

And did he ever say that he was reporting to the FBI, as well as to Sheridan?

No sir, he told me just opposite. Well he told me this: that him and Sheridan were together in this thing and just these two for a long time, and he said then they brought a couple of FBI men into the picture. One of them was, well two of them were FBI agents, that he said trained him how to use a tape recorder, how to get the best sound with the recorder, where to stand in front of the person, how much distance between them; he said they worked with him about a week, with this tape recorder thing. Practicing how to use it.

When in point of time did he say that this occurred?

He said this occurred about 2 weeks before he got the tape recorder.

About 2 weeks before he actually got the tape recorder on his back and talked to [REDACTED]

Yes.

Now, did he say who these agents were?

Yes, one of the names were [REDACTED], and the other one was ... (he didn't know)

Where did he say they worked with him in training [REDACTED]

In the Federal Building.

In Nashville?

Yes.

How long did they work with him - did they work with him everyday?

He told me from early in the morning until late at night.

Did he say whether they'd made tests on the machine or anything?

He said they checked the tapes out.

Everyday?

Everyday.

Did he say whether he worked with just one machine or more machines?

He had two recorders on him.

At all times?

At all times.

Did he say he had two recorders on him when he went to see [REDACTED]

Yes. Now I said two recorders, they were two microphones. One recorder, two microphones.

Where did he say the recorder was?

He said he had it fastened to his back.

Where did he say the microphones were?

He said he had a microphone on each pocket.

Did he say what the microphones were for?

He said that this tape recorder he had was made by one company that the government bought all of them, nobody else could buy this recorder. He said that the government sent him and something happened the first time he tried to get a recording...

You mean a recording of [REDACTED]

Of [REDACTED]. And he said that the government sent either an agent or a man that works for the company that makes these machines. They flew him in here from Washington.

That was the very first time that they tried to get a recording on Tommy, is that right?

Yeah.

That's when he said it didn't work, right.

He said it didn't work and they sent this man down here to find out why it didn't work.

Now, did he say what the reason was for two microphones on him instead of one?

He just said that if anything should happen to one microphone, that the other microphone would take it up. In other words, it was just to be sure that you got a recording and he was trying to get it.

Did he ever say anything to you about being equipped with any short-wave radio microphones?

No, he never mentioned it.

Now so far as you recall, [REDACTED] told you, or never told you, that he had been reporting to the FBI prior to the time when he first made his contact with Sheridan.

He told me he hadn't.

He hadn't. Now, did he ever tell you how he first met Sheridan?

Yes sir.

What did he say?

He said that he was working for, the now its the old County Sheriff's Patrol. I guess the Sheriff's Department or something. Serving papers. And that the metro-government was fixing to take over and they were fixing to make a change, and they were going to fire him.

Did he say why they were going to fire him?

b7c

I think it was civil service, he had no civil service status and they were going to get rid of all of them that didn't have it and hire their own men, I guess, the civil service people. But he said he went and talked to Sheridan about a job to see what Sheridan could do for him. And he said that this is when Sheridan told him what they were trying to do on this Hoffa thing and [REDACTED] and he'd appreciate [REDACTED] helping him in any way that he could. And he never said this but he acted like the deal was that if he'd help Sheridan they'd help him.

They'd help him do what?

Well they'd help him get a job.

And in what way was he to help?

Well, from my understanding, he was to give him any information that he had concerning [REDACTED] or Hoffa - anything that he heard or anybody that he knew had heard anything or anything surrounding this trial. He told me that he was sitting at home one day and the telephone rang and he answered it and it was [REDACTED].

Record 22 - Interview with [REDACTED] - February 5, 1965

He said that when the phone rang, he said that it was [REDACTED] I believe he said it was [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] is the [REDACTED]

Yes sir, and he asked him [REDACTED], and he said he asked them doing what? And they told him that as of right then he was on the police force.

Was this after he talked to Sheridan??

Yes, it was.

And he said that he told [REDACTED], I'm not sure it was Kemp he was talking to, he told [REDACTED] that he [REDACTED], that he had from the Service Department, and he said that [REDACTED] said that it didn't matter to him, [REDACTED]

He could wear what [REDACTED]?

[REDACTED] old County Sheriff's Department uniform. b7c

Did he say when this phone call came with relation to his first interview with Sheridan?

I believe he said 2 or 3 weeks after.

When did he start work in [REDACTED], did he say? Was it in [REDACTED]

I can't remember when, he has said when, but I can't remember.

Now, up to this point when he got the job [REDACTED] had he been out of work did he say?

Yes, he had been out of work.

Well, did he say how long he'd been out of work?

I don't know, undoubtedly it was a pretty good while, because he was broke. He said that when he went to work for [REDACTED], that he had no income - he didn't have no money coming in.

You mean when he went to [REDACTED] what time?

Well when he went to [REDACTED] - he told me that he went and asked [REDACTED] did he have anything for him to do. And that [REDACTED] gave him a job interviewing prospective jurors, I guess. And he said that when he went to work for [REDACTED] he didn't have any money and that his family, he didn't have any food for his family, so he

undoubtedly had been out of work.

Now this is what he told you.

Yes, he did.

Now, did he ever tell you whether [redacted] ever told him how he got this job?

No, he said [redacted] never mentioned it. He told me though that he had come through the Tennessean(?). Or that they worked it through the Tennessean, and the Tennessean called [redacted] and [redacted] called him.

Who had approached the Tennessean?

I don't know, he never would say. He said undoubtedly it was put out by the \*\*\*\*

Well prior to that time, he had told you, had he not that Sheridan had said that he would get him a job.

Yeah.

Now what did he tell you that Sheridan told him to do? After he started working for Sheridan.

Well at the first meeting, from what I understand, they just kind of had a deal that if he helped Sheridan, that Sheridan would help him. Now I don't know of any information that he gave Sheridan, but I just imagine he did or else Sheridan would never have gotten him a job at [redacted]

Well did Sheridan give him any instruction at all of what to do?

He never said, other than just any information he got to be sure and call him and let him know.

Well, did [redacted] say that he told Sheridan that he would try to get a job with [redacted]

He's never said this but just talking to him, I just imagine this took place.

Well how did it come about then that there was discussion about getting [redacted] out of the case? How did Vic say that happened?

From my understanding from what [redacted] told me, this happened on the first, I believe on the first time he ever met with Sheridan. When he went to talk to him for the first time, he talked to him for quite a long time and Vic said that he told him you can't, you won't stop jury tampering and you won't get Jimmy Hoffa^^ unless you get [redacted] out of the picture. You've either got to get him out, or you're going to lose this case.

Did he relate [redacted] to jury tampering or did he relate [redacted] when he was talking about [redacted] was he talking in terms of them not being able to convict Hoffa while [redacted] was on the case?

That's right. He said he told him that they wouldn't do it and that he could prove; this is what he told me.

That he could prove what?

That he could prove that jury tampering was going on and that he could prove how it was going on. So undoubtedly they had talked about [redacted]

Did he tell you how many times he went in to see [redacted]

He said he saw him almost everyday. Sometimes several times a day.

During what period was that?

Well, after [redacted] gave him a job.

And, did Sheridan; did he say anything to him about; did [redacted] tell you that he said anything to Sheridan about some specific juror on the jury list?

Yeah, [redacted] said that he told Sheridan that he had I believe it was a cousin or an uncle or somebody on the jury. And he said that; [redacted] has told me this several times, that out of all the jurors, one of his cousins or uncles just accidently got on it. He didn't say how, he just said it happened.

Well did he say that he told Sheridan about that?

He said that Sheridan knew it, yeah.

What did Sheridan tell him, if anything?

He never would say.

Did he ever tell you how many times he went back, to and from [redacted] Before [redacted] got in trouble, after he gave him a job?

He didn't say any time he said several times.

Did he discuss with you what went on there?

No.

Never said what [redacted] said, or what he had said?

He never would tell me this, every time I tried to find something out about this, he would just drop the whole thing.

Tell me, is there any area that I haven't covered?

I think it would be good to cover Sheridan's conversation about income tax and they could get anybody- that was done with [REDACTED] you see? Then I think that [REDACTED] proposition that he's going to have to move out of Nashville in order to be helped. That might be covered.

Well you might take a moment.

[REDACTED] is asking [REDACTED] questions now:\*\*

Alright, [REDACTED] were you with [REDACTED] during the course of my trial which commenced about May 25th and lasted until May 29?

Yes I was with him almost everyday.

Was there any discussion between you and [REDACTED] respecting the testimony that he would give you in [REDACTED] b7c

Yes there was.

What did he say?

He said that he thought the teamster people or somebody had made a recording on us at the Holiday Inn \*\*\*. He said that if they had, that he couldn't answer any questions that [REDACTED] asked him directly. He said that he was going to have to find some way to get around him, until he found out for sure that they had the recording. Otherwise, he'd \*\*\*\* himself.

Did he make any requests of you as of what you should say? If you should be called to the witness stand?

He told me that whatever I done, under any circumstances to stay with him and answer the questions just like he wanted them answered.

And how did he want you to answer them?

Well, we'd already talked this over and he told me that whatever he said to just back him up in it.

Did he tell you that if it did turn out that there was a recording, that he was going to give certain testimony?

Yes, he did.

What did he say that he would say if it did turn out that the Indianapolis people had made a recording on him?

He said that, well, we had already had this story made up well ahead of time after he thought the recording was made up, he said that we were to say that he was going to testify and he wanted me to say the same thing, that we only went to these people in Indianapolis, or the only reason that we talked to them was because we thought they was trying to get to him. He said he told me well ahead of time that I've got a story if they do get a tape recording of us that we can use, I'm going to testify that in all these meetings that we were just trying to catch more crooks.

Now, when the trial commenced, did you go to the court house with him?

Yes, I did.

Did he, on one occasion see an [REDACTED] at the courtroom?

Yes he did.

What was his reaction there?

Well, [REDACTED] seemed to scare him quite a bit.

Does [REDACTED] date a sister of a girl that [REDACTED] dates?

Yes he does.

Did he think that [REDACTED] was going to testify about that?

Yes he did.

What did [REDACTED] do, if anything about [REDACTED] being there?

Well as soon as he saw [REDACTED] he went straight back into the office, in the Marshall's office and called this girl. And he told her that he didn't think that she'd be called but that [REDACTED] was up there, and he thought [REDACTED] was going to testify to seeing him with this girl.

Did you go with him to the Marshall's office when he made that call?

Yes sir I did.

You heard [REDACTED]

I heard him call her and talk to her.

Now, as [REDACTED] cross examination got underway, did [REDACTED] begin to realize that there may have been a tape recording?

Yes he did.

b7c



Alright, now what did [redacted] then do with respect to you, [redacted]

[redacted] told me that I should go home and stay out of the courtroom. He said he didn't want me around because he was afraid that you or somebody would call me in to testify in this case.

Did you have any conversations with [redacted] or Walter Sheridan<sup>^^</sup> about the testimony that [redacted] was giving?

Yes sir they called me an office and asked me would I give an affidavits? And I didn't see any reason for it, because I didn't know anything and they said well, we'd like to talk to you anyway. And asked me would I come into a private office and so they could talk to me a few minutes. And I told them I would, and before we got to the office, [redacted] called me off to one side. And told me that whatever I'd done to stick with him and not to cross him up and tell him just exactly what we'd talked about before. b7c

That was that you were really just making an investigation?

Right.

Course you knew that [redacted] had actually been trying to sell his testimony.

That's the only thing he was trying to do was sell his testimony.

Well were you with him to go along with him on that story?

I did go along with it.

Did you actually sign a statement for the government along that line?

Yes I did.

Record 23 - Interview with ██████████ - February 5, 1965

Alright, let's go back, you did sign a statement at the request of ██████████ and Mr. Sheridan??

Yes I did.

Was that to the effect that ██████████ had not been trying to sell his testimony?

That's what it was for.

Did you refuse to swear to that statement?

Yes I did. I told them I said I will give a statement, or I will sign a statement but I don't want to be under any oath when I give it. And because I said this, they asked me oh 8 or 10 times, and Walter Sheridan^^ stopped me before we left the room, and he said whatever you do, I want you to tell me the truth right now. And because I thought it would get ██████████ into trouble, and ██████████ had told me it would get him into trouble, I told Sheridan that he was not trying to sell testimony.

Had Sheridan and ██████████ more or less told you what they wanted you to say?

They wrote the thing that I signed and they phrased it the way they wanted to phrase it; well I never said a word about this thing that I signed they wrote it and they asked me to read it, I read it and I signed it.

Was it a lengthy statement?

No, it wasn't.

I think it was one page.

Was it one full page?

Yes.

Other than the statement that you signed saying that ██████████ was not trying to sell testimony, what else was contained in it, do you remember?

No, from what they seemed to want in this statement, was just this thing about ██████████ they told me that we're not going to use it. We won't use it, under any circumstances; but we just wanted this in case the government, ██████████ tries to prove or tries to show that ██████████ was trying to sell testimony. ██████████ had told me before, this is the way he said that he could cover up for anything that we had done. He said that on every time that we left town or anything that we had to do as union people that he would call Walter Sheridan and he'd tell Sheridan that I was meeting these people

someplace, or that me and him was meeting them someplace, but every time he talked to Sheridan, the only reason he'd give Sheridan for meeting these people, was the \$700.00.

Actually, I believe you had that meeting in Louisville, which followed your first meeting with [REDACTED] in Indianapolis.

That one and the one in Nashville, after we'd already gotten the \$700.00.

You got the \$700.00 on the second meeting which was April the 19th.

And he said that he told me the reason I called Sheridan and everything in this trial if they come up with anything we can say that all we were trying to do was catch some more crooks, we're going to testify this. And he said that Sheridan can't go against us, if he did, he'll lose the case.

Now, I wanted to leave that area, and ask you whether in your most recent conversations with Vic he has said anything that he's still expecting to be helped, we'll call it, by Sheridan.

Well last Tuesday, I met [REDACTED] in a restaurant right across the street from the National \*\*\*, and he told me that since his last visit to Washington, and his talk to Sheridan up there, that he felt that like right now they could do something for him. And he said the only way that they could help him, and would help him, was that if he left Nashville. b7c

He said he'd have to move away from Nashville?

He said he'd have to move away.

Did he say why he felt that way?

He said that in Nashville so many people knew him, and that a lot of people were watching him to see if he got a hold of any money, as to see if he got a good job, or they couldn't do anything for him, while he was in Nashville.

Did he say who said it?

He didn't say who said it, but he said whoever it was that said it was in Washington. He said he learned this on his last trip to Washington.

Did he say specifically where they might have to send him, or ...

No, he didn't name a city at that time.

Did he say whether they were going to try to help him in some other town?

He said that they were going to. And that they were going to do something for him and get him some of the help on some of the things that they'd promised him but the only way that they could do it, was for him to pack his whole family up and move out of Nashville, Tennessee.

Did he say he was going to do that?

He said he was thinking very seriously about it.

I was going to go back to the proposition having come into some money from some source, you said that he had borrowed some from his sister, \$700.00. You know of the car that he bought, and you believe that he paid \$350.00 for the car.

That's what he said, he said he bought the car at Craig Motor Company on the 18th day of January. And that he paid \$350.00 cash for it.

Did he tell you at that same time that he paid off his bill with H. Brown Furniture Company?


He told me that he had caught up all of his bills.

He caught up all of his bills.

He said that he'd paid H. Brown Furniture Company up and a loan company and Harvest Department Store.

Did he say how much the loan was?

No, but he said that all of his furniture and his car and everything were under the same mortgage, through the same loan company.

 I wanted to ask you, this may not be on the previous records - Did he tell you how much money he would clear on his expenses each time that he would go to Washington? 7  
b7c

He said before that he cleared 80 or 90 dollars each trip that he made, but that the last couple of trips, he didn't get as much money as he had before and he only got 30, 40, 50 dollars. }

The one trip he took with you, you all split \$60.00?

We split \$60 and paid back \$65 that we'd borrowed.

Did Walter Sheridan in his conversations directly with you ever talk to you as to how the government can control people?

Walter Sheridan told me that if any person had ever had any tax troubles, that they could find them and that they could control this person by way of their tax troubles. He said that everybody made a mistake at one time or another on their income tax, and that if they did, they could find it out.

When did he tell you that?

He told me that when me and [REDACTED] went to Washington.

How did you come around to talking about that?

Well we were talking about the power that big politicians had over other people. [REDACTED] told Sheridan that he had lost his stinger since Bobby Kennedy\*\* was not the Attorney General anymore. And he told [REDACTED] that he didn't think he lost a \*\*\*, a \*\*\* in power, that they still control the government, and the state of Tennessee and several other politicians here and that not only did they control them, but they could control almost anybody that they wanted to, by this tax proposition.

The income tax threat that was going on.

Now he said that everybody made mistakes, or tried to cover up little things on their income tax sheets and that if they did, they could go back sooner or later and take anybody into custody over this tax involvement that they wanted to.

Was it that meeting that [REDACTED] was talking about going to be a private investigator and he actually threatened to call [REDACTED] for \*\*). [REDACTED] was the lawyer that represented the defendant

No, this happened after we came back home.

Oh, I see.

Me and [REDACTED] were talking and he said while we were in Washington, we talked to this [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that he could prove that he was in the hotel the night these men were, and he said this would tear up [REDACTED] case by itself. That he could have been one of the persons that made the phone call, he didn't, but he could have. [REDACTED] said yeah, but you're not going to testify anything like that, I know it. Well, when we came back, [REDACTED] talked about this same thing and he said that if somebody were to call this [REDACTED], this lawyer and tell him that I was in that hotel, that night, and he subpoenaed me, he said that I could say this and show the teamster people or anybody else, give them some confidence that I was willing to go along with him.

[redacted] is asking [redacted] the questions for the rest of this document:\*\*

In earlier talk with [redacted], you had told of [redacted] telling you of how the FBI agents taught him to use the recorder, did [redacted] ever make any statement to you about whether the FBI told him what to say to me? Coached him on how to talk to me?

He said that from the time he started working with him, that it was just like a \*\*\* that they laid out lines on what to do and how to do it and he didn't say that they told him what to say, but he might as well have said this, by the way he talked, he said that everything he said, or he said that they used phrases of what to ask and how to ask so that it wouldn't sound conspicuous or that you would think anything about it.

Did [redacted] ever talk to you about the fact that neither [redacted] nor I knew some of the things that had happened that would have proved his entrapment of me?

He said that several things that if [redacted] knew or that you knew, all they had to do was ask him in court, and that he couldn't deny that he would have to ask him, he said that if [redacted] had asked him several questions it would have proved entrapment on himself.

Did he say what those questions were?

No, but he said they happened 3 or 4 days before. Before this thing broke in the newspaper. Before your thing broke in the newspaper. He said that it was 3 or 4 days before, that he had either given him information or told him something or got some information to them that would prove entrapment by himself.

Did he ever discuss with you the 10 or 11 days that he worked for me and talked to me before they put this recorder on him?

He said that this is how he could prove entrapment, the time that he worked for you and the information that he had given them was entrapment. He said it was against the law for the government to do this, to place him or anybody else between you and your lawyer. Not you and your lawyer, a lawyer and his client.

But he didn't tell you any conversations I had with him?

No, he didn't say what they were he said that there were several conversations and that's how they could prove entrapment.

If [redacted] had known the questions to ask, why he would have had to answer and it would have proved entrapment.

That's right, that's what he meant.

I think did he not end the course of his conversation with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], didn't he tell them about the way the FBI had coached him and that he could tell the names of the FBI men who ought to be subpoenaed?

Yes he did. He said he knew them all and all they'd have to do was tell them their names and that they'd subpoena him and they'd have to tell the truth about it.

He also told [REDACTED] that Sheridan had told him that unless he could get me out of the case, he would not be able to convict Hoffa^^.

That's what he told [REDACTED]

Your recollection is that he told you that he may have said that to Sheridan?

That's right.

But you know that he told [REDACTED] that Sheridan said that to him?

That's right.

Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (P)

Date 9/1/93

From : SA <sup>in</sup> [REDACTED] *ETC*

Subject: HOFFEX

Re interview of JOHN DOE on Current Affair Program.

*b7c* SA [REDACTED] of FBI New Orleans, advised an interview of JOHN DOE, identified as JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE, was conducted on 8/26/93. Mr. FRANCE admitted to the agents his story about being involved in the HOFFA murder was a hoax. FRANCE stated Current Affairs paid him \$1,500.00 and flew him to New York on three occasions. SA [REDACTED] stated a detailed FD-302 will be forthcoming.

SSA [REDACTED], Unit Chief of the Polygraph Unit, FBIHQ, and SA [REDACTED], Detroit Polygrapher, was informed of same.

TMC/rmv  
(1) *rmv*

281A-DE-67821-96

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

1\*



C-2

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

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

Date 9/1/93

TO : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (P)

FROM : SAC, WMFO (281A-DE-67821) (RUC)

SUBJECT : HOFFEX;  
OO:DETROIT

Re Detroit teletype dated May 25 1993 and WMFO  
telcall between SA [redacted] and Detroit SSA [redacted]  
on August 30, 1993. b7c

All logical checks within WMFO Division concerning  
JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE are negative.

Since FRANCE has been located and interviewed  
within New Orleans Division WMFO will consider this matter  
closed.

②-Detroit  
1-WMFO

GLT:tlh  
(3)

281A-DE-67821-962

new new

SEP 07 1993

[Signature]

Approved: [Signature] Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_ (Number) \_\_\_\_\_ (Time) Per \_\_\_\_\_

0005 MRI 00062

RR FBIDE

DE FBILA #0013 2650159

ZNR UUUUU

R 220107Z SEP 93

FM FBI LOS ANGELES (281A-DE-67821) (RUC)

TO FBI DETROIT (281A-DE-67821)/ROUTINE/

BT

UNCLAS

CITE: //3410:CE-6//

SUBJECT: HOFFEX; OC/DI; OO: DETROIT.

RE DETROIT TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU AND RECEIVING OFFICES  
DATED MAY 25, 1993.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF DETROIT, NO RECORD WAS FOUND  
IDENTIFIABLE WITH JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE, DOB DECEMBER 21,  
1922. LOS ANGELES INDICES WAS ALSO NEGATIVE.

INASMUCH AS THERE IS NO OUTSTANDING INVESTIGATION  
REMAINING AT LOS ANGELES, THIS MATTER IS BEING RUC'D.

BT

#0013

NNNN

C-8

b7c

281A-DE-67821-963

SEP 21 1993

*[Handwritten signature]*

Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (C-8) (P) Date 10/6/93

From : SSA [REDACTED]

b7c Subject: HOFFEX  
(OO: DETROIT)

Re SAC memo to SA [REDACTED] dated 9/30/93.

Effective immediately this matter is being reassigned  
to SA [REDACTED]

JMF:hrs  
(2) *hrs*

281A-DE-67821-964

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 06 1993	
FBI - DETROIT	

*[Signature]*

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

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

Date 10/5/93

TO : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (C-8)

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (281A-DE-67821) (RUC)

SUBJECT : HOFFEX

OO: DETROIT

Reference Detroit teletype to the Director, dated 8/11/93; and telephone call between SA [redacted] and Case Agent [redacted] on 8/31/93.

Enclosed for Detroit are the following items:

- 1.) Original and one (1) copy of an FD-302 reflecting interview of JOSEPH K. FRANCE, conducted on 8/26/93.
- 2.) FD-340 containing original notes of interview with FRANCE.

For information of Detroit, JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE, white male, date of birth 12/21/22, was interviewed regarding his appearance on the nationally televised program of "CURRENT AFFAIR," on 7/22/92, FRANCE, in this interview, alleged that he was involved in the disappearance of JIMMY HOFFA. FRANCE advised interviewing FBI Agents that statements he made on the "CURRENT AFFAIR" television show were fabricated, and that he was never involved in HOFFA's disappearance.

② Detroit (Encls. 2)

2- New Orleans

GMN/kpp

(4)

281A-DE-67821-966

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 18 1993	
FBI - DETROIT	

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_

(Number) (Time)

281A-DE-67821  
GMN/kpp

FRANCE, as reflected in the enclosed FD-302, stated that he made up the story about his involvement in order to make money, as he was "starving," and suffering from poor health.

As there is no further investigation to be conducted by New Orleans, this matter is being considered RUD'd.

2\*

HOFFA, Page 2307

- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/29/93

On August 26, 1993, JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE was interviewed at his residence, 1230 St. Andrew Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, by Special Agents (SAs) [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. This interview was in reference to FRANCE's statements that he participated in the kidnapping and murder of JIMMY HOFFA on the nationally broadcasted television program "CURRENT AFFAIR".

b7C FRANCE stated that he was never involved in any incident involving JIMMY HOFFA and that he fabricated the story he presented to "CURRENT AFFAIR" last year in order to make money, since he was literally starving at the time. FRANCE stated that he also suffers from ill health; and had been diagnosed with emphysema and needed money for medicine. FRANCE researched the HOFFA disappearance by going to the library and reading everything he could regarding this matter. In order to make the story move believable, he added incidents in his life that were true, such as his having met [REDACTED], a runner for [REDACTED] when they were both inmates at the Federal Penitentiary in Atlanta. In addition to this, FRANCE related how he had done type setting for [REDACTED] at one time. [REDACTED], including [REDACTED]. FRANCE stated that [REDACTED] had killed a man, but had never gone to prison for the murder.

FRANCE told [REDACTED] Interviewer from "CURRENT AFFAIR," and a female whose name FRANCE could not recall, that years ago he was approached by [REDACTED] in prison and was asked if he wanted to make a lot of money. FRANCE told interviewers of "CURRENT AFFAIR" that this was how he became involved in the kidnapping and murder of JIMMY HOFFA. "CURRENT AFFAIR" was very receptive towards his story and flew him to New York on several occasions to be interviewed. FRANCE agreed to submit to a lie detector test provided by "CURRENT AFFAIR" personnel, because he thought that he could "beat it". FRANCE told SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he was paid \$15,000 for his story.

Investigation on 8/26/93 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # 281A-DE-67821-965

by SA [REDACTED] Jr. GMN:kpp Date dictated 9/1/93

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 18 1993	
FBI - DETROIT	

HOFFA, Page 2308

281A-DE-67821

Continuation of FD-302 of JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE , On 8/26/93 , Page 2

FRANCE also contacted "HARDCOPY," and "FIRST EDITION," with his story; however, they were not interested.

FRANCE stated that he has never been involved in any type of violent behavior, but has been sentenced to prison on several occasions for forgery, assault, and matters pertaining to his divorce.

b7c  
FRANCE was in the military in 1941, and was stationed in Hawaii, assigned to the 24th Infantry Division. In 1952 or 1953, he left the military and went to Baltimore where he was diagnosed as a paranoid schizophrenic. He was committed to two (2) state hospitals: MILEAGE STATE HOSPITAL, Baltimore, Maryland, in 1962; and CENTRAL STATE HOSPITAL in Georgia.

FRANCE has lived in New Orleans since 1968. Prior to that FRANCE resided in St. Augustine, Florida, and Atlanta, Georgia. FRANCE has an ex-wife [REDACTED] and one [REDACTED]

The following descriptive data was obtained through interview and observation:

Name:	JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	December 21, 1922
Eyes:	Hazel
Hair:	Gray
Height:	5'9"
Weight:	165 pounds
Social Security Account Number:	[REDACTED] -b2

281A-DR-67821 b2

b7C b7D

On November 8, 1993 [REDACTED] provided the following information to SA [REDACTED] b7C

Cooperating Witness (CW) advised that [REDACTED]

b7C  
b7D

CW advised that [REDACTED] claims to have been present at the MACHUS RED FOX restaurant during the time that JIMMY HOFFA was kidnapped. [REDACTED] further claims to know the identity of four men who were in the car, in which HOFFA was taken away from the restaurant, and in addition he advised that he is friends with a woman who was present in the restaurant at the time of the abduction, who later testified regarding what she had seen that day.

CW stated that [REDACTED] appears to be very well "wired" [REDACTED] having access to a great deal of information.

281A-DR-67821-912

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*



[REDACTED]

January 31, 1994

FBI  
C-9  
477 Michigan Avenue  
26th Floor  
Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Sir:

Having done a bit more research and thought of the possible whereabouts of Jimmy R. Hoffa, another place you might consider is under the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Hall of Fame. Per [REDACTED] at IMS, construction was started on that edifice after the race in 1975 and personnel moved in during April, 1976. Since Mr. Hoffa was born in Brazil, Indiana, which is near Terre Haute, Indiana, I would guess, at least the parents of Mr. Hoffa and Mr. Hulman were probably acquainted, if not the two of them. I find it quite interesting that Mr. Anton Hulman, Jr. died unexpectedly, about two years after Mr. Hoffa disappeared.

b7c

Again, this is all speculation, but might merit your consideration. Should you have any questions, I'd be happy to talk with you, or meet with you if you are in the Indianapolis area. I'd be happy to travel to DTW, but I [REDACTED] have little money. I've endured horrible harassment for several years, starting with [REDACTED] and I am unable to work. I am hoping to move to a new residence here in Indianapolis in the very near future. I will forward my new address.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

6214-DE-37501-969  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



7  
b7c  
}



FBI  
C-8  
477 Michigan Avenue  
26th Floor  
Detroit, MI 48226

HOFFA, Page 2312

48226-2523 B4



[REDACTED]

November 30, 1993

FBI  
C-8  
477 Michigan Avenue  
26th Floor  
Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Sir:

I called today to inquire about the Jimmy R. Hoffa case and was advised it was still open. Not knowing what is or is not important in cases like this, I submit the following for your review.

In spring, 1974, I went to the Holiday Inn, Airport, Indianapolis, Indiana to have a drink. I was [REDACTED] at the time. I met two gentlemen in the library lounge and we talked for a bit. [REDACTED]

I believe this would have been a Sunday. On either Monday or Tuesday, I dined with one of these gentlemen. We had a most delightful evening. I never saw either of them after that. The man with whom I dined looked somewhat like Jimmy R. Hoffa. We did nothing more than eat dinner together and dance a bit at the restaurant. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The company that manages this Holiday Inn and several others, including one in Terre Haute and the Indianapolis Speedway Motel, is General Hotels, 2551 S. High School Road, Indpls., IN 46241, Contact: Jim Dora.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mr. Hoffa disappeared on July 30, 1975. Mark Donohue, a race driver in the employ of Roger Penske was involved in an accident in Austria, on August 17, 1975. Two days later he supposedly died. Anything could have happened to his "body" in transport from Europe. What better way to pull-off unsolvable crimes than fake a death, then have a high profile, powerful person disappear, with no trace of his body.

Wanting to find the roots of [REDACTED], I began to do research, first on Mark Donohue. I found that he was involved with some very shady characters. At one point he packed-up everything he and left his home because these people were trying to collect. This would have been in the mid to late 60's. I gathered this information from Mr. Donohue's biography, Unfair Advantage. Also mentioned in his book is a group called The Chosen Few. I have seen reference to such a group recently, I have reason to believe they are a cult. This past summer a message was spray painted on the east side of our Federal Building at Ohio & Pennsylvania Streets. The message read something to this effect, 'Waco-Pay back is hell.' I know there is a group active in Indianapolis called Crossroads. I understand they are a radical cult. They used to meet at the Murat Temple on New Jersey Street, the location of the annual A.A. New Year's Dance. I have seen pictures of Mr. Donohue. He has a strong resemblance to a picture of [REDACTED]

(See attachment 1 and 2). Also enclosed is a photostat of a picture of [redacted] (See Attachment 3) I did amateur photography in the late 70's and took this picture in West Allis, WI, I believe the year was 1976. I was going to use it in a book of poetry about auto racing. I sent it to the attention of [redacted] Per [redacted] office that picture never arrived. I also sent it to the attention of Mr. Ted Kennedy. One of two packages sent express mail in March of this year never arrived.

I've read two accounts of Mr. Hoffa's life. I found some interesting parallels and information. Mr. Hoffa has ties to Brazil, Indiana. It is his birthplace. One of the major banks in Brazil, Indiana is The Riddel (sp?) Bank. While working for [redacted] for a short time in 1980, I called on that bank about their advertising account. I was working with [redacted] a resident of [redacted]. The first company which Mr. Hoffa did any organizing in was Kroger.

[redacted] Seems that Mr. Hoffa had a similar experience with Kroger as well.

One doctor my family saw when I was young was [redacted]. I recently visited his old office where we used to visit him. It was located above one of the original Kroger grocery stores in Indianapolis. Location is N. College Street between 38th and 46th.

In researching Mr. Donohue, I called Pennsylvania on our about October 4, 1993, to see if I could find his burial location. The person to whom I talked seemed very stressed. She asked if I was family. I said no. She said if you are not family, we cannot tell you anything.

I found it interesting that Mr. Hoffa had two children, Jim and Barbara.

Dr. Torella "died" in 1976. Elmer George, son-in-law of Tony Hulman was murdered in 1976. Mr. Anton Hulman, Jr. "died" in 1976, the same night that massive heroin raids took place. Mr. Hulman's death was not due to any lingering illness, it was rather sudden. Since his death, it seems that the flow of illegal drugs has steadily increased here. I found it interesting that Johnny Desmond was associated with Indianapolis 500 events and the NAJ. I have seen pictures of Mr. Desmond. Some pictures of he and Mr. Hoffa look similar.

Without going into the details of all my research (will provide them if you want) I am skeptical that Mr. Donohue is really dead. Is there any possibility that Mr. Hoffa's death was a cover for Mark Donohue? It seems that the Hoffa disappearance started a war, i.e. Teamsters, Mafia, government all shooting at each other. It would seem logical in covert minds to make it appear as if Mr. Hoffa were still alive (thus disappearance, no dead body) to allow the true source of the problem to have a free hand. Could Mr. Hoffa be buried in Mr. Donohue's grave? The prison in which Hoffa served time was in Pennsylvania. Mr. Penske's racing operations are in Pennsylvania. Mark Donohue was from Pennsylvania, Newton's Square. Since Mr. Donohue "died" in Europe while racing F1 and had, in fact, lived in Europe for a year. If he is alive, I would guess the source of funding for his cover is European in nature.

Returning to accounts of Mr. Hoffa's life:

Per A.A. Sloane, Hoffa, pg. 401 "And most of the seemingly endless, if generally tasteless

Hoffa jokes that appear to circulate as widely today as they did in the immediate aftermath of the disappearance also focus on the Hoffa-as-mobster motif: "Question: Who was the last person ever to see Jimmy Hoffa? Answer: Jacques Costeau." Oceanographic Museum and Aquarium inaugurated in 1910 by Prince Albert I. "Films about the sea, notably those made for television by Commander Jacques-Yves Costeau, are permanently screened..." This museum is in Monaco.

Chuckie O'Brien delivered a fresh coho salmon to Robert Holmes, Sr. Who ordered the fish? Dictionary definition of coho: Earlier co-hue, prob. ~~Selich~~ (Chilliwak dial.) a comparatively small salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), native to the N Pacific Ocean and now widely introduced as a game fish into fresh waters of N. U.S. I suspect the coho salmon to be representative of one connected to computers.

[REDACTED] Ironically, our text had a "Tony George" look alike pictured in it. (See Attachment 1)

Entry immediately preceding coho in dictionary is Cohn, Ferdinand Julius, 1828-1989: German botanist & early bacterologist. In Sloane's volume there is one reference to the name Cohn, Roy Cohn, Chief Counsel of the McClellan Committee, page 48. [REDACTED]

pg. 386, Even a further message from Hall to Gallinaro and Adkinson that the site of the Hoffa body would be marked..." Is this meaning Mark Donohue as opposed to marked in an identifying manner.

Barbara married a man from St. Louis. pg. 389-390, Andretta had further stated, according to Picardo, that Hoffa's body had been stuffed into a fifty-five-gallon oil drum at a Detroit terminal owned by the Gateway Transportation Company. The Gateway City of the U.S is St. Louis, home office to the May Company and Famous Barr. They operate L.S. Ayres in Indiana. [REDACTED] There are weird things going on there. I suspect drugs and prostitution, both heterosexual and homosexual. [REDACTED]

pg. 378, Tony G. was supposed to meet Hoffa at the Machus Red Fox in Bloomfield Township. Was there code involved in this message. Mach = Short for Mach number = Speed of Sound = SOS. Hoffa drove from Lake Orion to Pontiac, MI, to Bloomfield Township. Penske Corporation headquarters are in Bloomfield Hills, MI, on the same street with Bally's Scandinavia Health Club, Outer Drive West. Penske is car owner for Rusty Wallace in NASCAR. Wallace drives a Pontiac. He lives in Concord, NC. His sponsor is Miller Beer. [REDACTED] Penske Truck Rental and Leasing once had an address of 3700 Enterprise Drive, Allen Park, MI.

Mark Donohue used to drive for Roger Penske, Car #66, sponsored by Sunoco. Sun Co., Inc., is located at Ten Center, 1801 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. Colors blue and yellow. The three primary colors are blue, yellow and red. Team Penske championship team is sponsored by Marlboro, colors, red, black and white. Red is the third primary color. Black is caused by the complete absorption of light rays. White is caused by the reflection of all the rays that color produce.

Hoffa was not a religious man, but wife and kids went to Methodist Church. Grace Hulman was a Methodist, "died" August 5, 1966. By dictionary definition Methodist is, 1-A member of any branch of a Protestant Christian denomination that developed from the evangelistic teachings and work of John and Charles Wesley, George Whitefield, and others in the early 18th century: also called from the methodical study and worship practiced by the founders in their "Holy

b7c

C-8, November 30, 1993  
Page Four of Five

Club" at Oxford University (1729). Oxford is the seat of the Oxford Movement and the Moral Re-Armament and Alcoholics Anonymous are both off-shoots of the Oxford Movement. A.A. is a brainwashing. In some circles it is misused and members are brainwashed into apathy. [REDACTED] Josephine Hoffa, by some accounts was a heavy drinker, probably an alcoholic. By dictionary definition the Oxford Movement is, A high-church, anti-liberal movement within the Church of England, begun at Oxford university in 1833; see, Tractarianism.

Based on my experience [REDACTED] "doubles" have been widely used. See pictures enclosed of "Tony George." (See Attachment #5) [REDACTED] Those possibly involved include Roger Penske and Mari George. [REDACTED]

As I stated when I talked with you. I don't know if any of this has any meaning. I do know when people are afraid, they communicate by code in hopes that someone will be smart enough to figure it out. I once worked with a man, [REDACTED] He stated, "You make more sense by accident than most people do on purpose." He was followed on a regular basis because he was suspected of being an alcoholic. I think they finally cornered him at the Library Lounge at the Holiday Inn Airport. [REDACTED] That's the same place I met the "Mystery Man!" The events with [REDACTED] were in the late 70's.

b7c  
When my son was young, about seven or eight, he stated to me, "He's the boss up there and I'm the boss down here!" If nothing else, he certainly has Mr. Hoffa's attitude. I have suffered substantially throughout my life, but especially since [REDACTED] I can find no logical explanation for the problems I've encountered. Perhaps, if I did, in fact, dine with Mr. Hoffa in spring, 1974 or someone "they" thought was Mr. Hoffa, that might explain a few things. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
I know many people have looked at many sources to find who ordered the death Mr. Hoffa. Did anyone look at the Kroger Company?

This is not a prank. Contrary to what some would like to think, I'm not a nut case. My life has been a complete disaster recently for some unknown reason. I keep trying to find out why. In the process, I continue to touch the lives of other people. This is not about money either, although I am not opposed to money. There's something about dead men with no graves that bothers me. Sometimes I think I'm being haunted in my nightmares by some of this stuff. Use what you can and throw away what doesn't fit. Thank you for reading this.

God Bless and Keep You Safe.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

Enc. (#) [REDACTED]

C-8, November 30, 1993  
Page Five of Five

P.S. There was an assassination attempt made on Hoffa's life during one of his trials. The assassin said a "higher power" directed him to do it. "Higher power" is 12-step jargon. Is Kroger run by people who are heavy into A.A. or another 12-step program?

In the late 70's, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Gary Sandy was on the TV show "WKRP in Cincinnati." CVG is a Kroger stronghold. Of late, every time I see the 1990 version of "Tony George" someone I know or someone notable, dies an

[REDACTED] On the "Tony George" collage, the picture top center looks like him.

b7c

Thank you for reviewing this material. If you have any questions, please let me know. I have had difficulty getting some calls because of incorrect intercept messages on my line. If you wish to talk to me you might write first and let me know when you will call. I've tried to catch any typos in this document. When I review some of these circumstances I get very tense. If there are any I didn't catch or something that doesn't make sense, please let me know.

One final note, in the early 60's, 1960 or 1961, [REDACTED]

---

# Fifty Famous Motor Races

---

FOREWORD BY KEKE ROSBERG  
World Champion 1982

Alan Henry



Patrick Stephens





7  
b7c  
/

*Front endpaper 1986 Australian Grand Prix: Alan  
Prost (McLaren MP4/2C) and Martin Brundle  
(Tyrrell 015) (Nigel Snowdon)*  
*Back endpaper 1982 San Marino Grand Prix: Gilles  
Villeneuve and Didier Pironi (Ferrari 126C2),  
Michele Alboreto (Tyrrell 011), Bruno Giacomelli  
and Andrea de Cesaris (Alfa Romeo 182)  
(Nigel Snowdon)*

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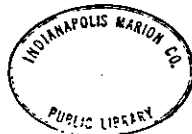
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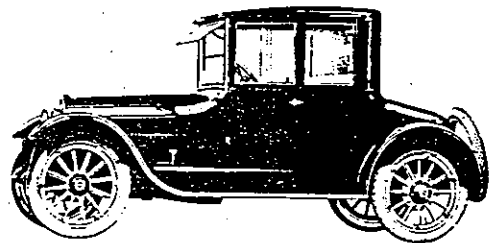
1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2



# HOW DO WE CHANGE THE CARS IN WHICH WE RIDE?

BY LAWRENCE HOFFA

Mark Bonomo, president of the American Automobile Association, is a leading voice in the industry. He has been instrumental in the formation of the American Automobile Association's Energy Conservation Program. He has also been instrumental in the formation of the American Automobile Association's Energy Conservation Program. He has also been instrumental in the formation of the American Automobile Association's Energy Conservation Program.



8 Challenge

SO much already has been written about the energy crisis and what we should be doing. I'm almost afraid to add my "two cents" worth! Ever since the big scare last year we've heard just about every opinion imaginable. But as is usually the case very few of the opinion givers really understand—or care—about the whole picture.

Living in Europe this year doesn't qualify me as an expert on the whole picture either but I do see a different side to the problem and actually it's quite fascinating. I drive a Porsche in England. By American standards, it gets quite good mileage, even with smog devices. It costs about \$20 to fill the tank with low test fuel and after 6 p.m., gas stations are scarce. I spend more on gasoline than on food for two. If that happened in the U.S. tomorrow, there would be such a hue and cry from the "righteous" that a communist might make it on the next election!

HOFFA #2

## LETTER FROM LEO MEHL



Dear Fellow Members:

Changes since our last issue of Challenge have come as fast as lightning bolts in a summer storm.

The Goodyear Motor Sports Club now has visited many tracks and thousands of its members have participated in a variety of activities. Each new race track event teaches us something, and we have heard from many of you—both personally and by letter—with your suggestions.

One of our first-priority goals centers on more efficient completion of negotiations for paddock areas, discounts and other benefits so that we can get the information to you farther in advance, through our newsletter.

You will note that a special bulletin has been stuffed into this magazine just to give you all the details as quickly as possible regarding our October program.

By November you will receive our catalog of jackets and other club items. I'm sure you will be pleased with these items. We have made every effort to offer great quality at a genuine bargain price. These items will make excellent Christmas gifts.

A final note on the club operation: We have moved to Akron, Ohio—where all Goodyear's Racing Division personnel are located—in order to serve you better. Many improvements and exciting new projects are taking shape. The GMSC newsletter will keep you posted.

\* \* \*

Our club lost one of its most ardent supporters with the death of Mark Donohue. Mark phoned several times with suggestions for the club and supported us in all ways.

Starting on page eight is an article which Mark wrote for Challenge. It was hand written during one of the rare, quiet times in his hectic life. We are sure he wanted you to read it.

We, at Goodyear, loved and respected Mark Donohue. He was a race driver's race driver, an engineer's engineer and a man's man.

The following thought is offered by Bruce McLaren in the book, "Bruce McLaren—The Man and His Team" by Eoin Young. It is McLaren's reflection on the death of a young racing friend and it gives me consolation:

... but who is to say that he had not seen more, done more and learned more in his 26 years than many people do in a lifetime. To do something well is so worthwhile that to die trying to do it better cannot be foolhardy. It would be a waste of life to do nothing with one's ability for I feel life is measured in achievement, not in years alone."

We extend the sympathy of all members of the Goodyear Motor Sports Club to Mark's wife, Eden, to his family and to Roger Penske and his organization.

*Leo Mehl*

Executive Director  
The Goodyear Motor Sports Club



ROGER  
PENSKE

LINDSAY →

LINDSAY

WEST ALLEN, WI. ATTACHMENT #3  
ONE STATE FAIRGROUND

LOOKS LIKE MOST RECENT

"TONY GEORGE"

LIKE THE ONE NOTED @ INDY'S MOTOR SPEEDWAY.



When searching for a personal computer, this medical sales representative identified portability as her primary criterion. She purchased a laptop PC because it gave her the flexibility to carry her files and the power of a computer wherever she goes. During a flight to Chicago, she decided to review physician profiles before making sales calls.

are not designed for frequent movement and therefore are not considered portable.

The power of a PC is not necessarily related directly to its size. A few laptop PCs can run circles around some of the desktop PCs. Some

This project manager spends at least three days a week away from the office. When he travels, his transportable PC is part of his luggage. He uses the PC in conjunction with project management software. To prepare the computer for movement, he fastens the keyboard in position to cover the monitor and attaches a handle to the top of the micro.



ATTACHMENT #4

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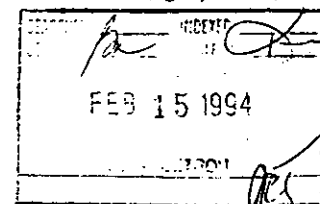
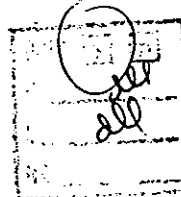


281A-DE-67821

ARS:brs -1

On February 11, 1994, SA [REDACTED] reviewed the polygraph results of the polygraph administered on February 27, 1986, to [REDACTED], date of birth [REDACTED]. The examination covered the role of [REDACTED] in JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA's disappearance. [REDACTED] claimed to have been present at a meeting two weeks prior to HOFFA's disappearance when the kidnapping was planned. The polygraph operator concluded [REDACTED] was being deceptive about this meeting. By the end of the examination, [REDACTED] admitted he had made up the facts and said he was not involved in the HOFFA kidnapping.

281A-DE-67821-970



# Memorandum



To : SAC DETROIT (270D-DE-69572)

Date 2/11/94

From : SA [REDACTED] b7C

Subject: [REDACTED] b2/b7D

Dates of Contact 1/31/94		
File #s on which contacted (Use Titles if File #s not available) 281A-DE-67821		
Purpose and results of contact <input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE <input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC		
Description of Statistical Accomplishment	Title of Case	File No.
<p style="text-align: right;">281A-DE-67821-971</p> <p>Information herein obtained confidentially; informant's name is not to be disclosed in a report or otherwise unless it has been decided definitely that this person is to be a witness in a trial or hearing.</p>		
PERSONAL DATA		SEARCHED [initials] INDEXED [initials]
SUBSTANTIVE		FEB 15 1994

ARS/rmv  
(3) *rmv*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 2/11/94

Cooperating witness (CW), [REDACTED] was advised of the identity of the interviewing agents. He/she then provided the following information:

[REDACTED] claimed to have been present when JIMMY HOFFA (JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA) was kidnapped. [REDACTED] provided the following information to CW:

b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Investigation on 1/31/94 at [REDACTED] File # 281A-DE-67821  
by SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Date dictated 2/3/94  
[REDACTED] ARS/rmv b7C

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281A-DE-67821

Continuation of FD-302 of COOPERATING WITNESS, On 1/31/94, Page 2

[REDACTED]

b7C  
b7D [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

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

Date 2/28/94

TO : DIRECTOR FBI <sup>b7c</sup>  
 (Attn: SSA [REDACTED] O.C./DOS #2,  
 LCN/IOC/Labor Unit)

FROM : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (P)

SUBJECT : HOFFEX;  
 (OO: DETROIT)

Enclosed for the Bureau is a newspaper clipping from the Detroit Free Press regarding the U.S. Supreme Court ruling to continue the sealed status of files concerning the disappearance and presumed murder of former TEAMSTERS UNION president JAMES R. HOFFA.

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. -2)
- ② - Detroit
- ARS:brs
- (4) - [unclear]

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281A-DE-67821-972

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 (Number) (Time)

# Highest court keeps the Hoffa case files secret

BY JOE SWICKARD  
Free Press Staff Writer

The FBI files on the Jimmy Hoffa mystery will remain closed to public inspections, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled Tuesday.

In a decision issued without comment, the high court refused a Free Press argument that the files should be opened because there is no realistic prospect that anyone will ever be tried for the 1975 disappearance and presumed murder of the former Teamsters Union president. The files, thousands of pages — were sought under the federal Freedom of Information Act.

## U.S. lawyers say investigation continues

Justice Department lawyers said releasing the documents would "interfere with the ongoing investigation by providing a detailed road map of the government's past and future investigative efforts."

If the files were unsealed, those responsible for Hoffa's disappearance then could plant false leads, intimidate witnesses and fabricate alibis, government lawyers argued.

Free Press Executive Editor Heath J Meriwether said the court decision "means that people will nev-

er find out what happened."

Free Press lawyer Herschel Fink said the government position needs "a reality check. . . . Maintaining the fiction of bringing the kidnapers to justice after almost two decades is preposterous," Fink said.

Hoffa disappeared after going to a meeting at the Machus Red Fox restaurant in Bloomfield Township. Hoffa, who was mounting a campaign to regain the union presidency, told family members and associates that he was going to meet alleged under-

world figures at the restaurant.

Hoffa was last seen in the restaurant parking lot where his car was found the next morning. No trace of Hoffa has been found.

It is widely believed that Hoffa was killed soon after being picked up at the restaurant and that his body was disposed of in a mob-related refuse facility.

The late New Jersey union leader and alleged gangster Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano is thought to have been behind the crime.

Despite intense investigations and grand jury proceedings, no one was ever charged.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date: 2-23-74  
Edition: *Reston Free Press*  
P 12

Title:

Character: 281A-DE-67821

Classification:  
Submitting Office:

Indexing:

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HOFFA, Page 2332

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Hoffa's daughter loses FBI case

Jimmy Hoffa's daughter has lost a key round at the Supreme Court in her effort to obtain FBI files about the 1975 disappearance of the former Teamsters union president.

The court, without comment, turned down Barbara Ann Crancer's appeal aimed at getting a document-by-document explanation of why the FBI refuses to release nearly 14,000 pages of Hoffa files.

Previously, the justices refused to order the FBI to release its Hoffa files to the *Detroit Free Press*.

Hoffa disappeared July 30, 1975, from a restaurant in Oakland County. His body was never found.

The FBI conducted a nationwide investigation into Hoffa's disappearance and accumulated volumes of files in the case. "Although no suspects have been charged, the investigation has never been closed and the FBI continues to pursue the investigation actively," government lawyers told the justices.

Crancer, a St. Louis resident, filed a Freedom of Information Act request to obtain some of those files in 1987. After exhausting administrative attempts, Crancer sued.

U.S. District Judge Stephen Limbaugh in St. Louis ordered the Justice Department to provide Crancer with an index of the withheld material so she could oppose their contention that the information does not have to be released.

Justice Department officials invoked Freedom of Information Act language that exempts data that, if released, might interfere with law enforcement proceedings.

Limbaugh ordered the government to produce an "itemized, indexed inventory of every agency record or portion thereof responsive to [Crancer's] FOIA request," along with a "detailed justification statement covering each refusal to release."

A three-judge panel of the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld that order, but the full appeals court reversed it by a 7-3 vote last August.

The appeals court said Limbaugh exceeded his authority by ordering more than a generic, category-by-category index.

Crancer's lawyers argued that the appeals court ruling "improperly creates a blanket exception for investigative records."

— *Crancer vs. Department of Justice*, 93-700.

— *Associated Press*

(Ind page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE DETROIT LEGAL NEWS

Date: 3/2/94  
Edition: P.3

Title: HOFFA'S DAUGHTER LOSES FBI CASE

Character:  
or  
Classification: 281-DE-67821  
Submitting Office: DETROIT

Indexing:

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FBI - DETROIT	

HOFFA, Page 2333

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



## Supreme Court Notebook

### FBI's Hoffa files stay secret

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court Tuesday refused to order the FBI to release its files on the 1975 disappearance of former Teamsters union President Jimmy Hoffa.

The court, without comment, turned down a Detroit newspaper editor's argument that the government cannot withhold the documents because it is unlikely anyone will be prosecuted in the case.

Hoffa disappeared July 30, 1975, from a restaurant in a Detroit suburb. His body was never found.

The FBI conducted a nationwide investigation into Hoffa's disappearance and accumulated about 400 volumes of files in the case. Brian Dickerson of the Detroit Free Press filed a request to see the documents in 1989 under the federal Freedom of Information Act.

The FBI denied the request, saying its investigation was continuing and that the Freedom of Information law exempts from disclosure any material that might interfere with enforcement proceedings.

Dickerson sued in federal court. After reviewing some documents in private, a federal judge refused in July 1991 to order the FBI to release its files.

The judge said disclosure could harm the investigation, and the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld that ruling.

In the appeal to the high court, Dickerson's lawyers said the government did not adequately show its investigation could lead to a prosecution. Two FBI officials have been quoted as saying it is unlikely anyone ever will be prosecuted for Hoffa's disappearance, the Dickerson's lawyers said.

The appeals court granted Dickerson a broad exemption from disclosure, the appeal said, adding that other federal courts have required the government to release portions of files when their disclosure would not harm an investigation.

Justice Department lawyers said releasing the documents would "interfere with the ongoing investigation by providing a detailed road map of the government's past and future investigative efforts."

Those responsible for Hoffa's disappearance then could plant false leads, intimidate witnesses and fabricate alibis, government lawyers argued.

— *Dickerson vs. Department of Justice*, 93-678.

\* \* \*

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE DETROIT LEGAL NEWS

Date: 2/23/94

Edition: P.3

Title: FBI'S HOFFA FILES STAY SECRET

Character:

or  
Classification: 281A-DE-67821 ✓

Submitting Office: DETROIT

Indexing:

281A-DE-67821-974

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MAR 14 1994	
FBI - DETROIT	

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FBI-DC

HOFFA, Page 2334



LEVEL 1 - 3 OF 11 STORIES

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Chicago Tribune

March 23, 1994 Wednesday, NORTH SPORTS FINAL EDITION

SECTION: CHICAGOLAND; Pg. 3; ZONE: N

LENGTH: 526 words

HEADLINE: TEAMSTER'S ARREST REVIVES HOFFA MYSTERY

BYLINE: By John O'Brien, Tribune Staff Writer.

BODY:

What began as a Chicago police investigation of a suspected fencing racket fueled by truckloads of stolen goods, swerved unexpectedly into the fast lane Tuesday and smack into a 19-year-old mystery of whatever happened to former Teamsters Union boss James R. Hoffa.

Even veteran detectives accustomed to the braggadocio of criminal suspects were taken aback and left to ponder whether an Illinois link figured in Hoffa's disappearance and presumed murder in 1975.  
Press Alt-H for Help or Alt-Q to Quit.

Chicago Tribune, March 23, 1994

Truth or fiction, the story as disclosed by police at a news conference, is that Hoffa's last hours somehow involved Robert Jacobs, a former Teamster organizer of gasoline dealers who, more recently, has served as executive director of the Illinois Gasoline Dealers ...

Jacobs, 67, of <sup>FLI</sup>Riverside, was arrested Monday on felony theft charges in connection with the police case. That case had involved a ....

... purchase \$20,000 worth of stolen cigarettes from undercover police, authorities said.

Before being taken into custody, however, police said Jacobs boasted in talks with detectives of possessing knowledge of Hoffa's kidnapping and murder, according to Lt. Ralph Chiczewski of the police organized crime unit.

"I really think he ( Jacobs ) is an interesting man to listen to," said Chiczewski, who added that police are cooperating with federal authorities about the claims. "Basically, he was an admirer of Hoffa."

Indeed, Jacobs -as if to vouch for his insider status, police said-produced a bracelet for detectives bearing the inscription: "To Bob Jacobs Intl Organizer of the Year 1963 (signed) James R. Hoffa."

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MAR 23 1994	
FBI - CHICAGO	

HOFFA, Page 2335

281A-DE-67821-975

Jacobs' taped conversations with detectives who posed as criminals with stolen goods to sell reportedly detail his claims that Hoffa was kidnapped outside a suburban Detroit restaurant by members of organized crime in July 1975. No trace of him has ever been found.

At the time he vanished, Hoffa was a newly released federal parolee. Authorities have speculated he was killed to prevent him from mounting an attempt to regain power in the Teamsters.

Chiczewski said that in view of federal interest in Jacobs' alleged claims he wouldn't comment further.

A source familiar with police recordings in the case said information mentioned by Jacobs "tends to coincide with some theories" behind a variety of motives for Hoffa's disappearance.

Jacobs' role as a Teamster is established. So was his involvement in a federal criminal case, dropped in 1978, because his health had deteriorated and because he was the sole provider for a son who had been shot in a robbery and was paralyzed.

Press Alt-H for Help or Alt-Q to Quit.

Chicago Tribune, March 23, 1994

In that case, Jacobs was accused of lying to a federal grand jury when he said he didn't employ strong-arm tactics to organize gas station employees for the Teamsters in 1967.

The connection to Hoffa's disappearance, real or otherwise, didn't stop with Jacobs' tale to police, Chiczewski said.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO; PHOTO: A man arrested Monday says he has information on the 197 disappearance James R. Hoffa.

[REDACTED] C-8

FBI

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TRANSMIT VIA:  
 Teletype  
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PRECEDENCE:  
 Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:  
 TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNCLAS E F T O  
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Date 3/24/94

FM FBI DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (C-8) (P)  
TO FBI CHICAGO (281A-DE-67821)/ROUTINE/  
INFO DIRECTOR FBI/ROUTINE/

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

CITE: //3220// b7c

PASS: SSA [REDACTED] O.C./DOS #2, LCN/IOC/LABOR UNIT,  
FBIHQ.

SUBJECT: HOFFEX; OO: DETROIT.

A CHICAGO TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE PUBLISHED ON MARCH  
23, 1994, STATED THAT ON MARCH 21, 1994, ROBERT JACOBS,  
RIVERSIDE, ILLINOIS, SIXTY-SEVEN YEARS OF AGE, WAS ARRESTED BY  
CHICAGO POLICE AS A RESULT OF A CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT  
UNDERCOVER OPERATION. DURING THE UNDERCOVER INVESTIGATION  
JACOBS BRAGGED TO THE UNDERCOVER POLICE OFFICERS THAT HE HAD

*Ans; lms*  
*(1)*

281A-DE-67821-976

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INDEXED           

Approved: [Signature] Original filename: Bro 003150-083

Time Received:            Telprep filename:           

MRI/JULIAN DATE: 1683 / 223 ISN: 021

FOX DATE & TIME OF ACCEPTANCE: 3-24-94 / 2210 TH

^PAGE 2 DE 281A-DE-67821 UNCLAS E F T O

KNOWLEDGE OF JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA'S KIDNAPPING AND MURDER.  
JACOBS HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE TEAMSTERS IN THE PAST.

CHICAGO, AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, WILL COORDINATE  
INVESTIGATION WITH CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT AND DETERMINE THE  
EXTENT OF KNOWLEDGE AND INVOLVEMENT OF JACOBS IN THE HOFFA  
KIDNAPPING.

BT

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FM FBI CHICAGO (281A-DE-67821) (RUC)

TO FBI DETROIT/ROUTINE/

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DATE: 7/31/90 60/7

SUBJECT: HOFFEX; OO: DETROIT.

REFERENCE DETROIT TELETYPE TO CHICAGO DATED 3/24/94.

REFERENCE COMMUNICATION REPORTED ARREST OF ONE ROBERT  
JAGGESS ON 3/21/94 BY THE CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT (CPD) AS A  
RESULT OF AN UNDERCOVER OPERATION.

JAGGESS WAS, IN FACT, ARRESTED AND CHARGED WITH THEFT OF  
VARIOUS AND SUNDRY STOLEN GOODS WITH RESPECT TO JAGGESS'  
ALLEGED FENCING ACTIVITIES.

ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEY PATRICK QUINN, COOK COUNTY  
STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS AND SPECIAL AGENT

*noted CFIL 3/23/94*

C-8

281A-DE-67821-97

SEARCHED <i>[initials]</i>	INDEXED <i>[initials]</i>
SERIALIZED <i>[initials]</i>	FILED <i>[initials]</i>
MAR 28 1994	
FBI - DETROIT	

*b7C*

PAGE TWO DE FBICG 0013 UNCLAS

[REDACTED] FBI, CHICAGO, SAT IN ON AN INTERVIEW OF JACOSS, BASED ON HIS ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN THE HOFFA DISAPPEARANCE.

JACOSS ADMITTED THAT, IN FACT, THE INFORMATION HE PROVIDED TO THE CPD UNDERCOVER OFFICER REGARDING HOFFA'S DISAPPEARANCE WAS SOLELY OPINION AND HE DID NOT POSSESS ANY FIRST HAND OR EVEN SECOND HAND INFORMATION.

DURING THE INTERVIEW, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
MATTERS.

IT WAS THE OPINION OF BOTH SA [REDACTED] AND ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEY QUINN THAT THE INFORMATION JACOSS PROVIDED RE THE HOFFA DISAPPEARANCE WAS TOTALLY UNRELIABLE AND FOUNDLESS.

IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, THIS MATTER IS BEING RUC'D BY THE CHICAGO DIVISION.

BT

#0013

NNNN

Chicago Tribune

March 25, 1994 Friday, NORTH SPORTS FINAL EDITION

SECTION: CHICAGOLAND; Pg. 3; ZONE: N

LENGTH: 450 words

HEADLINE: JACOBS DENIES KNOWING HOFFA FATE;  
GAS DEALERS' LEADER COULD FACE U.S. GUN, TAX CHARGES

BYLINE: By John O'Brien, Tribune Staff Writer.

BODY:

As if his claims about the death of former Teamsters President James R. Hoffa weren't enough to draw police attention, Chicago labor figure Robert Jacobs found himself under investigation Thursday for possible violations of federal firearm and tax laws.

Disclosures that Jacobs may have funneled stolen handguns through his horse ranch near Seattle and improperly used Illinois Gasoline Dealers Association Press Alt-H for Help or Alt-Q to Quit.

Chicago Tribune, March 25, 1994

funds to pay for the weapons came as he appeared in Cook County Criminal Court, haggard and supported by his lawyer.

"He is not a well guy," attorney John Armellino said of Jacobs, 67, who police say boasted to an undercover officer that he was in on Hoffa's murder and burial under a Michigan highway in 1975.

Jacobs, who suffers from heart disease, responded briefly to reporters' questions. Between gasps for breath, he denied any knowledge of Hoffa's fate or the death of a man known as Popeye in 1977 in Chicago.

According to undercover tapes, Jacobs told of shooting Popeye near North and Western Avenues to avenge a drug-related shooting that left his son in a wheelchair. Popeye later died, but the cause of death is unknown.

Jacobs, who maintains homes in Riverside and at his Shenandoah Ranch north of Seattle, is charged with theft. But more criminal charges appear likely, investigators said, as a federal grand jury prepares to subpoena financial records of Jacobs' 1,600-member gasoline dealers association.

Jacobs was arrested Monday in a police sting, caught on tape, authorities said, talking about Hoffa's demise on at least two occasions. His words were Press Alt-H for Help or Alt-Q to Quit.