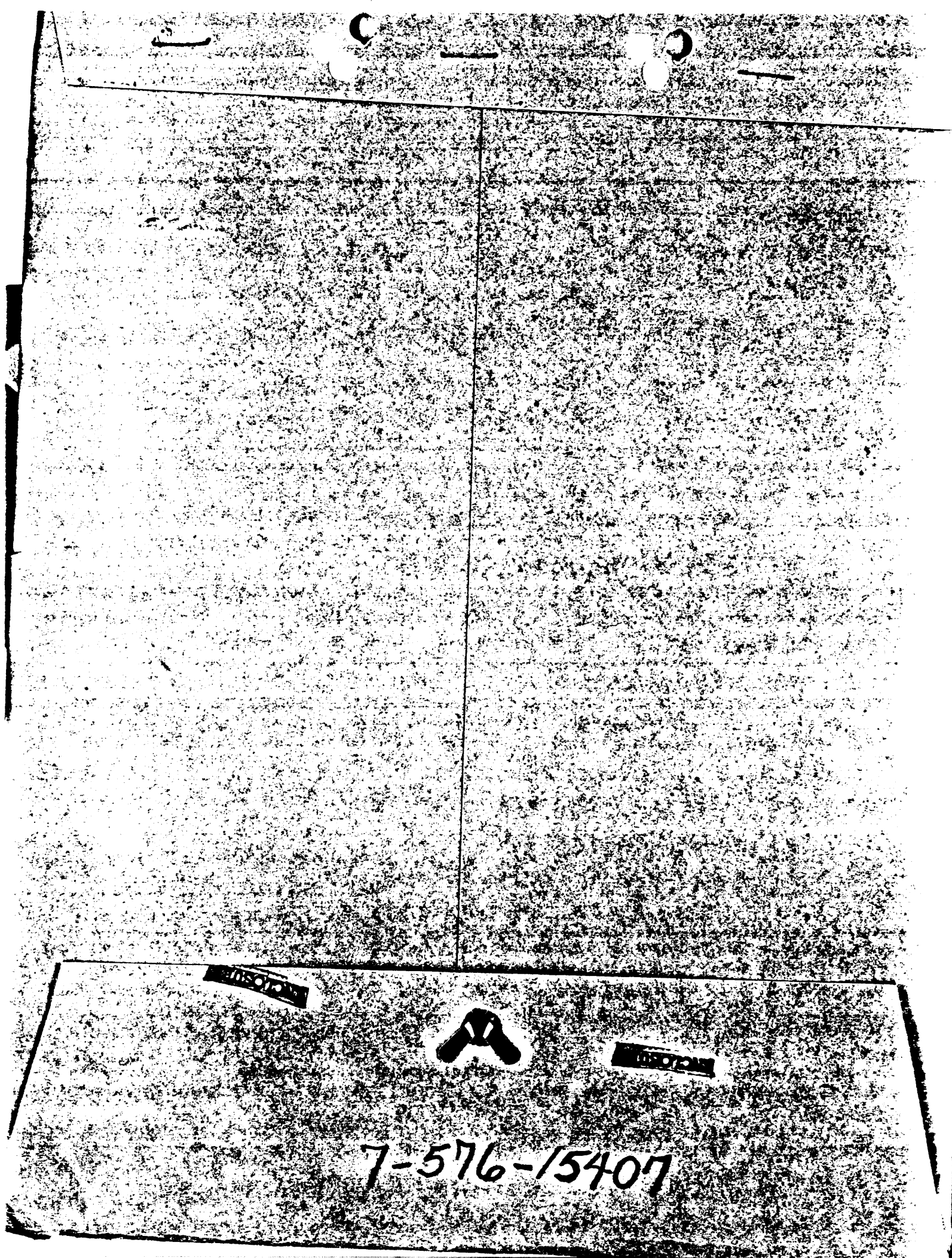
RECORDED-95

7-576-1540  
6 MAR 15 1955

67 MAR 18 1955

1278 Approved: QSH  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_



7-576-15407

# FOOTE, CONE & BELLING

## Advertising

6233 HOLLYWOOD BLVD. • HOLLYWOOD, 28 • HOLLYWOOD 9-6265

CLIENT: \_\_\_\_\_ REVISION: \_\_\_\_\_ STATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_  
PRODUCT: \_\_\_\_\_ APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_ B'CAST: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ REPEAT: FIRST DRAFT

### HALLMARK HALL OF FAME

EDWARD ARNOLD

Presenting

"J. EDGAR HOOVER"

by

Robert Yale Libbott

### CAST

HOOVER.....  
TOLSON.....  
BRYANT.....  
CURRAN.....  
FRED BARKER.....  
ALVIN KARPIS.....  
EDWARD BREMER.....  
McGEE.....  
WOMAN.....  
MAN.....  
VENDOR.....  
OPERATOR.....

(NOTE: STREET CRIES FROM  
"CREOLE SONGS", DISC RECORDS.)

LW

M200 10M 0300 2-54 ③

11-576-151167



1 GOSS: Remember a HALLMARK CARD....when you care enough to send  
2 the very best.  
3 MUSIC: THEME UP...DOWN FOR:  
4  
5  
6 GOSS: From Hollywood...the makers of HALLMARK CARDS bring you a  
7 true story from the life of J. Edgar Hoover \* ....on the  
8 HALLMARK HALL OF FAME  
9 MUSIC: TYMPANY ROLL AT \* ABOVE...MUSIC THEN SWELLS TO CLIMAX AND  
10 OUT  
11  
12  
13 GOSS: And here is our distinguished host, Mr. Edward Arnold.  
14 (APPLAUSE)

1 ARNOLD: GOOD EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AND WELCOME TO THE  
 2 HALLMARK HALL OF FAME. --- TO THE SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE  
 3 F.B.I., JOHN EDGAR HOOVER IS, SIMPLY, --"THE DIRECTOR".  
 4 HE'S HAD THAT JOB FOR THIRTY YEARS NOW. BUT THE FIGHT  
 5 AGAINST CRIME IS NO ONE-MAN FIGHT; THE F.B.I. NO ONE-MAN  
 6 OPERATION. IN HONORING MR. HOOVER, WE SALUTE ALSO THE  
 7 THOUSANDS OF OTHER MEN, THEIR NAMES MASKED BEHIND THOSE  
 8 THREE FAMOUS INITIALS...THEIR WORK METICULOUS, RELENTLESS,  
 9 OCCASIONALLY HAZARDOUS. SOME CASES ARE SOLVED IN A FEW  
 10 HOURS. THE ONE YOU ARE ABOUT TO HEAR TOOK TWO-AND-A-HALF  
 11 YEARS. --- TONIGHT, IN TRIBUTE TO THE DIRECTOR AND THE MEN  
 12 OF THE F.B.I., THE HALLMARK HALL OF FAME PRESENTS A RADIO  
 13 DOCUMENT EXTRACTED FROM THE OFFICIAL FILES OF THE FEDERAL  
 14 BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
 15 JUSTICE. NOW, HERE IS FRANK GOSS.

16 *laboratory*

29 LW



1 MUSIC: SHARP DOCUMENTARY BRASS FIGURE..REPEAT..CUT SHARP FOR:  
2  
3  
4 ARNOLD: SHORTLY AFTER 8:30 AM, JANUARY 17, 1934, A LINCOLN SEDAN  
5 APPROACHES THE INTERSECTION OF GOODRICH AND LEXINGTON  
6 AVENUES, IN ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA. THE DRIVER, EDWARD  
7 GEORGE BREMER, A MEMBER OF A WEALTHY AND PROMINENT ST.  
8 PAUL FAMILY. AS IS HIS CUSTOM DURING THE SCHOOL TERM, HE  
9 HAS DRIVEN HIS NINE-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER, HERTZY, TO HER  
10 PRIVATE SCHOOL AND IS PROCEEDING TO HIS OFFICE AT A LOCAL  
11 BANK. AS HE STOPS FOR A TRAFFIC SIGN AT LEXINGTON  
12 AVENUE, A STRANGER APPROACHES THE LEFT FRONT DOOR OF HIS  
13 VEHICLE.  
14 SOUND: TRAFFIC UNDER..CAR DOOR OPENED  
15 KARPIS: (LOW, COLD) All right, Bremer.,move over.  
16 BREMER: Hey, what is this? You can't --  
17 SOUND: OTHER CAR DOOR OPENED  
18 FRED BARKER: Think not?  
19 BREMER: Wait a min -- (BREAKS OFF..MOANS AS:)  
20 SOUND: BREMER IS HIT ON HEAD WITH BLUNT OBJECT..BLOW REPEATED..  
21 BODY SLUMPS  
22 KARPIS: Let's go.  
23 SOUND: CLOSE CAR DOORS..CAR ZOOMS OFF  
24 MUSIC: REPEAT FIGURE AND OUT  
25  
26

LW

1 ARNOLD: AT ABOUT 10:40 A.M., WALTER MCGEE, A CONTRACTOR, RECEIVED  
2 A TELEPHONE CALL IN HIS OFFICE, 118 WEST CENTRAL AVENUE,  
3 ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.  
4 SOUND: PHONE RINGS..PICKED UP  
5 MCGEE: Hello.  
6 BARKER: (FILTER) This Mr. McGee?  
7 MCGEE: That's right.  
8 BARKER: (FILTER) You a friend of Ed Bremer's?  
9 MCGEE: (SURPRISED) Why, yes--yes. What --  
10 BARKER: (FILTER) (CUT HIM OFF) There's a note for you...out the  
11 side door. If you wanna see Ed again, you'll do like it  
12 says...just like it says.  
13 SOUND: PHONE CLICKS OFF ON FILTER...PHONE JIGGLED  
14 MCGEE: Hello...hello...Who is this? Hello.  
15 SOUND: HANG UP PHONE..FOOTSTEPS..OPEN DOOR..MORE FOOTSTEPS..  
16 RATTLE NOTE..UNFOLD IT..SLOW FOOT STEPS UNDER:  
17 MCGEE: (READING) Charles McGee. You are hereby declared in on a  
18 very desperate undertaking. Don't try to cross us. You  
19 future and B's are the important issue. Follow these  
20 instructions to the letter. Police have never helped in  
21 such a spot and won't this time either. (BREAK OFF)  
22 SOUND: FINAL QUICK FOOTSTEPS..FLIP PHONE BOOK..STEP OFF..LIFT  
23 PHONE..DIAL O  
24 MCGEE: (SLIGHTLY OFF) (QUICKLY) Operator, get me Washington, D.C.  
25 please. NATIONAL 7117. -- Yes, I'll hold on.  
26 SOUND: STEP ON..PICK UP NOTE

RT

1 MC GEE: (READING) Your friend is none too comfortable now, so  
 2 don't delay the (BREAK OFF)  
 3 SOUND: PHONE CLICKS LIVE ON FILTER..RINGS..CUT IN MID RING  
 4 OPERATOR: Federal Bureau of Investigation.  
 5 MUSIC: FIGURE AND OUT  
 6  
 7  
 8 ARNOLD: *not shown* NATIONAL 7117, THE EMERGENCY NUMBER OF THE FBI, AVAILABLE  
 9 TO ANY CITIZEN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY. A CALL TO THIS  
 10 NUMBER SETS IN MOTION A CHAIN REACTION, ACTIVATING LAW  
 11 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES ON A NATIONAL BASIS. -- AT 4:00 PM,  
 12 JANUARY 17, 1934 A MEETING IS HELD IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
 13 DIRECTOR, LOCATED IN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON  
 14 D.C. THE FACTS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO PILE UP.  
 15 HOOVER: The ransom demanded is \$200,000. Payment to be made in 5  
 16 and 10 dollar bills...no new money..no consecutive numbers..  
 17 large variety of issues.  
 18 BRYANT: Excuse me, Mr. Hoover...  
 19 HOOVER: Yes, Bryant?  
 20 BRYANT: Wouldn't that seem to indicate that the kidnappers are  
 21 professionals...part of an organized gang?  
 22 HOOVER: In my opinion, yes.  
 23 BRYANT: Is there a method of payment established, sir?  
 24 HOOVER: The go-between is to insert an advertisement in the  
 25 personal column of the Minneapolis Tribune. Payment  
 26 instructions will follow.  
 27 CURRAN: What about the second note...the one supposed to be from  
 28 Bremer himself. Is that genuine?

RT

1 HOOVER: Any further word on that, Tolson.

2 TOLSON: Both notes are addressed to Charles McGee. McGee's name  
3 is Walter. There are misspellings in both notes. However,  
4 there seems some possibility that Bremer's signature is in  
5 his own handwriting. Both notes and handwriting specimens  
6 are being flown to Washington.

7 HOOVER: Good. Get them into the <sup>Technical Laboratory</sup> ~~crime lab~~ right away. When the  
8 handwriting experts finish, have chemical and microscopic  
9 tests run on the paper... I'd like a full report on  
10 quality, content, manufacturer and distribution outlets  
11 in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area.

12 TOLSON: Yes, sir.

13 HOOVER: Bryant, you and Curran will take the first available plane  
14 to St. Paul. I've ordered twenty special agents with  
15 experience in this type of case flown into the area.  
16 They'll operate under your supervision.

17 BRYANT: Very good, sir.

18 HOOVER: Keep all activities under cover in order to facilitate the  
19 victim's release.

20 BRYANT: What about the ransom money, sir?

21 HOOVER: The Bremer family have indicated a desire to make payment.  
22 You'll arrange with the Federal Reserve Bank in St. Paul  
23 to have a register made of the serial numbers of all bills.

24 BRYANT: All right, sir -- only --

25 HOOVER: Yes?

26 BRYANT: The police report on the abandoned Lincoln sedan...the  
27 one Bremer was driving at the time of the crime...it  
28 mentions blood stains.

RT

1 HOOVER: (SHUFFLE PAPERS) That's right. (READS) Brownish stains  
 2 on steering wheel, gear shift, doorsill, back of front  
 3 seat and car floor. Identified as human blood.

4 BRYANT: Well, sir, taken with the business about the note wouldn't  
 5 that lead to the assumption that Bremer's already dead?

6 HOOVER: We can't make that assumption, Bryant. As long as there's  
 7 a chance he's alive, our first job is to keep him that  
 8 way. -- All right, gentlemen, that's it. You'll work out  
 9 of the St. Paul Field Office, but I want personal reports  
 10 on all developments.

11 MUSIC: QUICK BRIDGE INTO FIGURE AND OUT.

12  
 13

14 ARNOLD: WHILE THE SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE F.B.I. WORK UNDER COVER  
 15 TO ASCERTAIN THE WHEREABOUTS OF EDWARD BREMER AND THE  
 16 IDENTITY OF HIS ABDUCTORS, FURTHER RANSOM NOTES ARE  
 17 RECEIVED, BY WALTER MCGEE AND SEVERAL OTHER PERSONS IN  
 18 THE ST. PAUL AREA. ONE, ADDRESSED TO MRS. EDWARD BREMER  
 19 AND HEADED "DEAR PATZ" IS UNQUESTIONABLY IN THE VICTIM'S  
 20 OWN HANDWRITING. FOR THE MOMENT, AT LEAST, EDWARD BREMER  
 21 IS STILL AMONG THE LIVING.

22 MUSIC: STING

23  
 24

25 ARNOLD: ON JANUARY 25TH, FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN BY THE  
 26 KIDNAPPERS, WALTER MCGEE ATTEMPTS TO DELIVER THE RANSOM  
 27 PAYMENT. HOWEVER, CONTACT WITH THE CRIMINALS IS NOT  
 28 ESTABLISHED.

29 MUSIC: STING

1ARNOLD: FOR TEN DAYS...SILENCE. THEN, ON FEBRUARY 6TH, A NEW  
2 DEMAND FOR PAYMENT IS RECEIVED. INTERMEDIARY WALTER MCGEE  
3 PROCEEDS TO ZUMBROTA, MINNESOTA AND DEPOSITS TWO SUIT  
4 BOXES CONTAINING THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS  
5 AT A SPOT MARKED BY FOUR RED FLASHLIGHTS BESIDE A DIRT  
6 ROAD. (PAUSE) TWENTY FOUR HOURS LATER, AT ROCHESTER,  
7 MINNESOTA, EDWARD G. BREMER IS RELEASED.

8MUSIC: FBI FIGURE AND OUT

9

10

11CURRAN: Then you haven't any idea, Mr. Bremer, how long it took  
12 to reach the hide-out?

13BREMER: I'm afraid not, gentlemen. After I became conscious, I  
14 was still pretty woozy...and blindfolded, of course. --  
15 I -- I'm not sure--but I seem to think we passed through  
16 a city...not a big city...medium sized, maybe.

17BRYANT: Any special reason for that impression?

18BREMER: I'm pretty sure I heard street cars...but we weren't around  
19 traffic very long. That make sense?

20BRYANT: Yes, sir. It does. -- Now about the hideout. You were  
21 blindfolded the whole time.

22BREMER: No...no not exactly. After a few days, I was allowed to  
23 be without the blindfold...but only in the one room.

24BRYANT: Then you never saw the house itself...the exterior, I mean?

25BREMER: No. Sorry.

26CURRANT How about sounds, Mr. Bremer? You remember hearing  
27 anything distinctive?

RT

1 BREMER: Well--not really distinctive. There were a couple of  
 2 dogs...barked a lot. One of them sound big...you know...  
 3 gruff, growling...the other one might've been some kind of  
 4 terrier--yap-yap, if you know what I mean.  
 5 CURRAN: Yes, sir. Anything else?  
 6 BREMER: Let me see. Children playing...three or four of them.  
 7 CURRAN: About what age?  
 8 BREMER: I don't know. Somewhere between four and eight I guess.  
 9 Then there was a baby upstairs. Cried a lot. Fussed.  
 10 Year...year and a half old, I guess. That's the honery  
 11 age. (SMILES) It was my kid's anyway. -- (GUPS) I used  
 12 to think about Hertzy quite a lot...especially when I  
 13 heard that baby. You understand.  
 14 BRYANT: Sure. - What about inanimate sounds? Traffic for instance?  
 15 BREMER: Yes. Traffic.  
 16 BRYANT: Heavy...main highway?  
 17 BREMER: I think so. Quite a few trucks and busses. I remember  
 18 them shifting gears a lot.

RT

1 BRYANT: Like at a stop sign or a railroad crossing?  
2 BREMER: Yes. That was what it sounded like. -- There were some  
3 trains too...not too close. Mostly morning and evening.  
4 CURRAN: Commuters' specials.  
5 BRYANT: Might be. -- Any noises peculiar to the house itself.  
6 BREMER: Not that I can think of...oh...wait a minute. I'm  
7 pretty sure there was a coal stove in the next room...  
8 I could hear the coal being fed into it.  
9 CURRAN: Let's see now...that gives us a house with children and  
10 dogs...near a main highway...not too far from a  
11 commuter...having a coal stove.  
12 BREMER: That's not much help I guess. There must be fifty  
13 thousand like that in Minnesota alone. -- Wish I could  
14 do better.  
15 BRYANT: You could recognize the room itself though?  
16 BREMER: Absolutely.  
17 BRYANT: Mind describing it, sir?  
18 BREMER: Well -- small...ten by twelve, I'd say. Run down. Old  
19 brass bed. Fairly new wallpaper...oohh...that wallpaper.  
20 BRYANT: You remember the pattern?  
21 BREMER: Clusters of forget-me-nots, surrounded by pink roses.  
22 BRYANT: Think you could recognize it in a sample book?  
23 BREMER: I'll never forget that wallpaper, Mr. Bryant.  
24 CURRAN: One more thing, Mr. Bremmer. The trip back -- from the  
25 hideout to Rochester. Remember any unusual details  
26 about that?

JG



1 BREMER: Well, as I already told you, gentlemen, we started out  
2 in a business coupe. Then switched to a four door car  
3 of some kind...sedan, I guess. I had to squat on the  
4 floor behind the driver. There was a tin can next to  
5 me...about a regular five gallon gasoline can, I'd say.  
6 I could rest my elbow on it as we drove.  
7 BRYANT: Sure about it's being a gasoline can?  
8 BREMER: Positive. I could smell the vapor. -- Then when we  
9 were part way...we turned off the main road...drove  
10 about ten minutes...and then stopped. I heard two of  
11 the men get out of the car...open up the trunk and take  
12 out some tin cans...two or three of them, I think. Then  
13 they poured the gas into the tank.  
14 CURRAN: You say this was off the main road.  
15 BREMER: That's right. There was a lot of gravel striking  
16 against the fenders...of course, it could have been some  
17 kind of detour. -- Outside of that, nothing much stands  
18 out.  
19 BRYANT: I think that's enough questions for now, Mr. Bremer.  
20 You've been under quite a strain. We'll come back if  
21 we think of anything else.  
22 SOUND: BRYANT AND CURRAN RISE  
23 BREMER: Mr. Bryant...  
24 BRYANT: Yes, sir?  
25 BREMER: I -- I'm afraid I haven't been much help. I -- you mind  
26 telling me...in a case like this...with so little to go  
27 on...is there any chance of they're getting caught.

JG

1 BRYANT: I'd say the odds are about a hundred to one.  
2 BREMER: That they get away?  
3 BRYANT: No, sir -- That they go to prison.  
4 MUSIC: BRIDGE...INTO FBI FIGURE...OUT FOR:  
5  
6  
7 ARNOLD: NOT MUCH TO WORK FROM...TRAFFIC AND A COAL STOVE...A  
8 WALL PAPER PATTERN AND A COUPLE OF DOGS...SOME GAS CANS  
9 AND AN OLD BRASS BED.  
10 MUSIC: STING  
11  
12  
13 ARNOLD: FROM WASHINGTON, J. EDGAR HOOVER ORDERS A CAREFUL  
14 RUN-DOWN OF EVERY LEAD...SPECIAL AGENTS FROM ALL PARTS  
15 OF THE COUNTRY ARE FLOWN TO ST. PAUL TO HELP DO THE JOB.  
16 MUSIC: FIGURE  
17  
18  
19 ARNOLD: FEBRUARY 8TH, 1934...FBI AGENTS LOCATE A WALL PAPER  
20 PATTERN SIMILAR TO THE ONE DESCRIBED BY EDWARD BREMER  
21 IN THE ST. PAUL BRANCH OF A NATIONAL MAIL ORDER HOUSE.  
22 IT IS IDENTIFIED BY THE VICTIM AS IDENTICAL TO THAT ON  
23 THE WALL OF THE KIDNAP ROOM. A FULL CHECK OF SALES  
24 RECORDS IS COMMENCED.  
25 MUSIC: FIGURE  
26  
27

JG

1 ARNOLD: FEBRUAR. 8TH, SPECIAL AGENTS, FOLLOWING THE ROUTE TAKEN  
2 BY WALTER MCGEE IN PAYING THE RANSOM DISCOVER FOUR  
3 FLASHLIGHTS IN A FIELD SEVERAL MILES SOUTH OF ZUMBROTA,  
4 MINNESOTA. THEY ARE EQUIPPED WITH RED FILMOLENSES AND  
5 BEAR THE TRADEMARK, "MERIT PRODUCT". THEY ARE TRACED  
6 TO THE F. & W. GRAND SILVER STORE, 67 7TH STREET, ST.  
7 PAUL. A GIRL EMPLOYEE'S DESCRIPTION OF THE PURCHASER  
8 IS FORWARDED TO THE FBI IDENTIFICATION DIVISION IN  
9 WASHINGTON TO BE CHECKED AGAINST KNOWN-CRIMINAL FILES.  
10 MUSIC: FIGURE  
11  
12  
13 ARNOLD: FEBRUARY 10TH, AS A RESULT OF AN FBI BULLETIN, THE  
14 SHERIFF OF COLUMBIA COUNTY, WISCONSIN TURNS OVER TO THE  
15 BUREAU FOUR LARGE GASOLINE CANS AND A FUNNEL FOUND BY A  
16 FARMER NEAR PORTAGE, WISCONSIN. THEY ARE FLOWN  
17 IMMEDIATELY TO WASHINGTON, D. C. TO BE CHECKED BY THE  
18 ~~Single Finger Print Section of the FBI Identification Division~~  
19 ~~TECHNICAL CRIME LABORATORY OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF~~  
20 ~~INVESTIGATION TO BE CHECKED FOR LATENT FINGERPRINTS.~~  
21 MUSIC: FIGURE TO STRONG CHORD AND OUT  
22  
23 HOOVER: All right, gentlemen. We've got some evidence. Let's  
24 see if we can put it together and come up with some  
25 answers. We know that there were at least five men  
26 involved in the kidnapping.

JG

1 BRYANT: Probably more than that, sir. The ransom negotiations  
 2 seem to have been handled by persons other than the  
 3 actual participants.  
 4 HOOVER: Good point, Bryant. In any case, we know we're dealing  
 5 with a highly organized gang...most likely one of long  
 6 standing. Next, there is a latent thumb print on one of  
 7 the gasoline cans.  
 8 BRYANT: Did it match up to the file, sir?  
 9 HOOVER: Yes. -- Arthur Barker...also known as "Doc" Barker.  
 10 Next, the salesgirl's description of the man who  
 11 purchased the flashlights appears to be that of Alvin  
 12 Karpis...and the girl has identified a photograph.  
 13 Well, it all seems to add up.  
 14 TOLSON: The Barker-Karpis gang.  
 15 HOOVER: Exactly...just about the most dangerous and best  
 16 organized group of criminals still at large. Well...  
 17 we've made progress. We know our enemy...and we know  
 18 he's tough. Now let's find them.  
 19 MUSIC: FIGURE TO ACT CURTAIN  
 20  
 21  
 22 (APPLAUSE)

1MUSIC:      FIGURE ... OUT FOR:

2

3ARNOLD:      THE FIRST PHASE IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THE KIDNAPPING  
4              OF EDWARD BREMER IS OVER. J. EDGAR HOOVER AND HIS AIDES  
5              HAVE PINPOINTED THEIR QUARRY. -- THE BARKER-KARPIS  
6              GANG, A BIG BUSINESS IN CRIME ... BOARD OF DIRECTORS,  
7              KATE "MA" BARKER, WHO MADE KILLING A FAMILY OCCUPATION,  
8              HER SONS "DOC" AND FRED BARKER, BOTH KNOWN KILLERS, ALVIN  
9              KARPIS, ALREADY ONE OF AMERICA'S "MOST-WANTED" MEN. PHASE  
10             TWO TAKES TIME, AND PATIENCE, AND MONOTONOUS PERSERVERENCE.  
11             ELEVEN MONTHS GO BY WITHOUT A MAJOR ARREST. FINALLY, IN  
12             THE FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY, 1935, THE EFFORTS OF THE  
13             DIRECTOR AND OF HUNDREDS OF SPECIAL AGENTS BEGINS TO PAY  
14             OFF. "DOC" BARKER IS LOCATED IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS ...  
15             PLACED UNDER SURVEILLANCE. -- 6:30 PM, JANUARY 8TH.

16SOUND:      TRAFFIC OFF....CARS SQUEALING TO STOP...DOORS OPENED.

17CURRAN:      He's coming out. Let's go.

18SOUND:      RAIDING PARTY INTO MOTION...FAST....FOOT STEPS STOP

19CURRAN:      Hold it, Barker! Federal officers, United States  
20              Department of Justice. You're under arrest.

21ARNOLD:      AMONG "DOC" BARKER'S EFFECTS, SPECIAL AGENTS FIND THE  
22              FOLLOWING: ENOUGH SMALL ARMS TO EQUIP A SQUAD OF INFANTRY:  
23              A LETTER IN THE HANDWRITING OF HIS BROTHER, FRED,  
24              MENTIONING AN ALLIGATOR HUNT FOR A CRITTER NAMED "OL'  
25              JOE": A MAP OF FLORIDA WITH A PENCIL CIRCLE AROUND THE  
26              AREA OF OCAIA. J. EDGAR HOOVER MOVES QUICKLY. SPECIAL  
27              AGENTS WERE FLOWN INTO THE MARION COUNTY AREA OF FLORIDA.

RS

(MORE)

1 ARNOLD: (CONTINUED) INVESTIGATION SHOWS THAT KATE BARKER AND  
 2 HER SON, FRED, ARE RESIDING IN A COTTAGE LOCATED ON LAKE  
 3 WEIR. AT DAWN ON THE SIXTEENTH OF JANUARY, A PICKED  
 4 RAIDING PARTY APPROACHES THIS COTTAGE.  
 5 SOUND: SWAMPY NIGHT SOUNDS....LOON CALL....THEN FOOTSTEPS ON  
 6 SWAMPY GROUND....STOP....PAUSE.  
 7 BYRANT: (CALLING) Mrs. Barker! -- Fred! -- Come on out. --  
 8 We're Federal Officers! -- The house is surrounded.  
 9 (LONG PAUSE) Come out peacefully. You won't be hurt!  
 10 (ANOTHER PAUSE) This is your last chance, Mrs. Barker.  
 11 Come out, or we'll come in.  
 12 FRED BARKER: (OFF) All right. Come ahead.  
 13 SOUND: BRIEF PAUSE....THEN BLAST OF MACHINE GUN FIRE OFF.....  
 14 ANSWERING FIRE...RIFLES AND MACHINE GUNS ON MIKE.....  
 15 BUILD THEN CUT SHARP.  
 16 ARNOLD: (AFTER PAUSE) WHEN THE GOVERNMENT AGENTS ENTERED THE  
 17 HOUSE....BOTH MA BARKER AND HER SON WERE DEAD.  
 18 MUSIC: BRIDGE INTO FIGURE .... THEN OUT:  
 19  
 20  
 21 TOLSON: We can close the files on the Barker family now, sir.  
 22 Ma and Freddie were buried this morning..."Doc's" on his  
 23 way to Alcatraz.  
 24 HOOVER: That moves Karpis to the head of the list.  
 25 TOLSON: Yes, sir. I've been working up the current data on him.  
 26 Thought we might find a lead.  
 27 HOOVER: Fine. Let's hear it.

RS

1 TOLSON: Well, for one thing, we know that he looks different.  
2 He and the Barker boys all tried to change their  
3 appearance and fingerprints by plastic surgery.  
4 HOOVER: If the Barkers are any example, it's probably a pretty  
5 badly botched job.  
6 TOLSON: Yes, sir. Next, we know that he likes to keep moving  
7 ....never stays long in one place. Last report says he's  
8 got a girl with him....~~Delores~~ Delaney. He may have  
9 married her.  
10 HOOVER: Anything else?  
11 TOLSON: One more item...fishing. He's become a nut on the subject.  
12 Our information is that he'd rather fish than eat....it's  
13 just about all he lives for now.  
14 HOOVER: Yes....funny ....a man writes his name all over the middle  
15 of the continent with a machine gun to get what he wants...  
16 then finds out what he really wants he could have gotten  
17 with a bamboo pole and a bent pin.  
18 TOLSON: I know.  
19 HOOVER: Well, send out a bulletin to all Field Offices and local  
20 police to keep special surveillance on fishing resorts  
21 and tackle shops.  
22 MUSIC: BRIDGE TO FIGURE AND OUT:  
23  
24

RS

ARNOLD: PHASE THREE. ALVIN KARPIS...ALSO KNOWN AS "OLD CREEPY"  
...NOW ALSO KNOWN AS "PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE". --  
ALERTED BY F.B.I. BULLETINS, POLICE OFFICERS IN ATLANTIC  
CITY, NEW JERSEY SPOT KARPIS IN A LOCAL HOTEL..TRY TO  
SHOOT IT OUT...KARPIS SHOOTS FIRST. -- THE STEADY,  
RELENTLESS DAY AFTER DAY INVESTIGATIONS BEGIN AGAIN.  
SPRING...SUMMER...FALL....IN NOVEMBER, A LEAD. TWO  
DARING HOLD UPS IN OHIO. THE CHIEF SUSPECT, ALVIN KARPIS.  
A GET-AWAY VEHICLE IS IDENTIFIED....A PRIVATE AIRPLANE.  
THROUGH ITS DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE MARKINGS, THE PLANE  
IS TRACED TO HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS. THERE, SPECIAL AGENTS  
FIND KARPIS, BUT, WARNED BY UNDERWORLD CONNECTIONS, HE  
EFFECTS HIS ESCAPE.,.TAKING ONLY HIS GUNS AND HIS FISHING  
TACKLE. -- FROM WASHINGTON, J. EDGAR HOOVER ORDERS A  
SPECIAL CHECK ON THE WINTER FISHING GROUNDS OF THE GULF  
COAST....CONCENTRATING ON TOURIST CAMPS, SPORT FISHING  
PIERS, TACKLE SHOPS. AGAIN THE WORK IS SLOW, METHODOICAL...  
MONOTONOUS. THE RESULTS, NIL. THEN, AT CORPUS CHRISTI,  
TEXAS, A PIER OPERATOR RECOGNIZES A PHOTOGRAPH.  
CURRAN: You're sure this is the same man, Mrs. Humbolt?  
WOMAN: (TEXAS DRAWL) Dead sure. Ah'd know those eyes anyplace...  
cold...like one o' them big river cat-fish. -- He took  
one o' my boats out most every day. Didn't get much  
though...always complainin' about the fishin'. Finally,  
'bout two weeks ago...he stopped comin'. Guess he moved  
on.  
CURRAN: Any idea where? Ever hear him mention trying some other  
spot.



1 WOMAN: Come to think of it...he did say somechin' about  
2 Biloxi....Biloxi, Mississippi.

3 MUSIC: FIGURE

4

5

6 SOUND: TELETYPE

7 CURRAN: Man believed to be Alvin Karpis departed Biloxi, Saturday.

8 Probable destination; New Orleans.

9 MUSIC: FIGURE

10

11

12 VENDOR: (STREET CHANT .. OFF .. START AND CONTINUE UNDER SCENE...

13 FADING) Oh, shrimpee..row-row..row-row.(\* ) Up to your

14 door-door..door-door. Bet you'll want more-more..more-

15 more. Shrimp-ee! Shrimp-ee!

16 MAN: (SOUTHERN ACCENT) (START LINE AT \* ABOVE) Why, yes suh,

17 I most surely do recognize him. He's the fella that

18 bought the yella feather jig day before yesterday.

19 BRYANT: Happen to know his name?

20 MAN: Afraid not. -- Lives somewhere in the neighborhood, though.

21 Seen him around...drives a dark car....Plymouth maybe.

22 Reason I remember him so clear was that jig. Can't

23 catch no fish on a yella feather in N'Orleans this time

24 a year.

25 MUSIC: FIGURE

26

27

RS

1 ARNOLD: WORD IS FLASHED TO WASHINGTON THAT ALVIN KARPIS, PUBLIC  
 2 ENEMY NUMBER ONE, HAS BEEN LOCATED. THE DIRECTOR,  
 3 ACCOMPANIED BY ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR TOLSON. AND A PICKED  
 4 SQUAD OF SPECIAL AGENTS, FLIES TO NEW ORLEANS TO TAKE  
 5 PERSONAL COMMAND OF THE RAIDING PARTY.

6 *E+H* SOUND: BUZZ OF VOICES...STOP...SPREAD OUT PAPERS

7 HOOVER: These plans are a detailed lay out of the apartment Karpis  
 8 is occupying on Canal Street. As you can see it's on a  
 9 busy intersection -- windows covering both corners..two  
 10 exits....just about a perfect defensive position.

11 BRYANT: Which way do we approach, sir?

12 HOOVER: The raiding party will be divided into four groups.  
 13 Group One, consisting of two cars will park on Canal  
 14 Street at 5:00 p.m. Tolson and I will approach the  
 15 building from the North ... Meeting the occupants of the  
 16 other car at the door. Group Two will cover the back of  
 17 the building. Bryant...you'll take charge there.

18 BRYANT: Yes, sir.

19 HOOVER: Groups three and four will be deployed on rooftops and  
 20 in an automobile cordon respectively. -- Any further  
 21 questions?

22 CURRAN: Canal Street's pretty heavily traveled that time of day,  
 23 sir.

24 HOOVER: Arrangements have been made with City Street Maintenance  
 25 to hold one lane closed on the side of Canal Street  
 26 nearest Karpis' apartment...until just prior to five  
 27 o'clock. That should enable to rendezvous without  
 28 interference from traffic, and still not alert the  
 29 fugitive. --

(MORE)

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**United States Court of Appeals**  
**For The Eighth Circuit**

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No. 15,229

Civil

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VOLNEY DAVIS,

*Appellant,*

vs.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

*Appellee.*

---

On Appeal from the United States District Court  
For the District of Minnesota  
Third Division

---

**BRIEF FOR THE UNITED STATES**

---

GEORGE E. MACKINNON,  
*United States Attorney,*

ALEX DIM,  
*Assistant United States Attorney,  
District of Minnesota,  
Attorneys for Appellee,  
221 Federal Courts Building,  
St. Paul 2, Minnesota.*

11, 1954, and reported at 123 F. Supp. 407 (S. R. 16). The Government introduced testimony at the hearing, which lasted from July 7 through July 12, 1954, and produced evidence which reconstructed the events leading to the arrest of Volney Davis; the arrest of Volney Davis; his transportation from Chicago, Illinois, to St. Paul, Minnesota; his arraignment before Judge Matthew M. Joyce, on June 3, 1935, in Federal Court, St. Paul, Minnesota; and his subsequent sentence to life imprisonment on June 7, 1935.

A review of the original record clearly discloses that the testimony and evidence sustains the findings of the trial court. The evidence discloses that Edward George Bremer was kidnapped in St. Paul, Minnesota, on January 17, 1934 (O. R. 2). Volney Davis was indicted, along with others, for conspiracy to kidnap Mr. Bremer on January 22, 1935, at which time a bench warrant was issued for his arrest (S. R. 1). On February 18, 1935, a return was made on the bench warrant that Volney Davis could not be found (O. R. 372). On June 1, 1935, Volney Davis was arrested in Chicago and hereafter was transported commencing the next day, June 2, 1935, by airplane, from Chicago, Illinois, to Wold-Chamberlain Field, Minneapolis, Minnesota, the transportation being completed about 6:00 A. M. on June 3, 1935 (O. R. 336). On June 3, 1935, Volney Davis was arraigned before the Honorable Matthew M. Joyce in Federal Court, St. Paul, Minnesota, and entered a plea of guilty to the indictment returned against him, No. 6096 (S. R. 9). Judge Joyce deferred sentence until June 7, 1935. On June 7, 1935, Volney Davis was sentenced by Judge Joyce to life imprisonment (S. R. 10). At the time of arraignment and at the time of sentence Volney Davis was not represented by counsel. On October 10, 1939, the judgment of conviction of June 7, 1935, was corrected to show that Volney Davis did not appear at the time of sentence with counsel (S. R. 11).

Volney Davis was born January 29, 1902, in Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma. Thereafter he moved with his parents to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he went to the sixth grade in school. One of his schoolmates was Freddie Barker. When Davis was 17 years old he was sentenced to the Oklahoma Penitentiary on September 20, 1919, to serve three years for stealing some shoes (O. R. 55). He was again arrested on March 4, 1922, was represented by counsel, had a jury trial, was found guilty of first degree murder (O. R. 57-58) and sentenced on February 3, 1923, to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, McAlester, Oklahoma (S. R. 55). Davis served his sentence from February, 1923, until November, 1932, at which time he received eight months' leave by virtue of the bribing of a certain official by one of the Barker boys (O. R. 61-62). While on leave he received an additional 12 months' extension. Upon getting his leave he immediately joined up with Fred and "Doc" Barker and their gang (O. R. 62) and from that time on was supported by them and was on their payroll doing their bidding (O. R. 51).

While in the State Penitentiary at McAlester, Oklahoma, Davis was in solitary confinement from 1927 to 1931 apparently for attempted escapes (O. R. 58-59-60). During the time Davis was out on leave, Bremer was kidnapped in St. Paul on January 17, 1934. At that time Davis was living in St. Paul, Minnesota, where the Barker-Karpis gang was headquartered, and he had constant contact with that gang. After the kidnapping Davis continued to have contact with the Barker-Karpis gang, in Chicago, in other parts of Illinois, and in Ohio. When asked to return to the McAlester Penitentiary in the spring of 1934 and tell the Furlough Board the whereabouts of "Doc" Barker, Davis testified, "I would rather have been dead than went back to that isolation I had gotten out of." (O. R. 16.)

The evidence indicates that on February 7, 1935, Davis was arrested by F.B.I. agents in Kansas City, Missouri, and was being taken by airplane to Chicago. Because of a snow-storm a forced landing occurred near Yorkville, Illinois. At that time Davis effected an escape from two F.B.I. agents by throwing a beer glass into the face of one of the agents and diving through a window (O. R. 19-20). Davis admitted that he was never mistreated while under the custody or control of the F.B.I. after his arrest (O. R. 29-30). Davis admitted that he was told he was charged with the Bremer kidnapping after his arrest in Chicago (O. R. 34). Volney Davis knew that the F.B.I. had about \$1,100.00 of his money. He wasn't sure whether he could get his hands on that money or whether it would be confiscated. Nevertheless, his desire was to see to it that his parents should get this money rather than a "Jack leg" lawyer that would only enter a plea of guilty for him. This money did go to his parents within six months (S. R. 43, Ex. 1) (O. R. 66-69 and 540). Appellant admits signing, voluntarily, a waiver of removal. This was executed on June 1, 1935 (O. R. 69 and S. R. 44, Govt. Ex. 2). While awaiting sentence Davis admits that he discussed with John DeCourcy, attorney for Arthur "Doc" Barker and Edna Murray, the possibilities of his withdrawing his guilty plea of June 3, 1935. He claims he was advised by DeCourcy that it could not be done and that Davis "was sunk." (O. R. 70-72). DeCourcy testified and denied that he made such statement, but admitted seeing Davis about transfer of a car (O. R. 527). "Doc" Barker was found guilty in May of 1935 and sentenced by Judge Joyce to life imprisonment (S. R. 96). Edna Murray, Davis' girl friend, was tried at the same time, but obtained a dismissal in the middle of the trial (S. R. 94). Davis gave a voluntary statement to the F.B.I. on June 1, 1935 (Govt. Ex. 3, S. R. 45), which statement disclosed he knew a great deal about the Barker-Karpis gang and

showed his close association with them, but at the same time Davis was careful not to implicate himself with the actual kidnapping of Mr. Bremer (O. R. 86-88). Davis testified that he was not abused or threatened in any manner by F.B.I. agents (O. R. 65). He admits that the Clerk of Court read the indictment (S. R. 30) to him in open court at the time of his arraignment on June 3, 1935, and that he at that time entered a plea of guilty (O. R. 49). It is clear from the evidence that no court reporter was present during the arraignment on June 3, 1935, nor at the time of sentence on June 7, 1935. The law at that time did not require nor provide for a court reporter. In an interview with Louis H. Gollop, a newspaper reporter, Davis told him, prior to his sentence, that he had read about the convictions of some of his co-defendants (O. R. 558).

Joseph T. Lynch, the Deputy Clerk of Court who made the minute entries of June 3 and June 7, 1935, corroborated Judge Joyce's testimony that appellant was advised by Judge Joyce about his constitutional rights to counsel and that Davis told Judge Joyce he did not desire counsel on June 3, 1935. Lynch further testified that at the time of his sentence on June 7, 1935, Judge Joyce asked appellant if he had anything to say prior to the imposition of sentence (O. R. 405).

It is respectfully submitted that Judge Joyce's testimony is fully corroborated by the testimony of the following:

1. Raymond C. Suran, Special Agent of the F.B.I. Davis told Suran that he wanted to plead guilty (O. R. 244).
2. Robert Thompson, a newspaper reporter, who was in the court room at the time of the arraignment on June 3, 1935, and at the time of sentence, June 7, 1935 (O. R. 296-298).
3. John E. Brennan, Special Agent of the F.B.I. Davis told Brennan he would plead guilty to the conspiracy indict.

ment. He told Brennan that he was able to retain counsel with funds he had available but could see no point in doing so. All the attorney would do would be to enter a plea for him Davis told Brennan (O. R. 340).

4. William H. Eckley, Deputy Clerk of Court (O. R. 385).

5. Joseph T. Lynch, Deputy Clerk of Court (O. R. 401, 405).

6. Ernest E. Kuhnle, Special Agent of the F.B.I. (O. R. 413).

7. James M. Klees, Special Agent of the F.B.I. (O. R. 443).

8. Harold E. Andersen, Special Agent in Charge, F.B.I. Andersen asked appellant before his arraignment if he wished an attorney and if he wished to plead guilty. Davis indicated to Andersen that he would plead guilty and that he did not want an attorney (O. R. 465-466).

9. Samuel W. Hardy, Special Agent of the F.B.I. (O. R. 478-479).

10. John C. De Courcy, attorney at law. He was attorney for Arthur "Doc" Barker and for Edna Murray. He admits seeing Davis before his sentence but denies that he told Davis that he could not withdraw his guilty plea and that Davis was "sunk." (O. R. 512-528).

11. Edward R. Picha, bailiff for Judge Joyce. He saw Davis put up two fingers thereby indicating to defendant Farmer, that Davis now had two life sentences (O. R. 533).

12. Jack B. MacKay, newspaper reporter (O. R. 547, 548, 552).

Concerning his arraignment of June 3, 1935, Davis testified, in part, as follows:

By Mr. Strong:

Q. That was Judge Matthew Joyce?

A. Matthew M. Joyce. He asked me if my name was Volney Davis. I said, "Yes, sir." He said, "Have you agreed to enter a plea of guilty?" I said, "I would like to know what the maximum sentence is that I could receive for this crime." He told me, "You could receive up to a life sentence." I said, "Well, I will enter a plea of guilty to conspiracy." He said, "Do you want to hear the indictment read or have you read the indictment?" I believe he asked me first, "Have you read the indictment?" I told him, "No, I haven't." He said, "Do you want to hear the indictment read?" I said, "Yes, sir, I would like to." There was someone they asked in the court room to read it and he told the Judge it was rather long and it would take some time, and he said, "He wants the indictment read." They handed it around to two or three different people and he said he would read it and they read it. (O. R. 40-41.) (S. R. 29.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Q. Were you able to understand or comprehend the matter that was read from the indictment?

A. I could figure out what it was about, so I knew it was some kind of charge that was against me and a lot of other people but I didn't even know a lot of these people and never heard of them.

Q. After the reading of the indictment what happened?

A. The Judge asked me if I pleaded guilty to that and I said I pleaded guilty to conspiracy. He said, "Return the man to the jailer and bring him back the 7th of June for sentence." (O. R. 41-42.) (S. R. 30.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Q. At that time were you asked by the District Attorney or by Judge Joyce whether you were represented by counsel?

A. I was not that I remember of. It could have happened but I don't remember ever being asked.

Q. Do you recall whether or not you were asked whether you desired to have counsel assist or represent you?

A. No, sir, I was not. (O. R. 43.) (S. R. 31.)

Q. It may be slightly repetitious, but there is just a couple of questions I would like to ask with reference to June 3, 1935, when you were in court on your arraignment and entered your plea of guilty. At that time did Judge Joyce ask you whether or not you were represented or aided by counsel or had counsel represent you?

A. No, sir, he did not.

Q. Did Judge Joyce at that time or the District Attorney at that time and before you entered the plea of guilty advise you you had the right to have counsel and the Court, if you so requested it, would appoint counsel to represent you?

A. No, sir, I was not told.

Q. Will you tell the Court why you pleaded guilty to that indictment?

A. Well, at that time I would have went any place to keep from going back to Oklahoma and I wanted to get some place else so I would not have to go back to the isolation in Oklahoma and I knew I would be put back into it if I was taken there.

Q. Is it your position in this hearing and in this matter that if you had been represented by counsel and been advised as to your rights that you would not have entered a plea of guilty to the indictment?

A. I don't believe I could have even been found guilty of it if I had a lawyer. (O. R. 53.) (S. R. 35.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Davis testified, in part, as follows, concerning his sentencing on June 7, 1935:

By Mr. Strong:

Q. Tell the Court what transpired when you were called before Judge Joyce for sentence.

A. Judge Joyce called me over before him and to the best of my memory told me, he said, "Is your name Volney Davis?" I told him, "Yes, sir." He said, "You have entered a plea of guilty to conspiracy." I said, "Yes, sir." He said, "I am going—" he asked me—I asked him—he asked me did I have a lawyer, and I said,

"No, I don't. I don't need one, do I?" He said, "No, you don't." He said, "You have entered a plea of guilty to conspiracy," and he picked up papers and started reading off of it. He said, "I am not sentencing you as a conspirator. I am sentencing you as an actual kidnapper, being on the scene of the crime with a gun in your hand and you aiding and abetting in any way to carry the crime through." That paper, I wish, could be found. He sentenced me to my natural life in Leavenworth, Kansas, at hard labor. (O. R. 48-49.) (S. R. 33.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The court docket entries (S. R. 89) and the court term minutes in Criminal Indictment No. 6096, Third Division (S. R. 75), the same indictment in which the defendant Volney Davis and a number of other persons are named as co-defendants in this conspiracy indictment, clearly show that a number of co-defendants in that case were represented by counsel appointed by Judge Joyce. The appointments took place in the following instances.

On April 2, 1935, co-defendant James J. Wilson entered a plea of guilty to the conspiracy indictment in Criminal No. 6096, but nevertheless Judge Joyce ordered that the Court appoint counsel for said co-defendant James J. Wilson. The court docket entries (S. R. 78) indicate that on April 3, 1935, Judge Joyce appointed Attorney Thomas J. Newman to represent co-defendant James J. Wilson. On that same date the court docket entries indicate that Judge Joyce appointed Attorney Eugene F. Matthew to represent co-defendants Harold Alderton and Jess Doyle who were also charged as conspirators in the same indictment as Volney Davis, that is, Criminal No. 6096 in the Third Division (S. R. 78). The court's term minutes for April 13, 1935, indicate that Judge Joyce appointed Attorney E. F. Matthews to represent co-defendant Oliver A. Berg who was also charged as one of the conspirators in Criminal No. 6096, Third Division, the

indictment to which Volney Davis, the appellant herein, had entered a plea of guilty (S. R. 79). The court's term minutes for April 15, 1935, show that at the opening of trial of several co-defendants charged in the same case as Volney Davis, that is, Criminal No. 6096, Third Division, that one of the co-defendants, Byron Bolton, decided at that time to waive counsel before Judge Joyce and enter a plea of guilty (S. R. 80).

On September 7, 1950, Davis wrote a letter to Judge Joyce in which he stated in part as follows:

"I never had an active part in this crime but through my association with this gang and my past record and what the FBI had told me I knew I was classed as a conspirator. They also told me if I pleaded guilty I would be given a term of years. So as I had a sentence of life in Oklahoma I thought I would be just as well off in federal prison. Those were the reasons for me entering a plea to conspiracy." (O. R. 95-96, Govt. Ex. 6.) (S. R. 64.)

Davis admitted on cross examination that he knew before he was sentenced on June 7, 1935, that he would receive a 10 year sentence (O. R. 102).

Davis admitted that from June 3 to June 14, 1935, he told no one that he wanted an attorney. He admitted that he talked to Attorney DeCourcy prior to his sentence (O. R. 107-108).

The Honorable Matthew M. Joyce, Judge of the United States District Court, testified that he became a Federal judge February 16, 1932, and was presiding at the arraignment on June 3, 1935, at St. Paul, Minnesota, when Volney Davis pleaded guilty. Judge Joyce testified there was no court reporter present at that time, that court reporters were not authorized for Federal Courts until some time in January of 1944. Judge Joyce testified that his memory had been refreshed in this case from time to time because of correspon-

dence with Volney Davis and his family, as well as the habeas corpus hearing in San Francisco and the further proceedings from time to time involving Volney Davis (O. R. 182-187).

Judge Joyce testified in part as follows:

By Mr. Dim:

Q. Judge Joyce, can you tell us in your own words, as best you can recollect, what occurred on June 3, 1935, with reference to Volney Davis and his arraignment?

A. Well, George Sullivan, who was then District Attorney—I don't know whether it was that morning or the afternoon before. I think it was that morning, he told me that Volney Davis wanted to enter a plea and he wanted to arrange with me for the time of so doing. I told him I would take the plea that morning. When court met at 10 o'clock Mr. Sullivan was there and Davis was there and all of the court officers were there. Davis stood up. Mr. Sullivan stated what he was there for. I asked him if he had a lawyer or counsel. He said he did not. I asked him if he wanted a lawyer. He said no. I asked him also if he had funds whereby he could employ a lawyer and that if he did not I would appoint one for him without cost to himself. He said no he didn't want any lawyer, that he would like to have the indictment read and he would be ready to plead. I asked Mr. Lynch to read the indictment, which he did, and Lynch then asked him what was his plea and he answered, "Guilty."

Q. And what was the next thing that happened after that?

A. I continued the case until June 7th for sentence, and that is three full days. I never heard a word from Davis or anybody in his behalf in the interim. He never reported to me of any rough treatment, if I might call it that, that occurred to him; he never sought out me to make complaint about any treatment of which he complained at all. I was in my office here each day in this building.

Q. Then June 7th, what happened on June 7th, Judge?

A. June 7th, pursuant to appointment, there were four others of the kidnappers that were sentenced that



day. I can only think of the names of Wilson and Farmer. The others, I don't know who they were, and then I called him next. He stood up in front of me—

Q. Volney Davis?

A. Volney Davis, and I told him he was there for sentence.

Q. Did he have a lawyer?

A. No. He did not have a lawyer. He said he didn't want one so I took that as definite.

Q. Did you ask Volney Davis at the time of sentence whether or not he had a lawyer?

A. I don't know whether I did or not.

Q. Did he say to you, as best as you can recollect, that he didn't have a lawyer at that time?

A. I didn't hear you.

Q. Did he say to you at that time, at the time of sentence, that he didn't have a lawyer?

A. No, he did not.

Q. Did he say to you, "Do I have to have a lawyer," at the time of sentence?

A. He did not. We had no conversation at all. He just stood up. He was there for sentence and I imposed sentence on him on his plea on the 3rd.

Q. I am talking about the 7th. Did you tell Volney Davis on the 7th, words to this effect: "You have a lawyer?" And he said, "No." And he asked you, "Do I have a lawyer?" And you said, "No, you don't. Did you have any such conversation?"

A. Absolutely not.

Q. And what was the sentence?

A. Life imprisonment.

Q. Prior to a plea of guilty on June 3rd, did you have a conversation with anyone, whether George Heisey, George Sullivan, I believe that was his first name, or anyone from the FBI or others concerning a plea of Volney Davis of guilty and receiving a light sentence or any kind of sentence?

A. I did not. Heisey had nothing to do with this case. Mr. Sullivan handled it entirely.

Q. Did you have any such agreement with Mr. Sullivan?

A. I did not.

Q. Or anyone else?

A. Or anyone else, no conversation.

Q. On June 7, 1935, when Volney Davis was before you for sentence, was he asked before sentence was imposed if he had anything to say before sentence?

A. No, he didn't. He didn't say anything at all. I don't know that I asked him.

Q. You don't recall whether you asked him?

A. No. I possibly did, but I couldn't swear to that.

Q. The first time you laid eyes on Volney Davis, June 3, 1935, what did he appear to you as looking like with reference to clothes, dress, appearance; can you tell this Court now, the best you can recollect, your first impression of him?

A. As I recall it he was a very prepossessing young man in appearance. He was clean. He was shaved. He understood apparently what I said to him and I thought he resembled a clothing clerk or bank clerk or somebody of that sort.

Q. Did he have a regular suit on?

A. He did have a regular suit on. He was neat and clean.

Q. As far as appearance, did he look sort of like he was under duress or threats had been imposed on him?

A. No, he did not.

Mr. Strong: I object to that as calling for a conclusion of the witness.

The Court: I think the witness may state his opinion. That is a proper matter for him to cover in his testimony.

Mr. Dim: You may cross-examine. (O. R. 187, 188, 189, 190, 191.) (S. R. 37.)

At page 200, Judge Joyce testified as follows:

The Court: Mr. Gelb, I am going to ask Judge Joyce a question. You feel free to object if you think it is objectionable.

When Mr. Davis was before you on June 3rd and when you had the colloquy with him, as you have stated, regarding the services of counsel and when, you contend, he stated he didn't want counsel, was it your opinion from your observation of him and the way he appeared

the questions that he knowingly and intelligently waived the service of counsel?

The Witness: He certainly did.

Mr. Gelb: For the record I want to object to the question and the answer to that question on the ground that it calls for a conclusion of the witness and the witness is not competent to testify to that type of question since it goes to the very essence of the question at issue.

Mr. Dim: Also for the record, the question, we believe—

The Court: You are not going to object to it, too?

Mr. Dim: No. I want to give our reasons why I had the same idea and asked my question differently.

The Court: You need not labor the point. I will overrule the objection.

Mr. Dim: I say it is proper because the Judge has to have that opinion at the time he questions the man to determine whether or not the man is intelligent enough—

The Court: The objection will be overruled and the witness has already answered the question.

The Witness: May I suggest one thing?

The Court: You may.

The Witness: That is the test Justice Murphy laid down in one of his famous criminal cases; the language that you have used. (O. R. 200, 201.) (S. R. 41.)

# STATUTES INVOLVED

18 U.S.C. 408a, as it existed in 1935:

June 22, 1932 (8.1525)  
(Public, No. 189)

Kidnapped, etc. persons.  
Transportation of, in  
interstate or foreign  
commerce, forbidden.

Provisos,  
"Interstate or foreign  
commerce," construed.

Forbidding the transportation of any person in interstate or foreign commerce, kidnapped, or otherwise unlawfully detained, and making such act a felony.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whoever shall knowingly transport or cause to be transported, or aid or abet in transporting, in interstate or foreign commerce, any person who shall have been unlawfully seized, confined, inveigled, decoyed, kidnapped, abducted, or carried away by any means whatsoever and held for ransom or reward shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary for such term of years as the court, in its discretion, shall determine: Provided, That the term "interstate or foreign commerce" shall include transportation from one State, Territory, or the District of Columbia to another State, Territory, or the District of Columbia, or to a foreign country; or from a foreign country to any State, Territory, or the District of

Conspiracy to violate,  
etc. punishable.

Columbia: Provided further,  
That if two or more persons  
enter into an agreement, con-  
federation, or conspiracy to  
violate the provisions of the  
foregoing Act and do any  
overt act toward carrying out  
such unlawful agreement,  
confederation, or conspiracy  
such person or persons shall  
be punished in like manner as  
hereinbefore provided by this  
Act. Approved, June 22,  
1932.

28 U.S.C. 2255:

*Federal Custody; remedies on motion attacking sen-  
tence.*

A prisoner in custody under sentence of a court estab-  
lished by Act of Congress claiming the right to be re-  
leased upon the ground that the sentence was imposed  
in violation of the constitution or laws of the United  
States, or that the Court was without jurisdiction to  
impose such sentence, or that the sentence was in excess  
of the maximum authorized by law, or is otherwise sub-  
ject to collateral attack, may move the Court which im-  
posed the sentence to vacate, set aside or correct the  
sentence.

A motion for such relief may be made at any time.

Unless the motion and the files and records of the  
case conclusively show that the prisoner is entitled to  
no relief, the Court shall cause notice thereof to be served  
upon the United States attorney, grant a prompt hear-  
ing thereon, determine the issues and make findings of  
fact and conclusions of law with respect thereto. If the  
Court finds that the judgment was rendered without  
jurisdiction, or that the sentence imposed was not author-  
ized by law or otherwise open to collateral attack, or that  
there has been such a denial or infringement of the con-  
stitutional rights of the prisoner as to render the judg-  
ment vulnerable to collateral attack, the Court shall

and set the judgment aside and shall discharge  
the prisoner or resentence him or grant a new trial or  
correct the sentence as may appear appropriate.

A Court may entertain and determine such motion  
without requiring the production of the prisoner at the  
hearing.

The sentencing Court shall not be required to enter-  
tain a second or successive motion for similar relief on  
behalf of the same prisoner.

An appeal may be taken to the Court of Appeals from  
the order entered on the motion as from a final judgment  
on application for a writ of habeas corpus.

An application for a writ of habeas corpus in behalf of  
a prisoner who is authorized to apply for relief by motion  
pursuant to this section, shall not be entertained if it  
appears that the applicant has failed to apply for relief,  
by motion, to the Court which sentenced him, or that  
such Court has denied him relief, unless it also appears  
that the remedy by motion is inadequate or ineffective  
to test the legality of his detention. June 25, 1948, c.  
646, 62 Stat. 967, amended May 24, 1949, c. 139, §114,  
63 Stat. 105.

Section 747 of the Revised Statutes provides as follows:

"In all the courts of the United States the parties  
may plead and manage their own causes personally, or  
by the assistance of counsel or attorneys at law as, by  
the rules of the said courts, respectively, are permitted  
to manage and conduct causes therein."

See present Title 28, U.S.C.A., Section 1654, which is based  
on Title 28, U.S.C., 1940 Ed., Sec. 394 (Mar. 3, 1911, c. 231,  
Sec. 272, 36 Stat. 1164) (derived from R. S., Sec. 747), which  
now reads as follows:

"In all courts of the United States the parties may  
plead and conduct their own cases personally or by coun-  
sel, as, by the rules of such courts, respectively, are per-  
mitted to manage and conduct causes therein."

**U. S. Constitution—Amendment VI:**

**Jury Trial for Crimes, and Procedural Rights.** In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

**POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

- I. The Court Did Not Err in Finding That When Appellant Entered His Plea of Guilty on June 3, 1935, He Competently, Intelligently and Understandingly Waived His Constitutional Rights to Be Represented by Counsel Under the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, with a Full Understanding of the Implications Thereof.**

*Johnson v. Zerbst*, 1938, 304 U.S. 458.

*Ruchbush v. United States*, 10 Cir., 206 F.2d 810.

*Lipscomb v. United States*, 8 Cir., 209 F.2d 831.

*Hines v. United States*, 4 Cir., 203 F.2d 561.

*United States v. Cantor*, 2 Cir., 1954, 217 F.2d 536.

*United States v. Morgan* (1954), 346 U.S. 502.

*Powell v. Alabama* (1932), 287 U.S. 45.

*Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution.*

18 U.S.C.A., Section 408a (Public Law 189, June 22, 1932).

28 U.S.C.A., Section 394 (1940 Ed.).

28 U.S.C.A., Section 1654.

28 U.S.C.A., Section 2255.

*Revised Statutes*, Section 747.

- II. Appellant, Volney Davis, Competently, Intelligently and Understandingly Waived His Constitutional Rights to Be Represented by Counsel Under the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States at the Time of Sentencing on June 7, 1935.**

*Johnson v. Zerbst* (1938), 304 U.S. 458.

*Bates v. Johnston*, 9 Cir., 111 F.2d 966.

*Walton v. United States* (C.A.D.C.) (1953), 202 F.2d 18.

*McKinney v. United States* (C.A.D.C.) (1953), 208 F.2d 844.

**ARGUMENT**

**I.**

**The Court Did Not Err in Finding That When Appellant Entered His Plea of Guilty on June 3, 1935, He Competently, Intelligently and Understandingly Waived His Constitutional Rights to Be Represented by Counsel Under the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, with a Full Understanding of the Implications Thereof.**

The Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees that

“in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right \* \* \* to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.”

That means the accused is entitled to have “the guiding hand of counsel at every step in the proceedings against him.” *Powell v. Alabama* (1932), 287 U.S. 45, 69.

The accused may waive the assistance of counsel. “Courts indulge every reasonable presumption against waiver” of this right. *Johnson v. Zerbst* (1938), 304 U.S. 458, 464.

As stated in *Johnson v. Zerbst*, supra, 304 U.S., at page 464:

“A waiver is ordinarily an intentional relinquishment or abandonment of a known right or privilege. The determination of whether there has been an intelligent

waiver of the right to counsel must depend, in each case, upon the particular facts and circumstances surrounding that case, including the background, experience and conduct of the accused."

The judgment of conviction in the case at bar, dated June 7, 1935, as corrected by the Court's order of October 10, 1939, carries with it a presumption of regularity (S. R. 10, Ex. R. 1 S. R. 11, Ex. C). In *Johnson v. Zerbst*, 304 U.S. 458, 2 Court, at pages 468, 469, stated:

"When collaterally attacked, the judgment of the court carries with it a presumption of regularity. Where a defendant, without counsel, acquiesces in a trial resulting in his conviction and later seeks release by the extraordinary remedy of habeas corpus, the burden of proof rests upon him to establish that he did not competently and intelligently waive his constitutional right to assistance of counsel."

The burden of proof here rested upon appellant Davis to establish by a preponderance of the evidence that he did not competently and intelligently waive his constitutional right to the assistance of counsel. He has failed to sustain that burden.

In *United States v. Morgan* (1954), 346 U.S. 502, the Court stated at page 512:

"Of course, the absence of a showing of waiver from the record does not of itself invalidate the judgment. It is presumed the proceedings were correct and the burden rests on the accused to show otherwise."

The record fully supports and justifies the findings of the District Court that appellant, Volney Davis, competently, intelligently and understandingly, as well as voluntarily, waived his constitutional rights under the Sixth Amendment to the assistance of counsel at the time of his arraignment on June 3, 1935.

The following cases lend support to the Government's position:

*Johnson v. Zerbst* (1938), 304 U.S. 458.

*Ruebush v. United States*, 10 Cir., 206 F.2d 810.

*Lipscomb v. United States*, 8 Cir., 209 F.2d 831.

*Hines v. United States*, 4 Cir., 203 F.2d 561.

In *United States v. Cantor*, 2 Cir. (1954), 217 F.2d 536, the Court stated at page 538:

"\* \* \* but the Constitution does not force a lawyer upon a defendant. He may waive his constitutional right to assistance of counsel, if he knows what he is doing and his choice is made with eyes open."

Appellant relies upon the case of *Johnson v. Zerbst* (1938), 304 U.S. 458, but that case is clearly distinguishable from the facts in the instant case. In the *Zerbst* case the accused entered a plea of not guilty. He had no attorney. He tried his own case. It was a new experience to him as he had never been guilty nor charged with any offense before. He was never advised of his rights to the assistance of counsel.

Take the case at bar. The District Court found, after a full and complete hearing (S. R. 16) that appellant, Volney Davis, having first been duly advised of his rights to the assistance of counsel by Judge Joyce, competently, intelligently, understandingly and voluntarily waived his right to the assistance of counsel. It is respectfully submitted that the full transcript of the testimony and the entire record herein fully sustains the District Court's findings and order of August 11, 1954, denying appellant's motion made pursuant to 28 U.S.C.A., Section 2255.

The Court's docket entries and term minutes in Criminal No. 6096 clearly point out the care and the practice that Judge Joyce was following at that time in seeing to it that the defendants involved were represented by counsel appointed by the Court, if they did not have counsel, and if they did not wish to waive counsel (O. R. 195, 314) (S. R. 75, 89).

For example, see the Court's docket entries and the term minutes for April 2, 1935, in Criminal No. 6096 (the same conspiracy indictment which included Volney Davis as a co-defendant) (S. R. 76). There it can be seen that James J. Wilson, a co-defendant, on April 2, 1935, was arraigned and entered a plea of guilty to the conspiracy indictment in Criminal No. 6096, and that Judge Joyce nevertheless ordered that the court appoint counsel for the said defendant James J.

Wilson, and that after taking the matter up with said counsel, defendant Wilson may withdraw his plea of guilty and enter a plea of not guilty. It is apparent from this entry that defendants in this same case who were without counsel in Judge Joyce's court were able to obtain counsel. Judge Joyce ordered that counsel would be appointed for him if he so requested. The term minutes and the docket entries for April 3, 1935, in Criminal No. 6096 (S. R. 78) show that on that date Judge Joyce appointed Thomas J. Newman as attorney for defendant Wilson and he also appointed Eugene F. Matthew as attorney for other co-defendants, Harold Alderton and Jess Doyle.

The Court's term minutes, as well as the docket entries (S. R. 79, 93) also show that on April 13, 1935, Judge Joyce appointed E. F. Matthews as attorney for defendant Oliver A. Berg. The Court's term minutes for April 15, 1935 (S. R. 80), show that defendant Byron Bolton in Criminal No. 6096, on the day that the case went to trial against him and a great number of the defendants, waived counsel, the minutes stating:

"Upon being questioned by the Court, Byron Bolton stated that he did not desire to be represented by counsel and that he would at this time enter a plea of guilty."

It seems clear that after Volney Davis was captured on June 1, 1935, he apparently felt relieved and was ready to enter his plea of guilty to the indictment. He so informed the

F.B.I. agents. He made no complaint of being threatened or abused by F.B.I. agents. Judge Joyce's testimony is fully corroborated and supported by the host of witnesses who were in attendance at the time of arraignment and at the time of sentencing, and who testified at the hearing in July of 1954.

Volney Davis had \$1,143.40 in cash which was being held for him by the F.B.I. It was his wish that that money be turned over to his parents, and that was done on November 21, 1935 (S. R. 43, Govt. Ex. 1). Of course, if he had funds available and which he could have used to employ his own attorney, the constitutional right to the assistance of counsel is not available. But, be that as it may, even if appellant's contention that such funds were confiscated and not available to him, nevertheless the testimony is overwhelming that he did not want the assistance of counsel and wanted to waive it, and did waive it, knowingly, intentionally and understandingly.

Davis was no novice. Not only had he been convicted of a felony while very young and served time in prison, but in addition he later was convicted after trial, and while represented by counsel, of murder (S. R. 55, Govt. Ex. 4). The letters written by Volney Davis to Judge Joyce after the sentence indicate that he had wanted to plead guilty, and did so voluntarily (S. R. 61, 64, 68, Govt. Exs. 5, 6 & 7). The letter written by Volney Davis to his parents on June 3, 1935, after his plea of guilty, also clearly indicates that his guilty plea was entered voluntarily, knowingly and understandingly (S. R. 73, Govt. Ex. 11).

It is respectfully urged that an accused who is brought promptly before a Federal court for arraignment should be thankful that his constitutional rights are being safeguarded in that manner. He thereby is brought by his captors out into the open before the Court, the public and the press. At that

time he is free to speak. At that time he is advised by the Court of his Constitutional Rights to the Assistance of Counsel for his defense. At that time he has read to him the charge for which he is being held. At that time he may waive his right to counsel or have counsel appointed for him. The choice is his. At that time he may either plead guilty or not guilty. Thereafter, he may think it over ask the Court to withdraw his guilty plea if he so chooses. At the time of sentence he may tell the Court what he wishes. These are the rights that Volney Davis was accorded, and rightly so. He decided of his own free will to waive the assistance of counsel and to plead guilty to the charge. Although he denies his guilt at this time, the evidence, nevertheless makes it clear that he is guilty of the charge contained in the indictment. Of the sentence he cannot complain. The term was within the Court's discretion. Appellant was not the only one who received a life sentence as a conspirator. (See the Docket Entries, S. R. 96).

## II.

**Appellant, Volney Davis, Competently, Intelligently and Understandingly Waived His Constitutional Rights to Be Represented by Counsel Under the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States at the Time of Sentencing on June 7, 1935.**

Judge Joyce testified that Davis did not have a lawyer representing him on June 7, 1935, at the time he was sentenced because at the arraignment of June 3, 1935, Davis had told Judge Joyce he did not want a lawyer, so Judge Joyce took that as definite (O. R. 188) (S. R. 38), and as a complete waiver of his right to counsel in the case. Judge Joyce was experienced in such matters and his conclusion as to the extent of the defendant's waiver should be given great weight. He concluded that Davis knowingly, voluntarily and understandingly, as well as intelligently, waived his right to

the assistance of counsel at the time of arraignment; and by admitting the crime through the entry a plea of guilty, Judge Joyce concluded that Davis at the same time was "definite" in his waiver of counsel for every step of the proceeding, including that of sentencing.

It is respectfully submitted that the foregoing resulted from the finding of Judge Nordbye in his opinion of August 11, 1954, which denied appellant's motion in all respects (S. R. 16). There is a conflict between the testimony of Judge Joyce, who believes that he said nothing at all to Volney Davis at the time of his sentence on June 7, 1935, with reference to the assistance of counsel (O. R. 190), and that of Davis who testified that Judge Joyce asked him (Davis) if he had a lawyer, and Davis replied, "No, I don't need one, do I?" Davis then further testified that Judge Joyce said, "No, you don't." (O. R. 48-49.) (S. R. 33.)

Volney Davis, prior to June 7, 1935 (the date of sentence), did talk to a lawyer named John DeCourcy in the Ramsey County Jail. John DeCourcy at that time had already tried (before Judge Joyce), and acted as attorney for Arthur "Doc" Barker, one of the ringleaders of the Barker-Karpis gang and a real close friend of Davis for years, and at the same time Mr. DeCourcy at that trial represented Edna Murray who was the girl friend of Davis for years (S. R. 77). "Doc" Barker and Edna Murray were named as co-defendants in the conspiracy indictment, Criminal No. 6096, the same indictment involved in the instant case to which Volney Davis entered a plea of guilty on June 3, 1935.

Now, although the testimony indicates that Mr. DeCourcy came to Volney Davis for the purpose of obtaining title to a certain automobile, Davis nevertheless testified that he asked DeCourcy if he could withdraw his guilty plea and DeCourcy advised him that Davis was "sunk." DeCourcy denies making such a statement and contends that he knew criminal law and

knew that the guilty plea could have been withdrawn, and denies that he so advised Davis. But, Davis by his own testimony shows that he had access to counsel before sentencing (S. R. 31).

There is testimony that indicates that Judge Joyce asked Davis if he had anything to say prior to the imposition of sentence on June 7, 1935 (O. R. 405). Davis testified that he said "no" because he did not know that he had a right to say anything in a Federal Court—he said he was only acquainted with the practice in State Courts (S. R. 36, 37).

The record is very clear that between June 3, 1935, at the time Davis entered his plea of guilty and June 7, 1935, up to the time that sentence was imposed, Davis made no effort to employ his own attorney or to communicate to anyone, including the Court, that he desired the assistance of counsel or that he desired to withdraw his guilty plea. But he did confer with a lawyer—DeCourcy.

Under the Sixth Amendment, Volney Davis, the appellant, was entitled to the assistance of counsel at the time of sentence unless he had understandingly, competently and intelligently waived such assistance. It is respectfully submitted that under all the facts, testimony and evidence, as well as the record in this case, Volney Davis did, as Judge Joyce concluded, waive the assistance of counsel at every step of the proceedings when he waived that right on June 3, 1935. *Johnson v. Zerbst*, 304 U.S. 458. His subsequent conduct is also consistent with this conclusion.

Davis was well aware that "Doc" Barker and other of Davis' co-defendants were tried in Cr. No. 6096, before Judge Joyce, commencing April 15, 1935, and ending in convictions of many of Davis' co-defendants, including "Doc" Barker, on May 17, 1935, and apparently concluded that there was no use fighting the case. Especially was this so because, having been captured, no matter what the outcome of the Bremer con-

spiracy indictment, he would have to be returned to the penitentiary at Oklahoma under any circumstances. That fact alone would indicate that Davis concluded that he would save all his money, see to it that his parents got it, and not waste it on a "jack-leg" lawyer, and would enter his plea of guilty without wasting too much time so he could get it over with (O. R. 340). It is respectfully submitted that he was well aware of what Judge Joyce was doing when the judge questioned him concerning whether or not Davis wanted the assistance of counsel in his defense. The other defendants, in the same case, such as have heretofore been mentioned, did receive the assistance of counsel appointed by Judge Joyce. Is there any reason why the judge would not have appointed counsel for Volney Davis if he had wanted a lawyer? Defendant Byron Bolton did not want a lawyer, and waived such right. So did Volney Davis. Wouldn't the fact that defendant Berg received a life sentence and that defendant Barker received a life sentence, for the same charge, have indicated to Volney Davis that a term of years could very well mean a life sentence?

If Volney Davis wanted to waive counsel and plead guilty, and did so intelligently and understandingly and competently, it certainly would be no defense to him on the question of waiver of counsel that he did not understand that the sentence was going to be a life sentence, rather than a term of years. A term of years under 18 U.S.C., Section 408a, has been interpreted to include a life sentence. See *Bates v. Johnston*, 9 Cir., 111 F.2d 966. The point on this is that there was no agreement for any sentence in return for the plea.

In *Walton v. United States* (C.A., D.C.) (1953), 202 F.2d 18, the Court upheld a conviction although the attorney who tried the case for the accused and was present at the time of the original sentence was absent at the time of the re-sentence a few minutes later, which was imposed to correct an



erroneous original sentence. The corrected sentence was a heavier sentence than the original sentence. The Court, at page 20, stated:

"There must be some showing that the absence of counsel would or could have resulted in prejudice to defendant's rights. When there manifestly is not even a possibility of injury, there is no such error as would require vacation of the sentence."

Here, however, appellant had intelligently and competently waived his right to counsel at the time of his arraignment.

In *McKinney v. United States* (C.A., D.C. 1953), 208 F.2d 844, it appears that McKinney at the time of his plea of guilty appeared by counsel, but at the time of sentence his counsel was not there to represent him. The Court held that the matter should be remanded for further proceedings, and stated at page 847:

"If the District Court finds that petitioner in fact waived his right to counsel at the time of sentencing the motion to vacate should be denied. If it finds that there was no such waiver, and that detriment resulted, the motion should be granted. But this does not mean that petitioner must be released or given a new trial. As constitutional standards were met at the time his plea of guilty was entered, he has no reason to complain of that part of the proceedings. If his motion to vacate sentence is granted, he should be brought before the trial court, accompanied by counsel, for the imposition of a new sentence, to be rendered after counsel has been given an opportunity to make all proper representations to the court."

The present case is distinguishable from the *McKinney* case, 208 F.2d 844, in that in the *McKinney* case the accused was represented by counsel at the time he entered his plea. In the instant case the arraigning Court concluded that Davis at the time he was arraigned waived his right to counsel for the entire case. He then entered his plea of guilty and his

conduct subsequent to that time, including up to the date of sentence, indicated that he did not wish the assistance of counsel and that he had waived the same competently, intelligently and voluntarily.

### CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the entire record herein fully supports the findings of fact of the District Court that appellant, Volney Davis, on June 3, 1935, at the time of his arraignment when he entered a plea of guilty, and again on June 7, 1935, at the time of his sentence, that he was first advised by Judge Joyce of his constitutional rights under the Sixth Amendment and that he nevertheless competently, intelligently and understandingly waived such rights to be represented by counsel. He has not sustained the burden to show that he was denied a constitutional right at any stage. The proof shows to the contrary that he did intelligently and competently waive his rights. The findings of the District Court and the order denying appellant's motion, made pursuant to 28 U.S.C.A., Section 2255, is fully supported by the evidence and record herein, is correct, and should be affirmed.

Dated July, 1955.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE E. MACKINNON,  
United States Attorney,  
ALEX DIM,  
Assistant United States Attorney,  
District of Minnesota,  
Attorneys for Appellee,  
221 Federal Courts Building,  
St. Paul 2, Minnesota.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED

GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (7-576)

FROM : SAC, Minneapolis (7-30)

SUBJECT: VOLNEY DAVIS, was., et al  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPPING

DATE: 7/19/55

Remyairtel 1/18/55.

USA GEORGE E. MAC KINNON, St. Paul, Minnesota, by letter dated 7/18/55 furnished a copy of the printed brief on behalf of the government prepared in connection with the appeal of DAVIS. A copy of this brief is attached for the Bureau's information.

Mr. MAC KINNON further advised that it was believed the oral argument in connection with the appeal would be heard in September, 1955, at St. Louis, Missouri.

The Bureau will be kept advised of further developments.

Enc. (1)

CBH:NJG  
(3)

ENCLO. ATTACHED

RECORDED 13

EX-107

7-576-154

JUL 21 1955

64 JUL 27 1955

Copy of brief on behalf of government  
prepared in connection with appeal  
of DAVIS.

VOLNEY DAVIS, was., et al  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPPING

7-576-15412

August 10, 1955

AIRTEL

SACS, St. Louis  
Minneapolis (7-30)

*del*  
VOLNEY DAVIS, WAS., ET AL.; EDWARD GEORGE BREMMER - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPING.

A review of the Bureau file reflects that USA George E. MacKinnon, St. Paul, Minnesota, has advised that he believes the oral argument, in connection with the appeal of Volney Davis, would be heard in the United States Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit at St. Louis, Missouri, in September, 1955.

St. Louis should check with the clerk of the court to ascertain if Davis has filed a brief, in connection with his appeal, from the decision of the US District Court, District of Minnesota, in the case of Volney Davis vs. the United States of America. St. Louis should endeavor to obtain a copy of Davis' brief.

Minneapolis should closely follow this matter with the USA at St. Paul, Minnesota, and keep the Bureau advised of all developments.

HOOVER

7-576

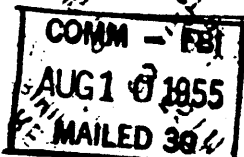
NOTE:

Davis' motion in US District Court, Minneapolis, for an order vacating and setting aside a life sentence imposed on him 6/7/35 was denied by honorable Gunnar H. Nordbye on 8/11/54. *cu-*  
On 10/12/54 Davis filed an appeal. The USA, St. Paul, has advised that the oral arguments in connection with the appeal ~~are~~ tentatively scheduled to be heard in September, 1955.

RJG:glw  
(6) *glw*

RECORDED-35  
*DPH*  
*APL*

7-576-15413



16 AUG 11 1955  
*gjp*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

*on*  
AUG 15 1955

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (7-576)

DATE: August 17, 1955

FROM : SAC, St. Louis (7-43)

SUBJECT: VOLNEY DAVIS, was., Etal;  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - Victim  
KIDNAPING

On August 15, 1955, the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Appeals, St. Louis, Missouri, advised the Attorney for VOLNEY DAVIS filed a typewritten brief on June 4, 1955. Submission of a typewritten brief only was permitted in this instance. Only four copies of the brief were filed, three for the Court and one for the Clerk's file. Consequently, there is none available which the St. Louis Office can obtain.

The Docket indicates that the U. S. Attorney at St. Paul, Minnesota filed a brief on July 15, 1955, and a supplement was also filed on the same date. It is suggested that if the Bureau desires a copy of the brief filed by DAVIS' attorney it can be possibly obtained from the U. S. Attorney at St. Paul.

The case of VOLNEY DAVIS vs. the United States of America, #15229, is scheduled for Monday, September 12, 1955, in Division No. 2 of the U. S. Court of Appeals Eighth Circuit at St. Louis.

RUC.

RJA:mlh  
(4)

1 cc: Minneapolis (7-30)

RECORDED - 15 27 AUG 19 1955

AUG 23 1955

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

AIRTEL

Transmit the following ~~Teletype~~ message to: DIRECTOR, FBI

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)

8/22/55

AIR MAIL

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

VOLNEY DAVIS, was. Etal; EDWARD GEORGE BREMMER - VICTIM.  
KIDNAPPING.

ReBuairtel dated 8/10/55.

On 8/22/55, ALEX DIM, AUSA, St. Paul, Minn., advised that appeal of VOLNEY DAVIS would be heard in U. S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit at St. Louis, Mo., on 9/13/55. Mr. DIM stated that he will argue for the Government and that court-appointed attorney ALLAN SURINSKY of Clayton, Mo., will argue for DAVIS.

Mr. DIM stated that VOLNEY DAVIS was granted until 8/23/55, to file a reply brief to the Government brief previously filed.

The MP Office will continue to maintain contact with the Office of the USA, St. Paul, and keep the Bureau advised of all developments in this matter.

HOWARD

Mr. Rosen

SF:pwg  
2cc: St. Louis (AM)  
(6)

RECORDED-997

27 AUG 24 1955

52 AUG 29 1955

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FD-36  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

AIR MAIL

AIRTEL

Transmit the following ~~XXXXXXXX~~ message to: DIRECTOR (7-576)

FBI, MINNEAPOLIS

9/15/55

DIRECTOR (7-576)

RE: VOLNEY DAVIS, was., ET AL;  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPPING

Re Bureau airtel, 8/10/55.

On 9/14/55, ALEX DIM, AUSA, St. Paul, Minn., advised he argued for the government before the U.S. Court of Appeals, 8th Circuit, St. Louis, on 9/12/55 in the VOLNEY DAVIS appeal, with ALLEN SURINSKY, Attorney, Clayton, Mo., appointed by Court of Appeals, arguing on behalf of DAVIS. Mr. DIM stated Judges WOODROUGH, JOHNSON, and VOGEL heard the case, and in oral questioning the main point the court concerned itself with was whether DAVIS waived his right to counsel on the date of sentencing. Mr. DIM advised that VOLNEY DAVIS' allegation of mistreatment was not discussed in oral arguments before the court. DIM advised that the court took the case under advisement and estimated that the court would not hand down a decision for approximately three months.

The St. Louis Division is requested to follow and report the decision of the Court of Appeals in this matter.

This case is being placed in a pending-inactive status in the Minneapolis Division.

HOWARD

7-30  
SF:sss  
(6)

CC: 2 - St. Louis (7-43)(AM)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED - 113

10 SEP 20 1955

52 SEP 21 1955 f123

Approved: CS  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent M Per

...ERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Mr. Gandy	

AIR TEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FBI, ST. LOUIS (7-43)

9-22-55

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

VOLNEY DAVIS, was., ETAL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPPINGRe Minneapolis airtel dated 9-15-55, and Bureau-0-1  
Form dated 9-15-55.

On 9-21-55, the Clerk of the U. S. Court of Appeals, 8th Circuit, St. Louis, Missouri, advised that the case had been submitted to that Court on 9-12-55, and that ALLEN SURINSKY, Attorney, Clayton, Missouri, had argued for DAVIS after appointment by the Court of Appeals, and that a representative from the United States Attorney's Office, St. Paul, Minn., had argued for the Government. It was stated that the case was now awaiting a decision in the U. S. Court of Appeals which could be handed down during a period of 3 weeks to 3 months, and that the Clerk's Office would advise as soon as a decision was rendered.

The St. Louis Office will report this decision as soon as it is received.

RJA:naf

(5)

cc - Minneapolis (7-30)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED - 113

7-576-15417

6 SEP 22 1955

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

cc Sup



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

RJA:NLN

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FBI, ST. LOUIS (7-43) 10/11/55

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576) . . . . A I R T E L

VOLNEY DAVIS, was., Et Al;  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPING

Re Minneapolis airtel dated 9/15/55 and St. Louis  
airtel dated 9/22/55.

On 10/11/55, the Clerk of the U. S. Court of Appeals,  
Eighth Circuit, St. Louis, Mo., advised that a decision in  
this case has not yet been reached by the Court of Appeals  
and he would advise the St. Louis Office as soon as this  
decision has been made.

MILNES

END  
(5)

cc - Minneapolis (7-30)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED - 33

OCT 12 1955

EX-121

F410

Approved:                       
64 OCT 19 1955 Special Agent in Charge

Sent            M Per

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

SAC, ST. LOUIS (7-43) 11-7-55 AIRTEL  
DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

VOLNEY DAVIS, WAS., ET AL;  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPPING

RESLAIRTEL 10-11-55.

On 11-4-55, the U. S. Court of Appeals, SIMO, confirmed the District Court's decision denying DAVIS' petition.

A copy of the Court's decision is attached for the information of the Bureau together with an article appearing in the ST. LOUIS GLOBE DEMOCRAT of 11-6-55. *Rec*

MILNES

Enclosure - 2 *ENCL* 125

1 cc - SAC, Minneapolis (7-30)

JEM:wma  
(5)

Mr. Rosen

CC. MR. ROSEN  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

RECORDED - 47

57-125

7-576-15419

11 NOV 9 1955

66 NOV 29 1955

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

## Kidnaper Serving Life Loses Appeal

The United States Court of Appeals here Friday rejected a bid by Volney Davis, one-time desperado and member of the Barker-Karpis gang, to be released from federal prison.

Davis, who has served 20 years of a life sentence for kidnaping, claimed he did not know his constitutional rights when he pleaded guilty. He claimed he did not waive them, and that he was led to believe he would receive a lighter term if he pleaded guilty.

The appellate court here yesterday affirmed a ruling made in 1952 turning down Davis' claim.

Davis received the life sentence in St. Paul, Minn., after pleading guilty to conspiracy to kidnap Edward G. Bremer, a St. Paul, Minn. banker, for \$200,000. He was one of several men sentenced to prison in the kidnaping case.

VOLNEY DAVIS, WAS.,  
ET AL  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER-  
VICTIM

Title: KIDNAPPING  
BUFILE: 7-576  
Character: SLFILE: 7-43

ST. LOUIS GLOBE DEMOCRAT  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Date November 6, 1955

Edition

Author:

7-576-15419

ENCLOSURE

United States Court of Appeals  
FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

No. 15,229.

Volney Davis,	}	Appeal from the United States Dis- trict Court for the District of Minne- sota.
vs.		
United States of America,		
Appellee.		

[November 4, 1955.]

Allen H. Surinsky (appointed by court), for Appellant.  
Alex Dim, Assistant United States Attorney, and George  
E. MacKinnon, United States Attorney, for Appellee.

Before WOODROUGH, JOHNSON and VOGEL, Circuit Judges.

VOGEL, Circuit Judge.

On December 9, 1952, Volney Davis filed in the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota a motion, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 2255, to set aside, vacate and

7-576-15411

ENCLOSURE

nullify or reduce a life sentence of imprisonment imposed on him by the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota on June 7, 1935, pursuant to his entry of a plea of guilty to an indictment charging that he and others conspired to kidnap one Edward George Bremer at St. Paul, Minnesota, and transport him into the State of Illinois. (18 U.S.C. 408(a), now 18 U.S.C. 1201)

Judge Matthew M. Joyce, the judge who had presided at the arraignment of Davis and had sentenced him, denied petitioner's motion on the ground that, "The files and records show conclusively that the petitioner is entitled to no relief \* \* \*". An appeal from such order was taken to this court. In *Davis v. United States*, 210 F.2d 118, this court reversed the order appealed from and remanded the case for the purpose of giving the petitioner an opportunity to be heard on what this court termed the three remaining issues under consideration; namely, the assertions by the petitioner that:

1. He did not know of his constitutional right to counsel;
2. That he did not waive that right;
3. That he was led to believe he would be given a term of years if he entered a plea of guilty.

Upon a remand of the case to the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota, Judge Joyce disqualified himself and the hearing was held before Chief Judge Gunnar H. Nordbye. After the mandate from this court was returned to the district court, the petitioner was removed from the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, wherein he was at that time confined, to St. Paul, Minnesota, and two attorneys, Mr. Harlan B. Strong, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Mr. Howard H. Melb, of St. Paul, Minnesota, were appointed by the court

to represent him. A substantial period of time prior to the commencement of the hearing was allowed to enable appointed counsel to prepare for the hearing. The right to subpoena witnesses at the expense of the United States was accorded the petitioner and all witnesses he desired to call and who could be located were made available to him. The hearing and preparations therefor were apparently held with meticulous care and consideration for the petitioner's rights.

The judgment of conviction based upon Davis' plea of guilty carried with it the presumption of regularity. The burden of proof at the hearing on Davis' present motion rested upon him to establish by a fair preponderance of the evidence that he did not know his constitutional right to counsel or that he did not waive that right or that he was led to believe he would be given a term of years if he entered a plea of guilty. *Johnson v. Zerbst*, (1937), 304 U.S. 458, 468:

"It must be remembered, however, that a judgment can not be lightly set aside by collateral attack, even on *habeas corpus*. When collaterally attacked, the judgment of a court carries with it a presumption of regularity. Where a defendant, without counsel, acquiesces in a trial resulting in his conviction and later seeks release by the extraordinary remedy of *habeas corpus*, the burden of proof rests upon him to establish that he did not competently and intelligently waive his constitutional right to assistance of counsel. If in a *habeas corpus* hearing, he does meet this burden and convinces the court by a preponderance of evidence that he neither had counsel nor properly waived his constitutional right to counsel, it is the duty of the court to grant the writ."

*United States v. Morgan*, (1954) 346 U.S. 502, 512:

"Of course, the absence of a showing of waiver (of counsel) from the record does not of itself invalidate the

ment. It is presumed the proceedings were correct the burden rests on the accused to show otherwise. *ison v. Zerbst, supra*, at 468; *Adams v. McCann, supra*, 31; cf. *Darr v. Burford*, 339 U.S. 200, 218."

he hearing commenced on July 7, 1954, and was concluded on July 12, 1954. In a detailed opinion, findings of fact and conclusions (Davis v. United States, 123 F.Supp. 407), Judge Nordbye came to the conclusion that:

After due reflection and consideration of all of the evidence, I have come to a sustained and abiding conviction when Volney Davis entered his plea of guilty on June 3, 1935, he competently, intelligently, and understandingly waived his constitutional rights to be represented by counsel under the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, with a full understanding of the implications thereof."

Accordingly denied petitioner's motion. Davis has appealed therefrom.

To read or transcript of the arraignment proceeding held on June 3, 1935, was made other than the clerk's notes, which show the following entry:

"The United States Attorney, Geo. F. Sullivan, being present the defendant Volney Davis appears and is arraigned. Upon being questioned by the Court said defendant stated that he did not desire the advice of counsel and entered a plea of guilty to the charge in the indictment therein.

Whereupon, it is by the Court

Ordered: That sentence be and same hereby is decreed to June 7, 1935."

With reference to June 7, 1935, the clerk's records indicate that Volney Davis appeared "with his Attorney". The latter entry was obviously incorrect and on October 10,

1939, an order amending the judgment was made to show that Volney Davis appeared "without an attorney".

The transcript of the July 7-12, 1954, proceedings before Judge Nordbye, consisting of 715 pages, was furnished to the appellant and his attorneys in this appeal.

The evidence discloses that Edward George Bremer was kidnapped at St. Paul, Minnesota, on January 17, 1934. On January 22, 1935, Volney Davis, the petitioner herein, along with a number of other persons, was indicted for conspiracy to kidnap and transport Bremer, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 408(a), now Section 1201.

Davis was arrested in Kansas City on February 17, 1935, but escaped from custody while being transported from Kansas City to Chicago. On June 1, 1935, Davis was again arrested, this time in Chicago, Illinois, and the following day was taken by airplane from Chicago to Minneapolis. On June 3, 1935, he was arraigned before Judge Joyce. He appeared without counsel, entered a plea of guilty and four days later, on June 7, 1935, was sentenced by Judge Joyce to life imprisonment.

Volney Davis was born January 29, 1902, in Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma. He went to the sixth grade in school, and while there met Freddie Barker, later of the infamous Barker-Karpis gang. When Davis was 17 years old, he was sentenced to the Oklahoma penitentiary to serve three years for theft. In 1922, represented by counsel, he was tried to a jury and found guilty of first-degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment in the Oklahoma State Penitentiary. He served such sentence from February, 1923, until November, 1932, at which time he received an eight months' leave. Subsequently he received an additional twelve months' extension. Upon obtaining his leave from the penitentiary, he immediately joined up with the

Barker-Karpis gang, receiving money from them from time to time.

After the extended twelve months' period of leave from the Oklahoma penitentiary expired, Davis deliberately failed to return to the penitentiary and became a fugitive. Some of the members of the Barker-Karpis gang, with whom Davis was associated, kidnapped Bremer on January 17, 1934, and transported him to Bensonville, Illinois. He was held for \$200,000.00 ransom, which was subsequently paid and he was released. Two indictments were returned by the grand jury of the District of Minnesota, one charging Davis and others with the crime of conspiracy to kidnap Bremer and transport him to Illinois, and the second charging certain defendants, including Davis, with the substantive offense of kidnapping Bremer.

Davis contends that when he appeared before Judge Joyce on June 3, 1935, for arraignment, he did not know of his constitutional right to counsel, that he did not waive such right and that he was led to believe he would be given a term of years if he entered a plea of guilty. He testified that when he first appeared on June 3, 1935, Judge Joyce asked him if his name was Volney Davis. He replied, "Yes, sir." He claims Judge Joyce then asked, "Have you agreed to enter a plea of guilty?" and he replied, "I would like to know what the maximum sentence is that I could receive for this crime"; that the judge told him, "You could receive up to a life sentence" and Davis then said, "Well, I will enter a plea of guilty to conspiracy"; that the indictment charging conspiracy was read to him and that he thereafter entered a plea of "guilty of conspiracy". He denies that at that time he was asked if he had counsel or was advised of his right to counsel. He claims he pleaded guilty to keep from going back to "isolation" in Oklahoma.

Davis also claims that he was incapable of intelligently and competently waiving his constitutional rights at the arraignment of June 3, 1935, because of alleged happenings between the time of his arrest, June 1st, and the arraignment on June 3rd. He claimed that at the time of his arrest he was struck over the head by something, that a gun was accidentally discharged near him, that he was questioned for long periods and was kept in the closest custody; that on the chartered plane trip from Chicago to Minneapolis they encountered flying difficulties at Madison, Wisconsin, and that these combined experiences left him in such a frame of mind that he could not act completely or intelligently.

From June 3rd to June 7th he was confined in the Ramsey County Jail and at some time between those dates he admits he did talk to a lawyer but that the lawyer did not come to see him regarding his case. He claims there was some casual conversation between them regarding the plea he had entered, but that the lawyer told him he could not withdraw his plea and that he was "sunk". (The lawyer referred to also testified, admitting seeing Davis in jail but denying he told Davis he could not withdraw his plea or that he was "sunk".) Davis claims that on June 7th, when he was returned to court, the judge said to him, "You have entered a plea of guilty to conspiracy," to which he responded, "Yes." He then contends that the judge said, "Do you have a lawyer?" and he responded, "No, I don't need one do I?", and the court thereupon stated, "No, you don't." Thereafter, he contends the court sentenced him to life imprisonment on the plea entered on June 3rd.

At the hearing on petitioner's instant motion, Judge Joyce, the trial judge, also appeared as a witness. His recollection of the case had been refreshed over the years

since 1935 because of correspondence with members of the Davis family and with Davis himself and also by reason of a habeas corpus proceeding instituted by Davis in the Northern District of California in 1940, at which time Davis was confined in Alcatraz.

Judge Joyce testified that on the arraignment date, June 2, 1935, he had asked Davis if he had a lawyer and Davis responded in the negative. He next asked him if he had funds with which to hire a lawyer and told him if he did not, a lawyer would be appointed by the court without cost to him. Judge Joyce testified that Davis stated he did not want a lawyer but wanted the conspiracy indictment read to him. After Judge Joyce was examined by counsel, the record indicates the following:

"The Court: Mr. Gelb, I am going to ask Judge Joyce a question. You feel free to object if you think it is objectionable.

When Mr. Davis was before you on June 3rd and when you had the colloquy with him, as you have stated, regarding the services of counsel and when, you contend, he stated he didn't want counsel, was it your opinion from your observation of him and the way he answered the questions that he knowingly and intelligently waived the service of counsel?

The Witness: He certainly did.

Mr. Gelb: For the record I want to object to the question and the answer to that question on the ground that it calls for a conclusion of the witness and the witness is not competent to testify to that type of question since it goes to the very essence of the question at issue."

Thereafter the objection was overruled.

Judge Joyce's testimony was substantially corroborated by a number of additional witnesses, including newspaper

reporters, court attaches and Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Davis' testimony in the main stands unsupported.

Davis' testimony that on June 3, 1935, he was not told of his constitutional right to counsel also loses force from the fact that the record indicates that some of his co-defendants in the same case, but appearing at a different time, had counsel appointed for them by Judge Joyce.

There is also substantial testimony in the record to the effect that Davis told F. B. I. Agents before he went into court for the arraignment that he was going to enter a plea of guilty to the conspiracy charge but not to the indictment charging him with actual kidnapping, that the F. B. I. "had the goods" on him and that it would do him no good to fight, that he had some money but wanted it to go to his parents.

That Davis knew what he was doing and knew that he could receive a life sentence is indicated from a letter written to his family on June 3, 1935, subsequent to entering a plea to conspiracy. In the first paragraph of that letter, Government's Exhibit 11, Davis stated as follows:

"At last I am in a position where I can write to you all again. And I am sure glad that I can for it has been awful to be running around over the country and not being able to write to the only ones in this world that really love me. *I am here in jail and have entered a plea of guilty to conspiring in this case.* I guess you have read about it in the papers. I will be sentenced on Friday this week, *I don't know what I will get but I expect it will be a life sentence.* I guess I will be sent to the Government prison out in California, but before I go there I will be held for thirty days in some prison here." (Emphasis supplied.) In the face of this and his own testimony that he was advised by the court at his arraignment that the sentence



could be "up to life", Davis contends that he did not know the range of allowable punishments. He cites *Von Moltke v. Gillies*, (1947) 332 U.S. 708, which outlines the safeguards courts are to employ when dealing with waivers of counsel but does not negate the necessity of the petitioner proving his case.

Judge Nordbye's conclusion " \* \* \* that when Volney Davis entered his plea of guilty on June 3, 1935, he competently, intelligently and understandingly waived his constitutional rights to be represented by counsel under the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States with a full understanding of the implications thereof" is consequently supported amply in the record and must be sustained by this court. Likewise, Davis' claim that he was led to believe that he would be given a term of years if he entered a plea of guilty is not sustained and there is ample evidence to justify the conclusion of the trial court that Davis knew he could receive up to a life sentence and that he actually expected that the sentence would be for life.

There remains in the case only the question of whether or not Davis waived his right to counsel at the time of sentencing, June 7, 1935. A defendant is entitled to be represented by counsel at any stage of the criminal proceedings against him, including the occasion upon which he is sentenced. Counsel may be of great benefit to a defendant at the time of sentencing, particularly through pointing out to the sentencing court extenuating circumstances which might justify a lesser sentence than would otherwise be imposed or assisting the defendant in other ways. Testifying with reference to what occurred on June 7, 1935, the date of sentence, Judge Joyce, in answer to the question as to whether or not the defendant had a

lawyer, replied, "No, he did not have a lawyer. He said he didn't want one so *I took that as definite.*" (Emphasis supplied.) Judge Nordbye, in his opinion, does not make specific reference to the situation as of June 7, 1935, but by his finding regarding the knowledge of right to and waiver of counsel as of June 3rd and the denial of Davis' petition, it is obvious that he inferred an overall waiver of consent by Davis with reference to all subsequent proceedings. We think that conclusion is justified. Further, Davis failed utterly in carrying the burden of proving that there had not been a waiver. We have here an experienced criminal under sentence by another court to life imprisonment for first-degree murder, indicating at the time of his arraignment knowledge of his rights and his desire to waive them and to get it over by a plea of guilty. If that waiver was made competently, intelligently and with a full understanding of his rights, we can see no reason why the court at each subsequent proceedings should go through the mere ceremony of again inquiring if the defendant knew his rights and was then again willing to waive them.

The evidence discloses and Judge Nordbye has found that on June 3, 1935, Davis was apprised of his constitutional rights and competently, intelligently and understandingly waived such rights. It would be straining human credulity to say that he did not possess the same knowledge and intelligence four days later on June 7th. The sentencing of Davis on June 7th was but an extension of the arraignment proceedings. It could have followed immediately and no question could have been raised as to its propriety. Undoubtedly the trial judge, in deferring sentence until June 7th, did so in order that he could receive a pre-sentence report from the probation officer. The fact that the sentencing took place four days after the arraignment could create a need for further inquiry only if

something transpired in the interim which justified such further inquiry, such as a request by Davis for counsel and advice when he appeared for sentencing. Davis made no request and made no statement, and accordingly Judge Joyce was entirely justified in taking his prior refusal of counsel as "definite". There was indeed an implied waiver of counsel as to any proceedings subsequent to June 3, 1935. If this were not true, it would mean that in all criminal proceedings where the defendant competently waived the right to counsel and nothing happened in the meantime, such as an unreasonable lapse of time, newly discovered evidence which might require or justify advice of counsel, new charges brought, a request from the defendant, or similar circumstances, he would nevertheless have to be interrogated in the same fashion on each subsequent step therein. That would be neither good law nor good sense.

We accordingly conclude that the trial court was correct in holding that Davis failed to sustain the burden of proof and that there was ample evidence to justify the court's conclusion that Davis competently, intelligently and understandingly waived his constitutional right to counsel and that he was not led to believe that he would be given a term of years if he entered a plea of guilty.

This court is indebted to counsel who represented the petitioner in the district court and to counsel who represented the petitioner on the appeal here for their services which were, of course, without fee.

The order appealed from is affirmed.

A true copy.

Attest:

*Clerk, U. S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit.*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen *for*

DATE: 1-3-56

FROM : F. L. Price *FLP*TIME OF CALLS: 4:30 p.m., 12-30-55  
9:40 a.m., 1-3-56SUBJECT: .45 CALIBER THOMPSON SUBMACHINE GUN,  
SERIAL NO. 5096;  
NATIONAL STOLEN PROPERTY FILE

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Nichols	_____
Belmont	_____
Harbo	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Sizoo	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

Mr. Oscar Neal, Chief, Firearms Section,  
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division, Internal Revenue Service,  
Telephone Code 165, Extension 2500, called to request check  
of captioned weapon in National Stolen Property File.

Mr. Murphy, Service Unit, made the requested check  
and advised there was a prior record for the serial number  
in Bureau file 7-576, serial 13679.

Review of that serial reflected that information  
concerning the sale of submachine guns was obtained by  
Bureau in connection with a kidnaping investigation and that  
among the guns was one bearing the serial number 5096 sold,  
together with four others, to E. J. Mattlitz, New Orleans,  
Louisiana, 11-19-27.

Upon call back, Mr. Neal was advised that Bureau  
files reflected the sale of the weapon originally to  
Mattlitz in 1927. At the same time, Mr. Neal advised that a  
.45 caliber Thompson submachine gun, Model 1921, was  
registered with Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division, 11-2-34,  
by Security Loan Office, 134 South Rampart Street,  
New Orleans. He further advised that the current inquiry  
originated from a request for a record check by his  
New Orleans Office.

ACTION:

None. For information.

RECORDED - 22

8 JAN 4 1956

INDEXED - 22

EX-126

FILE REVIEW

JPJM:ekds  
(2)*JPJM*

64 JAN 13 1956

PREVIOUS RECORD OF 7-576-13679  
IN  
Added to E. J. Mattlitz in file from 7-576-13679

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: January 17, 1956

FROM : Mr. A. Jones

SUBJECT: MRS. VADA HOWARD  
(MRS. VADA NYBERG,  
MRS. WARREN W. HOWARD)  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Tolson ☒  
Boardman ☒  
Nichols ☒  
Belmont ☒  
Harbo ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Parsons ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Tamm ☒  
 Sizoo ☒  
Winterrowd ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Holloman ☒  
Gandy ☒

By referral from the Director's office in the afternoon of January 16, 1956, SA Heim of the Crime Records Section interviewed Mrs. Vada Howard, 112 South Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia. Mrs. Howard threatened dire action unless she was immediately given the reward money she claimed for giving the Bureau information leading directly to the apprehension of Alvin Karpis on May 1, 1936, New Orleans, Louisiana. During the interview, Mrs. Howard, a middle-aged woman, was very distraught and at times hysterical in her statements. She exhibited a letter from Mr. George Burton, SAC of our Houston Office, dated in October, 1954, in which she was advised that she had been told in an interview at the Bureau Headquarters on June 30, 1939, that we could be of no assistance to her and that our position in this matter was final and unalterable. She screamed that she had never been at the Bureau Headquarters in 1939 or any other time and that the FBI owed her the money and she was determined that she was going to have it.

Mrs. Howard asked that the facts of the case be checked. She said she would be in Washington for a day and would again contact the Bureau. Upon departure she made many incoherent statements concerning her claim, the inability of Mr. Burton, the Bureau and Mr. Hoover to recognize the facts and hoped that the Bureau would see it her way.

Bureau file 7-576-15105X1 reflects that Mrs. Howard, then Mrs. Nyberg, was interviewed on June 30, 1939, at the Bureau by Mr. Balch who was aware of the details of her case at the time of interview. In December, 1935, Mrs. Nyberg did recognize Karpis in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and a few days later notified Chief of Police Joseph Wakelin and allegedly offered information concerning Karpis if Wakelin would divide the reward with her. Chief Wakelin knew about Karpis' whereabouts and laughed at Mrs. Nyberg. Subsequently, Karpis was apprehended in New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 1, 1936, by the Director and FBI Agents. Mrs. Nyberg was not interviewed by Bureau Agents until May, 1938, in connection with the case of harboring Karpis at Hot Springs. Subsequently she did testify as a Government witness at the time of the prosecution of Chief of Police

cc - Mr. Holloman

LJH:rcw  
(4)RECORDED - 54  
INDEXED - 547-576-15105X1  
13 JAN 24 1956

EX - 121

LJH.

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

January 17, 1956

67c  
Wakelin. These facts were presented to Mrs. Nyberg by Mr. Balch, and it was pointed out that, of course, her information had nothing whatever to do with Karpis' actual apprehension. It was explained to her that her information and testimony pertained to the prosecution and harboring of Karpis and that no reward whatever had been offered in this connection. Although disappointed, Mrs. Nyberg was reconciled to the facts given by Mr. Balch. Bureau files reflect that on October 21, 1938, Hot Springs, Arkansas, police officers not involved in the harboring case advised the Bureau that Mrs. Nyberg had reputation as a "shakedown artist" [REDACTED]

In September, 1954, Mrs. Howard (formerly Mrs. Nyberg), in communication with the Houston Office, again claimed the Karpis reward. At this time the Bureau advised SAC Burton at Houston of the facts in the case and told him to refresh her memory regarding the explanation given her at the Bureau in June, 1939, and that this was the Bureau's final and unalterable position and that we could be of no assistance to her in the matter. (7-576-15400)

In telephonic contact with Mrs. Howard in the morning of January 17, 1956, SA Heim reiterated the Bureau's position. Mrs. Howard became enraged and began shouting that she was still convinced she deserved the reward.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

*my*

1-18-56  
SA Heim

F B I

Date: May 1, 1956

Transmit the following message via AIRTELAIR MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)

To: DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

VOLNEY DAVIS, WAS., ETAL  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPING -

Re St. Louis airtel to Bureau dated 11-7-55.

On 4-30-56, ALEX DIM, Assistant U.S. Attorney, St. Paul, Minn., advised that on 4-23-56, the U.S. Supreme Court denied VOLNEY DAVIS writ of certiorari. CLOSED.

HOWARD

END

3-Bureau  
1-St. Louis (7-43)(AM)(Info.)  
1-Minneapolis  
SF:MAT  
(5)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED - 83

7-576-  
25 MAY 3 1956

EX-108

MAY 3 5 11 PM '56  
INVESTIGATIVE DIV.  
REC'D - FBI

MAY 3 15 21 PM '56

INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION  
RECEIVED  
MAY 3 1956Approved: 1157

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

MAY 8 1956

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

MAY 2, 1956

TELETYPE

DEFERRED

RECORDED - 15

EX-109

7-576-15423

SAC, DETROIT

ALVIN KARPIS, WAS., ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMMER DASH  
VICTIM, KIDNAPING. TELEGRAM DATED MAY ONE LAST RECEIVED  
FROM DE PD REQUESTING INFORMATION AS TO WHETHER JOSEPH  
P. MORAN, FORMER I.O. NUMBER ONE/THREE TWO, WANTED.

A.O. NUMBER ONE TWO SEVEN NINE DATED SEPTEMBER SEVEN,  
FORTY NINE, CANCELLED I.O. INASMUCH AS PROCESS WAS  
DISMISSED AT ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA, ON JULY TWENTY TWO,  
FORTY NINE. ADVISE DE PD IMMEDIATELY RE DISMISSAL OF  
PROCESS, AT SAME TIME OBTAIN ANY PERTINENT DATA RE MORAN  
AND FURNISH SAME TO BUREAU AND MP.

HOOVER

CC - 1 - MINNEAPOLIS (AMSD)

7-576

NOTE FOR SAC, MINNEAPOLIS:

Review your file for purpose of determining  
whether advisable to interview Moran in the event pertinent  
data developed as to his whereabouts.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 2 1956

TELETYPE

MAY 14 1956

COPIES DESTROYED

MAR 26 1965

1-120 (1-5-56)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

5-2, 1956

IDENTIFICATION

Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. Anderson  
Mr. Engert  
Mr. Harris  
Mr. O'Connell  
Mr. Creighton  
Mr. Barnes  
Mr. Blase  
Mrs. Colliflower  
Miss Dawson  
Mr. Deiss  
Mr. Granger  
Miss LaMedico  
Mr. Masters  
Mrs. McNeely  
Mr. Nolan  
Mr. Norton  
Mr. Page  
Miss Phillips  
Mr. Ritz  
Mr. Row

Mrs. Stotler  
Miss Oakes  
Mrs. Poland  
Miss Hines  
Photo Lab

BUREAU

Director  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mason  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Miss Gandy  
Mr. Holloman  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Renneberger  
Mr. M. A. Jones  
Chief Clerk's Office  
Personnel Files  
Teletype

Please see me  
Please phone me  
Per Conversation  
For appropriate action  
For your information  
Please note and return  
Please file special

Mr. Hacy  
Room 5726

This was brought in by Metropolitan Police

Dept. Note IO case. Pls. handle.

L. Oakes  
C. L. TROTTER  
Room 4131 - Ext. 2222



17 K2849 FILE 13

PD DETROIT MICHIGAN

MAY 1-56

FBI WASHINGTON D C

ADVISE IF STILL WANTED JOSEPH P MORAN IDENTIFICATION ORDER NUMBER  
1232 DATED 3RE SEPT 1934 WANTED YOUR BUREAU

PD DETROIT MICH

GWD 140 PM

RP PGH 1650 EDST / ELWELL /

*Put in & Initiating  
on attached slip.*

RECORDED - 15

EX-109

MAY 8 1956

*Tel Detroit  
cc Minneapolis  
1438.*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

5/3/56

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

AIR TEL

FROM: SAC, Detroit (7-25)

TO: Director, FBI

ALVIN KARPIS, was., et al - EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPING

REurtel, 5/2/56.

Inspector DWYER, Identification Bureau, Detroit PD, is reviewing his records for stop notices. He merely desired to determine if stop notice should be continued on JOSEPH P. MORAN, ID. 1232. Detroit PD advised of cancellation.

BROWN

3 - Bureau (AM)  
1 - Detroit

JEI:SMC  
(4)

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Tamm

cc: Mr. Tamm

SE-5

7-576-15424

7 MAY 7 1956

RECORDED-11

EX-120

AIRTEL

7380  
MAY 15 1956

Approved: CWB  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

6-1

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mason	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

6- [Signature]

Airtel

Transmit the following Teletype message to: Director, FBI

FBI, Minneapolis (7-30)

5/14/56

Director, FBI (7-576)

ALVIN KARPIS, was., ETAL;  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPING

Re Bureau teletype dated 5/2/56 to Detroit regarding  
JOSEPH P. MORAN.

Instant file reflects MORAN is presumed to be  
dead and instant file, which contains 72 volumes, will not be  
reviewed unless the Detroit Office obtains information indicating  
MORAN is alive.

Detroit should expedite results of inquiry made  
at Detroit Police Department.

HOWARD

3 - Bureau (AM)  
2 - Detroit (AM)  
1 - Minneapolis  
RNP:smb  
(6)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED - 94

EX-108

74

12 576-15425

547  
55 MAY 23 1956  
Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mason  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

airtel  
Transmit the following ~~teletype~~ message to:

SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)

5/21/56

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

ALVIN KARPIS, was., ETAL;  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPING

Re Minneapolis airtel 5/14/56 regarding JOSEPH P.  
MORAN.

In view of information appearing in Detroit airtel  
to Bureau dated 5/3/56, and Detroit airtel to Minneapolis  
dated 5/15/56, instant case is being again closed.

CLOSED.

HOWARD

③ Bureau (AM)  
1 Minneapolis

RNP:deb  
(4)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED - 122

7-576-15426

25 MAY 22 1956

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

18 MAY 25 1956

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

FROM : SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)

SUBJECT: LEONARD J. HANKINS  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: October 30, 1956

There has been considerable correspondence concerning captioned individual exchanged between the Louisville and Minneapolis Divisions of the Bureau.

On 10-15-56, HANKINS appeared at the Minneapolis Division where he was interviewed at his request. He stated at the beginning, "We have a lot to talk about" and indicated he had information of value to the FBI. His conversation, however, was pointless and proceeded in disconnected manner over a variety of references to individuals in the Twin Cities, some of whom are connected apparently with his project to publish a book, to persons presently in the Minnesota State Prison, and to notorious characters of the early thirties with whom he had had acquaintance and association. HANKINS made vague and sweeping allegations of criminal conspiracy against CHARLES A. WARD, head of the Brown and Bigelow Company, St. Paul, Minn. but could or would not be specific when asked exactly what he knew, or suspected, were WARD's objectives, associates and methods in the alleged conspiracy. It became apparent that HANKINS was referring in almost the entire portion of his conversation to persons and activities he was familiar with prior to his conviction and imprisonment in 1932 and with which he became acquainted during his subsequent nineteen years of imprisonment.

A review of memo from Minneapolis Division to Bureau dated 9-12-44, captioned "BREKID" reflects that information in possession of HANKINS was quite fully obtained in an interview on 9-6-44.

In view of the above, the interview was not prolonged and no effort was made to seek further contacts with HANKINS. He advised he would probably be in the Twin Cities for another week or ten days before returning to Kentucky and while here was residing at the Ryan Hotel in St. Paul.  
RUC.

2-Bureau  
1-Louisville (137-71)  
2-Minneapolis (cc: 73-107 - WARD)  
ACS:MAT  
(5)

INDEXED - 14  
RECORDED - 14

NOV 3 1956

67 NOV 8 1956

8/3/56

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

LOUISVILLE (137-71)

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

LEONARD J. HANKINS  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re airtel 7/18/56 Minneapolis to Bureau. 63-3044-3

After several unsuccessful attempts, HANKINS was located near Dawson Springs, Ky. on 7/31/56. He advised that robbery occurring 7/15/56 had no connection with Minneapolis situation and was perpetrated by local boys, all of whom were known to him, one being a cousin. HANKINS stated he has leased his place of business near Dawson Springs and will vacate about 8/10/56. He intends to proceed with his wife to Minneapolis, arriving there on or about 8/15/56. He stated firm intention to appear at Minneapolis Office on or about above date, where he will furnish previously mentioned information. HANKINS prefers to handle in this manner and assured agent he will appear as noted; previous appearance cancelled in view of business pressure requiring his return to Dawson Springs before anticipated.

GEARTY  
END

3-Bureau (7-576)  
2-Minneapolis (7-30)  
1-Louisville (137-71)  
ASW:fm  
(6)

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

AUG 3 2 10 PM '56

RECEIVED

RECEIVED  
AUG 10 1956  
FBI - MINNAPOLIS

NOT RECORDED  
194 AUG 17 1956

63 AUG 22 1956

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: November 28, 1956

FROM : M. A. Jones

Barker-Karpis Gang

SUBJECT:

There are attached excerpts concerning the above-captioned case taken from "The FBI Story, A Report to the People," by Don Whitehead published by Random House, 1956. These excerpts are from page(s) 107-109, 335 of the book.

The full text of the book may be found in the FBI Library.

Enclosure

ENCLOSURE

7-576-✓  
NOT RECORDED

MAR 11 1957

66 MAY 12 1957

ORIGINAL FILED

Behind Hoover's bitter assaults on lax and corrupt law enforcement was his knowledge of gang operations, such as those of the notorious Barker-Karpis gang, whose members killed ten persons, wounded four and obtained almost \$1,000,000 in cash, securities and other property from 1931 to 1936. The worst members of this gang were paroled

*Excerpt from page 107 of  
"The FBI Story, A Report  
to the People" by Don Whitehead*

7-576-✓



convicts and often the criminals of this gang and others found protection in cities where the police conveniently failed to recognize the faces of hunted men even when their photographs and wanted notices were posted at police headquarters.

In the parade of criminals, Alvin Karpis in time was labeled "Public Enemy Number 1"—wanted for the \$100,000 extortion-kidnaping of William Hamm, Jr., of St. Paul, Minnesota, and on local charges of murder. He was known in the underworld as "Old Creepy." Hoover frequently referred to Karpis as a "rat," and finally this sneering barb riled Karpis. He sent word to Hoover that he intended to kill him just as FBI agents had killed Kate ("Ma") Barker and her son, Fred, in a 1935 machine-gun-and-rifle duel in Florida.<sup>8</sup>

Hoover issued instructions that when agents received any information on Karpis' whereabouts, he was to be notified so that he might take charge of the case. FBI agents mentally tagged Karpis as "the Boss's man."

Hoover thought his chance had come in March, 1936. He received word in New York that Karpis was hiding somewhere in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Hoover flew by special plane into Washington, where a squad of agents joined him at the airport. So many agents at Headquarters wanted to go along that Hoover finally had to order some of them back to their jobs. Hoover and his men waited in the plane at the airport for further word from Hot Springs. But the disappointing report came that Karpis had escaped—apparently tipped by local police that the G-Men were closing in.

Had Karpis been captured by Hoover in March, the FBI Director would have been spared at least part of the much-publicized grilling in April by Senator K. D. McKellar of Tennessee in a hearing before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee.

McKellar questioned Hoover about his background and experience in the field of criminal investigations, and then placed emphasis on the fact that the Director had not himself made an arrest. The question was much the same as asking a commanding general why he wasn't down in a foxhole with a rifle rather than being at his command post.

The implications by the Senator were plain enough: the Director of the FBI wasn't much as a crime hunter because he'd never actually made an arrest.<sup>9</sup>

Hoover held his temper, although his face was flushed with anger. He said nothing to McKellar about the near arrest of Karpis the month before or the orders which had been given that he was to make the arrest. Hoover felt that his personal courage had been questioned publicly, with the implied accusation that he was asking his men to face dangers he would not face himself.

*Page 108 of "The FBI Story,  
A Report to the People" by  
Don Whitehead*

Hoover was in New York on the afternoon of April 30, when he received word that Karpis had been trailed from Hot Springs, Arkansas, to Corpus Christi, Texas, and then to New Orleans, where he was reported living in an apartment house on Canal Street. He flew to New Orleans with a squad of special agents. The local police weren't notified. No chances were taken on a "leak" flushing Karpis into flight.

As Hoover and his men approached the apartment building by automobile, Karpis and a companion unexpectedly walked out the door. For a few tense seconds the FBI cars were blocked by a man riding a white horse up the street, then the horse moved out of the way. Karpis climbed into his automobile. Hoover ran to the left side of the car and Assistant Director Earl Connelley to the right side. Hoover reached into the car and grabbed Karpis before he could reach for a rifle on the back seat.

"Put the handcuffs on him," Hoover ordered. But no one had remembered to bring handcuffs. An agent pulled off his necktie and tied Karpis' hands behind him. "Old Creepy," all the bravado gone and ashen with fear, was put aboard a special plane to be flown to St. Paul, Minnesota, to stand trial for the Hamm kidnaping.

The plane had been air-borne only a short time when Hoover noticed that Karpis' face was white.

"What's the matter? Are you airsick?" Hoover asked.

"Go ahead and do it!" Karpis blurted. "Get it over with."

"What are you talking about?"

Karpis looked at Hoover wildly. "I know what you're going to do. You guys are going to throw me out of this plane and then say it was an accident."

"Don't be a fool," Hoover snapped. "We don't do things like that. You're going to St. Paul and stand trial. Nobody's going to hurt you while you're with us."

Karpis had recognized Hoover when he first saw him.

"How did you know who I was?" Hoover asked.

Karpis replied: "I saw a picture of you after you caught a sail fish. Your luck is better than mine. I've been trying to catch one for three years."

It was a rough flight. When the plane stopped at Kansas City to refuel, the passengers got sandwiches and copies of the morning papers. One headline said: "Karpis Robs Bank in Michigan." Karpis laughed. "This is one time I've got a perfect alibi."

Karpis was given a life sentence for the Hamm kidnaping.

Thus the boss of the G-Men made his first arrest. Then he followed it up with others equally spectacular.

*Excerpt from page 109 of  
"The FBI Story, A Report to the  
People" by Don Whitehead*

<sup>8</sup> "Ma" Barker, born in Missouri Ozark country, raised her four sons to become criminals. She taught them marksmanship by setting tin cans on fence posts and encouraging target practice. She dominated their every move, becoming the "brains" of the gang. She and Fred died in the 1935 battle with FBI agents; Arthur, sentenced to a life term after his capture by the FBI in Chicago, was killed in 1939 while trying to escape from Alcatraz; Herman, the eldest, committed suicide in 1927 rather than submit to arrest on murder charges; Lloyd was prevented from becoming a member of the gang because he had been sent to Leavenworth Penitentiary in 1932 on a twenty-five-year mail robbery sentence. After his release from prison, he was employed as the assistant manager of a grill in Colorado. He was killed by his wife in 1949.

*Excerpt from page 335 of  
"The FBI Story, A Report  
to the People" by Don Whitehead*

November 1, 1957

Airtel

SAC, Minneapolis (7-30)

BREKID

Your attention is directed to the report of SA Sigurd Flaata, at Minneapolis, dated 2/12/54, captioned, "Alvin Karpis, was (Deceased); Arthur R. Barker, was (Deceased); Volney Davis, was; Et Al; Edward George Bremmer - Victim Kidnaping." You will note that quoted title reflects Alvin Karpis as being deceased, which statement is incorrect. You should obtain the explanations of SA Flaata concerning this error and submit them with your recommendations to the Bureau promptly. *J*

HOOVER

7-576

JRB:mm  
(4)

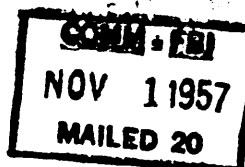
EX-116

RECORDED-84

23 NOV 4 1957

NOTE:

Referenced report was prepared in connection with a petition filed by Volney Davis for release on habeas corpus and report deals entirely with this matter and does not concern Karpis. Numerous other reports and communications in file between 2/18/54 and 3/9/54 make reference to report of SA Flaata and carry Karpis as deceased in the title. SA Flaata assigned as Alternate Senior Resident Agent, St. Paul, Minnesota.



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: November 7, 1957

FROM : G. A. NEASE

SUBJECT: "WIDE, WIDE WORLD"  
NBC PRODUCTION  
DECEMBER 22, 1957

Tolson ☒  
Boardman ☒  
Belmont ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Nease ☒  
Parsons ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Tamm ☒  
Trotter ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Holloman ☒  
Gandy ☒

Ted Rogers, NBC producer, called Mr. DeLoach from Jim Bennett's office at 10:50 A.M. this morning. Rogers stated that he has been successful in selling the "Karpis Story" to Bennett. Rogers talked with Warden McInerney of Alcatraz last night and McInerney will arrange for the tape recording with Karpis. Rogers stated there is now a complete meeting of the minds regarding this matter. He specifically requested certain further information regarding the Karpis case and we are getting this ready for him. This will be turned over to Rogers at the graduation exercises tomorrow morning, 11-8-57.

Rogers and Azine are leaving immediately following the graduation exercises tomorrow for San Francisco where they will take shots of Alcatraz. They will return to Washington on November 15, at which time they desire to tour the FBI Academy and the ranges at Quantico. The Identification Division will also be included in the day's tour. Messrs. Kemper and DeLoach will handle this matter. On November 22, 1957, Rogers and Azine will return to Washington for a ten-day stay, at which time the script will be written.

ACTION:

We will continue to insist upon complete control and approval of this entire matter.

cc-Mr. Tamm  
cc-Mr. Jones  
cc-Mr. Kemper  
cc-Mr. Murphy  
cc-Mr. [unclear]

52 NOV 18 1957

1 - NOV 14 1957  
NOT RECORDED  
76 NOV 15 1957

CRIME REC.

ORIGINAL FILED IN

SAC, Minneapolis (7-30)

November 18, 1957

Director, FBI (7-576)

*en*  
**BREKID**

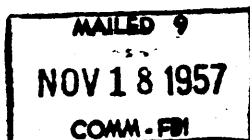
Re Minneapolis airtel 11/4/57.

If such action has not already been taken, advise the U. S. Attorney, St. Paul, Minnesota, by letter of necessary correction in title of reports in this case furnished to that office. Sulet when action taken. Reairtel did not include Washington Field in offices notified of necessary correction. Washington Field correct report of SA Thomas J. Jenkins, dated 2/25/54, and Washington Field letter same date, which referred to Minneapolis letter 2/19/54, to delete the word "deceased" following the name of Alvin Karpis in title of rerep. Any other serials in Washington Field file carrying this designation after Karpis' name should be corrected.

2 - Washington Field (7-63)

JRB:jlp  
(6) *jlp*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



*REK* *E*

RECORDED-18

EX-132

7-576-15429

22 NOV 19 1957

75 NOV 21 1957

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 11/25/57

TO : Director, FBI (7-576)

FROM : SAC, Minneapolis (7-30)

SUBJECT: BREKID

ReBulet 11/18/57.

The United States Attorney at St. Paul, Minnesota, has been advised of the necessary corrections in titles of the reports submitted to him in this case by letter dated November 25, 1957.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Minneapolis  
JEM:RSK  
(3)

RECORDED-87

EX-13T

2 NOV 27 1957

70 DEC 2 1957

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clayton \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

AIRTEL  
Transmit the following Teletype message to: 11/4/57

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)  
FROM: SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)  
RE: BREKID

ReBuairtel 11/1/57.

There is attached a memorandum of explanation prepared by SA SIGURD FLAATA concerning the title outlined in the report of that agent dated 2/12/54 captioned "ALVIN KARPIS, was (deceased); ARTHUR R. BARKER, was, (deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS, was; ETAL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM - KIDNAPING".

I have examined the file in this case, and it appears that the error attributed to SA FLAATA in rerep was not repeated in subsequent communications prepared by him in this matter. Specifically, it is noted that his report of 2/12/54 indicated that KARPIS was deceased, whereas a report prepared by him on 2/25/54 did not so reflect.

A copy of this communication is being directed to the offices receiving copies of SA FLAATA's report with the suggestion that the "deceased" be removed from the title.

Subsequent communications from Denver reflect that the "deceased" appears in the title of the report. Therefore, a copy is also being designated for Denver.

It is suggested that the above be considered an error of form. Appropriate notations will be made in the error folder of SA FLAATA to be considered in his over-all performance report. No further administrative action is being recommended.

3 ENCLOSURE  
3 - Bureau  
1 - Denver  
1 - Chicago  
1 - Cincinnati  
1 - Kansas City  
1 - Miami  
1 - New York  
1 - Minneapolis  
1 - Omaha  
1 - Philadelphia  
1 - St. Louis  
1 - San Antonio  
1 - San Diego  
1 - San Francisco  
1 - Savannah  
1 - Minneapolis

Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent [Signature] Per [Signature]

68 NOV 10 1957

18 NOV 6 1957



*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: 11/4/57

FROM : SA SIGURD FLAATA

SUBJECT: BREKID

ReBuairtel 11/1/57, and referenced report of SA SIGURD FLAATA at Minneapolis dated 2/12/54 captioned "ALVIN KARPIS, was (deceased); ARTHUR R. BARKER, WAS, (deceased); VOLNEY DAVIS, was; ETAL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM - KIDNAPING."

It is noted that the title of referenced report inadvertently carries ALVIN KARPIS as being deceased. A review of the Minneapolis file reflects that subsequent reports and communications prepared by me on 2/25/54, 4/23/54, 5/10/54 and 5/21/54 do not so reflect.

SF:RSK  
(4)  
7-30

7-576-15431

CLOSURE

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: February 13, 1958

FROM : G. A. NEASE

SUBJECT: KIDNAPING OF EDWARD GEORGE BREMER  
JANUARY 17, 1934  
CASSIUS MC DONALD  
(Bufile 7-576)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clayton \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Don O'Connor, Washington representative of the Detroit Times who is very friendly with the Bureau (National 8-3914), telephoned this morning with reference to above-captioned case. He wanted to know whether the \$200,000 paid as ransom had all been recovered, whether we obtained the serial numbers at the time, and do we currently have a listing of such numbers.

Bremer was kidnaped the morning of January 17, 1934, from a St. Paul, Minnesota, street. The evening of February 6, 1934, \$200,000 in ransom money made up in five and ten dollar bills, was paid by Walter Magee, a friend of the family. Bremer was released about 8:00 PM, February 7, 1934, at Rochester, Minnesota. On February 9, 1934, we began distribution of the printed list containing the serial numbers of all the currency comprising the ransom. First identifiable ransom money turned up on April 23, 1934, at the Uptown State Bank in Chicago, Illinois. In September, 1934, it was known the kidnaping gang still possessed approximately \$100,000 of the original ransom money. William Harrison and Harry Sawyer were designated by the mob to exchange it. They started negotiations with Cassius McDonald, then 55, who for 25 years had been engaged in gambling activities in Chicago, Detroit and Havana. He maintained a residence at Trombley Road and Lake St. Clair, Detroit, Michigan. He owned considerable gambling interests in Havana. Our investigation disclosed that on September 5, 1934, he went to Cuba, contacted a brokerage firm stating he had a quantity of small denomination American bills with which he desired to purchase Cuban gold. He introduced himself as Mr. O'Brien when exchanging \$18,000 of the ransom money for \$14,000 in Cuban gold exchange which he later exchanged for 14 \$1,000 bills. (These bills were later identified as those in the cottage occupied by Fred and Ma Barker who were shot and killed at Lake Weir, Oklawaha, Florida, January 16, 1935, by Special Agents of this Bureau.) On September 10, 1934, McDonald exchanged

cc - Mr. Boardman

cc - Mr. Rosen

cc - Mr. Jones

REW:ejp  
(5)

FEB 61

16 FEB 21 1958

52 FEB 24 1958

7-576-15432

7-576

Bremer Kid

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson:

\$72,000 in ransom money for larger bills through the brokerage firm operating through the Chase National Bank in Havana.

RECENT DEVELOPMENT:

I had Wick call O'Connor this afternoon after we obtained the specific facts above to advise him that we had no information that all \$200,000 of the Bremer ransom money had been recovered. O'Connor asked if he could obtain a list of the ransom money and Wick told him this would not be possible but that we would be very glad to check any bills against the list.

O'Connor then leveled with Wick and said that his paper had a story, not yet printed, relating to a large cache of money either in possession of or traceable to Cassius McDonald of Detroit. He asked again for the list and Wick told him that it would be quite a job to reproduce this for him but suggested that we would be willing certainly to check against our list any serial numbers in the possession of the Detroit Times believed identical with the Bremer ransom money. O'Connor said he would call his paper and determine what to do. O'Connor called Wick a few minutes later at 2:30 PM advising that he had talked via long distance telephone with Mr. Jim Trainor, City Editor of the Detroit Times, who suggested that the FBI might send an Agent over to see him to discuss the story and tell us what this is all about. O'Connor said the Detroit Times would do this provided the FBI would promise the Times an "exclusive" on the story. Wick told O'Connor that this would not be necessary for the reason that the Detroit Times apparently already had the story and that certainly we would respect any confidence imposed upon us.

The serial listing of the ransom bills is contained in Bureau file 7-576-193 and is being sent to Mr. Wick's office. (attached)

COURT ACTION AGAINST MC DONALD:

William Weaver, Harry Sawyer and Cassius McDonald were tried in Federal Court at St. Paul, Minnesota, beginning January 6, 1936. McDonald claimed he did not know the money exchanged was ransom money. On January 24, 1936, a verdict of guilty was returned as to all three defendants. On February 1, 1936, McDonald was sentenced to serve 15 years. On June 6, 1940, McDonald

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson:

was released on a habeas corpus writ from prison. On June 12, 1941, the U. S. Court of Appeals reversed the lower court in releasing McDonald on the writ. McDonald petitioned for a writ of Certiorari and this was denied by the Supreme Court October 13, 1941. McDonald re-entered Leavenworth Penitentiary October 30, 1941.

*we should find out when he was released*

RECOMMENDATION:

That we telephone the Detroit Office giving SAC Brown sufficient background so that he may intelligently interview Trainor to determine what this is all about. If a cache of money is located, SAC Brown can easily contact us regarding further action to be taken and comparison of serial numbers with the ransom list.

*John J. Thompson*

*Number from to the Bureau  
7/11/58 - AR:1/14.*

Office Memorandum

• UNIT

GOVERNMENT

DATE: November 12, 1957

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : G. A. Nease

SUBJECT: WIDE WIDE WORLD  
NBC PRODUCTION  
DECEMBER 22, 1957

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

On November 8, Kemper saw Ted Rogers and Howard Azine at the graduation exercises.

Rogers said that they got some excellent footage at the exercises and felt certain some of it could be used in our Wide Wide World production.

Rogers and Azine both said that the matter had been straightened out with Bennett and the two programs would be separate. They were on their way to San Francisco to see what they could get in the way of a film interview or a tape with Karpis.

Rogers had with him two of his production men who were Bob Daniels, NBC technical supervisor, and Bill Lynch, unit manager.

Kemper took Daniels and Lynch on a tour and showed them the physical setup of the building, including power outlets, freight elevators, etc.

Kemper told Lynch that we would like very much to have a list of the individuals who would be taking part in the program, particularly those who would be in the building over the week end of December 21, along with their birth date, if possible.

cc - Mr. Nease

cc - Mr. DeLoach

ECK:grs  
(6)

576-  
NOT REC.  
NOV 15 1957

NOV 14 1957

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

87

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen *Ry*

DATE: February 17, 1958

FROM : E. E. Hargett *EEH*SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, was., ET AL.  
EDWARD BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPING

Tolson	✓
Boardman	✓
Belmont	✓
Mohr	✓
Parsons	✓
Rosen	✓
Tamm	✓
Trotter	✓
Nease	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holloman	✓
Gandy	✓

At 12:30 p.m.\* I spoke to ASAC Ken Commons, Detroit, who advised that he had this morning interviewed Jim Trainor, editor of the "Detroit Times" with regard to the possible identification of currency in this case. Commons stated that Trainor advised him that he had received information from an attorney by the name of Ed Savidage of Detroit, who is representing a group of four women in litigation against the estate of Bernard. Savidage told a reporter of the "Times" that he had found out that Bernard had represented Cassius McDonald, now deceased, one of the subjects in this case, and in view of the large amount of cash in the estate of Bernard, he felt that possibly some of the money was from the Bremer kidnaping case. According to Trainor, Savidage pointed out that some of the money found in the estate of Bernard was the old-type large currency.

Trainor said that he was not going to publish anything on this story as he felt that it was principally an attempt by the attorney Savidage to bring pressure to bear on the benefactors under Bernard's estate in order that they might settle with his clients. Trainor said that he did not know the names of the women whom Savidage represented, but he knew that one was a widow, another Bernard's former housekeeper, and another his former secretary.

Trainor made available to Commons the information that the newspaper had printed concerning Bernard's death. The press clippings indicated that Bernard had died suddenly and was found at 5:00 a.m. in his hotel room at the Hotel Shelby by his brother, Bertram Bernard, and that Bertram had not reported his death until 11:00 a.m. and there were allegations that Bertram had taken some money estimated to be \$300,000 either from Bernard's room or from the hotel safe which was not reported in his estate. The clippings also indicated that in a wall safe in Bertram's office in downtown Detroit there was found \$550,000 in cash (not \$200,000 as previously reported) and \$325,000 in securities. Also various watches, rings, and jewelry which apparently Bernard had accepted in payment for fees as an attorney were found.

E EH:jh:nmc  
(5)

\* 2/14/58

REC-79

EX-135

65 FEB 24 1958

7-576

*c.e. Nease (Wick)**B**154*

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen  
ALVIN KARPIS, Was., Et Al.

The principal benefactors of the estate were Bertram Bernard and a Mrs. McKay, whom it was rumored was the daughter of Bernard.

Commons stated that he had attempted to get hold of the Judge who was handling the estate but he was out of town and could not be reached until next week. However, he was immediately proceeding to the court in an effort to determine if any of the cash is still intact and could be checked against the known bill numbers in the Bremer case. He said that it appeared that the cash would have been dissipated by this time. However, he would check to be sure what the situation was.

Detroit further advised by teletype the evening of February 14, 1958, that a search of the Wayne County Probate records regarding Edward M. Barnard revealed only an inventory of cash by amount and denomination with no information as to whether the money is still intact or was deposited to the credit of the estate. Probate Judge Joseph A. Murphy who is currently out of Detroit and will return on February 17, 1958, is handling this case and he will be contacted upon his return.

ACTION TAKEN:

ASAC Commons will advise us as soon as he has run this matter completely down.

ERH

R

Handwritten initials and marks: "R", "grow", "H2a", and a checkmark.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: February 14, 1958

FROM : E. E. Hansen

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, Was., ET AL.  
EDWARD BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPING

Tolson	_____
Nichols	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

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Trainor said that he was not going to publish anything on this story as he felt that it was principally an attempt by the attorney Savidage to bring pressure to bear on the benefactors under Bernard's estate in order that they might settle with his clients. Trainor said that he did not know the names of the women whom Savidage represented, but he knew that one was a widow, another Bernard's former housekeeper, and another his former secretary.

Trainor made available to Commons the information that the newspaper had printed concerning Bernard's death. The press clippings indicated that Bernard had died suddenly and was found at 5:00 A.M. in his hotel room at the Hotel Shelby by his brother, Bertram Bernard, and that Bertram had not reported his death until 11:00 A.M. and there were allegations that Bertram had taken some money estimated to be \$300,000 either from Bernard's room or from the hotel safe which was not reported in his estate. The clippings also indicated that in a wall safe in Bertram's office in downtown Detroit there was found \$550,000 in cash (not \$200,000 as previously reported) and \$325,000 in securities. Also various watches, rings, and jewelry which apparently Bernard had accepted in payment for fees as an attorney were found.

EEH:jh

(5)

62 FEB 25 1958

REC- 85

EX - 131

7 576

FEB 20 1958

7-576-1548  
h. gpt



Memorandum to Mr. Rosen  
ALVIN KARPIS, Was., Et Al.

The principal benefactors of the estate were Bertram Bernard and a Mrs. McKay, whom it was rumored was the daughter of Bernard.

Commons stated that he had attempted to get hold of the Judge who was handling the estate but he was out of town and could not be reached until next week. However, he was immediately proceeding to the court in an effort to determine if any of the cash is still in tact and could be checked against the known bill numbers in the Bremer case. He said that it appeared that the cash would have been dissipated by this time. However, he would check to be sure what the situation was.

ACTION TAKEN:

ASAC Commons will advise us as soon as he has run this matter completely down.

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

FEB 17 1958

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clayton\_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman\_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy\_\_\_\_\_

URGENT 2-17-58 3-59PM MAG

TO DIRECTOR FBI

FROM SAC DETROIT 1P

ALVIN KARPIS, WAS., ET AL., EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VIKID.

REMYTEL FOURTEENTH INSTANT. PROBATE JUDGE JOSEPH A. MURPHY

DETERMINED TO BE IN CALIFORNIA ON VACATION AND NOT EXPECTED

TO RETURN FOR THREE WEEKS. IT APPEARS BERTRAM BARNARD,

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., ADMINISTRATOR, OR VALOIS E. CROSSLEY,

DETROIT, ATTORNEY FOR ESTATE, ARE ONLY PERSONS WHO CAN

PROVIDE INFO AS TO WHETHER CURRENCY OF ESTATE STILL INTACT

AND AVAILABLE FOR EXAMINATION. DETROIT INDICES ON CROSSLEY

REFLECT HE WAS MEMBER DETROIT CHAPTER NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD

NINETEEN FORTYFIVE AND FORTYSIX. NO OTHER RECORD. BUREAU FEB 20 1958

REQUESTED TO ADVISE WHETHER CONTACT WITH ADMINISTRATOR OR

ATTORNEY DESIRED.

END

Mr. Rosen

WA 3-59 PM OK FBI WA DM

TU DISV

EX-135

REC-79

7-576 751

*Belk*  
*2-18-58*  
*File*

B

2/18/58

TELETYPE

PLAIN TEXT - DEFERRED

REC-79  
TO SAC, DETROIT

7-576-15434

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI

ALVIN KARPIS, WAS., ET AL., EDWARD GEORGE BREMER DASH VICTIM,  
KIDNAPING. REURTEL FEBRUARY SEVENTEEN, LAST. ENDEAVOR TO  
OBTAIN THROUGH FURTHER CHECK COURT RECORDS OR DISCREET CONTACT  
OUTSIDE SOURCES, POSSIBLY INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, DESIRED  
INFORMATION PENDING RETURN JUDGE MURPHY YOUR AREA.

EX-135

- Tolson
- Nichols
- Boardman
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- Nease
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

RHH:JEP  
(3)

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

Teletype Room  
COPIES DESTROYED

100 MAR 26 1965  
65 FEB 24 1958

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

FEB 18 1 03 PM '58

RECEIVED

FEB 19 1 03 PM '58

RECEIVED - ROYBDM

F151

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. BOARDMAN *MR*

DATE: 2/14/58

FROM : A. ROSEN *AR*SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, with aliases, et al.;  
EDWARD BREMER, Victim  
KIDNAPING

Tolson	
Nichols	
Boardman	
Belmont	
Mohr	
Parsons	
Rosen	
Tamm	
Trotter	
Nease	
Tele. Room	
Holloman	
Gandy	

Reference is made to the call which came into the Bureau yesterday from Donald O'Connor, Washington representative of the "Detroit Times." He indicated that they had information in Detroit which would be made available to us by the City Editor concerning a story which they were working on.

In accordance with arrangements made by O'Connor, I called our Detroit Office and instructed that Mr. Jim Trainer, City Editor of the "Detroit Times" should be interviewed immediately.

In the absence of the SAC who was out of the territory, ASAC Commons interviewed Trainer who was not able to complete his story. He had another meeting last night and we are to get the additional details today. He did, however, briefly state that his information is based on the death of attorney Edward M. Barnard of a heart attack last October 1957. Trainer said that Barnard had represented Cassius McDonald in the kidnaping case. On opening Barnard's safe after his death, cash amounting to approximately \$250,000 was found in addition to many items of jewelry. It is Trainer's belief, therefore, that although Barnard was a criminal lawyer with a fair degree of success, he had no outward appearance of wealth which would equal that found in the safe. Following this thought, he therefore believes that if the cash found in Barnard's safe was to be examined and checked against the money used in the ransom, there might possibly be some ransom which would turn up.

ASAC Commons said that the court had appointed an administrator to handle disbursement of Barnard's estate. It is not known at this time if the money allegedly in the safe is still intact now and the administrator may have already disbursed or otherwise converted the money or deposited it in a bank where, of course, it would be co-mingled with other money immediately.

cc Mr. Nease  
AR/rh  
(7)

REC-76

FEB 20 1958

58 FEB 25 1958

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman  
Re: ALVIN KARPIS, WAS, ET AL.  
EDWARD BREMER, VICTIM, KIDNAPING

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

Commons will advise us following the receipt of the complete information from Trainer and, of course, we will have to follow through with whatever logical leads may exist.

It is to be noted that our best estimate of the amount of money accounted for out of the \$200,000 which was paid as ransom is \$131,100. This amount was disposed of in 1934. It is made up of \$90,000 which McDonald converted in Havana, Cuba; \$20,000 which was given to Volney Davis and William Weaver; \$19,000 recovered from various subjects; and miscellaneous funds passed in Chicago banks.

It is reasonable to presume that the balance of some \$69,000 was spent by the gang for living expenses and so forth.

You will be advised of further developments.

*MB*

*7-1* *V*

2/21/58

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

DEFERRED

7-576-15437  
TO SAC DETROIT  
FROM DIRECTOR FBI  
ALVIN KARPIS, WAS., ET AL., EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, VIKID. REURTEL  
FEBRUARY TWENTY, LAST. THERE APPEARS NO OBJECTION TO IRS  
FURNISHING LIST OF SERIAL NUMBERS FOR CHECK AGAINST RANSOM LIST  
IF IT CAN BE HANDLED ON DISCREET BASIS. NO LIST MAINTAINED OF  
UNRECOVERED CURRENCY IN THIS CASE. BULET FEBRUARY EIGHT,  
ONE NINE THREE FOUR, FURNISHED RANSOM LIST. TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND  
DOLLARS PAID. ALL BILLS WERE FIVES AND TENS. IRS MAY BE ABLE  
TO CONFINE SEARCH TO SERIES FIVES AND TENS ISSUED PRIOR TO  
JANUARY SEVENTEEN, ONE NINE THREE FOUR.

EHH:jlp  
(3)

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

FEB 21 1958

COPIES DESTROYED  
MAR 26 1965

TELETYPE

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Teletype Room

MAIL ROOM ☐

INITIALED  
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

"Detroit Times" furnished information re death of Attorney Bernard, who represented Cassius McDonald, now deceased, one of subjects in this case. In view of large amount of cash in the estate of Bernard possibility exists some of money was Bremer ransom money. "Detroit Times" not going to publish anything on this story as Trainor, editor, felt it was an attempt by Attorney Ed Savidge to bring pressure to bear on the benefactors under Bernard's estate in order that they might settle with his clients. Detroit determined Internal Revenue Service that currency in Bernard estate still intact. Bernard died October, 1957. He left approximately one million dollars in cash and negotiable securities. Internal Revenue Service states money, according to their estimate, accumulated after 1938. Bremer kidnaped 1/17/34. There appears no objection to Internal Revenue Service obtaining list of currency serial numbers for comparison ransom list. No list of unrecovered currency available. Detroit being advised. Ransom paid was \$200,000 in fives and tens. Approximately \$131,000 accounted for. This amount was disposed of in 1934. \$90,000 was converted to "clean" money in Havana, Cuba.

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

FEB 20 1958

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. Clayton  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

URGENT 2-20-58 6-29 PM EST JH

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC DETROIT 1-P

ALVIN KARPIS, WAS., ET AL, EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, VIKID.

REBUTEL EIGHTEENTH INSTANT. ELMER F. SCHOENITH, SUPERVISOR  
(IRS)  
OF SENIOR FRAUD CASES, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, DETROIT,  
TODAY ADVISED CURRENCY OF BARNARD ESTATE STILL INTACT EXCEPT  
FOR SMALL AMOUNT USED TO PAY SOME EXPENSES. MONEY AND RECORDS  
OF DECEASED NOW UNDER EXAMINATION BY IRS IN EFFORT TO  
ESTABLISH POSSIBLE SOURCES AND DATES MONEY RECEIVED. SCHOENITH  
STATES BASED ON THEIR INVESTIGATION ALMOST ENTIRE AMOUNT OF  
CURRENCY ACCUMULATED AFTER NINETEEN THIRTYEIGHT. EXAMINATION  
BEING MADE AT SAFE DEPOSIT VAULT OF THE COMMONWEALTH BANK OF  
DETROIT WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF IRS AND ESTATE ALWAYS PRESENT.

SCHOENITH HAS AGREED TO PREPARE LIST BY SERIAL NOS. OF ALL  
CURRENCY ISSUED PRIOR TO NINETEEN THIRTYFIVE AND FURNISH TO  
THIS OFFICE. UACB HE WILL BE REQUESTED TO DO SO. BUREAU  
REQUESTED TO FURNISH LIST OF UNRECOVERED CURRENCY IN THIS  
CASE FOR COMPARISON WITH LIST WHICH SCHOENITH WILL PROVIDE.

DND ACK PLS.

6-31 PM OK FBI WA JG

TU DISC

Mr. Rosen

CC Rosen  
Super



*1-10-58 advised*

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

FEB 14 1958

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Boardman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Parsons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tamm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Clayton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Holloman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

URGENT 2-14-58 7-27 PM EST JH

TO DIRECTOR FBI

FROM SAC DETROIT 1-P

ALVIN KARPIS, WAS., ETAL, EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, VIKID. RE DE PHONE

CALL TO BUREAU THIS DATE. SEARCH OF WAYNE COUNTY PROBATE COURT RECORDS

IN MATTER OF EDWARD N. BARNARD, DECEASED, REFLECTS ONLY AN INVENTORY

OF CASH BY AMOUNT AND DENOMINATION WITH NO INFORMATION AS TO WHETHER

STILL IN TACT OR DEPOSITED TO CREDIT OF ESTATE. CASE BEING HANDLED BY

PROBATE JUDGE JOSEPH A. MURPHY WHO IS OUT OF CITY. WILL BE CONTACTED

UPON HIS RETURN AND BUREAU WILL BE FURTHER ADVISED ON

INSTANT.

END

7-576-15438  
7-576-15438  
7-576-15438

TU DISC **Mr. Rosen**

VICTIM-KIRWAN

FEB 19 1958

SEVENTEENTH

CC Sup

new  
Hoyt  
1/17/58  
2/1/58

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (7-576)

FROM : *905* SAC, Kansas City (7-37)

DATE: 3/3/58

SUBJECT: BREKID  
Cincinnati - Origin

On 2/27/58, Mr. CARL F. ZARTER, Record Clerk, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Ks., advised that ALVIN FRANCIS KARPIS, was, Alvin Karpanicz (TN), USP No. 49368-L, FBI No. 199217, was received at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Ks., on 2/27/58, on transfer from the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz.

A review of the file at the U. S. Penitentiary indicated that a stop had been placed by the FBI, San Francisco, to be notified in the event of any parole action on the part of KARPIS.

In view of this, ZARTER was requested to place a stop for the FBI Office, Kansas City, Mo., to be notified in the event of any transfer, parole, or change of status of KARPIS.

Kansas City will continue to follow this matter and promptly notify the Bureau of any change in the status of KARPIS at the Institution. *P\**

2 - Bureau (7-576)  
1 - Cincinnati (7-43)  
1 - Kansas City 7-37  
RAS/hmg  
(4)

*Antel CC 3/1/58 request  
information as to reason  
for transfer of Karpis  
EAB:JLP.*

REC-1

7-576-15437

MAR 5 1958

MAR 13 1958

"Detroit Times" furnished information re death of Attorney Bernard, who represented Cassius McDonald, now deceased, one of subjects in this case. In view of large amount of cash in the estate of Bernard possibility exists some of money was Bremer ransom money. "Detroit Times" not going to publish anything on this story. FBI Detroit determined at Internal Revenue Service that currency in Bernard estate still intact. Bernard died October, 1957. He left approximately one million dollars in cash and negotiable securities. Internal Revenue Service states money, according to their estimate, accumulated after 1938. Bremer kidnaped 1/17/34. Ransom paid was \$200,000 in fives and tens. Approximately \$131,100 accounted for. This amount was disposed of in 1934. \$90,000 was converted to "clean" money in Havana, Cuba. Arrangements made for IRS to examine money and record serial numbers of 5's and 10's.

F B I

Date: 2/27/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AMSD  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Mr. Holloman  
Mr. Gandy

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, DETROIT (7-25)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, was.; ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, VIKID

ReButel 2/21/58.

Internal Revenue Agent, Detroit, on 2/24/58, advised examination of money of estate of EDWARD N. BARNARD has been substantially completed. All \$5 and \$10 bills located total only about \$100 and on next meeting with estate representatives he will prepare a list of serial numbers of such currency. Bureau will be immediately advised.

③ - Bureau (AMSD)  
1 - Detroit

BTC:SLZ:ec

REC-5  
7-576

7-576-15440  
10 3-4  
FEB 28 1958

SENT DIRECTOR  
2-28-58

ce Rosen

76 MAR 7 1958

Approved: *awp*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

February 17, 1958

AIRTEL

To: SAC, Chicago

From: Director, FBI

MR. JOSEPH N. BELL, 215 SOUTH SIXTH AVENUE,  
LA GRANGE, ILLINOIS, RESEARCH MATTER

The supplement known as "Family Weekly," which is published in Chicago, for February 9, 1958, carried an item entitled "The Indestructible J. Edgar Hoover" by the above-captioned individual. The Bureau cooperated with Bell in connection with this particular story, and he has been commended by the Director for his article.

With the article there was a photograph taken at the time of the apprehension of Alvin Karpis and shows the Director and former Assistant Director Connelley.

It is desired that you have someone contact appropriate officials at "Family Weekly" and see if you can secure a glossy print of this photograph. If they do not have a glossy print, determine where they got the picture and make appropriate arrangements. This matter should be handled expeditiously and the Bureau should be advised by February 21.

7-576 ✓  
NOT RECORDED  
133 MAR 18 1958

NOTE: See Jones to Nease memo dated 2/13/58 captioned "Alvin Karpis 1958 Arrest Photograph," JRH:cag.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ECK:cag

(4)

MAILED 17 1958  
F361  
61

ORIGINAL FILED IN 94-77416

3/12/58

AIRTEL

To SAC, Kansas City (7-37)

From Director, FBI (7-576)

*del*  
**BREKID**

Reurlet 3/3/58.

Endeavor to obtain from review prison file  
on Karpis reason for transfer from Alcatraz to Leavenworth.  
If information not available request San Francisco to obtain.

Suairtel by return mail.

1 - San Francisco (Information) *m*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

EHH:jl  
(4)

COMM - FBI

MAR 12 1958

MAILED 19

Mail Room

REC-82

15 MAR 13 1958

EX-117

7226  
6 MAR 17 1958

3/12/58

AIRTEL

To: SAC, Detroit (7-25)

From: Director, FBI

ALVIN KARPIS, WAS., ET AL.  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, VIKID

Reurairtel 2/27/58.

Quairtel by return mail current developments.  
When matter completed, furnish brief summary to MP  
for information purposes.

DL 15-1  
2-1

COMM - FBI  
MAR 12 1958  
MAILED 19

REC-82

7-576-15442

14 MAR 18 1958

EHH:mlm  
(4)

EX-117

olson \_\_\_\_\_  
ichols \_\_\_\_\_  
oardman \_\_\_\_\_  
elmont \_\_\_\_\_  
ohr \_\_\_\_\_  
arsons \_\_\_\_\_  
osen \_\_\_\_\_  
amm \_\_\_\_\_  
rotter \_\_\_\_\_  
ease \_\_\_\_\_  
eloom \_\_\_\_\_

7 MAR 17 1958

F-361  
FV  
FV  
FV

SMA

MAIL ROOM ☐

## Office Memorandum

UNITED

GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nease

DATE: February 13, 1958

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS ARREST PHOTOGRAPH

Tolson ☒  
 Nichols ☒  
 Boardman ☒  
 Belmont ☒  
 Mohr ☒  
 Parsons ☒  
 Rosen ☒  
 Tamm ☒  
 Trotter ☒  
 Nease ☒  
 Tele. Room ☒  
 Holloman ☒  
 Gandy ☒

Article entitled "The Indestructible J. Edgar Hoover" by Joseph N. Bell, appearing on February 9, 1958, in the "Family Weekly" newspaper supplement distributed to 165 newspapers, contains a photograph showing the Director leading the handcuffed Alvin Karpis following the arrest of Karpis by Mr. Hoover.

The origin of this photograph has been determined. It is an Acme Photo which appeared in several different newspapers throughout the country shortly after Karpis' arrest by the Director on May 1, 1936. The photograph shows Mr. Hoover leading Karpis into the Federal Building at St. Paul, Minnesota, after a plane flight from the place of apprehension, New Orleans. (Copies of newspaper photos attached) *Returned to file 3-4-58 418 am*

Acme Photo is no longer in business. Inquiry reflects Acme Photo Company, which belonged to the Scripps-Howard organization, was dissolved in 1952 and has been reconstituted as United Press Newspictures. It is now the photo service for Scripps-Howard just as United Press is the news service.

Should the original of this photograph be desired, it can possibly be located through contact with United Press Newspictures or by checking with the author of the article, Joseph N. Bell.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

Enclosures

JRH:cag  
 (2) *og*

WE COULD NOT

LOCATE A  
 GLOSSY PRINT

*7-576-15443*

MAR 11 1958

REC-10  
 EX-136

62 MAR 18 1958

CRIME REC.

*Juno Jones Nease  
 2-17-58  
 mch*



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: March 4, 1958

TO : Mr. Nease

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS ARREST PHOTOGRAPH

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Re my memorandum 2/13/58.

The Chicago Office has obtained a glossy print of captioned photograph which portrays the Director leading Alvin Karpis following Karpis' arrest in May, 1936.

A copy of this photograph is attached.

Enclosure

JRH:cag  
 (2)

ENCLOSURE  
 62 MAR 19 1958  
 EX-135

REG-47

EX-135

CRIME REC.

7-116-15444  
 MAR 11 1958  
 11 14





Police Hoody, Carl Hall was captured in Greenland last.



When FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover

cluded the U.S. government to provide more than \$75 million in loan guarantees and recoveries of stolen property—or very close to the amount of its annual operating budget.

The demands on Hoover himself are tremendous. Practically everyone who appears at the Department of Justice wants to see the Director in person. This includes criminals who seek the dubious distinction of surrendering to Hoover himself. Eccentrics also come up in this category.

One well-dressed but slightly irrational man in his 40s came forward to a FBI headquarters, identified himself as a dangerous criminal, and asked for Hoover. When he got him, the man refused to give his name. Two days later at least, he said, "I am already dead."

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

[illegible]

For example, when it is understood that FBI activities are strictly limited in scope, the role of many of them is clearly investigative. As one of the top Federal Government, the FBI is responsible for the internal security of the United States in matters relating to espionage, sabotage, and subversive activities, plus investigating violations of about 120 different Federal statutes. It has no jurisdiction in local state matters, and constantly refers matters to the local police authorities.

Probably the greatest source of help to other law enforcement agencies all over the world—and the best known aspect of the FBI—is the valuable fingerprint files, in which more than 15 million people are represented.

For years criminals have been trying unsuccessfully to beat fingerprint identification. John Dilling used acid in an attempt to disguise his prints, but didn't work. Probably the most dangerous effort this kind was that of a 23-year-old burglar and at thief who had a surgeon remove the skin from the tips of his fingers and replace it with skin graft from his chest. Both the burglar and the doctor died in jail. The criminal was identified by the finger the second joint of his fingers, which showed clearly when he was fingerprinted.

work keep him behind a back wall of the bank, he supervises the cash. The two Greenburgs and Weinberger kidnapings—then Washington Post Times claims it being back-boned and more in white clouds it, as in the apprehension of Alvin Karpis. The gangster made the mistake of putting boasting he would kill Hoover on that. He took personal charge of Karpis' capture and had the agents who captured him. When the two Karpis was flown back to jail, a special airplane of Edgar Hoover rode back. The

[illegible]

For all practical purposes, Hoover has no private life. He has never married—and members of his family, to whom he was devoted, live near by. He lives quietly and modestly in a six-room Georgian house in Washington. He spends little time there, and when he's at home he is in constant touch with his office. Hoover's favorite sport is fishing, but he also enjoys baseball, tennis, horse racing. He sometimes smokes a pipe but takes a drink.

A **Wichita** Presbyterian, Hoover is a member of the National Presbyterian church and attends church with his youth group, entering the ministry. Hoover's

—a term not heard very often around FBI quarters. Because he literally lives, eats, and sleeps his job, his best friends are also his business associates. The man closest to Hoover is his second-in-command at the Bureau: Clyde A. Tolson. If anything happened to Hoover, Tolson would probably

There is only a few years younger than which raises a question that concerns Americans everywhere. What will happen to the FBI when Walter Teague is no longer able to command the respect and cooperation of an increasingly skeptical and diverse individual? How can the FBI function without that individual?

I never doubt that it will be able to carry on in the Bureau with confidence in the spirit of the new age of efficiency without him, and his replacement is unshakable. Every man who is in the FBI has been tested and trained by Walter Teague. There is no one who has been working harder or with the same spirit. The present system of FBI operation is as much a part of the FBI as the men in their country. Therefore

never been stronger than it is today. The threat to America today is not the Soviet Union. It is the Jew. At this very hour, his bill has been introduced in the House of Representatives. His doctrine are attempting to destroy the American way of life. Wherever he goes, he is the perpetrator of violence. He is the cause of weakness in every country. He is the cause of the weakness of America.



At 29, Hoover took John Dillinger's case over his shoulder - FBI. He turned out to be



Alvin Karpis boasted he would kill Hoover. He ended in Kentucky prison.

# The Indestructible J. Edgar Hoover

Staunch symbol of the American way  
of life, the director of the FBI is  
almost a legend in his own lifetime.



...talk to J. Edgar Hoover in person. just call NATIONAL 3-7127 in Washington, D. C. and ask for him any time, day or night. Of course, you'd better have a kidnapping to report. This is the line set up by Hoover so families of kidnapped children can get through directly to him. It takes the degree to which Hoover keeps on investigation.

In the minds of most Americans, John Edgar Hoover has become a symbol of everything that is best in our life. Probably no individual in modern America—particularly in public life—has enjoyed the respect accorded him.

Hoover often speaks in gladdens which are sincere expressions of his faith. He believes in Christianity, in the Sunday School—and he really believes in them. Consequently he has been a powerful force for good among the young people to whom he speaks much of his sturdy mission. He is so generally accepted as an incorruptible disciple of the law that he is almost impervious to attack from any quarter.

How does he deserve this degree of adulation? In answer to this question for yourself, remember that

...this image of J. Edgar Hoover which is how it really is. Hoover is this—this is the man who has made the relations with Congress. Last year, when economy-minded Senators and Representatives were lopping off appropriations for administrative agencies with almost reckless abandon, Hoover, appeared quietly before a Congressional committee and stated his needs—\$181,458,000. They were promptly supplied with scarcely a dissenting vote. During the hearings, Rep. Prince H. Preston of Georgia told Hoover: "We believe that you handle the taxpayer's dollar wisely, and although the appropriation for the FBI has grown considerably through the years, we realize that your responsibilities have increased, too. I don't know what we would have done in this country if it hadn't been for the FBI."

Who is this man who can command such universal respect? Where did he come from? What is this paragon of strength really like?



John Edgar Hoover grew up in Washington, D. C., where he was valedictorian, captain of the Cadet Corps, and star debater at Central High School. After earning a Master of Laws Degree from George Washington University in 1917, he joined the Department of Justice as a young lawyer concentrating on espionage cases. In 1921 he was transferred to the FBI—which was then an abject, politics-ridden organization. He had

...scandal broke over Washington. Almost every government bureau was affected, but Hoover... the directorship of the FBI... General Harlan E. Stone.



The... which Hoover took over the... ridden FBI in 1935 were that he... allowed to direct it without political pressure and appointments are... competent, and make promotions on the basis of merit alone. These... citizens have existed in the FBI... few years, the Bureau had undergone a... lifting and both the FBI and John... were on their way to becoming American institutions. Today Hoover heads an organization of more than 14,000 persons from whom he demands almost incredible standards of background and performance. The results are apparent.

One FBI statistic is especially impressive: 80 percent of persons brought to trial in cases investigated by the FBI were convicted last year—and of these 11,218 convictions, 84.8 percent of the defendants pleaded guilty. Taxpayers were saved billions of dollars in court costs by these guilty pleas from culprits who realized the FBI had the goods on them so completely there was no point in going through the formality of a trial. Even without these savings, the FBI would be a profit-making organization.

ADULTS

IN CASE DESS... MINNEAPOLIS

FBI

Date: 3/14/58

Transmit the following in PLAIN  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL (AM)  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Clayton	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, DETROIT (7-25)

ALVIN KARPIS, was., ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMMER, VIKID. } 5

Re Bureau Airtel, 3/12/58.

Mr. ELMER F. SCHOENITH, Senior Fraud Section, Internal Revenue Service, Detroit, advised today that the Administrator of the EDWARD N. BARNARD estate has been ill and that it is expected he will be well enough to be present when the money is examined next week.

Bureau will be kept advised of all pertinent developments.

③ - Bureau  
1 - Detroit  
BTC:MMR  
(4)

REC-78

EX-117

12 MAR 15 1958

6

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

SAC, Minneapolis

3/19/58

Director, FBI (7-576)

REC-59

7-576-15446

BREKID

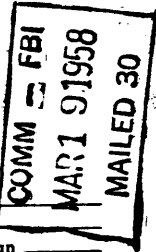
EX-108

For your information, Alvin Karpis was transferred on 2/27/58, from Alcatraz to Leavenworth Penitentiary, Kansas. A stop has been placed at Leavenworth in favor of the Kansas City Office to be advised in the event of any transfer, parole, or change of status of Karpis.

In the future Kansas City will furnish you a copy of all communications regarding the above.

1 - Kansas City (7-37)

EHH:jl  
(5)



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Room \_\_\_\_\_  
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68 MAR 25 1958

MAIL ROOM ☐



F B I

Date: March 15, 1958

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson ☒  
 Mr. Boardman ☒  
 Mr. Belmont ☒  
 Mr. Mohr ☒  
 Mr. Nease ☒  
 Mr. Rosen ☒  
 Mr. Tamm ☒  
 Mr. Trotter ☒  
 Mr. Tele. Rm. ☒  
 Mr. Holloman ☒  
 Miss Gandy ☒

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (7-37)

BREKID

Origin: Cincinnati

Re Kansas City letter to Bureau 3-3-58 and Buairtel to Kansas City 3-12-58 requesting Kansas City to determine reason for KARPIS' transfer to U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth.

A review of the records of the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, made available by Mr. CARL F. ZARTER, Record Clerk, on 3-14-58, concerning KARPIS reflects that his transfer order transferring him from the USP, Alcatraz to the USP, Leavenworth dated 2-20-58 stated as the reason for transfer "suitable for other penitentiary". It is noted that the Progress Reports dated May 25, 1956, February 19, 1957, May 24, 1957, and February 10, 1958 indicate that KARPIS' transfer from Alcatraz to Leavenworth appeared desirable and was recommended.

The record indicates that on 2-27-58 KARPIS indicated he desired that his sister, [REDACTED] be notified in case of death.

A copy of the aforementioned Progress Reports and one copy of the Special Progress Report dated 3-4-58 at Leavenworth are being forwarded to the Bureau as enclosures to this airtel.

- ③ - Bureau (7-576) (Encl. 5) (AM)  
 1 - Cincinnati (7-43)  
 1 - Kansas City (7-37)

RAS:MEJ  
 (5)

Approved: [Signature]  
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent EX-108 M Per [Signature]

cc Rosen  
 Super

note: 7-576-15446  
 all show detainees 1+NS  
 for report & console

ENCLOSURE TO BUREAU (7-576)

KC 7-37

One copy Progress Report for ALVIN KARPAVICZ dated May 25, 1956)	all
One copy " " " " " Feb. 19, 1957)	from
One copy " " " " " May 24, 1957)	USP,
One copy " " " " " Feb. 10, 1958	) Alcatraz
One copy " " " " " 3-4-58 from USP,	Leavenworth

7-576-15446

Mail to  
Leavenworth

Transfer of this prisoner  
to your institution has  
been ordered.

49368-2

NOTED  
FEB 10 1958  
SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name **KARPAVICZ, Alvin**

**C. H. LOONEY**

Reg. No. **325-AZ**

Date **February 10, 1958**

**TRANSFER TO LEAVENWORTH**

**Sentence Data:** This white man, age 49, divorced, was sentenced July 27, 1936 at St. Paul, Minnesota to serve Life for Conspiring to Kidnap and Transport Person in Interstate Commerce. He participated in the Kidnapping of William Hamm Jr. together with his co-defendants Charles J. Fitzgerald (Life), Fred Barker (Deceased) Fred Goetz (Deceased) Byron Bolton, Jack Peifer (Deceased) "Doc" Barker, Dec; Edward C. Bartholmew. Committed to Leavenworth July 29, 1936, he was transferred to Alcatraz August 6, 1936 in view of his prior criminal record including escape, his high degree of criminal sophistication and the length of his sentence. Eligible for Parole consideration July 26, 1951, he declined to file an application. He has earned 137 days EOT at the rate of 4 days per month. A deport to Canada deainer is filed by the U.S. Immigration Service.

**Social Information:** His Lithuanian born parents migrated to this country in 1915 by way of Montreal, Canada where the subject was born and he has not been naturalized in the U.S. He is the third of four siblings, the others being law abiding people. At age 17, he was committed to the Kansas State Reformatory to serve 10 Years for Burglary. He escaped three years later, was returned and transferred to the Kansas State Penitentiary. He has received no visits and his parents are deceased but he writes to his sister, Emily Janke, Lakeville, Illinois. He enjoys playing table games in the yard and he plays the guitar. During the past year, he purchased an amplified tube, pen and paper. He subscribed for no magazines, but he reads a great deal of both fiction and non-fiction books. He has \$382.11 in his account with the Trust Fund.

**Institutional Adjustment:** He was last reported for misconduct May 18, 1953 for propositioning an officer, Action: STU. His cellhouse officer states that Karpavicz is quiet in the cellhouse where he maintains a clean cell. His work supervisor in the Industries Office reports that this inmate is doing good work as a clerk in that office. He is in the purchasing section of the office and in view of his limited education he is doing a fine job. He is quiet, cooperative and he gets along well with officers and inmates.

**Medical and Psychiatric:** He is in good general health and is an infrequent caller on the sick line. He was last hospitalized in June 1956 with a Branchial Cleft Cyst which was removed surgically and he made an uneventful recovery. There are no mental or physical defects. His adjustment from a medical aspect has been excellent.

**Committee Impressions and Recommendations:** This man has been at Alcatraz for 21 years. He is a very conscientious worker in the industries office. Since 1953 there has been a marked change for the better in this man's general attitude. He seems much more relaxed and stable. He hopes for eventual parole for deportation to Canada. Although this man is prison wise, he seems to have good common sense and it is felt that he can adjust well at a custody institution. It is recommended that he be transferred to Leavenworth.

7-576-1544-

U. S. Penitentiary  
Alcatraz

**SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT**

Committed Name **KARPAVICZ, Alvin**

Reg. No. **325-AZ**

Date **May 24, 1957**

Annual Review

Sentence Data: This white man, age 48, divorced, was sentenced July 27, 1936 at St. Paul, Minnesota to serve Life for Conspiring to Kidnap and Transport Person in Interstate Commerce. He participated in the Kidnapping of William Hamm Jr. together with his co-defendants Charles J. Fitzgerald (life), Fred Barker (Deceased), Fred Goetz (Deceased), Byron Bolton, Jack Peifer (Deceased), "Doc" Barker and Edward C. Bartholmew. Committed to Leavenworth July 29, 1936, he was transferred to Alcatraz August 6, 1936 in view of his prior criminal record including escape, his high degree of criminal sophistication and the length of his sentence. Eligible for Parole consideration July 26, 1951, he declined to file an application. A deport to Canada detainer is filed by the U S Immigration Service.

Social Information: His Lithuanian born parents migrated to this country in 1915 by way of Montreal, Canada where the subject was born and he has not been naturalized in the U. S. He is the third of four siblings, the others being law abiding people. At age 17, he was committed to the Kansas State Reformatory to serve 10 Years for Burglary. He escaped three years later, was returned and transferred to the Kansas State Penitentiary. He has received no visits and his parents are deceased but he writes to his sister, Emily Janke, Lakeville, Illinois. He enjoys playing table games in theyard and he plays the guitar. During the past year, he purchased an amplifier tube, pen and paper. He subscribed for no magazines, but he reads a great deal of both fiction and non-fiction books. He has \$382.12 in his account with the Trust Fund.

Institutional Adjustment: He was last reported for misconduct May 18, 1953 for propositioning an officer. Action: STU. His cellhouse officer states that Karpavicz is quiet in the cellhouse where he maintains a clean cell. His work supervisor in the Industries Office reports that this inmate is doing good work as a clerk in that office. He is in the purchasing section of the office and in view of his limited education he is doing a fine job. He is quiet, cooperative and he gets along well with officers and inmates.

Medical and Psychiatric: He is in good general health and is an infrequent caller on the sick line. He was last hospitalized in June 1956 with a Branchial Cleft Cyst which was removed surgically and he made an uneventful recovery. There are no mental or physical defects. His adjustment from a medical aspect has been excellent.

Committee Impressions and Recommendations: This man has been at Alcatraz for 21 years. He is a very conscientious worker in the Industries office. He was friendly and spoke frankly when interviewed. Since 1953 there has been a marked change for the better in this man's general attitude. He seems much more relaxed and stable. He hopes for eventual parole for deportation to Canada. The Committee commended him for his good adjustment and recommended that he be transferred to Leavenworth when the Bureau sees fit to authorize the transfer.

U. S. Penitentiary  
Alcatraz, California  
SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name KARPAVICZ, Alvin

Reg. No. 325-AZ

Date February 19, 1957

**TRANSFER TO LEAVENWORTH**

Sentence Data: This White Man, age 48, Divorced, was sentenced July 27, 1936 at St. Paul Minnesota to serve Life for Conspiring to Kidnap and Transport Person in Interstate Commerce. He participated in the kidnapping of William Hamm Jr. together with his codefendants Charles J. Fitzgerald (Life), Fred Barker (Deceased) Fred Goetz (Deceased) Byron Bolton, Jack Peifer (Deceased) "Doc" Barker and Edward C. Bartholmey. Committed to Leavenworth July 27, 1936, he was transferred to Alcatraz August 6, 1936 in view of his prior Criminal Record including escape, his high degree of criminal sophistication and the length of his sentence. Eligible for Parole Consideration July 26, 1951, he declined to file an application. He has earned 89 days EOT at the rate of 4 days per month. A U. S. Immigration Service Detainer is filed for deportation to Canada.

Social Information: His Lithuanian born parents migrated to this country in 1915 by way of Montreal, Canada where the subject was born and he has not been Naturalized in the U. S. He is the 3rd of four siblings, the others being law abiding people. At age 17, he was committed to the Kansas State Reformatory to serve 10 years for Burglary. He escaped three years later, was returned and transferred to the Kansas State Penitentiary. He has received no visits and his parents are deceased but he writes to his sister, Emily Jank, Chicago, Illinois. He enjoys playing table games in the yard and he plays the guitar. During the past year, he purchased an amplifier tube, pen and paper. He subscribes for no magazines but he reads a great deal of both fiction and non-fiction books. There are \$325.52 in his account with the Trust Fund.

Institutional Adjustment: He was last reported for misconduct May 18, 1953 for Propositioning an Officer. Action: STU. His Work Supervisor in the Industries Office reports that Karpavicz is doing very good work as a clerk. He is a steady and conscientious worker who gets along well with everybody. His Cellhouse Supervisor reports that he is quiet in the Cellhouse and he is no Custodial Problem.

Committee Impressions and Recommendations: This man has maintained a clear conduct record for nearly four years. He has a pleasant manner and he is respectful to Officers and other personnel. He enjoys reading fiction books and information magazines such as U. S. News and World Report, Reader's Digest and Newsweek as supplied by the Library and he especially appreciates the Radio Program. He has not applied for Parole but he expects to do so after a period of time at another institution since he hopes that he will be Paroled for Deportation to Canada. The Committee felt that this man has become greatly stabilized and he has in recent years become reconciled to serving his sentence with hope of being Paroled for Deportation and the Committee recommended that he be transferred to Leavenworth.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF PRISONS

U.S. Penitentiary

Alcatraz

SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name KAPAVICZ, Alvin

Reg. No. 325-AZ

Date May 25, 1956

ANNUAL REVIEW

Sentence Data: This White man, age 47, divorced, was sentenced July 27, 1936 at St. Paul, Minnesota to serve Life for Conspiring to Kidnap and Transport Person in Interstate Commerce. He participated in the kidnaping of William Hamm, Jr., together with his codefendants Charles J. Fitzgerald (Life), Fred Barker (Deceased) Fred Goetz (Deceased) Byron Bolton, Jack Peifer (Deceased) "Doc" Barker and Edward C. Bartholmey. Committed to Leavenworth July 27, 1936, he was transferred to Alcatraz August 6, 1936 in view of his prior criminal record including escape, ~~his~~ high degree of criminal sophistication and the length of his sentence. Eligible for parole consideration July 26, 1951, he declined to file an application. A U.S. Immigration Service detainer is filed for deportation to Canada.

Social Information: His Lithuanian born parents migrated to this country in 1915 by way of Montreal, Canada where the subject was born and he has not been naturalized in the U.S. He is the 3rd of four siblings, the others being law abiding people. At age 17, he was committed to the Kansas State Reformatory to serve 10 Years for Burglary. He escape three years later, was returned and transferred to the Kansas State Penitentiary. He has received no visits and his parents are deceased but he writes to his sister, Emily Janke, Chicago, Illinois. He enjoys playing table games in the yard and he plays the guitar. During the past year, he purchased an amplifier tube, pen and paper. He subscribes for no magazines but he reads a great deal of both fiction books and non-fiction. There are \$59.21 in his account with the Trust Fund.

Institutional Adjustment: He was last reported for misconduct May 18, 1953 Proposition 1 an officer, Action: STU. During the past year, he has been a very dependable, steady and conscientious worker in the library where he is assigned at clerical work maintaining the book files. By his thorough, systematic work the index files and other book records are being kept in good order and complete. In addition, he volunteers to help other inmates not familiar with the library routines and he fills in temporarily when we are short of inmate library workers. His cellhouse supervisor reports that he is quiet in the cellhouse and he maintains a clean cell. When through with his work, he goes directly to his cell without attempting to wander around the cellhouse. He appreciates the radio programs and his general attitude is good.

Medical and Psychiatric: At the present time, he is undergoing extensive dental treatment. He rarely presents a medical complaint when seen by the medical staff and he is cooperative and pleasant. He has not been hospitalized during the past year.

Committee impressions and recommendations: This man was pleasant at the meeting. He is a very good worker. He is easy to deal with and he is not discourteous. In a memorandum from the Bureau dated May 16, 1956, it was stated that this man seems to have stabilized recently but in view of the large number of serious offenders confined at Atlanta and Leavenworth, it is believed that he would still present a custodial risk at those institutions and his transfer was disapproved at this time. The Committee recommended that he be transferred to Leavenworth when the Bureau feels such a move would not be detrimental to that institution.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF PRISONS  
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY,  
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name **KARPAVICZ, Alvin**

Reg. No. **49368-L**

Date **3-4-58**

RE: RECEIVED IN TRANSFER FROM ALCATRAZ ISLAND, CALIFORNIA

CURRENT RELEASE DATE: **Life**

Karpavicz is a forty-nine year old white male offender presently serving a life sentence for conspiring to kidnap and transport a person in interstate commerce. He was sentenced on July 27, 1936 in the United States District Court in St. Paul, Minnesota and was committed to this institution on July 29, 1936. He was transferred to Alcatraz on August 6, 1936 and remained in that institution until his present transfer. Karpavicz became eligible for parole consideration on July 26, 1951 but declined to file an application at that time. He has a detainer on file against him at the present time for deportation to Canada.

In the USP in Alcatraz, California, Karpavicz received a total of 13 disciplinary reports. However, the last report occurred on May 18, 1953 when he was reported for propositioning an officer. Since that time he has maintained a clear conduct record and apparently has been adjusting satisfactorily. He was assigned to the industries office on July 6, 1956 and remained on that assignment in Alcatraz until his present transfer. He was reported to be doing good work as a clerk in that office and was regarded as a cooperative inmate. In Alcatraz, Karpavicz was regarded as an agitator who did not openly defy rules or regulations but one who initiated discussion and criticism of the institutional policies. He was regarded as an extremely dangerous individual who on several occasions seemed to be the leader of dissentment which arose.

Karpavicz seemed to show a definite change in attitude since 1953 and he became more relaxed and stable at that time. It is noted that he maintained a clear conduct record for the last five years and his work reports have been entirely above average.

When interviewed in this institution, Karpavicz appeared to be extremely nervous which is probably explainable to the fact that he has been incarcerated for approximately twenty-two years in the Alcatraz institution. He was very quite and cooperative in the interview and expressed a desire to be assigned to our industries in a clerical position if such could be arranged. He also mentioned that he worked in the library in Alcatraz and seemed to like that type of work.

RESIDENCE: **Chicago, Illinois**

USPO: **CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

ADMISSION UNIT REPORT: **This report is not available at this writing.**

ASSOCIATE WARDEN RECOMMENDS:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF PRISONS  
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY  
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS  
SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name KARPAVICZ, Alvin

Reg. No. 49368-L

Date 3-12-58

MEDICAL

**HISTORY:**

Patient states he wears glasses and needs a new pair; states he had heart trouble at the age of 15 years; has arthritis in his feet and legs; had an excision for a blood clot of the left femur in 1953; was treated for gonorrhea in 1934. Denies history of tuberculosis, major mental illness, narcotic addiction and convulsive disorder.

**PHYSICAL FINDINGS:** This is a 49 year old white male of medium physique, weighing 140 pounds and 69 inches tall. Examination of the heart, lungs and cardiovascular system was negative. Blood pressure: 130/80. Vision: Right 20/50; Left 20/40. Physical examination revealed partial ankylosis of proximal joint right little finger; varicose veins in left leg, surgery has been advised; atimosis of right thigh and popliteal area.

**DENTAL CONDITION:** Fair. Wearing upper partial dentures and needing prophylaxis

**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS:**

Urinalysis: Negative  
Serology: Pending  
Audiogram: Within normal limits  
Chest x-ray: No abnormalities

**DIAGNOSIS:**

13 missing teeth  
Dental calculus  
Partial ankylosis of prox joint, right little finger  
Varicose veins, left leg (Surgery advised)  
Atimosis of right thigh and popliteal area  
Defective vision

**TREATMENT:** Refraction

**WORK:** REGULAR DUTY

Admission Inspection: 2-27-58  
Physical Examination: 3-4-58  
Dictated by JLD/jkw: 3-7-58



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF PRISONS  
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY  
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS  
SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name Karpavicz, Alvin Reg. No. 49368-L Date March 12, 1958

VOCATIONAL

INSTITUTIONAL OCCUPATIONS: Alcatraz Island, 1936-58, ordinary department, 10 years, library, Industries office, Leavenworth, 1936, trafd.

WORK HISTORY: Karpavicz was employed in the ordinary department at the transferring institution for 10 years and he acquired about 5 years experience as a baker. He has a grade equivalent of 8.6. He states that he grows tired easily and is probably suitable only for a moderate duty assignment at this time.

PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION: Baker.

WORK RECOMMENDATION: General Maintenance - D Cellhouse orderly.

EDUCATIONAL

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Subject claims he completed the 8th grade, at the age of 13, in the State of Kansas. He states he has no specific interests in educational work at this time.

STANFORD ACHIEVEMENT TEST RESULTS: Partial Intermediate. Grade Equivalent: 8.6.  
A.R. - 9.7 A.A. - 7.6

EDUCATIONAL RECOMMENDATION: Optional.

R.R.H.

PSYCHOMETRIC

INTELLIGENCE: (Subject was not tested, but he will be tested this week.)

CATHOLIC  
RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE  
INTERIOR ATTITUDE  
GENERAL RECOMMENDATION  
PARTICULAR RECOMMENDATION

BY BAPTISM ONLY  
NONE  
WELL DISPOSED  
ATTENDANCE AT SERVICES  
ENROLLMENT IN THE INSTITUTIONAL  
INSTRUCTION CLASS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF PRISONS  
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY,  
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS  
SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name **KARPAVICZ, Alvin**

Reg. No. **49368-L**

Date

CLASSIFICATION ACTION SHEET

CUSTODY	CLOSE. Life sentence, and history of prior escape.
TRANSFER	NONE. Just received from Alcatraz. He has residence in Chicago, Illinois.
SOCIAL PAROLE	ROUTINE. Has <del>no</del> immediate social parole.
MEDICAL	REGULAR DUTY. Requires no special treatment, and was not referred for special psychiatric report.
EMPLOYMENT	GENERAL MAINTENANCE. Orderly in 'D' Cell-house. Assignment was made to fill an institutional need.
EDUCATIONAL	OPTIONAL. Has G.E. of 8.6 and I.Q. of 105.
RELIGION	CATHOLIC. Chapel attendance recommended, and reception of Sacraments.
PROGRAM PLANNING	Subject has no interest in the educational program in this institution. "e seems to have a good attitude, but shows no interest in any program of self-improvement.

7-576-15446

3/26/58

AIRTEL

To SAC, Detroit (7-25)

From Director, FBI (7-576)

ALVIN KARPIS, WAS., ET AL.; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPING.

Subairtel status.

On completion of inquiry, furnish brief summary  
to Minneapolis.

EHH:jl  
(4)

lson \_\_\_\_\_  
hols \_\_\_\_\_  
rdman \_\_\_\_\_  
mont \_\_\_\_\_  
ur \_\_\_\_\_  
sons \_\_\_\_\_  
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y \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Room

REC-23

EX-117

MAILED 10

MAR 26 1958

COMM - FBI

14 MAR 27 1958

61 MAR 31 1958

7-576-1544

SAC, Detroit (7-25)

4/3/58

Director, FBI (7-576) - 15448

EX - 126 REC-18

ALVIN KARPIS, WAS., ET AL.;  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPING

*mt*

Reurlet 3/25/58.

The serial numbers for the \$5 and \$10  
bills were searched through the Bureau's indices  
and no record was located which could be identified  
with any of the listed serial numbers.

1 - Minneapolis (Information)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

EHH:jlp  
(5)

*[Handwritten signature]*

Mail Room

*[Handwritten initials]*

MAILED 6  
APR - 3 1958  
COMM - FBI

*[Handwritten signature]*

62 APR 7 1958 7/16

Vb8 7 - 1326

"Detroit Times" furnished information re death of Attorney Bernard, who represented Cassius McDonald, now deceased, one of subjects in this case. In view of large amount of cash in the estate of Bernard possibility exists some of money was Bremer ransom money. "Detroit Times" not going to publish anything on this story. FBI Detroit determined at Internal Revenue Service that currency in Bernard estate still intact. Bernard died October, 1957. He left approximately one million dollars in cash and negotiable securities. Internal Revenue Service states money, according to their estimate, accumulated after 1938. Bremer kidnaped 1/17/34. Ransom paid was \$200,000 in fives and tens. Approximately \$131,100 accounted for. This amount was disposed of in 1934. \$90,000 was converted to "clean" money in Havana, Cuba. IRS examined money and recorded serial numbers of 5's and 10's. Listed \$5 and \$10 checked against Bremer list negatively.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-7756) 1

DATE: March 25, 1958

FROM : SAC, DETROIT (7-25)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, was., et al  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER  
VIKID

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. Clayton	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Re Detroit airtel dated March 14, 1958.

Mr. E. JOBLONSKI, Internal Revenue Agent, advised SA BARRON T. CONKLIN on March 21, 1958, that he had audited all of the money in the safety deposit boxes of EDWARD N. BARNARD. JOBLONSKI advised that money in the amount of about \$600,000.00 was located, all directly traceable to account of some client and almost all traceable to some activity since 1947.

Serial numbers of the \$5 and \$10 bills issued prior to January 17, 1934, are as follows and are being furnished to the Bureau for checking against the list of unrecovered ransom money in this case:

\$5.00 - P 135 588 34A Series 1934 C  
S 371 064 79A Series 1934 A  
S 400 481 56A Series 1934 A  
D 026 011 58A Series 1929  
S 289 049 20B Series 1934 C  
B 730 793 39A Series 1928  
C 628 124 40A Series 1928  
~~S 212 00 233A Series 1928 C~~

\$10.00 - S 434 941 17C Series 1934 B  
S 115 540 32D Series 1934 C  
S 660 50 306B Series 1934 A  
S 341 416 86B Series 1934 A  
S 635 526 99B Series 1934 A  
D 009 310 A Series 1929  
S 426 569 78A Series 1928 B

7-576-15448

2 - Bureau (AM)  
1 - Detroit

BTC:JAR  
(3)

DEC 39

MAR 28 1958

EX-136

1553  
4-3-58  
E.H.H. gl

DE 7-25

S 400 114 91A Series 1928 B  
S 435 273 90A Series 1928 B  
S 515 076 36A Series 1934  
A 443 928 32A Series 1934  
D 284 835 73A Series 1934 A

Minneapolis is being separately advised.

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-7756)

March 25, 1958

SAC, DETROIT (7-25)

ALVIN KARPIS, was., et al  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER  
VIKID  
Series 1934  
Series 1929  
Series 1928

Re Detroit airtel dated March 14, 1958.

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S 289 049 20B Series 1934 C  
B 730 793 39A Series 1928  
D 628 124 40A Series 1928  
B 212 00, 233A Series 1928 C  
\$10.00 - S 434 941 17C Series 1934 B  
B 115 540 32D Series 1934 C  
B 660 50 306B Series 1934 A  
B 341 416 86B Series 1934 A  
B 635 526 99B Series 1934 A  
D 009, 310 A - Series 1929  
B 426 569 78A Series 1928 B

2 - Bureau (AM) B 1  
1 - Detroit

BTC:JAR  
(3)

ENCLOSURE ORIGINAL

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. Clayton  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

Check index +  
ransom lists

-1542

NO PREVIOUS RECORD AS LISTED



April 2, 1958

7-576-15449  
REC-42  
AIRTEL  
EX-135

To SAC, Kansas City  
From Director, FBI (7-576)

BREKID.

Enclosed herewith is a Photostat of a self-explanatory letter from Harry Campbell dated 2/19/58. Campbell is a prisoner at the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri. He received a life sentence on 5/12/36, after pleading guilty to an indictment against him in the case involving the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer at St. Paul, Minnesota, on 1/17/34.

Campbell's letter should be acknowledged and he should be informed that the granting of parole is a matter entirely within the prerogatives of the U. S. Board of Parole.

Advise the Bureau by 4/11/58, of your contact with Campbell and keep the Bureau advised of any developments in his efforts to obtain parole.

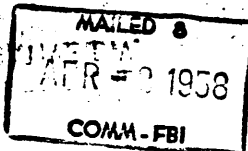
Enclosure

1 - Minneapolis (Enclosure)

NOTE: Campbell, who was indicted for his participation in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer at St. Paul, Minnesota, 1/17/34, pleaded guilty on 5/12/36, and received a life sentence. He writes that he will be subject to annual review by the Parole Board in April, 1958, and that although it is not his intentions to impose upon the Director to aid him in his plea for parole, he would appreciate any help he could receive.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JRB:jlp  
(5)



MAIL ROOM

February 19 1958  
RECEIVED THE  
PRISONER'S MAIL BOX

MAR 17 1958

**BUREAU OF PRISONS**

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

First, I would like to give my long delayed sincere thanks for the personal consideration you gave me at the time of my arrest in Toledo, Ohio in April of 1936. Also, thank you for carrying out the promises you made at that time in regards to Gerturde Billiter, and that they were complied with exactly as you stated they would be.

In St. Paul I accepted the Special Investigators (J. Brennan) advice and plead guilty. So that I could pay for the crimes I had become involved in.

Mr. Hoover, I would like to give a short version of this past twenty two years from my point of view. Shortly after entering Leavenworth in 1936, I was sent to Alcatraz, and during the almost six (6) years I spent there I worked in the laundry. I would also like to point out that during this time I did not receive one disciplinary report.

My return to Leavenworth was in April of 1942; at which time I went to work in the shoe factory, where I remained until I was transferred to the Medical Center in 1953. During this stay at Leavenworth I did receive one (1) disciplinary report for going to the commissary on the wrong day.

Upon coming to the Medical Center I went into the shoe repair shop and am still working there. I have not received one disciplinary report here.

During all of this time I have not gone the writ route, contacted any attorneys for aid, and prior to this day have not sought help from any Government official.

In 1951 when I made my appearance before the Parole Board at Leavenworth I was greatly disturbed because of my mother's long illness and her recent death, I realize now that even at the time of my arrest I was a very sick person. These past twenty two years have seen many personal changes in me, and I hope all for the better.

3rd State: made of letter T from fence  
4-1-58 EUN:msh

EX-135

-1-

RECORDED

17 4 1958

CH

In these past twenty two years, I have tried in every way possible to make up for the wrong I have done. For fifteen years I attended Mass every Sunday. I have contributed 40 pints of blood to the American Red Cross Blood Program, and also cash. I am bringing these points up only to point out a few of the many changes. Also, during this past sixteen (16) years I have been making, or repairing shoes. I think this should qualify me as a journeyman shoe maker and cobbler.

Mr. Hoover, I am now 58 years old, and I think a thousand per cent better person and citizen than I was twenty two years ago. I would like to make a personal appeal for your aid in my obtaining a parole. If the board sees fit to grant me a parole I would be more than willing for the stipulation to be added that I report to the local agent of the FBI also, along with the Probation Officer. All I am asking is the opportunity to prove to everyone that I can be a reputable citizen. My family ties have remained very close during this time and in my parole plan they will obtain employment for me in a shoe repair shop, or if the board would allow, help me establish a shoe repair shop of my own.

My annual review is in April, and it is not my intentions to impose upon you in aiding me in this bit for parole. However, if in your mind my progress and adjustment merits the opportunity to return to society so that I may prove to you and the citizens of this wonderful country, that this time has not made me bitter, but a much better man it will be forever appreciated.

Respectfully,

*Harry Campbell*

Harry Campbell  
P. O. Box 9417-H  
Springfield, Missouri

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 4/8/58

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (7-37)

SUBJECT: BREKID  
(OO-Cincinnati)

Re Kansas City letter to Bureau dated 3/15/58.

On 4/7/58, Mr. CARL F. ZARTER, Record Clerk, U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Ks., made available the file of ALVIN KARPIS, an inmate at the U.S. Penitentiary. A review of the file reflects no change in the status of KARPIS.

The Kansas City Office will continue to follow this matter closely and keep the Bureau advised of any changes.

2-Bureau  
1-Cincinnati (7-43)  
1-Kansas City  
RAS:lib  
(4)

EX-135

APR 11 1958

F 48  
55 APR 15 1958

Campbell was indicted on 1/17/34, for his participation in the kidnapping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul, Minn. He pleaded guilty on 5/12/36, and received a life sentence. Bureau received a letter through the Board of Parole from Campbell. He wrote he was due for his annual review by the Parole Board. He did not request any assistance but would appreciate any aid he could receive. Attached advises Campbell's letter was acknowledged. Campbell was advised that parole is within province of Parole Board. He had a special interview by Parole Board on 4/2/58. Kansas City will be advised of any action taken with respect to parole for Campbell.

FBI

Date: 4/10/58

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

Via \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. Clayton  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)  
FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (7-37)  
SUBJECT: BREKID

Rebuairtel to Kansas City dated April 2, 1958.

On 4/9/58 SA JAMES A. MITCHELL personally contacted inmate HARRY CAMPBELL, Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Mo. and his letter to the Director acknowledged. He was advised that the granting of a parole was a matter entirely within the province of the U. S. Board of Parole. He stated that he understands this and the Bureau's position in the matter. He stated that he has twice corresponded with the Board of Parole, Washington, D.C. and requested a special interview. He stated he was interviewed on 4/2/58 by a representative of the U. S. Board of Parole, Washington, D.C. He stated he is due for annual parole review in May 1958 and that he wanted to explain his case, prior to that date. He stated the representative from the Board of Parole treated him with respect and that he feels certain his hope of parole lies with that board. He expressed appreciation of the agent's visit.

On 4/9/57 Mr. DAN SMITH, Secretary to the Warden, advised that Mrs. EVA BOWRING, U. S. Board of Parole, Washington, D.C. granted a special interview of inmate CAMPBELL on 4/2/58 on the recommendation of Warden R. O. SETTLE. The record reflects that CAMPBELL has maintained a clear conduct record except for one minor violation in 1948 during his period of incarceration which dates back to 1936. Mr. SMITH stated it will probably be a month or more before any action is taken on the request of CAMPBELL by the U. S. Board of Parole and the prison advised of the results.

- ③ - Bureau (AM)  
1 - Minneapolis (Regular Mail)  
1 - Kansas City

JAM/ebc  
(5)

REC-45

EX-123

APR 12 1958

N 2-576-15457

7-576

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

53 APR 17 1958 Special Agent in Charge

Vb8

cc Room  
Super

FBI

Date: 4/10/58

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
KC 7-37 \_\_\_\_\_  
PAGE TWO (Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. SMITH stated that he would advise this office when a communication is received from the U. S. Board of Parole and the Bureau will be promptly advised.

FELT  
END

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 5/8/58

FROM : SAC, KANSAS CITY (7-37)

SUBJECT: BREKID  
OO: CI

Re KC letter to Bureau dated 4/8/58.

On 5/6/58 Mr. CARL F. ZARTER, Record Clerk, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas made available the file of ALVIN KARPIS, an inmate at the U. S. Penitentiary. A review of the file reflects no change in the status of KARPIS.

The Kansas City Office will continue to follow this matter closely and keep the Bureau advised of any changes.

2 Bureau  
1 Cincinnati (7-43)  
1 Kansas City

RAS:pmc  
(4)

K

REC-93

7-576-15452

MAY 12 1958

96  
53 MAY 15 1958



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 6/19/58

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (7-37)

SUBJECT: BREKID  
(OO CI)

Re Kansas City letter to Bureau dated 5/8/58.

On June 10, 1958, Mr. DAN SMITH, secretary to the Warden, Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri, made available the file of HARRY CAMPBELL to SA JAMES A. MITCHELL. A review of this file indicated no change in the status of CAMPBELL.

On June 12, 1958, Mr. CARL F. ZARTER, Record Clerk, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, made available the file of ALVIN KARPIS to SA RICHARD A. SMALLWOOD. A review of this file reflects no change in the status of KARPIS.

The Kansas City Office will continue to follow this matter closely and keep the Bureau advised of any changes.

2 Bureau (7-576)  
1 Cincinnati (7-43)  
1 Kansas City (7-37)

RAS:LAC  
(4)

EX-124

REC-26

7-576-151  
20 JUN 23 1958

SAC, Kansas City (7-37)

July 24, 1958

Director, FBI (7-576)-15454

BREKID REC-70

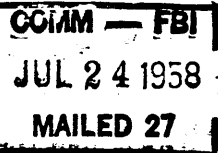
Re Kansas City letter 7/18/58.

Kansas City has advised that there is no change in the status of Alvin Karpis at Leavenworth, Kansas. In the future Kansas City will furnish a copy of all communications in this matter to the Minneapolis Division.

1 - Minneapolis

EHH:jlh

(5)



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

53 JUL 29 1958

MAIL ROOM ☒

JUL 27 1958

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 7/18/58

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (7-37)

SUBJECT: BREKID  
(OO CI)

Re Kansas City letter to Bureau dated 6/19/58.

On 7/15/58, Mr. CARL F. ZARTER, Record Clerk, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Ks., made available the file of ALVIN KARPIS to SA RICHARD A. SMALLWOOD. A review of this file reflects no change of status for KARPIS at the institution.

The Kansas City Office will continue to follow this matter closely and keep the Bureau advised of any change in the status of KARPIS.

2-Bureau  
1-Cincinnati (7-43)  
1-Kansas City  
RAS:lib  
(4)

Let to SAC KC  
7/24/58  
Chh gpe

EX-124

REC-11

7-516-15454

GWT

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 8/12/58

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (7-37)

SUBJECT: BREKID  
(OO CI)Re Kansas City letter to Bureau, dated 7/18/58  
Bureau letter to Kansas City, dated 7/24/58

On 8/5/58, Mr. DARLOW JOHNSON, Supervisor, Classification and Parole, Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Mo., advised SA JAMES A. MITCHELL that HARRY CAMPBELL, an inmate at the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, had received word from the U. S. Board of Parole and Probation, Washington, D. C. that his application for parole had been denied. The records reflect no additional change in the status of CAMPBELL at the institution.

On 8/11/58, Mr. CARL F. ZARTER, Record Clerk, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, made available the file of ALVIN KARPIS to SA RICHARD A. SMALLWOOD. A review of this file reflected no change in the status of KARPIS at the institution.

The Kansas City Office will continue to follow these matters closely and keep the Bureau advised of any change in the status of CAMPBELL or KARPIS.

EX 105

REC-39

7-576-15455

24 AUG 15 1958

2-Bureau (7-576)  
1-Cincinnati (7-43)  
1-Minneapolis (7-30)  
1-Kansas City (7-37)

RAS:nk  
(5)

53 AUG 21 1958

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 9/17/58

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (7-37)

SUBJECT: BREKID  
(OO CI)

Re Kansas City letter to Bureau dated 8/12/58.

On September 15, 1958, Mr. CARL F. ZARTER, Record Clerk, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, made available to SA RICHARD A. SMALLWOOD the file of ALVIN KARPIS, an inmate at the penitentiary. A review of this file reflects no change in the status of KARPIS at this institution.

The Kansas City Office will continue to follow this matter closely and keep the Bureau advised of any change in the status of KARPIS at the institution.

2 Bureau (7-576)  
1 Cincinnati (7-43)  
1 Minneapolis (7-30)  
1 Kansas City (7-37)

RAS:LAC  
(5)

REC-54

7-576-15456

EX-136

12 SEP 22 1958

FV7  
60 SEP 26 1958

FROM : SAC, KANSAS CITY (7-37)

SUBJECT: BREKID

OO: CI

Re KC letter to Bureau dated 9/17/58.

On 9/23/58 Mr. HAROLD D. FELDKAMP, Assistant Record Clerk, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas advised SA RICHARD A. SMALLWOOD that on 9/18/58 ALVIN KARPIS, an inmate at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas had been transferred to the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California.

The San Francisco Office is requested to verify KARPIS' incarceration at the USP, Alcatraz, Calif. and subsequently advise the Bureau of any change in the status of KARPIS at the institution.

2 Bureau  
1 Cincinnati (7-43)  
1 Minneapolis (7-30)  
2 San Francisco (7-33)  
1 Kansas City

RAS:pmc  
(7)

EX 105

REC-14

7-576-15457

14 SEP 29 1958

50 OCT 6 1958

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

FROM : *JFW* SAC, KANSAS CITY (7-37)

DATE: 10/21/58

SUBJECT: BREKID  
OO CI

Re Kansas City letter to the Bureau 9/26/58,  
and 4/10/58.

Kansas City letter 4/10/58, reflects that arrangements have been made with Mr. DAN SMITH, Secretary to the Warden, Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri, to advise the Kansas City Office when a communication is received from the U. S. Board of Parole.

Kansas City letter dated 9/26/58, reflects that ALVIN KARPIS was transferred from the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, back to the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California.

In view of the above Kansas City is considering this matter RUC.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Cincinnati (7-43)  
1 - Minneapolis (7-30)  
1 - San Francisco (7-33)  
1 - Kansas City  
RAS:sfb  
(6)

OCT 20 15 57 PM '58

EX-135

OCT 24 1958

*W*

*7-576-15458*

*f32d*

*68 OCT 27 1958*

*MAH*

*SOX*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 10/21/58

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (7-33)

SUBJECT: BREKID

(OO:CI)

Re Kansas City letter to Director, 9/26/58.

On October 7, 1958, Mr. C. J. McCLEARY, Records Officer, U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, advised SA ARDEN F. KEITH that inmate ALVIN KARPAVICZ, wa. ALVIN KARPIS, Alcatraz Number 325 AZ, was received at Alcatraz on transfer from the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, on September 21, 1958. Mr. McCLEARY advised that the San Francisco Office will be notified in the event of a change or contemplated change of status of KARPIS.

RUC

- ① - Bureau  
 1 - Cincinnati (7-43)(Info)  
 1 - Minneapolis (7-30)(Info)  
 1 - Kansas City (7-37)(Info)  
 1 - San Francisco

AFK/cjb  
 (6)

REC-13

7-576-15459

OCT 28 1958

EX-101

OCT 31 3 38 PM '58

58 OCT 31 1958 257



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. NEASE

DATE: NOV 26 1958

FROM : L. E. SHORT

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, with aliases,  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS.  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, Victim  
KIDNAPING

Bulky Exhibit File Number: 7-576-726

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Clayton \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

We are presently in the process of reviewing all bulky exhibits presently on hand, in order that we may weed out those which will serve no useful purpose by being retained. Inasmuch as a great many of these bulky exhibits pertain to inactive cases and are occupying badly needed space, it is requested that you have the appropriate substantive supervisor review the above-listed bulky exhibit and render a decision as to the retention or disposition of the material contained therein. A notation as to the decision rendered should be placed on this memorandum, and it should be returned to the Filing Unit of the Records Branch, Room 1113, Identification Building. This memorandum will be filed in the case file.

## RECOMMENDATION:

That the above-listed bulky exhibit be reviewed and a decision rendered as to the retention or disposition of the material contained therein.

JW:gbh

1-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
24 DEC 2 1958

J. W. MARSHALL  
4/1/59

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. MC GUIRE

DATE: MAY 27 1959

FROM : W. G. EAMES

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, with aliases  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - Victim  
KIDNAPING

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Bulky Exhibit File Number: 7-576-15267

We are in the process of reviewing all bulky exhibits in order that we may dispose of those which serve no further purpose. Inasmuch as many of the bulky exhibits pertain to inactive cases and are occupying badly needed space, it is requested that the appropriate substantive supervisor review the above-listed bulky exhibit and render a decision as to its retention or disposition. A notation as to the decision reached may be placed on this memorandum. The memorandum should be returned to the Filing Unit of the Records Branch, Room 1113, Identification Building, for filing in the case file.

## RECOMMENDATION:

That captioned bulky exhibit be reviewed and a decision rendered as to the retention or disposition of the material.

WMM:gbh

*Each connects to  
other exhibit &  
should be kept  
in file. This has  
not been done  
and is a surprise.*

*I believe the material  
in this file should be  
left intact for years  
to come because this has  
been one of the Bureau's  
really great cases. Many  
of the subjects are presumably  
still alive.*

7-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
2 JUN 9 1959

J. W. MARSHALL

57 JUN 9 1959

4168

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 6/15/59

FROM : SAC, KANSAS CITY (7-37)

SUBJECT: BREKID

OO: Minneapolis

On June 9, 1959, Mr. CARL F. ZARTER, Registrar, United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, advised SA RICHARD A. SMALLWOOD that VOLNEY E. DAVIS, USP #47101-L, FBI #400 441, was to be released on parole on or after August 4, 1959.

The records at the penitentiary reflect that on June 8, 1959 a Notice of Action of Parole Board was received at the penitentiary, dated June 3, 1959, which stated in part "parole reopened and granted to detainer or to an approved plan if detainer is withdrawn."

The files also contain a parole from the Governor of Oklahoma, received on October 7, 1957, which indicated that the Oklahoma parole would become effective if and when the United States Board of Parole saw fit to parole DAVIS. The parole from the State of Oklahoma was in connection with a detainer filed against DAVIS on June 27, 1935 in favor of Oklahoma State Penitentiary, McAlester, Oklahoma, for murder (a life sentence).

On February 6, 1959, United States Probation Officer for the Northern District of California prepared a parole plan for DAVIS in connection with an attempt at that time to obtain a parole for DAVIS. This plan was as follows:

Residence - [REDACTED]

Employment- Mr. ED GALLEY, owner, El Sobrante.  
HAROLD BEE, 3575 San Pablo Dam Road,  
El Sobrante (print shop).

2 Bureau  
1 Cincinnati (7-43) (Info)  
1 Minneapolis (7-30)  
1 San Francisco (7-33) (Info)  
2 Kansas City  
RAS:slh  
(7)

EX 100 REC-70

7-576-15460  
18 JUN 17 1959

JUN 18 1959

KC 7-37

Advisor - Mr. ARCHIE ALEXANDER, 785 Kern Street,  
Richmond, California

United States  
Probation Officer - ALBERT WAHL  
San Francisco, California

The above is being furnished for information of  
Bureau and offices receiving copies of this communication  
and the Kansas City Office will continue to follow this  
matter and advise the Bureau of developments in this matter.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 7/17/59

FROM : SAC, KANSAS CITY (7-37)

SUBJECT: BREKID

OO: MINNEAPOLIS

Re Kansas City letter to Bureau dated 6/15/59.

On July 14, 1959, Mr. CARL F. ZARTER, Registrar, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, advised SA RICHARD A. SMALLWOOD that VOLNEY E. DAVIS, USP #47101-L, is scheduled to be released on parole on August 4, 1959.

Mr. ZARTER stated that the parole plan which was set out in referenced letter is apparently the parole plan which DAVIS will use on his release.

The above is furnished for information to the Bureau and interested offices and Kansas City Office will continue to follow this matter and report pertinent information.

2 - Bureau (7-576)  
1 - Cincinnati (7-43)(INFO)  
1 - Minneapolis (7-30)  
1 - San Francisco (7-33)(INFO)  
2 - Kansas City (7-37)  
RAS:mch  
(7)

REC-37

7-576-15461

JUL 20 1959

F95  
50 JUL 31 1959

The Attorney General

July 28, 1959

Director, FBI

ALVIN KARPIS, ET AL.  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPING

I thought you would be interested in knowing that Volney Davis who was sentenced to life for his part in the kidnaping of Mr. Bremer is scheduled to be released on parole August 4, 1959.

Edward George Bremer was abducted in St. Paul, Minnesota, on January 17, 1934, and released on February 7, 1934, after payment of \$200,000 ransom. On January 22, 1935, Davis was indicted for conspiracy to transport the victim from Minnesota to Illinois and for the transporting of the victim. He was arrested by Agents of this Bureau in Kansas City, Missouri, on February 6, 1935. While being transported by airplane to Chicago the plane was forced down and Davis escaped. He was again apprehended June 1, 1935, at Chicago. On June 7, 1935, after entering a plea of guilty he was sentenced to life imprisonment in United States District Court at St. Paul, Minnesota.

At the time of the kidnaping Davis was a member of the notorious Karpis-Barker gang. He had a record extending back to February 5, 1919. He was on leave of absence from the State Penitentiary in Oklahoma where he was serving a life sentence for murder.

On December 5, 1952, Davis filed a petition for release on habeas corpus. On January 21, 1953, his petition was denied. On January 25, 1954, the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit, ordered that a hearing be held on Davis' petition. On August 11, 1954, his motion for an order setting aside his life sentence was denied in the United States District Court, St. Paul, Minnesota. On November 4, 1955, the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit, affirmed this decision and on April 23, 1956, the United States Supreme Court denied Davis' writ of certiorari.

The State of Oklahoma has granted Davis a parole which would become effective if and when the United States Board of Parole saw fit to parole Davis. The parole from the State of Oklahoma was in connection with

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RJG/jdn

MAILED 29

JUL 28 1959

COMM-FBI

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

REC-33

7-676-15462

**The Attorney General**

a detainer filed against him on June 27, 1935, in favor of the Oklahoma State Penitentiary for murder (a life sentence).

b7c  
We have been advised that the United States Probation Officer, Northern District of California, prepared a parole plan for Davis which is apparently the one he will use upon his release. The plan calls for him to reside with [REDACTED]. He would be employed by Harold Bee in a print shop in El Sobrante. His advisor would be Archie Alexander, Richmond, California, and his United States Probation Officer would be Albert Wahl, San Francisco, California.

1 - Mr. Lawrence E. Walsh  
Deputy Attorney General

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: July 28, 1959

FROM : A. ROSEN

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, ET AL.  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM  
KIDNAPING

☒ Tolson  
☒ Belmont  
☒ DeLoach  
☒ McGuire  
☒ Mohr  
☒ Parsons  
☒ Rosen  
☒ Tamm  
☒ Trotter  
☒ W.C. Sullivan  
☒ Tele. Room  
☒ Holloman  
☒ Gandy

Kansas City by letter 7-17-59, received in the Investigative Division 7-23-59, advised that Carl Zarter, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, notified that office that a definite date of 8-4-59 had been set for the parole of Volney Davis, serving a life sentence for his participation in the kidnaping of Bremer. By letter 6-15-59, received 6-18-59, Kansas City advised Davis was to be released on parole on or after 8-4-59. The Parole Board had already taken action.

On 1-17-34, Bremer was abducted in St. Paul, Minnesota, and released near Rochester, Minnesota, 2-7-34, after payment of \$200,000 ransom. On 1-22-35, Davis was indicted for conspiracy to transport the victim from Minnesota to Illinois and for transporting the victim. He was arrested by Bureau Agents in Kansas City, Missouri, 2-6-35, and transported by airplane to Chicago. En route the plane was forced down and Davis escaped. He was again apprehended 6-1-35 at Chicago. On 6-7-35, after entering a plea of guilty, he was sentenced to life imprisonment in U. S. District Court, St. Paul.

At the time of the kidnaping, Davis was a member of the Karpis-Barker gang. He had an identification record extending back to 2-5-19. He was on a leave of absence from the State Penitentiary in Oklahoma where he was serving a life sentence for murder.

On 12-5-52, Davis filed a petition for release on habeas corpus. He also made a motion for an order setting aside his life sentence. He based his action on the grounds (1) he was not represented by counsel, (2) he was never taken before a U. S. Commissioner, (3) he was never presented with a copy of the indictment prior to trial, (4) he was not thoroughly advised as to his constitutional rights before entering his plea, (5) he did not voluntarily waive right to counsel, (6) he did not know his constitutional rights, (7) he was held incommunicado in a distant city for questioning in chains and in secrecy, and (8) he was led to believe if he entered a plea of guilty he would be given a term of years. On 1-21-53, the petition was denied. On 1-25-54, the U. S. Circuit

152  
RJG/jdn/dlb  
-5-

SENT DIRECTOR  
7-27-59

23 AUG 10 1959



Memorandum to the Director

Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit, ordered a hearing held on Davis' petition. On 8-11-54, his motion was denied. On 11-4-55, U. S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit, affirmed the decision denying Davis' petition and on 4-23-56, the U. S. Supreme Court denied Davis' writ of certiorari.

The U. S. Probation Officer, Northern District of California, has prepared a parole plan for Davis which plan is apparently the one he would use upon his release. The plan calls for him to reside with his

He would be employed by Harold Bee, 3575 San Pablo Dam Road, El Sobrante (print shop). His advisor would be Archie Alexander, 785 Kern Street, Richmond, California, and his U. S. Probation Officer would be Albert Wahl, San Francisco, California.

Davis' identification record, FBI number 400441, reveals he was born 1-29-02, in Oklahoma, which would make him 57 years of age. The State of Oklahoma has granted Davis a parole which would become effective if and when the U. S. Board of Parole saw fit to parole Davis. The parole from the State of Oklahoma was in connection with a detainer filed against him on 6-27-35 in favor of the Oklahoma State Penitentiary for murder ( a life sentence).

ACTION TAKEN:

A letter has been directed to the Attorney General calling to his attention the fact that Davis is to be paroled August 4, 1959. The Attorney General has been furnished with background information concerning Davis.

*This certainly is  
an instance of gross  
abuse of parole in the  
Federal area.*

TRUE COP.

69

Dear Gentlemen:

I would like to find out more about how  
you captured one of the worst killers "The Blaster."  
Could you please send me anything about the capture.

Thank you

/s/ Chris Hardner

Dear Gentlemen:

I would like to find out more  
about how you captured one of the worst  
killers "The Blaster". Could you please  
send me anything about the capture.

Thank you JDD  
Chris Hardner

REC-95

EX-110

2 FEB 17 1961

15464

REC- 95

7-576-15464

February 16, 1961

EX-110  
Mr. Chris Hardner  
257 Gridby Avenue  
Erie, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Hardner:

Your card postmarked February 11, 1961, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI has no material which we can currently send you relating to Arthur "Doc" Barker, to whom I believe you are referring. For your information, however, I prepared an article entitled "The Blaster," concerning "Doc" Barker which appeared in the September, 1946, issue of "The Reader's Digest," and you may be able to secure a copy of it through your local public libraries.

You may also wish to refer to "The FBI Story" by Don Whitehead, which sets forth the stories of numerous notorious criminals, including that of the Barker-Karpis gang.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 10  
FEB 16 1961  
COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

52 FEB 23 1961  
(3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FBI  
REC'D MAIL ROOM

FEB 18 11 11 AM '61  
FBI  
REC'D MAIL ROOM  
V. K. 12  
DH

July 21, 1961

Airtel

REC-11

7-576-3465

To: SAC, Jacksonville

From: Director, FBI

FRANCES L. WILLIAMS  
TRENTON, FLORIDA  
RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS)  
BUDED 7-26-61

Enclosed are two copies of a letter dated 7-18-61 received from captioned individual. Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles, and this letter has not been answered.

Your office is instructed to ascertain the writer's identity and reputation through brief, discreet inquiries limited to public sources and established contacts, insuring that she not become aware of the Bureau's interest. Thereafter, unless reason develops dictating to the contrary, she should be contacted and her letter acknowledged for me. Express appreciation for her interest in bringing the photographs in her possession to our attention but inform her tactfully that we have numerous photographs already of the subjects in question. If, of course, she volunteers to make copies of them available to us, they can be accepted. If she is established to be a reputable person, the attached Interesting Case write-up can be given her. She should be advised of the confidential nature of data appearing in our files, but her attention can be directed to Whitehead's "The FBI Story" which answers the questions she has raised. Forward desired data, together with the results of your contact, under same caption to reach the Bureau no later than 7-26-61.

Enclosures (3)

Follow up made for 7-26-61

NOTE: No record in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent on spellings of either Frances or Francis L. Williams.

DCL:bir  
(6)

Callahan  
Conrad  
DeLoach  
Evans  
Malone  
Rosen  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

1961

4241

TRUE COPY

Trenton, Florida  
July 18, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington. D. C.

Gentlemen:

FRED BARKER

I am wondering if you have time, and will answer inquires like mine, and if you will give out information about past gangs operating in Florida?

I have been a commercial photographer in this area for the past 10 years, and have in my possession a set of pictures of the capture of the (Ma Barker) Gang. There are 8 photographs in all. They are as follows:

- (1) Ma Barker & Son Fred on Slab in an Ocala Fla undertaking establishment,
- (2) Fred Barker on slab, Face & Neck packed with cotton.
- (3) House they were captured at, (side view) with F. B. I. Agents removing bodies of Gang.
- (4) House with F. B. I. agents with drawn guns, Just before capture. (Front view of house).
- (5) Ma Barker on Slab in undertaking establishment.
- (6) Ma Barker & Fred head view with bullet holes showing.
- (7) Ma Barker, Head & chest with bullet holes showing.
- (8) Fred Barker - Head & chest with 14 bullet holes showing.

All the above pictures are originals. They are contact prints, from size 616 film. The inside shots are time exposures, with only light from an overhanging bulb. (no flash). They are all good and sharp and all photos are in perfect condition. The photographer is unknown to me.

EX-113

REC-17

7-576-15465

Could you please give me some information about this gang? How long they operated, Where, How many killed, Captured, and also, Do you know of these photos? Do the F. B. I. Files contain a set of these prints. I would be grateful if you could send me this information.

airtel to Jacksonville  
7-21-61  
mail DCI  
STC-7-21-61  
jws

With Higest Regards s JUL 24 1961

Frances L. Williams  
Trenton, Fla

/s/

gbal

Federal Bureau of Investigation.  
Washington. D. C.

Gentlemen:

I am wondering if you have time, and will answer inquiries like mine, and if you will give out information about past gangs operating in Florida?

I have been a commercial photographer in this area for the past 10 years, and have in my possession a set of pictures of the capture of the (Ma Barker) Gang. There are 8 photographs in all. They are as follows:

- (1) Mr Barker & son Fred on slab in an Ocala Fla undertaking establishment.
- (2) Fred Barker on slab, face & neck packed with cotton
- (3) House they were captured at, (side view) with F.B.I. Agents removing bodies of Gang.
- (4) House with F.B.I. Agents with drawn guns, just before capture. (Front view of house).
- (5) Mr Barker on slab in undertaking establishment.
- (6) Mr Barker & Fred, head view with bullet holes showing.

aited to Jacksonville  
7-21-61  
and OCL/lin

3TC

7/21/61

CORRESPONDENCE

- (7) Max Barker, head & chest with 1 bullet hole showing.
- (8) Fred Barker - head & chest with 14 bullet holes showing.

all the above pictures are originals, they are contact prints, from size 616 film. The inside shots are time exposures, with only light from an overhanging bulb. (no flash). They are all good and sharp and all photos are in perfect condition. The photographer is unknown to me.

Could you please give me some information about this gang? How long they operated, where, how many killed, captured, and also, do you know of these photos? Do the F.B.I. files contain a set of these prints. I would be grateful if you could send me this information

With Highest Regards  
Frances L. Williams  
Trenton, Fla

FBI

Date: 7/26/61

Transmit the following in AIRTEL  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRMAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, JACKSONVILLE (94-53)

RE: FRANCES L. WILLIAMS  
TRENTON, FLORIDA  
RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS)  
(BUDED 7/26/61) MAS. W. J. WILLIAMS

FRED BARKER

all pgs

Re Bureau airtel to Jacksonville 7/21/61.

The following inquiry was made by SA HOMER E.

DUNLAP:

[REDACTED]

RUC.  
2-Bureau  
1-Jacksonville  
HED-beh  
(4)

Following  
Killed in  
Car

REC-23

7-576-15416

EX-107

18 JUL 28 1961

no action

62 AUG 2 1961

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

CORRESPONDENCE



b7C

[REDACTED]

There is no police department or credit bureau in  
Trenton, Fla.

b7C

[REDACTED]

In view of the above information, FRANCES L.  
WILLIAMS was not contacted and her letter to the bureau,  
dated 7/18/61, acknowledged.

*no further  
action warranted  
see*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 10-11-61

FROM : M. *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: HERMAN ENGELHARDT  
 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA  
 WILBURN J. PITTS  
 CLAIM OF "ASSISTANCE" IN  
 THE ARREST OF ALVIN KARPIS

Tolson ☒  
 Belmont ☒  
 Mohr ☒  
 Callahan ☒  
 Conrad ☒  
 DeLoach ☒  
 Evans ☒  
 Malone ☒  
 Rosen ☒  
 Sullivan ☒  
 Tavel ☒  
 Trotter ☒  
 Tele. Room ☒  
 Ingram ☒  
 Gandy ☒

We received on October 9, 1961, an undated letter from Herman Engelhardt stating that a close friend, Wilburn J. Pitts, had told him of having unwittingly assisted the Director in the capture of Alvin Karpis in New Orleans about 1935. Engelhardt requests the Director to confirm Pitts' story since he (Engelhardt) plans to offer the incident in Pitts' name to the Gary Moore television program, "I've Got A Secret."

Briefly, Pitts, described as aged 61 at this time, claimed that he was about to enter the apartment building at 3341 Canal Street, in New Orleans to sell magazines when the Director personally accosted him and requested that he not enter. Pitts asked for an explanation and when it was not given, entered the building and knocked at the first door which was Karpis' apartment. He claimed the Director observed his contact at the Karpis apartment and when he left the building again was stopped by the Director and showed a picture of Karpis which he identified as the man he had spoken to in the first apartment. He alleged that after Karpis was arrested the Director invited him to the New Orleans FBI Office for a discussion and explanation.

Pitts' claim, of course, is not true. The Director and other members of the apprehension party arrived at the apartment building in which Karpis was residing at approximately 5:30 p.m., on May 1, 1936, and before they even had a chance to leave their cars, Karpis and an associate came out of the apartment building. The actual apprehension was made at an automobile in front of the apartment building. The address of this building was 3343 Canal Street instead of 3341 as indicated by Pitts. Facts of the arrest are set out on page 109 of "The FBI Story."

There is a possibility that Pitts may have had an encounter with an Agent prior to the apprehension since the apartment building in which Karpis resided was under observation for several hours prior to the arrest. There is no information in Bufiles, however, to confirm this.

Bufiles contain no identifiable record on Pitts or Engelhardt.

## RECOMMENDATION:

That the enclosed inabsence letter be sent to Engelhardt.

Enclosure

DWB:Kmf

10-11-61

REC- 327-576-1571

OCT 13 1961

REC-46

7-196-15468

October 11, 1961

Mr. Herman Engelhardt  
Regional Director  
Continental Life Insurance Company  
Suite 825, Commerce Building  
Third and Laurel Streets  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Engelhardt:

Your letter postmarked October 7, 1961,  
was received just before Mr. Hoover was called out of the  
city, and he asked me to acknowledge it for him.

The information furnished you by Mr. Pitts  
regarding the capture of Alvin Karpis is not correct. The  
facts of this arrest are stated on page 109 of the book by  
Mr. Don Whitehead entitled "The FBI Story."

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy  
Secretary

1 - New Orleans - Enclosure

NOTE: See Jones to DeLoach Memo same date captioned "Herman Engelhardt,  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Wilburn J. Pitts, Claim of "Assistance" in the Arrest  
of Alvin Karpis."

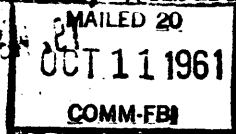
olson \_\_\_\_\_  
elmont \_\_\_\_\_  
ohr \_\_\_\_\_  
llahan \_\_\_\_\_  
onrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Loach \_\_\_\_\_  
ans \_\_\_\_\_  
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tter \_\_\_\_\_  
e. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
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dy \_\_\_\_\_

DWB:kmd

(4)

ENCLOSURE

62 OCT 11 1961



us

AM

3 03 PM '61

lure

OCT 11 2 45 PM '61  
FBI  
RECORD-READING ROOM

RECORD-READING ROOM  
FBI  
OCT 11 2 45 PM '61

MR. TOLSON: ✓

This is a copy of the letter on the Karpis case which you inquired about. It came through here last night and Mr. Hyde sent it on for reply. Mr. Jones now has the original to prepare the reply.

DSS ✓

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

RECEIVED  
JUL 10 1935

file

7-576-15468



When Mr. Pitts returned to the sidewalk you personally again accosted him, took him by the arm, showed him a photo of Karpis and asked if that was the man he had talked to, which Pitts acknowledged it was and told you that there was also two other people in his apartment, a man and a woman. Thus Pitts unknowingly positively identified Karpis and the apartment he occupied in the building. Karpis and his accomplices were captured without resistance. You later invited Mr. Pitts down to the New Orleans F. B. I. offices for a discussion and explanation.

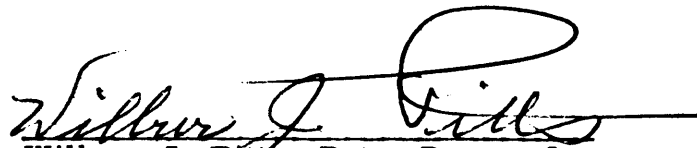
This unwitting identification of Karpis and his apartment to you by Mr. Pitts should have been of some material value and aid to you and your staff in the successful capture of Karpis without a struggle.

This incident and train of events is what I propose to submit to the Garry Moore T. V. program "I've Got a Secret" as a spectacular and dramatic "secret" for T. V. showing. If you will, I'll appreciate your confirming these facts to me for this sole purpose.

Cordially yours,

  
Herman Engelhardt, C. L. U.

I certify to the above events and facts as true and correct.

  
Wilburn J. Pitts, Baton Rouge, La.

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

Personal

Dear Sir:

A close personal friend here in Baton Rouge, Wilburn J. Pitts, has told me of an experience and contact with you personally about the year 1935. If you will, I'll appreciate your confirming these facts with me as he relates them to me. The purpose of my asking you to confirm these facts is that I plan to offer the incident and Mr. Pitts' name to the commercial T. V. program "I've Got a Secret" conducted by Garry Moore over the C B S network.

The related facts are these:

About 1935 Mr. Pitts unwittingly and unknowingly rendered assistance to you and members of your staff in the capture of the then infamous criminal Alvin Karpis in New Orleans, Louisiana. You personally directed the capture.

Mr. Pitts (now age 61) was then a magazine salesman and approached the apartment building, No. 3341 Canal St., corner of Jefferson Davis Parkway, to solicit its occupants for magazine sales just as you and your men surrounded the building. You personally accosted Mr. Pitts at the building entrance and requested that he not enter. Pitts asking you for an explanation of your request which was not given indignantly refused, proceeded into the building and carried on his solicitations. Unknowingly and coincidentally he started his solicitation by first knocking on the door of Alvin Karpis' apartment. You observed this contact at Karpis' apartment door and understandably became suspicious of Mr. Pitts.

*I never heard*

*of this* →

*10/10*

When Mr. Pitts returned to the sidewalk you personally again accosted him, took him by the arm, showed him a photo of Karpis and asked if that was the man he had talked to, which Pitts acknowledged it was and told you that there was also two other people in his apartment, a man and a woman. Thus Pitts unknowingly positively identified Karpis and the apartment he occupied in the building. Karpis and his accomplices were captured without resistance. You later invited Mr. Pitts down to the New Orleans F. B. I. offices for a discussion and explanation.

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Wilburn J. Pitts, Baton Rouge, La.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
JAN 30 1962  
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

URGENT 1-30-62 12-14 AM PST

TO DIRECTOR, FBI /7-576/

FROM SAC, SAN FRANCISCO /7-33/ 2 PAGES

BREKID. OO CINCINNATI. RE BUREAU TELEPHONE CALL TODAY.

WARDEN OLIN G. BLACKWELL, U. S. PENITENTIARY, ALCATRAZ ISLAND,  
CALIF., ADVISED THIS DATE ALVIN KARPAVICZ, AKA ALVIN KARPIS, FIRST  
RECEIVED AT ALCATRAZ FROM U. S. PENITENTIARY, LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS,  
AUGUST SIX, NINETEEN THIRTY-SIX, ON LIFE SENTENCE. TRANSFERRED TO  
LEAVENWORTH ON FEBRUARY, TWENTY-SEVEN, NINETEEN FIFTY-EIGHT, AND RE-  
TURNED TO ALCATRAZ ON SEPT. TWENTY-ONE, FIFTY-EIGHT. HAS ADHERED  
TO REGID DISCIPLINE OF ALCATRAZ. HAS BEEN ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE SINCE  
JULY TWENTY-SIX, NINETEEN FIFTY-ONE, BUT WAIVED A PAROLE HEARING BY  
U. S. BOARD OF PAROLES, UNTIL JULY FIVE, SIXTY-ONE, WHEN HIS PAROLE  
WAS DENIED. HE WILL BE CONSIDERED EACH YEAR BY U. S. BOARD OF PAR-  
OLES FOR SAME. KARPIS HAS BEEN TRYING TO ESTABLISH PAROLE PLAN BY  
HAVING RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUAL WHO WILL ASSIST HIM IN REHABILITATION  
ON OUTSIDE LIFE IF SAME GRANTED. HAS BEEN CORRESPONDING WITH FRANK

END PAGE ONE

63 FEB 7 1962

REC-4

EX 101

7-576-15469  
JAN 31 1962

PAGE TWO

A. ROBERTS, DIRECTOR, CATHOLIC REHABILITATIONS SERVICE OF THE FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES, INC., ONE FIVE, NOTRE DAME ST., EAST, MONTREAL, CANADA, WHO HAS INDICATED HIS INTEREST IN ASSISTING KARPIS IF HE IS PAROLED AND DEPORTED TO CANADA. ROBERTS EVIDENTLY HAS BEEN CORRESPONDING WITH BOARD OF PAROLE, WASH., D. C., IN EFFORT TO DEVELOP SOME SOLID RELEASE PLANS ACCEPTABLE TO BOARD OF PAROLE. WARDEN BLACKWELL CONSIDERS PAROLE OF KARPIS HIGHLY IMPROBABLE, AS LONG AS KARPIS AT ALCATRAZ. KARPIS APPROVED FOR TRANSFER TO USP MC NEIL ISLAND, STEILACOOM, WASH., AND WILL BE SENT THERE IN THE NEAR FUTURE WITH FIRST SHIPMENT OF PRISONERS. INFORMATION AS TO KARPIS-S PAROLE STATUS, IF DESIRED, SHOULD BE OBTAINED FROM U. S. BOARD OF PAROLE, WASH., D. C., WHO WILL HAVE COMPLETE INFORMATION AS SAME NOT AVAILABLE AT ALCATRAZ. AM COPIES TO CINCINNATI, MINNEAPOLIS, AND KANSAS CITY.

TIME ORIG 11-55 AM THIS DATE CH TIME DUE TO TROUBLE ON LINE

I END AND ACK PLS.

3-21 PM OK FBI WA MSL

TU DISC

FEB 2 1962

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

**Memorandum**TO : Mr. Belmont *HB*

DATE: January 31, 1962

FROM : A. Rosen *ARM*SUBJECT: PAROLE OF ALVIN KARPIS

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Malone	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Ingram	_____
Gandy	_____

With regard to the reason for the transfer of Karpis from Alcatraz Island, California, Penitentiary to the McNeil Island, Washington, Penitentiary, SAC Price of our San Francisco Office ascertained from Warden Olin G. Blackwell, U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz Island, California, that Karpis has been incarcerated in Alcatraz for a number of years and has caused no trouble.

Karpis has been in Alcatraz longer than any other prisoner at the present time. He has served over twenty years on the "Rock." The average time served by a prisoner in Alcatraz is approximately five years. The Warden commented that Karpis is the only one of the "old gang" from the thirties still there.

Since he has proved over a period of years that he is not a supervisory problem, he is considered to have earned the right for removal to another penitentiary where the discipline is not as severe as it is in Alcatraz. McNeil Island is still considered a maximum security prison. While Karpis' transfer to McNeil Island has been approved, he will be sent there in the near future when a group of prisoners are assembled for transfer.

WBW:ige  
(6)

*488 R UBN JH 7 V. 27*

REC-14

7-576-15470

EX 101

25 FEB 6 1962

*37*

31 FEB 12 1962

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: January 31, 1962

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: PAROLE OF ALVIN KARPAVICZ, AKA ALVIN KARPIS

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

This is to advise that prison officials at Alcatraz and unofficial inquiry of the Board of Parole indicate that there is no plan for the parole of Alvin Karpis in the immediate future and he will not be considered again for parole until July, 1962.

Warden Olin G. Blackwell, U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz Island, California, advised that Karpis was received at Alcatraz from the U. S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, August 6, 1936, on a life sentence. He was transferred to Leavenworth February 27, 1958, and returned to Alcatraz on September 21, 1958. Karpis has adhered to rigid discipline at Alcatraz and was eligible for parole July 26, 1951, but waived parole hearing until July 5, 1961, when his parole was denied.

Karpis will be considered for parole each year. He has been trying to establish contact with a responsible individual who will assist him in setting up a parole plan and in rehabilitation if he is released. Karpis has been corresponding with Frank A. Roberts, Director, Catholic Rehabilitations Service of the Federation of Catholic Charities, Incorporated, 15 Notre Dame Street, East, Montreal, Canada, who has indicated his interest in assisting Karpis if he is paroled and deported to Canada. Warden Blackwell considers parole of Karpis highly improbable as long as Karpis is at Alcatraz; however, Karpis has been approved for transfer to the U. S. Penitentiary at McNeil Island, Washington, and will be sent there in the near future.

The Board of Parole, Washington, D. C., has unofficially advised that there is no plan for the immediate parole of Karpis and his case will not be considered again until July, 1962.

Inquiry will be made as to the reason for the contemplated transfer of Karpis to McNeil Island.

FDT:mal  
 (7)

FEB 20 1962

REC-23

FEB 2 1962

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 1-29-62

FROM : D. C. Morrell

SUBJECT: PAROLE OF ALVIN KARPIS

Tolson ☒  
Belmont ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Callahan ☒  
Conrad ☒  
DeLoach ☒  
Evans ☒  
Malone ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Sullivan ☒  
Tavel ☒  
Trotter ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Ingram ☒  
Gandy ☒

The 7 a.m. news broadcast over Radio Station WMAL indicated that Alvin Karpis, who has been in prison for around 25 years, may be released on a deportation parole to his home town of Montreal, Canada. No additional details were furnished.

## RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

1 - M. A. Jones

GEM:jar  
(3)

EX 100

REC-23

Do we know  
anything  
about this?  
7-576-12472  
4 FEB 2 1962  
CORRESPONDENCE

52 FEB 15 1962

174 Cote des Neiges Road,  
Montreal 247,  
March 16, 1971.

Editor,  
The Montreal Star  
Montreal, P.Q.

Dear Sir:

The only real humour in Karpis' sordid memoirs was the line where he said, "I have nothing but contempt for J. Edgar Hoover." That really cracked me up! I suppose it has been echoed down through the years by every rapist, murderer, kidnapper, drug peddler, mafiosist and communist around the world. AND WEEKEND EDITIONS has taken this thug's impression as though it were the gospel truth--- without even explode the J. Edgar Hoover Legend."

Karpis seems to have an almost phenomenal memory for details of events that took place over forty years ago. Really remarkable. What a pity that such a talent didn't have been channelled into something more useful than evading the law. Whether or not his account of Hoover's part in his arrest is reliable, is something the reader will have to decide for himself. Not everything that appears in a newspaper is infallible. For two years now we have been brain-washed on a "Black Panther" to wipe out the Black Panthers; almost every liberal newspaper around the world has carried reports of the 26 Panthers allegedly murdered by the police.

After intensive investigation, this number has been reduced to two who have been killed by police in defence, and such top-ranking newspapers as the NEW YORK TIMES and THE WASHINGTON POST are bending over backwards, editorially, to apologise for what they have admitted to be "irresponsible reporting" on their part.

So, whether or not the account of Mr. Hoover's activities as reported in the "Black Panther" is a "right, law-abiding citizen of the community" like Karpis, forty years after the fact, the place is open to question. My own reaction is rather naive. I would compare the two men's lives and ask yourself, "Who has made the biggest and best contribution to society?" The man who has built the FBI up into what is probably the most respected law-enforcement agencies in the world, or a self-confessed

7-5412-  
ENCLOSURE

and that who has cost the country millions of dollars, while wasting his life and that of others.

For my part, I have no doubts about which of the two "I have nothing but contempt for!" And, incidentally, as long as such characters can get away for committing their crimes, let's not try to kid our young people that crime doesn't pay.

*Milton Moorhouse*

M. Moorhouse

Mrs. Milton Moorhouse  
Apt. 805  
4874 Côte des Neiges Rd.  
Montreal 247, P. Q.

cc: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director ✓  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

#803,  
4874 Cote des Neiges Road,  
Montreal 247,  
March 16, 197.

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Casper  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. Dalbey  
Mr. Felt  
Mr. Gale  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Walters  
Mr. Soyars  
Tele. Room  
Miss Holmes  
Miss Gandy

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

Dear Sir:

For the past two or 3 weekends the reading public of Montreal has been "treated" (?) to the memoirs of Alvin Karpis. However, his closing remarks (see enclosed article) were too much for me so I have today sent a letter to the MONTREAL STAR and THE WEEKEND MAGAZINE expressing my views on his version of the FBI in general and you in particular.

In a day when it seems to be the 'in thing' to denigrate you and your organization, I feel it is time for Christian people and law-abiding citizens to take up cudgels on behalf of the police. I doubt that the Star will publish my letter---I've had little success getting into print with them heretofore as I am too "right wing" to suit their editorial policy. However, I can only try.

In closing, I might say that I have been made keenly aware of much of the communist tactics by reading your book "MASTERS OF DECEIT" and John Starnes' books as well as Dr. Carl McIntyre's radio broadcasts and paper, THE CHRISTIAN BEACON. It is a mystery to me that government departments try to silence men like these who are really engaged in alerting the public to the communist conspiracy---but I suppose these various departments are already so infected themselves that they regard McIntyre, you and others as their enemies.

May God continue to bless you.

Sincerely,

(Mrs. Milton Moorhouse)

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

Mrs. Milton Moorhouse  
Apt. 203  
4874 Cote des Neiges Rd.  
Montreal 247, P. Q.

59 JUL 1 1971

7-576-

202 JUN 28 1971

CORRESPONDENCE

ORIGINAL FILED IN



# MADE MOO

And the FBI director's fame is based on lies, according to Alvin "Old Creepy" Karpis, the last of the great gangsters of the 30s

*Among the terrible men of US crime, Alvin Karpis, a Canadian, may have been the most terrible. The very mention of his name struck terror into the hearts of Depression-day America. US Public Enemy No. 1, wanted for murder in 14 states, Karpis finally went to prison on a kidnapping charge. He spent 33 years behind bars. In January, 1939, he was paroled and deported to Canada, where he went to work on his life story with Bill Trent. His book is being published in the US by Coward-McCann as The Alvin Karpis Story, and simultaneously in Canada by McClelland and Stewart under the title, Public Enemy Number One. The Alvin Karpis Story. In excerpts from the book last weekend, Karpis told about his life with the famous Ma Barker. Today, in a concluding episode, he straightens out some misconceptions about his arrest — and calls FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover a liar.*

THE LAST MONTHS of 1935 and the early ones of 1936 were hectic. I had to keep moving. It was important to present the FBI with a moving target.

They carried the search into almost every state in the union. In New York City, for example, 40 agents surrounded an apartment house on a tip that I was inside. They dragged a young guy out and threw him in jail. His crime: He owned a car with Oklahoma plates. They thought it was my car.

In Cleveland and Toledo, they ransacked all my old haunts. In Chicago, they watched my parents' place. In Little Rock, Arkansas, 60 agents got together for what FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said was a regional conference. I learned they were following up a lead that I was holed up there. I was close. I was in nearby Hot Springs.

Freddie Hunter, the guy I took up with after the feds shot up my old friends, Freddie Barker and Ma Barker, in Florida, was a little bit edgy about

We didn't settle in any one house for too long. We kept shifting locations. Fortunately, I had a good friend named Grace Goldstein, who was always finding a new address for Freddie and me. Grace was a peroxide blonde who ran a hooker joint that took up two floors of the Hatterie Hotel, next door to the luxurious Arlington Hotel, in Hot Springs. She entertained all the top crooks and many politicians.

Grace was well-connected and when she found a place for us, it was usually a good one. Like this place on Malvern Road, which runs between Hot Springs and Malvern, Arkansas. The house, built on a hill overlooking Lake Catherine, was lovely. It belonged to a wealthy real estate operator named Woodcock and came equipped with two safety features: bright outside lights and two barking dogs.

There was a double threat for us in Arkansas. Not only had the FBI moved in but so had the postal investigators. The latter had been hot after me because of a payroll train caper, and they were handling the search with better results than the feds.

The postal guys were a busy bunch and somehow or other they got onto Freddie's girl Connie. They hired a fellow to take her out on the town with instructions to fill her full of booze and let her talk. Connie, though, was too smart. She poured the liquor under the table and it was the undercover man who drank too much. He told her who he was, and then suggested that the two of them turn Freddie in, collect a reward, and run off together. She brushed him off and reported back to us.

Grace was the next person to report some funny business.

"The FBI paid a guy I know \$1,000 to take me out," she said. "He's an undertaker."

"A mortician?" I asked. I was surprised and had

"They think I know where you are and that I'll tell this guy," she said.

ENCLOSURE 7-576-

# MOOVER'S

Moover's theme is based on lies,  
in "Old Creepy" Karpis,  
about gangsters of the 30s

...the, Alvin Karpis,  
most terrible.  
...into the  
...Public En-  
...Karpis  
...charge. He  
...1939, he  
...where he went  
...His book is  
...and McCann as  
...usually in Can-  
...the time. Pub-  
...Karpis Story. In  
...Karpis told  
...Today, in  
...out some mis-  
...his FBI Direc-

...the early ones  
...moving. It was  
...being target.  
...they were in  
...example, 40  
...a tip that  
...a guy out and  
...and a car with  
...my car.  
...needed all my  
...my parents'  
...they got to-  
...ever said  
...they were fol-  
...there. I was  
...with after the  
...they didn't

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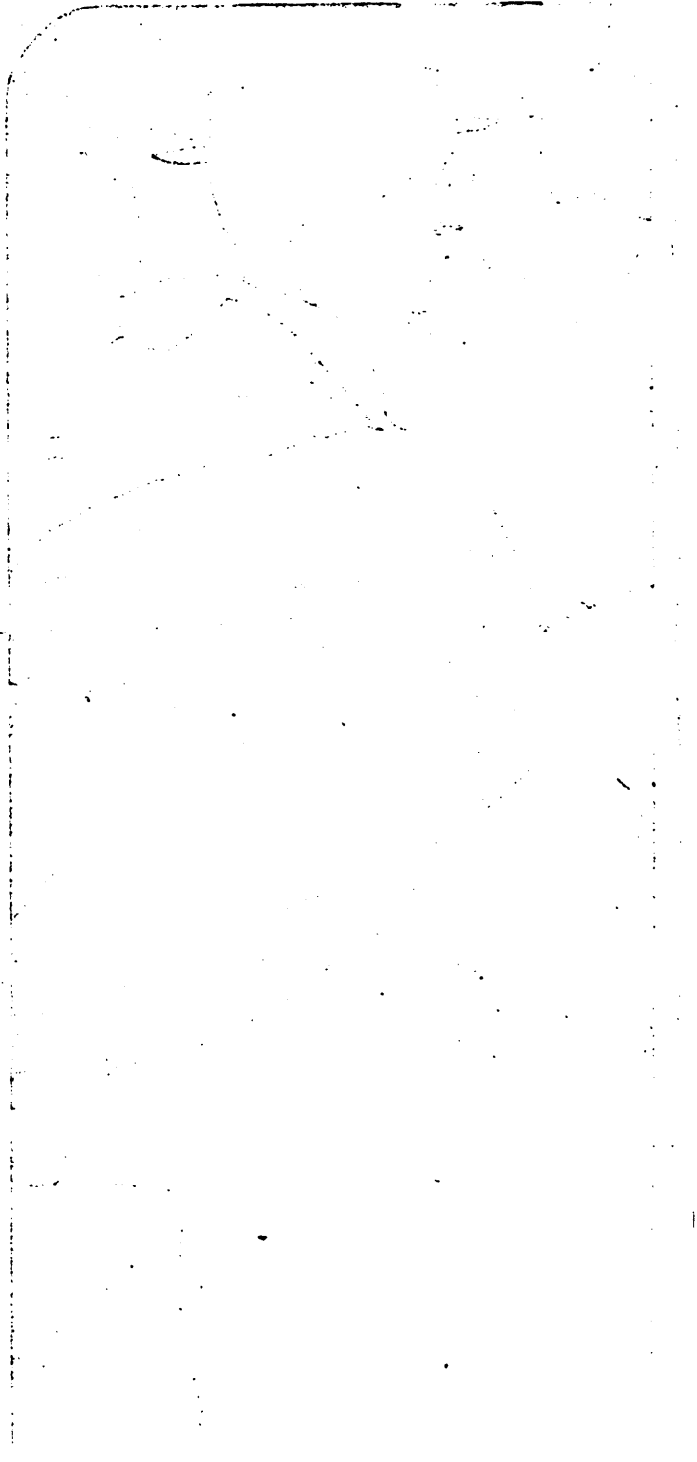
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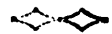
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*...his story with Hot Springs. This book is being published in the US by Coward-McCann as The Alvin Karpis Story, and simultaneously in Canada by McClelland and Stewart under the title, Public Enemy Number One, The Alvin Karpis Story. In excerpts from the book last weekend, Karpis told about his life with the famous Ma Barker. Today, in a concluding episode, he straightens out some misconceptions about his arrest — and calls FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover a liar.*



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Red Hunter, the guy I took up with after the first shot up my old friends, Freddie Barker and Ma Barker, in Florida, was getting pretty edgy about Chicago. He was really nervous when we rented this place at an intersection in Hot Springs. There was a cheap sign at the corner and every time there was a car, Red Hunter on the street, Freddie would spring up to his gun and run to the window.

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"A mortician?" I asked. I was surprised and had to laugh.

"They think I know where you are and that I'll tell this guy," she said.

Freddie and I didn't sit still long. We took off for Texas with Connie. Before we left, I arranged with Grace to meet her in two weeks' time on a side road that ran into the Hot Springs-Philadelphia highway. Then, while we were away, the FBI raided our

*Continued*

Hoover, at left, escorting Karpis shortly

# PUTATION

---

# STATION

By Alvin Karpis  
with Bill Trent  
Weekend Magazine

Photos by UPI

after his capture in New Orleans. Hoover said he personally made the arrest, but Karpis says the director's deputies did the job themselves.



...in New Orleans, I drove to Freddie's ...  
on Jefferson Parkway. It was a strange ...  
mean, I knew there was something in the air ...  
couldn't explain what it was.

Freddie came out ... a couple of incidents ...  
increased my anxiety. He said that a couple of ...  
earlier his landlady had suddenly called at the ...  
ment. She kept some of her furniture in one of Freddie's spare rooms, and she said she wanted to sell it to a buyer. Freddie agreed, and the landlady brought in a sharp-looking character in his late 30s or early 40s.

"Now that I think of the guy," Freddie said, "he didn't seem like the type who'd be interested in a bunch of second-hand furniture."



Grace Goldstein wouldn't talk

They really did a job, according to Grace. They rained bullets in the windows. They blew out the door. They lobbed in some flares. One flare landed on a bed and set a fire. It kept on burning and some agents went in to put out the fire. That was when they discovered the house was empty.

J. Edgar Hoover got into hot water over the wreckage of the house. A US senator named Job Robinson happened to be a close friend of Woodcock, the guy who owned the house, and the senator blasted Hoover on the floor of the Senate for the FBI's failure to be certain someone was in the house before they launched their assault. The rumor was that Hoover himself had led the attack, but this was never confirmed.

It was a bad time for Hoover all around for a couple of weeks. He also took a public pounding for hiring a press agent named Courtney Riley Cooper who was paid a fabulous salary to shine up Hoover's image. Some senators wanted to know something about Hoover's other expenses, too — for instance, the amount he had spent on stool pigeons to try to track me down.

I enjoyed reading about Hoover's difficulties. But I also had my own. The heat was really on and I couldn't escape it. I couldn't relax even on a holiday trip with Grace through Florida and Mississippi. I kept hearing radio bulletins that jerked me back to reality. On one occasion, for instance, I heard that the district attorney in St. Paul had gathered enough evidence to indict me for the kidnapping of William Hamm, the brewer, back in June, 1933.

I still kept an eye open for possible scores. In Mississippi, I saw a big construction project going up called the Flowlock Dam that must have had a

Only the day before, Freddie went on, he'd noticed four guys carrying suitcases to an apartment on the floor above. The janitor said they were Harvester salesmen who were keeping the apartment for some girls. The story made sense but I didn't like it. The furniture man and the Harvester guys could easily have been feds.

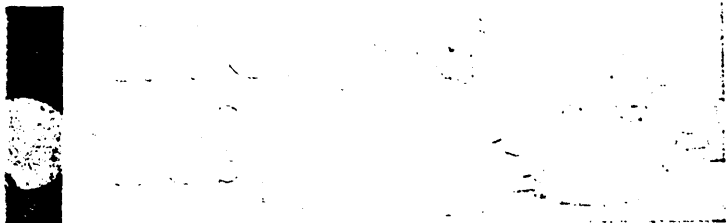
Freddie and I went out for a drive. I wanted to take my car to a garage for servicing. But first I had some guns in the trunk that I wanted to switch to Freddie's car. I made the switch out at Lake Pontchartrain. I kept my .45 with me, however, and we drove back to the United Motors Garage in New Orleans. I left my car there and Freddie and I took a slow drive around town in his car.

"I'm not sure," Freddie said after a few minutes, "but I think somebody's tailing us. The car's got two guys in it. It's a maroon coupe."

I had seen a coupe at Lake Pontchartrain, and it

Continued





## Canoe? or other prizes?

...and enjoy  
...with  
...us  
...soon  
...you  
...be home  
...and it's

worth an even \$100! Your husband can come along too, of course. Or you can win one of dozens of other wonderful wife-saving prizes... such as Wabasco No-Iron sheets and pillow slips, 'Famous' Kenwood All Wool Blankets, Corning Ware Percolators and Family Sets, and Pyrex Casserole sets.

## Domco Dealer's

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Print name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_

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Kit offer expires and Contest closes on May 29, 1971.

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W-3-13

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And here's another wife-saving thought. When you visit your dealer about the Wife-Saver Contest, have him show you his line up of wife-saving Domco Vinyls. He has many exciting new ones in Cushioned Vinyls, and Self-Wax Vinyl. All designed to make life a little easier for you. So hurry down to your Domco dealer's soon!

Vinyl "V.I.P."! Domco's newest glistening vinyl in the Italian mood; 6' wide in foix mediterranean hues.

## Two men aimed machine guns at my head

seemed to me now that it had been maroon.

"Circle around and see what happens," I said.

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We took the berries back to Connie and sat around for a while. The temperature was in the high 80s and I couldn't keep still. I went out to the drugstore and bought a pack of Chesterfields and a copy of Reader's Digest. There was a guy on a bench down the street in a suit and felt hat. Strange clothes for such a hot day. I walked back to the apartment.

I told the garage I'd be back for my car at 5 P.M., and at 4.50, I asked Freddie to drive down with me. It was too hot to wear a jacket, so I left it hung over a chair. Now, of course, I couldn't carry my .45. There'd be no place to conceal it. I took it out of my belt and slipped it under the cushion of the sofa. I put on my straw hat, and Freddie and I walked out to the sidewalk.

The man in the felt hat was still on the bench. Now there were two guys on the sidewalk, beefy, tough-looking men in their 50s. We walked past them to the car. I slid in behind the wheel and Freddie got in beside me. I rolled down my window for air. I put the key in the ignition and turned it. I put my foot on the starter and, at that exact moment, a car cut sharply in front of ours and stopped. Five men climbed out.

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"All right, Karpis. Keep your hands on the steering wheel."

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Now two men were leaning over the hood of the car that had cut in front of us. Each was aiming a machine gun at my head. Three other men crouched

Or you can win one of dozens of other wonderful wife-saving prizes... such as Winkless No-Iron sheets and pillow slips, Famous' Nonwood All Wool Blankets, Corning Ware Percolators and Family Sets, and Pyrex Casserole sets.

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W. 5. 13

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*Viva "Via Roma"! Domco's newest glistening vinyl in the Italian mood; 6' wide in four terrazzan hues.*

The  
stay-young  
floors  
from 8

seemed to me now that it had been maroon.

"Circle around and see what happens," I said.

Freddie kept making right turns until he had been all around the block. If the coupe had been following us, it had stopped. We drove back to Freddie's apartment.

It was the middle of the afternoon and Connie asked if we'd go out and pick up some strawberries for supper. We drove to the grocery store and Freddie went in. I waited in the car. A DeSoto pulled up beside me. A stocky guy in a Panama hat was behind the wheel. He stared at me. When I told Freddie about the guy, he said he'd seen him a couple of days earlier. I said we were overreacting.

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I told the garage I'd be back for my car at 5 PM, and at 4.50, I asked Freddie to drive down with me. It was too hot to wear a jacket, so I left it hung over a chair. Now, of course, I couldn't carry my .45. There'd be no place to conceal it. I took it out of my belt and slipped it under the cushion of the sofa. I put on my straw hat, and Freddie and I walked out to the sidewalk.

The man in the felt hat was still on the bench. Now there were two guys on the sidewalk, beefy, tough-looking men in their 50s. We walked past them to the car. I slid in behind the wheel and Freddie got in beside me. I rolled down my window for air. I put the key in the ignition and turned it. I put my foot on the starter and, at that exact moment, a car cut sharply in front of ours and stopped. Five men climbed out.

I thought they were from a car pool. Until I heard the voice at my window:

"All right, Karpis. Keep your hands on the steering wheel."

I turned my head and it touched the barrel of a gun, an automatic rifle. Suddenly the thought flashed through my head that the guy holding the gun fitted Freddie's description of the man who'd come to look at the furniture.

Now two men were leaning over the hood of the car that had cut in front of us. Each was aiming a machine gun at my head. Three other men crouched in the street, pistols drawn. Nobody had identified himself but the operation had FBI written all over it.

Out of the corner of my eye, I saw Freddie slip quietly out the door. Nobody paid attention. He made it to the sidewalk and disappeared from my sight. In the meantime, the guy with the rifle was

*Continued*

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...special applicator).  
...Satisfaction or your money  
...refunded.

The agents  
forgot  
handcuffs,  
so they  
used a tie



Hoover: a fearless lawman?

getting more excited about me by the second.  
"OK, Karpis," he said, "get out of the car and be  
damn careful where you put your hands."

I slid out of the car and stood on the street. There  
were voices calling from above me. I looked up and  
saw three or four guys leaning out of the windows of  
the apartment above Freddie's.

"Stop that man on the sidewalk," one of them was  
hollering. One of the agents on the street sprinted  
after Freddie and brought him back.

It was bedlam. More and more agents material-  
ized. The only guy I didn't notice was the man in  
the felt hat who had been sitting on the bench. I  
guess he wasn't an agent. He wasn't missed. There  
were enough people around. Everybody was calling  
out orders. The instructions contradicted each other.

"Keep those hands in the air," an agent said.

"Hands down by your side," another called.

"Stand where you are. Don't move."

"Sit on the running board. Hurry up. Move."

I turned and faced a man with a Thompson ma-  
chine gun. He wore a Palm Beach suit and a Pan-  
ama hat, and he looked cool and collected. He  
seemed to be in charge. The gun was steady in his  
hand, which was more than I could say for the guy  
standing behind me with the rifle. He kept jabbing  
me in the back. I had the impression his hands were  
trembling.

"Karpis, do you have a gun with you?" the man  
with the machine gun asked calmly.

"No."

"All right, Karpis," he went on, "I'm putting the  
safety on this gun. There's no need for anyone to get  
hurt here."

He snapped the safety and I asked him about the  
guy behind me with the rifle. "Please tell him to put  
his safety on," I said. "He's liable to kill me." The  
guy with the rifle heard what I said and he was  
madder than hell.

"Wait till we get you downtown, Karpis," he said.  
"I'll show you who's running things."

There was a huge crowd around now. A couple of  
dozen FBI agents and at least 100 spectators. The  
commotion was terrific. But I could see that some of  
the men with the guns had turned their attention to  
something else. They were looking over toward the  
corner of the building and they were waving their  
arms.

I heard one guy shouting, "We've got him. We've  
got him. It's all clear, chief."

A couple of others shouted the same thing. I  
turned my head in the direction they were looking.  
Two men came out from behind the apartment.  
They'd apparently been waiting in the shelter of the  
building, out of sight, while the guys with the guns  
had been levelling at Freddie and me.

They began to walk across the lawn and sidewalk  
toward the crowd. One was slight and blonde. The  
other was heavy-set with a dark complexion. They  
wore suits with blue shirts. They walked closer and  
I recognized the dark heavy man. I'd seen pictures  
of him. Anyone would have known him. He was J.  
Edgar Hoover.

Hoover's arrival didn't mean everything fell in  
order. The chaos continued. There were so many

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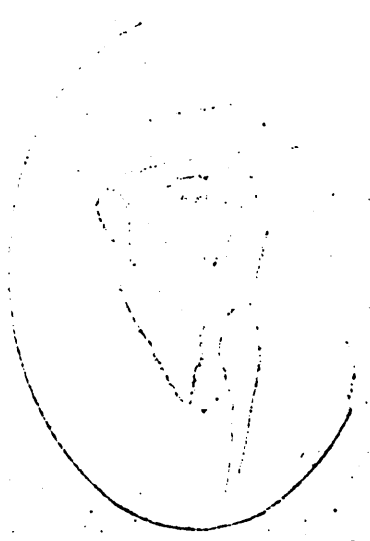
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Hoover: a fearless lawman?

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I turned and faced a man with a Thompson ma-  
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I recognized the dark heavy man. I'd seen pictures  
of him. Anyone would have known him. He was J.  
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Hoover's arrival didn't mean everything fell in  
order. The chaos continued. There were so many  
agents, guns and spectators that no one was able to  
control the mess. Freddie and I stood in the middle  
of a mob scene.

"Handcuff him," someone called out. "Put the  
cuffs on Karpis."

Nobody in the crowd of agents had brought hand-  
cuffs. The cool guy with the machine gun took off  
his tie and handed it to another agent, who wrapped

...and man,  
...I was between  
...I hadn't noticed her in  
...I had lost

...he pulled the car away from  
...and started down Jefferson Parkway.

...the end of the story. There is an  
...end.

The official version of what happened that day in  
New Orleans is in Don Whitehead's *The FBI Story*,  
compiled from facts in FBI files, and with a fore-  
word by Hoover himself. The story was that as  
Hoover and his men approached, I reached for a ri-  
fle on the back seat. Hoover opened the door of the  
car and grabbed me. At the same time, another  
agent named Connolly reached in from the passenger  
side and also grabbed me.

Over the years in prison, many people asked me  
about my arrest. Attorneys general, senators, con-  
gressmen — they all wanted to know: Did Hoover  
really arrest me personally?

I always answered, "Why don't you ask Mr. Hoo-  
ver?" But now, I think the time has come to set the  
record straight.

The FBI story of my arrest is totally false. Just as  
false as the one Hoover put out in 1935 to the effect  
that I had sent him a note threatening to kill him.

How could Connolly have dived in through the  
passenger side of the car when Freddie was sitting  
beside me?

And the rifle in the back seat. What rifle? What  
back seat? It was a 1936 Plymouth coupe that had  
no back seat. We had two rifles but they were  
locked away in the luggage compartment.

But most important of all, Hoover didn't lead the  
attack on me. He hid until I was covered by many  
guns. He waited until he was told the coast was  
clear. Then he came out to reap the glory.

The story of Hoover the Hero is false.

Over my many years in prison — I was eligible for  
parole after 15 years but they kept me in for 33 — it  
grated on me that Americans had been guiled into  
cheering Hoover as one of the country's great men  
on the basis of his version of my arrest.

That May day in 1936 I made Hoover's reputa-  
tion as a fearless lawman. It's a reputation he  
doesn't deserve.

I have nothing but contempt for J. Edgar Hoover.

For the rest, there are no apologies, no regrets, no  
sorrows, and no animosity. What happened, hap-  
pened. <

## Mint from Oregon

Insisting on the finest *natural* ingre-  
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...the front... someone... must be 500...

In the confusion, Hoover didn't say anything I could hear. I was just one of the agents milling around, trying to decide what to do with us. Then the car was pulled over to the curb and a swarm of agents forced me into the front seat. The fed at the wheel was a guy named Clarence Hurt from Oklahoma City. Another agent moved in from the passenger side, and I sat in the middle, my hands bound by a tie and my left leg trailing an iron shackle. I still had my straw hat on.

I looked over my shoulder to the back seat. Hoover was sitting in one window. His right-hand man, Clyde Tolson, sat in the other. Connie was between them, looking pretty scared. I hadn't noticed her in all the earlier commotion. As for Freddie, I had lost track of him.

Hurt wasted no time. He pulled the car away from the crowd and started down Jefferson Parkway.

But that's not the end of the story. There is an epilogue.

The official version of what happened that day in New Orleans is in Don Whitehead's *The FBI Story*, compiled from facts in FBI files, and with a foreword by Hoover himself. The story was that as Hoover and his men approached, I reached for a rifle on the back seat. Hoover opened the door of the car and grabbed me. At the same time, another agent named Connelly reached in from the passenger side and also grabbed me.

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I always answered, "Why don't you ask Mr. Hoover?" But now, I think the time has come to set the record straight.

The FBI story of my arrest is totally false. Just as false as the one Hoover put out in 1935 to the effect that I had sent him a note threatening to kill him.

How could Connelly have dived in through the passenger side of the car when Freddie was sitting beside me?

And the rifle in the back seat. What rifle? What back seat? It was a 1936 Plymouth coupe that had no back seat. We had two rifles but they were locked away in the luggage compartment.

But most important of all, Hoover didn't lead the attack on me. He hid until I was covered by many guns. He waited until he was told the coast was clear. Then he came out to reap the glory.

The story of Hoover the Hero is false.

Over my many years in prison — I was eligible for parole after 15 years but they kept me in for 33 — it grated on me that Americans had been gulled into cheering Hoover as one of the country's great men on the basis of his version of my arrest.

That May day in 1936 I made Hoover's reputation as a fearless lawman. It's a reputation he doesn't deserve.

...the contempt for J. Edgar Hoover.

100  
Chest  
Chest

Mint  
from  
Oregon

Insisting on the finest ingredients makes a world of difference. One sip of your favourite is all it takes to prove it. Marvellous mixed. Delicious. Tonight, how about sharing ages of world travel with Apricot Brandy • Crème de

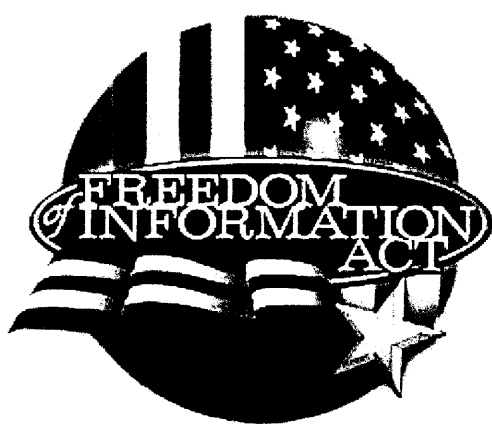
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT: BARKER/KARPIS GANG**

**BREMER KIDNAPPING**

**FILE NUMBER: 7-576**

**SECTION : 277**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

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SUBJECT Barker/Karpis Gang (Bremer Kidnapping)

FILE NUMBER 7-576

SECTION NUMBER 222

SERIALS 15473 - 15568

TOTAL PAGES 222

PAGES RELEASED 219

PAGES WITHHELD 3

EXEMPTION(S) USED (b)(7)(C); (b)(7)(D)

The Attorney General

February 14, 1962

Director, FBI

**ALVIN KARPAVICZ,  
ALSO KNOWN AS ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING**

Alvin Karpavicz, also known as Alvin Karpis, FBI number 199217, was one of the ringleaders of the notorious Karpis-Barker gang which terrorized the Midwest during the 1930s. Born in Canada on August 10, 1907, Karpis was brought to this country by his parents when he was two years of age and was first arrested in 1926 when he was sentenced to ten years at the State Industrial Reformatory, Hutchinson, Kansas, for burglary. Commencing with this initial incarceration, Karpis has had an extensive arrest record for such things as larceny, safe blowing, burglary and escape. In addition, Karpis was identified as being involved in four bank robberies during 1932 and 1933 and is believed to have participated in two additional robberies in 1935.

During late 1933 Karpis and others contemplated robbery of the Commercial State Bank at St. Paul, Minnesota, of which bank one Edward G. Bremer was President. While the planned bank robbery failed to materialize, Karpis and his gang on January 17, 1934, kidnaped Bremer and demanded \$200,000 ransom. Upon payment of the ransom, Bremer was released on February 7, 1934. On May 4, 1934, Karpis and others were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury at St. Paul, Minnesota, for violation of the Federal Kidnaping Statute in connection with Bremer's abduction.

Prior to the Bremer kidnaping, Mr. William A. Hamm, Jr., of the Hamm Brewing Company was kidnaped at St. Paul, Minnesota, on June 15, 1933. A ransom of \$100,000 was paid and thereafter Mr. Hamm was released by his abductors. Investigation determined that Karpis was one of the abductors of Hamm.

Tolson  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Callahan  
Conrad  
DeLoach  
Evans  
Malone  
Rosen  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Ingram  
Gandy

JAC:ige  
(10)

MAIL ROOM ☐

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EX 100

Intensive investigation by this Bureau resulted in the apprehension of this ruthless criminal at New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 1, 1936. On July 14, 1936, Karpis entered a plea of guilty to the

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FBI

**The Attorney General**

indictments returned in connection with the Hamm kidnaping and on July 27, 1936, he was sentenced to life imprisonment and subsequently incarcerated at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas.

Recent newspaper publicity has indicated that Karpis, who has been incarcerated at the U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz Island, for several years, is seeking a deportation parole that would allow him to return to his native country. A subsequent news item indicated that Karpis has now been transferred to the U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island.

In view of the ruthless crimes perpetrated by Karpis, I wanted to let you know of the alleged efforts to get him released from prison. By reason of his notorious background, Karpis is certainly not entitled to any consideration.

A copy of this letter is being directed to Mr. Bennett asking that this Bureau be kept informed of any steps initiated to effect the release of Karpis from incarceration as well as any transfer within the Federal Penal System.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General

1 - Mr. James V. Bennett  
Director, Bureau of Prisons

# 'Hood' Karpis Eyes Parole

BY NORMAN GLUBOK

After more than a quarter-century, Alvin [Creepy] Karpis apparently has decided it's safe to come out of prison.

The 53 year old gunman pal of the late John Dillinger and George [Baby Face] Nelson will ask the federal parole board next July to permit him to leave the McNeill Island [Wash.] federal prison and return to his native Canada.

Karpis [born Karpavicz] waited 10 years after he first became eligible for parole before he applied for it. He is serving a life sentence for the kidnaping of St. Paul brewer William Hamm.

He had good reason to wait.

## Many Charges

When the gates of Alcatraz clanged shut behind Karpis [who was said to be smarter than Al Capone and more dangerous than Dillinger] in 1936, he was wanted for the following additional crimes:

—A 1929 escape from the state reformatory in Hutchinson, Kas.

—The 1931 murder of Sheriff C. B. Kelly in West Plains, Mo.

—The 1933 robbery of the state bank in Ihlen, Minn.

—The \$200,000 ransom kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, a St. Paul banker, who was held prisoner for 25 days in a rickety frame shack in Bensenville, northwest of Chicago.

In addition, Karpis was also implicated in the following offenses:

—The Kansas City Union station massacre, in which four officers and their prisoner were killed.

—The murder of John Lazia, a Kansas City politician.

—The slaying of A. W. Dunlap, father-in-law of his pal, Fred Barker.

—The \$46,000 mail train robbery in Garrettsville, O.

## Out—and In Again

Had he applied earlier for parole, Karpis might have been freed only to wind up in the electric chair or gas chamber or with another long prison sentence for one of his other crimes.

Now, presumably, the key witnesses are all dead or the local authorities have lost interest in prosecuting.

Karpis was born in Montreal of Lithuanian parents who emigrated to Chicago.

By the time he was 25, he had been jailed six times and had succeeded John Hamilton, a Dillinger lieutenant, as the FBI's public enemy No. 1.

## Mother's Plea

When Karpis' pal, Baby Face Nelson, was shot to death in a gun battle near Barrington, Karpis' mother, Mrs. Anna Karpavicz, pleaded in an open letter in THE AMERICAN for her son to surrender.

"You are playing a game you cannot win," wrote the mother. But to no avail.

At that time, the family lived at 2842 N. Francisco av. where Karpis' father, John Karpavicz, worked as a janitor.

Altho he stood 5 foot.9 inches tall and weighed but 130 pounds, Karpis made up for his lack of size by his audacity.

He machine gunned his way out of several police traps and

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

*Chicago Tribune*

Date *Feb 11* Edition *Chicago*

Page *12*

Part *1*

Editor *Luke*

CHICAGO OFFICE

EX-115

ALBIN FRANCIS KARPIS, AKA, E  
WILLIAM HAMM, JR.-VICTIM  
KIDNAPPING  
CG 7-82

7-576-15474 file 7-576

25 MAR 12 1962

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Crime RESEARCH  
SECTION 3/9/62  
J. D. J.

7 MAR 14 1962

even sent a letter to J. Edgar Hoover threatening to kill him if the FBI chief didn't call off his G-men.

That turned out to be one step too far.

Hoover ordered a complete background study made of Karpis and an all-out search.

The FBI determined that he liked to hunt and fish, that he detested cold weather, and that the fast life of pleasure resorts appealed to him.

Hoover concentrated on Miami and New Orleans, and finally located his quarry.

When FBI men spotted Karpis in a New Orleans flat on May 1, 1936, Hoover flew in from Washington to lead the capture.

As Karpis and two others stepped into a car in front of their hideout, it was Hoover himself who gave the order to surrender.

#### 'Just a Yellow Rat'

Karpis surrendered without a struggle.

The next day, as Hoover was delivering Karpis by chartered air liner to St. Paul to face trial in the Hamm kidnaping, the FBI chief told Chicago reporters who met their plane during a refueling stop on Midway [then Municipal] airport:

"He had boasted that he would never be taken alive, but we took him without firing a shot. That marked him as a dirty, yellow rat.

"He was scared to death. He was so damned scared he couldn't talk."

Karpis was convicted of the \$100,000 Hamm kidnaping on July 27, 1936, and sentenced to life imprisonment.

He became eligible for parole 15 years later, in July, 1951.

He chose to remain in prison

for a decade more, patiently waiting for witnesses against him to die or to disappear.

Last June he made his first application for parole. It was turned down.

Last month Karpis, who works as a baker and a business machine operator in prison and who paints landscapes in his spare time, applied again.

The parole board will decide in July whether Karpis is a suitable risk to be freed and deported to Canada as he desires.

When Karpis went to prison a quarter century ago, he left behind an infant son, Raymond, he had never seen.

Should the father win his freedom, he is not likely to be reunited with his son, 26, at least not right away.

Raymond Karpavicz, 26, only child of Alvin [Creepy] Karpis, is serving 5 to 10 years in Stateville penitentiary for burglary.

*They will pay  
this rat.*

SAC, Cincinnati

4-2-62

Director, FBI

7-576-15475  
POSSIBLE PAROLE FOR  
ALVIN KARPIS

Reurlet 3-26-62 concerning a 3-24-62 Cincinnati newspaper item to the effect that Alvin Karpis will shortly be considered for parole. This has previously come to the Bureau's attention and consideration is being given the matters you mentioned. This will be discussed with you by Assistant Director C. D. DeLoach when you are in Washington this month for conferences.

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FBI

NOTE: Rex Collier of the Evening Star called Assistant Director C. D. DeLoach on 3-27-62 noting the pressure behind the campaign to obtain a parole for Alvin Karpis. Collier also wrote an editorial deploring this pressure. Assistant Director DeLoach will discuss this matter with SAC Mason when Mason is in Washington for conferences on 4/23-24/62.

\*4/1/62 issued

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Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Malone	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

P. O. Box 1277  
Cincinnati 1, Ohio  
March 26, 1962

PERSONAL

Dear Boss:

Cincinnati paper carries an item with a March 24, St. Paul, Minnesota, (UPI) dateline, to the effect that Alvin Karpis will shortly be considered for parole.

In my opinion right-thinking people will want Karpis behind bars for the longest possible time.

Is there any way in which we can be helpful? Can editorials on this topic be used to help influence the Parole Board which will hear this matter sometime during the summer? Would the introduction of such editorials into The Congressional Record by friendly Congressmen be of any service?

If there is nothing we can do to help, we will stay quiet. On the other hand, our contacts are such that any public action would not in any way be traced to FBI. No action will be taken unless we hear from you to the contrary.

Sincerely,

*E. D. Mason*

E. D. Mason

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

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SAC, Washington Field

April 5, 1962

Director, FBI (7-576)

**ALVIN KARPAVICZ, AKA ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING**

For your information, Karpis, FBI number 199217, was one of the ring leaders of the notorious Karpis-Barker gang, which terrorized the Midwest during the 1930s. On 1-17-34, Karpis and his gang kidnaped Edward G. Bremer at St. Paul, Minnesota, and demanded \$200,000 ransom. Upon payment of the ransom Bremer was released on 2-7-34. On 5-4-34, Karpis and others were indicted by Federal Grand Jury at St. Paul for violation of the Federal Kidnaping Statute in connection with Bremer's abduction.

Prior to the Bremer kidnaping, William A. Hamm, Jr., of the Hamm Brewing Company, was kidnaped at St. Paul on 6-15-33. A ransom of \$100,000 was paid and thereafter Hamm was released by his abductors. Subsequent investigation determined Karpis was one of the individuals responsible for this kidnaping.

As a result of Bureau investigation, Karpis was apprehended at New Orleans, Louisiana, on 5-1-36. On 7-14-36, Karpis entered a plea of guilty to the indictments returned in connection with the Hamm kidnaping and on 7-27-36 he was sentenced to life imprisonment and subsequently received at U. S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz Island, California, on 8-6-36. He was transferred to Leavenworth, 2-27-58 and returned to Alcatraz on 9-21-58. About 1-30-62 Karpis was transferred from Alcatraz to the U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, where he is currently incarcerated.

According to the warden at Alcatraz, Karpis during his incarceration at that institution was not a supervisory problem and it was considered he had earned the right for removal to another penitentiary where the discipline is not as severe as it is in Alcatraz. Karpis has been eligible for parole since 7-26-51, but waived a parole hearing by U. S. Board of Parole until 7-5-61, when his parole was denied. The Board of Parole, Washington, D. C., has advised that Karpis' case will not be considered again until July, 1962.

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COMM-FBI

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Letter to Washington Field  
RE: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, AKA ALVIN KARPIS

Karpis in attempting to establish a parole plan has been corresponding with Frank A. Roberts, Director, Catholic Rehabilitations Service of the Federation of Catholic Charities, Incorporated, 15 Notre Dame Street, East, Montreal, Canada. Roberts has indicated his interest in assisting Karpis if he is paroled and deported to Canada. In this regard, it should be noted that Karpis was born in Canada on 8-10-07 and was brought to this country by his parents when he was two years of age.

For information of both offices, the Bureau has advised the Attorney General and Mr. James V. Bennett, Director, Bureau of Prisons, that in view of the notorious background of Karpis, it is believed he is not entitled to any consideration.

WFO is instructed to contact the U. S. Board of Parole and establish appropriate liaison to insure that the FBI will be immediately notified of any contemplated action to be taken in this case.

The Seattle Office is instructed through liaison at the U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, to place a stop in the subject's file in order to be kept advised of any change in the subject's status. Appropriate arrangements should be maintained so that your office will be immediately advised should any developments take place concerning this status.

WFO and Seattle are to furnish information to the Bureau concerning the results of your contacts in this matter. The Bureau should be furnished results of your initial contact no later than 4-16-62.

## Housewives Don't Read

WASHINGTON, OCT. 27, 61

A Chicago packing designer told Senators, that the housewife will not bother to read the additional information they believe should be put on packages at the supermarket.

The designer, Robert S. Dickens said in testimony prepared for the Senator Monopoly Subcommittee that "experience has shown us that women will not take time to read all of these details."

The Subcommittee, in its second series of hearings on food marketing prices, has been plugging hard for putting more accurate and more easily read information on packages.

Mr. Dickens, national president of the package designers council, said experience has shown us that most women will never bother to read opening instructions after a manufacturer has spent a fortune on a new and better closure, and we have spent days reducing instructions to utter simplicity.

Experience has taught us that even though there has been much irate clamor for "convenient" package openings, pouring spouts and other devices, she still will probably use her standard opener—the kitchen knife.

Experience has also taught us that it is almost impossible to create flags or other devices strong enough to be positive that the housewife will get exactly the right type of product for her purpose.

"We know that she is still prone to take home chili with beans when she actually wanted chili without beans—even though we put a flag on the can one-half inch high and two inches long' proclaiming the difference."

Another witness, E. Lee Feller, of Goldwater, Michigan, replied

"Therefore, if a price increase becomes mandatory, as wages and other costs rise, it becomes less painful to reduce the quantity of product in the package."

But, Feller said in his prepared statement, he would agree that new weights should be displayed prominently.

Dickens said he believed weight was not an important factor in the decision to buy many items. There are many products, he said, for which price-per-ounce has absolutely no meaning.

However, both witnesses went along with some of the Subcommittee's ideas. Mr. Dickens said he would favor having a designated area on the face of each package for weight information, having all weights broken down in ounces, and giving the information in violation of the Federal colors available.

## The American Way

If we let the legislators know en masse and in no uncertain terms what we expect from them, if they are to expect votes from us, we can be sure that they will listen to us in the same way they now listen to Big Business and Big Labor Unions—United Consumers of America.

Labor is entitled to just wages. Management to just profits, the Consumer to just prices. The Consumer can impose his will upon both Labor and Management if he really cares to try. But a reasonable balance will never be reached until the Consumer organizes.

## Had

Like Barnum said, there's a sucker born every minute. Most foolish of fools are those many wishful thinkers who dream that

## High Nutrition

It is a common misconception that the higher-price cuts of meat are "more nourishing" than the lower-priced cuts. The fact is that all lean meats—beef, veal lamb and pork—supply approximately the same quantity of high efficiency protein, as well as a significant complement of B vitamins and essential minerals. Lean pork exceeds all other high protein foods in its content of thiamine.

## THANKS

Mrs. Karl Schmidt and her committee wish to thank members and friends who attended the Whink Party. There were so many requests for tickets they had to rent tables and chairs. After all expenses were paid, the committee still realized \$138.11. Again thanks. Be sure to come to the Ways and Means Party April 30th at Mabley & Carew, Swifton center.

## Food And Drug Reports

A Federal Court has recently sustained the Food and Drug Administration's finding that a drug nationally promoted for reducing is worthless for that purpose.

The drug, phenylpropanolamine, is contained in a large number of preparations sold over-the-counter as appetite depressants. The Food and Drug Administration has filed more than 20 court actions against such products. Promoters of two of them, RX-120 and ND-17, have now been held in criminal contempt of court for continuing to ship products containing the drug despite an earlier restraining order and injunction.

The action sustains FDA's earlier findings based on clinical research that phenylpropanolamine is worthless as an appetite depressant. The only safe and sure

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI  
College of Education and Home Economics  
School of Home Economics

NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION

# Consumer Conference News

A Paper Devoted to the Interests of Consumers

VOL XXXII, No. 5

MARCH, 1962

MONTHLY

## Calendar of Coming Events

FEBRUARY 27th — 1 p. m. Laws Auditorium — Nancy Carter, representative of Albers. Topic: "Wise Buymanship." A speaker from the Y. W. C. A.  
Tea Hostesses: Albers Co.

MARCH 13th — INDUSTRIAL VISIT — 1:30 p. m., 2:30 p. m., 3:30 p. m. U.S. Shoe Co., 1658 Herald St. For tickets contact Mrs. Clifford Risk.

## Would You Be Missed

Are you an active member—  
The kind that would be missed?  
Or are you just contented  
That your name is on the list?  
Do you attend the meetings  
And mingle with the Flock?  
Or do you stay at home  
To criticize and knock?  
Do you take an active part  
To help the work along?  
Or are you satisfied  
To only just belong?

Rev. Walter Kellison

## A Thought

With modern medicine doing so well at increasing our life we'd better be careful about adding to the National debt—we might have to pay it off ourselves, instead of passing it on.  
Quote from Ties

## Quote

The best dollar that a Consumer can spend—quoting Edna Mae Castle—that is, if you are interested in changing some of our

## Program Planning

The Consumer Conference of Greater Cincinnati is sponsored by the School of the School of Home Economics, College of Education and Home Economics of the University of Cincinnati. The Conference, the largest and oldest consumer group in the United States, is nationally known for its educational work and support of legislation in the interest of consumers. Since 1934, it has held regular monthly meetings and for 17 years has published a monthly newsletter for its members. The conference offers the following subjects which a member of the consumer will speak on before your group. No fee is asked but transportation is requested. For further information, call Mrs. A. D. St. John, President—University 1-4288. "Your Dry Cleaning Problems,—Bargains—Good or Bad?"

Your Program  
Facts, Fads, Fun and Fancies  
Holiday Decorations, Gardening under Glass, African Violets.  
Legislators Sometimes Pick out Pockets

## It All Depends On You

There's a lot of publicity these days from high places to the effect that the American public and consumers need protection from everyone and everything in business, except, of course, from themselves. Maybe one of these days, we'll see a law passed Protect You From You. There's no question that a mere minority of companies always have and always will take advantage of the gullible, uninformed or incompetent much the same as a minority of human beings will try to put one over on their fellow men, and sometimes even a too-trusting vendor. Continuing quote from the Better Business Bureau. That's the inhuman part of human nature and further proof of the impossibility of legislating everybody's morals whether they're in business or ordinary citizens.

No amount of super-planning by well-intentioned or other sources is going to take the place of wisdom of taking care of yourself, and the foolishness of taking chances in dealing with strangers, reputation-unknown firms, leaping before you look and not watching what you do with your personal life and money. If you really want to do what's right for yourself and family, there are plenty of free advisory and information agencies, helpful and business experts and professional sources to assist you free or at practically little or no expense Before You Get In A

obscurity, homework is again in the limelight. The Educational Policies Commission classes homework as one of ten contemporary issues in elementary education. Boards of education are adopting official policies on the subject. Administrators are appointing committees to study its problems. Articles in both pro' and con's. Parents are asking for homework, or else more of, for their children. And, "Have you done your homework?" is probably the No. 1 question at the family dinner table today.

This resurgence of interest in homework is a outgrowth of a demand for higher scholastic standards generally and for better performance in college specifically. There is nationwide concern over the fact that only about half of those who enter college ever graduate. The largest number of dropouts occurs in the crucial freshman year. Since many of these failures are due to inadequate command of the fundamental processes, to poor self-discipline, and to lack of study skills, more and more attention is being turned to the quality of the student's earlier preparation.

Because all later learning builds upon the work of the lower grades, the feeling is spreading that more homework will help solve the problem of achievement. As a consequence, not only do we find a tendency to increase the amount of homework in the intermediate and upper grades, but some schools are introducing homework in the primary grades, beginning in grade one.

Quoting Eleanor M. Johnson, Director, Elementary School Publications, Wesleyan University. The secondary school, too, is rethinking it's ideas about homework because of the gradual disappearance of the traditional study hall. If this trend continues it will, of course, inevitably increase the pressure on home

ditions (desk, light, books, supplies) reserve time for homework, silence the telephone, turn off the television, and turn away visitors—Encourage their children but avoid undue pressure—Are interested in what their children are doing but do not do their work for them.—Understand what the school expects homework to accomplish.

### I Love A Speaker

I love a finished speaker,  
I really, truly do  
I don't mean one who's polished  
I just mean one who's through

### Just A Tip

After you have patched some holes or cracks in a plastered wall—and before painting over them, sandpaper the patched areas when they are completely dry and then apply a coat of shellac to them. The shellac will seal the porous plaster and prevent its absorbing your fresh paint and "bleeding" through to spoil the appearance of your paint job.

### Less Glare

Flat paints and enamels are recommended for ceilings and walls in most rooms because they reflect light with less glare than do semi-gloss and gloss coatings.

### Friendship

I only want a chosen few,  
Who've stood through good,  
and evil, too—  
Through friendship's test, —  
who only strive to find the  
good,  
And then, as only true friends  
could,  
Forgave the rest.

Author Unknown

those parts of its regulations under the new law which spell out in detail the placement on the label, type size, and color contrast requirements for the information called for by the law.

The Food and Drug Administration feels that its own investigations and information together with that submitted by the affected industries indicated that additional time was necessary for compliance with those parts of the new regulations. The Food and Drug Administration is emphasizing the fact that the information required by the law must be on the label and located prominently, conspicuously, and in a legible type in contrast by typography, layout or color with other printed matter on the label.

Under the new ruling, temporary labeling, such as sticker labels, may continue to be used while manufacturers are redesigning packages and using up existing supplies of packaging materials.

### Air Purifiers

The Food and Drug Administration's opinion that household air purifiers commonly sold in retail stores are not effective in preventing or treating respiratory ailments, sinus trouble or allergy conditions has been sustained by a recent court action involving a nationally promoted of such devices.

The decree filed in the District of Columbia drastically limits the health benefits which may be claimed for household air purifiers.

Experiments conducted by FDA have shown that such devices have no significant effect in ridding the air of contaminants and dust and will afford no relief to sufferers of asthma, hay fever, allergies and sinus conditions. Manufacturers of devices of this type are prohibited from making claims for their product similar to those mentioned above.

meant to pour out, lavishly without thought of return;" but "to buy" meant to "exchange equal values." The first is a philosophy of waste, the second a philosophy of intelligent use of money and goods.

Frankly, over many years of research of consumer attitudes and economics, I have come to believe that what this country really needs is not a vast increase in our Gross National Product, but a good husky growth of Consumer know-how in the daily business of trading money for goods so as to get an "equal exchange of values."

Once of course we did quite well by depending on the three good old measuring-sticks of sight, touch and price. But this was before the great industrial explosion brought floods of brand new materials, services, products and ideas into our lives. Today they not only will not tell you anything important about what you buy,—they may actually mislead you seriously. Sight,—that is the appearance of anything, can only tell you whether you like it or not; touch can tell you texture,—that's all; and price today is an accomplished liar. What we all want to know about most of the things we buy is,—how will they perform in use, and how long will they go on looking and doing as they did when new?

Plainly we need a new set of measuring-sticks in every field of buying, and the educated judgment of consumers in the use of those measuring-sticks. Actually intensive and long consumer research convinces me that the best Blueprint for a New Consumer Education rests firmly on three simple blunt questions that ought to be asked of every single product before we buy.

These three questions are: What's it made of? What will it do? and —WHO SAYS SO?

Take textiles. The Textile Fibers Products Identification Act is now a law,—and its purpose is to tell you what fabrics "are made of". There are sound and good reasons for knowing,—they vary in character, in performance and in intrinsic value. They even vary

performance. Standard of the American Standards Association comes in. It is probably the greatest step forward in helping responsible consumers exercise their judgement and evaluate wisely, anything that has happened in generations. This statement on a label answers the question "What will it do?"

But there is that last and perhaps most important question of all,—WHO SAYS SO? That is,—what proof is there, who stands behind the claim, how were the tests made,—and how competent were the testers? In both the case of the law for identification and the L-22 performance standard the authority for the statement is provided and a means of checking its validity. We can know who says so.

But neither of these practical and progressive steps will be of the least use to us or the consumers who come after us, if we do not use them, with both intelligence and judgement. Neither law nor standard make it unnecessary for us to use our heads; neither is a magic formula for shutting your eyes and getting your money's worth.

We must, I think, face the hard truth that unless we want the day to come when some "expert" in or out of government will tell us what and where to buy, we shall have to tuck down to learning the art of evaluation. We shall have to find and ask for new measuring-sticks, we shall have to learn to weigh and measure one material, one service, one guarantee, against another and check them against each individual requirement and pocketbook.

There is nothing easy about this. It will take our best heads, our best skills. But it's a big calling, a great project. Let me recommend to the Greater Cincinnati Consumer Conference, with its national reputation for leadership in consumer protection and information, that this be a target for their thought and work. Let us all, working together, find ways to answer: What's it made of? What will it do? and WHO SAYS SO?

flat; raise head two inches lower it. Be sure not to shoulders. Or—swivel head keeping mouth wide open all the time.

To slim upper arms, standing, raise one arm over head as high as possible. Shake it vigorously. Repeat with other arm. This takes persistence for results.

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The Budget Bureau said the indexes will compare current prices, production wages and other economic data with 1957-58 instead of the 1947-49 figure in the past. It said more recent comparison would be more meaningful.

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The danger of small children falling from a second-story window can be eliminated by the installation of some protective bars across the window. Cut some lengths of 1/2 inch pipe, the width of the window, and set these into holes drilled into wooden spacer attached inside the sash track.

### Present Population

If the present population of the world is represented by 1000 persons living in a single town—60 persons would depict the population of the U.S.A. and 940 would portray all the other nations.

The 60 Americans would live one-half the income of the entire town, and the 940 other persons would share the remaining half.

Three hundred and three persons in the town would be white—697 would be non-white.

The 60 Americans would have an average life expectancy of 70 years, while the other 940 would have an average of under 40 years.

It is not too difficult to understand why much of the world looks upon the U.S.A. with suspicion and envy, rather than with feelings of trust and brotherly love.

—Henry Smith Lieper

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CONSUMER CONFERENCE

EDITORIAL STAFF: Mrs. Ralph M. Ross, Cincinnati 11, Ohio, Mrs. Lester Frank, Mrs. David McNeil, Mrs. Albert Springer, Mrs. A. D. St. John.

### Let's Improve Homework

After some years of relative obscurity, homework is again in the limelight. The Educational Policies Commission classes homework as one of ten contemporary issues in elementary education. Boards of education are adopting official policies on the subject. Administrators are appointing committees to study its problems. Articles in both pro' and con's. Parents are asking for homework, or else more of, for their children. And, "Have you done your homework?" is probably the No. 1 question at the family dinner table today.

This resurgence of interest in homework is a outgrowth of a demand for higher scholastic standards generally and for better performance in college specifically. There is nationwide concern over the fact that only about half of those who enter college ever graduate. The largest number of dropouts occurs in the crucial freshman year. Since many of these failures are due to inadequate command of the fundamental processes, to poor self-discipline, and to lack of study skills, more and more attention is being turned to the quality of the student's earlier preparation.

Because all later learning builds upon the work of the lower grades, the feeling is spreading that more homework will help solve the problem of achievement. As a consequence, not only do we find a tendency to increase

study. But simply increasing the emphasis on homework will not necessarily produce better scholarship. Unless we can have a better quality of homework, "the end will be worse than the beginning."

The parent's part to improve homework when they; co-operate with the school in making homework effective.—Provide their children with suitable study conditions (desk, light, books, supplies) reserve time for homework, silence the telephone, turn off the television, and turn away visitors—Encourage their children but avoid undue pressure—Are interested in what their children are doing but do not do their work for them.—Understand what the school expects homework to accomplish.

### I Love A Speaker

I love a finished speaker,  
I really, truly do  
I don't mean one who's polished  
I just mean one who's through

### Just A Tip

After you have patched some holes or cracks in a plastered wall—and before painting over them, sandpaper the patched areas when they are completely dry and then apply a coat of shellac to them. The shellac will seal the porous plaster and prevent its absorbing your fresh paint and "bleeding" through to spoil the appearance of your paint job

### Less Glare

Flat paints and enamels are recommended for ceilings and walls in most rooms because they reflect light with less glare than do semi-gloss and gloss coatings.

### Labeling Act Becomes Effective

The Food and Drug Administration's reminding manufacturers of household chemical aids that the new labeling requirements of the Federal Hazardous Substances Labeling Act become fully effective on February, 1962

At the same time, FDA said it was suspending until August 1 those parts of its regulations under the new law which spell out in detail the placement on the label, type size, and color contrast requirements for the information called for by the law.

The Food and Drug Administration feels that its own investigations and information together with that submitted by the affected industries indicated that additional time was necessary for compliance with those parts of the new regulations. The Food and Drug Administration is emphasizing the fact that the information required by the law must be on the label and located prominently, conspicuously, and in a legible type in contrast by typography, layout or color with other printed matter on the label.

Under the new ruling, temporary labeling, such as sticker labels, may continue to be used while manufacturers are redesigning packages and using up existing supplies of packaging materials.

### Air Purifiers

The Food and Drug Administration's opinion that household air purifiers commonly sold in retail stores are not effective in preventing or treating respiratory ailments, sinus trouble or allergy conditions has been sustained by a recent court action involving a nationally promoted of such devices.

The decree filed in the District of Columbia drastically limits the

### Evaluation Your Best Buying Insurance

by Margaret Dana for the Consumer Conference News

It may never have occurred to you that there is a world of difference between spending and buying. Even the ancient roots of the two words highlight that difference; "to spend" originally meant to "pour out, lavishly without thought of return;" but "to buy" meant to "exchange equal values." The first is a philosophy of waste, the second a philosophy of intelligent use of money and goods.

Frankly, over many years of research of consumer attitudes and economics, I have come to believe that what this country really needs is not a vast increase in our Gross National Product, but a good husky growth of Consumer know-how in the daily business of trading money for goods so as to get an "equal exchange of values."

Once of course we did quite well by depending on the three good old measuring-sticks of sight, touch and price. But this was before the great industrial explosion brought floods of brand new materials, services, products and ideas into our lives. Today they not only will not tell you anything important about what you buy,—they may actually mislead you seriously. Sight,—that is the appearance of anything, can only tell you whether you like it or not; touch can tell you texture,—that's all; and price today is an accomplished liar. What we all want to know about most of the things we buy is,—how will they perform in use, and how long will they go on looking and doing, as they did when new?

Plainly we need a new set of measuring-sticks in every field of buying, and the educated judgment of consumers in the use of those measuring-sticks. Actually intensive and long consumer research convinces me that the best Blueprint for a New Consumer Education rests firmly on three

acutely in their effect on human allergies. But even knowing what a piece of fabric is made of is only the start. Unless wilful waste and indifference to value is the kind of status symbol you value you what to know what that fabric will do when it's put to use, and how long it can reasonably be expected to go on so performing. That's where L-22, the Textile Performance Standard of the American Standards Association comes in. It is probably the greatest step forward in helping responsible consumers exercise their judgement and evaluate wisely, anything that has happened in generations. This statement on a label answers the question "What will it do?"

But there is that last and perhaps most important question of all,—WHO SAYS SO? That is,—what proof is there, who stands behind the claim, how were the tests made,—and how competent were the testers? In both the case of the law for identification and the L-22 performance standard the authority for the statement is provided and a means of checking its validity. We can know who says so.

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### Stretch For Good Posture

For good health and posture the simplest exercise is stretching. Mark a spot on the wall just above easy reach, and stretch up to it every day. Lift arms and reach for the ceiling. Stretch neck out of body.

To reduce a dowagers hump drop head forward on chest. Then slowly raise it and tilt it back as far as it will go.

To work off a double chin lie flat; raise head two inches; then lower it. Be sure not to raise shoulders. Or—swivel head keeping mouth wide open all the time.

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The 60 Americans would have one-half the income of the entire town, and the 940 other persons would share the remaining half.

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committee that "experience has shown us that women will not take time to read all of these details."

The Subcommittee, in its second series of hearings on food marketing prices, has been plugging hard for putting more accurate and more easily read information on packages.

Mr. Dickers, national president of the package designers council, said experience has shown us that most women will never bother to read opening instructions after a manufacturer has spent a fortune on a new and better closure, and we have spent days reducing instructions to utter simplicity.

Experience has taught us that even though there has been much irate clamor for "convenient" package openings, pouring spouts and other devices, she still will probably use her standard opener—the kitchen knife.

Experience has also taught us that it is almost impossible to create flags or other devices strong enough to be positive that the housewife will get exactly the right type of product for her purpose.

"We know that she is still prone to take home chili with beans when she actually wanted chili without beans—even though we put a flag on the can one-half inch high and two inches long, proclaiming the difference."

Another witness, E. Lee Feller, of Coldwater, Michigan, replied to an often-repeated charge of the Senate group—that manufacturers are deceiving many consumers by reducing the contents of their packages without any announcement.

Feller, general manager of Alliance Associates, a company supplying services for distributor-controlled brands of food products, said "the simple facts of merchandising life are that if we increase the retail price of an item that has an established price in the consumer's mind, sales will fall off sharply.

nor in the decision to buy many items. There are many products, he said, for which price-per-ounce has absolutely no meaning.

However, both witnesses went along with some of the Subcommittee's ideas. Mr. Dickens said he would favor having a designated area on the face of each package for weight information, having all weights broken down in ounces, and giving the information in violation of the Federal colors available.

### The American Way

If we let the legislators know enmasse and in no uncertain terms what we expect from them if they are to expect votes from us, we can be sure that they will listen to us in the same way they now listen to Big Business and Big Labor Unions—United Consumers of America.

Labor is entitled to just wages. Management to just profits, the Consumer to just prices. The Consumer can impose his will upon both Labor and Management if he really cares to try. But a reasonable balance will never be reached until the Consumer organizes.

### Had

Like Barnum said, there's a sucker born every minute. Most foolish of fools are those many wishful thinkers who dream that they're an undiscovered George Gershwin or Irving Berlin. Therefore, they will part with several hundred dollars for setting words to music or the reverse just because an outfit with an apt name and a California or New York address leads them to believe that it will aid them in becoming a millionaire with their name on millions of copies of music and phonograph records. Don't waste your money and hope on such expensive tripe. Quote from Better Business Bureau.

mine.

## THANKS

Mrs. Karl Schmidt and her committee wish to thank members and friends who attended the Whink Party. There were so many requests for tickets they had to rent tables and chairs. After all expenses were paid, the committee still realized \$138.11. Again thanks. Be sure to come to the Ways and Means Party April 30th at Mabley & Carew, Swifton center.

### Food And Drug Reports

A Federal Court has recently sustained the Food and Drug Administration's finding that a drug nationally promoted for reducing is worthless for that purpose.

The drug, phenylpropanolamine, is contained in a large number of preparations sold over-the-counter as appetite depressants. The Food and Drug Administration has filed more than 20 court actions against such products. Promoters of two of them, RX-120 and ND-17, have now been held in criminal contempt of court for continuing to ship products containing the drug despite an earlier restraining order and injunction.

The action sustains FDA's earlier findings based on clinical research that phenylpropanolamine is worthless as an appetite depressant. The only safe and sure method of weight reduction is to reduce food intake preferably under the guidance of a physician.

The restraining order and injunction were issued in 1959 against claims that phenylpropanolamine could cause a person to lose 49 pounds in 8 weeks, 9 pounds in 10 days; that weight reduction could be accomplished without a special diet; that the product depresses the appetite, and others. These claims were made in violation of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

## Calendar of Coming Events

**FEBRUARY 27th — 1 p. m.** Laws Auditorium — Nancy Carter, representative of Albers. Topic: "Wise Buymanship." A speaker from the Y. W. C. A.  
Tea Hostesses: Albers Co.

**MARCH 13th — INDUSTRIAL VISIT — 1:30 p. m., 2:30 p. m., 3:30 p. m.** U.S. Shoe Co., 1658 Herald St. For tickets, contact Mrs. Clifford Risk.

### Would You Be Missed

Are you an active member—  
The kind that would be missed?  
Or are you just contented  
That your name is on the list?  
Do you attend the meetings  
And mingle with the Flock?  
Or do you stay at home  
To criticize and knock?  
Do you take an active part  
To help the work along?  
Or are you satisfied  
To only just belong?

Rev. Walter Kellison

### A Thought

With modern medicine doing so well at increasing our life we'd better be careful about adding to the National debt—we might have to pay it off ourselves, instead of passing it on.  
Quote from Ties

### Quote

The best dollar that a Consumer can spend—quoting Edna Mae Castle—that is, if you are interested in changing some of our television programs. Send to—National Association for Better Radio and Television, 882 Victoria Ave., Los Angeles 5, California. You will receive the latest release and information on a list compiled of the sponsors of radio and television programs for 1962. The sponsors, one of whom is Mrs. Castle, is trying to get a poll of public opinion on television programs.

### Program Planning

The Consumer Conference of Greater Cincinnati is sponsored by the School of the School of Home Economics, College of Education and Home Economics of the University of Cincinnati. The Conference, the largest and oldest consumer group in the United States, is nationally known for its educational work and support of legislation in the interest of consumers. Since 1934, it has held regular monthly meetings and for 17 years has published a monthly newsbulletin for its members. The conference offers the following subjects which a member of the consumer will speak on before your group. No fee is asked but transportation is requested. For further information, call Mrs. A. D. St. John, President—University 1-4288. "Your Dry Cleaning Problems,—Bargains—Good or Bad?

Your Program

Facts, Fads, Fun and Fancies  
Holiday Decorations, Garden under Glass, African Violets.

Legislators Sometimes Pick our Pockets.

How, When and Where for Groceries?

Is Beauty a Skin Game?  
What does a Brand Name Mean to You?

Know your Cuts and Cut Your Cost.

The Sweet and Sour Milk.  
The Hobby that Pays.

When your Club plans their new program consider one of these subjects for one of your meetings.

There's a lot of publicity these days from high places to the effect that the American public and consumers need protection from everyone and everything in business, except, of course, from themselves. Maybe one of these days, we'll see a law passed to Protect You From You. There's no question that a mere minority of companies always have and always will take advantage of the gullible, uninformed or incompetent much the same as a minority of human beings will try to put one over on their fellow men, and sometimes even too-trusting vendor. Continuing quote from the Better Business Bureau. That's the inhuman of human nature and further proof of the impossibility of legislating everybody's morals whether they're in business or ordinary citizens.

No amount of super-planning by well-intentioned or other sources is going to take the place of wisdom of taking care of yourself, and the foolishness of taking chances in dealing with strangers, reputation-unknown firms, leaping before you look and not watching what you do with your personal life and money. If you really want to do what's right for yourself and family, there are plenty of advisory and information agencies, helpful and business experts and professional sources to assist you free or at practically little or no expense Before You Get In A Jam or Deal With The Few Crooks Or Shysters in Business Or Among The Public At Large that are looking for dumb you. Beyond using your good sense, if you depend upon yourself being an expert in everything at all times, and upon the government to take care of the innocent and trusting you, you're going to have plenty of lumps on your head and holes in your pocketbook.



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Mrs. H. B. Benninghoff

**Argus Club**  
Mrs. Fred N. Hergert

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Jansen Co.  
Kroger Co.  
Mabley & Carew  
McAlpin  
Miami Margarine  
Parkview Markets  
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Thriftyway Stores  
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United Dairy Farmers  
Virginia Bakery  
White Villa Grocers

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Mrs. Helen Waldeck

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**Retired Teachers Association**  
Mrs. Harvey Ehler  
Miss Alma Huber

**Roselawn Woman's Club**  
Mrs. E. H. Laakko  
Mrs. Frank M. Manning

**Southwestern Ohio Food  
Dealers Association**  
Mrs. Frank Von Lehmden  
Mrs. Fred Unger

**University of Cincinnati Dames**  
Mrs. George Shillington

**Upton Study Club**  
Mrs. J. Kenneth Richardson  
Mrs. John T. Young

**Virginia Asher Bible Council**  
Miss Elsa Hirtz  
Miss Mamie Winkler

**Westwood Woman's Club**  
Mrs. Elmer R. Best

**Women's Auxiliary, National  
Postal Transport Association**  
Mrs. O. G. Haines  
Mrs. Ralph Ross

**Woman's City Club**  
Mrs. James Fogarty  
Mrs. Joseph A. Belmesche

**Woman's Club, University  
of Cincinnati**  
Mrs. Leland Miles

**Woman's Rotary Club**  
Mrs. Beatrice Britton

**Women's Committee of  
Engineering Society**  
Mrs. William Luck  
Mrs. Arthur Edwards

**Women of Moose, Cincinnati  
Chapter 101**  
Mrs. Anna Bell  
Mrs. Mayme Robinson

**Women of Moose, Norwood—  
Chapter 742**  
Mrs. Fran Sandford  
Mrs. Doris McShane

## The Consumer Conference of Greater Cincinnati 1934-

Twenty-seven years in the service of the community, the Consumer Conference of Cincinnati is sponsored by the School of Home Economics, College of Education and Economics, University of Cincinnati. It is the oldest and largest consumer group in the The membership includes active and contributing members, Women's Clubs and business. It is nationally known for its educational work and support of legislation in the interest of consumers through its monthly programs and bulletins. It supplies information on quality, distribution, care, price and marketing of commodities.

### PROGRAM 1961 - 1962

#### All programs at Laws Auditorium, Cincinnati University

Sept. 12th 10:30 a. m. **BOARD MEETING**—Mabley & Carew Community Room, Swifton.

Sept. 19th 11 a. m. **PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON**—Student Union Bldg.  
1 p. m. Annie Laws Auditorium.  
Speaker: Mrs. Richard A. Fluke, Symphony Highlights; Mr. Brady Black, Executive Editor Cincinnati Enquirer—Foreign Policy.  
Tea Hostesses: Business & Professional Womens Club.

Oct. 12th 9:30 a. m. **INDUSTRIAL VISIT**—Strietmann Cookies, 1:30 p. m. Trade and Wooster Pike.

Oct. 24th 1 p. m. **ELECTION ISSUES**—Council Candidates, Annie Laws Auditorium—Miss Marjorie Manning, Miss Monica Nolan, Mrs. Morton Gusweiler, Mr. Douglas Hoge.  
Film—Patchwork Quilt.  
Tea Hostesses: American Association of University Women.

Oct. 31st 1 p. m. **WAYS AND MEANS CARD PARTY**—Pepsi Cola Auditorium, 2121 Sunnybrook Drive.

Nov. 7th 1 p. m. **INDUSTRIAL VISIT**—Salvation Army, 2250 Park Avenue.

Nov. 14th 1 p. m. **PANEL DISCUSSION & MEMBER PARTICIPATION**—"Controversial Consumer Problems".  
Tea Hostesses: Advisory Board.

Dec. 11th **MONDAY 1 p. m. Mrs. CAROLYN MILLER**—State Representative of Consumers. The Food & Drug Administration & You—Monfort Heights Mother Singers.  
Tea Hostesses: Consumer Conference Board. Mrs. Prihoda and Mrs. Helfrich.

Jan. 9th 10 a. m. **INDUSTRIAL VISIT**—Netherland Plaza Hotel.

Jan. 23rd 1 p. m. **MR. CHARLES RILEY**—New Trends in Home rating.  
Tea Hostesses: The John Shill

Jan. 30th 12 Noon **WAYS & ME** Wink Party, 127 E. Fifth St.

Feb. 13th 10 a. m. **IT'S STRIA IT**—United Dairy Farmers, Montgomery Road.

Feb. 27th 1 p. m. **NANCY CA REPRESENTATIVE OF ALB**  
Topic: Wise Food Buymanship.  
Tea Hostesses: Albers Co.

Mar. 13th 1:30 p. m., 2:30 p. m. **INDUSTRIAL VISIT—U.S** Co., 1658 Herald St.

Mar. 27th 1 p. m. **DR. EMMA W FORD**—Dean of School of Homeonomics. Topic to be announced.  
Tea Hostesses: School of Homeonomics.

Apr. 10th 9:30 a. m., 10:30 a. m. **INDUSTRIAL VISIT**—6750 Colerain Pike.

Apr. 24th 1 p. m. **MR. JOHN JONES**—Transit Co., Coming arriving in Cincinnati. Fads & Fancies  
Tea Hostesses: Mount Washington's Club.

Apr. 30th 12 m. **WAYS & ME PARTY**—Mabley & Carew, Sv

May 15th 1 p. m. **SUMMER OPEN**  
Albert E. Thompson, Mrs. C Mersena—"Medicine Costs Money"  
Tea Hostesses: Womens National Postal Transport Association.

7-576-15477

ENCLOSURE

7-576-15477



April 5, 1962

REC-30

7-516-15477

EX-124

Mrs. Gerald H. Castle  
Chairman of the Board of Trustees  
Waterman School  
722-724 Oak Street  
Cincinnati 6, Ohio

APR 5 1 40 PM '62  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

Dear Mrs. Castle: E. m.

I have received your letter of March 30th,  
with enclosures, and want to thank you for your interest  
in writing as you did. It was certainly thoughtful of you  
to bring to my attention the copy of the letter you mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Mrs. Castle is on the Special Correspondent's List. She enclosed  
a copy of the March, 1962, issue of "Consumer Conference News," together  
with the 1961-62 program of this group.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

BS:kkw  
(3)

MAILED 20  
APR 5-1962  
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
COMM-FBI

FBI  
REC'D MAIL ROOM

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

# The Consumer Conference of Greater Cincinnati

March 30, 1962

## OFFICERS

MRS. A. D. ST. JOHN, President  
818 Terrace Ave. 20  
University 1-4288.  
MRS. GERALD CASTLE, 1st Vice-President  
MRS. HERBERT S. DANNER, 2nd Vice-President  
MRS. OSCAR P. RASMUS, 3rd Vice-President  
MRS. MARTHA H. BURKE, Treasurer  
MRS. EUGENE OSTER, Recording Secretary  
MRS. HENRY LE MEUR, Corres. Secretary  
MISS RHODA PEARL BAYHA, Auditor

## Co-operating Organizations

Adult Education Council  
A. A. U. W.  
American Federation of Teachers  
Argus Club  
Beech Grove Homemakers  
Bond Hill Roselawn Women's Club  
Business & Professional Women's Club  
Byrnes Acres  
Charm School, Inc.  
Cincinnati Home Ec. Assn.  
Council of Jewish Women  
Dayton, Kentucky Women's Club  
Delhi Hills Community Council  
East Price Hill Improvement Assn.  
Eventide Home Makers  
First Unitarian Woman's Alliance  
Ft. Thomas Women's Club  
Good Nabor Homemakers Club  
Hartwell Women's Club  
Hawthorne Club  
Home Ec. Circle of Mt. Washington Club  
Home Ec. in Home Making  
Jewish Care Relief  
Jewish Community Center Women's Club  
Ladies Aux. Retail Grocers  
Mt. Washington Women's Club  
National Secretary's Assn.  
Norwood Federation of Women's Clubs  
People's Church Women's Aux.  
Pioneer Women, Chapter III  
Playground Mothers' Club  
Retired Teachers' Assn.  
Roselawn Women's Club  
Ruth Lodge No. 18  
Shawnee Trail Civic Club  
U. C. Dames  
Upton Study Club  
Variety Women's Club  
Virginia Asher Bible Council  
Westwood Women's Club  
Women's Aux. N. P. T. A.  
Women's City Club  
Women's Club of U. C.  
Women's Price Hill Civic Assn.  
Women's Price Hill Democratic Club  
Women of the Moose Chapters:  
Akron, Ohio  
Barberton, Ohio  
Canton No. 832  
Cincinnati No. 101  
Elmwood Place No. 176  
Fremont No. 624  
Hamilton No. 742  
Norwood No. 742  
Piqua No. 894  
Port Clinton  
St. Louis, Mo. No. 602  
Women's Rotary Club  
Women's Com. of Engineering Society  
Wyoming Women's Club

Mr. dear J. Edgar Hoover:

Thought you might like to see a copy of the following letter to Mr. Jas. V. Bennett:

At our monthly meeting, Tuesday, March 27th, I was instructed to send you the following message:

"Our members do not consider it wise to release Alvin (Creepy) Karpis. His record is such a long one of continuous criminal activity of so many years standing, it would not seem possible for him to adjust to society and not revert to a lifetime of crime."

There was heated discussion relative to his request for deportation to Montreal. Canada is very careful in their reception of any of their citizens with criminal records. Our group does not think that Canada would consider reinstating him as a citizen nor that the Catholic Charities of Canada would consider sponsorship. To quote the expression of several, they thought the last paragraph of attached news article "WAS JUST DUCK SOUP".

Any expression will be appreciate as there may be more to this case than the present news article indicates. Our next meeting will be April 17th."

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Gerald H. Castle

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

c/b

EX-124  
REC-30

7-576-1547

13 APR 1962

CORRESPONDENCE

**GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION**  
7/10/62

Alvin Karpis was one of the subjects responsible for the 1933 kidnaping of William A. Hamm, Jr., and the 1934 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer. Following his apprehension at New Orleans on 5/1/36 Karpis entered a guilty plea to the indictments returned in connection with the Hamm kidnaping. On 7/27/36 Karpis was sentenced to life imprisonment. On 7/5/61 U. S. Board of Paroles denied his request for parole. Karpis will again be considered for parole in July 1962. We have advised the Attorney General of the ruthless crimes committed by Karpis and our position that he is not entitled to any consideration.

*OK*

*JK*

**DECODED COPY**

*as*

Tolson ☒

Belmont ☒

Mohr ☒

Callahan ☒

Conrad ☒

DeLoach ☒

Evans ☒

Malone ☒

Rosen ☒

Sullivan ☒

Tavel ☒

Trotter ☒

Tele. Room ☒

Holmes ☒

Gandy ☒

**Radio**

☐ Teletype

*w*

URGENT 4-9-62

TO DIRECTOR AND SAC SEATTLE

FROM SAC SAN FRANCISCO 091759

*Bremer Kidnaping Office of Origin*

BREKID. OO CINCINNATI. RE SAN FRANCISCO TEL TO DIRECTOR, JANUARY 30 LAST, WHICH ADVISED THAT ALVIN KARPVICZ, AKA *Also known as* ALVIN KARPIS, HAD BEEN APPROVED FOR TRANSFER TO US PENITENTIARY MC NEIL ISLAND, STEILACOOM, WASHINGTON. WARDEN OLIN G. BLACKWELL, US PENITENTIARY, ALCATRAZ ISLAND, CALIFORNIA, ADVISED THIS DATE KARPIS EN ROUTE MC NEIL ISLAND ON TRANSFER. BLACKWELL STATED KARPIS HAD SPENT MORE TIME AT ALCATRAZ THAN ANY OTHER PRISONER. SEATTLE KEEP BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICES ADVISED OF ANY CHANGE OR CONTEMPLATED CHANGE IN STATUS CONCERNING KARPIS PURSUANT SAC LETTER 62-11 (1). AIRMAIL COPIES SENT CINCINNATI, MINNEAPOLIS AND KANSAS CITY.

RECEIVED: 3:23 PM ENT

REC-58

7-576-15478

EX-124

9 APR 12 1962

60 APR 12 1962

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

The Attorney General

April 2, 1962

Director, FBI

**"NO REASON FOR LENIENCY"**  
**EDITORIAL**  
**THE SUNDAY STAR**  
**APRIL 1, 1962**

Enclosed is a copy of an editorial which appeared in The Sunday Star. It concerns Alvin Karpis of the notorious Barker-Karpis gang, and I thought you would like to see it.

Enclosure

1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosure

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
F.B.I.  
APR 2 1962  
COMM-FBI

REC-46

EX-113

11 APR 12 1962

APR 2 4 40 PM '62  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

1 - Mr. Belmont- Enclosure  
1 - Mr. Evans - Enclosure

NOTE: See letter of date to Mr. Rex Collier, The Evening Star.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ENCLOSURE

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
F.B.I.

REC'D-MEMO  
FBI

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

### No Reason for Leniency

Alvin (Creepy) Karpis, onetime co-leader of the notorious Barker-Karpis gang of kidnapers and killers, wants out. He believes that 25 years of good conduct behind the bars of Alcatraz Prison have earned him his freedom. We are not impressed with this argument. Those who remember some of the murderous rampages of his ruthless, machine-gunning mob have always felt that "Creepy" was lucky when he was sentenced to life for the \$100,000 ransom kidnaping of William Hamm, jr., Minneapolis brewer. Most of his associates were less fortunate. They died in gun battles with FBI agents.

Karpis and his gang were involved in numerous bank robberies in which employes, policemen or spectators were gunned down with rifles, machine guns or pistols. Three policemen and a bank employe were slain in two bank raids in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, a sheriff was shot to death in Missouri, a bank guard was killed in Chicago and other persons were wounded in similar forays in the Midwest during the gang's heyday in the early 1930s. The gang collected \$300,000 ransom in two kidnappings—that of Mr. Hamm and another in which Edward G. Bremer, of the St. Paul banking family, was the victim.

The kidnappings brought the Federal Bureau of Investigation into the hunt for the gang, with dramatic results. "Ma" Barker and her son Fred were killed in a gun battle with the FBI in Florida. Arthur (Doc) Barker was sent to Alcatraz and other members were captured and given varying sentences. However, Karpis managed to elude the FBI, meanwhile sending taunting postcards to Director J. Edgar Hoover. But Mr. Hoover personally led the group of FBI agents who finally tracked him down and arrested him, without gunplay, in New Orleans on May 1, 1936.

State authorities decided not to press numerous murder and robbery charges after Karpis was sent to Alcatraz for life. There is nothing, however, in this man's record which would justify any leniency. His good behavior in prison hardly atones for the atrocious crimes which he and his colleagues committed when they were terrorizing the whole Midwest some thirty years ago.

Tolson ☒  
Belmont ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Callahan ☒  
Conrad ☒  
DeLoach ☒  
Evans ☒  
Malone ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Sullivan ☒  
Tavel ☒  
Trotter ☒  
Tele Room ☒  
Holmes ☒  
Gandy ☒

Send  
copy  
to all et al  
43

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_

APR 1 1962

ENCLOSURE

7-576-15411

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 4/16/62

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) (P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka Alvin  
Karpis  
KIDNAPING

ReBulet to WFO dated 4/5/62.

On 4/12/62, [REDACTED] U.S. Board of Parole, was contacted by SA WALLACE A. HAWKINS. [REDACTED] was apprised of the Bureau's interest in instant case and stated that he would immediately place a notation or a "flag notice" in the file of KARPIS instructing that the FBI should be immediately notified in the event any action is contemplated in the KARPIS matter.

[REDACTED] stated that the annual report on KARPIS will not be received by the Board of Parole again until July, 1962. He stated that the review of this report will probably be completed in the last part of July or the first part of August, 1962. He said that in the event any action is contemplated in this matter he would immediately notify the WFO.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Seattle (Info)  
1 - WFO  
WAH:SKF

(4)

EX-116

REC-9

7-576-15480

8 APR 19 1962

51 APR 24 1962

REC-42

EX 100

7-576-15481

April 20, 1962

REGISTERED

716713

Mr. Steve McConnell  
6100 Packer Drive  
Belmont, Michigan

Dear Steve:

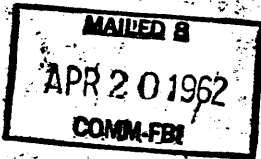
Your letter postmarked April 16th, with enclosure,  
has been received.

For your information, on the afternoon of May 1, 1936,  
it was determined that Alvin Karpis, with Fred Hunter and Connie  
Morris, was located in Apartment One, 3343 Canal Street, New Orleans,  
Louisiana, where Hunter maintained a residence under the name of Ed  
O'Hara. The apartment building in which Karpis and the others were  
located was surrounded by Special Agents of this Bureau at approximately  
5:30 p.m. on that date, and as the Agents were about to enter this apart-  
ment building, Karpis and Hunter emerged. They were commanded to  
surrender and complied peacefully. After the capture of Karpis, he was  
removed to Saint Paul, Minnesota, and committed to the Ramsey County  
Jail while awaiting trial.

In accordance with your request, I am enclosing some  
material which I hope will be of interest to you. There is no charge for  
any publications we are privileged to disseminate; therefore, I am return-  
ing the \$1.00 bill you sent.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (12)

Listed next page

NOTE next page

EFT:nlb  
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D-READING ROOM  
APR 20 10 30 AM '62

CFH/COO



Mr. Steve McConnell

Enclosures  
Correspondent's enclosure  
The Story of the FBI  
Know your FBI  
Fingerprint Identification  
Cancelled IOs - 1166, 1194, 1203, 1217, 1218, 1419, 1456  
The FBI Laboratory

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The book to which he refers was the one written by Quentin Reynolds with the cooperation of the Bureau. The information concerning Karpis was taken from Interesting Case write-up concerning him.

TRUE COPY

Steve McConnell  
6100 Packer Drive  
Belmont, Mich.

Dear Mr Hoover

A couple of days ago I was reading the news paper and one of the clippings was on Alvin Karpis, It was telling diffren't details on him and that he wanted a parole, It also said that he was caught strolling to a theater, but I am reading a book on FB.I and one of the chapters is The Capture of "Public Enemy Number one" and the book says that he was caught at a apartment house, at 3343, Canal Street.

I would appreccate if you would send me the right answer, and some pictures of old gangsters, and some folders on FBI work.

You Truly

/s/ Steve McConnell  
6100 Packer Drive  
Belmont, Michigan

EX 103

REC-42

8-EFT/Rmw

7-576-1348

5 APR 24 1952

1-TC-100  
1-18-62  
all  
1-18-62  
all

Steve McConnell  
6100 Packer Drive  
Belmont Mich.

Dear Mr Hoover

A couple of days ago I was reading the news paper and one of the clippings was on Alvin Karpis, It was telling diffrent details on him and that he wanted a parole, It also said that he was caught strolling to a theater, but I am reading a book on FBI and one of the chapters is The Capture of "Public Enemy Number one" and the book says that he was caught at a apartment house, at 3343, Canal Street.

I would appreciate if you would

ENCLOSURE 1-TC Jan 4-18-62 (over)

send me the right answer, and  
some pictures of old gangsters,  
and some folders on FBI  
work.

You Truly

Steve McConnell  
6100 Packer Drive  
Belmont, Michigan

APR 13 10 05 AM '62

REC'D-CORR. & TOURS  
FBI

APR 18 1962

F B I

Date: 4/13/62

Transmit the following in PLAIN  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (RUC)

SUBJECT: BREKID  
(OO: CINCINNATI)Re Bureau letter to Washington Field Office,  
4/5/62, and San Francisco radiogram to Seattle, 4/9/62.

On April 12, 1962, [REDACTED]  
United States Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington,  
advised PALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka, was received at that institution  
on April 8, 1962, on transferr from United States Penitentiary,  
Alcatraz, California. KARPAVICZ is McNeil Island No.  
294-77M; [REDACTED] and is currently  
assigned to the admittance and orientation unit. A stop  
was placed in KARPAVICZ's file by [REDACTED] Classi-  
fication and Parole Division, United States Penitentiary,  
McNeil Island, as requested in referenced letter, and both  
[REDACTED] advised that they will personally advise  
FBI of any changes in his status.

3-Bureau (AM)  
2-Cincinnati (AM)  
1-Seattle  
JAD/las  
(6)

REC-11

B. O. Wick

EX-101

APR 14 1962

51 MAY 1 1962

Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 4/23/62

FROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (7-43)

SUBJECT: BREKID  
(OO: CINCINNATI)

Re San Francisco teletype to Bureau, 4/9/62, and  
Seattle airtel to Bureau, 4/13/62.

Referenced airtel reflects that PALVIN KARPAVICS, Aka.,  
is now incarcerated at the United States Penitentiary, McNeil  
Island, Washington.

Inasmuch as KARPAVICS is now confined in McNeil  
Island, Washington, and prison officials have agreed to  
personally advise the FBI of any changes in his status, it is  
requested that office of origin be transferred from Cincinnati  
to Seattle. Nothing remains to be done by the Cincinnati Office.

Information copies to Minneapolis and Kansas City.

- 6 - Bureau  
1 - Seattle (7-1)  
1 - Minneapolis (7-30) (Info)  
1 - Kansas City (7-37) (Info)  
1 - Cincinnati

CGA:jas  
(10)

Bureau designates Seattle  
as office of origin. Copies  
transmitted to offices indicated.  
Former office of origin furnish  
all pertinent serials to new  
office of origin.

1 cc de. mg  
1 cc, ci  
0-7/5, 5-2-62  
1 cc de. mg  
1 cc, ci  
0-7/5, 5-2-62  
1 cc de. mg  
1 cc, ci  
0-7/5, 5-2-62

REC-57 7-576-15483  
EX-116

APR 25 1962

EX-116

UNITED STATES

**Memorandum**

TO : MR. TROTTER

DATE: 5/2/62

FROM : C. A. Harris

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
ALVIN KARPIS  
FBI #199 217

Tolson ☒  
 Belmont ☒  
 Mohr ☒  
 Callahan ☒  
 Conrad ☒  
 DeLoach ☒  
 Evans ☒  
 Malone ☒  
 Rosen ☒  
 Sullivan ☒  
 Tavel ☒  
 Trotter ☒  
 Tele. Room ☒  
 Holmes ☒  
 Gandy ☒

Subject is the notorious criminal who was received at Alcatraz 8/6/36 to serve a life sentence on charges of kidnaping and conspiracy.

Identification Division has received notification from U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, that Karpis was transferred to that institution from Alcatraz on 4/8/62.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

CAH:elf  
(3)

E-100

REC-71

7-576-15484  
5 MAY 22 1962112  
50 MAY 25 1962

1 3 max  
 memo to Mr. Trotter  
 R/jh

7/2  
5/2

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 7/19/62

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) (P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka Alvin  
Karpis  
KIDNAPING

ReWFOlet to Director dated 4/16/62.

b7c  
On 7/16/62 [REDACTED] U. S. Board of Parole, was contacted by SA WALLACE A. HAWKINS. [REDACTED] stated that the annual report on KARPIS has not yet been received by the Board of Parole. He stated that he expected to receive this report in the next two weeks; however, in view of the extremely large number of cases still to be reviewed, he did not anticipate that KARPIS' report would be reviewed prior to November, 1962.

He stated that the file still maintains a notation or "flag stop" to notify the FBI in the event any action is contemplated in the KARPIS matter.

WFO will continue to follow with the U. S. Board of Parole.

(2)-Bureau  
1-Seattle (Info)  
1-WFO

WAH:jac  
(4)

REC-63

7-576-15485

12 JUL 20 1962

JUL 23

57 JUL 26 1962



SAC, Seattle (7-1)

8-8-62

Director, FBI (7-576) - 15486  
REC-124

ALVIN KARPAVICZ, AKA  
ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING  
OO - SEATTLE

Re Seattle letter to Bureau 7-27-62 entitled  
"BREKID" no cc WFO.

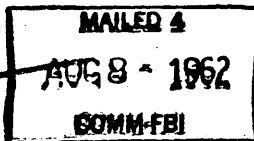
Seattle's attention is directed to Cincinnati's letter to Bureau 4-23-62 requesting office of origin be designated as Seattle inasmuch as no further action remains within the Cincinnati Office. The Bureau approved this recommendation and designated Seattle as office of origin and you were so advised on 5-2-62. It is further noted that relet of 7-27-62 sets forth status of case as RUC. This case should be administratively reopened immediately in your office and you are instructed to continue to follow developments through liaison with U. S. Penitentiary McNeil Island.

For the further information of WFO, Seattle has advised the Special Progress Report for Annual Review is currently being prepared on Karpis for submission to the U. S. Board of Parole. McNeil Island authorities advise that the institution's Classification Committee will meet regarding Karpis prior to the preparation of the progress report, at which time the Committee will make a recommendation for or against his parole. [redacted] confidentially advised the Seattle office that he is a member of this Classification Committee and believes the Committee would recommend against parole for Karpis at this time.

1 - Washington Field (7-63)

JAC:caccac  
(5)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



WFO 101305

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (RUC)

SUBJECT: BREKID  
(OO - CINCINNATI)

DATE: 7/27/62

Re Seattle letter to the Director, 4/13/62.

b7c

On July 18, 1962, [REDACTED] United States Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, advised the SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT FOR ANNUAL REVIEW is currently being prepared on KARPAVICZ, United States Penitentiary Number 29477-M for submission to the United States Board of Parole, Washington D.C. He said this institution's Classification Committee will meet regarding KARPAVICZ prior to the preparation of his PROGRESS REPORT at which time the Committee will make a recommendation for or against his parole.

b7c

On July 18, 1962, [REDACTED] confidentially advised he was a member of this Classification Committee and he believed that the Committee would recommend against KARPAVICZ's parole at this time.

He added that in the event his parole is denied by the United States Board of Parole, KARPAVICZ will not be eligible for parole consideration again until July, 1962, unless the United States Board of Parole, Washington D.C. so designates.

Seattle will continue to follow this matter.

② - Bureau  
1 - Seattle  
JAD/bhr  
(3)

let to SAC, SE  
8-3-62  
JAC:unt

REC-24

801-X3

7-576-15471

JUL 30 1962

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 9/14/62

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) (P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING

ReWFOlet to Director dated 7/19/62.

On 9/11/62, [REDACTED]  
U.S. Board of Parole, was contacted by SA WALLACE A.  
HAWKINS. [REDACTED] stated that the annual report on  
ALVIN KARPAVICZ had been received by the U.S. Board of  
Parole and was reviewed by the entire Board. He stated  
that on 9/6/62, as a result of the review of the annual  
progress report of KARPAVICZ, the Board of Parole had  
recommended that there be no change in the status of  
KARPAVICZ.

He stated that the file still maintains a  
notation or a "flag stop" to notify the FBI in the  
event any action is contemplated in the KARPAVICZ matter.

WFO will continue to follow with the U.S.  
Board of Parole.

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - Seattle (Info)
- 1 - WFO

WAH:SKF

(4)

REC-13

7-576-15487

15 SEP 17 1962

SEP 21 1962

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 9/21/62

*Murphy*  
FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
KIDNAPPING  
(OO - SEATTLE)

Re Bureau letter to Seattle, dated 8/8/62.

*dk*  
*b7c*  
On September 12, 1962, [REDACTED]  
United States Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington,  
advised on September 7, 1962, the institution received  
a memorandum from the U. S. Board of Paroles, Washington,  
D. C., reflecting they had reviewed KARPAVICZ'S record.  
They indicated they could not find "sufficient justification  
for a change in his parole status, at least at this time."

[REDACTED] added KARPAVICZ would not become eligible  
for parole consideration again until July, 1963, unless  
such consideration was initiated by the U. S. Board of  
Paroles, Washington, D. C.

2 - Bureau  
1 - WFO (7-63)  
2 - Seattle  
JAD/lks  
(5)

REC-11 7-576-15480

ST-103 10 SEP 24 1962

*249*  
30 SEP 26 1962

UNITED STATES GOV

*Memorandum*TO : Mr. Belmont *MB*

DATE: 9-20-62

FROM : A. Rosen *AR*SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, AKA  
ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Malone	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

Washington Field Office advised on 9-19-62, that the United States Board of Parole on 9-6-62, recommended there be no change in the status of Karpis, who is currently incarcerated at the U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington. This decision by the Board of Parole followed a review by the entire board of the annual report concerning Karpis.

Karpis was one of the subjects responsible for the 1933 kidnaping of William A. Hamm, Jr. and the 1934 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer. Following his apprehension at New Orleans on 5-1-36, Karpis entered a guilty plea to the indictments returned in connection with the Hamm kidnaping. On 7-27-36, Karpis was sentenced to life imprisonment and has been incarcerated since that time. On 7-5-61, the Board of Parole denied his request for parole.

In January, 1962, newspaper publicity indicated Karpis was seeking a deportation parole that would allow him to return to Canada, his native country. The Bureau went on record with both the Attorney General and Mr. Bennett as being opposed to any consideration being given to this ruthless criminal.

JAC:cfs  
(7)

REC-38

10 SEP 21 1962

EX-116

56 SEP 27 1962

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 12/18/62

FROM : SAC, Seattle (7-1)

SUBJECT: BREKID

On 12/17/62, [REDACTED] advised that there is no change in his parole status, and he still does not expect any consideration given to a change in this status until the matter is reviewed again by the U. S. Board of Parole, Washington, D. C. in about June, 1963.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Seattle  
JEM:eg  
(3)

EX 109

REC-6

7-576-15490

DEC 20 1962

60 JAN 2 1963

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 12/27/62

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) (P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPPING

ReWFOlet to Director dated 9/14/62.

On 12/5/62, [REDACTED]

b7c [REDACTED] U.S. Board of Parole, was contacted by SA WALLACE A. HAWKINS. [REDACTED] stated that there has been no action concerning KARPAVICZ since a review was made of his annual progress report.

She stated that there was no contemplated action concerning this case prior to July, 1963, when his annual progress report would be forwarded to the Board of Parole.

She stated that the file still maintains a notation for "flag stop" to notify the FBI in the event any action is contemplated in the KARPAVICZ matter.

WFO will continue to follow with the U.S. Board of Parole.

2-Bureau  
1-Seattle (7-1) (INFO)  
1-WFO

WAH:cac  
(4)

REC-11

7-576-1542

12 JAN 2 1963

911-73

50  
54 JAN 8 1963

911-73

Mr. Conrad

January 4, 1963

W. D. Griffith

**Bulky Exhibits  
Laboratory Division**

A review of the current bulky exhibits maintained by the Laboratory Division has been completed.

With regard to the case captioned "CANAB" (Crash of National Airlines DC-6B, Bolivia, North Carolina, 1960), SA William R. Hellman, Jr., advises that the photographic negatives taken of the plane during reconstruction should be retained at this time for an indefinite period for possible use in the future.

Concerning the case captioned "John Gilbert Graham" (Crash of United Airlines Plane near Longmont, Colorado, 11/1/55), SA William J. Magee advises that the photographs and negatives taken of the plane during reconstruction and the photograph of John Gilbert Graham should, at this time, be retained for an indefinite period as the material is referred to from time to time.

The .45 caliber cartridge cases and .45 caliber projectile being retained in the case captioned "Alvin Karpavicz, aka Alvin Karpis, Kidnaping," according to SA J. Allison Conley, should be retained until Karpis dies.

The .22 caliber Ace, Savage and Remington firearms along with the .30 caliber Winchester and .45 caliber Thompson Submachine gun in the case captioned "John Paul Chase, aka, Murder of Inspector Samuel P. Cowley and SA H. E. Hollis," are to be retained until John Paul Chase dies or the indictment against him is dropped.

**Recommendation:** In view of the foregoing information, the bulky exhibits should be maintained until disposition is possible in each circumstance.

1 - Mr. Belmont

Tolson — 2 - Mr. Rosen (1 - Mr. J. A. Conley, Rm. 5718)  
Belmont — 1 - Mr. W. G. Campbell, Rm. 5716)  
Mohr —  
Casper —  
Callahan — 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan (Att: Mr. R. D. Simpson, Rm. 813 RB)  
Conrad — 1 - Bufile (7-576)  
DeLoach —  
Evans —  
Gale — 1 - Bufile (62-29777)  
Rosen — 1 - Bufile (98-43035)  
Sullivan — 1 - Bufile (149-866)  
Tavel —  
Trotter —  
Tele. Room — TCW:smy  
Holmes —  
Gandy — (12)

JAN 14 1963  
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

7-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
46 JAN 11 1963



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 7/11/63

FROM: SAC, WFO (7-63) (P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPPING

ReWFOlet to Director dated 12/27/62.

b7c  
On 7/8/63, [REDACTED] U.S. Board of Parole, was contacted by SA WALLACE A. HAWKINS. [REDACTED] stated that the annual report on KARPAVICZ is due in July, 1963, however, this report has not as of yet been received. He stated that the results of the review of this file will not be completed prior to the end of September, 1963.

He stated that the file still maintains a notation or a "flag stop" to notify the FBI in the event any action is contemplated in the KARPAVICZ matter.

WFO will continue to follow with the U.S. Board of Parole.

- ② - Bureau
- 1 - Seattle (7-1) (Info)
- 1 - WFO

WAH:elw  
(4)

REC- 24

EX. - 112

JUL 12 1963

51 JUL 17 1963

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 7-19-63

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1)

SUBJECT: BREKID

RE: Seattle letter 12/18/63.

A review of the records at McNeil Island Penitentiary on 7/16/63, revealed that there is no change in the parole status of ALVIN KARPAVICZ.

2-Bureau  
1-Seattle

JEM:ldk  
(3)

REC-29

7-576-15493

JUL 22 1963

JUL 26 1963

RA

7/26/63

Airtel

7576 -

To: SAC, Kansas City (66-1608)

From: Director, FBI

**DESTRUCTION OF FILES AND RECORDS**

Reurlet 7/19/63. Do not take any action to destroy material in MATNAP and BREKID cases in your office pending further consideration by Bureau.

NOTE ON YELLOW: Per instructions of Mr. Mohr, entire problem to be reviewed and presented to Executives Conference.

STJ

FWW:hif  
(4)

MAILED 25  
JUL 26 1963  
COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

2169

53 OCT 8 1963

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ORIGINAL FILED IN 66-3986

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 7/19/63

FROM: *Fra* SAC, Kansas City (66-1608)

SUBJECT: DESTRUCTION OF FILES AND RECORDS

The Kansas City Office is maintaining two voluminous files which are utilizing eight file drawers of space. One is the MATNAP case, Bufile 7-1820, of which Kansas City has 65 volumes with correspondence over 20 years old. There is additional correspondence in this case which consists of 630 serials covering the period from July 1943 to the present. Kansas City has had no investigative activity in this matter since July 1958.

The other case consisting of 29 volumes of material over 20 years is the BREKID case, Bufile 7-576. There are 57 serials in this matter covering the period of July 1943 to July 1963. The Kansas City Office has had no investigative activity in this matter since July 1959.

It is requested this office be granted authority to dispose of the volumes of records in these two matters which are over 20 years old.

UACB 7/30/63 this will be done.

2-Bureau cc *detached*  
1-Kansas City  
JHH:B  
(3)

7-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
128 OCT 2 1963

NOT RECORDED  
3 2 1963

RECORDED

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-3286

*Short L. Tavel*  
*7/23/63*  
*FWW*

*Airtel to KC*  
*Hold for further*  
*consideration*  
*7/26/63 - FWW*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : MR. TAVEL *ST*

DATE: 7-23-63

FROM : L. E. SHORT *ST*

SUBJECT: DESTRUCTION OF FILES AND RECORDS  
MATNAP, BUFILE 7-1820  
BREKID, BUFILE 7-576

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Reference is made to Kansas City letter 7-19-63.

Referenced letter requested authority to dispose of files in captioned cases in the Kansas City Office. Destruction authority is requested only on that material in these files which are over 20 years old. Kansas City advises there are 65 volumes with correspondence over 20 years old in the MATNAP case and 29 volumes of material over 20 years old in the BREKID case.

The Manual of Rules and Regulations, Part II, Section 3, Page 13 provides authority for field divisions to destroy field files after they become 20 years old. However, Bureau authority is required in cases of an important nature. The Files and Communications Division has no objection to the destruction of files described by the Kansas City Office. However, since these are cases of an important nature policy considerations are in order. Therefore, it is recommended that the views of the Investigative Division be obtained.

It should be noted that the files will be destroyed by Kansas City UACB 7-30-63.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) That this matter be referred to the Investigative Division.

*See addendum GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION Page 1A.*

*7-576-*  
NOT RECORDED

- (2) After the Investigative Division has considered the request, this matter should be referred to the Inspection Division.

58 OCT 8

NFS: ler

(3)

Enclosure *det'd*

11 SEP 27 1963

Addendum of Inspection Division  
on page 2

RECORDED

SIX

*authorized note  
for Inspection  
Div 7/23/63  
WNY*

ORIGINAL FILED IN 66-3276

The Matnap case in which Seattle is office of origin remains unsolved and is still under investigation. Accordingly, the General Investigative Division recommends that Kansas City continue to retain all volumes of this file.

The Brekid case has been prosecuted; however, one of the primary ringleaders Alvin Karpis is still incarcerated in the McNeil Island Penitentiary on the life sentence he received. The General Investigative Division recommends that Kansas City continue to retain all volumes of this file.

*R. G. M.* *JAC*  
*J. H. S.* *Res.*



July 26, 1963

JHG:wmj

The Inspection Division feels there is no point in having auxiliary offices such as Kansas City retain all volumes over 20 years old in the MATNAP case. Of course, the Office of Origin, Seattle, should retain all volumes and thereby be in a position to furnish any old background data to an auxiliary office if the remote possibility occurs that the auxiliary office needs same. If Kansas City has any material of evidentiary value or any statements or memoranda of significance which Seattle does not have, this should, of course, be retained. With respect to BREKID, the case has been prosecuted. If some problems arise, we have copies of all reports at the Seat of Government and the matter could be resolved by reference to these files. Of course, any signed statements, documentary evidence or memoranda not in possession of the Bureau should be retained.

We are having a tremendous problem in many of our field offices with respect to space, which is materially being affected by the accumulation of records. It is imperative that we destroy as many old records as logical and practical. To do otherwise is a waste of space and file cabinets, both of which are expensive. It is my suggestion that an SAC Letter be prepared permitting all offices to destroy their files in these cases except the Office of Origin. However, it is also felt that auxiliary offices should not destroy signed statements, important memoranda or evidentiary material not in possession of the Office of Origin.

*Airtel to  
KC 7/26/63.  
Hold destruction  
for further consideration.  
FWW*

- 2 -

*Being handled  
by Insp. Div.*

*Take up at EC in  
Sept.  
7/26.*

7-576-15474

Sp 6-1

**Mr. Frank A. Roberts**  
**Executive Director**  
**The Catholic Rehabilitation Service of the**  
**Federation of Catholic Charities, Inc.**  
**Suite 106**  
**433 St. Dizier Street**  
**Montreal 1, Canada**

SEP 17 3 57 PM '63  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

F.A.

**Your letter of September 10th has been received.**

Due to a heavy schedule of commitments it will not be possible for me to meet with you in the foreseeable future. Should you be in Washington, feel free to come to FBI Headquarters where one of my representatives will be glad to meet with you.

Matters relative to Canadian citizens in the United States come within the jurisdiction of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service. I suggest you may wish to direct correspondence to the Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service, U. S. Department of Justice, 119 D Street, Northeast, Washington, D. C. 20536.

MAILED 81  
SEP 17 1963  
COMM-FBI

**Sincerely yours,**

**J. Edgar Hoover**

**John Edgar Hoover**  
**Director**

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: No record of correspondent in Bufiles. Alvin Karpis, formerly described as Public Enemy No. 1 pleaded guilty on 7-27-36 to kidnapping William A. Hamm, Jr. He thereafter was sentenced to a life sentence and is currently incarcerated at McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary, Washington. ~~Copy~~

**WYOMING PRESENTS TO YOU THE NEW YORK AND NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM**

RMW: [initials]  
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐





THE CATHOLIC REHABILITATION SERVICE  
OF THE  
FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES, INC.

433 ST. DIZIER STREET  
SUITE 106

MONTREAL 1

TELEPHONE 842-2502

FRANK A

10 September

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

R. CARTWRIGHT, B.C.L.,  
(PRESIDENT)

REV. G. BRITT

H. L. CULLEN

REV. E. M. JOHNS

REV. MILES J. KELLY

DOCTOR G. MAGUIRE

G. H. TESSIER

MAJOR REILLY WATSON

A. W. HENNESSEY, JR.  
(EX OFFICIO)

R. F. WALSH (EX OFFICIO)

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover.  
Chief.  
Federal Bureau of Investigation.  
WASHINGTON. D.C.  
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Hoover.,

Re: Alvin Karpavicz (Karpis).  
McNeil Island Penitentiary.

For a number of years now we have been corresponding with Alvin Karpavicz, presently serving a sentence at McNeil Island Penitentiary, Steilacoom, mainly on a supportive level and at the request of Mr. Karpavicz, Warden. We have visited him in the institution on two occasions.

Our most recent visit took place two weeks ago when he requested me to write you to request that you grant me an interview to discuss his case and the fact that he is a Canadian citizen.

I am prepared to go to Washington at any time to suit your convenience should you be able to find time to grant me an interview.

Yours very sincerely.,

(Frank A. Roberts. J.P.)  
Executive Director.

FAR.dr.

MEMBER OF  
NATIONAL COUNCIL  
ON  
CRIME AND DELINQUENCY  
(U.S.A.)

THE AMERICAN  
CORRECTIONAL  
ASSOCIATION

THE CANADIAN  
CORRECTIONS  
ASSOCIATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE  
CRIMINOLOGIE  
DU QUÉBEC

ack-incl  
9-17-63  
RMW:slw/rbk

EX 104

WPC-13

7-5716

11 SEP 12 1963

CORRESPONDENCE

Kelsh  
TAKSON

10/1/63  
SAC LETTER NO. 63-50

(B) MATNAP - BREKID - FILING SYSTEM - DESTRUCTION OF FILES BY AUXILIARY OFFICES -- To conserve filing space, all auxiliary offices are hereby authorized to destroy reports and letters in their files relating to the MATNAP and BREKID cases which are more than 20 years old, provided the offices of origin and offices of prosecution have copies of these reports and letters. Under no circumstances should any material of evidentiary value or any statements, memoranda, or other significant material be destroyed. Any office which has been an office of origin or an office of prosecution at any time in the BREKID case should retain all material in its possession. In the event it becomes necessary to later obtain information which is more than 20 years old, auxiliary offices should communicate with the office of origin, which should retain the complete files, or the Bureau.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-28-81 BY SP2 TAP/elp

ORIGINAL FILED IN 66-114

57 OCT 11 1963

7/69

17-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
191 OCT 9 1963

**GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION**

**DATE 10-21-63**

Alvin Karpis was one of the subjects responsible for the 1933 kidnaping of William A. Hamm, Jr., and the 1934 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer. Following his apprehension at New Orleans on 5-1-36 Karpis entered a guilty plea to the indictments returned in connection with the Hamm kidnaping. On 7-27-36 Karpis was sentenced to life imprisonment. On 7-5-61 U. S. Board of Parole denied his request for parole. We have advised the Attorney General of the ruthless crimes perpetrated by Karpis and our position that he is not entitled to any consideration.

# Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/14/63

FROM : SAC, Seattle (7+1)

SUBJECT: BREKID

Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

On 10/9/63 SA JOHN A. DRAKE reviewed the file on ALVIN KARPAVICZ at McNeil Island.

There is a letter from the U. S. Board of Parole dated 9/25/63 reflecting that it had reviewed KARPAVICZ' entire record, and it did not find sufficient justification for a change in his parole status. His file reflects that he will be eligible for consideration again in the summer of 1964. This matter will be followed, and the Bureau will be advised.

2 - Bureau (AM)  
1 - Seattle  
JEM:eg  
(3)

REC-35

EX-103

OCT 16 1963

197

OCT 25 1963

OCT 25 1963

7-576-15495

OCT 16 1963

*[Handwritten signature]*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-756)

DATE: 10/17/63

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63)(P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPPING  
(OO:SE)

ReWFOlet to Director dated 7/11/63.

b7c On 10/7/63, [REDACTED]  
U. S. Board of Parole, was contacted by SA WALLACE A. HAWKINS.  
[REDACTED] stated the annual report on KARPAVICZ had been  
received and after a review by the Board, it had recommended  
on 9/25/63, that there be no change in the status of  
KARPAVICZ.

He said there would be no further action in this  
case prior to July, 1964, when KARPAVICZ's annual progress  
report would be forwarded to the Board of Parole.

He stated that the file still maintains a  
notation or a "flag stop" to notify the FBI in the event  
any action is contemplated in the KARPAVICZ matter.

WFO will continue to follow with the U. S. Board  
of Parole.

2- Bureau  
1- Seattle (7-1)(Info)  
1- WFO

WAH:ejr  
(4)

REC- 56

7-576-15490

11 OCT 18 1963

OCT 25 1963

1 - Mr. Conrad  
1 - Mr. Griffith  
1 - Mr. Kittel

Mr. Conrad

11-6-63

W. D. Griffith

**Bulky Exhibits  
Laboratory Division**

A review of the current bulky exhibits maintained by the Laboratory Division has been completed.

With regard to the case captioned "CANAB" (Crash of National Airlines DC-6B, Bolivia, North Carolina, 1960), SA William R. Heilman, Jr., advises that the photographic negatives taken of the plane during reconstruction should be retained at this time for an indefinite period for possible use in the future.

Concerning the case captioned "John Gilbert Graham" (Crash of United Airlines Plane near Longmont, Colorado, 11/1/55), SA William J. Magee advises that the photographs and negatives taken of the plane during reconstruction and the photograph of JOHN GILBERT GRAHAM should, at this time, be retained for an indefinite period as the material is referred to from time to time.

The .45 caliber cartridge cases and .45 caliber projectile being retained in the case captioned "Alvin Karpavicz, aka Alvin Karpis, Kidnaping," according to SA J. Allison Conley, should be retained until Karpis dies.

The .22 caliber Ace, Savage and Remington firearms along with the .30 caliber Winchester and .45 caliber Thompson Submachine gun in the case captioned "John Paul Chase, aka, Murder of Inspector Samuel P. Cowley and SA H. E. Hollis," are to be retained until John Paul Chase dies or the indictment against him is dropped.

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 2 - Mr. Rosen (1 - Mr. J. A. Conley, Rm. 5712)  
(1 - Mr. M. E. Light, Rm. 5716)
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan (Att: Mr. R. D. Simpson, Rm. 813 RB)
- 1 - Bufile (7-576)
- 1 - Bufile (62-29777)
- 1 - Bufile (98-43035)
- 1 - Bufile (149-866)
- 1 - Bufile (166-474)

HRK:gl  
(13)

7-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
46 NOV 12 1963

64 NOV 10 1963

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-29777-14

Memorandum to Mr. Conrad  
Bulky Exhibits  
Laboratory Division

b7c  
The gambling paraphernalia consisting of  
thirty-one punch boards in the case captioned [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] aka ITAR-G" are retained for current comparison  
with other similar material submitted.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

In view of the foregoing information, the bulky  
exhibits should be maintained until disposition is possible  
in each circumstance.

21  
November 15, 1963

SAC, Albany

Director, FBI

7-576-

**MATNAP;  
BREKID  
FILING SYSTEM - DESTRUCTION OF  
FILES BY AUXILIARY OFFICES**

Reference is made to SAC Letter 103-50 (S) dated 10-1-63, which provides for the destruction of certain reports and letters in captioned cases by auxiliary offices, provided copies are in the possession of the offices of origin and prosecution.

It has come to the Bureau's attention that auxiliary offices may have a considerable accumulation of photographs of individuals once considered suspects in these cases. Any such photographs which have been maintained for over twenty years may be destroyed provided they are of no further use in captioned investigations and provided that copies of these photographs are in the possession of the offices of origin and prosecution.

Any photographs of subjects and their associates in the Brekid case should be retained. Under no circumstances should any photographs or other material of possible evidentiary value be destroyed. Office of origin should continue to retain complete files.

MAILED 2  
NOV 21 1963  
COMM-FBI

2 - All Offices

1 - Mr. Gale  
1 - Mr. Tavel  
JOK:mlt;sda  
(120)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE:

See memo A. Rosen to Mr. Belmont, dated 11-14-63, RE: DESTRUCTION OF FILES AND RECORDS, MATNAP (Bureau file 7-1820); BREKID (Bureau file 7-576); JOK:mlt;sda.

DEC 2 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ORIGINAL FILED IN 7-1820-5



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 10/17/63

FROM : SAC, PHILADELPHIA (7-124)

SUBJECT: MATNAP

Re SAC letter 63-50 dated 10/1/63 authorizing destruction of certain reports and letters over 20 years of age in captioned file.

It has been noted that there is also a considerable accumulation of photographs of individuals in exhibit envelopes of this file most of which are 20 years or more of age. No doubt other divisions have the same large accumulation of photos of suspects in their file. In view of the age of the photographs and fact that probably the individuals would not be identifiable at this time from these old photos, authority is requested to dispose of them.

2-Bureau  
1-Philadelphia (7-124)

WLP:bec  
(3)

7-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
199 NOV 22 1963

REC- 56

EX-108

5 OCT 21 1963

memo from to Belmont  
90K:mlt  
11-18-63  
Plastiplate,  
SAC AL  
11-28-63  
90K:mlt

ORIGINAL FILED IN

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: November 18, 1963

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: DESTRUCTION OF FILES AND RECORDS  
MATNAP (Bureau file 7-1820);  
BREKID (Bureau file 7-576)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

This is to recommend that attached letter be sent to all field offices authorizing the destruction of photographs of suspects, maintained over twenty years, in captioned cases provided these photographs are of no further use in these investigations and provided that copies of these photographs are in the possession of the offices of origin and prosecution.

## BACKGROUND

The Matnap case concerns the kidnaping of Charles Fletcher Mattson, aged ten, who was kidnaped 12-27-36 at Tacoma, Washington. Extensive investigation has been conducted and subject has not been identified. The Brekid case involves the kidnaping of Edward George Bremer on 1-17-34 at St. Paul, Minnesota. Alvin Karpis and others have been convicted for the Bremer kidnaping. Karpis was sentenced to life imprisonment and is still in prison.

SAC Letter 63-50 (B) dated 10-1-63 provides for the destruction of certain reports and letters in captioned cases by auxiliary offices provided copies are in the possession of the offices of origin and prosecution.

Since issuance of the above SAC letter, the Philadelphia Office has advised that it has a considerable accumulation of photographs of former suspects in these files which have been on hand for twenty years or more. Philadelphia suggests that other field divisions probably have the same large accumulation of photographs of suspects. Philadelphia recommends that in view of the age of the photographs and the fact that probably the individuals would not be identifiable at this time from these old photographs, authority be granted to dispose of them.

The General Investigative Division feels that continued retention of such photographs by auxiliary offices would serve no useful purpose; however, it is felt that the office of origin should continue to retain complete files.

## Enclosure

1 - Mr. Gale

1 - Mr. Tavel

JOK:mlt;sda

(8)

11 NOV 22 1963

NOT RECORDED  
199 NOV 22 1963

ORIGINAL FILED IN

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont  
RE: DESTRUCTION OF FILES AND RECORDS

ACTION RECOMMENDED

If approved, attached is a letter to all offices granting authority for auxiliary offices to destroy photographs of individuals which have been maintained in captioned files for over twenty years provided that they are of no further use in these investigations and provided that copies of these photographs are in the possession of the offices of origin and prosecution. This letter instructs that photographs of subjects and their associates in the Brekid case should be retained and under no circumstances should any photographs or other material of possible evidentiary value be destroyed. Office of origin is being instructed to continue to retain complete files.

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

Mr. Conrad

5/19/64

W. D. Griffith

**Bulky Exhibits  
Laboratory Division**

A review of current bulky exhibits being maintained by the Laboratory Division has been completed.

With regard to the cases captioned "CANAB" (Crash of National Airlines DC-6B, Bolivia, North Carolina, 1960) and "Jack Gilbert Graham" (Crash of United Air Lines Airplane near Longmont, Colorado, 11/1/55), separate memoranda have been prepared in these cases setting forth the fact that bulky exhibits in connection with them will no longer be maintained in the Laboratory files.

In the case captioned "Alvin Karpavicz, aka Alvin Karpis, Kidnaping," SA J. Allison Conley has advised that the .45 caliber cartridge cases and the .45 caliber projectile should be retained until Karpis dies.

With respect to the case entitled "John Paul Chase, aka, Murder of Inspector Samuel T. Cowley and SA H. E. Hollis," SA Fletcher D. Thompson has advised that the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained until subject Chase dies or the pending indictment against him is dropped. It is noted that the evidence referred to consists of a .22 caliber Ace pistol, a .30 caliber Winchester rifle and a .45 caliber Thompson submachine gun. In addition, there is a .22 caliber Savage rifle and a .22 caliber Remington rifle.

Concerning the case entitled [REDACTED], aka, ITAR-G," SA Earl H. Williams has advised that the gambling paraphernalia consisting of 31 punchboards making up the bulky exhibit in this matter should be retained for the present, since this material is used periodically as a known standard against which questioned submissions are compared.

1 - Mr. Belmont  
Tolson 1 - Mr. Rosen  
Belmont 1 - Mr. Sullivan  
Mohr 1 - 7-576  
Casper 1 - 62-29777  
Callahan 1 - 166-474  
Conrad 1 - 105-126369  
DeLoach  
Evans  
Gale  
Rosen  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Holmes  
Gandy

7-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
87 MAY 28 1964

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-441115-100

Memorandum Griffith to Conrad  
Re: Bulky Exhibits  
Laboratory Division

62  
With respect to the case captioned " [REDACTED] SA Anthony O'Touse, the examiner in the matter, has advised that this is a new, pending case and it will be necessary to retain the evidence until the disposition of the case is determined. The evidence maintained in the Laboratory files consists of various items of espionage apparatus formerly utilized by subject [REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATION: In view of the above, the bulky exhibits in the Karpis, Chase, [REDACTED] cases should be maintained until appropriate disposition is possible in each instance.

SAC, Seattle (7-1)

June 2, 1964

Director, FBI (7-576) - 15497

esa EX-103

ALVIN KARPAVICZ, AKA  
ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING  
(OO: SE)

Re Legat, Ottawa letter dated 5-14-64. No carbon copies  
for Seattle and Washington Field Office.

For information of the latter two offices.

b7D

For information of Legat, Ottawa, Seattle and Washington  
Field Offices are following this matter closely and you will be advised  
of any pertinent developments indicating Karpis will be paroled for  
return to Canada.

2 - WFO (7-63) (Info)  
1 - Legat, Ottawa (163-420)



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JAC(hw)  
17(hw)

NOTE: Re memo A. K. Bowles to Trotter dated 5-25-64,  
Alvin Karpavicz, aka Alvin Karpis, FBI # 199 217, Identification  
Matter, Bufile 7-576, AKB:jf.

55 JUL 8 1964

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Date: May 14, 1964

To: Director, FBI

(Bufile : )

Attention : IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

From: Legal Attache, Ottawa

( 163-420 )

mje 6-

<p>Title</p> <p>ALVIN KARPAVISCZ, aka Alvin Karpis</p> <p><i>should be Karpavicz</i></p> <p><i>ALVIN KARPAVICZ</i></p>	<p>Character</p> <p>FPC</p> <p>Reference</p> <p>No prior correspondence.</p>
--	--

[REDACTED]

Remarks:

FBI-199-217

Dissemination

- ☒ May be made as received
- ☐ May be made as indicated by stamp on enclosure

Following offices would be interested in receiving copies of enclosures:

Status with this office:

- ☐ RUC
- ☒ Pending
- 2 - Bureau (Encs. 5)
- MLI:MEG
- (2)

SAC SE  
6/1/64  
RFP/Dew

ENCLOSURE  
3 Enclosures  
detached  
ident  
hs

Do not write in space below	
7-576-15497	REC-30
12 JUN 19 1964	ONE - PENDING

copy of ident record FBI# 199-217  
and photo sent to Legat,  
Ottawa 5/25/64  
CJS

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 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) (b)(7)D 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.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

7-576-15497 Enclosure

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: FATHER JOSEPH M. CLARK  
BRIGHAM CITY, UTAH  
APPOINTMENT WITH DIRECTOR  
4 P.M., 6-3-64

DATE: 5-28-64

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## BACKGROUND:

As Father Joseph M. Clark, who is to see Mr. Hoover at 4 p.m., on 6-3-64, will undoubtedly mention John Paul Chase, the killer of former Agent Hollis and Inspector Cowley, the following is a brief resume of Chase's criminal life. Also included is a resume of Alvin Karpis, whose criminal career and subsequent parole endeavors are very similar to Chase and may be mentioned by Father Clark.

## JOHN PAUL CHASE:

Chase was born on 12-26-01, in California, where he spent the greater part of his life. His criminal activity dealt principally with bootlegging activities in California during the 1920's. He was also engaged in a liquor-smuggling gang which included some of the more notorious California members of the underworld, with headquarters in San Francisco. In the early 1930's, Chase teamed up with Lester Joseph Gillis, better known as "Baby Face" Nelson, who had escaped from the Illinois State Penitentiary in February, 1932. Chase and Gillis were engaged in various types of criminal activities together during the 1932-34 period and were both suspected of several murders. They later teamed up with John Dillinger and other notorious hoodlums and participated in a number of bank robberies with these individuals. In November, 1934, Chase and Gillis while in a stolen car were involved in a gun fight with FBI Agents and Inspector Samuel P. Cowley and Agent H. E. Hollis were murdered. Gillis was also killed in the gun battle which took place in Barrington, Illinois. Chase was later taken into custody by local police at Shasta, California, where he was living under an assumed name.

REC-103

Chase subsequently received a life sentence on 3-28-35, in U. S. District Court, Chicago, for the murder of Inspector Cowley. He was also indicted for the murder of Agent Hollis but was never tried on this charge which was dismissed on 10-17-55. In connection with parole attempts on numerous occasions by Chase, the Bureau has never failed to protest the idea of giving leniency to Chase. He is presently incarcerated at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas. In March, 1963,

1 - Tolson  
1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Miss Holmes  
1 - Miss Gandy

JMP:car  
(8)

61 JUL 1 1964

Room NOT RECORDED Continued next page...

199 JUN 25 1964

CRIME RESEARCH

M. A. Jones to DeLoach Memo  
RE: FATHER JOSEPH M. CLARK

Pardon Attorney, U. S. Department of Justice, notified Chase that his application for executive clemency could not be favorably recommended to President Kennedy at that time.

ALVIN KARPAVICZ, AKA ALVIN KARPIS:

Karpis was born in Canada on 8-10-07, and was brought to this country by his parents when he was two years of age. He was one of the ring leaders of the notorious Karpis-Barker gang which terrorized the Midwest during the 1930's. On 1-17-34, Karpis and his gang kidnaped Edward G. Bremer at St. Paul, Minnesota, and released Bremer on 2-7-34, after receiving a \$200,000 ransom. On 5-4-34, Karpis and others were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury at St. Paul in connection with Bremer's abduction.

Prior to the Bremer kidnaping, William A. Hamm, Jr., of the Hamm Brewing Company, was kidnaped at St. Paul on 6-15-33. Hamm was released after a ransom of \$100,000 was paid. It was determined that Karpis was one of the individuals responsible for this kidnaping.

Karpis was apprehended by the FBI at New Orleans, Louisiana, on 5-1-36. On 7-14-36, he entered a plea of guilty to the indictments returned in connection with the Hamm kidnaping and was sentenced to life imprisonment on 7-27-36. On approximately 1-30-62, Karpis was transferred from Alcatraz to the U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, where he is currently incarcerated.

Karpis has been eligible for parole since 7-26-51, but waived a parole hearing by U. S. Board of Parole until 7-5-61, when his parole was denied.

In 1962, it was determined that Karpis was attempting to establish a parole plan through correspondence with the director, Catholic Rehabilitations Service of the Federation of Catholic Charities, Montreal, Canada. The director of this organization has indicated his interest in assisting Karpis if he is paroled and deported to Canada, the country where he was born. The Director has advised the Attorney General and the Bureau of Prisons that in view of the notorious background of Karpis, it is believed he is not entitled to any consideration regarding parole.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

✓  
D.J. E. J. [unclear]  
[unclear]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : MR. TROTTER *lls*

DATE: 5-25-64

FROM : A. K. Bowles *AKB*

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPVICZ, AKA ALVIN KARPIS  
FBI #199 217  
IDENTIFICATION MATTER  
BUFILE #7-576

*J.*  
Tolson ☒  
Belmont ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Casper ☒  
Callahan ☒  
Conrad ☒  
DeLoach ☒  
Evans ☒  
Gale ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Sullivan ☒  
Tavel ☒  
Trotter ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Holmes ☒  
Gandy ☒  
*bls*  
*Conty*  
*Harris*

*b7D*  
Ident received a request from [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Legat, Ottawa for a copy of Identification Record and photograph  
of Alvin Karpis. Request has been complied with. [REDACTED]

Bureau file shows Karpis was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1936 for kidnapping and has been incarcerated since that time, presently at U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington. The U. S. Board of Parole denied his request for parole in July, 1963 as it had done in previous years. His parole status is due for review in July, 1964. Our Washington Field Office follows closely with U. S. Board of Parole to notify Bureau immediately in the event of any change in Karpis' status.

## ACTION:

For information. *✓* *APM* *E.P.C.* *W.S.B.*

AKB:jf  
(6) *22*

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

*Let to SE 6/2/64*  
*DEC 31*  
*7-576-15418*  
*EX-102*  
*12 JUN 19 1964*

*78 JUN 24 1964*

June 22, 1964

EX-103

1 - Mr. McInerney

Airtel

REC-15

7-576-15499

To: SAC, New Orleans

From: Director, FBI

INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(CRIMINAL SECTION)  
Buded: 7-1-64

Enclosed herewith for information of New Orleans Division are two copies of a letter dated 6-18-64 which was sent to the Director by one [REDACTED]

Instant letter is not specific, however, indicates that during the last year incidents have occurred which have endangered [REDACTED] life and she states she has reached "a stage of extreme fear."

As New Orleans is aware, [REDACTED] was a Government witness during 1938 at Little Rock, Arkansas, concerning prosecution of certain local Hot Springs, Arkansas, officials for harboring and aiding Alvin Karpis and Harry Campbell after the kidnaping of Edward George Bremer.

A review of Bureau files indicates that during the latter part of 1938 after [REDACTED] had testified in above matter she alleged that she was being followed by a strange man whom she identified as a former associate of Karpis and was extremely frightened.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by Bureau Agents at her residence in [REDACTED] on 11-19-38 (New Orleans file 7-15). At that time she was advised to contact the local authorities if she had any reason to fear for her safety and local authorities were alerted concerning [REDACTED] complaint.

Enclosures (2)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

61 JUN 29 1964  
SFM:mlt  
(4)

MAILED 20  
JUN 22 1964

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

(SEE NOTE ON PAGE 2.)

Airtel to New Orleans  
RE: [REDACTED]

b7C  
New Orleans should immediately contact [REDACTED] personally acknowledge her letter to the Director and determine if she has any information that would constitute a violation over which this Bureau has jurisdiction. The results of your investigation should be made known to the Bureau by 7-1-64.

NOTE:

Letter sent to the Director dated 6-18-64 by one [REDACTED] former Government witness during harboring in Bremer kidnaping case at Little Rock, Arkansas, during 1938. Instant letter states during last year things have occurred that have endangered [REDACTED] life, but she is not specific. [REDACTED] being contacted personally by Bureau Agent, at which time letter will be acknowledged to determine if she has any information that would indicate a violation within our jurisdiction.

b7c [REDACTED]  
June 18, 1964

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

Dear Mr. Hoover

In 1938 I rendered a service to the F.B.I.  
that I'd rather not mention in mail. Altho the  
case is filed, as the trial was in Little Rock.

Within the last year many things have come  
up that have endangered my life. At this point I  
have reached a stage of extreme fear, plus the  
fact I have a thirteen (13) year old daughter.

I do not know how extensive or descriptive  
I should be concerning the above mentioned, so  
would you please advise me accordingly.

Very truly yours, [REDACTED] *W*

b7c  
FBI  
7/14/64 2 00 PM  
Formerly [REDACTED]

Hot Springs, Arkansas

EX-103

7-276-15449  
JUN 23 1964

CORRESPONDENCE  
[Handwritten notes: 6/24/64, SF, 6-22-64, 2000-110]

H23

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 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) (b)(7)C 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.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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- ☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
7-576-18499

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

F B I

Date: 6/30/64

PLAIN TEXT

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plain text or code)

Via \_\_\_\_\_

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (62-3666) (C)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(CRIMINAL SECTION)

Re Bureau airtel to New Orleans, 6/22/64

*wa.* [REDACTED] EDWARD ~~FEIKER~~ BREMER was contacted 6/29/64 and her letter to the Director acknowledged. She stated that she is highly nervous and is under a doctor's care. [REDACTED] had no information of a nature to indicate a Federal violation. She was very apprehensive for the safety of herself and her small daughter, and she stated she had been reluctant to discuss the basis of her fears with a doctor. She stated that her husband was aware of her writing to the Director and that she was also aware of her apprehensions and fears.

Since no Federal violation is indicated, nothing further in this matter is being done.

ST-115

REC-120

7-576-15500

20 JUL 3 1964

3 - Bureau  
1 - New Orleans

EC:jas  
(4)

C. C. Wick

147

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

72 JUL 10 1964

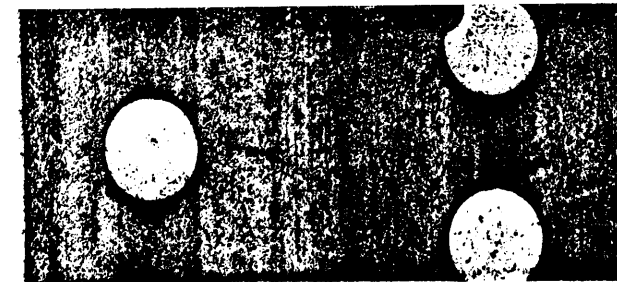
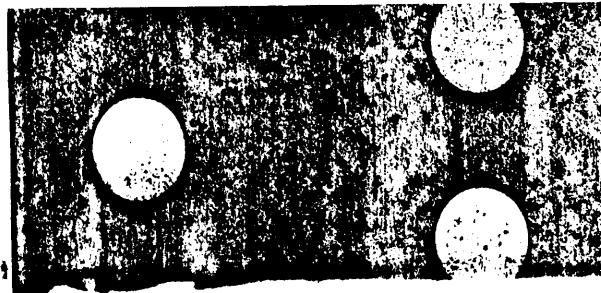
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_





STANDARD FORM NO. 64

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 7/10/64

FROM: *MAW* SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
KIDNAPING  
OO: SE

Reurlet 6/2/64.

On 7/8/64 [REDACTED] Classification & Parole Department, U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, advised that subject will again be considered automatically for parole by the U. S. Board of Parole this month. He added that he would immediately advise this office of any developments in this matter.

Seattle will continue to follow this matter at this institution.

3 - Bureau  
2 - WFO (7-63) (Info.)  
2 - Seattle  
JAD:eon  
(7)

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JUL 13 5 00 PM '64

RECEIVED

7-57615501  
REC-60

JUL 13 1964

58 JUL 22 1964  
206

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-756)  
576

DATE: 7/16/64

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63)(P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
(OO:SE)

ReWFOlet dated 10/17/64.

On 7/14/64 [REDACTED]  
U.S. Board of Parole, was contacted by SA WALTER E. THOMAS,  
and he advised that the subject's case was considered by  
the parole board during July, 1964 and that he was turned  
down.

He said that the file contains a notation or a  
"flag stop" to notify the FBI in the event that any action  
is contemplated in the KARPAVICZ matter.

WFO will continue to follow with the U.S. Board  
of Parole.

2- Bureau  
1- WFO

WET/jgm  
(3)

REC 45

7-576-15502

16 JUL 16 1964

cc to Seattle  
0-7/5 7/22/64  
58 Jac: Sku

TRUE COPY

45 Bosworth Lane  
Willingboro N. J.

Dear Sir:

Is it true that you walked up to Alvin Karpis  
in the street and arrested him. I thought only agents arrest  
people.

Thank you  
Larry Wack

L

REC- 93

7- 576 452

10 JUL 20 1964

*gal*

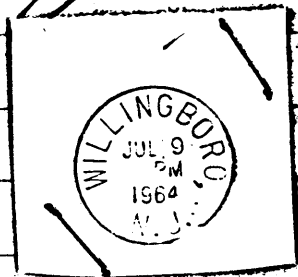
*11-17-64*  
*11-16-71*  
*286*  
70 JUL 24 1964

45 Bosworth Lane  
Willingboro N.J.

Dear Sir:

Is it true that you  
walked up to Alvin  
Karpis in the street  
and arrested him.  
I thought only agents  
arrest people.

Thank you,  
Larry Wack



170 - 7/13/64 - fel

Wanted to be a detective

7/14/64 mm  
delivered 1/1/64

gal

sub 17 64  
74  
ms

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING

DATE: July 13, 1964

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Shroder
- 1 - Mr. Conley

Tolson  
Belmont  
Casper  
Callahan  
Conrad  
DeLoach  
Evans  
Gale  
Rosen  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Holmes  
Gandy

On 7/13/64,

Board of Parole, telephonically advised the Bureau that the annual report on Karpis had been reviewed by the Board and parole was again denied. According to [redacted] no further consideration will be given to parole for Karpis until July 1965.

Karpis, currently incarcerated at McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary, was one of the subjects responsible for the 1933 kidnaping of William A. Hamm, Jr., and the 1934 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer. Following his apprehension at New Orleans, on 5/1/36, Karpis entered a guilty plea to the indictments returned in connection with the Hamm kidnaping. On 7/27/36, he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Each July, the U. S. Board of Parole reviews the annual report on Karpis which is for the purpose of determining whether Karpis should be paroled. In the past, we have advised the Attorney General of the ruthless crimes perpetrated by Karpis and set forth our position that he is not entitled to any consideration.

## ACTION:

This matter concerning Karpis is being followed with the U. S. Board of Parole and any change relating to Karpis will be promptly brought to our attention.

REC

7-576-15507

JAC:AOB  
(7)

64 JUL 23 1964

JUL 16 1964

REC 12

August 10, 1964

7-576-15505

EX-108

Mr. Michael E. Daily  
11 Euclid Avenue  
Summit, New Jersey

*Michael Daily*

Dear Mr. Daily:

I have received your letter of August 5th.

*mz*  
In connection with the question you raised, I would like to advise that Alvin Karpis is currently incarcerated at the United States Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington. His date of birth is August 10, 1908. I am enclosing a cancelled Identification Order regarding him.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 25

AUG 10 1964

COMM-FBI

AUG 10 1 30 PM '64  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

Enclosure

Cancelled Identification Order - #1218

*W*  
NOTE: In July of this year correspondent wrote a similar letter inquiring about "Bugs" Moran. His letter was cordially acknowledged and he was furnished information regarding Moran's death. Material regarding Karpis taken from his identification record.

SAW:plr  
(3) *plr*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

AUG 10 1964  
RECEIVED DIRECTOR  
*V. K. B.*

69 AUG 17 1964

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

TRUE COPY

Michael E. Daily

11 Euclid Avenue, Summit, New Jersey  
August 5, 1964

Dear Sir;

Could you please tell me if the criminal Alvin Karpis is still alive and serving time in San Quentin. Please tell me his date of birth and when he died (if so).  
Thank you very much.

Yours truly,

Michael Daily

REC 12  
EX-108

7-576-15505

AUG 11 1964

17C 8/9/64 ple  
20 4/14/64  
5-2-64

Michael E. Daily

11 Euclid Avenue, Summit, New Jersey

August 5, 1964

Dear Sir;

Could you please tell me if the  
criminal Alvin Karpis is still alive  
and serving time in the quarter. Please  
tell me his date of birth and when  
he died (if so).

Thank you very much.

Yours truly,  
Michael Daily

CORRESPONDENCE

ITE 8/8/64 ple  
ack 8/10/64  
SPW. ple

nml



October 1, 1964

REC 6T

7-576-15306

Mr. Richard A. White, Jr.  
14 Edinboro Place  
Newtonville, Massachusetts 02160

Dear Mr. White:

Your letter of September 27th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, Alvin Karpis is presently confined in the United States Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, having been transferred there from Alcatraz. He is serving a life sentence for conspiracy to kidnap and transport.

Enclosed is material I hope you enjoy reading.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 3  
OCT 1 - 1964  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (10)

The Story of the Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Fingerprint Identification

Cancelled IO's numbers 1166, 1194, 1203, 1217, 1218, 1419, and 1456.

The FBI Laboratory

NOTE: Alvin Karpis is subject of FBI Number 199217. Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DCL:ejc (3)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

OCT 1 4 23 PM '64  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

RECEIVED SECTION

Richard A. White Jr.  
14 Edinboro Place  
Newtonville, Mass. 02160

J. Edgar Hoover  
F.B.I.  
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,  
I have read many books on you and was wondering

if you could give me some information refering to Alvin  
Kapris? Is he still alive? If so in what prision? I would  
be pleased if you should send me a reply. Thank You.

Sincerely,  
Richard A. White Jr.  
14 Edinboro Place  
Newtonville, Mass. 02160



REC 61

11 OCT 2 1964

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Conrad

November 2, 1964

W. D. Griffith

**Bulky Exhibits  
Laboratory Division**

A review of current bulky exhibits being maintained by the Laboratory Division has been completed.

In the case captioned "Alvin Karpavics, aka Alvin Karpis, Kidnaping," SA J. Allison Conley has advised that the .45 caliber cartridge cases and the .45 caliber projectile should be retained until Karpis dies.

With respect to the case entitled "John Paul Chase, aka, Murder of Inspector Samuel T. Cowley and SA H. E. Hollis," SA Fletcher D. Thompson has advised that the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained until subject Chase dies or the pending indictment against him is dropped. It is noted that the evidence referred to consists of a .22 caliber Ace pistol, a .30 caliber Winchester rifle and a .45 caliber Thompson submachine gun. In addition, there is a .22 caliber Savage rifle and a .22 caliber Remington rifle.

Concerning the case entitled [REDACTED] aka, STAR-G," SA Earl H. Williams has advised that the gambling paraphernalia consisting of 31 punchboards making up the bulky exhibit in this matter should be retained for the present, since this material is used periodically as a known standard against which questioned submissions are compared.

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Griffith
- 1 - Mr. Ray
- 1 - T-576
- 1 - 62-29777
- 1 - 166-474
- 1 - 105-126369

DNR:pl (11)

CONTINUED - OVER

61 NOV 17 1964

7-576  
NOT RECORDED  
29 NOV 13 1964

Memorandum Griffith to Conrad  
Re: Bulky Exhibits  
Laboratory Division

b7c  
With respect to the case captioned [REDACTED] SA Anthony O'Toole, the examiner in the matter, has advised that this is a pending case and it will be necessary to retain the evidence until the disposition of the case is determined. The evidence maintained in the Laboratory files consists of various items of espionage apparatus formerly utilized by subject [REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATION: In view of the above, the bulky exhibits in the Karpis, Chase, [REDACTED] cases should be maintained until appropriate disposition is possible in each instance.

January 5, 1965

7-576-15507

Mr. William Jameson  
2 Whitney Drive  
Coldstock, New York

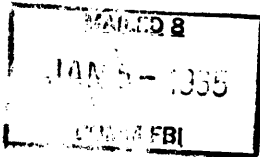
Dear William:

Your letter of December 30th has been received  
and it is a pleasure to know of your interest in the work of the  
YSC.

In answer to your inquiry, Alvin Karpis was  
transferred on April 8, 1962, from the United States Penitentiary  
at Alcatraz to McNeil Island, Washington.

Enclosed is material pertaining to our activities  
I hope you will find of interest.

Sincerely yours,



Enclosures (5)

See also Fights Crime  
What It's Like to Be an FBI Agent  
Join your FBI  
The War on Organized Crime  
The Story of the FBI

NOTE: The information concerning Karpis' transfer from Alcatraz to  
McNeil Island is contained in the Ident Record. 12-105

EDM:mk (3)

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Bishop  
Mr. Casper  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. Felt  
Mr. Gale  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Miss Holmes  
Miss Gandy

JAN 14 1965  
TELETYPE UNIT ☐

4 SO BH .22  
JAN 14 1965  
DAN  
eft

TRUE COPY

December 29, 1964

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

Mr. Hoover:

I like the way you fight crooks. Of all the cases you handled, the one I like best is "The Boss's Case," I like the way you caught Alvin Karpis and Fred Hunter in New Orleans and none of your men had hand cuffs.

ALVIN  
The reason I'm writing to you is because I would like to know what prison Karpis is in. In the story I read said he went to Alcatraz for life. But since Alcatraz is not used any more, I would like to know where he is. If I am wasting your valuable time, please don't bother to answer it.

Sincerely,  
William Jameson  
2 Whitney Drive  
Woodstock NY Age-12

B. APPROX. 1964

REC-16

7-576-15507

16 JAN 7 1965

8-elt

1-7c 1-4-65

6/10

cc to 1-2-65

6-10/11/65

December 29, 1964

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

Mr. Hoover:

I like the way you fight crooks.  
Of all the cases you handled,  
the one I like best is "the  
Beards Case". I like the way  
you caught Alvin  
Karpis and Fred Hunter  
in New Orleans and more  
of your men had hard  
cups.

The reason I'm  
writing to you is because  
1-16-14-15-16-17  
ack 1-15-15 E.H. Allen

CORRESPONDENCE

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 2/3/65

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
KIDNAPING  
OO: SE

Re SElet to Bureau 7/10/64.

On 2/2/65 [REDACTED] U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, advised that Progress Report will be prepared on the subject in June, 1965, and will be submitted to the U. S. Board of Parole, Washington, D. C. He added that the U. S. Board of Parole will then review this report in July, 1965, and no action is anticipated in this matter until that time.

Seattle will continue to follow this matter.

2 - Bureau  
1 - WFO (Info.) (7-63)  
2 - Seattle  
JAD:eon  
(5)

REC-16

7-576-15508  
16 FEB 5 1965

SD



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Tavel *ST*

DATE: 4-6-68

FROM : L. E. Shonk *key*

SUBJECT: BREKID  
Bufile 7-576

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Attached is a one dollar bill that has been filed as an enclosure in the Bremer kidnaping case for the past 20 years (7-576-562). This money was transmitted to the Bureau by a copy of a letter from SAC Werner Hanni, St. Paul Office to the SAC, Kansas City Office dated 2-17-34. This bill was taken in by the First National Bank of Owatonna and turned over to the St. Paul Office by the County Attorney, Owatonna, Minnesota. It was thought the bill might have some significance to the Bremer kidnaping case because it contained writing in pen and ink stating, "Mr. Bremer was held in Kansas City 10 men in gang leaders won't split Fair." However, it does not appear that this bill is of any current value to this case and it is therefore recommended that, with the approval of the General Investigative Division, the Administrative Division place this one dollar bill in the Bureau's Miscellaneous Fund.

## RECOMMENDATION:

That, upon approval by the Kidnaping Desk of the General Investigative Division, the Administrative Division place the attached one dollar bill in the Bureau's Miscellaneous Fund.

## Enclosure

1 - Administrative Division *R*

*LWB:jam*  
(4)

*CASH* for \$ 1.00 detached and sent to  
Treasury. See Certificate of Deposit  
and Schedule of Collections FBI- 68 dated 5/6/65

1 MAY 7 1965

*THREE*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (7-576)

FROM : *Misp* SAC, Seattle (7-1)(P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, Aka  
KIDNAPING

OO : SE

DATE: 7/16/65

Remylet 2/3/65.

*b7c* On 7/14/65, [REDACTED] USP,  
McNeil Island, Washington, advised that he was currently  
preparing a semi-annual progress summary on KARPAVICZ, which  
will be submitted to parole authorities in Washington, D.C.,  
this month. He added that he would advise this office of any  
change in KARPAVICZ' status.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Seattle  
JAD:bhc  
(3)

REC 5

7-576-1541  
JUL 21 1965



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-756)

DATE: 8/20/65

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) (P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPPING  
(OO:SE)

Re WFO letter 7/16/64.

On 8/16/65, [REDACTED]  
U. S. Board of Parole, was contacted by SA WALTER E. THOMAS  
and he advised that the subject's case was considered by the  
Parole Board during 8/9/65 and parole was denied.

He said that the file contains a notation or a  
"flag stop" to notify WALTER E. THOMAS of the Washington  
Field Office in the event that any special action is contem-  
plated in this matter.

WFO will continue to follow with the U. S. Board  
of Parole.

③ - Bureau  
1 - Seattle (7-1)(Info)  
1 - WFO

WET:mer  
(5)

REC-66 7-576-15511

25 AUG 23 1965

EX-108



AUG 31 1965

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, AKA.  
ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING

DATE: August 27

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Malley  
1 - Mr. Shrode  
1 - Mr. McIner

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

On 8/16/65

U. S. Board of Parole, advised our Washington Field Office that the annual report on Karpis had been reviewed by the Board, and parole was again denied.

Karpis, currently incarcerated at McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary, was one of the subjects responsible for the 1933 kidnaping of William A. Hamm, Jr., and the 1934 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer. Following his apprehension at New Orleans on 5/1/36, Karpis entered a guilty plea to the indictments returned in connection with the Hamm kidnaping. On 7/27/36 he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Each year the U. S. Board of Parole reviews the annual report on Karpis, which is for the purpose of determining whether Karpis should be paroled. In the past, we have advised the Attorney General of the ruthless crimes perpetrated by Karpis and set forth our position that he is not entitled to any consideration.

## ACTION:

This matter concerning Karpis is being followed with the U. S. Board of Parole, and any change relating to Karpis will be promptly brought to our attention.

SFM:bjc  
(7)

16 SEP 8 1965



SEP 15 1965

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (7-576)

FROM : SAC, Seattle (7-1) *pk*

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
KIDNAPING

DATE: 10/28/65

Re WFO letter to Bureau, 8/20/65.

Reference letter reflects subject's parole was denied 8/9/65.

*b7c* On 8/11/65, [REDACTED] USP, McNeil Island, Washington, advised [REDACTED] he will advise of any change in status for subject. He could not state when this matter will again come before the parole board but stated it will be at least six months.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Seattle  
JEM/las  
(3)

10-51

7-576-131

25 OCT 29 1965

*jad*  
**SECRET**



*371*  
OCT 29 1965

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

Mr. Conrad

11/15/65

W. D. Griffith

**BULKY EXHIBITS  
LABORATORY DIVISION**

A review of the current bulky exhibits maintained by the Laboratory Division has been completed.

In the case captioned "Alvin Karpavicz, aka Alvin Karpis, Kidnaping," SA J. Allison Conley advised information has not been received indicating the death of Karpis; therefore, the .45 caliber projectile and the .45 caliber cartridge cases should be retained.

ACTION: None. For information.

- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Griffith
- 1 - Mr. Jepsen
- ① Bufile 7-576

RJ:mb  
(5)

7-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
126 NOV 18 1965

ORIGINAL FILED IN 20

1-20-66

1 - Mr. O'Keeffe

Airtel

To: SACs Minneapolis  
Seattle REC- 24

From: Director, FBI (7-576) -15514

BREKID  
OO: SEATTLE

Enclosed herewith for Minneapolis are two copies of a self-explanatory letter from Kenn Hansell, c/o Arnold Wencel, 4624 Dupont Avenue, North, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The original of this letter was received at the Bureau on 1-17-66.

Minneapolis will note that Hansell refers to an unnamed magazine article which states that \$100,000 ransom from captioned case is buried in Minnesota. He requests information as to the amount of ransom still outstanding in this case. For your information \$200,000 ransom was paid in captioned case and Bureau Agents have recovered \$19870.00 of the original ransom money.

Minneapolis should promptly contact Hansell, acknowledge his letter to the Bureau and advise him only that there is a substantial amount of money still unrecovered. Do not mention any specific amounts. Through interview of Hansell identify the magazine article to which he refers and advise Bureau together with your recommendations concerning information appearing in the article.

Suairtel by 1-28-66. For your information Hansell's letter is not being acknowledged by Bureau.

Enclosures (2)

JOK:tnf

57 JAN 31 1966

SEE NOTE PAGE 2.

MAILED 14  
JAN 20 1966  
COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NOTE: Alvin Carpis and others kidnaped Ed G. Bremer in 1934. Carpis is the only one of these kidnapers still living and he is now incarcerated in McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary.

b7c  
[REDACTED]

Hansell's letter to us refers to a magazine article stating \$100,000 of the Bremer ransom is buried in Minnesota. He wants to know how much has been recovered indicating he intends to search for the money if this amount is still outstanding. It does not appear we should advise him of the exact amount of money unrecovered.



TRUE COPY

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Dear Sir:

*Berkid*

In a recent magazine there is a story of \$100,000 in 5 and 10 dollars bills buried in Minnesota from the Bremmer Kidnapping case of 1934.

A friend and I plan to look for it this summer. I looked it up in the New York times year file and there is only one mention of a \$1000 bill turing up in Rochester, N Y. in 1934. As this was marked money do you have any information as to how much was recovered. If this amount is still missing then there maybe something to the story. The writer claims \$100,000 was sent to cuba and exchanged. The total ransom was \$200,000.<sup>00</sup> I would appreciate any information you can furnish as it will save us a lot of useless looking if the story is a hoax.

Thanking You,

Kenn Hansell  
c/o Arnold Wencel  
4624 Dupont Ave No  
Mpls., Minn.

7-576-15

REC-24 5 JAN 21 1956

ST-117



~~ack in 10 days~~  
~~TC 1-18-66~~

*8-elt*  
*6-elt*

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Dear Sir:

In a recent magazine there is a story of \$100,000 in 5 and 10 dollar bills buried in Minnesota from the Bremner Kidnapping Case of 1934.

A friend and I plan to look for it this summer. I looked it up in the New York Times year file and there is only one mention of a \$10 bill turning up in Rochester, N.Y. in 1934. As this was marked money do you have any information as to how much was recovered?

CORRESPONDENT

~~act on 8/20/34  
TC 8/26/34~~

airtel to  
MP 11/20/66  
JK

b. J. H.

F B I

Date: 1/26/66

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTELAIRMAIL  
(Priority)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Wicks	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)  
 FROM: SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)(RUC)  
 SUBJECT: BREKID  
 OO: SEATTLE

Re Bureau airtel to Minneapolis and Seattle dated 1/20/66.

Enclosed for the Bureau is a copy of the February 1966 issue of "Men" magazine which contains the story referred to in the letter of KENN HANSELL, which was received at the Bureau on 1/17/66.

Enclosed for the information of Seattle is one Xerox copy of this story.

On 1/21/66, KENN HANSELL was located at the Wisconsin Hotel, 1700 Portland Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota. His letter to the Bureau was acknowledged and at this time he was advised that there was a substantial amount of the ransom money paid in captioned case still unrecovered. HANSELL advised that as a hobby he searches for hidden treasures of all types and he has no information to furnish regarding any of the ransom money in captioned case being buried in Minnesota, other than what information appeared in the February 1966 issue of "Men" magazine.

A copy of the February 1966 issue of "Men" magazine, which was purchased locally, reveals that this magazine is published by the Zenith Publishing Corporation,

③ - Bureau (Enc. 1)  
 2 - Seattle (7-1)(Enc. 1)  
 1 - Minneapolis  
 RGF:jsm  
 (6)

REC-21

JAN 27 1966

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

63 FEB 9 1966

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

625 Madison Avenue, New York, New York. The story appearing in this magazine as mentioned by HANSELL is entitled, "Those Unearthed Millions In Gangster Gold". The author of this story is shown to be BRAD STEIGER and the story appears on Pages 20, 21, 78 through 81. This story relates to unrecovered millions of dollars alleged to have been buried by the gangsters of the early 30's.

A portion of this story as it appears on page 80 relates to captioned case and shows that after the kidnaping of EDWARD GEORGE BRENNER (correct spelling BREMER) at St. Paul, Minnesota, according to those who rode with "MA" BARKER from Rochester, Minnesota, "MA" BARKER and her son FRED buried half of the original \$200,000 ransom money in a strongbox wrapped in heavy tarpaulin. This article goes on to state that according to one of the BARKER brothers, who survived the closing of the FBI net, it was buried halfway between Rochester and Chatfield, Minnesota. FRED BARKER allegedly complained about the bitter cold and later laughed that they had uprooted a fence post when burying the loot. The remaining half of the loot, according to this story, was exchanged in Havana, Cuba for Cuban gold which was eventually split up by the gang.

According to Interesting Case Number 7-576, which relates to the kidnaping of EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, St. Paul, Minnesota, on 1/17/34, the ransom money was originally buried at Wilmington, Illinois and on 3/23/34, was moved to the apartment of FRED BARKER in Chicago, Illinois. Thereafter the ransom money was taken to the apartment of WILLIAM WEAVER at Aurora, Illinois and substantial amounts routed through Dr. JOSEPH P. MORAN to the money-changers in Chicago, Illinois. This interesting case write-up shows that a substantial sum of the money was later exchanged in Cuba.

The source from which the author of the above-mentioned story obtained his information is not known and it appears to be without basis. There is nothing in the Minneapolis files to indicate that any information was ever received regarding any of the ransom money in captioned case being buried any place in Minnesota.

The "Men" magazine appears of the "smut variety", dealing in sensationalism, sex exposes, and contains photos of seminudes.

-MP 7-30

It is the recommendation of the Minneapolis Office that no further action be taken in regard to this matter and no lead is being set out to locate and interview the author of the afore-mentioned story in the February 1966 issue of "Men".

A Xerox copy of this article is being maintained in the Minneapolis file on captioned case.

915910-2

# MEN

BEST-SELLING \$3.95 BOOKLENGTH—JAMES M. CAIN'S NEW TRIUMPH

## The Sins of Sally Brown

AUTHOR OF "THE POSTMAN ALWAYS RINGS TWICE" AT HIS MOST BRUTAL AND PASSIONATE BEST

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Nude Surfers,  
Beach Blanket Girls,  
Baretop Bar Wenchies

BURIED IN THE MIDWEST:  
THOSE UNEARTHED MILLIONS  
IN GANGSTER GOLD



The Yank Who Took  
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INFLATABLE  
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BROKEN BOOTS, INFERIOR WEAPON

The Crummy  
Equipment  
That Ties our  
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FEB.  
1966

# MEN



Gold treasure p. 20      Hollywood playdolls p. 14



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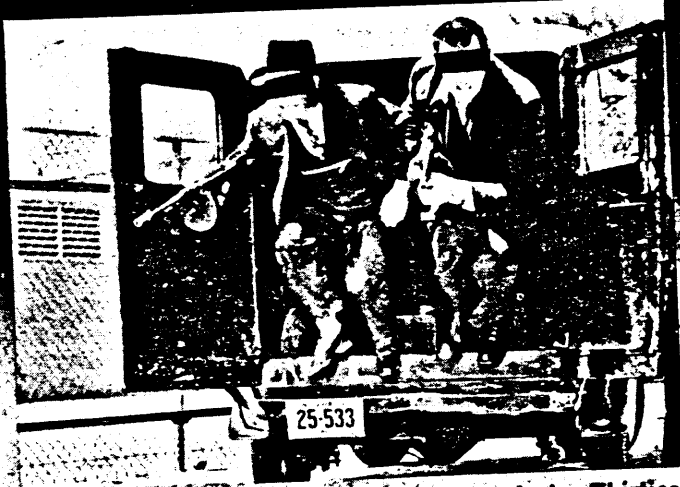


# Buried in the Midwest

The most vicious, massacre-mad killers America has ever known, they stole millions of dollars that, to this day, have never been recovered. Here is the astonishing lowdown on the greatest untapped lode since the rape of the Spanish Main, the bloodstained, long-hidden cash hoards Dillinger, Baby-Face Nelson and a dozen other "Wild Thirties" gangsters never lived to spend—and they're just lying around for any smart treasure hunter to find.

By BRAD STEIGER





NOTORIOUS GANGSTERS (above, rt.) pulled off amazing string of bank robberies during Thirties, stealing huge sums of money. Police divers (above, left) are plumbing depths of Indiana river after officials received tip that cache of money stolen 30 years earlier was sunk by fleeing gangsters

# THOSE UNEARTHED MILLIONS IN GANGSTER GOLD



MOST FAMOUS of the  
robberies was the 1935  
heist to have taken place in  
consistently...  
case filed...

EMIL Wanetka smiled at the sound of the car pulling up in front of his isolated roadhouse eight miles southeast of Mercer, Wisconsin. Business had been slow at the Little Bohemia, he sighed to himself, taking another swipe at the bar with the rag. Maybe things would pick up. Maybe this would be a car load of free-spending, high-tipping tourists.

The door to his tavern swung open and three men walked boldly toward the bar. Wanetka was about to hail them with a "What'll it be, Gents" when they stopped in the middle of the room. There, as if seeking hidden enemies, they looked around (Continued on page 78)

# GANGSTER GOLD

continued from page 21

toward all the corners, then walked over to the windows as if to gauge the approaches of the road to the little tavern.

One of them sat down in a chair against a wall and lifted a suitcase to his lap. Wanetka watched with a curiosity that turned to horror as the surly man opened the case and assembled miscellaneous metal pieces into a vicious Thompson sub-machine gun.

Not a word had been spoken. The two men, who still stood at the windows, motioned to somebody outside, then turned toward Wanetka. A small, slight, almost effeminate man entered the tavern and approached the barman. Wanetka knew he had seen that face somewhere before, but he could not place it.

"The boys say your place is all right," the man said softly. "My friends and I are going to stay here a while."

Fear seared the mind of the bartender at the same instant that recognition of his guests came to him from a hundred newspaper photos and wanted posters. This was a prize collection of the most notorious gangsters who ever gunned down bank tellers, slaughtered law officers and hoodlum rivals, or carved up the face of a stoolie.

THE slight man who had informed him that they were going to "stay a while" was John Dillinger. His unsmiling playmates were Van Meter, Tommy Carroll, Pat Reilly and Baby Face Nelson. Entering the roadhouse with a flourish of beaded bags, bare knees and bee-stung lips were their playgirls Helen Gillis, Marie Comforti and Jean Delaney.

Wanetka glanced at the calendar above the bar mirror: April 20, 1934. It could easily be his last day on earth. He cleared his throat, forced a smile: "What'll you have, folks?"

This was the beginning of a three-day ordeal for Emil Wanetka. For 72 hours, the Dillinger gang drank up the tavern-owner's booze, played his juke box with coins pilfered from his till and made the Little Bohemia swing, swing, swing.

Things were hot for the mob. They had left Chicago with G-men on their tails, and they knew that Hoover's helpers would not be far behind. Dillinger was stalling for time—time for Patricia Charrington to find a new hideout on the West-side of Chicago. Gangland courier as well as mob moll for Dillinger, Patricia had just taken a million dollars worth of bonds and securities that the soft-voiced hood had heisted to Minneapolis to be converted by a fence into \$200,000 in ready cash. Dillinger had packed the loot in the suitcase and sent his errand girl back to Chicago to find a new ice box for the gang to cool off in.

Although Dillinger never left the suitcase out of his sight, neither it nor the \$200,000 would ever leave the Wisconsin woods. Persistent Federal agents, receiving word that the Dillinger mob was hiding out in the little tavern, had come by plane to Mercer. Eager to close the net on the vicious gang, the G-men headed for the Little Bohemia at once, hoping to snare the mob after a chase that had lasted for months.

The agents were quick to spot the mounted guard on the roof of the small tavern. Not for one minute underestimating Dillinger's prowess with a sub-machine gun,

the G-men decided to wait until dark before they moved in.

Then three men walked out of the Little Bohemia and got into a car. Unknown to the agents, these men were not in any way affiliated with the Dillinger mob, but were three CCC workers, John Hoffman, Eugene Boisonneau and John Morris.

Hoffman drove the car onto the highway and headed toward the G-men who were forming a kind of traffic block just down the road from the tavern. One of the agents told Hoffman to stop, but because he did not hear or did not understand, he kept on going. The agents, thinking that the men were part of Dillinger's mob hell-bent on escape, fired on the car, fatally wounding Boisonneau. Morris was seriously injured, and Hoffman, untouched by the bullets, ran as fast as he could for the tall timber.

The sudden burst of gunfire from the woods tipped the hoods inside the Little Bohemia as completely as if the agents had called them on the telephone and told them to expect company for lunch.

One by one, Dillinger and his thugs slipped out of a window in the back of the tavern and ran for the surrounding woods. None of them ran in the same direction, each took a separate route through the time to another roadhouse down the highway from the Little Bohemia. The hoods had noticed that their boss had grabbed the suitcase full of bills when he dove out the window. When they rendezvoused at the new roadhouse, he no longer carried the valuable valise.

The gang left the roadhouse for the home of Robert Johnson where they stole a car and roared down the road for the Windy City. The persistent Federal agents, not knowing that the men they sought had slipped away, had continued to bombard the tavern with everything they had, from machineguns to tear gas. When they finally forced the door, all they found was Emil Wanetka and the three pleasure girls cowering behind the bar.

BACK in Chicago, Dillinger located Patricia Charrington and proclaimed his satisfaction with the new hideout she had chosen. Unable to suppress an effeminate giggle, he told his moll how he had once again made monkeys out of the Feds. Then, turning deadly serious, he told her where he had hidden the \$200,000.

"I lit out of that tavern like a bat out of hell. I ran 500 yards straight north of the joint. There, in the center of a semi-circle formed by three trees, I dug a hole in the ground and pushed the suitcase into it. I threw dirt and leaves on top of that, you know, so it won't look like nobody has been digging there."

"Baby, just as soon as the heat's off, you and me are gonna take another little trip to Wisconsin. Then we are really going to take a dandy vacation!"

Dillinger and Patricia Charrington never got to take that "dandy vacation."

A short time later, the Federal agents closed in on the killer outside the Biograph Theater in Chicago and shot him down as he tried to elude capture.

After a term in prison, Pat Charrington never again expressed interest in reclaiming the \$200,000 that Dillinger had interred in Wisconsin soil. "Hell," she shrugged once. "That was Johnny's money."

She did, however, give explicit instructions for finding the loot to a lawyer friend; but it is highly doubtful that the instructions are completely accurate.

John Dillinger scrambled out of that window in the dark with guns blazing in front of the tavern and adrenalin pumping through his veins. But whether he

ran 500 yards, as he said he did, a 100 feet, or a mile is impossible to say. An excited man does not count the feet flying beneath him when he fears for bullets whizzing past his ears. It is also unlikely that he was able to run "straight north" as he told his moll. It would be very difficult to run for 500 yards in a straight line in any direction in the Wisconsin woods. The fact that Dillinger made his dash after dark also decreases the possibility that he ran "500 yards straight north."

But one fact in John Dillinger's treasure story does remain unassailable. And that, of course, is the very tempting truth that somewhere in the woods eight miles southwest of Mercer, Wisconsin lies \$200,000 just a few inches below the surface—as yet, unearthed.

It may come as some surprise to many of the gold-hunters who seek out lost mines in Arizona and sunken galleons off the Florida keys, but Midwestern soil offers fertile ground for the treasure-seeker as well as the corn-grower. During the tempestuous Twenties, Chicago ganglords were busy harvesting bundles of ill-gotten coin. And most of them were realistic enough to realize that they couldn't take it with them. And all of them swore that the Feds would never get it! So, like Captain Kidd, Blackbeard and generations of pirates and plunderers before them, the bootleg buccaneers buried millions of dollars of gangster gold in the states of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Indiana.

Before the underworld of Chicago had ever heard of Al Capone, a man called Big Jim Colosimo ruled the gangland roost. The big, burly man, who made most of his money off the sweat of the backs of his pleasure girls, was the first of the barons on the Chicago scene.

Big Jim's most notable idiosyncrasy was his penchant for diamonds. He bought them from jewelry stores, private dealers and often relieved jewel thieves of their take. He wore loud, flashy suits and greatly implemented his aura of splendor by wearing a diamond ring on each finger. The studs on his shirt front were all of diamonds, and he wore a huge diamond encrusted horseshoe on his suspenders. In addition to being almost completely attired with his favorite gem, the big hoodlum carried pocketfuls of diamonds wherever he went. His cronies grew accustomed to seeing Colosimo's eager fingers reach for a pocket of diamonds whenever he was under stress. He was like a baby with a pacifier as he sifted his fingers through dozens of the sparkly gems.

WHEN he was killed by a gangland rival, the total value of his estate came to a mere \$40,000. According to underworld experts, this was about one-twentieth of what he was worth. What happened to Big Jim's gems? Some hoods claimed he liquidated the diamonds and spent them on a woman. But the woman in question, Dale Winter, emphatically denied it. Big Jim was, she claimed, a hard man with a dollar. Those who knew him best said that Colosimo had hidden the diamonds—about \$800,000 worth—in downstate Illinois. This cache has never been found.

Big Jim had entered into a loveless marriage of convenience around the turn of the century, but it wasn't until late winter of 1920 that he met a girl who could really turn him on. Dale Winter, an actress and singer, sent her diamond-bedecked lover scurrying to his lawyers to arrange a divorce with his wife. She settled for a flat \$50,000 and got it without protest from Colosimo. Three weeks after the divorce,

Big Jim was married to Dale Winter at Crown Point, Indiana.

During the time that the big boss had become infatuated with Dale Winter, he had turned over much of his organization's administrative work to his first assistant, Johnny Torrio. Torrio had come up through the ranks from Colosimo's body-guard to his right-hand man. He'd watched Colosimo's operation and knew that, given an opportunity, he could take over. He was very happy to accept the reins of the organization while his boss ran around panting after the young singer.

A week after Colosimo returned from his honeymoon, he left the breakfast table and his new wife for the last time. He had kissed his bride resoundingly, whispered his plans for the evening into a curler-covered ear, then left her with a wink and an expansive grin.

Since he had returned from his honeymoon, his diamond accouterments had disappeared from his suits. The suits themselves had taken on a more tasteful air, probably from the influence of his new wife who did not approve of ostentation in personal dress.

Colosimo traveled by car through Chicago to a restaurant that he owned. There he met and conversed with his secretary, Frank Camilla. After a short conference, Big Jim left the office and started for the front door. He never made it. Camilla heard two shots and ran to the front of the restaurant where he found Big Jim Colosimo sprawled on the floor with two slugs in his back. Torrio had accomplished his power play.

WHEN the auditing of Colosimo's estate was completed, Torrio, as principal heir, was decidedly unhappy with the relatively small amount of money to be divided with the grieving widow. What, he snarled at his henchmen, had happened to all the diamonds?

Everyone had known that diamonds had been an obsession with the big man. Evidently his young wife must have killed that obsession or at least subdued it with another. His lawyers wrote the diamonds off as a permanent loss. They ventured that Colosimo, having been freed of his lust for power and ostentatious wealth, had buried the precious gems as a kind of his independence. According to some sources, Big Jim told his most intimate gangland cronies that he had buried them in the country outside of Crown Point. He said that they would always be there if he needed them, but as long as he had Dale,



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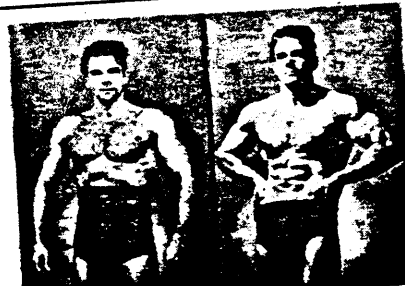
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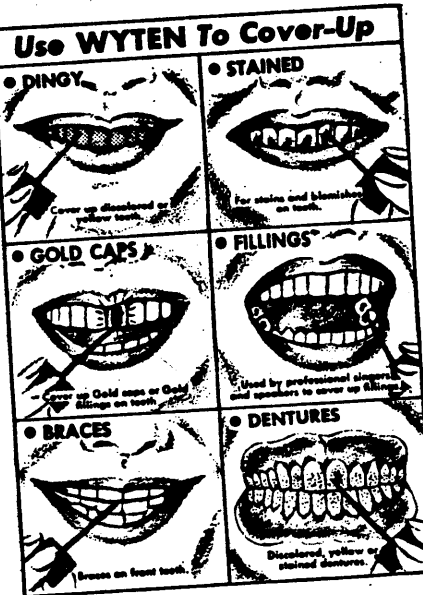
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he had no use for them.

Somewhere outside of Crown Point, Indiana, just a few feet under the ground, lies over \$800,000 in diamonds. The spot to plant the spade, however, was known to only one man—and that knowledge was lost forever when two gangland slugs slammed the life out of him in his own Chicago cafe.

A word of caution before treasure hunters begin descending on Crown Point. In 1924, a group of noisy tourists began spading up the terrain, proclaiming loudly that they were after the diamonds. Unfortunately, some of Johnny Torrio's mobsters were also in the vicinity doing just exactly the same thing. Torrio had strong feelings about the fact that he, as Colosimo's "heir," was entitled to all the diamonds. Three of the startled tourists were wounded, one seriously, by the treasure-hunting thugs. Even today a favorite summer diversion for certain Chicago hoodlums consists of an elaborate expedition to "hunt for Big Jim's gems." Although the forays usually degenerate into drinking parties and hell-raising brawls, it would not be a good idea to run afoul of the syndicate's safari.

The Barker-Karpis gang had the meanest reputation in the underworld of the Thirties. "Ma" Barker and her four sons, coupled with Alvin Karpis and his shotgun sadists, made a lethal and grotesquely effective band of plunderers. These bandits loved banks, blood and butchery. Their repertoire included mail robberies and prison breaks, bank hold-ups and kidnappings.

The gang followed their matriarch with loaded machine guns, using St. Paul, then Chicago, then Kansas City alternately as headquarters. Wherever they went, murder and mayhem were certain to follow.

kidnapped and held William A. Hamm, Jr. for a hundred-thousand dollar ransom. Hamm, one of the owners of the famous Hamm's brewing company was lucky to return alive after the money had been transferred to the gang's hands.

"Ma" decided that kidnapping was both lucrative and easy, and quickly herded her brood into another body snatch. It was time, she had decided, to put away some loot for her old age.

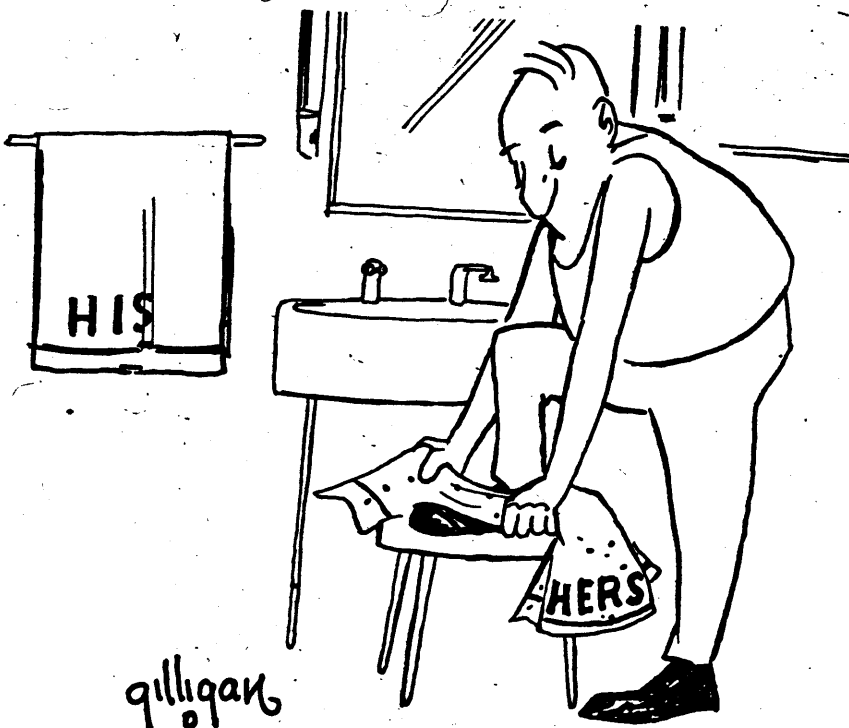
With gangster's logic, "Ma" said that their next victim would be Edward George Brenner, president of the Commercial State Bank in St. Paul, Minnesota. A gun at the head of the president, she reasoned, and all the bank vaults would swing open at her command.

THE first attempt to snare Brenner ended in failure for the mob and in bloodshed for two innocent men. As the gang had pulled up to its final rendezvous before closing in on the bank president, a car slowed to a halt behind them.

"Cops!" someone had yelled as he spotted two uniformed men inside the car. As the Barker car roared away from the curb, machineguns chattered and two pilots from Northwestern Airways slumped forward badly wounded. In their commercial uniforms, they had been mistaken by the gang as "cops."

Never one to believe in bad omens, the determined "Ma" managed to snatch Brenner from his car just after he had dropped his daughter off at her school. The ransom was set at \$200,000. Long and intricate negotiations between the anguished family and the Barker-Karpis mob took almost a month. The FBI was helpless while the malicious held Brenner in its hideout. At last payment was made in five and ten dollar bills, and the gang pushed Brenner out of a car on a side road north of Rochester, Minnesota.

80



Now that "Ma" had obtained the ransom from the Brenner family, she was faced with the problem of exchanging it for bills whose serial numbers had not been recorded by the G-men. It is known that \$100,000 of the take from the Brenner kidnapping was sent to Chicago and relayed by intricate route to Havana, Cuba where it was exchanged for gold.

What happened to the other \$100,000? According to those who rode south in the car with "Ma" from Rochester, Minnesota, the murderous matriarch stopped the car and, with the help of her son, Fred, carefully buried the money in a strongbox wrapped in heavy tarpaulin.

The tough old gal was shrewd enough to realize that getting all of the ransom money exchanged by the Havana route would have been impossible. Furthermore, it would be easier to exchange the rest of the take after the heat was off the case.

After "Ma" and Fred buried half of the loot, the gang brought the remaining \$100,000 to Chicago to begin negotiations for Cuban gold. Upon its arrival, the gang eagerly divided the money and split in several directions to wait out the Federal heat-wave in comfort.

Alert G-men caught up with Karpis and company in Kansas. Following a slim lead, other agents encircled the Florida cottage where "Ma" and Fred Barker had holed up. After a vicious fight to the death, agents burst into the cottage to discover a veritable arsenal, and the corpses of Fred and the machine-gunning mother of the Barker clan.

No farmer's plow has yet unearthed the remaining \$100,000 from the Brenner kidnapping that "Ma" Barker carefully buried in the canvas-covered cashbox. According to one of the Barker brothers who survived the closing of the FBI net, it was buried about halfway between Rochester, Minnesota and the little town of Chatfield. Fred Barker is said to have complained about the cold and later laughed that they had uprooted a fencepost when burying the loot.

There are over twenty miles of fenceposts between Rochester and Chatfield, but under one of them is \$100,000 in five and ten dollar bills.

Over 800 gangland slayings occurred

in Chicago between 1923 and 1927. When the smoke cleared at a peace conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey in 1927, Alphonse Capone was proclaimed King of the Windy City.

One of Capone's early rivals had been the Genna gang. In 1925, Big Al killed three of the brothers; and the other three, realizing that they were marked men, ran for their native Sicily so fast that one of them left his wife behind to sell over \$50,000 worth of furniture. The story of the Gennas and their flight is also the story of several more packets of unfound bills.

The Genna brothers had made their money by employing half the population of the Sicilian ghetto in cooking corn sugar into alcohol. To the average immigrant arriving in Chicago, fifteen dollars a week was a fortune—and that was what they got for cooking Genna brew. All Papa had to do was sit at home and keep the fire going and watch as the valuable liquid boiled out of the still. At the peak of their bootleg career, the Genna gang was clearing about \$10,000 a week—no small sum, even when divided six ways.

When they got too ambitious and began moving into Capone's territory, Al showed them in no uncertain terms just whom they were messing with. Angelo Genna had his head blown off with sawed-off shotguns. Mike was killed in a running gun battle with police while riding in a Capone car that would have taken him to his death anyway. Antonio was chopped down by Capone torpedoes as he left a restaurant. Knowing that their names could not be far down on the hit-list, the remaining Genna brothers fled across the Atlantic.

In Italy, Jim Genna, penniless, but alive, often boasted of the chache that he had buried over the stateline in Indiana. No one can be certain how much Jim had a chance to salt away—sometimes he talked of \$50,000, sometimes of \$150,000. He would, he told his wide-eyed listeners, return one day to America and once again be a big shot. But he never did. The memory of the brutal efficiency of Capone torpedoes haunted his dreams.

His cache is said to be located between the crossing of Highways six and 30 and the little town of Breanna, Indiana. Ac-

According to his bodyguard, Genna went out Highway six on a side road for about a mile or a mile and a half, then made him sit in the car while he took shovel and cashbox and disappeared into the darkness. All he would tell the thug was that he "buried it in a pasture beside a rock pile."

Another bundle of lost bills is associated closely with the Genna gang. With the methodic assassination of three of the brothers and the rapid disintegration of the mob, Sam Samoots Amatuna saw his chance to make a mint. With the death of Angelo Genna, the seat of the powerful Unione Sicilione was left vacant. Capone wanted full control of the Unione, but Amatuna, acting just one jump ahead of Big Al, descended on the office of the Unione Sicilione with the lesser henchmen of the Genna gang and had himself declared president.

Amatuna was a realist. He was fully aware of Capone's power and that the czar of crime would soon come to bargain with him. Amatuna would be reasonable. He would step down from the presidency of the Unione Sicilione—preferably for a price—in favor of Capone. All he wanted was just a little more time to earn a few more bucks so that he might spend the rest of his life in ease. If Capone should prove unreasonable, Amatuna had his getaway completely planned, right down to the escape routes; and he had hidden \$50,000 on a road heading toward northern Wisconsin and \$20,000 on a highway heading southwest from Chicago. His getaway was to be by car. No matter which route he took, he could pick up a nest egg along the way.

According to Amatuna's chauffeur, the mobster buried one bundle along Highway 12, just north of Pell Lake, Wisconsin. Amatuna left his car shortly after one in the morning and walked at a 90-degree angle off the highway until he came to a clump of trees. He entered the little grove and disappeared. About a half an hour later, he returned minus his package. Later the same week, Amatuna and his chauffeur again made a trip away from Chicago, moving south. On this occasion, the observant chauffeur remembered, Amatuna had buried his pin-money just south of Braidwood, Illinois along Route 66.

The two nest eggs are still waiting for someone to hatch them. Before Amatuna could dig them up, he was buried deeper than his money. On November 13, 1925, Sam Samoots Amatuna was murdered as he sat in a barber chair getting a shave and a manicure. His right-hand henchman was killed as he returned from Amatuna's funeral. Another Amatuna man was killed two weeks later in a drugstore.

How many more gangsters of the Twenties and Thirties prepared for a future that never came? With so much money flying around Chicago, it is a good bet that there were quite a few. The dream of every gangland figure was to get out of the jungle of organized crime and enjoy life with the pressure off. Although many mobsters prepared for this dream, very few of them realized it.

How many treasure stores are left unclaimed along the escape routes of hoodlums who ended up on the wrong end of a sub-Thompson? It is impossible to determine just how many unearthed mobster millions lie under just a few inches of Midwest topsoil, but any day now determined diggers for gangster gold will uncover a cache of bills that will transform some thug's dream into their own reality. With a little luck, it could be you.

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W. D. Conrad

May 3, 1966

W. D. Griffith

**BULKY EXHIBITS  
LABORATORY DIVISION**

Review of the current bulky exhibits maintained by the Laboratory Division has been completed.

In the case captioned "Alvin Karpavics, aka, Alvin Karpis; Kidnaping," a review of the file in this matter indicates that Karpis is still incarcerated in the McNeil Island Penitentiary. Therefore, the .45 caliber projectile and the .45 caliber cartridge cases, being maintained in the Laboratory files, should be retained.

With respect to the case entitled "John Paul Chase, aka; Murder of Inspector Samuel T. Cowley and SA H. E. Hollis," a review of the file in this matter indicates that Chase is under consideration for transfer to Terminal Island, California. As previously advised, the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained until subject Chase dies or the pending indictment against him is dropped.

Concerning the case entitled [REDACTED] aka, et al.; ITSP; ITSMV; IMPERSONATION; JDA, SA D. B. Davis, Jr., has advised that the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained for research and for comparison with items submitted to the Laboratory in the future in this regard.

With respect to the case entitled [REDACTED] aka - Fugitive; ITSP, SA William J. Farrell advises that the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained for research and for future comparison with items submitted to the Laboratory in this regard.

**RECOMMENDATION:** In view of the above, the bulky exhibits in the Karpis, Chase, [REDACTED] cases should be maintained until appropriate disposition is possible in each instance.

1 - Mr. Gale  
1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Conrad  
1 - Mr. Griffith  
1 - Mr. Newbrough  
1 - Bufile (7-576)  
1 - Bufile (87-61684)  
50 MAY 11 1966  
WLN:pl (att)

1 - Bufile (62-29777)  
1 - Bufile (87-49380)

7-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
MAY 11 1966

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-756) *7-576 fd 217 to WFO; SE 7/13/66 M*

DATE: 7/7/66

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
(OO: SE)

ReWFOlet 8/20/65

On 7/6/66

b7c U. S. Board of Parole, Washington, D. C. advised SA WINFRED H. ANDERS as follows:

The ALVIN KARPIS case is due for consideration by the Parole Board in August, 1966 and following the disposition of the case by the Board at that time, SA ANDERS will be notified.

WFO will continue to follow the developments in this matter with the U. S. Board of Parole.

- ② - Bureau
- 2 - Seattle (7-1)
- 1 - WFO

WHA:wha  
(5)

REC-44 7-576-1516

15 JUL 8 1966

54 JUL 18 1966



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



FBI

Date: 7/5/66

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Wick	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (7-15)  
 RE: ALVIN J. KARPIS  
 KIDNAPING

There are enclosed herewith for the Bureau two copies of an article appearing in the New Orleans States-Item on instant date concerning the possible release on parole of KARPIS and discussing the details of his arrest in New Orleans in 1936 by the Director.

3 - Bureau (Encls. 2) ENCLOSURE  
 1 - New Orleans  
 RER:jam  
 (4)

REC-19

MCT-13

7-576-15511

14 JUL 7 1966

Approved: *FRB*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

*one copy placed in Bureau Library 7-11-66 RMR*

*576-15511*  
*Thompson*  
*6-14-66*

*cc Rosen*

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**CAPTURE HERE RECALLED****New Liberty Try  
Near for Karpis**

Alvin Karpis, the legendary Public Enemy No. 1, whose long criminal career ended in 1936 when FBI agents captured him in a New Orleans apartment, will make another attempt next month to win his freedom from a federal penitentiary.

Karpis, now 57, is serving a life sentence at the McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary near Tacoma, Wash., for the \$100,000 extortion-kidnaping in 1933 of William Hamm Jr. of St. Paul, Minn., a brewing company heir.

FBI agents branded him as their "most wanted" suspect after he teamed up with Kate "Ma" Barker to lead one of the underworld's most notorious gangs.

The FBI had accused the gang of the murders of at least 10 persons, the wounding of four others and the theft of more than \$1 million during a crime spree throughout the Midwest between 1931 and 1936.

J. EDGAR HOOVER, the veteran FBI director, personally came to New Orleans in May, 1936, and led agents in the raid on an apartment at 3343 Canal, where Karpis and a red-headed girl were living quietly as Mr. and Mrs. Edward O'Hara.

Karpis, although armed, surrendered without a fight as did Fred Hunter, who was facing an indictment along with the gang leader for an



—AP WIREPHOTO.  
**ALVIN KARPIS**

Ohio mail train robbery the year before.

Hoover bound the notorious Karpis hand and foot. One agent first used his tie to bind the fugitive, and the whisked him away in a specially chartered plane which had been waiting at the old Shushan Airport for two days. Karpis was flown directly to St. Paul

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

**NEW ORLEANS STATES-  
ITEM**

**NEW ORLEANS, LA.**

**Page 1**

Date: **7-5-66**

Edition: **Red Flash**

Author:

Editor:

Title: **ALVIN KARPIS**

Character: **Kidnaping**

or

Classification: **7-**

Submitting Office:

**New Orleans**

☐ Being Investigated

7-576-15517

ENCLOSURE

to face trial in the Hamm kidnapping.

THE FUGITIVE gang leader was also under indictment at the time for the 1934 kidnapping of another St. Paul resident, banker Edward G. Bremer, who was released after payment of a \$200,000 ransom.

Police in a half dozen states were trying to gain jurisdiction of Karpis immediately after his arrest. Ohio wanted him for the mail train robbery, Missouri sought him for the murder of a sheriff and other states asked to try him on a variety of charges ranging from murder to bank robbery.

After his conviction, Karpis spent 25 years in Alcatraz before being transferred to McNeil in April, 1962.

Today Karpis is a clerk-typist helping keep records of the work-release program at McNeil.

WHEN THE FEDERAL Parole Board makes its annual visit to McNeil in August, Karpis' case will come up, as it has each year since his initial rejection for parole in 1951. Warden R. W. May says he is being sponsored for parole by a resident of Montreal, Canada, where Karpis was born. Alvin Karpavicz 57 years ago.

Karpis now lives at Summit House, a former guards' residence which houses about 30 prisoners. Many of the men participate in the work-release program, working on the mainland by day and returning by night, but Karpis has not left the island since he arrived.

Like other residents of Summit House, he occasionally has the duty of showing around prison visitors.

"WE DECORATE our own rooms," he told one such group. "It's a chance for a bit of individualism. You need that, you know."

"We always knock before walking into a room. A man has to have some privacy."

Looking forward to his possible release, prison authorities are letting Karpis relearn how to drive a car. A short while ago he got his first lesson at something new.

It was an automatic transmission. They hadn't been invented when the iron doors first closed on Alvin Karpis.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 8/9/66

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING  
(OO:SE)

ReWFOlet 7/7/66.

On 8/5/66, [REDACTED]  
U. S. Board of Parole, Room 412, HOLC Building, Washington,  
D. C., advised SAs WINFRED H. ANDERS and WILLIS E. JONES, Jr.  
as follows:

Board of Parole member, [REDACTED]  
will hold a hearing in the case of ALVIN KARPIS at McNeil  
Island Federal Penitentiary, Washington, during the end of  
August, 1966, and the decision of the full Board of Parole  
should be forthcoming sometime after about the first two  
weeks of September, 1966.

WFO will continue to follow the developments in  
this matter with the U. S. Board of Parole.

2 - Bureau  
2 - Seattle (7-1)  
1 - WFO

WLA:tjd  
(5)

REC 27

7-576-15518

5 AUG 9 1966



5010-108

258  
57 AUG 16 1966

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

SPM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: September 1, 1966

FROM : SA [redacted], SEATTLE (7-1) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING

(OO: SEATTLE)

Reference WFO letter August 9, 1966.

b7c On August 19, 1966, [redacted] USP, McNeil Island, Washington, advised SA ELGIN E. OLROGG that subject appeared before Board of Parole member, [redacted] on this date and that the decision of the full Board of Parole will not be known for six to eight weeks.

## LEADS

WFO  
At Washington, D. C.

Follow the developments in this matter with the U. S. Board of Parole.

SEATTLE DIVISION  
At Tacoma, Washington

Report any change in subject's status.

② - Bureau  
2 - WFO (7-63)  
2 - Seattle  
EEO:lpt  
(6)

EX-103  
REC-61

7-576-15517

25 SEP 6 1966



5 SEP 12 1966

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-756)  
O-177, SE-V 10  
FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) 11139

DATE: 9/26/66

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
(OO:SE)

ReSElet 9/1/66 and WFOlet 8/9/66.

b7c On 9/23/66 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] U.S. Board of Parole, Washington, D. C., advised  
SA WINFRED H. ANDERS that the Board of Parole has as of 9/23/66  
taken no action in the above matter and that it will probably  
be another four weeks at least before any action would be  
taken by the Board.

WFO will continue to follow developments in this  
matter with the U.S. Board of Parole, Washington, D. C.

2 - Bureau  
2 - Seattle (7-1)  
1 - WFO  
WHA:mpc  
(5)

REC 32

EX-104  
4 SEP 27 1966

51 OCT 6 1966



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. I. W. Conrad

FROM : Mr. W. D. Griffith

SUBJECT: Bulky Exhibits -  
Laboratory Division

DATE: November 17, 1966

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Review of the current bulky exhibits maintained by the Laboratory Division has been completed.

In the case captioned "Alvin Karpavicz, aka Alvin Karpis, Kidnaping," a review of the file in this matter indicates that Karpis is still incarcerated in the McNeil Island Penitentiary. Therefore, the .45 caliber projectile and the .45 caliber cartridge cases, being maintained in the Laboratory files, should be retained.

With respect to the case entitled "John Paul Chase, aka Murderer of Inspector Samuel T. Cowley and SA H. E. Hollis," a review of the file in this matter indicates that Chase was placed on parole effective October 31, 1966. SA Henry A. Schutz has advised that the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained permanently.

Concerning the case entitled "[REDACTED], aka et al. ITSP ITSMV IMPERSONATION JDA," SA D. B. Davis, Jr. has advised that the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained for research in setting up various styles of type for study in major cases involving letterpress type. SA Davis advises that the evidence being maintained in this case has been utilized in current examinations such as in the case of the fraudulent GMAC bond and warrants matter.

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Griffith
- 1 - Mr. Newbrough
- 1 - Bureau File (7-576)
- 1 - Bureau File (87-61684)
- 1 - Bureau File (62-29777)
- 1 - Bureau File (87-49380)

7-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
170 NOV 28 1966

WLN:lt (11) 1239

56 NOV 28 1966

(CONTINUED - OVER)

ORIGINAL FILED IN

Memorandum to Mr. Conrad

Re: Bulky Exhibits -  
Laboratory Division

b7c With respect to the case entitled "[REDACTED]", aka Fugitive, ITSP," SA William J. Farrell advises that the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained for research and that this evidence has been utilized in current examinations in regard to setting up various styles of type.

RECOMMENDATION: In view of the above, the bulky exhibits in the Karpis, Chase, [REDACTED] cases should be maintained until appropriate disposition is possible in each instance.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO :

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 11/30/66

FROM :

SAC, WFO (7-63) (RUC)

SUBJECT:

ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
(OO:SE)

ReWFOlet 9/26/66.

On 11/30/66, [REDACTED]  
U.S. Board of Parole, Washington, D.C., advised SA CARROLL M.  
GARNETT that the full Board of Parole denied subject's  
parole and on 11/18/66, his institution was so notified.  
[REDACTED] said the matter of subject's parole will be  
reconsidered in July, 1967.

2-Bureau  
2-Seattle (7-1)  
1-WFO

CMG:bsc  
(5)

EX 101

7. 576 - 15521

REC- 48

4 DEC 2 1966



5010-108

332  
DEC 12 1966

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 12/2/66

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
OO: SEATTLE

ReSElet to BU, 9/1/66.

On November 29, 1966, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] U. S. Penitentiary, Mc Neil Island, Washington,  
confidentially advised Special Agent ELGIN E. OLROGG that  
the U. S. Board of Parole, Washington, D.C., has denied  
KARPIS parole at this time.

[REDACTED] he will advise of any change in status of interest  
to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He could not state  
when this matter will again come before the Parole Board, but  
stated it will be at least six months.

2 - Bureau  
1 - WFO (7-63)  
2 - Seattle  
EEO:jb  
(5)

REC 5 7-576-15522<sub>34</sub>

EX-112

DEC 8 1966

55 DEC 13 1966 F435



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

March 3, 1967

**GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION**

This relates to Alv Karpis who is serving life sentence at McNeil Island for conviction on 7-27-36, under Federal Kidnaping Statute.

Attached indicates Karpis may be preparing motion for new trial. Developments will be closely followed.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
FDT:hw

F B I

Date: 3/1/67

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTELAIR MAIL

(Priority)

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
KIDNAPPING

On February 27, 1967, [redacted] United States Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, advised SA ELGIN E. OLRGG on a discreet basis that subject, ALVIN KARPIS, is in contact with an attorney by the name of ELLSWORTH CONNELLY, 9615 Bridgeport Way SW, Tacoma, Washington; and KARPIS has indicated he is preparing a motion for a new trial.

[redacted] stated he is unaware of the basis for a new trial and details of this type would not necessarily come to the attention of prison officials since KARPIS, as well as any other inmate, is allowed to deal directly with his attorney. Further, he stated any legal papers would be submitted directly to the court without processing through prison channels. [redacted] advised that he would be alert for any information of interest to the Bureau in this matter and will promptly furnish same to SA OLRGG.

On February 27, 1967, [redacted] McNeil Penitentiary, advised he has heard through [redacted] that KARPIS intends to file a motion for a new trial; however, he has no knowledge of the details and there is nothing in KARPIS' legal file pertaining to this matter. [redacted] stated it is not required and it is very unlikely KARPIS would furnish a copy of such a motion to prison officials at McNeil.

15 MAR 2 1967

3- Bureau

2- Minneapolis (7-30)

2- Seattle

EEO:ams

Approved: [redacted] Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

59 MAR 2 1967

281

SE 7-1

For the information of the Bureau and Minneapolis, on May 4, 1934, KARPIS was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury at St. Paul, Minnesota, for violation of the Federal Kidnaping Statute. On July 27, 1936, at St. Paul, he was sentenced to life imprisonment. It would appear that any motion for a new trial would necessarily be filed in the district where he was convicted.

LEADS:

MINNEAPOLIS DIVISION  
At St. Paul, Minnesota

Closely follow this matter with the United States Attorney's Office and Clerk of the Court, U.S. District Court, arranging coverage to be notified of any motion filed by KARPIS. Promptly advise the Bureau.

SEATTLE DIVISION  
At McNeil Island, Washington

Follow this matter with prison officials.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO :

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: April 25, 1967

FROM :

SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (P\*)

SUBJECT:

ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
KIDNAPPING

RE: Seattle airtel to the Bureau, 3/1/67.

By letter to Seattle dated March 14, 1967, the Minneapolis Office advised as follows:

Mr. WILLIAM ECKLEY, Chief Deputy, United States District Court Clerk, Minneapolis, Minnesota, advised he has no knowledge of the subject preparing a motion for a new trial, and has not been officially notified of such a motion.

He stated he would immediately notify the FBI if this should come to his attention.

Minneapolis will closely follow this matter.

On April 20, 1967, [REDACTED] United States Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, advised that subject has initiated no legal action pertaining to his case as of this date. [REDACTED] advised he will immediately notify the FBI of any developments in this matter.

This case is being placed in a pending inactive status in the Seattle Division.

2 - Bureau  
2 - Minneapolis (7-30)  
1 - Seattle  
EEO/mls  
(5)

REC-75

EX-113

7-576-15524  
APR 26 1967



MAY 1 1967

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

Mr. Conrad

May 16, 1967

W. D. Griffith

**BULKY EXHIBITS -  
LABORATORY DIVISION**

Review of the current bulky exhibits maintained by the Laboratory Division has been completed.

In the case captioned "Alvin Karpavicz, aka Alvin Karpis, Kidnaping," a review of the file in this matter indicated that Karpis is still incarcerated in the McNeil Island Penitentiary. Therefore, the .45 caliber projectile and the .45 caliber cartridge cases, being maintained in the Laboratory files, should be retained.

With respect to the case entitled "John Paul Chase, aka Murderer of Inspector Samuel T. Cowley and SA H. E. Hollis," a review of the file in this matter indicates that Chase was placed on parole effective October 31, 1966. SA Henry A. Schutz has advised that the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained permanently.

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Griffith
- 1 - Mr. Senter
- 1 - Bureau file (7-576)
- 1 - Bureau file (105-76241)
- 1 - Bureau file (62-29777)
- 1 - Bureau file (87-49380)

LMS:bw (11)

(CONTINUED - OVER)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

51 JUN 16 1967

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

7-576-

NOT RECORDED

46 JUN 7 1967

62-83387-250  
SEARCHED, SERIALIZED, INDEXED, FILED

Memorandum to Mr. Conrad

Re: BULKY EXHIBITS -  
LABORATORY DIVISION

b7c  
With respect to the case entitled [REDACTED], aka Fugitive, ITSP," SA William J. Farrell advises that the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained for research and that this evidence has been utilized in current examinations in regard to setting up various styles of type.

A review of the case entitled [REDACTED] revealed that specimens Q11 through Q37, the "Also Submitted" material, and K7 in that case were being maintained in the bulky exhibits of the Laboratory. A memorandum was submitted to you, dated 5/8/67 in the [REDACTED] case, requesting approval for the destruction of items Q11 through Q37 and the "Also Submitted" material in that case. Approval was obtained and these items were destroyed on 5/15/67. Specimen K7 has been transferred to the Laboratory file in the [REDACTED] case and is currently being maintained there. (The Laboratory file in the [REDACTED] case has been closed and is being maintained in the Bulky Room of the Records Branch, Files and Communications Division). There are no items in the [REDACTED] case being maintained in the bulky exhibits of the Laboratory at this time.

RECOMMENDATION: In view of the above, the bulky exhibits in the Karpis, Chase and [REDACTED] cases should be maintained until appropriate disposition is possible in each instance.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

-2-

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: June 30, 1967

FROM: SAC, SEATTLE (7-1)(P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
KIDNAPPING  
OO: SEATTLE

b7c

On June 23, 1967, [REDACTED]  
U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, advised  
SA ELGIN E. OLRGG he recently submitted to the U. S.  
Board of Parole, Washington, D.C. an annual review of  
subject's case history for consideration by the Board as  
to parole action to be taken in subject's case.

## LEAD

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE  
At Washington, D.C.

Follow the developments in this case with the  
U. S. Board of Parole.

2 - Bureau  
2 - WFO (7-63)  
1 - Seattle  
EEO/drm  
(5)

EX-103

REC 7

7-576-1532

15 JUL 3 1967

SIX



57 JUL 6 1967<sup>55</sup>

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO :

Mr. Tavel *LSH*

DATE: JUL 10 1967

FROM :

L. E. Shore *LSH*

SUBJECT:

ALVIN KARPIS, with aliases  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - Victim  
KIDNAPING

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Bulky Exhibit File Number: 7-576-15267

We are in the process of reviewing all bulky exhibits in order that we may dispose of those which serve no further purpose. Inasmuch as many of the bulky exhibits pertain to inactive cases and are occupying badly needed space, it is requested that the appropriate substantive supervisor review the above-listed bulky exhibit and render a decision as to its retention or disposition. A notation as to the decision reached may be placed on this memorandum. The memorandum should be returned to the Filing Unit of the Records Branch, Room 1116, Identification Building, for filing in the case file.

## RECOMMENDATION:

That captioned bulky exhibit be reviewed and a decision rendered as to the retention or disposition of the material.

LWB:jam

*7/14/67*  
*all original evidence and*  
*Laboratory exhibits should be*  
*retained in view of repeated*  
*efforts of Karpis to obtain*  
*a new trial*

*7-576-*  
NOT RECORDED

186 JUL 26 1967

78 JUL 26 1967

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Tavel *STs*  
FROM : L. E. Short *Ly*  
SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS, with aliases,  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER, Victim  
KIDNAPING

DATE: JUL 31 1967 *R*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Bulky Exhibit File Number: 7-576-726

We are in the process of reviewing all bulky exhibits in order that we may dispose of those which serve no further purpose. Inasmuch as many of the bulky exhibits pertain to inactive cases and are occupying badly needed space, it is requested that the appropriate substantive supervisor review the above-listed bulky exhibit and render a decision as to its retention or disposition. A notation as to the decision reached may be placed on this memorandum. The memorandum should be returned to the Filing Unit of the Records Branch, Room 1116, Identification Building, for filing in the case file.

## RECOMMENDATION:

That captioned bulky exhibit be reviewed and a decision rendered as to the retention or disposition of the material.

*LB* LWB:jam

*Do not destroy*  
*8/1/67 km*

*7-576-*

NOT RECORDED

186 AUG 2 1967

*4-LB*

78 AUG 2 1967

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 8/4/67

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
(OO:SE)

ReSElet dated 6/30/67.

On 8/3/67, [REDACTED]  
U.S. Board of Parole, Washington, D.C., advised SACARROLL M.  
GARNETT that subject's application for parole has only  
recently been submitted to the board; and no decision will  
be forthcoming for one to two months.

WFO will follow with U.S. Board of Parole. Bureau  
and Seattle will be advised of developments.

- 2 - Bureau
- 2 - Seattle (7-1)
- 1 - WFO

CMG:skt  
(5)

REC-75

EX-115

AUG 4 1967

7-576-15526

~~7-576-15525~~



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 9/29/67

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63)(P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
(OO:SE)

ReWFO let 8/4/67.

On 9/29/67, [REDACTED] U. S. Board of Parole, Washington, D. C., advised SA CARROLL M. GARNETT that no action has been taken with respect to subject's application for parole. He could not predict when a decision would be made in this connection.

WFO will follow with the U. S. Board of Parole; Bureau and Seattle will be advised of developments.

2 - Bureau  
2 - Seattle (7-1)  
1 - WFO  
CMG:cg  
(5)

REC-43

7-576-15527

15 OCT 2 1967

EX 104



232  
53 OCT 5 1967

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
OO: SEATTLE

DATE: October 6, 1967

Re WFO letter 8/4/67 and O-1 form dated 9/29/67  
from Bureau.

The Washington Field Office is requested to advise  
the Bureau and Seattle of the status of this matter before  
the U.S. Board of Paroles.

2 - Bureau  
1 - WFO  
1 - Seattle  
JEM:klb  
(4)

EX-103  
REC-64 7- 576-15528

OCT 9 1967

F123  
53 OCT 12 1967

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

October 25, 1967

REC- 58

7-576-15529

1 - Mr. McKinnon

EX 109

Mr. James E. Carty  
Attorney at Law  
782 Goerig  
Woodland, Washington 98674

Dear Mr. Carty:

I am in receipt of your letter dated October 20, 1967, wherein you request certain information concerning the case involving Alvin Karpavics.

The files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation are considered confidential by order of the Attorney General and for this reason I am unable to supply you the information you desire.

You do understand, I trust, the reason why the data you desire cannot be made available.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Seattle (Enclosure)

SAC NOTE:

Enclosed is one copy of a letter from James E. Carty dated 10/20/67.

Keep the Bureau closely advised concerning any possible appeals made by Karpis or any other method by which he attempts to gain his freedom.

CRM:emf 313  
(4)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.....

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

53 NOV 1 1967 TELETYPE UNIT

NOTE:

By letter 10/20/67, James E. Carty, Attorney in Woodland, Washington, advised he represents Alvin Karpavicz, also known as Alvin Karpis currently confined to life imprisonment for kidnaping. Carty desires the names of FBI Agents who participated in the capture of Karpis in New Orleans, Louisiana, the names of the FBI Agents who interrogated Karpis in St. Paul, Minnesota, and the present addresses of any of these Agents who are living.

Karpis was one of the ring leaders of the notorious Karpis-Barker gang which terrorized the Midwest during the 1930s. Karpis was identified as being involved in four bank robberies. His gang kidnaped Edward G. Bremer, a St. Paul, Minnesota, bank president, and collected \$200,000 ransom for his return and Karpis was convicted for the kidnaping of William A. Hamm, Jr., for whom a \$100,000 ransom was paid. He received a life sentence in July, 1936, and through the years has attempted to gain his freedom by parole and other means.

It would appear that Attorney Carty may be laying the ground work for a possible appeal for Karpis. We are under no obligation at this time to cooperate with him in any way.



JAMES E. CARTY  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
782 GOERIG  
WOODLAND, WASHINGTON 98674

P. O. Box 388  
TELEPHONE  
225-2241

October 20, 1967

J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I represent Alvin Karpavicz who is currently confined in McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary at Steilacoom, Washington. Karpavicz was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Federal Court in St. Paul in 1936 for the Hamm Kidnapping.

I would appreciate your furnishing me the following information:

1. The names of the agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation who participated in the capture of Mr. Karpavicz in the New Orleans area.
2. The names of the agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation who participated in the interrogation of Mr. Karpavicz in St. Paul.

It will be helpful if you could furnish us the present addresses of any of these gentlemen who may now be living.

Your assistance in this matter will be appreciated.

Yours very truly,

James E. Carty

JEC: j

REC-58

7-576-15

14 OCT 25 1967

ack. 10-25-67  
CRM/amp

4pm

32  
EXP  
EX-100

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

FROM SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (P)\*

SUBJECT ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka -  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPPING

DATE: 10/26/67

Re Seattle letter to Bureau, dated 4/25/67.

b7c  
On 10/18/67 [REDACTED]  
U. S. Penitentiary, Mc Neil Island, Washington, advised  
no information has come to his attention indicating that  
KARPIS has initiated any legal action pertaining to his  
case. [REDACTED] stated he will be alert to any such  
development and will immediately notify the FBI.

On 10/18/67 [REDACTED]  
Mc Neil Penitentiary, advised [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and there has been no change in his status.  
[REDACTED] stated he will notify the FBI of any change  
in subjects status.

This case is being placed in a pending inactive  
status in the Seattle Division.

2 - Bureau  
1 - WFO (7-63) (Info)  
2 - Seattle  
EEO:lmd  
(5)

EX-115

REC-60

7-576-15530

25 OCT 30 1967



7-1-12 1967

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

November 6, 1967

Airtel

1 - Mr. McKinnon

REC 39

To: SAC, Seattle (7-1)

From: Director, FBI (7-576) - 15531

ALVIN KARPAVICZ, AKA  
ALVIN J. KARPIS  
KIDNAPING

Reurlet 10/26/67 and my letter to Mr. James E. Carty, a copy sent to your office.

Enclosed for your information are copies of a New Orleans airtel dated 11/2/67 and letters to the United States Commissioner, New Orleans, from Carty dated 10/11/67 and 10/24/67.

The enclosures indicate that Attorney Carty has requested information concerning subject's appearance before the United States Commissioner after his arrest in New Orleans in 1936 and other information concerning the handling of this subject. It is apparent that Carty is planning some type of appeal in behalf of Karpis.

You are instructed to maintain this case in a pending status and at the earliest possible opportunity advise the Bureau the nature of the appeal.

Enclosures (3)

CRM:jdb  
(4)

**NOTE:** Karpis was one of the ring leaders of the notorious Karpis-Barker gang which terrorized the Midwest during the 1930s. He was arrested by the Bureau in New Orleans in 1936 and received a life sentence in July, 1936, for kidnaping. We have been closely following his attempts to obtain freedom through the years by parole or appeals. Carty, an attorney at Woodland, Washington, by letter 10/20/67 to the Bureau, requested the identities of the Agents who captured Karpis and the names of the Agents who

NOTE CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO.....

MAILED 2  
NOV 6 1967  
COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

53 NOV 7 1967 TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NOTE CONTINUED:

participated in his interrogation in St. Paul, Minnesota. We did not furnish him any information in our answer to him. Our New Orleans Office has now advised that Carty has been in touch with the United States Commissioner in New Orleans concerning the arrest of Karpis and it is obvious that Carty is gathering information for some type of appeal.

FBI

Date: 11/2/67

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (7-15) (RUC)

ALVIN J. KARPIS  
KIDNAPING

Enclosed are one copy each of two letters furnished by Deputy Clerk, U. S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana.

On 11/1/67, EVERETT LEGNON, Deputy Clerk, U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans, furnished copies of the enclosed letters which were received from JAMES E. CARTY regarding ALVIN KARPAVICZ (ALVIN KARPIS). Mr. LEGNON advised a search of the Court's records failed to locate a file or docket number for this individual and inasmuch as KARPIS was convicted for kidnaping, LEGNON requested aid from the New Orleans FBI Office in an attempt to locate a docket number. LEGNON stated he had contacted the U. S. Attorney's Office in New Orleans and he was furnished a docket number 18639, but in reviewing this docket he determined the number was assigned to FRED HUNTER.

Contact was made with the U. S. Attorney's Office and it was determined that the docket number for ALVIN KARPIS was the same as that previously furnished to the Deputy Clerk regarding FRED HUNTER. This information was furnished to Mr. LEGNON.

The enclosed letters are furnished for the Bureau's information and no further action being taken by New Orleans.

3-Bureau (Enc - 2) ENCLOSURE  
1-New Orleans  
RLW:gas  
(4)

U. S. Bishop

REC 39

7-576-15531

15 NOV 7 1967

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

*Credit Office*

JAMES E. CARTY  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
782 GOERIG  
WOODLAND, WASHINGTON 98674

P. O. Box 388  
TELEPHONE  
225-2241

October 24, 1967

*U.S. Attorney - 2921*

United States Commissioner  
Office of the U. S. Commissioner  
Federal Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana

*18639 f*

Dear Sir:

Re: U.S. v. Alvin Karpavicz  
(Alvin Karpis)

Enclosed herewith is my letter of October 11, 1967, which you returned to me. Mr. Karpavicz was arrested in New Orleans on the evening of May 1, 1936, at approximately 5:00 P.M., at or near the corners of Jefferson, Parkway and Canal Streets by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He had been indicted in St. Paul, Minnesota, for violation of the Lindberg Act in the Hamm kidnapping. I believe at that time that the statute was 18 USCA Section 408.

I hope that the foregoing information will enable you to answer the attached letter.

Yours very truly,

*[Signature]*  
James E. Carty

*ATTORNEY*

*U.S. Attorney - 2921*

JEC: j

Enc:

*to: Clerk's Office!*

JAMES E. CARTY  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
782 GOERIG  
WOODLAND, WASHINGTON 98674

P. O. Box 388  
TELEPHONE  
225-2241

October 11, 1967

United States Commissioner  
Office of the U. S. Commissioner  
Federal Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

Re: U.S. v. Alvin Karpavicz  
(Alvin Karpis)

Mr. Karpis wrote you on December 27, 1966, and January 27, 1967, requesting certain information regarding his case as follows:

- "1. On what day of the month was I brought before the United States Commissioner, and at what figure was my bond set; (please itemize)?
2. On what day of the month was I finally turned over to the custody of the United States Marshall, and by whom?
3. Who accepted custody of me after my bond was set?
4. Who relinquished custody of me following my appearance before the United States Commissioner?"

It would be appreciated if you could furnish the foregoing information at an early date. It is required in connection with certain proceedings which I intend to institute on behalf of Mr. Karpis.

Your assistance will be appreciated.

Yours very truly,

*James E. Carty*  
James E. Carty

*Note-*

*We need more info  
JEC: j  
regarding the date and  
year and what charge.*

*7-576-15531*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 11/30/67

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) (P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
(OO:SE)

ReWFOlet 9/29/67.

b7c  
On 11/30/67, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] United States Board of Parole, Washington, D.C.,  
advised SA CARROLL M. GARNETT that subject's case remains  
under consideration by the Parole Board. He could not  
predict when action by the Board would be forthcoming.

He assured the contacting Agent the FBI would be  
immediately notified when action is taken by the Parole  
Board. This case is being maintained in a pending inactive  
status. Q

REC-21

2 - Bureau  
2 - Seattle (7-1)  
1 - WFO

CMG:acd  
(5)

EX-108

7-576-15532

15 DEC 1 1967



DEC 6 1967

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 12/7/67

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin J. Karpis  
KIDNAPING

Re Bureau airtel to Seattle dated 11/6/67.

For information of Minneapolis and Washington Field Office, Attorney JAMES E. CARTY, Woodland, Washington, has requested information concerning subject's appearance before the United States Commissioner after his arrest in New Orleans in 1936, and other information concerning the handling of subject. It is apparent CARTY is planning some type of appeal in behalf of subject. The Bureau has instructed that this matter be closely followed and that the Bureau be advised at the earliest possible opportunity of the nature of the appeal.

On November 13, 1967, and December 1, 1967, [redacted] U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, confidentially advised he is aware that subject is in correspondence with Attorney CARTY concerning a possible appeal, however, the nature of such an appeal is unknown. [redacted] stated to his knowledge no appeal has been filed by subject to date, however, he pointed out that such an appeal could be filed directly with the U. S. District Court where the subject was convicted without knowledge of prison officials at McNeil. It is noted that subject was convicted in the U. S. District Court, St. Paul, Minnesota.

[redacted] further stated subject last appeared before the Federal Parole Board in August 1966, and in June 1967, an annual progress review was forwarded to the U. S. Board of Parole. [redacted] stated no word has been received back as to a decision reached by the Parole Board.

- 2 - Bureau (7-576)
- 2 - Minneapolis (7-3021)
- 2 - WFO (7-63)
- 2 - Seattle (7-1)

EEO:kn  
(7)

EX-113

14 DEC 11 1967



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

SE 7-1

He stated it is his opinion that if subject is granted parole he will be deported immediately to Canada since subject is a Canadian citizen.

LEADS

MINNEAPOLIS DIVISION  
At St. Paul, Minnesota

Maintain contact with the Clerk of the Court to determine any appeal or other litigation filed by the subject and immediately advise the Bureau.

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE  
At Washington, D. C.

Follow subject's parole status with the U. S. Board of Parole and immediately advise the Bureau of any action taken.

SEATTLE DIVISION  
At McNeil Island, Washington

Continue to follow this matter and advise the Bureau.

F B I

Date: December 19, 1967

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)  
FROM: SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30) (P)  
SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin J. Karpis  
KIDNAPPING

Re Seattle letter to Bureau dated 12/7/67.

On December 19, 1967, BERNADINE BROWN, Criminal Docket Clerk, United States District Court, St. Paul, Minnesota, advised Special Agent WESLEY A. ANDERSON that the last court entry in their files with respect to KARPAVICZ was on July 22, 1949, and a current appeal has not been filed to date. She recalled that during the summer of 1967 KARPAVICZ wrote to the United States District Court clerk in St. Paul requesting numerous official papers from his file. The official file is not maintained in St. Paul, but has been sent to the Federal Records Center at Kansas City, Missouri. The file was recalled from the Records Center and copies of papers requested by KARPAVICZ on several occasions during the summer of 1967 were sent to him. The file was returned to the Federal Records Center at Kansas City and nothing is pending in St. Paul now.

Miss BROWN was requested to notify the FBI immediately in the event an appeal is filed for KARPAVICZ. She stated that she would place a notation in the file with respect to this request.

The matter will be followed with Miss BROWN.

3-Bureau  
1-Seattle (7-1) (Info)  
1-WFO (7-63) (Info)  
2-Minneapolis  
WAA:slb  
(7)

REC-10

7-576-15534

SI-119

16 DEC 22 1967

54 JAN 2 1968

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 1/24/68

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPPING

b7c On January 18, 1968, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington,  
advised SA ELGIN E. OLROGG that no information has been  
received concerning subject's parole status which is still  
pending with the U. S. Board of Parole, Washington, D. C.  
Also, no information has come to his attention concerning  
subject's plan to file an appeal. [REDACTED] reassured  
SA OLROGG he would be alert to any change in subject's status  
and promptly advise the FBI.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Minneapolis (7-30)(Info)  
1 - WFO (7-63)(Info)  
2 - Seattle  
EEO:lpt  
(6)

REC 30

EX-103

7-576-15535

11 JAN 29 1968

54 JAN 31 1968



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 1/6/68

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) (P\*)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
(OO:SE)

ReWFOlet 11/30/67.

b7c On 2/5/68, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] U. S. Board of Parole, WDC, advised SA CARROLL  
M. GARNETT that subject's "Annual Review" for parole  
by the U. S. Board of Parole is being held in Abeyance.  
She could not predict when action would be taken in  
this connection but assured the contacting Agent that WFO,  
FBI, would immediately be notified when Board action is  
initiated. E

This case is being maintained in a pending  
inactive status.

② - Bureau  
2 - Seattle (7-1)  
1 - WFO

CMG:jlw  
(5)

REC 18  
EX 110

7-576-15536  
FEB 6 1968



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO :

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 2/27/68

FROM :

SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30) (P)

SUBJECT:

ALVIN KARPAVICZ aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPPING

Re Seattle letter to Bureau dated 1/24/68.

On 2/12/68 BERNARDINE BROWN, clerk, U. S. District Court, St. Paul, Minnesota, advised SA WESLEY A. ANDERSON that there has not been any appeal or other litigation filed in subject's behalf in the U. S. District Court, St. Paul.

## LEAD

### MINNEAPOLIS

#### AT ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Recontact BERNARDINE BROWN, U. S. District Court.

2 - Bureau  
1 - WFO (7-63) (Info)  
1 - Seattle (7-1) (Info)

WAA:emh

101-010

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

REC-52

7-576-15537

18 FEB 28 1968

101-010

WFO

## Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 3/27/68

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPPING

b7c

On March 22, 1968, [REDACTED] U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, advised SA ELGIN E. OLROGG there has been no change in subject's status and no information has come to his attention concerning subject's plan to file an appeal. [REDACTED] stated he will follow this matter closely and advise of any change in subject's status.

② - Bureau  
1 - Minneapolis (info) (7-30)  
1 - WFO (info) (7-63)  
2 - Seattle  
EEO:pla  
(6)

L

EX-110

REC-21

7-576-15538

MAR 29 1968

KRM



6 APR 4 1968

1968

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO :

DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 4/30/68

FROM :

SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30) (RUC)

SUBJECT:

ALVIN KARPAVICZ aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING

Re Minneapolis letter to the Bureau dated  
2/27/68.

On 4/30/68, BERNADINE BROWN, clerk, U. S. District Court, St. Paul, Minnesota, advised SA WESLEY A. ANDERSON ~~that~~ there has not been any appeal or other litigation filed in subject's behalf in the USDC, St. Paul.

This matter is being RUC'd in the Minneapolis Division, and Seattle should notify Minneapolis in the event information is received from the U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, that subject plans further legal action in this matter.

2 - Bureau  
1 - WFO (7-63) (Info)  
1 - Seattle (7-1) (Info)  
1 - Minneapolis  
WAA:dja  
(5)

REC-69

EX 109

7-576-15539

2 MAY 3 1968



717  
MAY 9 1968

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: May 21, 1968

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPPING

Re Seattle letter to Bureau, 3/27/68.

On May 15, 1968, [REDACTED]

b7C [REDACTED] U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, advised SA ELGIN E. OLROGG there has been no change in subject's status, and no information has come to his attention concerning any legal action taken by the subject. [REDACTED] stated he will follow this matter and advise of any change in subject's status.

As previously pointed out to Minneapolis, it is possible for the subject to initiate legal action through the U. S. District Court (USDC), St. Paul, without knowledge of prison officials at McNeil Penitentiary. Mail directed to the court is not censored and is forwarded directly. Consequently, Minneapolis should insure appropriate coverage has been provided to be advised of any litigation filed in subject's behalf.

- ② - Bureau
  - 2 - Minneapolis (7-30)
  - 1 - WFO (7-63) (INFO)
  - 2 - Seattle
- EEO: bgv  
(7)

REC-32

EX 106

7-576-15540  
12 MAY 22 1968



58 MAY 28 1968

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

yes  
SDA

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 7/26/68

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1)(P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPPING

b7c On July 17, 1968, [REDACTED]  
U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, advised SA  
ELGIN E. OLRGG there has been no change in the status of  
subject.

- ② - Bureau
- 1 - Minneapolis (7-30)(Info)
- 1 - WFO (7-63)(Info)
- 2 - Seattle
- EEO:kn
- (6)

7-576-15541  
REC 43 4 JUL 29 1968

~~STX~~



242  
AUG 5 1968

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

Mr. Conrad

June 14, 1968

W.D. Griffith

**BULKY EXHIBITS -  
LABORATORY DIVISION**

Review of the current bulky exhibits maintained by the Laboratory Division has been completed.

In the case captioned "ALVIN KARPAVICH, aka Alvin Karpis, Kidnapping," a review of the file in this matter indicates that KARPIS is still incarcerated in the McNeil Island Penitentiary. Therefore, the .45 caliber projectile and the .45 caliber cartridge cases, being maintained in the Laboratory files, should be retained.

b7c  
With respect to the case entitled [REDACTED], aka Fugitive, ITSP," SA William J. Farrell advises that the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained for research and that this evidence has been utilized in current examinations in regard to setting up various styles of type.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** The bulky exhibits in the KARPIS and [REDACTED] cases should be maintained until appropriate disposition is possible in each instance.

1 - Mr. Mohr  
1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Conrad  
1 - Mr. Javons

1 - Mr. Griffith  
1 - Bureau File (7-576)  
1 - Bureau File (27-40280)

GRH:dls (9)  
grh

59 JUN 26 1968

7-576-  
RECORDED  
JUN 20 1968

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-83357-252

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 7/29/68

FROM : SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30) (RUC)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING

W.H.  
ST

Re Seattle letter to Bureau, 5/21/68.

LARRY TAPPER, Chief Deputy, USDC Clerk, St. Paul, Minnesota, advised SA WESLEY A. ANDERSON on May 29, 1968, that there have been no papers filed by subject with respect to a habeas corpus proceeding in the USDC, St. Paul. He will be alert for the filing of any papers inasmuch as this type of matter is under his supervision and will notify the Minneapolis Office in the event any type of petition is filed by subject.

On July 26, 1968, Mr. TAPPER advised SA ANDERSON that to date the subject has not filed any type of petition in the USDC. Mr. TAPPER will notify the Minneapolis Office in the event papers are filed.

2 - Bureau  
1 - WFO (7-63) (Info)  
2 - Seattle (7-1) (Info)  
1 - Minneapolis  
WAA:lkp  
(6)

REC 43

25 AUG 1 1968

7-576-15542



5010-108-02

56 AUG 7 1968

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

SAC, Minneapolis (7-30)

September 6, 1968

Director, FBI (7-576)

1 - Mr. McKinnon

ALVIN KARPAVICZ ALSO KNOWN AS  
ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING

Enclosed is a copy of a letter dated 8/30/68 from Assistant Attorney General Vinson along with copies of a letter to Vinson from Attorney James E. Carty dated 8/5/68 and a copy of a letter to Carty from Vinson dated 6/21/68.

Check pertinent files in your office concerning Karpis and determine if possible the length of time elapsing, in consecutive hours, from the commencement of the interrogation of Karpavicz in St. Paul to the conclusion thereof and whether or not Karpavicz was able to consult with his attorney without an Agent of the Bureau being within hearing range on all occasions.

Advise Bureau results promptly.

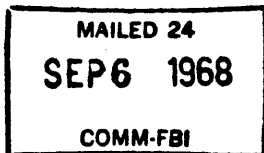
Enclosures (3)

1 - Seattle (7-1) (Enclosures 3) EX-119

REC-47 7-576-15543

19 SEP 6 1968

CRM:emf  
(5)



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

19 SEP 1968  
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 9/11/68

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ,  
aka Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
(OO:SE)

ReSElet to Bureau 7/26/68.

b7c On 8/26/68, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] U. S. Board of Parole, Washington, D. C., advised  
SA JOHN J. CREAMER, JR., that no change has taken place in  
subject's status to date.

WFO will follow this matter with [REDACTED]

EX-102

REC 17

*McDonnon*  
5718

7-576-15544

SEP 12 1968

- ② - Bureau
- 1 - Seattle (7-1) (Info)
- 1 - WFO



JJC:pab

SEP 19 1968

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576) —

DATE: 9/18/68

SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30) (RUC)

SUBJECT:

ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING

Re Bureau letter to Minneapolis dated 9/6/68  
and report of SA S. K. MC KEE dated 5/8/36 at St. Paul,  
Minnesota, captioned ALVIN FRANCIS KARPIS.

A check of the pertinent files of the Minneapolis  
Office of the FBI relative to captioned subject failed  
to ascertain the length of time elapsing, in consecutive  
hours, from the commencement of the interrogation  
of KARPIS in St. Paul, Minnesota, to the conclusion  
thereof. It was not possible to determine whether or  
not KARPIS was able to consult with his attorney without  
an agent of the Bureau being within hearing range on  
all occasions.

Records reflect that subject was interviewed  
by Bureau agents from May 2, 1936, through May 6, 1936.  
Subject was remanded to the custody of the U. S. Marshal  
May 6, 1936, at 4:45 P.M. Records reflect that subject  
conferred with U. S. Attorney GEORGE SULLIVAN the  
afternoon of May 6, 1936.

It should be noted that the Director issued  
instructions that KARPIS be permitted to communicate  
with an attorney which he might retain.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Minneapolis  
HS:cjp  
(3)

REC-64 7-576-15545

SEP 23 1968



5010-108-02

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

*Letter to Mr. Vinson  
10-1-68  
CR mikes*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: September 24, 1968

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPPING

Re Bureau letter to Minneapolis dated 9/6/68

67c  
On September 17, 1968, [REDACTED] Federal Prison Camp, McNeil Island, Washington, advised there has been no change in the status of KARPIS. However, on August 13, 1968, he received a request from the U. S. Board of Parole, Washington D. C., to obtain confirmation in writing from the Immigration Service that KARPIS is deportable to Canada and to obtain and furnish travel documents. [REDACTED] stated this was handled by him through the Seattle office of the Immigration Service since KARPIS is a Canadian citizen. The travel documents specify that when released, KARPIS would be deported to Montreal.

[REDACTED] stated he sent these papers to Mr. DUNBAR, Chairman, U. S. Board of Parole, Washington D. C.

## LEADS

### WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

#### AT WASHINGTON D. C.

Follow with U. S. Board of Parole.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Minneapolis (Info)  
2 - WFO  
2 - Seattle  
EEO:kdl  
(7)

SI 109

9-23

7-576-15546

15 SEP 26 1968

WIX

54 OCT 2 - 1968



F B I

Date: 9/27/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTELAIR MAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

FROM: SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (7-30)

ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka.  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPINGRe Minneapolis letter to the Bureau 9/18/68 and  
Bureau telephone call to Minneapolis 9/27/68.Captioned file in the Minneapolis Office contains  
no information to indicate whether or not KARPIS had an  
attorney or whether or not he was visited by an attorney  
while he was in custody in St. Paul.3 - Bureau (AM)  
1 - MinneapolisRAA/gsf  
(4)

EX-109

C. C. Bishop

REC-63

7-576-15547

6 SEP 28 1968

EX-109

Approved: 32

OCT 10 1968

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 10/2/68

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPPING  
(OO:SE)

ReWFOlet to Bureau dated 9/11/68 and SElet  
to Bureau dated 9/24/68.

On 9/30/68, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] U.S. Board of Parole, Washington, D.C.,  
advised SA JOHN J. CREAMER, JR. that KARPIS is under  
consideration for parole, but no action has been taken  
by the full Board. She advised that the Board will not  
meet until November and she does not anticipate any  
action on this case before the middle of November. It  
is possible that the case may not be reviewed at that  
time and it will be held over until January.

WFO will follow this matter with [REDACTED]

- ② - Bureau
- 1 - Minneapolis (Info)
- 2 - Seattle
- 1 - WFO

JJC:blr  
(6)

REC-40

EX-101

7-576-15548

OCT 3 1968

WFO



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General

September 10, 1968

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. McKinnon

REC-123

7-576-15549  
ALVIN KARPAVICZ ALSO KNOWN AS  
ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING

Reference is made to your letter of August 30,  
1968, your reference FMV:JM:mep 109-85-1.

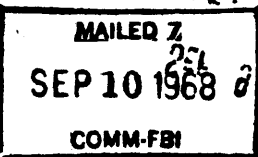
Inquiries are being made to determine if the  
information you requested is available.

CRM:emf  
(4) *emf*

NOTE:

*Lop*  
By memo 8/30/68, Assistant Attorney General Vinson requested whether our files showed the length of time Alvin Karpis was interviewed after his arrest, whether or not Karpis was able to consult with an attorney alone and whether the names of the interviewing Agents may be disclosed at this time. Karpis was one of the ring leaders of the notorious Karpis - Barker Gang which terrorized the Midwest during the 1930s. Karpis received a life sentence in July, 1936, for the William J. Hamm kidnaping. This information has been requested by Attorney James E. Carty, a "bleeding heart" who believes Karpis appears rehabilitated and is assisting Karpis without compensation in an attempt to gain his freedom. Carty wishes to interview the Agents involved in an attempt to support an allegation that Karpis was denied the right to counsel and was coerced into furnishing a plea. Karpis was arrested in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 5/1/36, and was interviewed after his transportation to St. Paul, Minnesota. Bureau files have been checked; however, they do not contain the data requested by the Department. The Minneapolis Office, therefore, has been instructed to check their files to determine if information desired by the Department is available.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

81 OCT 2 11050

*Handwritten notes and stamps:*  
V  
2 25 54  
D  
RECEIVED  
SEP 10 3 10 PM '68

Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General

October 1, 1968

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. McKinnon

REC-123

7-576-15549

ALVIN KARPAVICZ ALSO KNOWN AS  
ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING

EX 109

Reference is made to your letter of August 30, 1968, your  
reference FMV:JM:mep 109-85-1 and my letter of September 10, 1968.

The files of this Bureau have been checked and we have no  
specific records concerning the information desired.

Since the specific information desired is not available in our  
files, it does not appear any purpose would be served after a lapse of  
thirty-two years in furnishing the identities of the many Special Agents  
who may have interviewed Karpis.

NOTE: By memo 8-30-68 Assistant Attorney General Vinson requested  
whether our files showed the length of time Alvin Karpis was interviewed  
after his arrest, whether or not Karpis was able to consult with an attorney  
alone, and whether the names of the interviewing Agents may be disclosed  
at this time. Karpis was one of the ring leaders of the notorious Karpis -  
Barker Gang which terrorized the Midwest during the 1930s. Karpis  
received a life sentence in July, 1936, for the William J. Hamm kidnaping.  
This information has been requested by Attorney James E. Carty, a  
"bleeding heart," who believes Karpis appears rehabilitated and is assisting  
Karpis without compensation in an attempt to gain his freedom. Carty wishes  
to interview the Agents involved in an attempt to support an allegation that  
Karpis was denied the right to counsel and was coerced into furnishing a plea.

NOTE CONTINUED PAGE TWO

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
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Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

CRM:hcs

(4)  
OCT 1 1968  
COMM-FBI

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NOTE CONTINUED:

Karpis was arrested in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 5-1-36 and was interviewed after his transportation to St. Paul, Minnesota. Our Minneapolis Office has made a check of the Alvin Karpis file and has advised that the information requested by the Department is not contained in the file. The file concerning Karpis reveals 19 Special Agents including the Director and Mr. Tolson arrested Karpis in New Orleans on 5-1-36. He was transported to St. Paul, Minnesota, by airplane and was interviewed at St. Paul by Special Agents S. K. McKee, G. A. Paulson and R. C. Suran between 5-2-36 and 5-6-36. All three of these Agents are now retired.

September 3, 1968

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

The attached from Assistant Attorney General Vinson requests whether our files show the length of time Alvin Karpavicz (Karpis) was interviewed, whether or not Karpis was able to consult with his attorney alone and whether the names of the interviewing Agents may be disclosed at this time. Karpis was one of the ringleaders of the notorious Karpis - Barker Gang which terrorized the Midwest during the 1930s. He received a life sentence in July, 1936 for the William J. Hamm kidnaping. This information was requested by Attorney James E. Carty, a "bleeding heart" who states Karpis appears rehabilitated and he is assisting Karpis without compensation in an attempt to gain his freedom. Carty wishes to interview the Agents involved in attempts to support an allegation that Karpis was denied the right to counsel and was coerced into furnishing a plea. We are checking our files to see if we have this information.

CRM:jls

4 JEM Gm R RD

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# Memorandum

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE:

August 30, 1968

FROM : Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General  
Criminal Division

FMV:JM:mep  
109-85-1

SUBJECT: Alvin Karpavicz  
No. 9017 McNeil Island  
Federal Penitentiary

*Alvin Karpis*

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

On August 5, 1968, I received a letter from Mr. James E. Carty, attorney for Alvin Karpavicz. This communication is the latest in a series which began last fall. After Mr. Carty's letter of October 25, 1967, to the Bureau, he contacted the Attorney General in reference to securing the names and addresses of the FBI agents involved in the Karpavicz case. On June 21, 1968, I replied to Mr. Carty informing him that materials in the file of the Department could not be disclosed without prior approval of the Attorney General. I also informed him as follows:

Over 35 years have elapsed since the victim in this case was kidnapped, and we feel that no useful purpose would be served in furnishing a list of the FBI agents who may have had an active part in the investigation of the case. However, if you will outline in detail any specific factual information you desire in this matter, we will be pleased to ascertain whether it is now available and, if so, whether it can be disclosed.

As you will note, in his latest letter Mr. Carty has responded to my offer and requested the following information:

The length of time elapsing, in consecutive hours, from the commencement of the interrogation of Karpavicz in St. Paul to the conclusion thereof.

Whether or not Karpavicz was able to consult with his attorney without an agent of the Bureau being within hearing range on all occasions. In short, whether an agent (or agents) of the Bureau were kept in close proximity to Karpavicz between the time of his arrival in St. Paul and the entry of the plea.

*ENCLOSURE*

*EXP 31 SEP 3 1968*

*EX 109 REC-138 7-576-155429*  
*SEP 8 1968*  
*Mr. Vinson*  
*Mr. Mohr*  
*Mr. Bishop*  
*Mr. Casper*  
*Mr. Callahan*  
*Mr. Conrad*  
*Mr. Felt*  
*Mr. Gale*  
*Mr. Rosen*  
*Mr. Sullivan*  
*Mr. Tavel*  
*Mr. Trotter*  
*Tele. Room*  
*Miss Holmes*  
*Miss Gandy*

Since our files do not reflect the information requested we would appreciate your assistance in obtaining this information. I would also invite your comments on whether the names of the agents may be disclosed at this time.

For your convenience I am attaching a copy of my letter of June 21, 1968 and a copy of Mr. Carty's letter of August 5. I thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



JAMES E. CARTY  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
782 GOERIG  
WOODLAND, WASHINGTON 98674

P. O. Box 388  
TELEPHONE  
225-2241

August 5, 1968

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
Washington D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Vinson:

Re: Alvin Karpavicz  
No. 9017 McNeil Island  
Federal Penitentiary

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 21, 1968, regarding the above matter. I regret the delay in replying but I have had an extremely busy schedule.

Apparently, my letter of May 27, 1968, was not clear. My concern was not with the investigation of the kidnapping or the victim. My inquiry is related to the events occurring between the arrest of Karpavicz and the entry of his plea. I wish to interview the agents involved to determine whether or not we can support an allegation that the plea was coerced and that, in effect, Karpavicz was denied the right to counsel.

Specifically, I wish the following information:

1. The length of time elapsing, in consecutive hours, from the commencement of the interrogation of Karpavicz in St. Paul to the conclusion thereof.

2. Whether or not Karpavicz was able to consult with his attorney without an agent of the Bureau being within hearing range on all occasions. In short, whether an agent (or agents) of the Bureau were kept in close proximity to Karpavicz between the time of his arrival in St. Paul and the entry of the plea.

From your point of view, Karpavicz is probably just another inmate that wants out. There is considerable validity in this. However, the man has been confined for more than three decades. He appears rehabilitated. People dealing with him have reached this conclusion. His record is excellent. This case has caused me some concern. If

AUG 9 1968

CRIMINAL DIVISION

ENCLOSURE

7-576

109-85-1
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AUG 8 1968
R.A.G.
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME ST

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.

-2-

August 5, 1968

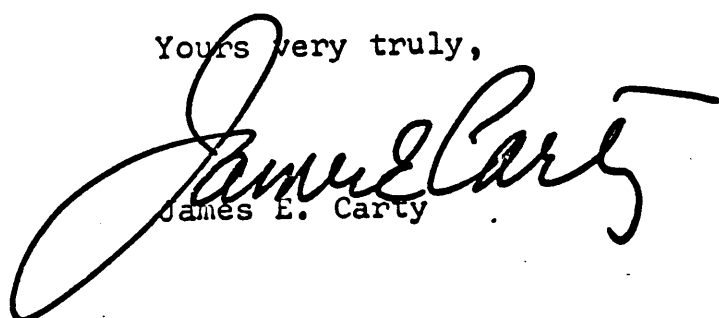
the inmate is rehabilitated, further confinement would seem to be punishment without purpose. To me, this is as appalling as imprisonment without guilt. In either event, neither society nor the inmate benefits.

It is my belief that an attorney has a duty to render assistance to the unfortunate members of our society. For this reason, I am assisting Karpavicz without compensation or any expectation thereof. Other attorneys in the midwest have agreed to assist, again, without fee. Several individuals have been kind enough to help in assembling information.

We need the names of the agents involved in the Karpavicz detention and interrogation so that we may have them interviewed. It is probable that some of these people may be deceased. It may be impossible to locate others. However, we do not feel that it is not unreasonable to expect your office to furnish us with the names of the agents involved. I do not expect your records or notes. If necessary, that may be obtained with a court order, if and when required.

Your assistance in this matter will be appreciated.

Yours very truly,

  
James E. Carty

JEC: j



Typed: 6/19/68  
FMV:MHH:jac  
109-85-1

June 21, 1968

Mr. James E. Carty  
Attorney at Law  
782 Coerig  
Woodland, Washington

Dear Mr. Carty:

This refers to your letter of May 27, 1968, regarding Alvin Karpavicz, an inmate of the United States Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, who entered a plea of guilty on July 14, 1936, in the Federal Court at St. Paul, Minnesota, to an indictment charging him and others with a conspiracy to violate the Federal kidnapping law. On July 7, 1936, U. S. District Judge Matthew M. Joyce sentenced Karpavicz to a life term.

With reference to your inquiry regarding the disclosure of information in the files of this Department, subpart B of Department Order 381-67, dated June 29, 1967, prohibits the disclosure of such information without prior approval of the Attorney General. This order was published in the July 4, 1967 issue of the Federal Register at page 9662.

Over 35 years have elapsed since the victim in this case was kidnapped, and we feel that no useful purpose would be served in furnishing a list of the FBI agents who may have had an active part in the investigation of the case. However, if you will outline in detail any specific factual information you desire in this matter, we will be pleased to ascertain whether it is now available and, if so, whether it can be disclosed.

Sincerely,

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General

7-576-15549  
ENCLOSURE

1968 JUN 21 W.D.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

DATE: 11/19/68

FROM : SAC, WFO (7-63) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ,  
aka ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING  
(OO:SE)

ReWFOlet to Bureau dated 10/2/68.

On 11/18/68, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], United States Board of Parole, Washington, D.C.,  
advised SA JOHN J. CREAMER, JR., that KARPIS' case is due  
for an annual review at the end of November. She will advise  
WFO if any action is taken on his case.

WFO will follow this matter.

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - Minneapolis (Info)
- 2 - Seattle (7-1)
- 1 - WFO

JJC:acd  
(6)

7-576-15550  
REC-6  
22 NOV 19 1968



61 NOV 22 1968

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

1-Mr. Conrad  
1-Mr. Johnson  
1-Office, 7133  
11-13-68

Mr. Conrad

R. H. Jevons

Alvin Karpis

#### FIREARMS FOR DISPOSITION

The firearms listed below are being disposed of since they are no longer of evidentiary value and they are in excess of the needs of the Laboratory's Reference Firearms Collection. Authorization for their disposition has been obtained by the interested offices and their disposal has been coordinated with the appropriate case supervisor involved.

In accordance with authorization granted (memorandum 10/1/64, 80-14 Sub 1) the firearms are being destroyed by sawing them into pieces. The pieces are being forwarded to Quantico for disposal at the Marine Corps Salvage Yard.

<u>CALIBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>SERIAL NO.</u>	<u>BUFILE</u>
.22 caliber	Valor revolver	143136	91-29066
.22 caliber	Hi-Standard automatic pistol	468117	91-22967
.22 caliber	Armalite AR-7 rifle	73036	80-14
.22 caliber	Colt Ace automatic pistol	480	7-576-11098
.22 caliber	Rohm revolver	2080	70-48706
.22 caliber	Rohm revolver	121191	164-469
.22 caliber	Beretta automatic pistol	C74183	91-28067
6.35 mm	Galesi automatic pistol	458521	70-48706
.32 caliber	Colt automatic pistol	274498	87-96616
.32 caliber	Colt automatic pistol	294343	91-24733
.38 Special	Colt revolver	44412	91-27815
9 mm	Beretta MP	9679	80-14
.380 caliber	Llama automatic pistol	57375	70-44278
.32 caliber	Harrington and Richardson automatic pistol	32928	91-17716
.30 caliber	U. S. Carbine (Universal Arms)	69360	91-28821

A copy of this memorandum is being placed in each of the case files involved.

ACTION: For information.

80-14-1  
1-Mr. Gale  
1-General Investigative Division, Rm. 2260  
57 DEC 2 1968  
WGJ:nlb (27)

7-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
128 NOV. 29 1968

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (7-1) (P)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
OO: SEATTLE

DATE: 11/27/68

RE: Seattle letter to the Bureau, dated 9/24/68.

On November 20, 1968, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington,  
advised on a confidential basis that he is in receipt of  
a letter from the Immigration and Naturalization Service  
in Seattle confirming the Canadian government has consented  
to effect the deportation of KARPIS to Montreal, Canada,  
upon his release from prison. [REDACTED] stated information  
from the U. S. Board of Parole in Washington D.C. indicates  
a decision in this matter will be reached in the later  
part of November, 1968.

## LEAD

WFO

### At Washington D.C.

Closely follow with the U. S. Board of Parole and  
report any action taken in regard to KARPIS.

(2) - Bureau  
1 - Minneapolis (Info) (EX-103)  
2 - WFO (7-63)  
2 - Seattle  
EEO/vao  
(7)

REC 54

NOV 29 1968

51 DEC 10 1968

November 29, 1968  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

The attached advises that Alvin Karpis is going to be released on parole and deported to Canada 1/14/69. Karpis was one of the ring leaders of the notorious Barker - Karpis Gang which terrorized the Midwest during the 1930s. Karpis received a life sentence in July, 1933, for the William J. Hamm kidnaping.

CRM:rpr

*[Handwritten initials]*  
*[Handwritten signature]*

FBI WASH DC

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

NOV 27 1968

TELETYPE

F B I SEATTLE

530 PM DEFERRED 11/27/68 PJW

TO DIRECTOR (7-576)

FROM SEATTLE (7-1) /1PG/

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

ALVIN KARPAVICZ, AKA ALVIN KARPIS; KIDNAPPING.

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

UPI WIRE STORY THIS DATE FROM WASHINGTON, D.C., IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: ALVIN KARPIS, KIDNAPER AND BANK ROBBER OF THE THIRTIES, WILL BE PAROLED FROM A KIDNAPING SENTENCE AND DEPORTED TO CANADA. KARPIS, WHO WAS ARRESTED PERSONALLY BY FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER, WILL BE RELEASED ON JANUARY FOURTEEN, SIXTYNINE, AFTER SERVING PART OF A LIFE SENTENCE FOR THE NINETEEN THIRTYTHREE KIDNAPPING OF A WEALTHY MINNEAPOLIS BREWER. KARPIS, NOW SIXTY YEARS OLD, WAS THE LEADER OF THE DEPRESSION ERA QUOTE BARKER DASH KARPIS END QUOTE GANG. END QUOTE.

[REDACTED] U.S. PENITENTIARY, MC NEIL ISLAND, WASHINGTON, ADVISES THAT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAS CONSENTED TO ACCEPT KARPIS AT MONTREAL, CANADA, UPON HIS RELEASE FROM PRISON, PER INFORMATION RECEIVED ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS, FROM U.S. IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE.

OFFICIALS, U.S. PENITENTIARY, MC NEIL ISLAND, RECEIVED OFFICIAL WORD FROM U.S. BOARD OF PRISON TERMS AND PAROLES, WASHINGTON, THIS DATE, CONFIRMING THE ABOVE FACTS.

END

BGM

FBI WASH DC  
63 DEC 11 1968

MR. DELGACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

CC-MR. ROSEN



F B I

Date: 12/2/68

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

Via \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)

FROM: SAC, WFO (7-63) (RUC)

ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING  
(OO: SEATTLE)

ReWFOlet, 11/19/68, and Seattle letter, 11/27/68.

On 12/2/68, [REDACTED], U.S. Board of Parole, Washington, D.C., advised that KARPIS will be paroled for deportation only on January 14, 1969. KARPIS will be deported to Canada.

[REDACTED] advised that the Public Information Office of the Justice Department made the press release on this matter.

- ③ Bureau  
1- Minneapolis (Info) (7-30)  
2- Seattle (7-63)  
1- WFO

JJC/bfm  
(7)

C. C. - Bishop

REC-21 7-576-15553  
EX 108  
DEC 3 1968

McKinnon  
SHE

Approved: Joseph D. Purvis  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach *JD*  
FROM : T. E. Bishop *T. E. Bishop*  
SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS  
KIDNAPING - EXTORTION

DATE: 11/27/68

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Dean St. Dennis of the Office of Public Information, Department of Justice, advised late afternoon of November 27, 1968, that Alvin Karpis, who is now in McNeil Island Prison in Washington State, is to be granted parole by the Board of Parole effective January 14, 1969. Karpis, age 60, is to be granted this parole on condition that he be deported to his native Canada. According to St. Dennis, Canadian authorities have indicated that they will accept Karpis.

Karpis was sentenced to a life term for conspiracy in the 1933 kidnaping of William Hamm, Jr.

ACTION:

For information.

\* THE DEPARTMENT  
IS MAKING A  
RELEASE ON THIS  
TODAY.

EX-100

REC-64 7-576-15554

11 DEC 3 1968

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. M. A. Jones

JFB:emm (5)

57 DEC 11 1968

# Alvin Karpis, Gangster of 1930's, Will Be Paroled

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27 (UPI)—Alvin Karpis, Public Enemy No. 1 in the days of Bonnie and Clyde until he was personally captured by J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, will be paroled from a kidnaping sentence and deported to Canada, the Government announced Wednesday.

The Parole Board said that Karpis, now 60 years old, would be released from the Federal penitentiary at McNeil Island, Wash., on Jan. 14 and escorted across the border to Canada, where he was born.

He will not be permitted to re-enter the United States without the board's written permission.

The parole frees the outlaw of the nineteen-thirties after he served 32 years of a life sentence for conspiring to kidnap in the 1933 abduction of William Hamm Jr., a wealthy St. Paul, Minn., businessman.

As the leader of the Karpis-Barker gang, Karpis had threatened to kill Mr. Hoover because the F.B.I. chief constantly referred to him publicly as a "rat."

He spread word that he would kill Hoover just as agents of the F.B.I. had slain his fellow gang leader, Kate (Ma) Barker, and her son, Fred, in a Florida shootout.

Mr. Hoover responded to the boast by making the first physical arrest of a criminal in his career after a three-year manhunt for Karpis.

The gang was reputed to

have killed 10 persons in bank robberies and other crimes.

Mr. Hoover's arrest of Karpis came after Mr. Hamm was abducted in 1933 and released after payment of a ransom of \$100,000.

Mr. Hoover has issued instructions that he wanted to be notified of any information about the hunt for Karpis.

When the gangster was spotted living in a Canal Street apartment in New Orleans, Mr. Hoover flew there with a squad of special agents to supervise the capture.

When Karpis came out of the building and climbed into his car, Mr. Hoover ran to the left side of the auto and an assistant circled to the right. Mr. Hoover reached into the car and grabbed Karpis before the fugitive could reach for a rifle on the back seat.

The Parole Board said that the Canadian Government had indicated it would accept Karpis and said that a private social welfare agency had guaranteed him a job and a home.

The decision to parole Karpis "was based on the inmate's time served in prison, his advanced age, health, excellent record in custody and the estimate he was not now a threat to public safety," the board said.

He became eligible for parole consideration in 1951, but "has been rejected annually by the board until now," it added.

Karpis, whose name is Alvin Karpavics, was born in Montreal and moved with his parents to Topeka, Kan., in 1915 when he was 7 years old.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

The Washington Post \_\_\_\_\_  
Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
The Sunday Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
Daily News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunday News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times 41  
The Sun (Baltimore) \_\_\_\_\_  
The Daily World \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Date NOV 29 1959

7-576-15554  
ENCLOSURE



Associated Press

**KARPIS THEN AND NOW:** At left, Alvin Karpis is shown in 1936 after his arrest on a kidnapping charge. Then considered Public Enemy No. 1, he was captured by J. Edgar Hoover. At right, Karpis is shown this week at the Federal prison at McNeil Island, Wash. On Jan. 14 he will be released and deported to Canada after 32 years in prison.

7- 576-15554  
ENCLOSURE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: December 9, 1968

TO : Mr. Conrad

FROM : W. D. Griffith

SUBJECT: BULKY EXHIBITS -  
LABORATORY DIVISION

Review of the current bulky exhibits maintained by the Laboratory Division has been completed.

In the case captioned "ALVIN KARPAVICA, aka Alvin Karpis, Kidnaping," according to recent newspaper publicity, Karpis, a native of Canada, is being paroled to Canadian authorities on condition he not return to the United States. Therefore, the .45 caliber projectile and the .45 caliber cartridge cases being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained.

b7c With respect to the case entitled [REDACTED], aka Fugitive, ITSP," SA William J. Farrell advises that the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained for research and that this evidence has been utilized in current examinations in regard to setting up various styles of type.

With respect to the glass photographic plates maintained for the Spectrographic Unit, these are removed on a monthly basis and are current. Certain "Specials" are maintained permanently. SA John F. Gallagher advised that these two packages are no longer needed:

- 1 - "Nov. 1955 98-43035 CRUALSAB Special" (Arson (brother))
- 2 - "Dec. 1954 DERCOLE case" (Car theft)

RECOMMENDATIONS: (1) The bulky exhibits in the Karpis and [REDACTED] cases should be maintained until appropriate disposition is possible in each instance. (2) The Spectrographic Unit destroy the above two packages of plates.

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Jevons
- 1 - Mr. Griffith
- 1 - Mr. Gallagher
- 1 - Mr. Avignone

- 1 - Bureau file (7-576)
- 1 - Bureau file (87-49380)

JMA:eks (11)

61 DEC 30 1968

DEC 17 1968

NOT RECORDED  
176 DEC 19 1968

ORIGINAL FILED IN

62-83357-253

F B I

Date: 12/20/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)  
ATTENTION: CRIME RECORDS DIVISION

FROM: SAC, SEATTLE (7-1)

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPING

OO: SE

On December 20, 1968, JIM TOPPING, News Manager, KIRO, Inc., a CBS radio and television affiliate at Seattle, Washington, advised there is a good possibility his firm will do a feature on ALVIN KARPIS in connection with his release from McNeil Island Penitentiary on or about January 14, 1969. In this connection, WESTON VERNON, KIRO representative at Washington, D.C., will be returning to that city on or after January 2, 1969. VERNON may contact the Bureau with a view to obtaining any comments the Director might want to make concerning crime in the 1930's, the general feeling of the times, and interesting recollections of the KARPIS case.

REC-90

7-576-15555

If and when the Bureau is approached by VERNON regarding the above, it is suggested he be given the fullest cooperation possible within the limits of existing policy on the KARPIS case. No information was located in Seattle files which would preclude giving such cooperation.

3 - Bureau  
2 - Seattle (1 - 7-1)  
(1 - 80-1394)

No ask me.  
Interview declined in letter  
to W. Vernon dated 12/23/68  
LL2

RBC:asd

(5)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

61 JAN 13 1969  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

7 576-15556  
January 2, 1969

REC-64

EX-103

Mr. Ray Martinelli  
1303 West 39  
Lorain, Ohio 44053

Dear Mr. Martinelli:

Your letter was received on December 30th.

The FBI does not have any detailed information concerning Alvin Karpis which we can send to you. Enclosed is a copy of "The Story of the Federal Bureau of Investigation" which I hope you will enjoy reading. In addition, you may wish to refer to "The FBI Story" by Don Whitehead which contains data concerning Karpis, including the details surrounding his arrest by me. A copy of this book may be available in your school or local library.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 24  
JAN 2 - 1969  
COMM-FBI

Enclosure

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

MHB:cae (3)  
*jae*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

*6/16/81*  
*SEN. J. EDGAR HOOVER*  
*10/11/83*  
*10/11/83*

TRUE COPY

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I would like to know how long it took you to track down  
Alvin Karpis and make your only arrest against one of the  
most vicious men alive in the 1930's. I would also like to  
know why you would risk your life and did you have to shoot  
it out with him. I also read where Karpis is going to be  
released soon. What are your feelings about him today.

Address per envelope :

Ray Martinelli  
1303 West 39  
Lorain, Ohio

ITC  
1-2-69  
guc

ack n ind  
1-2-69  
MHB/c

REC-64 7-576-15556  
EX-103

JAN 3 1969



Dear Mr. Hoover:  
I would like to know how long it took  
you to track down Alvin Karpis and  
make your only arrest against one  
of the most vicious men alive in the  
1930's. I would also like to know why  
you would risk your life and did you  
have to shoot it out with him. I also  
read where Karpis is going to be released  
soon. What are your feelings about him  
today. - ignored

Ray Martinelli  
1303 West 39  
Hiram, Ohio

1-2-69  
1-2-69

ack ml  
1-2-69  
1-2-69 / gac

CORRESPONDENCE

FBI

Date: 1/14/69

Transmit the following in (Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL (Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (7-576)  
FROM: SAC, SEATTLE (7-1)(C)  
SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka,  
Alvin Karpis  
KIDNAPPING

KARPIS was released on parole from the U.S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, January 14, 1969. He was turned over to the U.S. Immigration authorities from Seattle and will be escorted to the Canadian border for deportation. Under his release plan KARPIS indicated he would reside in care of F. A. ROBERTS, Executive Director, Catholic Rehabilitation Service, 433 St. Dizier Street, Suite 106, Montreal, Canada. No employment indicated. Under terms of parole, KARPIS is not to return to the United States.

3 - Bureau  
1 - Minneapolis (7-30)  
1 - WFO (7-63)  
EEO:asd  
(5)

REC 26

EX-103

7-576-15557  
64

JAN 17 1969  
C. C. Bishop

ROUTING UNIT 1-16-69

Approved: Special Agent in Charge  
ERROR LETTER SENT

Sent M Per

January 14, 1969

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

The attached advises that Alvin Karpis will be released from McNeil Island Penitentiary, 1/14/69 and will be immediately deported to Canada. Karpis, one of the ring leaders of the notorious Barker-Karpis gang, which terrorized the Midwest during the 1930s, received a life sentence in July, 1933 for the William J. Hamm kidnapping. The fact that he was going to be released on parole and deported to Canada was reported previously.

*D Ryan*  
*4pm*  
*P/S*  
CRM:ms *ms*

VIA TELETYPE

JAN 13 1969

ENCIPHERED

PARAPHRASE IF DISSEMINATED

Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

R-40

URGENT 1-13-69

TO DIRECTOR

FROM SEATTLE

also known as

ALVIN KARPAVICZ, AKA ALVIN KARPIS, KIDNAPING. OO: SEATTLE.

Office of Origin

FOR THE BUREAU'S INFORMATION, KARPIS IS TO BE RELEASED FROM  
MC NEIL ISLAND PENITENTIARY, TEN THIRTY AM, JANUARY FOURTEEN NEXT  
INTO CUSTODY OF U.S. IMMIGRATION SERVICE, FOR IMMEDIATE DEPORTA-  
TION TO VANCOUVER, B. C.

RECEIVED 5:03 PM

REC-111

7-576-15558

JAN 15 1969

59 JAN 24 1969

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

1 - Mr. Conrad  
1 - Office 7133  
1 - Mr. Frazier

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TO : Mr. Conrad

DATE: 9/15/69

FROM : R. H. Jevons

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPAVICZ, aka,  
ALVIN KARPIS;  
KIDNAPING

Reference memorandum W. D. Griffith to Mr. Conrad dated 5/15/69, captioned "BULKY EXHIBITS - LABORATORY DIVISION".

Referenced memorandum sets out that on 1/14/69, Karpis was released on parole from the U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington, and deported to Canada. Karpis is not to return to the United States under the terms of his parole.

Certain evidence has been retained in Laboratory bulky storage since 1938. These items consist of specimen K8 (four caliber .45 cartridge cases and one flattened bullet) and K11 (one caliber .45 bullet). These specimens were recovered by the Philadelphia Office following a gun battle with Karpis and Campbell in the Hotel Danmore in Atlantic City (Serial 14983). K11 and K8 were submitted to the Laboratory by Cincinnati letter of 7/21/38 (Serial 14996) and described in Laboratory report of 8/3/38 (Serial 15013) as having been fired from a Thompson Submachine gun, Serial Number 7609, forwarded to the Laboratory from Little Rock 6/6/36. This gun was forwarded to the training division at Quantico for training purposes (80-14-949).

It would appear that no purpose would be served in further retention of K8 and K11. It should be noted, however, that the Director has a personal interest in this case since he personally arrested Karpis in New Orleans.

## RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Investigative Division advise whether or not the bullet and four cartridge cases, K8, and the bullet, K11, can be destroyed.

7-576

1 - Mr. Mohr  
1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen

RAF:mm (7)

54 SEP 29 1969

ADDENDUM - See Page 1a

CRIME RESEARCH

TJB

ADDENDUM, GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION CRM:jny 9-16-69

The items mentioned above have no further evidentiary value.

4m p o.k. ✓ 123  
qpm p

K8 & K11 destroyed in lab 9/17/69/R

Mr. Conrad

May 15, 1969

W. D. Griffith

**BULKY EXHIBITS - LABORATORY DIVISION**

Review of the current bulky exhibits maintained by the Laboratory Division has been completed.

In the case captioned "Alvin Karpavica, aka Alvin Karpis; Kidnapping," Bureau file 7-576, reflects that on 1/14/69, Karpis was released on parole from the U. S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, Washington. At that time Karpis was deported to Canada and under the terms of parole, Karpis is not to return to the United States. SA Robert A. Frazier, Firearms - Toolmarks Unit, advised he will make appropriate inquiries concerning disposition of the .45 caliber projectile and the .45 caliber cartridge cases currently being maintained in the Laboratory files.

With respect to the case entitled [REDACTED], aka - Fugitive; ITSP," SA William J. Farrell advises that the bulky evidence being maintained in the Laboratory files should be retained for research and that this evidence has been utilized in current examinations in regard to setting up various styles of type.

With respect to the glass photographic plates maintained for the Spectrographic Unit, these are reviewed on a monthly basis and are current.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** (1) The bulky exhibits in the Karpis and [REDACTED] cases should be maintained until appropriate disposition is possible in each instance.

(2) The Firearms - Toolmarks Unit arrange for appropriate disposition of the Karpis evidence.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

1 - Mr. Mohr  
1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Conrad  
1 - Mr. Jevons  
1 - Mr. Griffith

1 - Mr. Frazier  
1 - Mr. Farrell  
1 - Mr. Lile  
① - Bufile (7-576)  
1 - Bufile (87-49380)

NOT RECORDED

150 SEP 18 1969

JEL:dln (12)

59 SEP 24 1969

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-83257-254

# Karpis Hits Hero Role Of Hoover

By Ken W. Clawson  
Washington Post Staff Writer

Alvin Karpis, a depression-era gangster whose arrest in 1936 made J. Edgar Hoover a national hero, claims his capture created a phony legend.

A former Public Enemy No. 1, Karpis said in a newly published autobiography, "The Alvin Karpis Story," that Hoover remained behind a building while 24 FBI agents got the drop on him and gangster Freddi Barker.

Hoover "waited until he was told the coast was clear," Karpis wrote. "Then he came out to reap the glory. . . . I made Hoover's reputation as a fearless lawman. It's a reputation he doesn't deserve."

The FBI responded that Karpis was bidding for public attention to promote book sales.

An FBI spokesman said, "J. Edgar Hoover's record for honesty speaks for itself and Alvin Karpis' record for dishonesty is equally clear."

"Whose word would you trust? That of Mr. Hoover and the FBI agents who were with him when the FBI director personally arrested Karpis in New Orleans in 1936, or the word of this notorious gangster and convicted felon?"

Karpis, 64, was paroled in 1969 after 33 years in prison. He said in his book that Hoover's version of the arrest "grated on me" during his prison years.

The official FBI version of the incident is that Karpis made a move for a rifle lying on the back seat of his car as Hoover and his agents approached the vehicle. Hoover is alleged to have jerked open the door and grabbed Karpis.

But Karpis said he was in a 1936 Plymouth coupe that had no back seat. The closest rifle, he said, was locked in the car trunk.

After agents covered him with rifles and machine guns, Karpis said, an FBI agent called to Hoover — who was behind an apartment building — "We've got him. We've got him. It's all clear, chief."

Hoover then made his appearance, Karpis said.

DO-7

FROM

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

MR. TOLSON \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. SULLIVAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. MOHR \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. BISHOP \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. BRENNAN, C.D. \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CALLAHAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CASPER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CONRAD \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. FELT \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. GALE \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. ROSEN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TAVEL \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. WALTERS \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. SOYARS \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS HOLMES \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS GANDY \_\_\_\_\_

SEE ME \_\_\_\_\_  
NOTE AND RETURN \_\_\_\_\_  
PREPARE REPLY \_\_\_\_\_  
SEND MEMO TO ATTORNEY GENERAL \_\_\_\_\_  
FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION \_\_\_\_\_  
WHAT ARE THE FACTS? \_\_\_\_\_  
HOLD \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS:

REC-6

EX-117

18 MAR 16 1971

PEKS. REC. UNIT

7-576-15560

Karpis must be stierazy.

Stierazy  
Karpis  
5/2/71

62 MAR 19 1971



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. *Faval*

FROM : J. W. Marshall

SUBJECT: <sup>0</sup>ALVIN KARPAVICZ  
KIDNAPPING

DATE: 4-16-70

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_

DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_

Walters \_\_\_\_\_

Mohr \_\_\_\_\_

Bishop \_\_\_\_\_

Casper \_\_\_\_\_

Callahan \_\_\_\_\_

Conrad \_\_\_\_\_

Felt \_\_\_\_\_

Gale ☒

Rosen ☒

Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_

Tavel \_\_\_\_\_

Soyars \_\_\_\_\_

Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

Holmes \_\_\_\_\_

Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Bulky Exhibit File Number: 7-576-

We are in the process of reviewing all bulky exhibits in order that we may dispose of those which serve no further purpose. Inasmuch as many of the bulky exhibits pertain to inactive cases and are occupying badly needed space, it is requested that the appropriate substantive supervisor review the above-listed bulky exhibit and render a decision as to its retention or disposition. A notation as to the decision reached may be placed on this memorandum. The memorandum should be returned to the Filing Unit of the Records Branch, Room 1116, Identification Building, for filing in the case file.

RECOMMENDATION:

That captioned bulky exhibit be reviewed and a decision rendered as to the retention or disposition of the material.

OTB:CSA

☒ Retain☐ Destroy☐ Other Disposition \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Decision

*Continuing Bureau interest.*

Signature of Reviewing Supervisor

*Wm. F. Beane*

7-576-

NOT RECORDED

186 APR 17 1970

78 APR 17 1970

4-523

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : MR. BISHOP

DATE: MARCH 1, 1971

FROM : M. A. JONES

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS APPREHENSION IN  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, MAY 1, 1936

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Brennan, C.D. \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Dalbey \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Director requested to know names of any Agents who were members of raiding party with him, when Alvin Karpis was arrested in New Orleans, Louisiana on May 1, 1936.

Report of Special Agent In Charge of raid, E. J. Connelley, dated 5-18-36, set forth the plans made by the Director; Mr. Tolson; Mr. Glavin and SAC Dwight Brantley, and Mr. E. J. Connelley. On pages 5, 6, 7, and 8 are listed the raid plans and the names of 18 raid participants including Bureau Officials and Bureau Agents.

*Set me see the Connelley report.*  
Below are the names of Officials and Special Agents who participated in the apprehension of Alvin Karpis on May 1, 1936, at New Orleans, Louisiana:

1. Director J. Edgar Hoover
2. Associate Director Clyde A. Tolson
3. SAC E. J. Connelley \*
4. SAC D. W. Magee \*
5. SAC Dwight Brantley \*
6. SA C. O. Hurt
7. SA W. L. Buchanan \*
8. SA R. P. Baldwin
9. SA W. R. Glavin
10. SA W. J. McNulty \*
11. SA T. E. Neal \*
12. SA J. O. Peyronin \*
13. SA C. W. Toulme
14. SA T. W. Bain
15. SA E. M. Heavrin
16. SA J. E. Lunsford
17. SA R. L. Tollett \*
18. SA L. I. Bowman \*

EX 101

REC-8

7-576-15561

12 MAR 26 1971

CRIME RESEARCH

\* deceased

1 - Mr. Mohr  
1 - Mr. Bishop  
BMS:fah (8)

CONTINUED - OVER

51 APR 6 1971

PERS. REC. UNIT

M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo  
RE: Alvin Karpis Apprehension

Of the 18 who composed the raiding party, the only two still in the Bureau are Director J. Edgar Hoover and Associate Director Clyde A. Tolson.

Of the 18 members who composed the raiding party nine are known to be deceased. Available addresses of those still living are set forth

b7C

[REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

gms ✓ Jm TEB mm  
WBS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Bishop *TAB*

DATE: 3/5/71

FROM : M. A. Jones *✓*

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF BOOK  
"THE ALVIN KARPIS STORY"  
BY ALVIN KARPIS WITH BILL TRENT

This book which was published by Coward, McCann and Geoghegan, Incorporated, New York, New York, was reviewed in the Crime Research Section. As was to be expected this book is replete with lies and exaggerations and misses no opportunity to make the notorious Alvin Karpis appear as heroic, intelligent and glamorous.

According to the introduction by Frank Lowe, Editor of Weekend magazine which is published in Montreal, Canada, Lowe contacted Karpis about seven years ago and kept in touch with him. When Karpis was paroled he assigned Bill Trent, a staff writer of the magazine, to interview Karpis and write this book with him. The book is a recitation of Karpis's criminal exploits and other criminals he met over the years. No attempt is being made to refute each and every allegation made by Karpis but the major references made concerning the FBI and the Director are set out.

Page 15, Karpis claims he could have held the highest job in any line of police work because he outthought, outwitted and defeated enough cops and G-Men to recognize he was more knowledgeable about crime than any of them including J. Edgar Hoover.

Page 74, Karpis set forth a brief meeting with Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker in Joplin, Missouri. It is apparent from the book that this was their only meeting but in his television appearance on February 28th, to publicize this book he bragged that he knew both of them well.

Page 80, Karpis claims that Ma Barker was just an old-fashioned homebody from the Ozarks and not the leader of the Karpis-Barker Gang. He says that this legend was built up after her death to justify the manner in which she met her death at the hands of the FBI.

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Miss Holmes
- 1 - Miss Gandy

LSL:pan (9)

51 APR 6 1971

(CONTINUED OVER)

CRIME RESEARCH  
FBI REC. UNIT

M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo  
RE: BOOK REVIEW

Pages 98-99, the FBI announced in 1936 that Karpis had been lined up for capture a few months earlier in Cleveland but that someone in the local district attorney's office tipped Karpis off in time to avoid the FBI trap. A private detective, Frank Noonan, was friendly with Assistant Attorney General Joe Keenan. Noonan took Keenan and Karpis to dinner and plied Keenan with drinks. Keenan then bragged how he had convicted Harvey Bailey when everyone from Hoover on down knew that Bailey was not guilty. Keenan gave Karpis information on how many FBI Agents were in town and what tactics they were using. Keenan was unaware of Karpis's identity.

Page 114, after Dolores Delaney was convicted of harboring him, Karpis hired a lawyer in Dayton, Ohio, to appeal her sentences. The FBI descended on him, tapped his phone, shadowed him and harassed him. They wanted to scare him off the case and eventually they succeeded.

Page 146, in July, 1933, the Touhy Gang, <sup>was caught</sup> when Roger and three others were involved in an automobile accident in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. A few days later J. Edgar Hoover himself announced from Washington that his men had put together a solid case against Touhy's boys. The scientific evidence left no doubt at all that the Touhys were the men behind the kidnapping of William Hamm.

Page 169, when the father of Edward Bremer paid off the \$200,000 ransom for his son, the father informed Karpis and the other kidnappers that the FBI had recorded the serial number of each and every bill. Bremer said the FBI had forced him to agree to this.

Page 176, Karpis, or his writer, shows a suspicious flair for the dramatic when he claims that he was watching "Manhattan Melodrama" in a Cleveland theater at the same time Dillinger was watching the same show on the night he was killed by FBI Agents.

Pages 206-207, "The FBI wasn't about to let up in its hunt for me and the last remaining guys of the Karpis-Barker bunch. J. Edgar Hoover himself swore to get me. He set up a propaganda machine which included publicity releases even stating that I had sent him a note threatening his life. This was strictly b s . He laid the reputation of the bureau on the line. There was absolutely no doubt, he told the newspapers, that his men would bring me in within a few weeks.

"Hoover told the public that crooked politicians were responsible for the FBI's failure to nail me. He blasted shady lawyers, ward heelers, elected officials on the take, and all the people that gangsters like me paid off. He claimed that his men had had me cornered in Atlantic City. Only the intervention of crooked public officials kept them from arresting me. Hoover said that when I was finally caught, he'd make me cough up names, dates, places, and fixes. I'd prove out of my own mouth how closely politicians were linked to me."

M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo  
RE: BOOK REVIEW

Page 217, in describing the train robbery at Garrettsville, Ohio, Karpis reports trying to fire his machine gun over the head of one of the mail clerks. He claims he pulled the trigger and "The hammer fell down, but the slug didn't go off." Karpis's writer is obviously unaware that the hammer does not fall down on a machine gun.

Page 223, "we heard that Hoover guaranteed \$5000 to anyone who produced information that led to our arrest."

Page 224, one night in Hot Springs, Arkansas, Grace Goldstein went to the house on Malvern Road to pick up something for Karpis. After Grace left the FBI hit the house. They rained bullets in the windows. They blew out the door. They lobbed in some flares. One flare landed on the bed and set a fire. The wreckage of the house got J. Edgar Hoover into hot water. A U.S. Senator named Joe Robinson blasted Hoover on the floor of the Senate for assaulting the empty house. Courtney Riley Cooper was paid a fabulous salary to shine up Hoover's image. Some Senators wanted to know something about Hoover's other expenses—for instance, the amount he had spent on stool pigeons to try to track me down.

Page 233, Karpis here describes his capture. He claims that he and Freddie Hunter climbed into Hunter's car with Karpis in the driver's seat. A number of men surrounded the car with rifles, shotguns and pistols. Hunter slid out of his door and calmly walked away. Someone hollered to stop the man on the sidewalk and Hunter was then <sup>caught</sup> about 100 feet down the street. There were a couple of dozen FBI Agents and at least a hundred spectators. One Agent shouted "we've got him. 'We've got him. It's all clear chief." J. Edgar Hoover and another man then came out from behind the building. It's interesting to note that in the book Karpis does not claim that Mr. Hoover had a .45 Colt in his hand as he claimed on his television statement of February 28th.

The last chapter from pages 235-256, describes his contact with the Director and FBI Agents after his capture. He attempts to make the Agents appear ridiculous by their methods of questioning him and their treatment of him. On the last page, Karpis notes "The story of Hoover the hero is false" and "I have nothing but contempt for J. Edgar Hoover." In the introduction Karpis is quoted as saying "I made that son of a bitch."

#### INFORMATION IN BUFILES

Bufiles contain no information identifiable with Bill Trent. Frank Lowe, who was then with the Montreal Daily Star wrote an article in September, 1953, entitled "Reds Reported Smuggled into U.S. via Canada." This article was based

M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo  
RE: BOOK REVIEW

on an interview with an individual arrested by the Montreal City Police and, although the article was based on fact, it was highly colored for public consumption. In November, 1960, Frank Lowe of Weekend magazine was interested in publishing a story on Joseph Corbett, Jr., who was then one of the FBI's Ten Most Wanted Fugitives.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

*gjn* *John* *RM* *12/3*  
*Harpis or/and his*  
*writer must be on*  
*dope.* *H*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Bishop

DATE: 3-1-71

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS  
APPEARANCE ON NATIONAL  
BROADCASTING COMPANY (NBC)  
TELEVISION NETWORK SHOW  
ENTITLED "COMMENT"  
FEBRUARY 28, 1971

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Brennan, C.D. \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Dalbey \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

In T. E. Bishop to Mr. Mohr memo dated 2-25-71, it is reported that Alvin Karpis would appear on the above program and charge that the Director did not personally apprehend Karpis.

This program was monitored and a transcription of Karpis' remarks is attached.

The commentator, Edwin Newman, in his introduction noted that Karpis is about to publish a book on his experiences. As was reported in referenced memo, Karpis did charge that the Director did not make an appearance until after other Agents apprehended him.

The forceful statement which was given to NBC in answer to Karpis' charges effectively refuted Karpis' wild and untrue allegations.

## OBSERVATION:

It was obvious that Karpis was reading this statement, and he gave a singularly unconvincing performance. Some of his statements were so ridiculous, such as the one that the Director was his greatest enemy and someone might spirit him back across the U. S. border, that it was obvious his purpose was to create a demand for his new book.

## RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

Enclosures

- 1 - Mr. Mohr-Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Bishop-Enclosure

APR 6 1971  
LSL:CI  
(8)

XEROX  
1971

GRIME RESEARCH  
Miss Gandy-Enclosure  
1 - Miss Holmes-Enclosure  
1 - M. A. Jones-Enclosure  
PEERS. REC. UNIT

UNRECORDED COPY FILED



ALVIN KARPIS  
NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY  
PROGRAM ENTITLED "COMMENT"  
FEBRUARY 28, 1971

"I enjoyed being the last of the big time Public Enemies Number One. Dillinger, Pretty Boy Floyd, Baby Faced Nelson and finally me, the one they called 'Old Creepy.' Now-- I don't need it.

"I was a thief--a bank robber, a kidnaper, a train robber, a burglar, a payroll robber--and there were a few murders too. Through it all, the notoriety, the reputation, the Public Enemy Number One--I ate it up. I was also a good thief. Even the mistakes I made, I got away with. And I made a lot of money. I was young-- and I was wanted for murder in 14 States.

"Today, after spending more time in Alcatraz than any other man, 25 years, I don't repent. I'm not here to moralize. I wouldn't even say I've gone straight. I'm just not crooked any more. I can't even say crime doesn't pay. It did for me--big. I can only say it doesn't pay for me now.

7-574-15563  
ENCLOSURE

+ XEROX  
MAR 22 1971  
SC

"I'm living in Europe--where the living is cheap and where I've got a girl. I'm really afraid of spending too much time in Canada, where I was born, because I do have enemies pretty close--J. Edgar Hoover is still the biggest of them--and I'm afraid of being poured alcohol over one day and spirited back across the border.

"Now I'd like to set a few stories straight. Stories that have become pretty famous unstraight.

"Let's start with Bonnie and Clyde. Yes, I've seen the picture. For one thing, Bonnie was no Faye Dunaway, she was a tiny, squinty-eyed, dumb-faced sharecropper. Clyde Barrow was more like Warren Beatty played him. He made a nice appearance. I got to know them both well in Joplin--but they weren't in my league--and they never robbed a bank in their lives.

"They robbed general stores, filling stations--like in the beginning of the picture--but they never graduated to banks. One story is true. They were small-time, and dumb, and they were kids, but they were killers. They did kill half a dozen law men in Texas and Oklahoma and they did it in cold blood. They weren't romantic though, a word I keep hearing about the movie.

"Ma Barker was the biggest legend of them all. She did have four sons, every one a killer, and every one met a violent death. But it was the sons and me that made the Barker-Karpis

gang, she never was in it. The "Bloody Mama" of murder the movies and the FBI made her out to be, never was. Her sons never even let her know about the jobs they were doing. And, like Bonnie Parker, she was just a dumb Ozark hillbilly, with four killer sons instead of one killer lover. And if the movies have made romantics out of Bonnie and Clyde, the FBI mimeograph machine has made a monster out of that old front porch lady. Ma Barker was a myth.

"But I guess I was a kind of myth too. The story the G-men let out was that J. Edgar Hoover personally snuk up on me while I was at the wheel of my car in New Orleans, and grabbed me as I was reaching for a rifle in the back seat.

"I have never told this before. It would only have hurt during all those years in Alcatraz--but Mr. Hoover wasn't even in sight. I wasn't armed. There couldn't have been a rifle in the back because it was a coupe--there was no back seat.

"The fact is, a car full of Agents had cut me off, two of them came at my windshield with rifles and machine guns, a dozen showed their guns and faces from windows all around. They pulled me from the car--and then came a Keystone Comedy. One said, 'Put your hands up,' one said, 'Keep 'em at your side,' one said, 'Sit on the running board,' another said, 'Lay down on the street.' They didn't even have handcuffs. They had to tie my hands with a necktie.

"I like to think I was pretty cool, I asked who the boss was. A stocky, barrel-chested man in a blue serge suit, a gray snap-brim and a .45 colt in his hand came out from behind the house. That's when I first saw J. Edgar Hoover. 'We've got him,' one of the Agents shouted. 'It's all clear, Chief.' That's how J. Edgar Hoover captured the last of the Public Enemies single-handed.

"I'm sorry to have to say, after all is said and done, that I have nothing but contempt for Mr. Hoover now. I don't want to sound like another bitter ex-con putting the rap on the cop who arrested him. J. Edgar Hoover never arrested me. Twenty-eight G-men did-- and then Hoover came out of hiding. I challenge him to prove me a liar."

March 8, 1971

March 8, 1971

JOHN G. ROWLAND  
CUCUMPTUS AND PARKER  
MILPITAS, CALIFORNIA

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I received from  
Mr. Rowland in which he takes CBS News commentator Roger Mudd  
to task for the one-sided manner in which he publicized the criticism  
of Senator McGovern and a former bank robber (Alvin Karpis).

Enclosure

1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosure

Mr. Mohr - Enclosures (2)

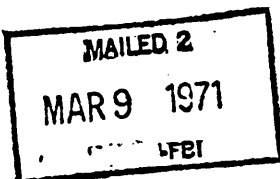
Mr. Bishop - Enclosures (2)

NOT RECORDED  
167 MAR 12 1971

MAR 10 1971

AK:llk (8)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Brennan, C.D. \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Dalbey \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



59 MAR 15 1971

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ORIGINAL FILED IN 94-4920-721

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Dalbey \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TO : Mr. Mohr

DATE: 2/25/71

FROM : T. E. Bishop

SUBJECT: ALVIN KARPIS  
SCHEDULED APPEARANCE ON  
NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY (NBC)  
TELEVISION NETWORK SHOW ENTITLED "COMMENT"  
FEBRUARY 28, 1971

Bishop was contacted on the afternoon of 2/25/71 by Frank Jordan, Bureau Chief of NBC-TV News, Washington, D.C., who stated that NBC has a network television show entitled "Comment" each Sunday on which appear persons who are of some news interest and who "speak their minds." He stated that on the forthcoming Sunday's program, 2/28/71, one of the individuals who will be on the program is Alvin Karpis, a former "Public Enemy #1," who was recently released from a Federal penitentiary and is believed to be presently living in Canada. He stated that the script of Karpis' appearance, which has already been filmed, reflects that one of the things discussed by Karpis is his apprehension in New Orleans on April 30, 1936. Karpis states that the story of the details of the apprehension, as given out by the FBI, are not factual and he claims that he was never apprehended by the Director. He states that the story that he was arrested by the Director, who ran to the left side of Karpis' car just after Karpis climbed into it, reaching into the car and grabbing Karpis before he could reach for a rifle on the back seat, is not correct, claiming that there was no rifle on the back seat and that the car was a coupe. Karpis also claims that he was actually arrested by "26 FBI Agents" who surrounded him in a car outside of a building where he was residing and, after he was in their custody, although he was not handcuffed because no handcuffs could be located, one of the FBI Agents called out "it's all clear Chief"; with that, according to Karpis, Mr. Hoover came out from behind a building with a .45 pistol on his hip.

Jordan desired to know if the FBI wished to make any statement concerning the version of the arrest given by Karpis.

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Miss Gandy
- 1 - Mr. M.A. Jones

(CONTINUED - OVER)

TEB:jo

51 APR 6 1971

APR 30 1971

CRIME RESEARCH  
FBI REC. UNIT

UNRECORDED COPY FILED

94-4-2429-1

Bishop to Mr. Mohr memo (continued)  
Re: ALVIN KARPIS

It is understood that Karpis has written a book, which will be published sometime this year, and, undoubtedly, his appearance on the program is to gain publicity to help sell the book. The correct and factual version of how Karpis was apprehended by the Director and a group of FBI Agents is set forth on pages 108 and 109 of "The FBI Story," the best-selling book by Don Whitehead. Even though it galls one to think that NBC would give air time to a convicted felon like Karpis, it is not felt that we should let him get away with his fictionalized version of history nor permit him to, in effect, call the Director a liar. Therefore, it is felt that we should advise NBC that an FBI spokesman may be quoted as making the following statement concerning Karpis' claim:

"J. Edgar Hoover's record for honesty speaks clearly for itself; and Alvin Karpis' record of dishonesty is equally clear. Whose word would you trust? That of Mr. Hoover and the FBI Agents who were with him at the time the FBI Director personally arrested Karpis in New Orleans in 1936 or the word of this notorious gangster and convicted felon?"

"It is no small coincidence that Karpis has made this bid for public attention and headlines at a time when he reportedly has a book of his memoirs pending publication."

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Bishop be authorized to furnish the above statement as an "FBI spokesman" to Frank Jordan of NBC News.

*Hand Delivered  
2/25/37  
Jordan, who advised  
show will be on  
WRC-TV (NBC Channel  
4) at 6 PM 2/26/37  
TEB*

*C.K. H*

*TH*

*✓*

*TEB*

*mm*

April 7, 1971

REC-85

7-576-15565  
Mr. Steve Schroeder  
1740 Dayton Drive  
Lemon Grove, California 92045

Dear Mr. Schroeder:

Your letter was received on April 5th and I want to thank you for your generous remarks regarding my work. Your support is most encouraging and means a great deal to me.

In response to your inquiry, the specific case to which you referred involved the arrest of Alvin Karpis, a member of the Barker-Karpis gang who bragged he would kill me. Karpis was wanted for murder by state authorities and by the FBI for kidnaping. Additional information can be found in the book by Don Whitehead entitled "The FBI Story." It may be available in your local library. With regard to the recent comments of Karpis, I do not feel I want to dignify his remarks by any type of reply.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

MAILED 24  
APR 8 1971  
FBI

REK:nmi (3)  
nmi

FBI

REC'D-READING ROOM

APR 13 1971

APR 13 1971

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Brennan	CD
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Dalbey	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Walters	
Mr. Soyars	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

1740 Dayton Dr.  
Lemon Grove, Calif. 92045  
March 30, 1971

*Alvin Karpis*

J. Edgar Hoover  
Dir. of F.B.I.  
Washington D.C. 20535

Dear Sir;

I recently heard on the news, John William Klauser give his account of an incident in which he was captured long ago. He said that you instead of capturing him single-handedly as you claim, waited until your men had very inefficiently caught him. He then said you came out of hiding and claimed the credit.

I have long admired your work in law enforcement, as most Americans have. I believe you have done much to help prevent crime in our country.

I do not actually believe this criminal, but I would still like to hear your account of the scene. I would appreciate it if you could take time to write to me.

Yours Truly,

*Steve Schroeder*

Steve Schroeder

*He means Karpis who is a congenital liar.*

REC-85 7-576-15385

11 APR 9 1971

CORRESPONDENCE

*ack/and*

*4-7-71*

*REK*

EXP. PROC. 35 APR 5 1971

SAC, Cincinnati (7-43)

11/30/72

REC 107 7-576-155610  
For the Acting Director, FBI  
W. Mark Felt  
Acting Associate Director  
BREKID

1 - Mr. Weiner

Reurlet 11/20/72.

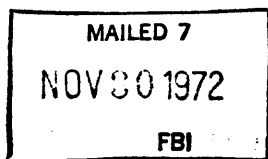
Cincinnati should maintain a copy of each report, as well as copies of other type communications, which in your discretion may be of some future assistance. Authority granted for your division to purge the remainder of this file.

WAW/llr  
(4)

NOTE: Cincinnati requested to be advised whether any consideration would be given to destroying any of their 37 volumes in this case. Thirty-six of the volumes are 33 years old, and relate to the Alvin Karpis matter. This grants authority to Cincinnati as Office of Origin to destroy as outlined above.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8-25-82 BY SP4-elm/cal

Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Baker \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Cleveland \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Dalbey \_\_\_\_\_  
Gebhardt \_\_\_\_\_  
Jenkins \_\_\_\_\_  
Marshall \_\_\_\_\_  
Miller, E.S. \_\_\_\_\_  
Purvis \_\_\_\_\_  
Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Kinley \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Armstrong \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. Herwig \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Neenan \_\_\_\_\_



MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

XEROX  
DEC 6 1972

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 66-3286-19-

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 11/20/72

FROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (7-43)

SUBJECT: BREKID

This case began January 17, 1934 and there are 37 volumes of this file in Cincinnati, 36 of which are 33 years old. According to Cincinnati letter to Director, August 22, 1941, the Cincinnati Office was made office of origin for administrative purposes in view of the fact that Assistant Director E. J. CONNELLEY was at the time of the change, SAC of the Cincinnati Office and was in direct charge of the entire investigation.

SAC Letter No. 63-50 dated 10/1/63 states "any office which has been an office of origin or an office of prosecution at any time in the BREKID case should retain all material in its possession".

The serials added to this file since 1954 have been in connection with the release of VOLNEY DAVIS on habeas corpus in the district of Minnesota and his release on parole as well as the parole of ALVIN KARPIS. Our file does not show whether DAVIS was paroled.

The Bureau is requested to advise whether any consideration can be given at this time to the destruction of any of this file in the Cincinnati Division.

2-Bureau  
2-Cincinnati (1-7-43)  
(1-66-1659)

PMB/whh  
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8-25-82 BY SP4/sh/cj



J-100-02

XEROX  
DEC 5 1972

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

EXP. PROC.  
32 NOV 27 1972

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REC 107

7-576-15564

12-4  
NOV 24 1972

July 12, 1974

REC-73 7-574-15567

Mr. Kenneth Hansell  
2918 14th Avenue, South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407

EX-110

Dear Mr. Hansell:

Your letter of July 5th has been received. For your information, there is a substantial amount of money still unrecovered in connection with the ransom paid for the release of Edward G. Bremer. I am not aware of any reward available for recovery of this money.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

1 - Minneapolis - Enclosure

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Hansell wrote us in 1966 and we had him contacted by an Agent of our Minneapolis Office reference inquiry concerning how much of the missing \$200,000 ransom had been recovered. He was advised at that time there is a substantial amount of money still unrecovered. \$19,870 of the original ransom money has been recovered. Above reply discussed with General Investigative Division. Bufile this matter reflects no indication of any reward offered for recovery of ransom money.

JOW:hmt (4)

MAILED 20

JUL 12 1974

FBI

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Mean Suv:

Dear Sir:

(Berk 2) \$100,000.00 missing  
In 1966 I wrote the Bureau regarding \$100,000.00 missing  
of Bremer Kidnapping in January 1934 from a story  
in a mens magazine. About 10 days latter a Mr.  
Felts called me from local office and proceeded  
to give me a third degree over the phone which  
I thought was rather hilarious! at the conclusion  
he did admit the money was still missing.  
According to story it was suppose to be buried  
between Rochester and Chatfield, Minn. It was  
in 5 and 10 dollar bills with numbers recorded  
In the years since the story has appeared in  
several "Treasure" magazines. Has this money  
ever been located? In the July issue of  
Frontier Times I saw a notice for map  
dowsers (people claiming to be able to locate  
objects on a county or Geological map).  
I sent a county map to a woman in Arkans  
and she pinpointed a location that she  
said that the money had been buried th  
but could not tell if it was still there.  
This was her first experience with any thing  
beside water of which she has be quite  
successful

REC-13 7-5-76-1556  
EX-110 JUL 16 1976  
act 74 7-12-79  
FBI - JEFFERSON

2/ She is interest<sup>d</sup> to see if she can do it and I furnish the county map. She has located some diamonds and gold placers in Narcosis which I have yet to check out. It is very interesting as I have learnt to clovis in the field after obtaining "the elements of clovising" by Le Comte Henry de France translated into the English language. I am planning on contacting the local Narcotics bureau to show them how it could be possible to locate drugs hidden in a house or car. I have been able to locate a fifty dollar bill hidden in a house three times out of three times. This convinced my friends. I located a piece of gold so small it had to be cemented to paper. The above book can be obtained from El Cariso Publications, P.O. Box 176, Elsinore Ca. 92530. @ \$4.20 + 65 Postage. A really remarkable book. I make my own instruments (a per book) for less than \$1.00.

- If I find the money what will be my procedure and what reward will I get.
- The bills will have quite a value if they can be proved to be the authentic money.

Thanks

Kenneth Haussell 2918-14<sup>th</sup> Ave. ... 55407

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO: MR. JENKINS  
FROM: J.J. MC DERMOTT

DATE: 6/18/74

SUBJECT: WARNER BROTHERS AND  
QUINN MARTIN PRODUCTIONS  
TELEVISION FEATURE FILMS  
BASED ON "THE FBI STORY"

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

Bernard Goodman, New York based Vice President of Warner Brothers, advised today that Warner Bros., in conjunction with QM Productions, has signed a contract with the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS) Television Network to do two 2-hour feature films for the 1974-75 television season; 2 additional for the 1975-76 season with an option to do 2 more for the 1976-77 television season.

The first film is already tentatively scheduled for telecasting on "Thursday Night at the Movies" on 10/24/74, and it is to highlight the activities of Alvin Karpis with particular reference to the apprehension of Karpis by the late Director J. Edgar Hoover.

According to Goodman, Quinn Martin intends to personally supervise the production of these films as Executive Producer, however, Philip Saltzman, who was Producer of our television series, "The FBI," during its most successful seasons, has been retained to produce these films.

It was pointed out to Goodman that Alvin Karpis was released from prison several years ago, has appeared on talk shows in which he was critical of the FBI and the late Director and, undoubtedly, he could take exception to "his story" being told without his permission on the basis of invasion of privacy.

Goodman advised that the legal department at QM has already taken this possibility into account and feels confident that a television presentation involving Karpis could be prepared with no problem. Goodman noted that in the course of their research the

1 - Mr. McDermott  
1 - Mr. Mintz

1 - Mr. Heim

GTQ:jo  
(4)

56 JUL 15 1974

JUN 26 1974

(CONTINUED OVER)

NOT RECORDED

185 JUL 1 1974

ORIGINAL FILED IN 74-1-17015-1

## Memorandum

McDermott to Jenkins Memo (cont'd.)

Re: WARNER BROTHERS AND QUINN MARTIN PRODUCTIONS

QM legal staff has determined that Karpis himself has written a book concerning his activities, expressed, of course, from his viewpoint, and because of this has for the most part obviated any argument on his part regarding invasion of his privacy.

With respect to the subsequent films for which they have contracted, Goodman indicates that no firm plans have been made for the subject matter of these presentations and feels that each could highlight a major investigation which would clearly define the work of the FBI in the most favorable terms.

Goodman, in contacting us, is now requesting an opportunity to sit down and discuss this matter with us in the hope that we would be willing to cooperate in this venture by reviewing scripts and providing whatever technical assistance that would be necessary to insure these films are first class productions in the tradition of the television series "The FBI" and accurately reflect the responsibilities and realities of the FBI. He has also requested any public source material which we might have for use in preparing a suitable script on the activities of Alvin Karpis.

He was advised that we would be back in touch with him.

Observation:

"Made for television" motion pictures could be of great benefit to the FBI in keeping our name before the public provided the scripts for them are written and produced so as to reflect the realities of the FBI and are in good taste. Goodman's disclaimers notwithstanding, I still have serious reservations regarding a film on the activities of Karpis in that such a presentation caters to the current vogue of indulging in nostalgia on television by highlighting the 30's, 40's and 50's. In this vein, films on Pretty Boy Floyd and Melvin Purvis were telecast during the past television season and were not only tasteless and devoid of entertainment value, but more importantly distorted the role of the FBI.

It is strongly felt that prior to agreeing to any involvement in Warner Bros.- QM's present film project, that representatives from both organizations be invited to FBI Headquarters to discuss this project in detail.



McDermott to Jenkins Memo (continued)  
Re: WARNER BROTHERS AND QUINN MARTIN PRODUCTIONS

It is noted that the July, 1974, issue of "Argosy," not yet on the newsstands, will carry a story on Alvin Karpis, highlighting the Bremer kidnaping case. We cooperated with "Argosy" in the preparation of this piece and had considerable discussion with the "Argosy" staff concerning it. In this regard, we permitted use of Interesting Case Writeup #7-576 entitled "The Kidnaping of Edward George Bremer, St. Paul, Minnesota," which is the history and early association of the Karpis-Barker Gang prior to the abduction of Bremer as a basis for the story on the condition that to the maximum, reasonable extent, the true identities of persons would be concealed by pseudonyms. "Argosy" agreed to this condition. Legal Counsel acknowledged that Karpis' name could be used since he was a principal figure in this case and had been subjected to publicity with respect to the case to the extent that a pseudonym would not conceal his true identity. Our Legal Counsel feels we can make this writeup available to QM on the same basis.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) That I be permitted to advise Bernard Goodman that the Bureau, while very interested in this project, wishes to sit down and discuss it with representatives of Warner Brothers and QM Productions before making any decisions regarding participation in terms of script review and technical assistance.

*Goodman  
Advised  
6/21/74  
GJC*

(2) That, for the interim, in line with his request, public source material on Alvin Karpis be sent to Quinn Martin, to include the Interesting Case Writeup on the kidnaping of Edward George Bremer, with appropriate pseudonyms incorporated to conceal the true identities of innocent parties named in this writeup.

*OK* *[Signature]* *QTD* *[Signature]*

October 9, 1974

- 1 - Mr. McDermont - Enc.  
Atten: Mr. Gunn  
1 - Mr. Mintz

EX-103

REC-9 7-576-15568

Mr. George W. Bass  
42 Baldwin Avenue  
East Keansburg, New Jersey 07734

Dear Mr. Bass:

This is to acknowledge your letter of September 29th requesting information concerning "Ma" Barker.

A check of our central records indicates our files on the "Barker-Karpis Gang" consist of over 300 volumes. The processing of this material for information pertinent to your request would obviously involve a substantial amount of time, and under current regulations we are authorized to charge a fee for services expended in locating and making available records. The fee schedule, set forth in Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 16.9, includes charges for clerical search time at the rate of \$5 per hour, and other fees for reproduction and screening of documents.

I wish to advise you a preliminary file review indicates only a limited amount of information regarding Kate Barker's early home life is contained in our files, since our investigative interest in her developed subsequent to her marriage. Previous research in this area conducted by us discloses she was born in the vicinity of Ash Grove, Missouri, known as the Ozark country, of Scotch-Irish parents, and was apparently reared in the vicinity of the place of her birth.

- 1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosure  
1 - Bufile 62-115530 (FOI-REPLIES)

TIB:ms (8)

3 12 67 11 14

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

4706

Unrecorded Copy Filed in

Mr. George W. Bass

On September 14, 1892, as Arrie Clark, Kate was married to George E. Barker, at Ash Grove, Missouri, and their early married life was spent at Aurora, Missouri, where their sons were born.

I trust the above information will be of some assistance to you. In the event you are willing to pay the fees for a complete file search, as authorized and outlined above, please communicate with me and arrangements along these lines will be made.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

NOTE: Correspondent, who is not identifiable in Bufiles, claims to be writing a documentary book on Ma Barker and the Barker-Karpis Gang. His inquiry was directed specifically for information for Ma Barker's early home life. Information furnished to him was obtained from an Interesting Case write-up.

September 29, 1974

The Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

George W. Bass  
42 Baldwin Avenue  
E. Keansburg, N.J. 07704

Dear Sir,

ALVIN KARPIS

I am writing a documentary book on Ma Barker and the Barker-Karpis gang which, as you know, operated in the late 20s and the first half of the 1930s.

I have done considerable research on the Barker family, my search ranging from Missouri to the east coast. Although I have assembled much material on this project, I am deficient especially in information concerning her early home life prior to her marriage at the age of 20 to George Barker. I understand she was named Arizona Donnie Clark when she was born in 1872 in the Ozark hills about 18 miles northwest of Springfield, Missouri. My further knowledge concerning her early family life is limited to a few generalities; I have no knowledge of her next-of-kin, for example.

I realize this gang is literally a dead issue with the Bureau. Although your files on this case are no doubt purged, I thought it possible that I might have the information from a microfilm record, without causing too much trouble. This is a serious undertaking for me, in that I wish to authenticate all my information before publication in book form; I knew that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is the best source in a case like this.

Hoping you can help me flesh out the account of her early home life, I thank you for your consideration.

It is understood that any such material will be quoted only with your permission, and that the Bureau will be duly credited in the book to be published.

EX-103 REC-9 7-576-15563  
Best regards,  
George W. Bass  
George W. Bass

16 OCT 10 1974

AK by let  
10-9-74  
THE MS

11- Legat  
CORRESPONDENCE

SAC, Cincinnati (66-1659)

5/27/77

Director, FBI (66-3286)

**DESTRUCTION OF FILES**

Reurlet 4/28/77, captioned as above requesting FBIHQ authority to destroy Cincinnati file captioned "BREKID" and all index cards relative thereto that were prepared prior to 1940. Additionally, you requested authority to purge and destroy index cards relating to FBI Law Enforcement Bulletins that are five years old and have been destroyed.

Based on information set forth in urlet of 4/28/77, you are authorized to destroy in accordance with your recommendations the material referred to therein.

Manual changes will be forthcoming concerning the destruction of index cards relating to FBI Law Enforcement Bulletins that are five years old.

- ① - 7-576-3
- 1 - 94-3-1
- 1 - Criminal Investigative Division
- 1 - Public Affairs Office

1-576-  
NOT RECORDED  
27 JUL 12 1977

NOTE: Based on Cilet 4/28/77, captioned "Destruction of Files" requesting FBIHQ authority to destroy CI case captioned "BREKID" and related index cards prepared prior to 1940. Also requested FBIHQ authority to purge and destroy index cards relating to FBI Law Enforcement Bulletins that are five years old and have been destroyed. Addendums of the Criminal Investigative Division (CID) and Public Affairs Office (PAO) dated 5/10/77 and 5/23/77 respectively interpose no objection. Approval to destroy aforementioned material does not conflict with current instructions concerning destruction of field files and records and/or the moratorium on destruction of original file copy material in matters involved in litigation and matters relating to domestic intelligence, extremist, and foreign counterintelligence. PAO will make appropriate changes re FBI Law Enforcement Bulletins.

56 INDEX (10)  
JUL 10 1977

DUPLICATE YELLOW

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (7-1820)

DATE: 11/2/77

FROM : Acting SAC, Oklahoma City (7-36)  
(7-125)

SUBJECT: MATNAP  
BREKID  
DESTRUCTION OF FILES

ReBulet to SAC, Albany 11/21/63.

UACB 11/30/77 Oklahoma City files in captioned matters will be destroyed. Any material of an evidentiary nature will be forwarded to the office of origin.

3 - Bureau  
2 - Oklahoma City  
WRG:at  
(5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-26-82 BY SP-4 clw/fjk

NOT RECORDED  
38 NOV 18 1977



8 NOV 28 1977

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

ORIGINAL FILED IN 7-1820