

RECORDED

b7c
7-113-1635

June 14, 1935

Special Agent in Charge,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases,
et al; CHARLES F. URSCHEL, Victim;
Kidnaping.

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the request contained in your letter dated June 10, 1935 in the above entitled case, there are transmitted herewith twelve copies of the list of bank notes paid as ransom in connection with this case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Enclosure 307614

SPECIAL DELIVERY

R

JUN 14 1935

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H
N

SKIRVIN HOTEL
SKIRVIN HOTEL, INCORPORATED
OKLAHOMA CITY

June 2, 1935.

- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Baughman..
- Chief Clerk.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Edwards.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Keith.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. Quinn.....
- Mr. Scheidt.....
- Mr. Schilder.....
- Mr. Smith.....
- Mr. Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

Dear Mr. Hoover:-

In response to telephone call from SAC Brantley to the effect that the U. S. Attorney here desired my presence to assist in the preparation of the Laska et al Case for trial, I cancelled my leave of absence and proceeded here. The indictments against Attorneys Laska and Mather and the others charge conspiracy to kidnap and follows the indictment in the original case of Kelly-Bates Et Al, consequently it will be necessary to introduce at least sufficient evidence to establish the original conspiracy, and of course the actual kidnaping. In view of the fact that the original conspiracy was established principally by the introduction of telegrams, Hotel registrations and movements of the conspirators, that evidence is necessarily vital in this case. Mr. Lewis, the U. S. Atty is somewhat conversant with the evidence in the original case, however, his assistant, Mr. Dudley, who has been assigned to take the lead in the prosecution, will certainly have to spend the next week in a thorough study of the case to properly present it.

I have been going over the matter with him and have made certain suggestions that he is following out. I found that several of the original documents introduced in the first case were misplaced but after a two day search have located them all, and that was somewhat of a relief. We are now "boiling down" the evidence introduced in the first case to see how much can be eliminated without endangering the present case insofar as establishing the conspiracy is concerned. I believe, however, that with all that we can safely eliminate, there will be at least forty witnesses. Laska and Mather will cause the Government all the trouble possible and will not stipulate or concede anything. SAC Brantley and I both have done our utmost to have the U. S. Atty agree to dispense with the presence of SAC Speer, however, Mr. Lewis sights the fact that Speer is not only a necessary witness but that in the search of Laska's office in Denver, certain valuable documentary evidence was located and will be vital to the prosecution; that the search warrant was obtained by Speer who had the Feldman boy execute an affidavit on which the warrant was issued; that Laska intends attacking the legality of the issuance of the warrant and the search and seizure made thereunder. Lewis insists that if the Agt. who ingeneered this search is not present to refute any claims set up by Laska, it will place the Government in a bad light. Lewis went so far as to say that he would ask for a postponement of the trial if Speer could not be here. This I believe would be a bad move as the Feldman woman and the others have already been held in jail here for several months due to the fact that their testimony is vital to the Government, and I will say that several months in this jail is equal to a year or two in Leavonworth.

Rem. signed
F. O. ...
Feldman

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-115-1636

I have requested all Bureau offices to cooperate with the Marshals in locating any witnesses who may have changed the places of abode since the last trial as I did not want to see some no'n Est subpoenes returned here a day or so before the trial date where the Marshal could not locate some of the witnesses.

Mr. Brantley is working night and day in the clean up of one or two Bank Robber Mobs and for that reason and due to the fact that I know this case so well, I believe it advisable to accede to the wishes of the U. S. Atty here and go on through with the preparation of this case for trial. Mr. Lewis and Mr. Dudley both are insisting that I do so. U. S. Atty Lewis takes the position that this prosecution is as important as any that has transpired in this district especially in view of the Depts. announced policy relative to gangster Lawyers. I personally believe that the conviction of Laska and Mathers is almost as essential as the conviction of the actual kidnapers.

With your approval, I will remain here and see that this case is properly prepared and properly presented to the Jury. I believe it will be time well spent and especially as it will be up to some one in the Bureau to cooperate to that extent. SAC Brantley advises that he will leave here Saturday for Kansas City as a witness in the Adam Richette Case and also that acting SAC Little will also be away from Oklahoma City. It is my intention to personally keep the Bureau advised as to developments in the trial of this case as I consider that the conviction of these lawyers, who are beyond a doubt guilty, of paramount importance in sofar as breaking up organized crime is concerned.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Jones.

C/O Skirvin Hotel,
Oklahoma City, Okla.



F1

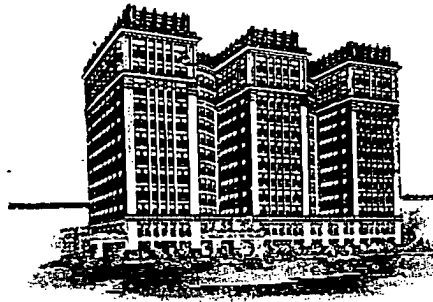
Skirvin
Skirvin Hotel, Inc.
W. B. SKIRVIN, Pres.
O. W. SKIRVIN, Vice-Pres.
M. A. LUTY, Secy-Treas.

Oklahoma City
June 2, 1935-

Dear Mr Hoover:-

In response to telephone call from SAC Maunter to the effect that the U.S. Attorney here desired my presence to assist in the preparation of the Barka Evans case for trial I cancelled my leave of absence and proceeded here. The indictment against Attorneys Barka and Mather and the actors charges conspiracy to kidnap and forewarn the indictment in the original case of Kelly Bates Et al consequently it will be necessary to introduce at least sufficient evidence to establish the original conspiracy and of course the actual kidnaping. In view of the fact that the original conspiracy was established principally by the introduction of telegrams, Hotel Registrations and movements of the conspirators that evidence is necessarily vital in this case. Mr Lewis the U.S. Atty is somewhat conversant with the evidence in the original case however his assistant Mr Dudley, who has been assigned to have the lead in the prosecution

7-115-1636



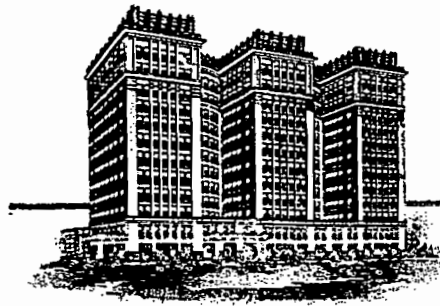
Skirvin
Skirvin Hotel, Inc.
W. B. SKIRVIN, Pres.
O. W. SKIRVIN, Vice-Pres.
H. A. LUTY, Secy-Treas.
Hotel
Oklahoma City

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Oklahoma City

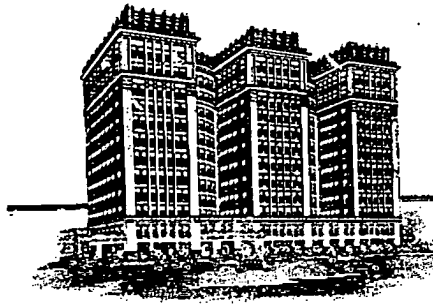
decessary witness but that in the records
of Laska's office in Denver certain valuable
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will be vitally to the prosecution. That the
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on which the warrant was issued. That
Laska intends attacking the legality of
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Oklahoma City

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Mr. Brantly is working night and day in the clean up of one or two Bank Robber mobs and for that reason and due to the fact that I know this case so well I believe it advisable to accord to the wishes of the U.S. Atty here and go on through with the preparation of this case for trial. Mr. Lewis and Mr. Audley both are insisting that Odo U.S. Atty Lewis takes the position that this prosecution is as important as any that has transpired in this district especially in view of the Sept announced policy relative to gangster lawyers. I personally believe that the conviction of Locke and Mathers



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M. A. LUTY, Secy-Treas.

Oklahoma City

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a double guilty of paramount importance
in so far as breaking up organized crime
is concerned.

Sincerely yours

Jones

%
Skirvin Hotel
Oklahoma City, Okla

RECEIVED BY PRIVATE
WIRE FROM
TELEGRAPH
1152A
AS INDICATED
IN THIS MESSAGE

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay Radio

This is a full rate Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

DL	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
LCO	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
WLT	WEEK END CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

Form 16 P.

WB 31 GOVT COLLECT=CX OKLAHOMACITY OKLA 1010A JUN 10 1935

DIR FED BUREAU OF INV US DEPT OF JUSTICE=

PENNSYLVANIA AVE AT NINTH ST NORTHWEST WASHINGTON D

AGENT IN CHARGE J A DOWD ARRIVED HERE YESTERDAY STOP AGENTS

[REDACTED] AND V C ZIMMER ARRIVED

THIS MORNING WITNESSES URSCHEL CASE=

BRANTLEY.

*called
[Signature]*

RECORDED

JUN 14 1935

1637
[Faint stamps]

All b7C

W

RECEIVED AT
STANDARD TIME
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
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Mackay Radio

This is a full rate Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

DL	DAY LETTER
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LOO	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
WLT	WEEK END CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

NA1186 28 GOVT COLLECT

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CX OKLAHOMACITY OKLA 11 54OP

1935 JUN 11 PM 7 15

DIRECTOR FEDERAL BUREAU OF INV US DEPT OF JUSTICE

PENNSYLVANIA AVE AT NINTH ST NW WASHN DC

URSCHEL CASE INTRODUCTION OF EVIDENCE ESTABLISHING ORIGINAL
CONSPIRACY THIS CASE NEARING COMPLETION TODAY STOP INTRODUCTION
OF EVIDENCE CONNECTING LASKA AND MATHERS THERE WITH WILL BEGIN
TOMORROW MORNING

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Beughman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards ..
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Scheidt
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Smith
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

RECORDED

BRANTLEY.

7-115-1638

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUN 12 1935

7-115

SEARCHED INDEXED

JUN 13 1935

~~JUN 13 1935~~

Mr. Tamm has seen above

[Handwritten signature]

216

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA**

St. Paul FILE NO. **7-8**

REPORT MADE AT St. Paul, Minnesota	DATE WHEN MADE 6-11-35	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5-28-35	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases CHARLES F. URSCHEL - Victim			CHARACTER OF CASE KIDNAPING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: **Insufficient evidence in existence with which to obtain legal authority to inspect the safe deposit box belonging to [REDACTED] located at the Main First National Bank & Trust Company, Minneapolis, Minnesota.**

R.U.C.

REFERENCE: **Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] St. Paul, Minnesota, 4-16-35.**

DETAILS:

Through Assistant United States Attorney George A. Heisey, St. Paul, Minnesota, it was ascertained that it was impossible to obtain legal authority to inspect the safe deposit box belonging to [REDACTED] located at the Main First National Bank & Trust Company, Minneapolis, Minnesota, owing to the sources from which this original information was obtained, concerning [REDACTED] having in his possession \$10,000.00 of the URSCHEL ransom money. Therefore, this case is being:

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

All b7C

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>H E Anderson</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau 2 - Birmingham 2 - St. Paul 2 - Oklahoma City 1 - Jacksonville 1 - Little Rock	7-11-35 + 1639 JUN 13 A.M. JUN 14 1935

COPIES DESTROYED
20 APRIL 1965
CCL:ACF

af

EAT:

June 7, 1935.

Time - 3:20 P. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS -
GEORGE WEYERHAEUSER - Victim;
Kidnaping

I talked with Mr. Connelley at Tacoma and he advised that they took [redacted] last night with a friend of his at Portland. They are both friends of [redacted] and [redacted] and are communist men more than anything else; that Bailey has quite a reputation around town and everyone indicated that he was possibly the man connected with the above matter, as he lived about four squares from the [redacted] family but moved away just before the kidnaping. These individuals have all accounted for their time. [redacted] is to be interviewed by the Portland office.

Charles Urchael
Benxaska

Mr. Connelley stated he has not been able to get a line as to where [redacted] can be located; that his brother-in-law is as hard to find as [redacted] but that there is an Agent working on the matter and it was desired that something [redacted] be ascertained as to [redacted] location.

I advised Mr. Connelley that Mr. Nathan was not available and asked him if he had anything on the trial of Laska at Oklahoma City. He stated he thought Mr. Nathan would arrive about 6:45 P. M. today, the arrival of the next plane. Mr. Spears will proceed to Oklahoma City by plane and so will Agents [redacted] and [redacted] unless Mr. Nathan has information to the contrary, so that they will arrive on Monday morning. Mr. Spears should be there Saturday. Mr. Connelley said Agent [redacted] wanted to know if he should proceed to Washington when he is through at Oklahoma City. I told him I would look into the matter.

Respectfully,

RECORDED

&
INDEXED

E. A. Tamm

All b7c

7-115-1640

JUN 15 1935

WRG
JUN 15 1935
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

ORIGINAL FILED IN 7-1367

1024

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
420 Post Office Building
Dallas, Texas

June 10, 1935

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice
Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Re: George Kelly Barnes, Et Al
Charles F. Urschel, Victim
Kidnaping

Dear Sir:

This is to advise that Special Agent [redacted] left Dallas, Texas for Oklahoma City, Oklahoma at 10:00 PM, June 9, 1935, where he is to appear as a witness in the trial of Ben B. Laska.

Very truly yours,

F. J. Blake
F. J. Blake, #2A
Special Agent in Charge.

cc Okla. City

All b7C

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

RECORDED

JUN 15 1935

7-115-1641
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 14 1935
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ONE CLERK
FOUR
SHIPPED

722 Midland Savings Bldg.
Denver, Colo.
June 10, 1935

Special Agent in Charge,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:

RE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with
aliases; ET AL
CHARLES F. UNSCHEL - Victim
KIDNAPING

Reference is made to your wire of June 1, 1935, requesting this office to determine whether subpoenas had been received and served on [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] United States Commissioner.

Please be advised that immediately upon receipt of the wire, inquiry was made of the United States Marshal at Denver, who advised that he had received a number of subpoenas in this case but that he had not received any subpoenas for the ones mentioned in the wire, excepting one for [REDACTED] and United States Commissioner [REDACTED]. He stated that these two subpoenas have been served.

The Marshal further advised that he had received a subpoena for Special Agent [REDACTED] of Portland in error and that he was returning this subpoena.

Upon receipt of a further wire from your office advising that the subpoenas were mailed from Oklahoma City on May 31, 1935, a further inquiry was made, and the Marshal advised that he had received the subpoenas on June 4th, but that he had not received any for [REDACTED] and that he had served all received excepting one for [REDACTED] who, he stated he had been advised, was now residing at [REDACTED] Washington, D. C. The Marshal also informed me that he had received a subpoena for V. C. Zinner, and he was advised to return this subpoena. Your office was advised of this.

Upon receipt of the wire from your office on June 5th, requesting that the witness [REDACTED] of the Eleventh Avenue Hotel, be instructed to bring with him the records of the phone calls of A. Johnson from room #29 as noted in the summary

All b7C

7-115
INVESTIGATION
JUN 14 1935
ONE

report of Special Agent [REDACTED] of May 17, 1935, please be advised that Special Agent [REDACTED] verified that [REDACTED] had all the records called for as mentioned in the summary report above referred to and was taking these records with him to Oklahoma City.

Very truly yours,

E. P. GUINANE
Special Agent in Charge

EFG
7-7

cc Bureau

All b7c

St Louis, Mo.,
June 10, 1935.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

May I beg of you to read this letter. It is concern-
ing Clifford Skelly of Minneapolis, who is facing a five-year
sentence for innocently accepting Urchel ransom money.

If you could see and talk with this fine young man
you would at once realize how sad is this verdict. There is
nobody like him. He has a heart of gold, good, kind, generous,
and the sweetest person in the world. Everybody likes him. He
is always lending a helping hand, even to taking upon himself
years ago ~~is~~ the support of three orphans. He has an adorable
son of his own--an exceptionally bright and lovable child whom
he idolizes and for whose sake a prison sentence seems too pre-
posterous--blighting this promising young life in a way that
the boy can never outgrow. It is this that grieves the father
most of all and threatens to break him. His wife and mother
of the child, who is also of very fine calibre, is prostrated
with grief and it seems too pitiful to see a perfect home life
being so shattered.

Would it be possible to get a parole for Mr. Skelly?
He isnt a criminal and never will be. Even you, or anybody would
be proud to have him for a son. That is how very fine he is.

You would make a most deserving and heart-broken
little family very happy if you would lend a helping hand in
this instance. You will never regret this kindness on your
part.

Thanking you most sincerely, I am,

Very truly yours,

[Redacted signature]

b7c

*ack 6/19/35
RE
St Louis
Okla City*

*address on
envelope*

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUN 21 1935

7-115-1642
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 18 1935 A.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

7-115-1642

RECORDED

June 19, 1935

[REDACTED]
St. Louis, Missouri.

ALL b7C

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 10, 1935, containing information concerning Clifford Skelly of Minneapolis, Minnesota, who is under a sentence of five years, having been convicted of the crime, conspiracy to kidnap.

Your comments regarding the character of Mr. Skelly have been noted but there is no action which this Bureau can take in the matter.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

cc-St. Louis (Copy of letter date June 10, 1935
Oklahoma City forwarded each field office listed)

C

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

RECEIVED AT
 NATIONAL PRESS BLDG.
 14th & P Sts, N. W.
 Phone Nat. 6900 Br. 16

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay

Radio

This is a full rate Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

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LCO	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
WLT	WEEK END CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

CB566 32 GOVT COLLECT

CX OKLAHOMACITY OKLA 12 530P

DIRECTOR

FED BUREAU OF INV US DEPT OF JUSTICE PENNSYLVANIA AVE AT NINTH ~~ST NW~~

WASHN DC

GEORGE KELLY BARNES WAETAL CHARLES F URSCHEL VICTIM KIDNAPPING

TESTIMONY MRS. FELDMAN AND SON APPARENTLY SATISFACTORY

AND IN ADCORDANCE WITH PREVIOUS STATEMENTS AND INTERVIEWS

GOVERNMENT EXPECTS TO COMPLETE CASE TOMORROW NOON

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Scheidt
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Smith
- Mr. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

7-115-1643 BRANTLEY.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUN 14 1935

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

TAMM ONE FILE

RECORDED
 JUN 14 1935

[Handwritten signature]

1935 JUN 12 12 53 04

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box 812
Chicago Illinois

ag

June 11, 1935

M

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th St., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

RE: CONFISCATED AUTOMOBILE

Dear Sir:

With reference to your letter dated June 8, 1935, please be advised that the 1931 model Ford Coupe, motor No. 4515042 which was confiscated from Charles Caplan on October 11, 1933, was returned to him yesterday.

Mr. Caplan executed a receipt in duplicate for this car, one copy of which is enclosed herewith and the other is being retained in the files of this Office.

Very truly yours,

M. H. Purvis

M. H. PURVIS,
Special Agent in Charge

Charles Kelly Palmer

Q23

Enc. *in*
66-436

b7C

M

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-28539

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

JUN 18 1935

62-115-1644
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 13 1935 A.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1900 Bankers Building,
Chicago, Illinois,
June 10, 1935.

Received of M. H. Purvis, Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, a 1931 model Ford Coupe, black in color, bearing motor No. 4515042. This car is the same automobile which was taken from my possession on October 11, 1933, on which date I was brought to the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for questioning.

I have also received on this date from Mr. M. H. Purvis the following papers:

- (1) 1 Certificate of Used Car Warranty from the Chip Barwick Chevrolet Company, Memphis, Tennessee, for a 1931 model Ford Coupe, motor No. 4515042, dated August 30, 1933.
- (2) 1 duplicate copy of an invoice of the Chip Barwick Chevrolet Company, 740 Union Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, No. 4020, dated August 30, 1933, made out to C. L. Johnson, 1361 Monroe Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, for a used 1931 model Ford, motor No. 4515042, price indicated, \$285.00.
- (3) 1 Certificate of Automobile Registration, State of Tennessee, indicating that Tennessee license No. 328891 has been issued to C. L. Johnson, 1361 Monroe Street, Memphis, Tennessee, on a Ford Coupe, motor No. 4515042.

The above-described papers were furnished to Special Agent [redacted] by Mrs. Charles Kaplan, who is my wife, on October 12, 1933. b7c

Charles Kaplan

7-115-1644

RECEIVED AT

STANDARD TIME
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay Radio

This is a full rate Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

DL	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
LD	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
WLT	WEEK END CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

B561 35 GOVT COLLECT

C

CX OKLAHOMACITY OKLA 13 537P

DIRECTOR

FED BUREAU OF INV US DEPT OF JUSTICE PENN AVE AT NINTH ST
NORTHWEST WASHN DC

GEORGE KELLY BARNES WAETAL CHARLES F URSCHEL VICTIM KIDNAPPING
GOVERNMENT COMPLETED DIRECT TESTIMONY NOON TODAY DEFENSE STILL
PRESENTING TESTIMONY AT CLOSE OF SESSION THIS EVENING DEFENDANT
LASKA STILL ON WITNESS STAND UNDER CROSS EXAMINATION

BRANTLEY JBL.

RECORDED

7-115-1645

JUN 15 1935

JUN 14 1935

DEPT OF JUSTICE
TAMM
ONE
FILE

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Scheidt
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Smith
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten note]

[Handwritten initials]

Lm

P. O. Box 1276,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma,
June 5, 1935.

DB:
7-6

Mr. S. E. Swinney,
United States Marshal,
Eastern District of Oklahoma,
Muskogee, Oklahoma.

0

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, ET AL
CHARLES F. ⁰URSCHEL - Victim,
Kidnaping.

Dear Sir:

Recently there emanated from the Court in the Western District of Oklahoma, subpoenas for [REDACTED] Stratford, Oklahoma, and [REDACTED] formerly of Stratford, but now said to be residing at Wilson, Oklahoma, for their appearance at Oklahoma City on June 10, 1935.

Please advise me immediately whether you are able to serve all of these people. In the event you are unable to serve either of them, please furnish me their name.

Very truly yours,

DWIGHT BRANTLEY,
Special Agent in Charge.

SPECIAL DELIVERY

cc ~~Bureau~~

All b7C

7-115

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 8 1935 A.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ONE <i>R</i>

FILE

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

Patrons should check class of service desired, otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay

Radio

RECEIVER'S NUMBER

CHECK

TIME FILED

STANDARD TIME *Lm*

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

GTJ: *b7c*
7-6

OKLAHOMA CITY OKLAHOMA JUNE 5, 1935

m
C C SPEARS
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE
411 US COURT HOUSE
PORTLAND OREGON

o
GEORGE KELLY BARNES KIDNAPING PLEASE BRING WITH YOU ORIGINAL LETTER BATES TO WARDEN
JOHNSON DATED JANUARY TWO LAST REFERRED TO YOUR REPORT JANUARY EIGHTEENTH

Official Business
Govt Rate - PAID
Chg Fed Bur of Inv 224 Fed Bldg
cc Bureau

BRANTLEY *7-115*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUN 8 1935 A.M.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ONE *R*

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	FOREIGN
TELEGRAM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FULL RATE CABLE
DAY LETTER	<input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED CABLE
NIGHT MESSAGE	<input type="checkbox"/> NIGHT CABLE
NIGHT LETTER	<input type="checkbox"/> LETTER
SHIP RADIOGRAM	<input type="checkbox"/> RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired, otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay

Radio

RECEIVER'S NUMBER

CHECK

TIME FILED

STANDARD TIME *L 2*

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

OKLAHOMA CITY OKLAHOMA
JUNE 5, 1935

m
GTJ
7-6

E P GUINANE
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE
722 MIDLAND SAVINGS BLDG
DENVER COLORADO

GEORGE KELLY BARNES KIDNAPING PLEASE HAVE WITNESS [REDACTED] ELEVENTH AVENUE
HOTEL BRING RECORDS OF TELEPHONE CALLS A JOHNSON ROOM TWENTYNINE NOTED IN SUMMARY
REPORT AGENT [REDACTED] MAY SEVENTEENTH LAST MAIL IMMEDIATELY COPY NINETEEN THIRTYTHREE
TELEPHONE DIRECTORY CITY DENVER FOR USE THIS TRIAL

Official Business
Govt Rate - PAID
Chg: Fed Bur of Inv 224 Fed Bldg

cc Bureau

BRANTLEY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUN 8 1935

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ONE

All b7c

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

Patrons should check class of service desired, otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay

Radio

RECEIVER'S NAME
CHECK
TIME FILED
STANDARD TIME <i>Zm</i>

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to.

OKLAHOMA CITY OKLAHOMA
JUNE 8 1935

DB: *b7c*
7-6

M H PURVIS
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
US DEPT OF JUSTICE
1900 BANKERS BLDG
CHICAGO ILLINOIS

GEORGE KELLY BARNES ETAL KIDNAPING PRESENCE AGENT ZIMMER HERE NOT NECESSARY
UNTIL MORNING JUNE ELEVENTH

Off. Bus.
Gov't. Rate - PAID
Chgt Fed. Bur. of Invest.
224 Fed. Bldg.

cco Bureau

7-115

BRANTLEY
JUN 11 1935 A.M.

ONE *R*

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	FOREIGN
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE CABLE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED CABLE
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK-END CABLE LETTER
SHIP RADIOGRAM	RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired, otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay

Radio

RECEIVER'S NUMBER

CHECK *✓*

TIME FILED

STANDARD TIME

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

DALLAS TEXAS JUNE 6 1935

m
 DWIGHT BRANTLEY
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 224 FEDERAL BUILDING
 OKLAHOMA CITY OKLA

GEORGE KELLY BARNES WA ETAL MARSHAL HAS SERVED PROCESS ALL WITNESSES

LASKA CASE

BLAKE *b7c*

Off. Bus. Govt. Rate
 Charge: Fedl. Bu. of Inv.
 480 P.O. Bldg.
 HEA:GDC 5:30 PM
 cc Bureau ✓

7-115
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 JUN 11 1935
 ONE *R*

RECEIVED AT

INTERNATIONAL PRESS BUREAU
14th & F Sts. N.W.
Phone Nat. 6600 Bk. 14

STANDARD TIME
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay

Radio

This is a full rate Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

DL	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
DDO	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
WLT	WEEK END CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

CB513 COLLECT GOVT 13

1935 JUN 8 PM 8 16

TACOMA WASHN 8 437P

DIRECTOR FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

US DEPT OF JUSTICE PENNSYLVANIA AVE AT 9 ST NW WASHN DC
AGENT ██████████ LEAVING FOR OKLAHOMACITY EIGHT TWENTY FIVE
TONIGHT RE URSCHER CASE

b7c

CONNELLEY.

7-115

2/16/35

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Scheidt
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Smith
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

Wells

OPB

2

PAB

7-115
ONE. OLE.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	FOREIGN
TELEGRAM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FULL RATE CABLE
DAY LETTER	<input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED CABLE
NIGHT MESSAGE	<input type="checkbox"/> NIGHT CABLE
NIGHT LETTER	<input type="checkbox"/> LETTER
SHIP RADIOGRAM	<input type="checkbox"/> RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired, otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay

Radio

RECEIVER'S NUMBER	AS
CHECK	
TIME FILED	
STANDARD TIME	

and the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Form 2

DECODED

Denver, Colo.
June 11, 1935
EPG: [REDACTED] b7c
1:15 PM

D BRANTLEY
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
US DEPT OF JUSTICE
224 FEDERAL BLDG
OKLAHOMA CITY OKLAHOMA

GEORGE KELLY BARNES ⁶ ETAL FOR YOUR POSSIBLE USE CONFIDENTIALLY ADVISED TODAY THAT TWO MONEY ORDERS PURCHASED OCTOBER TWENTY NINTH LAST AT POST OFFICE DENVER BY LASKA FAVOR OF ALBERT L BATES ALCATRAZ FOR ONE HUNDRED FIFTY SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY SEVEN CENTS STOP THIS VERIFIED AT POST OFFICE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
GOVT RATE PAID

cc Bureau ✓

GUINANE

RE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES With 4 1935
aliases; ET AL
CHARLES F. PURSHEK - Victim
KIDNAPING

7-115
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
ONE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

June 14, 1935

EAT:

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Scheidt	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

10:05 A.M.

RE: URSCHEL KIDNAPING CASE

Mr. C. C. Spears called from Oklahoma City to give the developments in the Laska trial. Yesterday Laska claimed that he did not get \$10,000 from Ed Feldman out at his home, as the evidence in the case indicates. He said the boy came up to his office and paid him \$3,000 in good money. Laska claims that in the anteroom of his office at that time was an attorney named [redacted] with offices in [redacted], two offices removed from Laska's office, and she is very closely associated with him in the practice of law. Laska claims that [redacted] observed Feldman at that time and [redacted] was with him; [redacted] is a distant relative of Ed Feldman. Laska said that after the money was left there by Feldman, Feldman and [redacted] went out, and then [redacted] and Laska's secretary, a woman named [redacted] counted the money and there were a few dollars short of \$3,000. Spears said that [redacted] was on the stand yesterday and corroborated Laska in this connection. Spears says they are both lying in this connection and, on the authority of the United States Attorney, the minute the case goes to the jury, which probably will be late this afternoon, they are going to pick [redacted] up and file a complaint against her, charging perjury. Spears stated Laska had made the statement that [redacted] was sick and could not appear at the trial. Spears states he called Guinane and they found out that she was at her office, so she was brought to the Bureau Office and a statement was taken from her. She gave a story to the effect that Feldman did pay the \$3,000, but she got somewhat mixed up and stated she never saw [redacted] and does not know him.

Respectfully,

All b7C

E. A. Tamm.

7-115-1646

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUN 18 1935

JUN 17 1935

R

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.**

FILE NO. **7-1**

REPORT MADE AT: Nashville, Tennessee.	DATE WHEN MADE: 6-15-35.	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 5-25-35.	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
TITLE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, ET AL, CHARLES F. URSCHEL - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE: KIDNAPING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Inquiries of [REDACTED] Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, productive of information that C. J. Adrienne and wife in January 1935, called at Clayton's Jersey Dairy Farm claiming to represent the Rogers Redemption Bureau, Minneapolis, Minnesota and there secured Clayton's advertising orders. Letter to [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] Monteagle, Tennessee, indicates that Adrienne later passed through Monteagle, Tennessee.

R. U. C.

All b7c

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Birmingham, Alabama, dated January 29, 1935.

DETAILS:

This investigation was conducted by Special Agent [REDACTED] at Lawrenceburg, Tennessee:

[REDACTED] Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, upon being interviewed, together stated to Agent that during January 1935, (they were unable to state the exact date), a man and woman came to their home at this point at which time the man gave his name as [REDACTED] (there may be some mistake in the first name of [REDACTED] but the [REDACTED] are positive of the last name [REDACTED]. This party claimed to represent the Rogers Redemption Bureau, Minneapolis, Minnesota and secured [REDACTED] order on contract for one thousand advertising cards which were to advertise Clayton's Jersey Dairy Farm.

[REDACTED] stated further that the name appearing on the contract was not that of [REDACTED] but was a different name which they could not recall and the contract has been lost or misplaced. This contract provided that when [REDACTED] gave to his customers a certain number of these cards, they could mail them to the Rogers Redemption Bureau, Lumber Exchange Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota, which company would in turn, send to the customers some silverware in accordance with the number of coupons submitted.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1647	RECORDED AND INDEXED: JUN 27 1935
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: ③ Bureau 2-Oklahoma City 2-Birmingham 1-Detroit (information) 1-Little Rock (information) 2-St. Paul 2-Nashville		UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO: ONE [REDACTED] FILE	CHECKED OFF: JUN 18 1935 JACKETED:

COPIES DESTROYED JUN 17 4 AM
20 MAR 17 1965

Several days thereafter, there were mailed to [redacted] eight thousand cards, C.O.D., for the amount of \$62.50, but inasmuch as the cost of the cards had been represented at a lesser amount and [redacted] had paid to this supposed agent, [redacted] the sum of \$12.50 in cash and a personal check for \$12.50, the C.O.D. package was refused and payment was stopped on the check.

The [redacted] stated that they later received a letter from [redacted] Sunshine Service Station, Monteagle, Tennessee, who advised that he had cashed said check and that such check was endorsed by C. J. Adrienne and check had been turned down at the bank. Such letter from [redacted] requested information whereby Adrienne could be located. Apparently this check with Adrienne's endorsement is in the possession of [redacted] at Monteagle, Tennessee.

The [redacted] further advised that they had received several letters from the Rogers Redemption Bureau, all of which had been signed by [redacted]. One letter of February 19, 1935 demanded payment of check or the matter would be turned over to the company's attorneys.

The [redacted] submitted to Agent a letter dated February 19, 1935, such letter apparently having been misdirected to the [redacted] rather than to some party in South Dakota. The purpose of showing Agent this letter, which has been placed in the Nashville Bureau File, for possible future reference, was [redacted] statement that Adrienne may be using another alias; to wit, [redacted]. This letter was directed to [redacted] Watertown, South Dakota, advising him to look to one [redacted] of Clear Lake, South Dakota for payment on a check which had been turned down at [redacted] bank and which [redacted] had issued in the sum of \$10.00 to a [redacted] for commission on an advertising contract.

Other than that, the letter was misdirected to [redacted] there is nothing contained in this letter to indicate that Adrienne actually used this alias, therefore no undeveloped lead is being set out in order to verify the matter.

The following description of the party who gave his name as [redacted] and who is believed to have been C. J. Adrienne, and the woman who accompanied him as Mrs. C. J. Adrienne, were obtained from [redacted]

Name	C. J. Adrienne
Weight	Approximately 205 pounds or heavier
Height	6 feet
Hair	Black
Eyes	Blue
Age	45 to 50 years
Build	Fat, double chin, fat neck
Speech	Northern brogue
Manner	Very nice
Dress	Black suit, gray hat, nice dresser

All b7C

Name	Mrs. C. J. Adrienne
Age	35 years
Height	5 feet 9 inches
Weight	180 pounds
Hair	blond
Eyes	blue
Complexion	Fair
Speech	Northern
Dress	Very nice
Manner	Good

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

EAT

June 15, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I have just been advised that the jury at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, which has been hearing the charges preferred against Attorney Ben B. Laska of Denver, Colorado, has returned a verdict of guilty against Laska. You will recall that Mr. Laska was indicted for conspiracy as a result of his accepting \$8,000 of the ransom money paid in the Urschel case as a retainer fee for his services in defending certain of the original kidnapers.

The Court has allowed Ben Laska three days to file a motion for a new trial. Sentence has been deferred, pending the filing of the motion for a new trial and Laska's original bond has also been continued. July 2nd has been set as the date for the hearing upon a motion for a new trial. Charges preferred against J. C. Mathers resulted in a directed verdict of not guilty.

During the course of the trial of Laska at Oklahoma City, one [redacted] an attorney of Denver, Colorado appeared as a witness for the defense and testified concerning her presence at the time a sum of \$3,000 was supposed to have been paid to Laska by one of the Government's witnesses. This testimony was obviously false as disclosed by the investigation conducted by this Bureau, and upon authorization of the United States Attorney, a complaint is being filed this morning at Oklahoma City, charging [redacted] with perjury, as a result of the testimony which she offered for the defense in the trial of this case. This attorney is being charged specifically with violation of Section 231 of Title 18, United States Code. I am advised that a bond of \$5,000 will be requested on the perjury charge, which bond the defendant will probably be unable to make.

St. Louis

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover,
John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

All b7C

7-115-1649

JUN 17 1935
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
[Handwritten signature]

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

June 14, 1935

EAT:

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schmidt
Mr. Scudder
Mr. Smith
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

4 PM

RE: ^{Chas.} O'URSHEL KIDNAPING CASE

I called the Oklahoma City Office and talked with Agent [redacted] advising that the Laska trial is nearly over and the Bureau has received no indication that the Agents are leaving yet. He stated Zimmer left at 1 o'clock and [redacted] left yesterday. I advised that it was not desired that Agents Spears, [redacted] and any other Agents there to be around there waiting for the verdict. [redacted] stated both sides had rested the case and the arguments are being submitted. He stated he would get in touch with them and advise that the Bureau desires them to leave immediately, if the consent of the United States Attorney can be secured for this action. I advised that [redacted] and Spears were authorized to proceed back to Tacoma by plane. I advised that I could see no purpose in Spears staying there to follow the results of the perjury charges. I advised that these instructions were not to be construed as being any basis for antagonizing the United States Attorney or jeopardizing the case, but that we did want to get them back as soon as possible. [redacted] stated he would wire the Bureau when they are leaving.

Respectfully,

All b7C

E. A. Tamm.

RECORDED

7-115-1649

JUN 15 1935

JUN 15 1935

JUN 15 1935

Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice

P. O. Box #64
Buffalo, N.Y.

June 14, 1935

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

C. V. H. H. H.

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith a clipping of an editorial entitled: "Mouthpiece Menace" which appeared in the Buffalo Evening newspaper on June 12, 1935.

There is also transmitted herewith a newspaper clipping of an editorial entitled: "Parole is Challenged", which appeared in the Buffalo Courier-Express on June 13, 1935.

Very truly yours,

W. L. Listerman

W. L. LISTERMAN
Special Agent in Charge

62-29631

*ALL
Enc. *W* b7c
with
OK
in
cm*

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-115-1650
JUN 17 1935
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

JUN 28 1935

"MOUTHPIECE" MENACE

The government of the United States is vigorously prosecuting the two attorneys, Ben Laska of Denver and James C. Mathers of Oklahoma City, who defended the members of the Bailey-Kelly kidnap gang. The persons who abducted Charles F. Urschel two years ago are now serving time. Federal District Attorney W. C. Lewis insists that the lawyers for the defense were paid in bills extracted from the pocket of Urschel and that they had prior knowledge that the money with which they were rewarded was "tainted."

A nice question of ethics is raised here. Even the guilty man is entitled under law to be represented in court by an attorney. If he has none in a criminal case, the court appoints one who is supposed to do his best for the defendant. Messrs. Laska and Mathers insist that they did not know the fees proffered them in the Urschel case were composed of ransom money. Nor were they, under the law, required to ask their clients pointblank if the bills were "hot." Mr. Lewis insists they had this prior guilty knowledge and that they conspired to keep the government from recovering various amounts of ransom secreted here and there in the Southwest by members of the gang.

The Federal authorities have not been conspicuously successful in convicting attorneys who are consistently found fighting on the side of the underworld. If they could catch any such "redhanded," the general effect would be decidedly wholesome. Federal agents and

prosecutors often find their best efforts thwarted by criminal lawyers who use every legal loophole imaginable to wrest their clients from the grip of the law. Together with sentimentally inclined parole board members, they constitute a real menace to society.

The President has called Attorney-General Homer S. Cummings' attention to the fact that two suspects in the Weyerhaeuser case had long criminal records and were yet free on parole. The nation regrets the carelessness displayed by those officials who soft-headedly turned those offenders loose, even as it hopes that some effective means of curbing the activities of criminal "mouthpieces" can ultimately be discovered.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

June 15, 1935

EAT:

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Scheidt	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

10:45 AM

RE: URSCHER KIDNAPING CASE

Agent [redacted] called from Oklahoma City in connection with the Laska trial to advise that the jury found Laska guilty this morning, and that yesterday a directed verdict was entered as to Mathers, who was found not guilty. Laska was given three days in which to file a motion for a new trial, sentence being deferred until that motion has been heard. July 2nd was set as the date for the hearing on the motion and Laska's bond has been continued. As soon as the verdict was returned, Mollie O. Edison was arrested by a Deputy Marshal and an Agent, on a complaint filed by the United States Attorney, charging her with perjury under Section 231 of Title 18, and she is before the Commissioner now. The United States Attorney has recommended \$5,000 bond in her case.

Agent [redacted] advised that a reporter on the Oklahoma City Times wants to take a picture of the chart out there, containing photographs of the subjects so far convicted in the Urschel case, and I advised that we could not permit that.

Respectfully,

All b7C

E. A. Tamm.

RECORDED & INDEXED

7-115-1651

JUN 18 1935

JUN 18 1935

RECEIVED BY PRIVATE
WIRE FROM
POSTAL TELEGRAPH
STANDARD TIME INDICATED
IN THIS MESSAGE

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay Radio

This is a full rate Telegram
Radiogram unless otherwise
signal in the check or in

DL	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
LCO	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman ..
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Schmidt
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

2 28 GOVT COLLECT=OKLAHOMACITY OKLA JUNE 14 1004P

DIRECTOR =FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

US DEPT OF JUSTICE PENN AVE AT NINTH ST NORTHWEST=

GEORGE KELLEY BARNES ETAL CHARLES F URSCHEL VICTIM KID

LASKA JURY RETURNED SEALED VERDICT SIX FIVE THIS EVENING

TO BE OPENED IN COURT NINE THIRTY TOMORROW MORNING=

BRANTLEY JBL.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-115-1134

JUN 18 1935

JUN 19 1935

TAMM ONE

1023PM. B1

212

ndb

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Oklahoma City, Okla.**

FILE NO. **7-19**

REPORT MADE AT: Washington, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE: 6/18/35	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 6/10,12,13/35	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
---	-----------------------------------	--	--------------------------------------

TITLE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, ET AL, CHARLES F. URSCHEL - VICTIM.	CHARACTER OF CASE: KIDNAPING
--	--

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Check of hotels, real estate offices, Retail Merchants Association, drug stores, Police Department and Post Office failed to give any clue as to the whereabouts of Dr. and Mrs. C. J. Adrienne.

MAILED 1935

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Little Rock, Ark., 5/31/35.

All b7C

DETAILS:

AT ROANOKE, VIRGINIA.

Agent searched the registration records for the entire month of May at the following hotels located in Roanoke:

- The Patrick Henry Hotel
- Ponce de Leon Hotel
- Hotel Roanoke
- Shenandoah Hotel
- Ritz Hotel

DETAILS:

This search failed to reveal that anyone named C. J. Adrienne had stopped at any of these places during the month of May.

At the office of Windel-Lemon, Realtors, Agent made inquiry if there were any central Real Estate Board in Roanoke that would have

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>J.M. Keith</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1653	RECORDED AND INDEXED: JUN 18 1935
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3-Bureau 3-Oklahoma City (1 U.S. Atty. Oklahoma City) 1-Little Rock (Information)		UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	CHECKED OFF: JUN 20 1935 JACKETED:

DESTROYED 7 1962

records on parties applying for rental. [REDACTED] in that office informed Agent that the realtors in Roanoke used the Retail Merchants Association in Roanoke as a clearing house for these records. He stated that no person by the name of Adrienne had been in his office concerning rental during the past sixty days.

At the Retail Merchants Association Agent ascertained that there was no record of anyone by the name of C. J. Adrienne. This would prove almost conclusively that no one using this name had rented a cabin or applied for light, gas or telephone service in Roanoke.

At the Medical Arts Building Agent made inquiry of [REDACTED] if there is any Medical Association or organization in Roanoke to which a visiting doctor would make himself known. Dr. Trout stated that there was no such organization in Roanoke.

Agent also inquired at the Patterson Drug Company, Barnes Drug Store and the Medical Arts Drug Store if such a doctor was known to them. None of them had ever heard of any doctor by the name in Roanoke.

Agent made inquiry at the General Delivery window at the Post Office but was informed that no one by the name of C. J. Adrienne had been receiving mail at that place. The Superintendent of Mails contacted each of his fifteen Rural Delivery Carriers, but none of them remembered delivering any mail to anyone by that name on the rural routes of Roanoke.

Inquiry made at the Police Department reflected that that organization had no information concerning an individual named Adrienne.

All b7C

722 Midland Savings Bldg.,
Denver, Colorado
June 13, 1935

Special Agent in Charge,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Dear Sir:

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

65
+

7-11-5-1654
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 17 1935
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ONE

JUN 13 1935

RE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with
aliases; ET AL
CHARLES F. JURSCHEL - Victim
KIDNAPING

With reference to telephonic request of Special Agent [redacted] to interview and obtain statement from [redacted] secretary to Ben B. Laska, please be advised that I called at the office of Laska, 620 Symes Building, this afternoon, and found [redacted] in the office.

She is a very frail looking woman, and when I identified myself, she appeared to become faint, and requested that I not interview her because of her physical condition. She appeared to become quite pale, and I do not believe that her condition was all assumed. She recovered, however, after considerable questioning, and when questioned as to her recollection of any incident which took place in the office wherein Laska requested her to count a considerable amount of currency, she stated at first that she did not recall, and was extremely reluctant to make any answers to any questions put to her.

However, [redacted] finally stated that she did recall that in the summer of 1933, Eddie Feldman had come into Laska's office, and he and Laska went into the inner-office, and the communicating door being closed, she stated, that she did not hear any conversation--as she recalls it, this was in August of 1933. When asked how she set that date, she stated that she knew it was not in June as Laska at that time was in North Dakota on the [redacted] case, and she knew that it was not in July, because she had been on a vacation for a period of two weeks, and she believed that this period was during the middle of July 1933.

[redacted] stated that Laska and Eddie Feldman remained in the office for fifteen or twenty minutes, and that Feldman then left; that Laska then called her in the office and asked her to count a considerable amount of currency which was on his desk. She stated that Laska then left the office, and she began counting the money, and that while she was counting the money, Mrs. Mollie Edison came in the office and assisted her in counting same. She stated that she did not know exactly whether Mrs. Edison was in the office for any length of time before she came in the inner-office, but does not think so, as she is quite sure that Mrs. Edison was not in the outer-office when Laska called her in. Further, that she and Mrs. Edison counted the money, and that she found that the money was \$35.00 short of \$3000.00. I asked her whether Laska told her how much money was supposed to be there, and

All BTC

she said that he did not; and when asked as to how she knew the money was \$35.00 short, she replied that she did not know how much money was supposed to have been there, but that she had just stated the amount as being \$35.00 short of \$3000.00. Then she stated that she placed the money in two envelopes and either put the money in the file cabinet in Laska's office or in his desk, she was not certain, and that while she was counting the money Mrs. Edison asked her to change a \$20.00 or a \$50.00 bill, which she did out of the money which she had been counting. Further, she related that Laska returned a short while later, and she believed Mrs. Edison was still in the office, and that Laska at this time asked her how much she had found, and she had advised him that it was \$35.00 short, and that Laska had replied, "He gipped me". When reducing the information to a written statement, [REDACTED] stated, however, that she did not say that Laska had said that "He gipped me". She did not recall what Laska had said concerning the money.

She stated that she did not know what Laska did with the money as she had never made any deposits in any banks for Laska, and had never made any deposits in the Safety Deposit Vault.

She was shown the photograph of Eddie Feldman, and identified this photograph as a photograph of the person whom she had seen come into Laska's office, known to her as Eddie Feldman. She stated that she did not know a [REDACTED] that she had heard of such a person but that she had never seen him. On being questioned as to whether [REDACTED] or anyone else, was with Feldman on the visit above related she said that she was quite sure that no one accompanied Feldman.

[REDACTED] was asked when she last talked to Laska, and she said that she had not talked to him by telephone, or received any communications from him whatsoever since he left for the trial in Oklahoma. She also claimed that she had not talked to Mrs. Edison or had received any communications from Mrs. Edison since the latter left for Oklahoma. She stated that she is no relation to Laska, either by blood or marriage; that she has been employed by him for the past six or seven years.

When first approached in the office, [REDACTED] as previously stated, gave every possible indication that the visit was a surprise to her, and that she was very much afraid of saying anything which might hurt Laska. While Agent was interviewing her in her office, the telephone rang and [REDACTED] called the person [REDACTED] and said that "She had talked to her". [REDACTED] after hanging up the phone, explained that that was Laska's daughter.

[REDACTED] clearly indicated that she was not telling the truth concerning the incident about counting the money, but she is a very timid person and

All b7C

hesitated for at least an hour before signing a statement, which she signed after voluntarily coming to the Denver Bureau Office with the writer.

The office^{of}/Laska consists of two rooms, a small reception room immediately off the corridor, and a somewhat larger room, probably 8x10, immediately in back of this, and being divided by a half glass partition. The communicating door has a showered-glass panel, and this door is located in the extreme right of the partition. The roll-topped desk of Laska, where [REDACTED] stated the money was being counted, is on the extreme left of the inner-office and toward the front. In order for one in the outer-office to see anything on the desk in the inner-office it would be necessary for the communicating door to be open and for the person in the outer-office to be sitting directly in front of the door, and it would then appear to be necessary for the person to lean way back in order to see anything on Laska's desk, which would be an extremely awkward position. It is believed that if [REDACTED] were placed under oath that she would hesitate to commit perjury, and would probably tell the complete story.

Her physical condition seemed to improve considerably after the first fright she received when Agent identified himself, and she later walked about five blocks to the office, and did not appear to suffer any ill effects. She is naturally frail, and stated that she had been in bad health for sometime, but she advised that she was not presently being treated by a physician, and it is the writers opinion that she could have gone to Oklahoma City very easily to have given testimony.

Before signing the statement she said that she would like to add something to the statement, and she thereupon wrote in her own handwriting the post-script appearing on page two of the statement. I am transmitting herewith the original and one copy of the statement as signed by [REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

E. P. GUINANE
Special Agent in Charge

EPC [REDACTED]
Enc:
AIRMAIL

All b7C

cc: Bureau ✓

Denver, Colo.
June 13, 1935

I, [REDACTED] Denver, Colorado, make this statement voluntarily to E. F. Guinane, who has shown me his credentials to the effect that he is a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice.

With reference to an incident which took place in the office of Ben B. Laska in 620 Symes Building, Denver, Colorado, at the time certain money was counted by me at the request of Mr. Laska, I desire to state the following as my best recollection of what took place.

During the summer of 1933, as I recall in August, 1933, as Mr. Laska was in North Dakota in June and I was on my vacation for two weeks during July, a client of Mr. Laska, who is known to me as Eddie Feldman, whose photograph has been exhibited to me by Mr. Guinane and whom I identified as Eddie Feldman, came in the office to see Mr. Laska. I believe it was in the morning as Mr. Feldman who had called at the office before usually came in the morning. Feldman went into the inner office with Mr. Laska and the communicating door was closed, and I did not hear any of the conversation. They were in the office about 15 or 20 minutes and Mr. Feldman left the office and Mr. Laska called me in and pointed to a considerable amount of currency which was on his desk and told me to count same. Mr. Laska then went out.

I began counting the money and while I was counting same, Mrs. Wollie Edison came in the office and assisted me in counting the money. As I recall, Mrs. Edison wanted a bill changed and I changed a \$20 or \$50 bill for her from this money. As I recall, there was \$30 or \$35 less than \$3,000, about \$2,970 in all which was in \$5, \$10, and \$20 bills and possibly one or two \$50 bills.

I placed this money in two envelopes and as I recall I put the envelopes in the filing cabinet. Mr. Laska returned a short time later and Mrs. Edison, as I recall, was in the inner office or in the reception room. Mr. Laska asked me how much there was and I informed him that there was \$30 or \$35 less than \$3,000. I did not recall what Mr. Laska said when he returned or whether he took the money out of the cabinet at that time or whether I gave him the money.

A11 b7C I have been asked by Mr. Guinane whether I know one [REDACTED] I do know of such a person, but I have never seen him.

I do not know what became of this money. I do not do any of Mr. Laska's banking and have never deposited any money in any bank or any safety deposit box for Mr. Laska. I have been employed by Mr. Laska about 6 or 7 years.

The above statement has been given by me freely and voluntarily without any force or duress and I have been advised that same may be used against me. I have read this statement before signing my name.

/s/ [REDACTED]

WITNESSES:

/s/ E. P. Guigane
E. P. GUIGANE, Special Agent in Charge,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Denver, Colorado.

/s/ [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Special Agent,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Denver, Colorado

All b7C

At the time the money was paid, I did not know his, Feldman's, name. I asked Mr. Laska, "Who was that man" Mr. Laska said, "He is a relative to Davis who is being held in jail, and wanted in connection with an express robbery in the south, also Louisville Bank robbery in Colorado" That was in August between the 12 - 15 1933, as I recall it.

/s/ [REDACTED]

RECEIVED BY PRIVATE
WIRE FROM
POSTAL TELEGRAPH
STANDARD TIME INDICATED
IN THIS MESSAGE

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial Cables Mackay Radio
All America Cables



This is a full rate Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

DL	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
LCO	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
WLT	WEEK END CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

Form 16 P. W.

W20 29 GOVT COLLECT=CX OKLAHOMACITY OKLA 1235P JUN 14 1935

DIRECTOR FED BUR OF INV=
US DEPT OF JUSTICE PENNSYLVANIA AVE AT NINTH ST NORTHWI
WASHN DC=

GEORGE KELLY BARNES WA ETAL CHARLES F URSCHEL VICT
KIDNAPING DIRECTED VERDICT RETURNED AS TO DEFENDANT JAMES C
MATHERS JR ARGUMENTS IN PROGRESS EXPECTED GO JURY BEFORE

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Boardman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

NIGHT=
RECORDED
&
INDEXED
BRANTLEY JBL. 159P

JUN 18 1935

7-115-1655

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 18 1935
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TAMM ONE FILE

[Handwritten signature]

COPY

June 10, 1935

Special Agent in Charge,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

All b7c

Dear Sir:

On June 8, 1935 there was received in the Bureau a letter from your office dated June 5, 1935 addressed to the Special Agent in Charge, Dallas, Texas, advising of the necessity of the presence in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, of Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] as witnesses in the case entitled United States vs. James Alex [redacted], in the file entitled [redacted] with aliases, et al, First National Bank, Okeene, Oklahoma, Bank Robbery. This letter also advised of the necessity of the presence of Special Agent [redacted] in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma as a witness in the case entitled United States vs. Ben B. Laska, et al, on June 10, 1935.

The Dallas Office has been advised by wire dated June 8, 1935, a copy of which is attached, as to the necessity for the presence of these Agents in Oklahoma City on the dates named, and the original letter is being forwarded to Dallas with a copy of this letter.

It is desired that you instruct your clerical employees to exercise greater care in the future in order that all mail will be promptly forwarded to the correct address.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

RECORDED

Incl. #519745

cc - Dallas (with original letter
to Dallas from Oklahoma
City Office dated 6/5/35)

7-115-1656

JUN 18 1935

Chas. [unclear]

ORIGINAL FILED IN 91-111

FED BUREAU OF INVEST OKLAHOMA CITY JUNE 15, 1935

DIRECTOR

GEORGE KELLY BARNES WA ETAL CHARLES F URSCHEL VICTIM KIDNAPING
CONFIRMING TELEPHONE CALL SEALED VERDICT RETURNED IN OPEN COURT
NINE THIRTY THIS MORNING JURY FINDING BEN B LASKA GUILTY AS CHARGED
THREE DAYS GRANTED DEFENDANT IN WHICH FILE MOTION NEW TRIAL MOLLIE
EDISON DEFENSE WITNESS AND DENVER ATTORNEY ARRESTED BY DEPUTY USM
AND AGENTS IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER ON COMPLAINT FILED USA HERE CHARG-
ING PERJURY VIOLATION SECTION 231 TITLE 18 USC ON PLEA NOT GUILTY
BEFORE COMMISSIONER EDISON REMANDED OKLAHOMA CITY COUNTY JAIL DEFAULT
\$5000.00 BOND PENDING PRELIMINARY HEARING JUNE 1
TELETYPE INSTALATION COMPLETED YESTERDAY CALL NO OKCY 1

BEAUNTLEY

END

OK

b7c

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUN 19 1935

7-115-1657
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 18 1935
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TAMM ONE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

[Handwritten initials and signatures]

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
June 15, 1935.

(Time 2:30 PM)

- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Chief Clerk.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Edwards.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. Quinn.....
- Mr. Scherdt.....
- Mr. Spangler.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

MEMORANDUM

During a telephonic conversation with [redacted] he mentioned the fact that he had noticed that the Bureau had secured a conviction against Ben Laska. I advised [redacted] that in this connection we had also picked up a woman associate of Laska's, who is a lawyer, and that we will try her for perjury.

All
b7C

J.E.H.

RECORDED

115-1658

JUN 21 1935

JUN 17 1935

TAMM

OWA

115

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION~~
U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box 1276
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
June 17, 1935

DB:
7-6c.

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
United States Department of Justice,
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

[redacted] of the Oklahoma City Times, an Oklahoma City newspaper, discussed with Agent [redacted] of this office last week the matter of photographing the Bureau chart which shows the photographs of several persons convicted in the Urschel case. The number of this chart is 55 31. [redacted] queried Mr. Tamm of the Bureau with respect to this matter and was informed by Mr. Tamm that the Bureau would not consent to the photographing of this chart by this newspaper.

[redacted] again called the office today concerning this matter and I told him that the Bureau had informed the office that it would not permit the photographing of this chart. [redacted] then desired to know whether the Bureau would furnish him an original of this chart as he desires to publish it and to write a story concerning the case and make mention therein the fact that there are four more faces to add to the chart, namely, Ben B. Laska, Clara Feldman, with aliases, Ed Feldman, with aliases, and Alvin Scott, the latter recently convicted at Oklahoma City.

Will you kindly advise me at the earliest possible moment whether an original of said chart will be furnished the Oklahoma City Times, in order that I may advise said newspaper in the premises.

Very truly yours,

Dwight Brantley
DWIGHT BRANTLEY,
Special Agent in Charge.

All b7C

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

JUL 2 1935

7-115-1659

SW

[Redacted]

7-115-1659

June 27, 1935.

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

All b7C

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of
June 17, 1935 concerning the request of [Redacted]
[Redacted] of the Oklahoma City Times to photograph the
Bureau chart in the Urschel case.

Please be advised that it will be
permissible for [Redacted] to photograph this chart
if he desires to do so.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Tamm [Signature]

RECEIVED
JUL 1 1935
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JEH [redacted] June 17, 1935.

Time 2:00 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

RE: Ben Laska

In a telephone conversation with [redacted] who called from New York City, he advised that [redacted] of the Telephone Company at Denver, Colorado, stated he had put a telephone call through for Ben Laska to [redacted] while [redacted] was still a fugitive. [redacted] suggested that I might desire to have one of our Agents call on [redacted]

I stated that I would see that this was done.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

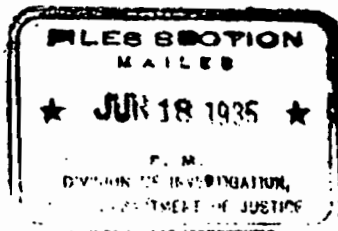
All b7c

Leves

RECORDED & INDEXED

7-115-1660

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Scheidt
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Smith
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box 1276
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
June 17, 1935

DB: b7C
7-6

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Carson	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Gurnea	✓
Mr. Hendon	✓
Mr. Pennington	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
United States Department of Justice,
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith an editorial
appearing in The Daily Oklahoman of Monday, June 17,
1935, which I thought might be of interest to you.

Very truly yours,

Dwight Brantley
DWIGHT BRANTLEY,
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure

ms
2/2/35
See Standard Catalog
7/1/35

an
Editor E. H. Raymond
7/5/35
6/8

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

JUL 11 1935

115-1661

JUN 20 1935

SALES

MAIL

THE DAILY OKLAHOMAN

E. K. GAYLORD, Editor

Published Every Morning by

THE OKLAHOMA PUBLISHING CO.

E. K. GAYLORD, President
EDGAR T. HILL, Secretary-Treasurer

Eastern and Western Representatives THE K. KATZ
SPECIAL ADVERTISING AGENCY, New York, City,
San Francisco, Calif., Kansas City, Mo., Chicago,
Detroit, Atlanta, Ga., Dallas, Texas.

The Oklahoma Publishing Co. maintains a Bureau of Accuracy and Fair Play on the third floor of the Oklahoman Building. Any complaint of unfair treatment in the columns of its newspapers will be adjusted if the public will make use of this bureau.

Discouraging the Criminal

IN the conviction of Laska the kidnaping racket received the deadliest blow that it has thus far received in the war waged by the federal government under the comprehensive provisions of the Lindbergh law. No longer, can criminals who have enriched themselves temporarily by their inhuman raids upon families employ their loot as a means of escape from legal punishment. The money they have extorted from distracted families is converted into a source of innumerable dangers. When called to account by the agencies of justice the miscreants will find that they would be all the better off if they possessed no money at all.

By virtue of the Laska conviction every attorney in America is commanded to watch his step when undertaking to defend a kidnaper. The reputable are warned to proceed with an extra degree of caution, while the disreputable are warned to proceed at their own peril. The published announcement that a kidnaping has been staged and a ransom paid is sufficient notice to every attorney in the republic to be on guard. Naturally the attorney of good reputation will not be eager to appear for the defense in a kidnaping case. Meanwhile the practitioners of doubtful reputation will speedily discover that there are less hazardous spheres of practice.

If the conviction of Laska is impossible, it is extremely difficult for the defendant in a kidnaping case to employ competent counsel. A grave injustice would have been done. For every defendant has the right to employ competent counsel. In every defendant is presumed to be innocent until a jury of 12 has pronounced him guilty. The Laska conviction will deprive the defendant of his ability to employ competent counsel. It merely makes it extremely difficult for an attorney to accept as a retainer the kidnaping case money whose antecedents are not fully known. It makes it nearly impossible for the kidnaper to use practically the only money he possesses for the employment of an attorney. In effect the Laska conviction kills the purchase value of the kidnaping racket.

Even if no defense of kidnaping has been behind the prosecution of Laska, the mere fact that he was prosecuted will have a tendency to restrain the activities of people who have observed the activities of certain criminal lawyers who are marveled at their continued immunity from prosecution. In many instances there is some legal technicality which success in escaping the penalty constitutes a continuous cause of business. Not all of these technicalities are in Denver. Hence the public will be disposed to feel that the conviction of a man who has long been a source of wanton criminals and who has now launched an offensive against the principal sources and purveyors of crime.

As for Mrs. Edgerly, who was charged with perjury, she is presumed to be innocent. It is not until a jury has pronounced her guilty that she is guilty. But the conviction of another person charged with perjury has been more than sufficient to positively establish the guilt of a jury. The conviction of a person charged with perjury is a common

RECORDED

7-115-1661 July 8, 1935.

b7c

Mr. E. K. Gaylord,
Editor,
The Daily Oklahoman,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Mr. Gaylord:

My attention has been called to an editorial entitled "Discouraging the Criminal", which appeared in the June 17, 1935, issue of The Daily Oklahoman.

The sound thought back of this editorial moves me to comment briefly upon it. It has been the settled conviction of this Bureau that in order to proceed effectively against the professional criminal, it is necessary not only to strike against him directly, but also to level the attack against those who connive with him, harbor him, and smooth the path for him to continue his depredations. It is upon this theory that actions such as that against Laska are undertaken. I believe that your editorial was eminently correct in its thesis that this conviction is a deadly blow against the kidnaping racket.

With best wishes and kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Egan
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Schantz
- Mr. Schiller
- Mr. Smith
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

CC Oklahoma City

FILED IN OCTOBER 1935
MAILED
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

V

ES

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 17, 1935.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER

I sincerely congratulate you upon the
success of the prosecution of Ben B. Laska of
Denver, Colorado.

William Stanley
William Stanley
The Assistant to the Attorney General

Charles F. ...
** comment ...*

[Handwritten signature]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-115-1661X	
JUN 20 1935	
<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>

JUN 20 1935

27

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DNVR

✓
TO OKCY 1 GO AHEAB PLSO

OKCY 1 DEPT JUSTICE OKLAHOMA CITY JUNE 17 4935 [REDACTED]
RE GEORGE KELLY BARNES WA ETAL CHARLES F URSCHEL KIDNAPING THE US
ATTORNEY HERE DESIRES TO KNOW WHETHER THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE OF D
DEPOSIT IS STILL GOOD AND WHETHER ANY LIENS OR OTHER STOPS HAVE BEEN
PLACED AGAINST IT. IT IS CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT NUMBER 164355 ISSUED
BY THE DENVER NATIONAL BANK OF DENVER COLORADO TO MRS G L DAVIS IN THE
SUM OF \$2000.00 AND DATED JULY 47 49 1933 THAT IS JULY 17 1933
85 IS XX IT IS TO BE MAILED TO MRS CLARA FELDMAN IN CARE OF THE BANK
IF IT IS STILL GOOD AND SHE WILL HAVE TO HAVE AN AGENT THERE TO IDENTIFY
HER OR HER SON ED FELDMAN. ADVISE IMMEDIATELY IF THIS IS STILL GOOD
SIGNED BRANTLEY BY [REDACTED]

ENDM

All b7C

RECORDED

JUN 26 1935

✓ C. A. Brantley

7-115-1662	
F B I - DENVER	
7-6	JUN 20 1935
ONE	PA
	FILE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box 1276
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
June 18, 1935

✓ Mr. Nathan
✓ Mr. Tolson
Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
✓ Mr. Clegg
✓ Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Nease
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

DB:
7-6

b7c

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
United States Department of Justice,
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

RE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with
aliases, ET AL: CHARLES F.
URSCHEL, Victim: KIDNAPING.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith an editorial appearing in the Oklahoma City Times, an Oklahoma City newspaper, under date of Monday, June 17, 1935, relating to the recent conviction of Ben B. Olaska, which I thought might interest you.

Very truly yours,

Dwight Brantley
DWIGHT BRANTLEY,
Special Agent in Charge.

*C. H. Gaylord: editor
Oklahoma City Times*

Encl. 2

7/11/35
RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-115-1663

JUN 21 1935

JUL 6 1935

TAMM
ONE
URSCHEL

COPIES 1 P

THE OKLAHOMA CITY TIMES

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Monday, June 17, 1935

OKLAHOMA CITY TIMES
 PUBLISHED BY THE OKLAHOMA PUBLISHING CO.
 100 N. WESTERN AVENUE, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.
 ESTABLISHED 1890

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An Important Conviction

Unscrupulous lawyers, willing to cooperate with criminals and take the case of crime have been a major factor in the nation's unmanageable record of crime. Conviction of Ben G. Lake, Denver attorney, is contained in the disposition of the Charles F. ... fund is that to be rated an important ... decency. Indeed such a conviction is worth ... an appalling crime than is the apprehension ... of a dozen more gunmen. The underworld can ... suppressed with much greater ease when ... attorney ... It is ... possible to ... crime when ... deep ... An ... but the ... for ... were ... program ... reason ... vision of Ben G. Lake ... court ... the criminal ... long ...

*Merrell
 to ...
 7/1/35*

COPIES DESTROYED
 20 MAR 17 1965

b7c

July 1, 1935.

7-115-1663

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

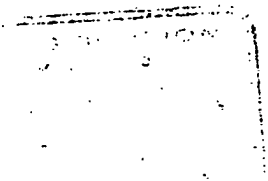
There is attached hereto a photostatic copy of an editorial, "An Important Conviction", which appeared in the Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Times, on June 17, 1935.

I thought you might be interested in reading the views of this paper relative to the conviction of Ben B. Laska.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Enclosure: 586407.



✓

53

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

June 18, 1935

EAT
C.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schildt	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Time - 5³⁰

I called Mr. Guinane at Denver and advised that the Bureau had received information to the effect that [redacted] of the telephone company at Denver, states that he put in a telephone call from Ben Laska to [redacted] while [redacted] was still a fugitive. I requested that he get in touch with [redacted] and secure all available information about this, furnishing the information to the Bureau via air mail.

Respectfully,

All b7C

E. A. Tamm.

7-115-1664

JUN 20 1935

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUN 21 1935

722 Midland Savings Bldg.
Denver, Colo.
June 18, 1935

Special Agent in Charge,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, et al;
CHARLES F. UNSCHEL--Victim
KIDNAPING

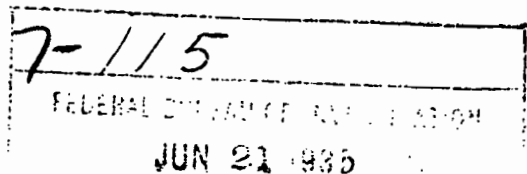
Confirming teletypewriter message of June 17, 1935, in reply to your inquiry, please be advised that [REDACTED] of the Denver National Bank advised me telephonically that certificate of deposit, No. 164535 (not 164355) is still outstanding payable to Mrs. G. L. Lewis in the amount of \$2,000 and will be paid by the bank upon proper presentation of credentials of the endorsee. [REDACTED] further advised that no liens, stops, nor encumbrances have been filed against the certificate of deposit.

Very truly yours,

F. P. GUINANE,
Special Agent in Charge

EPG [REDACTED]
7-7
cc Bureau ✓

All b7C



246
X

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.

FILE NO. 7-7

REPORT MADE AT Denver, Colo.	DATE WHEN MADE 6/18/35	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/11/35	REPORT MADE BY E. P. GUINANE	MT
TITLE GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, et al; CHARLES F. URSCHEL -- Victim			CHARACTER OF CASE KIDNAPING	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

1933 Buick Victoria Coupe, Motor 42823917, found in possession of Albert L. Bates at the time of his arrest in Denver, Colo., in August, 1933, was sold on judgment of American Express Co., by Sheriff, Denver, 10/13/33 for \$336.00. American Express Co. sold this car to [REDACTED] on 4/4/34 for \$800.00. [REDACTED] is a sugar broker and still has possession of car.

- P -

DETAILS:

All b7C

AT DENVER, COLO.

Special Agent in Charge C. C. Spears telephonically informed the writer on June 11, 1935, from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, that it was very important to determine who had purchased the 1933 Buick Victoria Coupe, Motor No. 2823917, Serial No. 2670702, which had been taken from Subject Albert L. Bates on attachment by the American Express Company at Denver, Colorado, in August, 1933, at the time Bates had been arrested by the Denver Police Department. Mr. Spears desired that the record of the Sheriff's sale be examined and ascertain all details in connection with the sale, determining to whom the car was sold and reasons therefor, in order to determine whether Ben B. Laska had any connection with the sale of the car.

Special Agent [REDACTED] was advised by [REDACTED] of the District Court, Denver, that a judgment was obtained by the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>E. P. Guinane</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		JUN 21 1935
3 - Bureau	7-115	JUN 24 1935
3 - Oklahoma City (Enc.)	JUN 21 A.M.	
2 - Denver		

American Express Company against Albert L. Bates alias G. L. Davis on September 15, 1933, in the amount of \$2,123.11 and costs. An attachment was issued on this judgment on one Victoria Coupe on October 7, 1933, and served the same date. The records further revealed that there was seized on this attachment the Victoria Coupe and money in the amount of \$775.00 and some personal effects. They also showed that the Victoria Coupe with a Hamilton 21-jewel watch, a billfold, a knife and chain were sold to the American Express Company on October 13, 1933 for \$336.00. This suit was based on the robbery of the Bank of Tupelo, Tupelo, Miss., on November 29, 1932, when \$2,000 worth of Traveler's Checks belonging to the American Express Company were stolen. The express company was represented by the law firm of [redacted] and [redacted] and the Defendant Albert L. Bates was represented by Ben B. Laska.

The writer communicated with [redacted] of the American Express Company, 1637 Stout Street, and he advised that this Buick Victoria Coupe, Motor No. 2823917, was obtained by the American Express Company on judgment against Albert L. Bates alias G. L. Davis and that the car was held by the American Express Company from the time same was obtained in October, 1933, to April 4, 1934, at which time the car was sold for \$800.00. [redacted] stated that his records did not show the name of the party to whom the car was sold nor whether the purchase price was received in cash or by check, but that as he recalled, the car was sold to a Jewish man who had offices in the Sugar Building, Denver. [redacted] further stated that the attorneys for the American Express Company were [redacted] and [redacted] and that he would look his records over further in an effort to locate the name of the owner.

Subsequently, [redacted] telephoned and stated that he could not find the record, but believed that same would be at the attorneys' office.

Agent interviewed [redacted] who went through his file and furnished Agent with a copy of the petition which was filed in the case, signed by himself and Ben B. Laska, Attorney for the Defendant, which petition was for the purpose of defeating a subpoena duces tecum which they believed was to be filed in the United States District Court to obtain possession of the \$775.00 which was found in the possession of Bates and which had been identified as money paid as ransom in this case. [redacted] also furnished a copy of the original complaint filed in the case against Bates. Copies of these pleadings are being transmitted to the Oklahoma City Office.

[redacted] appeared to be very much incensed at the Denver Office in this case because, as he stated, the Government at the time of the seizure of this money from Bates was trying to tell him how to run his case. He stated that Ben Laska was trying to "beat" him on the case but that the express company won out and that subsequently the express company turned the ransom money over to the Government.

All b7c

██████████ stated that because of the difficulty he anticipated in securing a judgment in this case against Bates, he made a proposition to Laska, who had obtained authority from Bates to represent him, to give Laska one-fourth of the ransom money recovered and one-fourth of the proceeds received from the sale of the Victoria Coupe and the Hamilton watch, which had been seized from Bates. He stated Laska consented to this but later told him that he could not give good title to the car, and accordingly when judgment was obtained ██████████ paid over to Ben Laska one-fourth of the amount of money representing the ransom money and one-fourth of the proceeds from the sale of the watch, which made a total payment to Laska of \$168.52. This payment was made to Laska by ██████████ in behalf of the American Express Company on October 16, 1933.

██████████ stated that his records on this case showed that the automobile was sold to the American Express Company but did not show to whom the express company sold the car, but that he understood that same was sold.

The writer communicated with ██████████ of the State Auto Theft Bureau, who advised that Buick Victoria Coupe, Motor No. 2823917, Serial No. 2670702 was registered in the name of ██████████, Colorado 1935 license plates No. 1-19465 being issued to ██████████ and Colorado title No. 418962.

In view of the fact that this information coincided with the information given by ██████████ of the American Express Company that the purchaser of the car was Jewish and had offices in the Sugar Building, Agent, after verifying that ██████████ was listed with offices in the Sugar Building, telephoned the ██████████ residence and was advised by ██████████ that ██████████ was out of the city but could probably be reached at the Aldelpe Hotel, Dallas, Texas. ██████████ stated that ██████████ had purchased the Buick car on April 4, 1934 from the American Express Company.

Special Agent in Charge Spears was telephonically communicated with at Oklahoma City and informed of the above.

PENDING

All b7C

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

FILE NO. 7-1

REPORT MADE AT: Little-Rock, Ark.	DATE WHEN MADE: 6/18/35	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 6/14/35	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
TITLE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, et al; CHARLES F. URSCHEL, VICTIM.			CHARACTER OF CASE: KIDNAPING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [REDACTED], Jonesboro, Arkansas, whose daughter is married to Dr. C. J. Adrienne and is travelling with him, has had no word concerning their whereabouts since their letter of May 16, 1935, from Roanoke, Virginia; does not know of their present location. Address of Rogers Silverware Company, for whom Adrienne is said to be salesman, furnished by her.

- P -

All b7C

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Little Rock, Ark., dated May 31, 1935.

DETAILS: [REDACTED] Jonesboro, Arkansas, stated that she had heard no word from her daughter, [REDACTED] who is travelling with her husband, Dr. C. J. Adrienne, since she received a letter from them postmarked at Roanoke, Virginia, May 16, 1935, which letter was mentioned in the reference report. According to her, they said in their letter that they had some intentions of remaining permanently in Roanoke, Virginia, but since she had not heard from them since that time, she believed they had gone from Roanoke to some other part of the country but merely had that idea, because Dr. Adrienne's work, which was selling cupons for the Rogers Silverware Company, demanded a great deal of travel. She said that their letter from Roanoke, Virginia, did not have a return address upon it. They never give her a forwarding address, so she never knows where they are or where they have been until they write her, according to her.

Agent informed [REDACTED] in answer to her inquiry as to why so many questions were being asked concerning Dr. Adrienne's whereabouts, that the Bureau was desirous of locating Dr. Adrienne for the purpose of obtaining information regarding another party, following the pretext employed by Special Agent [REDACTED] as set out in his report of reference--this for the information of other Agents

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3-Bureau 3-Oklahoma City (1 U. S. Atty., Okla. City) 2-St. Paul 2-Little Rock	7-115-1466 UNITED STATES JUN 22 AM BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO FILE	RECORDED AND INDEXED: JUN 23 1935 CHECKED OFF: [REDACTED] JACKETED: JUL 5 1935
--	---	---

who may later interview [REDACTED] on the same subject. She said that as soon as she received any information about the location of Adrienne and his wife, she would communicate with the Little Rock Bureau Office. She stated that her daughter, Mrs. Adrienne, informed her that Adrienne was presently a salesman for the Rogers Silverware Company, the address of which company, according to her, was "Room 316-IRRB, Lumber Edch Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota", and she said she felt quite sure Adrienne might be presently located by communicating with the central office at that address, since she was informed by her daughter that his itinerary was directed from there.

It will be noted that the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Little Rock, Arkansas, dated March 5, 1935, contained information to the effect that on March 6, 1934, at Corning, Arkansas, Adrienne and another man named [REDACTED] posed as representatives of the Rogers Redemption Bureau, selling coupons which they represented would be later redeemed with silverware of the Rogers Silverware Company. They told the purchasers of the coupons that the Rogers Redemption Bureau was located in Kansas City, and when one of the purchasers ascertained that no such company existed there, Adrienne and [REDACTED] were arrested for obtaining money under false pretenses, and, after being held in the Clay County jail at Corning, Arkansas, for a few weeks, were released. It is probable that Adrienne is presently employing the same pretext in his travels, which may be the basis for the Rogers Silverware Company address furnished [REDACTED] by her daughter, Mrs. Adrienne.

Chief of Police [REDACTED] and Deputy Sheriff [REDACTED] Jonesboro, Arkansas, could furnish no additional information concerning the present whereabouts of Dr. Adrienne, but stated they would communicate with the Little Rock Bureau Office in the event such information came into their hands.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE ST. PAUL OFFICE at Minneapolis, Minnesota, will conduct appropriate investigation, if it has not done so at sometime in the past, at the Rogers Silverware Company, Room 316-IRRB, Lumber Edch Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota, to ascertain if there is actually a bona fide silverware company at that address, and if so, whether or not Dr. C. J. Adrienne is a duly authorized agent of the company; and in the event that he is, what is his present whereabouts.

For the information of the St. Paul Office, if it has no previous reports on this phase of the case, Dr. C. J. Adrienne is reputed to have made the statement that he had several thousand dollars of the Urschel Ransom money and knew where there was ten thousand more. If located, Dr. Adrienne should not be openly interviewed; the Bureau should be advised of his location and instructions awaited before contact is made.

THE LITTLE ROCK OFFICE at Jonesboro, Arkansas, should periodically contact [REDACTED] (under the pretext mentioned in the body of this report), Chief of Police [REDACTED] and Deputy Sheriff [REDACTED] for any information they may have concerning the whereabouts of Dr. Adrienne.

ALL
b7C

EAT:

b7c

June 15, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
MR. WILLIAM STANLEY

As of possible interest to you, I am attaching hereto a memorandum which I have today addressed to the Attorney General, which relates to the outcome of prosecutive action taken against Attorney Ben B. Laska of Denver, Colorado, for his participation in the receiving of ransom funds paid in the Urschel case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

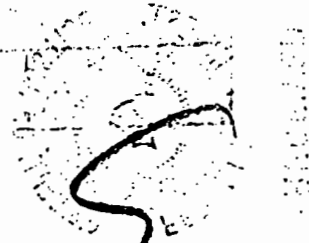
Enclosure #713007

7-115-1648

RECORDED

7-115-1667

RECORDED



Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
722 Midland Savings Bldg.,
Denver, Colorado
June 18, 1935

- Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schmidt
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Smith
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th St., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with a telephonic request from Mr. Tamm, I interviewed [redacted] of the Mountain States Telephone Company, Denver, at his home, [redacted] Denver, Colorado, tonight, concerning information indicating that a telephone call had been placed by Ben Laska to Albert Bates while the last named was still a fugitive.

[redacted] stated that the only long distance call that he remembers Laska placing, which came to his personal attention, was about a year and a half ago when Ben Laska, whom [redacted] is personally acquainted with, telephoned him at his home--and seemed to be in an excited state, and apparently had been drinking, and stated that he, Laska, had been endeavoring to communicate with [redacted] at some place near Pierre, South Dakota; that Laska intimated that the Government had his wires tapped, and for some unknown reason Laska was unable to reach [redacted] by telephone at a place near Pierre, South Dakota, and Laska stated that he knew that [redacted] could be reached by the telephone company, and hinted that the Government was doing something to prevent him from getting the proper connection.

Laska asked [redacted] if he would put the telephone call through for him. [redacted] stated that the details are not fresh in his mind; that he does not recall the name of the party whom Laska was calling where [redacted] was supposed to be, but that he had the long distance operator make inquiries, and he was advised that the party whom Laska was trying to reach in order to talk to [redacted] did not have a telephone, and that it would require that a messenger be sent to this place, but that the operator also advised him that the operator at Pierre had learned, apparently from neighbors, that [redacted] was not at the home of the family whom Laska was trying to reach, but was on her way to Pierre. [redacted] stated that he telephoned this information to Laska at his home where Laska had

All b7C

7-115-1668

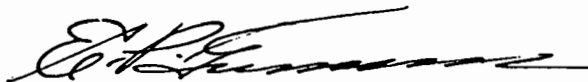
placed the call, and that on being advised of the fact that [REDACTED] was not at this place but was supposed to be on her way to Pierre, Laska stated that was what he wanted to know, and thanked [REDACTED] for his effort.

[REDACTED] stated that he does not have any notes or memoranda from which to refresh his recollection as to the date the above took place, and that the telephone records would not show this as it occurred over one year ago and the records of long distance calls would have been destroyed.

[REDACTED] advised that he was only too glad to give this Bureau any possible information, and that the above were all the details that he recalled at this time. He stated that he had never had any other dealings with Laska concerning Bates or any of the persons whom Laska had represented other than this one call to [REDACTED]

I thanked [REDACTED] for his information and assured him that it was greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,



E. P. GUINANE
Special Agent in Charge

EPG: [REDACTED]
AIRMAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

All b7c

722 Midland Savings Bldg.
Denver, Colo.
June 21, 1935

Special Agent in Charge,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases,
et al;
CHARLES F. URSCHFL--Victim
KIDNAPING

A letter was received from United States Attorney William C. Lewis of Oklahoma City requesting me to accompany Mrs. G. I. Davis to the Denver National Bank and to identify her in order that she might have Certificate of Deposit No. 164535 cashed.

I accompanied Mrs. Davis and she obtained \$2,000 from this certificate. Mr. Lewis also requested Mrs. Davis to turn over \$300 to me for transmittal to him, and Mrs. Davis in the presence of [REDACTED] of the Denver National Bank purchased a \$300 bank draft on the Denver National Bank payable to William C. Lewis, and turned same over to me.

This draft is enclosed herewith and I would thank you to hand same personally to Mr. Lewis.

Very truly yours,

All b7C

F. P. GUINANE,
Special Agent in Charge

EPC:
7-7
Enc.

cc Bureau
AIRMAIL

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUL 5 1935

7-115-1668X

SEARCHED	SERIALIZED
INDEXED	FILED

722 Midland Savings Bldg.,
Denver, Colorado
June 20, 1935

2633

Special Agent in Charge,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Dear Sir:

RE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases
et al, CHARLES F. URSCHEL, Victim,
KIDNAPING

As requested by the United States Attorney William C. Lewis in letter to me dated June 18, 1935, I accompanied Mrs. G. L. Davis to the Denver National Bank today upon her appearance here, and arranged with [REDACTED] of the bank to have Certificate of Deposit, Number 164535, paid to Mrs. Davis, which he paid to Mrs. Davis.

As requested by United States Attorney Lewis, Mrs. Davis turned over \$300.00 to me to be transmitted to Mr. Lewis, and I obtained a Cashier's Check, Number 6570, on the Denver National Bank payable to William C. Lewis in the amount of \$300.00 and am inclosing same, and will thank you to hand same personally to Mr. Lewis.

Very truly yours,

E. P. GUINANE
Special Agent in Charge

EFG:
Enc:
AIRMAIL

cc: Bureau ✓

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-115-1667

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

JUN 21 1935

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED

7

Post Office Box 1276
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
June 24, 1935

[REDACTED] b7C
7-8

Honorable W. C. Lewis,
United States Attorney,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

RE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with
aliases, ET AL; CHARLES F.
DURSCHEL, Victims Kidnaping.

Dear Sirs:

I am transmitting herewith cashier's check in the sum of \$500.00 payable to you and issued by the Denver National Bank of Denver, Colorado, under date of June 20, 1935. I am advised by the Denver Office that this draft is made payable to you in accordance with a letter addressed by you to the Denver Office in connection with the cashing of a Certificate of Deposit by Mrs. Clara Feldman.

Please acknowledge receipt of same.

Very truly yours,

DWIGHT BRANTLEY,
Special Agent in Charge.

Encl.
cc Bureau
Denver

RECORDED & INDEXED

*Teletype
Okl. City
7/13/35
R. C. M.*

7-115-1669X
JUN 27 1935

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

b7C

JULY 1 1935

MESSAGE TO BE TRANSMITTED BY TELETYPEWRITER.

RECORDED 7-115-16694

TO SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE AT OKLAHOMA CITY

GEORGE KELLY BARNES RE REFERENCE LETTERS DENVER OFFICE TO YOUR OFFICE
DATED JUNE 20 AND 21, 1935 AND LETTER YOUR OFFICE TO USA OKLAHOMA CITY
OKLAHOMA REGARDING CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT 164535 COVERING \$2000 AND
CASHIER'S CHECK 6570 PAYABLE TO WILLIAM C LEWIS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300
IMMEDIATELY ADVISE BUREAU FULLY CONCERNING THIS TRANSACTION

HOOVER

"SEE SERIAL #1669"

COPIES DESTROYED
20 MAR 17 1965

7-115

b7C

af

June 22, 1935.

Special Agent in Charge,
Buffalo, New York.

Re: George Kelly Barnes, with
aliases;
Charles F. Urschel, Victim,
KIDNAPING.

Dear Sir:

Reference is again made to Bureau letter dated April 3, 1935, addressed to Mr. Cecil A. Scherer, Plattsburg Post No. 20, The American Legion, City Hall, Plattsburg, New York, copy of which was forwarded to your office, wherein Mr. Scherer was advised that an agent of your office would interview him in the near future in connection with the above entitled case.

The Bureau desires that this interview be conducted without further delay.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

RECORDED

7-115-1670
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 24 1935

E

c

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

June 21, 1935

[Redacted] b7C

at

7/8
4
/

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

There are transmitted herewith copies of a list of the cities in the United States where investigative activity was conducted by Special Agents of the Bureau, and where sentences were imposed on the several defendants, in connection with the investigation of the kidnaping of Charles F. Urschel.

Respectfully,

R. E. Newby
R. E. Newby.

3 Enclosure.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-115-1670X

JUL 5 1935

JUL 3 1935

7/8
4
/

TAMM

CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES WHERE INVESTIGATIVE
ACTIVITY WAS CONDUCTED BY SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION AND WHERE SENTENCES WERE IMPOSED DURING THE COURSE OF
THE KIDNAPING OF CHARLES F. URSCHEL OF OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Charles F. Urschel kidnaped July 22, 1933 by George R. Kelly and Albert L. Bates.
George R. Kelly sentenced October 12, 1933 - life.
Kathryn Kelly sentenced October 12, 1933 - life.
Harvey J. Bailey sentenced October 7, 1933 - life.
Albert L. Bates sentenced October 7, 1933 - life.
R. G. Shannon sentenced October 7, 1933 - life.
Ora Shannon sentenced October 7, 1933 - life.
Armon Shannon sentenced October 7, 1933 - ten years, suspended.
Edward Berman sentenced October 7, 1933 - five years.
Clifford Skelly sentenced October 7, 1933 - five years.

Tulsa, Oklahoma

John G. Catlett received ransom letters July 26, 1933 demanding \$200,000.

Paradise, Texas

Urschel held victim July 23, 1933 to July 31, 1933.
Harvey J. Bailey and others apprehended August 12, 1933.

Joplin, Missouri

Ransom letter mailed July 27, 1933 to E. E. Kirkpatrick, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Kansas City, Missouri

E. E. Kirkpatrick delivered ransom of \$200,000 on July 30, 1933.

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MAR 17 1965

Madison, Wisconsin

George R. and Kathryn Kelly mailed \$1,500 on August 7, 1933 to R. G. Shannon, Paradise, Texas.

Indianapolis, Indiana

Registered receipt received general delivery August 11, 1933 addressed to Kathryn C. Kelly and signed Mrs. R. G. Shannon covering letter sent from Madison, Wisconsin August 7, 1933.

Denver, Colorado

Albert L. Bates apprehended August 12, 1933 by local officers and \$660.00 of the ransom money recovered from his person.

Ben B. Laska, attorney, taken into custody December 17, 1934.

Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota

Edward Berman and others taken into custody on or about August 5, 1933 as aiders and abettors, having exchanged a quantity of ransom money.

Norman, Oklahoma

Urschel was released July 31, 1933.

Cleveland, Ohio

Kelly negotiated for purchase of an automobile on August 8, 1933.

Coleman, Texas

Ransom money in the sum of \$73,250.00 recovered from farm of Cassey Earl Colema and Will Casey on September 7, 1933.

Chicago, Illinois

Kelly purchased an automobile August 10, 1933 under name of Fred E. Coleman.

Des Moines, Iowa

The Kellys registered August 11, 1933 at a local hotel as Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Coleman.

Biloxi, Mississippi

Kellys registered at a local hotel August 27, 1933.

Memphis, Tennessee

George and Kathryn Kelly apprehended September 26, 1935.

Jackson, Tennessee

J. C. Tiechenor sentenced October 21, 1933 - two years, six months.
Langford Ramsey sentenced October 21, 1933 - two years, six months.

Cheyenne, Wyoming

Mrs. Clara Feldman resided in this town and buried a portion of the ransom money.

Woodland, Washington

Ransom money in the sums of \$1,520.00 and \$38,460.00 recovered from hiding places.

Medford, Oregon

Ransom money in the sum of \$6,140.00 recovered from its burial places on November 7, 1934.

Roseburg, Oregon

Ransom money in the sum of \$1,360.00 recovered from personal effects of Alvin H. Scott on November 3, 1934.

Dunsmuir, California

✓ *Wanda DUNSMUIR*

Mrs. Clara Feldman and her son Edward, were taken into custody on November 9, 1934 and \$1,100.00 of the ransom money recovered from their possession.

Dallas, Texas

Harvey J. Bailey escaped from Dallas County Jail on September 4, 1934; re-captured same date Ardmore, Oklahoma. Thomas L. Manion sentenced - two years. Grover C. Berill sentenced. Earl Coleman sentenced October 17, 1933 - one year, one day. Will Casey sentenced October 17, 1933 - two years.

San Angelo, Texas

Louise Seaton sentenced April 30, 1934 - one year, one day.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FROM: DIVISION #1 & DIVISION #2

1935.

TO: Director
 Mr. Nathan
 Mr. Tolson
 Mr. Edwards
 Mr. Quinn
 Mr. Clegg
 Division Three

Division Four Division Five
 Files Section Identification Division
 Personnel Files Statistical Section
 Mechanical Section Technical Laboratory
 Chief Clerk's Office

SUPERVISORS

Division One Division Two
 Mr. Abbaticchio Mr. Berens
 Mr. Bryan Mr. Foxworth
 Mr. Newby Mr. Chambers
 Mr. Richmond
 Mr. Thompson
 Mr. Joseph
 Mr. Weeks

Miss Gandy
 Miss McCarthy
 Miss Conlon
 Mr. Ward
 Mr. Schuller
 Correct
 Re-write
 Re-date
 See me
 Send file
 Note and Return
 Please call me concerning thi
 Search, serialize and route

E. A. Tamm - Room 5107.

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

P. O. Box 64
Buffalo, New York

June 25, 1935

N
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases
CHARLES F. URSCHEL-VICTIM
KIDNAPPING

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated June 22, 1935 calling attention to Bureau letter dated April 3, 1935 addressed to Mr. Cecil A. Scherer, Plattsburg Post No. 20, The American Legion, City Hall, Plattsburg, New York advising him he would be contacted by an agent from this office.

This is to advise that Mr. Scherer was interviewed on May 17, 1935 the result of which will be found in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated Buffalo, New York, May 31, 1935.

Very truly yours,

T. N. Stapleton

T. N. STAPLETON
Special Agent in Charge

All b7C

TNS:
7-40

RECORDED

7-115-1071

JUL 2 1935

700

A

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

June 24, 1935.

TFB:BN

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON.

There is attached hereto .45 caliber Colt automatic pistol, serial #231182, which was recovered in the home of J. R. Tichnor on September 26, 1933, in connection with the Urschel case.

This gun was not placed in the exhibit cases in the Director's office due to the large number of firearms connected with the Urschel case which are already contained in the exhibit cases. I am accordingly forwarding the gun herewith, in order that it may be transmitted to the Laboratory for such use as may be appropriate there.

Respectfully,

T. F. Baughman.

EPG
JK
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

See index
6-25-35
S.G.H.

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 811 14

Placed in... collection

Placed in... collection
6-25-35
S.G.H.

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUL 3 1935

7-115-1672
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 26 1935
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
EDWARDS Lab.
OFF. CLERK *W.S.*

Post Office Box 1276
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
June 26, 1935

- E

Mr. John E. Osborn,
Operative in Charge,
U. S. Secret Service,
Treasury Department,
Federal Building,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of a communication from [redacted] of your office concerning information supplied him by Police Commissioner [redacted] at Altus, Oklahoma on June 22, 1935 relative to the possible location of some of the Urschel ransom money in the Arbuckle Mountains.

This matter will be given appropriate investigative attention by an Agent of this Bureau. I wish to thank you and [redacted] for the interest manifested in transmitting this information to this Bureau.

Very truly yours,

DWIGHT BRANTLEY,
Special Agent in Charge.

cc Bureau

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

JUL 2 1935

7-115-1673

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 20 1935

[Handwritten signature]

All b7c

FORM NO. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

FILE NO. 7-6

REPORT MADE AT: Okla. City, Okla.	DATE WHEN MADE: 6/26/35	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 6/10,15/35	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
TITLE: GEROGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, ET AL CHARLES F. URSCHEL - Victim			CHARACTER OF CASE: KIDNAPING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Jury trial of subjects Laska and Mathers began on 6/10/35 at Okla. City, Okla. On 6/14/34 Mathers acquitted by directed verdict of not guilty. On 6/15/35 Laska convicted, but sentence deferred until 7/2/35. On 6/15/35 subjects Scott, Clara Feldman and Edward Feldman each sentenced to serve five years; sentences suspended, and each placed on probation.

*Convict 3
sent 15
before
R*



MA 3321 - 11329 AM

P

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Oklahoma City, Okla., 4/18/35.

DETAILS: At Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

All b7c

The trial of subjects Laska and Mathers began in the United States District Court at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on June 10, 1935, and was completed on June 14, 1935.

After the presentation of all evidence in the case the Court directed a verdict of not guilty as to subject Mathers.

On the morning of June 15, 1935 the jury returned a verdict of guilty as charged in the indictment against subject Laska. The court then, upon motion, granted Laska three days within which to file a motion for new

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1674	RECORDED AND INDEXED: JUN 28 1935
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3 - Bureau 1 - Portland 1 - Denver 3 - Oklahoma City (1 - U. S. Atty., Okla. City) MS	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION JUN 29 AM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO FILE	CHECKED OFF: JUL 2 1935 JACKETED:

COPIES DESTROYED
20 MAR 17 1965

trial, and fixed the date of July 2, 1935 as the date for argument on this motion and the imposition of sentence.

As previously reported, subject Clara Feldman entered a plea of guilty on December 17, 1934, but sentence was deferred, and subjects Edward Feldman and Alvin Acott entered pleas of guilty on January 2, 1935, sentences being deferred. On June 15, 1935 these pleas of guilty were passed upon by the Court, and Clara Feldman, Edward Feldman and Alvin Scott was each sentenced to five years in an institution to be designated by the Attorney General, but said sentences were suspended for a period of five years from that date. Each was placed on probation.

Disposition sheet as to James Mathers, Clara Feldman, Edward Feldman and Alvin Scott is forwarded herewith.

The ransom money and other exhibits with the exception of the serial numbers of the ransom money recovered by agents of the Portland office and the containers in which said money was found, forwarded by the Portland office to the Oklahoma City office, have been delivered to the United States Attorney at Oklahoma City, and receipts for same are now contained in the Oklahoma City file.

During the course of the trial of this case Mollie O. Edison, an attorney of Denver, Colorado, appeared as a defense witness on behalf of subject Laska, and by reason of her testimony she was arrested on June 15, 1935 on a charge of perjury. This offense by Mollie O. Edison has been made the subject matter of a separate file in the Oklahoma City file #74-72, entitled Mollie O. Edison, Perjury.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE OKLAHOMA CITY OFFICE

At Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on July 2, 1935 will report the action of the Court on the motion for a new trial filed by subject Laska, and the sentence imposed on this subject.

P E N D I N G

12m

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA.

FILE NO. 7-10

REPORT MADE AT Salt Lake City, Utah.	DATE WHEN MADE 6-27-35	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6-24-35	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] - [REDACTED]
TITLE GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, et al. CHARLES F. UNSCHEL - Victim.			CHARACTER OF CASE KIDNAPING.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Detective [REDACTED] Salt Lake City Police Department, and Supt. of Mails [REDACTED] Salt Lake City Postoffice, advise that they have not been able to ascertain any information relative to the present whereabouts of [REDACTED]. In view of the fact that [REDACTED] apparently is not in the territory of the Salt Lake City Bureau office, no further investigation is being made in this case.

B.U.C.

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Salt Lake City, Utah, 5-8-35.

All b7C

DETAILS: Detective [REDACTED] Salt Lake City Police Department, and Superintendent of Mails [REDACTED] Salt Lake City Postoffice, advised that they had been unable to ascertain any information relative to the present whereabouts of [REDACTED].

In view of the fact that [REDACTED] is apparently not located in the territory of the Salt Lake City office, no further investigation is being conducted in this case.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

Louis D. Wine
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

7-1115 | 1675

JUL 1 - 1935

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

- 3 - Bureau.
 - 3 - Oklahoma City (1 U.S. Atty. Okla.)
 - 2 - Salt Lake City.
 - 1 - Denver.
- COPIES DESTROYED
MAY 17 1965

JUL 1 - A.M.

JUL 2 1935

██████████ b7C

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June 22, 1935.

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R
Mr. Charles E. Lounsberry,
Editor,
The Rocky Mountain News,
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Mr. Lounsberry:

The editorial entitled "The Laska Verdict",
appearing in the Rocky Mountain News on June 16, 1935,
has been read by me with deep interest.

I heartily agree with your statement that
the crooked lawyer, allied with the criminal may not
expect to escape punishment, and that the verdict in
the Laska case will have a salutary effect.

Your denouncement of the crooked criminal
lawyer is appreciated by me.

With best wishes and kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Miss Gandy

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Scheidt
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Smith
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

Handwritten initials and marks

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&
INDEXED

7-115-1676
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 1 1935 A.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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The Laska Verdict

BEN LASKA'S conviction will have a salutary effect. For years it has been only too obvious that the best friend of the professional criminal is the crooked lawyer. The verdict of guilty in the Laska case will help break this unholy alliance between the bar and the underworld. Notice is now served both on the kidnaper and the lawyer that the government is in deadly earnest in its campaign to break up organized crime.

No longer will the kidnaper feel that he can snatch a child and, if apprehended, escape punishment by paying an attorney half of all the ransom money.

No longer will a lawyer feel he can accept blood money and at the same time be protected by the fact that he is theoretically an officer of the court.

Litigants are expected to enter court with clean hands. The Oklahoma verdict shows that the same clean hands will be expected of lawyers.

Laska, unfortunately for himself, typifies the sort of attorney who gains a living by striving to defeat the ends of justice.

Under federal and state constitutions, the guilty as well as the innocent are entitled to legal representation and a fair trial. This does not mean the criminal can divide his loot with an attorney who gets outside his duty to render service which, if rendered by anybody else, would constitute him an accomplice in the crime.

Local and national bar associations have condemned the crooked criminal lawyer in countless resolutions. A jury has not only censured, but convicted.

The bar associations should finish the job. They are made forcibly aware that if they do not clean up their profession, the federal Department of Justice will do this necessary task.

██████████ b7c

g

June 28, 1935.

F

Special Agent in Charge,
Denver, Colorado.

Re: George Kelly Barnes, with
aliases; et al; Charles F.
Wrschel, Victim - Kidnaping.

Dear Sir:

Kindly obtain from the Clerk of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, Denver, Colorado, six copies of the printed decision of that Court entered March 25, 1935, in the case of Clifford Skelly and Edward Berman alias Barney Berman, Petitioners, versus the United States of America, to be forwarded to the Bureau in order to complete its file.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

cc-Oklahoma City.

RECORDED

7-115-1677
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 1 1935
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Faint circular stamp]

[Circular stamp with handwritten signature]

FORM NO. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Oklahoma City, Okla.

FILE NO. 74-78

REPORT MADE AT: Okla. City, Okla.	DATE WHEN MADE: 6/27/35	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 6/13, 23, 24/35	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
TITLE: MRS. MOLLIE O. BERT alias MOLLIE O. EDISON		CHARACTER OF CASE: PERJURY	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

During trial of case United States vs. Ben B. Laska, et al, Kidnaping-Conspiracy, at Okla. City, Okla. on 6/15/35 Mollie O. Edison, after being duly sworn, wilfully and falsely testified to matter material to issues of said trial, that Edward George Feldman on 8/14/33 paid and delivered to Ben B. Laska at his office in Denver, Colo. \$3000, at which time [REDACTED] was with Feldman. Feldman testified during trial he paid no money to Laska at his office on 8/14/33. [REDACTED] testified during trial he did not visit Laska's office with Feldman. [REDACTED] secretary of Laska, made affidavit that [REDACTED] was not in Laska's office, and does not know him. Complaint filed by United States Attorney W. C. Lewis 6/15/35 against Mollie O. Edison charging perjury. She was taken into custody same date; arraigned and pled not guilty. Bond was set at \$5000. Hearing set for 6/21/35. Order issued 6/15/35 by Federal Judge Edgar S. Vaught, Okla. City, Okla., allowing subject to furnish bond at Denver, Colo. within ten days. Description of subject.

P

All b7C

DETAILS:

This investigation was instituted as result of false testimony given by Mollie O. Edison on June 13, 1935 as a witness in the trial of the case entitled United States vs. Ben B. Laska, et al, Kidnaping-Conspiracy, on trial at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma in the Western District of Oklahoma.

During the trial of Ben B. Laska the Government alleged that Ben B. Laska was paid and received the sum of \$10,000.00 of the Urachel ransom money which was paid to Laska by Edward George Feldman as a fee to represent Albert Bates.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edgar S. Vaught</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	RECORDED AND INDEXED: JUL 1 1935
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 2 - Bureau 2 - Denver 3 - Oklahoma City	CHECKED OFF: JUL 5 1935
COPIES DESTROYED 20 MAR 17 1965	ROUTED TO: [REDACTED] FILE



Testimony given by Ben B. Laska during his trial at Oklahoma City was that he never received any of the Urschel ransom money, and the only money he received as fee for representing Albert Bates was \$3000.00 good money paid to him by Edward George Feldman at his office on or about August 14, 1933, which money was in various denominations, and at that time Feldman was accompanied by a man by the name of [REDACTED]

Mrs. Mollie O. Bert as Mollie O. Edison, 1301 Sherman Street, an attorney of Denver Colorado, with offices in the Symes Building, being duly sworn by the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma, testified that on or about August 14, 1933 she went to the office of Ben B. Laska, Symes Building, Denver, Colorado, at which time Mr. Laska was occupied in his private office with someone; that she waited in the reception room of Mr. Laska's office, and in a short while two men, whom she identified as Edward George Feldman and [REDACTED] came out of Mr. Laska's office; that Mr. Laska came out to his secretary, [REDACTED] and told her to go in his office and count the money laying on the desk, indicating to Mollie O. Edison to assist his secretary in counting this money; that they did count this money, which was in denominations of five, ten and twenty dollar bills, and possibly some fifty dollar bills, which totaled \$2970.00. Mollie O. Edison stated that her reason for going to Laska's office at the time was to secure change for \$50.00, which change she obtained from the money that she and [REDACTED] were counting.

Edward George Feldman, who was a co-defendant with Ben B. Laska, in the above mentioned case on trial at Oklahoma City, and who has since been placed on probation, whose address is now General Delivery, Medford, Oregon, after being sworn by Theodore M. Filson, Clerk of the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma, testified during the trial that he visited the office of Ben B. Laska in the Symes Building, Denver, Colorado, about August 14, 1933, but at that time did not pay Ben B. Laska any money; that [REDACTED] did not accompany him to the office of Ben B. Laska, and was not present when he talked to Mr. Laska in his office. Edward George Feldman further testified during this trial that he did pay and deliver to Ben B. Laska, at Mr. Laska's address, 1164 Cook Street, Denver, Colorado, a sum of \$10,000.00, which was part of the Urschel ransom money; that this occurred about August 18, 1933, and that later at some subsequent date he talked to Ben B. Laska, at which time Mr. Laska informed him that there was only \$8,000.00 in the sum of money which he brought to him about August, 18, 1933 instead of \$10,000.00, and for him to get the other \$2,000.00, which Feldman stated he did, taking it to Oklahoma City at Mr. Laska's request; that he delivered this \$2000.00 to Mr. Laska at his room in the Biltmore Hotel about September 15, 1933.

[REDACTED] Denver, Colorado, after being sworn by Theodore M. Filson, Clerk of the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma, testified during the trial of Ben B. Laska at

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma that he never was in Mr. Laska's office in the Symes Building with Edward George Feldman, and did not see Mr. Feldman deliver any money to Mr. Laska.

The Oklahoma City office communicated with the Denver office on June 13, 1935 after Mollie O. Edison had testified in the above mentioned case, and requested that the Denver office contact [redacted] at the office of Ben B. Laska, obtaining from her a statement or affidavit relative to this matter.

[redacted] was interviewed at 628 Symes Building, the office of Ben B. Laska, Denver, Colorado, and was also interviewed at the Denver Bureau office. She made an affidavit setting out that during the summer of 1935, which she believed to be about the middle of August, a young man, she later learned was Eddie Feldman, came to Mr. Laska's office, and entered Mr. Laska's private office in conference with Mr. Laska, where they remained about fifteen or twenty minutes; that after Feldman left the office Laska called her into his private office, and pointed to a considerable amount of currency laying on his desk; that he ask that she count same; that at the time she began counting this money Mollie O. Edison came into the office to get a bill changed, which was either a \$20.00 or \$50.00 bill. [redacted] stated that to the best of her recollection there was \$2970.00 in this pile of currency; that she placed it in an envelope, and she does not know what became of it after it was turned over to Mr. Laska. She stated that she does not know a person by the name of [redacted] and there was no one by that name in Mr. Laska's office at the time Eddie Feldman came there about the middle of August, 1935. She stated that at the time the money was paid to Mr. Laska she did not know the young man's name, but Mr. Laska informed her that that man, referring to Feldman, is a relative of Davis, who is being held in connection with an express robbery in the south, and also the Louisville bank robbery in Colorado.

The original of the above mentioned affidavit of [redacted] is attached to copy of this report being forwarded to the United States Attorney, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. One copy of this affidavit is being retained in the Oklahoma City file in this matter.

United States Attorney W. C. Lewis, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, informed agent that they have a transcript of the testimony of Mollie O. Edison, but no transcript has yet been ordered covering the testimony of [redacted] Edward George Feldman or Ben B. Laska.

Theodore M. Filson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, will testify that he is the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Western District

of Oklahoma, appointed by the United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, and is empowered to administer all necessary oaths by Section 385, Title 18, U. S. C. A; that during the trial of the United States vs. Ben B. Laska, et al, Kidnaping-Conspiracy, at Oklahoma City, during the early part of June, 1935, he administered the oath to Ben B. Laska, Mollie O. Edison, Edward George Feldman and [REDACTED] b7C

On July 15, 1935 the United States Attorney, W. C. Lewis, swore to complaint before United States Commissioner George J. Eacock at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma charging Mollie O. Edison with violation of Section 231, Title 18, U. S. Code in that on July 13, 1935 she did commit against the United States the offense of perjury in that said Mollie O. Edison in the Court room of the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma at the time and place aforesaid, did then and there take an oath to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth before a competent tribunal, to-wit, the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma, then and there being held by the Honorable Edgar S. Vaught, Judge, as a witness in the trial of the criminal case of the United States vs. Ben B. Laska, et al, in which case the defendants were charged with violation of Section 408A, Title 18, U. S. C. A, and in which case said Court had competent authority and power to impose and administer all necessary oaths by Section 385, Title 18, U. S. C. A, and the said Mollie O. Edison, after taking the oath aforesaid, did wilfully and contrary to said oath state and testify matter material to the issues of the trial of said case of United States vs. Ben B. Laska, et al, to-wit: that Edward George Feldman on or about the 14th day of August, 1935 did pay and deliver to Ben B. Laska in the latter's office at Denver, Colorado the sum of \$3,000.00, which said matter was and is not true, and which said matter the said Mollie O. Edison at the time and place testifying as aforesaid, did not believe to be true and correct.

Warrant was issued for Mollie O. Edison, and she was taken into custody on June 15, 1935, on same date arraigned before United States Commissioner George J. Eacock, entered a plea of not guilty, and demanded a preliminary hearing, which was set for June 21, 1935. Her bond was set in the sum of \$5,000.00, which was not furnished, and she was remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal.

On June 15, 1935 an application was filed by Mollie O. Edison in the United States District Court at Oklahoma City for an order permitting her to return to Denver, and there make an appearance bond. This application was granted, and an order entered by Federal Judge Vaught allowing her to return to Denver, Colorado, at which place bond is to be executed by her in the sum of \$5,000.00, to be approved by Federal Judge J. Foster Symes, within ten

days. The United States Marshal was ordered to release her.

Before subject was released by the United States Marshal she was taken to the Oklahoma City Police Department, where she was photographed and fingerprinted. Subject's fingerprints and photograph were forwarded by the Oklahoma City Police Department to the Bureau. Copies of subject's photograph are being retained in the Oklahoma City file.

The following is a description of subject as obtained from the Identification Bureau of the Oklahoma City Police Department.

Name - MOLLIE O. BERT alias MOLLIE O. EDISON
Age - 27 years.
Height - 5 feet, 4½ inches.
Weight - 135 pounds.
Color - White.
Build - Medium.
Hair - Black.
Eyes - Brown.
Complexion - Dark.
Teeth - Good.
Nativity - Norwich, Conn.
Occupation - Attorney.
Nationality - Jewish.
Residence - 1301 Sherman Street, Denver, Colo.
Marks and scars - Mole upper outer right arm.
Few freckles on face, forehead and around eyes.
Relatives - Husband, Philip R. Bert, Denver, Colo.
Mother, Mrs. Leah Smith, Denver, Colo.
Previous criminal record - Claims none.
Fingerprints - Taken by Oklahoma City Police Department
and forwarded to Bureau.
Police No. - #19370, Oklahoma City Police Department.
Handwriting - On fingerprint card.
Photograph - In Oklahoma City file.

United States Commissioner George J. Eacock, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, advised that on June 24, 1935 subject had not yet furnished bond in the sum of \$5,000.00, and that neither she nor her attorney had appeared at his office on June 21, 1935 for preliminary hearing.

United States Attorney W. C. Lewis, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, stated that after bond had been furnished by subject the matter of preliminary

hearing would then be taken up.

A request is being forwarded to the Bureau for the criminal record of subject.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE OKLAHOMA CITY OFFICE

At Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, will follow prosecutive action in this matter.

P E N D I N G

b7C

7-115-1678

July 2, 1935

RECORDED

SPECIAL DELIVERY - AIR MAIL

Special Agent in Charge,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Oklahoma City, June 27, 1935, in connection with the case entitled MRS. MOLLIE O. BERT alias Mollie O. Edison, PERJURY.

b7C

The Bureau desires that you immediately ascertain and advise as to when the United States Attorney at Oklahoma City contemplates the presentation of this matter to the Federal Grand Jury.

It is also desired that you immediately secure and forward to the Bureau, special delivery air mail, two copies of the photograph of subject Mollie O. Edison.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

R.

RECORDED



U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

P. O. Box 1276
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
June 27, 1935

74-72

b7C

S

Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Re: MOLLIE O. BERT alias
MOLLIE O. EDISON
Perjury

Dear Sir:

Kindly furnish the known criminal record of the following:

<u>Name (inc. aliases)</u>	<u>City, Police Arrest, or Other Number.</u>	<u>Approximate Date Fingerprints for- warded Bureau of Investigation.</u>	<u>Fingerprint Classifica- tion.</u>
MOLLIE O. BERT alias MOLLIE O. EDISON	#19370, PD, Okla. City, Okla.	June 15, 1935	

7-2
ea

Chas O'Connell

Reply
J.C. [redacted] b7C
6-35

Very truly yours

74-115-1679
 DWIGHT BRANTLEY,
 Special Agent in Charge.
 JUL 11 1935 A.M.
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 ONE

FILE

No.11

LCS/ [redacted] b7C
Bu. file #7-115-1679

AKO: [redacted]

July 6, 1935.

Special Agent in Charge,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Re: MOLLIE O. BERT, alias
Mollie O. Edison.
Perjury.

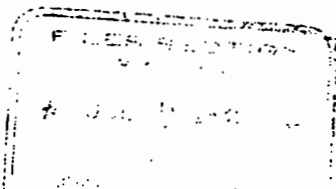
Dear Sir:

In reply to your communication dated June 27, 1935,
I am submitting below the record revealed through a search of
the identification files of this Division in the case of the
following:

MOLLIE O. BERT.

Subject as Molly Olive Edison, alias Mrs. Molly Bert, alias
M. O. Edison, #19370, arrested by Police Department, Oklahoma
City, Oklahoma, June 15, 1935, charge Federal investigation of
perjury; charged in Federal court with perjury.

(Additional aliases: Mollie O. Bert and Mollie O. Edison).



Very truly yours,

File

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W9 37 GOVT COLLECT=MB STPAUL MINN 246P JUN 28 1935

DIRECTOR FEDL BUR OF INVESTIGATION US DEPT OF JUSTICE=
PENNSYLVANIA AVE AT 9 ST NORTHWEST WASHN DC=

GEORGE KELLEY BARNES ETAL KIDNAPING REFER REPORT [REDACTED] **b7C**
LITTLEROCK JUNE EIGHTEENTH LAST INFORMATION OBTAINED HERE FROM
EMPLOYER ROGERS REDEMPTION BUREAU MINNEAPOLIS DOCTOR
C J ADRIENNE IN KINGWOOD WESTVIRGINIA JUNE TWENTY FIRST
SELLING COUPONS ON SILVERWARE

- Form 16 P
- Mr. Nathan
 - Mr. Tolson
 - Mr. Clegg
 - Mr. Coffey
 - Mr. Edwards
 - Mr. Egan
 - Mr. Harbo
 - Mr. Keith
 - Mr. Lester
 - Mr. Quinn
 - Mr. Scheidt
 - Mr. Schilder
 - Mr. Smith
 - Mr. Tamm
 - Mr. Tracy
 - Miss Gandy
- New*

RECORDED
&
INDEXED
ANDERSEN.

7-115-1680
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 1 1935
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
TAMM ONE

417P.

JUL 2 1935

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.**

FILE NO. **7-8**

REPORT MADE AT St. Paul, Minn.	DATE WHEN MADE 6/29/35	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/28/35	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, Et Al; CHARLES F. URSCHEL, Victim.			CHARACTER OF CASE KIDNAPING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

DR. C. J. ADRIENNE, employed by **ROGERS REDEMPTION BUREAU**, Room 231 Lumber Exchange Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Information obtained Dr. Adrienne at Kingwood, W.Va. June 21, 1935.

HUC.

All b7C

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]**, Little Rock, Ark., 6/18/35.

DETAILS:

It was ascertained that **DR. C. J. ADRIENNE** is employed by the **ROGERS REDEMPTION BUREAU**, Room 231, Lumber Exchange Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota. He is employed on a commission basis and is a free lance agent.

The nature of his duties are to sell a coupon which entitles purchasers to premiums on silverware. He is not on a salary, and reports only when a sale is made. **[REDACTED]** of the Rogers Redemption Bureau, advised that the last report from Dr. Adrienne was on June 21, 1935, from Kingwood, West Virginia. He could give no information as to the itinerary of Dr. Adrienne but stated that if he receives any mail which would indicate he is in another city, the St. Paul Bureau Office will be notified.

Pursuant to the instructions contained in the reference report, a wire was forwarded to the Bureau advising that Dr. Adrienne was in Kingwood, W. Va., on June 21, 1935.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>H. E. Andersen</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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		JUL 2 1935	JUL 3 1935
		JUL 2 - A.M.	