

224 Federal Building,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
January 10, 1934

7-8
Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
326 1/2 Post Office Building,
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

Reference is hereby made to the case entitled GEORGE
KELLY BARNES, et al; CHARLES F. DRSCHL - Victim; Kidnaping,
and to your letter dated August 18, 1933.

In accordance with your letter, I am returning herewith
four photographs of four individuals named George Davis which
were apparently borrowed from the Police Department at New Orleans,
and it is respectfully requested that they be returned with thanks.

Very truly yours,

R. H. COLVIN,
Special Agent in Charge.

cc Division ✓

Encl.

7-115

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
JAN 13 1934 A.M.	
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	FILE

one [initials]

U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

201 Liberty National Life Building,
Birmingham, Alabama

January 10, 1934.



Director,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, Et Al
Charles F. Urschel - Victim
Kidnaping

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of the following letter from
Special Agent [redacted] dated January 4, 1934, at Memphis,
Tennessee:

"Sheriff [redacted] of Memphis, Tennessee, advised me that he had ascertained through a trusty at the Shelby County Jail that Langford Ramsey had been negotiating with another prisoner, [redacted] to pass off some not money for him. [redacted] stated that he then talked to [redacted] and [redacted] went ahead and traded a twenty dollar bill for one that Ramsey had and then turned the bill over to Sheriff [redacted]. [redacted] stated that he was wondering if possibly it might be some of the Urschel ransom money. I had him check the bill and he advised me that it is a Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis twenty dollar bill number H-03162207 A. I then advised him that the Urschel ransom was paid in Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City notes, but that I would forward this information to you for whatever value you think it would have.

Sheriff [redacted] stated that he had thought of having [redacted] exchange some more money with Ramsey and attempt to ascertain where Ramsey was obtaining the money, but he has not advised me further."

It is requested that each office to whom a copy of this communication is directed check its indexes and advise whether

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20 MAR 16 1965

JAN 13 1934

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7-115-1056

JAN 12 1934

one 4PC FILE

it has any information concerning the \$20 bill above set out.

Very truly yours,

W. A. Rorer

W. A. RORER
Special Agent in Charge.

CC: Chicago
Kansas City
St. Louis
New York
Okla. City.



900 Ezra Thompson Building,
Salt Lake City, Utah.
January 12, 1934.

JAN 15 1934 PM
Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
1900 Bankers' Building,
Chicago, Ill.

RE: GEORGE KELLY RABBIT with aliases,
CHARLES F. BURCHIEL - Victim,
Kidnaping. S.L. File 7-10.

Dear Sir:

I respectfully invite your attention to page two,
second paragraph, of Report of Agent [redacted] of the
Portland, Oregon, office, dated 12-7-33, entitled as above.

You will note therein that Clara Feldman, the woman
who has been associated with Albert L. Bates alias George Davis,
now in confinement in the U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas,
and the woman who was residing with him in Denver, Colorado, at
the time of his arrest, is said to have lived formerly with Ed.
Bentz at Tacoma, Washington, and that it is believed that Ed. Bentz
is trying to locate Clara Feldman in order that he may again live
with her in the relationship of husband and wife. 7-115

From past reports, it is to be noted that George Bentz
was located at 7124 Beldon Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, and it now appears
that the mother of the Bentz boys has gone to Chicago to
live with him. It appears that George Bentz is the go-between for
Ed. Bentz and Ted Bentz, and other members of the family.

Since no lead was set forth in Agent [redacted] report
for your office, I suggest for your consideration, as a basis for
further investigation, that it be determined if Clara Feldman can
be located through 7124 Beldon Ave., Chicago, and keep in mind that
should Ed Bentz be located, she is probably with him.

The Division is very anxious to locate Clara Feldman
for the purpose of interviewing her concerning information she may
possess concerning Albert L. Bates alias George Davis, George Kelly
Catherine Kelly and others, of that mob, and their activities, and
especially for the purpose of determining if the money which Bates
received as his share of the ransom paid in this case, can be
located through her.

In the event your file in this matter does not contain a photograph of Clara Feldman, I am attaching hereto a negative from which you can have such number of photographs as you feel needful made therefrom.

Please return the negative to this office after it has served your purpose.

Very truly yours,

JOHN A. DOWN,
Special Agent in Charge.

JAD
cc - Division.
cc - Oklahoma.

January 8, 1934.

MEMORANDUM

Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Edwards _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Hughes _____
Mr. Quinn _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Locke _____
Cawley _____

X [REDACTED] Secretary to Congressman Parks of Arkansas, telephoned. She advised that the Congressman is in receipt of a letter from a lawyer in Dallas, Texas, in which he states that I made a statement to the press to the effect that the Arnold child gave the information which led to the apprehension of "Machine Gun" Kelly in connection with the Urschel kidnaping, and that this lawyer wanted a deposition of this statement. I gave [REDACTED] the background of this story and advised her that of course I had made no such statement to the press and would make no deposition.

All b7C

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JAN 13 1934

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NATHAN	ONE

RHC

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224 Federal Bldg.
Oklahoma City, Okla.
Dec. 28, 1933

RECEIVED

Mathers & Mathers,
Attorneys-at-Law,
Equity Building,
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Gentlemen:

RE: George Kelly Barnes and Kathryn Kelly Barnes,
Personal Property.

Reference is had to your letter dated December 2, 1933, addressed to our Chicago Division office, relative to certain personal property and automobile title papers belonging to George R. Kelly which you desire to secure possession of. For your information, there is in possession of the Chicago office the following property belonging to the Kellys:

- 1 Shirt, size 18 - laundry mark, 203.
- 1 Ladies green scarf
- 1 Pair ladies white shoes, size 7 1/2 A
- 1 Ladies white felt hat with name, Kerr Dry Goods Co., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, sewed on lining.
- 1 Birch bark waste paper basket
- 1 Birch bark sewing basket
- 1 Indian blanket
- 1 Key ring with miscellaneous keys
- Original and photostatic copy of receipt for two thousand dollars signed by [redacted] of the Levinson Loan Bank, 738 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, dated August 7, 1933, paid for 1 ladies platinum diamond bracelet set with 234 round diamonds, value \$1150.00, and a ladies diamond platinum ring set with 8 round and 2 baguette diamonds, value \$850.00, sold to R. G. Shannon, Frances Apartment, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 1 Black leather brief case
- 1 Empty metal lock box
- 1 Cadillac Automobile Operator's Manual
- 1 Card case containing an Ohio Motor Vehicle Registration Certificate, showing License No. 691-965, issued at Cleveland, Ohio, to Mrs. Ora L. Shannon, Park Lane Villa, Cleveland, Ohio.
- 1 Map of the State of Kentucky
- 1 Leather writing portfolio containing 2 memorandum books. In one is the notation, "West Hotel". In the other is the name, "Briggs-Stratton Corporation, Milwaukee, Wisconsin". also a notation as to the Ohio license number of the Cadillac Sedan, its motor number and number of keys for its trunk, ignition, door and spare tire.

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JAN 5 1934

7-115-1057	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
JAN 5 1934 A.M.	
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
Left One	100-1057



Black silk pillow

- 1 Men's suit, Oxford gray color with name "F. A. A. The Mode Tailors, Dallas, Texas", sewed in lining of coat. The name "Shannon" appears in the lining of the pants.
- 2 Pair Rayon silk pajamas purchased at Juster Bros., Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The following soiled wearing apparel:

- 1 Pr. pink step-ins
- 1 Men's undershirt
- 3 Men's handkerchiefs
- 1 Pr. Men's socks.

The Chicago office forwarded to me the following papers pertaining to the Cadillac automobile:

- 1 Bill of Sale from Cadillac Motor Car Co. of Cleveland, Ohio, to Mrs. Ora L. Shannon, covering Cadillac Sedan, Motor number 1400263.
- 1 Invoice from same company, covering the same car.
- 1 Receipt dated August 8, 1933, showing payment by O. L. Shannon of \$1422.25 to the above concern.
- 1 Receipt dated August 9, 1933, showing payment of \$500.00 by R. G. Shannon to the above concern.
- 1 1933 Certificate of Registration, State of Ohio, No. 891,695, for Cadillac Sedan, Motor 1400263, in name of Mrs. Ora L. Shannon.

The Chicago office suggested that the above listed papers be delivered to you, but after conference with the United States Attorney and acting on his advice I will hold same in this office pending the outcome of litigation now pending in Federal Court at Oklahoma City relative to disposition of the said Cadillac car. Should the suit be decided in your favor, you may then obtain these papers by calling at this office.

The Chicago office advises with regard to the personal property, consisting of clothes and various other articles listed herein, that the same will be turned over to any person properly authorized to represent you at Chicago.

Very truly yours,

cc-Division
cc-Chicago.

R. H. Colvin,
Special Agent in Charge.

VNH: b7C

January 12, 1934

RECORDED

7-115-1055

JAN 15 1934

Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
224 Federal Building,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:

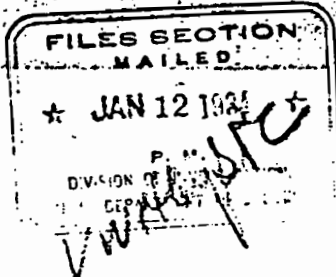
The Division has received a copy of your letter addressed to Mathers and Mathers, Attorneys-at-Law, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, under date of December 28, 1933, listing the property held by you taken from George Kelly Barnes and Kathryn Kelly Barnes.

It is suggested that none of this property be surrendered without the explicit advice and instructions of the United States Attorney, and that it be distributed then only upon his specific instructions.

I think, pending advice from the Department, you should also consult the United States Attorney with reference to the bonds recently found on Wilbur Underhill at the time of his capture. All matters of this sort should be referred to the United States Attorney and the disposition of same made only upon his instructions.

Very truly yours,

Director.



JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

December 22, 1933.

I.C. #7-115

KIDNAPING OF
CHARLES F. URSCHEL

On Saturday night, July 22, 1933, at about 11:15, while Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Urschel, one of Oklahoma's wealthiest families, were playing bridge with their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Jarrett, on a screened porch of the Urschel residence at Oklahoma City, two men, one armed with a machine gun and the other with a pistol, opened the screen door and inquired which of the two men was Mr. Urschel. Receiving no reply, they remarked "Well, we will take both of them," and warning the ladies against attempting to give notice or use the telephone they marched Mr. Urschel and Mr. Jarrett out into the back yard where they had driven their car, and after putting Messrs. Urschel and Jarrett into the back of the Chevrolet sedan, drove rapidly away.

Mrs. Urschel, in accordance with the Attorney General's advice to the public, immediately telephoned Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, the Director of the Division of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, who immediately ordered a qualified corps of Special Agents to proceed to Oklahoma City, where, within an hour, plans were made and an extensive investigation commenced which resulted in convicting fifteen defendants, who received a total of six life sentences and thirty-one years, two months, and one day imprisonment.

At 1:00 A.M., Sunday, July 23, 1933, Mr. Jarrett returned to the Urschel residence and stated that upon being placed in the Chevrolet sedan by the kidnapers they had driven rapidly north on Hudson Street to the outskirts of the city, where they had turned right on a dirt road parallel to the 23rd Street highway but some distance north thereof, and had proceeded northeast to a point ten or twelve miles from the city where, after crossing a small bridge and arriving at an intersection, they had put him, Jarrett, out of the car after they had identified him and Mr. Urschel and taken from him \$50 which he had in his wallet, warning him not to tell the direction the kidnapers had gone. He stated that after he was released the car proceeded rapidly toward the south.

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7-115

KIDNAPING (continued)

Mrs. Urschel was advised that the Division of Investigation was first concerned in the safe return of her husband and that nothing would be done to jeopardize that return and, secondly, in the apprehension and conviction of the kidnapers. With this in mind, Mrs. Urschel, the Urschel family and friends cooperated fully with Division Agents who did not attempt to interfere in any way with the negotiations between the kidnapers and the Urschels.

Immediately, of course, after the fact became known that Mr. Urschel had been kidnaped, numerous letters, telephone calls, and other leads were received from persons, many of which were anonymous, indicating possible leads, all of which had to be developed to a logical conclusion but few of which disclosed any material facts. Leads of this nature were developed simultaneously in all parts of the United States.

Several days elapsed before word was received from the kidnapers when, on July 26, 1933, Mr. J. G. Catlett, a wealthy oil man of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and an intimate friend of Mr. Urschel, received through Western Union a package containing a letter written to him by Mr. Urschel requesting Mr. Catlett to act as an intermediary for his release, a personal letter from Mr. Urschel to his wife, and a typewritten note directed to Mr. Catlett demanding that he proceed to Oklahoma City immediately and not communicate by telephone or otherwise with the Urschel family from Tulsa. The package also contained a typewritten letter addressed to Mr. E. E. Kirkpatrick of Oklahoma City, which read as follows:

"The enclosed letter from Charles F. Urschel to you and the enclosed Identification Cards will convince you that you are dealing with the Abductors.

Immediately upon receipt of this letter you will proceed to obtain the sum of TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$200,000.00) in GENUINE USED FEDERAL RESERVE CURRENCY in the denomination of TWENTY DOLLAR (\$20.00) Bills.

"It will be useless for you to attempt taking notes of SERIAL NUMBERS MAKING UP DUMMY PACKAGE, OR ANYTHING ELSE IN THE LINE OF ATTEMPTED DOUBLE

KIDNAPING (continued)

CROSS. BEAR THIS IN MIND, CHARLES F. URSCHEL WILL REMAIN IN OUR CUSTODY UNTIL MONEY HAS BEEN INSPECTED AND EXCHANGED AND FURTHERMORE WILL BE AT THE SCENE OF CONTACT FOR PAY-OFF AND IF THERE SHOULD BE ANY ATTEMPT AT ANY DOUBLE XX IT WILL BE HE THAT SUFFERS THE CONSEQUENCE.

As soon as you have read and RE-READ this Carefully, and wish to commence negotiations you will proceed to the DAILY OKLAHOMAN and insert the following BLIND AD under the REAL ESTATE, FARMS FOR SALE, and we will know that you are ready for BUSINESS, and you will receive further instructions AT THE BOX ASSIGNED TO YOU BY NEWSPAPER, AND NO WHERE ELSE SO BE CERTAIN THAT THIS ARRANGEMENT IS KEPT SECRET AS THIS IS OUR FINAL ATTEMPT TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOU, on account of our former instructions to JARRETT being DISREGARDED and the LAW being notified, so we have neither the time or patience to carry on any further lengthy correspondence.

RUN THIS AD FOR ONE WEEK IN DAILY OKLAHOMAN.

'FOR SALE---160 Acres Land, good five room house, deep well. Also Cows, Tools, Tractor, Corn and Hay. \$3750.00 for quick sale.. TERMS.. BOX #---'

You will hear from us as soon as convenient after insertion of AD."

Mr. Catlett immediately proceeded to Oklahoma City and conferred with Mr. Kirkpatrick and the Urschel family and inserted in the Daily Oklahoman the advertisement requested in the last paragraph of the above letter.

On the morning of July 28, 1933, there was received at the Daily Oklahoman a special delivery, air mail letter addressed to Box H-807, from Joplin, Missouri. In the envelope, addressed as above, was a letter to Mr. E. E. Kirkpatrick, which read as follows:

KIDNAPING (continued)

"In view of the fact that you have had the Ad inserted as per our instructions, we gather that you are now prepared to meet our ultimatum.

You will pack TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$200,000.00) in USED GENUINE FEDERAL RESERVE NOTES OF TWENTY DOLLAR DENOMINATION in a suitable LIGHT COLORED LEATHER BAG and have someone purchase transportation for you, including Berth, aboard Train #28 (The Sooner) which departs at 10:10 P.M. via the M.K. & T. Lines for Kansas City, Mo.

You will ride on the OBSERVATION PLATFORM where you may be observed by some-one at some Station along the Line between Okla. City and K.C. Mo. If indications are alright, some-where along the Right-of-Way you will observe a FIRE on the RIGHT SIDE of Track (Facing direction train is bound) that first Fire will be your Cue to be prepared to throw BAG to TRACK immediately after passing SECOND FIRE.

Mr. Urschel will upon our instructions attend to the FIRES and secure the BAG when you throw it off, he will open it and transfer the contents to a sack that he will be provided with, SO, IF, you comply with our demand and do not attempt any subterfuge as according to the News reports you have pledged, Mr. Urschel should be HOME in a very short while.

REMEMBER THIS--IF ANY TRICKERY IS ATTEMPTED YOU WILL FIND THE REMAINS OF URSCHER AND INSTEAD OF JOY THERE WILL BE DOUBLE GRIEF--FOR, SOME-ONE VERY NEAR AND DEAR TO THE URSCHER FAMILY IS UNDER CONSTANT SURVEILLANCE AND WILL LIKE-WISE SUFFER FOR YOUR ERROR.

"If there is the slightest HITCH in these PLANS for any reason what-so-ever, not your fault, you will proceed on into Kansas City, Mo. and register at the Muhleback Hotel

KIDNAPING (continued)

under the name of E. E. Kincaid of Little Rock, Arkansas and await further instructions there how-ever, there should not be, IF YOU COMPLY WITH THESE SIMPLE DIRECTIONS.

THE MAIN THING IS DO NOT DIVULGE THE CONTENTS OF THIS LETTER TO ANY LAW AUTHORITIES FOR WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF FURTHER COMMUNICATION.

YOU ARE TO MAKE THIS TRIP SATURDAY JULY 29th, 1933.

BE SURE THAT YOU RIDE THE PLATFORM OF THE REAR CAR AND HAVE BAG.

WITH MONEY IN IT FROM THE TIME YOU LEAVE OKLAHOMA CITY."

As previously stated, the Division's first concern in all kidnaping cases is the safe return of the kidnaped victim. Accordingly, no effort was made on the part of the Division to identify the writer of these letters or to interfere in any way with the negotiations until after Mr. Urschel was returned.

As a result of the above letters, \$200,000.00 in used \$20.00 notes of the Federal Reserve Bank, Tenth District, was obtained and the serial numbers recorded. They were placed in a new, light colored leather Gladstone bag. At the same time another identical bag was purchased and filled with old magazines, fearing an attempt at hi-jacking and, as a precaution, it was decided that Mr. Catlett would accompany Mr. Kirkpatrick to Kansas City. By pre-arrangement Mr. Catlett sat just inside the rear end of the observation car, while Mr. Kirkpatrick sat on the observation platform with the bag containing the magazines. They had so far complied explicitly with instructions as to which train travel was to be made on, and it had been agreed that were the signal fires observed as outlined in the letter of instructions, the bag containing the money would be thrown off the train as requested; however, should an attempt to "hi-jack" be made it might be possible to give the robbers the duplicate bag. Mr. Kirkpatrick remained on the observation platform all night, riding there all the way to Kansas City,

KIDNAPING (continued)

but no signals were observed.

Upon arrival at Kansas City Mr. Kirkpatrick and Mr. Catlett proceeded to the Muhlebach Hotel as directed and Mr. Kirkpatrick registered under the name of E. E. Kincaid and waited in his room, where he received a telegram, via Postal Telegram, sent from Tulsa, Oklahoma, on July 30th, reading substantially as follows:

"Owing to unavoidable incident unable to keep appointment. Will phone you about six.
Signed, C. H. Moore."

About 5:30 P.M., Sunday, July 30, 1933, Mr. Kirkpatrick, under the name of E. E. Kincaid, received a telephone call from a party who asked if this was Mr. Kincaid, and upon being advised that it was stated "This is Moore. You got my telegram?" to which Mr. Kirkpatrick replied in the affirmative. Mr. Kirkpatrick was then instructed to leave the Muhlebach Hotel in a taxicab and proceed to the LaSalle Hotel and walk west a block or two. He requested permission to be accompanied by a friend, which request was curtly refused. Accordingly, Mr. Kirkpatrick took the bag containing the \$200,000.00, arriving at the LaSalle Hotel at about 6:00 P. M. and started to walk west. After proceeding not more than a half a block he observed a man approaching him who, upon reaching Mr. Kirkpatrick, said "Mr. Kincaid, I will take that bag," and reached out and took it. Mr. Kirkpatrick then stated, "I want some instructions. I must telephone someone who is very interested immediately." Whereupon the man who had taken the bag stated that he could not talk and for him to return to the hotel. He was assured, however, that the title deeds to the farm would be delivered within twelve hours. This, of course, meant that Mr. Urschel would be returned within the specified time. Mr. Kirkpatrick then returned to the hotel and from there proceeded to Oklahoma City. Mr. Catlett returned to Tulsa.

Mr. Urschel arrived home at about 11:30 P.M., July 31, 1933 in an exhausted condition, stating that he had been able to sleep but very little during the nine days he had been held in captivity. As soon as he recovered from the shock and regained his strength he was interviewed and a complete and detailed statement obtained from him including every movement and action taken by himself, the kidnapers, and those with whom

KIDNAPING (continued)

they came in contact during his period of captivity. Only that part of Mr. Urschel's statement, however, is being recited which later proved of value in this investigation.

Mr. Urschel's statement concerning the kidnaping and transactions which occurred immediately thereafter was substantially the same as Mr. Jarrett's recollection of what transpired while he was being held by the kidnapers. Mr. Urschel stated that immediately after Mr. Jarrett's release one of the men produced some cotton, a short bandage, adhesive tape, and he was blindfolded, and that the last thing he saw was the lights of the power plant at Harrah, Oklahoma, which is about twenty miles east of Oklahoma City. He stated that approximately one hour after being blindfolded the car passed through either two small oil fields or the end of two large fields approximately thirty minutes driving time apart; that he could smell the gas and hear the oil pumps working. The first stop was made about 3:30 A.M., when he was taken from the car by one of the abductors into the grass, weeds, or brush, he could not distinguish which, and compelled to sit down; that at this place he got a great many "chiggers" on him, commonly known as red bugs; and that the other man was gone approximately fifteen minutes after gasoline. About one hour later, which would be about daybreak, a stop was made to open a gate and approximately three minutes later another stop was made and another gate opened. Within a minute after the last gate was opened the car drove into what he took to be a garage, although it could have been a barn. In this building the men from their movements and actions, transferred license plates from the Chevrolet sedan to a larger car, remarks were made by the men that the larger car was not "gassed up" and they were compelled to siphon gas from the smaller car into the tank of the larger one, which Mr. Urschel believed to be a seven-passenger Cadillac or Buick. A berth had been made up in the back of this car and he was told to lie on this bunk. They left this place immediately and after a drive of two or three hours a stop was made at a filling station, where a woman attendant filled the car with gas. Mr. Urschel overheard one of the men asking the woman about crop conditions and she replied that "The crops around here are burned up, although we may make some broom corn."

Mr. Urschel stated that about 9:00 or 10:00 A.M. it rained and the road became very slippery, to the extent

KIDNAPING (continued)

that on one occasion one of the men was compelled to alight and push the car, the rear wheels of which were spinning on the wet road. In his opinion at no time on this trip did they drive on pavement. At the next stop the car was driven directly into what he considered a garage, and at this point he asked one of the men the time and he replied that it was 2:30 P. M. He and one of the men remained in this garage until later in the evening, when the man who had been absent returned with a ham sandwich and a cup of coffee. They remained in this garage or barn until dark, when he was taken from what he believed to be the front door, turned to the left, passed through what he took to be a narrow gate which pushed open, and within a few feet he stepped up one step on to what he believed to be a board walk. After walking approximately fifteen feet he then took upward steps through a door into a house. Mr. Urschel was certain he was lead through one room into a second room, and in this room he was told there were two beds, either of which he could occupy. The bed he occupied was apparently a single iron bed or cot and one of the men occupied the other. Shortly after entering this house he heard the voice of a man and a woman in an adjoining room. He stated that his ears were filled with cotton and adhesive tape placed over them.

Mr. Urschel advised that he stayed in this house until the next day - July 24th - when he was taken in a small coupe by the two men to a house within fifteen or twenty minutes driving distance; that while in the first house he ate from a small table with no cover; and that he heard the barking of dogs, the cackling of chickens, the mooing of cows, and the screaming of guinea hens, and that he did not hear trains, street cars, or noises familiar to the city.

He stated that upon entering the second house he was lead only a few feet to a door with only one step and into a room with no carpet or covering on the floor, from there into a second room where he was told to lie upon some blankets in a corner of the room, and that he also heard voices of a man and a woman in the adjoining room which did not resemble the voice of either of the two men who abducted him, and that shortly thereafter this man and woman left the place.

Mr. Urschel stated that on the first night at

KIDNAPING (continued)

the second house a handcuff was placed on one of his wrists and attached to a chair; that the next morning he was served a breakfast consisting of bacon, eggs, and light bread; and that during the day the two men brought up the matter of a contact. He was asked whether he belonged to a church and advised them that he was a member of the Presbyterian Church of Oklahoma City. They asked him how friendly he was with the pastor of his church. He told them he was very friendly with Dr. Gibson, the pastor, and they suggested that Dr. Gibson be named as the contact man, whereupon they were advised that he was not in Oklahoma City but was away on a trip. The men then stated that due to the activity of Federal Agents it would be safer to make a contact away from Oklahoma City and asked Mr. Urschel if he had a friend who could be trusted in Tulsa, Oklahoma, whereupon Mr. Urschel suggested the name of Mr. John G. Catlett. The men then produced stationery and a pencil and instructed him to write a letter to Mr. Catlett, which he did.

In addition to the two men who had kidnaped him Mr. Urschel was guarded by an elderly and a younger man. Mr. Urschel stated that during the time he was held in captivity one of his two kidnapers discussed freely with him the fact that he had been stealing for twenty-five years, mentioning the Barrow Brothers notorious outlaws, referring to them as "Just a couple of cheap filling station and car thieves," and stating that his group did not deal in anything cheap, and he also discussed freely a number of bank robberies advising that he and his friend had been invited to participate in a bank robbery at Clinton, Iowa, but after making a survey of the place they did not take part in the robbery because the chances of making a "get-away" were unfavorable. He went on to say that he would not hesitate to rob the Security National Bank.

Mr. Urschel stated that one of the two kidnapers returned to the house on Friday and brought with him a chain; that thereafter this chain was used to attach to his handcuffs, which enabled him to move about to some extent; that he was satisfied there were chickens, cows, and hogs around this place, and he was advised by one of the guards that he had four milk cows. Mr. Urschel stated that he was given water in an old tin cup without a handle, that the water had a

KIDNAPING (continued)

mineral taste, that the well from which this water was obtained was northwest of the house, and that the water was obtained from the well by a rope and a bucket on a pulley, which made considerable noise. He stated that each morning and evening a plane passed regularly over the house; that he managed to get a look at his watch and determined that the morning plane would always pass at approximately 9:45 and the evening plane would pass at approximately 5:45; that, however, on Sunday, July 30th, when it rained very hard, the morning plane did not pass.

Mr. Urschel stated that on Monday, July 31st, at about 2:00 P.M., one of his kidnapers returned and advised him that he was going to be released, that they had to leave at a certain time, and that another car was going ahead as a pilot car. He was then driven to a point near Norman, Oklahoma, where he was given a \$10.00 bill, released and requested to proceed immediately to Oklahoma City.

While no effort was made by the Division to cause the apprehension of the kidnapers until after the release of Mr. Urschel, extensive investigation was being conducted throughout the United States and the activities of numerous suspects were being investigated. As a result, as early as July 24th, two days after Mr. Urschel was kidnaped, information was obtained at Fort Worth, Texas, indicating the probability that one George R. and Kathryn Thorne Kelly were implicated in this crime. Consequently, an exhaustive investigation was commenced concerning the history and whereabouts of these individuals, which disclosed that Kathryn Thorne Kelly was the daughter of James Emory Brooks and Mrs. Ora L. Shannon; that Kathryn's mother had divorced Mr. Brooks and later married Robert G. Shannon of Paradise, Texas; that Kathryn married Lonnie Fry at Asher, Oklahoma, and had a daughter, Pauline Fry, now fourteen years of age; that Kathryn and Fry were soon after their marriage divorced and she married Charlie Thorne of Coleman, Texas; that Thorne was later found dead under mysterious circumstances pronounced "suicide" by the coroner; that after Thorne's death a note was found which read, "I can not live with her or without her." The investigation also disclosed that after Thorne's death Kathryn married George Kelly Barnes, under the name of George R. Kelly, who it was determined had served a

KIDNAPING (continued)

sentence in the New Mexico State Prison; that Kelly was known to be engaged in illegal activities, enjoying many luxuries, including high powered automobiles and expensive jewelry, without any visible means of support; and that Mrs. Shannon's reputation was not good.

After Mr. Urschel's release and the information concerning his travels and surroundings during his period of captivity were ascertained, the Division's activities were then centered on locating the houses in which Mr. Urschel was held and bringing about the apprehension and conviction of the kidnapers. It appeared from the information submitted by Mr. Urschel that, although meager, the best possible clue as to the location of these houses was his statement concerning the weather conditions and the fact that airplanes flew over one of the houses at approximately 9:45 A.M. and 5:45 P.M. daily.

Accordingly, a systematic check was made of all airplane schedules within a radius of six hundred miles of Oklahoma City, as a result of which a check of the Fort Worth--Amarillo Line of the American Airways disclosed that a Pilgrim plane with a Hornet motor leaves Fort Worth daily at 9:15 A.M. and Amarillo, Texas, at 3:30 P.M., and from this information it was determined that these two planes would be in the vicinity of Paradise, Texas, between 9:40 and 9:45 A.M. and between 5:40 and 5:45 P.M. The daily reports concerning the movements of these ships indicated that from July 23rd until July 29th, 1933 these ships flew according to schedule; that there was no rain recorded over the route during that period; and that on Sunday July 30th, however, the plane left Fort Worth at 11:45 A.M., being detained by a storm, and took an extreme northerly course to avoid the storm.

The records of the Meteorologist of the United States Weather Bureau at Dallas, Texas, were consulted and disclosed that rain was recorded at and in the vicinity of Paradise, Texas, on July 30, 1933; that Paradise and the vicinity had an exceedingly dry season, there being a severe drought in June and the early part of July; that the first real rain since May 20th in this vicinity was that on July 30th; and that the corn began to burn in June.

KIDNAPING (continued)

It will be recalled that the airplane schedules and the weather conditions of Paradise, Texas, corresponded with the weather conditions and airplane schedules Mr. Urschel had noted during his period of captivity. From this information a check of the suspects who had been under investigation by the Division since the kidnaping of Mr. Urschel disclosed that Mrs. Shannon, Kathryn Thorne Kelly's mother, lived near Paradise.

With this information it was decided to endeavor to examine the residence of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Shannon. Accordingly a Division Agent, under a pretext, visited the Shannon residence on August 10, 1933, and while there noted the similarity of the house and surroundings with that as described by Mr. Urschel. It was also determined that R. G. Shannon's son, Armon Shannon, lived on a ranch about a mile and a half from that of his father. An inspection of this house was also made which disclosed a well, a water bucket, a tin cup, a baby's chair, and general surroundings substantially the same as described by Mr. Urschel. Further investigation disclosed that Kathryn and George R. Kelly had been seen in this vicinity during the period in question.

After obtaining the above information it was decided to raid the Shannon residence on the early morning of August 12th, which resulted in the apprehension of Harvey J. Bailey, a notorious criminal and gunman, who had escaped from the Kansas State Penitentiary at Lansing, Kansas, on May 30, 1933, where he was serving a sentence of 10 to 50 years on a charge of robbing a bank at Fort Scott, Kansas, and who was also wanted in connection with the murder of three police officers, a Special Agent of this Division, and their prisoner, Frank Nash, at Kansas City on June 17, 1933. Robert G. Shannon, his wife, Ora L. Shannon, and Armon Shannon were also taken into custody. Bailey had beside him at the time of his arrest a machine gun and two automatic pistols. He was captured before he had an opportunity to use any of these arms. On his person was discovered \$1,100.00, \$700.00 of which was promptly identified as the money used in the payment of ransom for Mr. Urschel's release. Subsequent investigation developed that this machine gun had previously been purchased at Fort Worth, Texas, by Kathryn Thorne Kelly.

Mr. Urschel viewed the residence of the Shannons and

KIDNAPING (continued)

immediately identified the house of R. G. Shannon as the house in which he was first held and that of Armon Shannon as the house in which he was held until his release. Mr. Urschel also identified R. G. Shannon and his son, Armon Shannon, as the individuals who stood guard over him during the absence of the two kidnapers. He was able to identify the men by their voices and the residences by the number of steps which he had taken to enter same; the baby's chair, the galvanized bucket, tin cup, squeaking well, the mineral taste of the water, the fowls and animals around the houses, and the chain to which he had been handcuffed.

The Shannons were questioned thoroughly and readily admitted that Mr. Urschel had been held at their residences and that they had stood guard over him, and advised that he was kidnaped by George R. Kelly, Mrs. Shannon's son-in-law, and Albert L. Bates.

Investigation was then concentrated on causing the apprehension of the Kellys and Bates, as a result of which it was ascertained that Bates, with numerous aliases, a hardened criminal with a lengthy criminal record, was taken into custody at Denver, Colorado, on August 12, 1933 on a local charge and at the time of his arrest had in his possession \$660.00, which was later identified by Division Agents as part of the Urschel ransom money. It was also discovered that he had among his possessions a machine gun.

Immediately after Mr. Urschel's return the numbers of the ransom bills, totaling \$200,000.00, were circulated to banks throughout the United States and it was determined that a number of these bills had been exchanged at the Hennepin State Bank at Minneapolis, Minnesota. Investigation there disclosed that Sam Frederick, a truck driver of the Wolk Transfer Company, had presented \$1,000.00 of the ransom money to that bank. Frederick was immediately located and upon interview advised that on August 5, 1933, his boss, Charlie Wolk, requested him to accompany two unknown men to the bank, where he obtained a cashier's check under the name of S. H. Peters in the amount of \$1,800.00, which he immediately gave to the two unknown individuals.

Charles Albert Wolk, upon interview, advised that on the early morning of August 5th he received a telephone call

KIDNAPING (continued)

from a person known to him as "Barney", who requested him to get a cashier's check from a bank for \$1,800.00; that subsequent to this call "Barney" with an unknown individual came to his office and requested that he accompany them to the bank for the purpose of obtaining a cashier's check; and that he did not go with them but sent his driver, Sam Frederick.

It later developed that the cashier's check had been presented for payment by Peter Valder, alias William Nelson. Valder, upon interview, advised that he was well acquainted with Barney Berman and that on August 2nd Berman gave him a check for \$1,000.00 drawn on a bank in Fargo, North Dakota, with the request that he cash the same, which he did; that on August 5th Mr. Peterson of the First National Bank and Trust Company of Minneapolis called him and advised that this check had been returned marked "insufficient funds;" and that he thereupon advised Berman and he gave him a cashier's check drawn to the order of S. H. Peters on the Hennepin State Bank of Minneapolis in the amount of \$1,800.00 and requested him to take out the \$1,000.00 check which had been marked "insufficient funds" and to get the balance of \$800.00 in \$100.00 bills.

It was also discovered that on August 7, 1933, \$500.00, identified as part of the Urschel ransom money, was deposited in the First National Bank at Minneapolis by Sam Kronick. He was later located and advised that he obtained this money from his cousin, Sam Kozberg, on August 5th. Sam Kozberg was later taken into custody and advised that on August 5th Barney Berman at his request, gave him the twenty-five \$20.00 bills, totaling \$500.00, which he had deposited.

Edward Barney Berman was later interviewed and advised that on August 3, 1933, he was approached by a man who gave his name as "Collins" and stated that he wanted to buy some liquor, and that he, Berman, referred him to his associate, "Kid" Cann, who sold Collins 125 cases of whiskey for \$5,500.00 which was paid in bills, a number of which were of the \$20.00 denomination and which had been identified as part of the Urschel ransom money. Berman admitted that he had accompanied Sam Frederick to the Hennepin State Bank and purchased the cashier's check for \$1,800.00 and stated he was accompanied by Clifford Skelly.

KIDNAPING (continued)

Berman's associate, referred to as "Kid" Cann, was later identified as Isadore Blumenfeld, who advised that on August 3, 1933, a man came into their office at the West Hotel in Minneapolis and talked to Barney Berman, who referred this individual, known as Collins, to him; that he consummated the deal for 125 cases of whiskey for \$5,500.00 with Collins; and that he turned over the money to another associate, Clifford Skelly. Skelly, upon interview, advised that he was in business with Berman and Blumenfeld and told the same story as that of Blumenfeld and Berman.

The above named individuals, together with the parties arrested at Paradise, Texas, Albert Bates, George R. and Kathryn Thorne Kelly, were indicted at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on August 23, 1933, on a charge of conspiracy to kidnap Charles F. Urschel. All were in custody except the Kellys and on September 30th, just one month after Mr. Urschel's return, the jury after a trial lasting two weeks returned a verdict of guilty against R. G. Shannon, Ora L. Shannon, Armon Shannon, Albert L. Bates, Harvey J. Bailey, Clifford Skelly, and Barney Berman, and a verdict of not guilty against Isadore Blumenfeld, Sam Kozberg, and Sam Kronick. Peter Valder and Charles Albert Wolk had previously been discharged by virtue of a demurrer to the indictment against them being sustained. On October 7, 1933, Harvey J. Bailey, Albert L. Bates, R. G. Shannon, and Ora L. Shannon were each sentenced to serve life imprisonment. Armon Shannon was sentenced to serve 10 years - probation, and Edward Barney Berman and Clifford Skelly were each sentenced to serve 5 years.

On Labor Day, September 4, 1933, Harvey J. Bailey, who had been arrested on the Shannon ranch on August 12th and who had previously escaped from the Kansas State Penitentiary, escaped from the Dallas County Jail at about 7:10 A.M., taking with him one of the deputies of the jail as a hostage, after locking several of the jailers in cells. An examination of Bailey's cell, located on the tenth floor of the jail, disclosed that he had effected his escape by removing three bars from his cell by means of hacksaws which had been smuggled to him together with a revolver. Bailey's freedom, however,

KIDNAPING (continued)

was of short duration as he was taken into custody on the afternoon of the same day of his escape at Ardmore, Oklahoma.

An immediate and thorough investigation disclosed that the hacksaws and revolver were smuggled in to Bailey by Thomas L. Manion, a deputy sheriff and jailer at the Dallas County Jail, and that one Grover C. Bevill of Dallas, Texas, had purchased the hacksaws and assisted Manion in making it possible for Bailey to escape. For this offense Manion and Bevill were indicted at Dallas, Texas, on September 25, 1933, and tried and convicted on October 5th. Manion was sentenced on October 7th to pay a fine of \$10,000.00 and to serve 2 years in the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, and Bevill was sentenced to serve 14 months in the same institution.

While the Division was collecting evidence for the trial of Harvey J. Bailey, et al, at Oklahoma City, and for the trial of Manion and Bevill at Dallas, Texas, it was not neglecting efforts to cause the apprehension of George R. and Kathryn Thorne Kelly, who were still at large and who had during the trial at Oklahoma City sent a number of threatening letters to Mr. Urschel and Mr. Joseph B. Keenan, Assistant Attorney General, who was in charge of the prosecution at Oklahoma City, threatening their lives and endeavoring to intimidate Government witnesses.

On September 9, 1933, information was received by the Division through a confidential source that an individual, hereafter referred to as Mr. X, was in Oklahoma City negotiating with the attorneys representing the Kellys in behalf of the Shannons. Subsequent investigation disclosed that Mr. X, his wife and daughter, while hitch-hiking near Hillsboro, Texas, on September 4, 1933, were given a ride in a Model-A Ford light truck to Cleburne, Texas, and after he and his wife were questioned thoroughly the woman driving the truck advised that she was Mrs. Kelly and that she had driven 3,000 miles to see her attorney. She then said, "Mr. X, I am going to place a big trust in you. I want you to go to Fort Worth and contact my attorney." She gave him \$50.00 to do this. He contacted the attorney and returned to Cleburne, where he again met Mrs. Kelly, who had remained there with his wife and child. Mrs. Kelly then requested Mr. X to

KIDNAPING (continued)

proceed to Oklahoma City and keep her advised as to the progress of the trial, requesting that he return to San Antonio, Texas. Mr. X went to Oklahoma City and from there to San Antonio where, as requested, he called at the General Delivery Window of the Post Office and obtained a letter written to him by Mrs. Kelly which advised that she was located at a certain address in San Antonio. Mr. X proceeded to this address, where he met Kathryn and her husband, George R. Kelly, and his wife and child. Kelly remained there for the night only and disappeared the next morning, never to return.

Mrs. Kelly then requested Mr. and Mrs. X to permit her to take their daughter with her on a trip of about 250 miles. This she was permitted to do and Mr. X returned to Oklahoma City. Mrs. X later received a letter from Mrs. Kelly advising her that her trip had been extended and that she would not return as expected and requesting Mrs. X to join her husband at Oklahoma City. Before Mrs. Kelly's departure she gave Mr. X a letter addressed to her father, Mr. J. E. Brooks, of Oklahoma City, requesting Mr. Brooks to give the bearer her pistol and any cash which she might send to him, which Mr. X was instructed to obtain and give to her attorneys. Mrs. Kelly had taken Mr. X's daughter as a subterfuge and proceeded to Chicago, Illinois, where she met her husband and where she was next heard from by Mr. and Mrs. X. From Chicago she, her husband, and the young girl, proceeded to Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. X's daughter returned to Oklahoma City from Memphis, Tennessee, on September 25th and advised that she had returned as far as Coleman, Texas, with Langford Ramsey, a friend of George R. Kelly, where she had left him and proceeded to Oklahoma City by train. She further advised that the Kellys were living in Memphis with a party known to her as "Tich," and that Ramsey had come to Coleman, Texas, at Kelly's request to obtain some "furs" which term Kelly used for describing money which he had cached on the ranch of Cassey Earl Coleman.

An immediate investigation conducted at Memphis disclosed that Mr. and Mrs. Kelly were living at the residence of J. C. Tichenor. Special Agents from Birmingham,

KIDNAPING (continued)

Alabama, were immediately dispatched to Memphis, where, in the early morning hours of September 26, 1933, a raid was conducted and George R. and Kathryn Thorne Kelly taken into custody. They were immediately removed to Oklahoma City and on October 12, 1933, convicted and sentenced to serve life imprisonment.

Investigation at Coleman, Texas, disclosed that during the flight of George R. and Kathryn Thorne Kelly they had both been housed and protected by Cassey Earl Coleman and Will Casey, and that Coleman had assisted George Kelly in caching \$73,250.00 of the Urschel ransom money on his ranch. This money was located by Division Agents in the early morning hours of September 27th in a cotton patch on Coleman's ranch. They were both indicted at Dallas, Texas, on October 4, 1933, charged with harboring a fugitive and conspiracy, and on October 17, 1933, Coleman, after entering a plea of guilty, was sentenced to serve 1 year and 1 day, and Casey, after trial and conviction was sentenced to serve 2 years in the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas.

J. C. Tichenor and Langford Ramsey were indicted at Jackson, Tennessee, on charges of conspiracy and harboring and concealing a fugitive, for their part in concealing the Kellys at Memphis, Tennessee, and on October 21, 1933, they were each sentenced to serve 2 years and 6 months imprisonment.

Investigation has also disclosed that while the Kellys were in Chicago, Illinois, they were shielded by Abe and Charles Kaplan, who are now under indictment, charged with harboring and concealing persons for whom warrants have been issued and conspiracy to commit the above offense. The trial of this case is still pending.

Though the trial of the above two individuals is still pending, fifteen defendants have been convicted in this case and given sentences totaling thirty-one years, two months and one day, and six life sentences have been imposed, and this all within three months after Mr. Urschel was kidnaped.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

December 26, 1933.

WHDL

b7C

Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Edwards _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Hughes _____
Mr. Quinn _____
Mr. Lester ☒
Mr. Locke _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

There are attached copies of an interesting case prepared by Mr. Cowley of Unit One, entitled, "I. O. #7-115 Kidnaping of Charles F. Urschel", dated December 22, 1933.

It is recommended that 200 copies of this interesting case should be mimeographed.

It will be noted that there is a six line paragraph on the last page of this interesting case dealing with the arrest of two individuals in Chicago, now awaiting trial on the charge of harboring and concealing the Kellys. If these individuals are convicted, it will be a simple matter to have this page of the memorandum re-mimeographed, indicating the sentences received. Should they be acquitted, this six line paragraph dealing with their activities will be eliminated from the interesting case.

Respectfully,

W. H. D. Lester
W. H. D. Lester.

*Approved
12-28-33*

RECORDED

JAN 16 1934

7-115-1459	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
JAN 15 1934	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
LESTER	FILE

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- ☐ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☐ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☐ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

19 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): duplicative of 7-115-not
recorded serial after 1058

- ☐ For your information: _____

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

7-115-1059 (interesting case write up dated 12/22/33)

XXXXXX
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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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203 Post Office Building,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

JAN 13 1934 AM

January 10, 1934.

Mr. E. E. Burke,
Acting Investigator in Charge,
Alcoholic Beverage Unit,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with
aliases, et al.
CHARLES F. URSCHEL, Victim,
St. Paul File 7-8

Dear Mr. Burke:

Your [redacted] presented to me a letter addressed to you by Mr. John S. Hurley, Assistant Director, Alcoholic Beverage Unit, as well as memorandum addressed to Mr. Hurley by the Director, Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, which matters have reference to a BARNY BERNAN, ISIDORE BLUMENFELD, KOZBEC, and KRONICK, also SPALLEY and others, who are named in various capacities in investigations conducted by the St. Paul Division Office of the Division of Investigation in the URSCHEL kidnaping case.

In order to make available whatever information our files disclose with reference to the above named persons it will be necessary for you to follow up the matter as is suggested in the memorandum of Director Hoover to Mr. Hurley, the last sentence thereof, and if the Director be informed he, undoubtedly, will instruct a letter to be addressed to me to have me furnish you with the reports submitted by the St. Paul Office in the investigations made by the St. Paul Division Office in the URSCHEL kidnaping case.

Very truly yours,

WERNER HANNI,
Special Agent in Charge.

CC Division ✓

All b7C

7-115
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 12 1934 A.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
jno [signature]

U. S. Department of Justice
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
~~Bureau of Investigation~~

SUITE L FEDERAL BUILDING
KANSAS CITY

Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Edwards _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Fisher _____
Mr. Quinn _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Locke _____
M. Cowley _____

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL.

January 11, 1934.

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

In connection with the Union Station Plaza Massacre, Special Agent [redacted] of this office has been making frequent contacts at the United States Penitentiary and Penitentiary Annex at Leavenworth and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, respectively, for information concerning the perpetrators of this crime.

Agent [redacted] advises me that, while at the Penitentiary Annex at Fort Leavenworth yesterday, he learned that Alberto Bates, recently sentenced there upon his conviction in the Urschel kidnaping case, has been on a hunger strike for four days, this fact being known to the Warden of the penitentiary. It appears that the reason for this hunger strike on the part of Bates is the fact that he has been placed in solitary confinement, and all privileges have been taken away from him. Bates told [redacted] that he saw no reason why his privileges had been taken away from him, in view of the fact that he had not violated any prison rules, and if he is going to have to remain in prison for life, with his privileges taken away, he would "be taken out of the prison feet first."

Bates indicated to Agent [redacted] that he had no malice or hard feeling against the Warden, as he, Bates, believed the Warden was not personally responsible for Bates' privileges having been taken away from him.

This information is being furnished to you for whatever action you deem appropriate.

Very truly yours,

M. C. SPEAR, Acting
Special Agent in Charge

7-115-1060
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 16 1934
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TEAM One Two FILE

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62-760-

RECORDED
JAN 15 1934

NOT RECORDED
COPY FILED IN 62-24915

RECORDED

7-113 -1061

January 17, 1934

JAN 18 1934

Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Suite L, Federal Building,
Kansas City, Missouri.

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

Dear Sir:

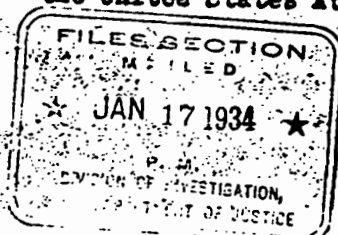
Reference is made to your letter dated January 5, 1934, wherein you request instructions relative to conducting a search at the Merchants National Bank, Kansas City, Missouri, for the purpose of locating part of the ransom money paid subject Bates by Mr. Urschel, it being alleged that a portion of this money was turned over to one Ferris J. Anthon, who at one time is believed to have had a safety deposit box at the Merchants National Bank.

You are instructed to arrange to have a Federal Reserve Agent make an examination of this bank, during the course of which a list of all holders of safety deposit boxes should be obtained and after an examination of this list, names of suspects should be selected and their boxes entered on John Doe warrants prepared in advance.

Of course, this matter should be first discussed with the United States Attorney and you should be guided by his instructions.

Very truly yours,

Director,



Handwritten signature: J. Edgar Hoover

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

SUITE L FEDERAL BUILDING
KANSAS CITY

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Tamm	

PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL

January 5, 1934.

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

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

Reference is made to my letter of December 13, 1933, wherewith was transmitted a copy of memorandum dated December 8, 1933, by Special Agent [REDACTED] having to do with a statement by Albert L. Bates, with reference to the possible location of part of the ransom funds paid by the Urschel family.

It will be noted from letter addressed from the Kansas City office to the Oklahoma City office, dated September 10, 1933, that a telegram dated at Omaha, Nebraska, August 9, 1933, at 3:35 p.m., was addressed to Mrs. G. L. Davis, No. 11 Sterling Apartments, 1275 Pearl Street, Denver, Colorado, signed "George." The original of that telegram was secured from the Western Union Telegraph Company at Omaha, Nebraska, during 1933, for use of the Oklahoma City office in comparing the handwriting, in order to prove the identity of "George" as Albert L. Bates. It is indicated that Bates was the sender of the telegram from Omaha, Nebraska, on August 9th. This co-incides with the statement by Bates to Agent [REDACTED] as mentioned in his memorandum to the effect that Bates was in Omaha, Nebraska, on August 9, 1933, at which place and on which date, Bates claimed that he met Ferris J. Anthon (correct spelling), and that Anthon received the portion of the Urschel money as alleged by Bates.

JAN 18 1934

INDEXED

7-115-1061

At this time, Special Agent [REDACTED] who is stationed in Omaha, Nebraska, as resident agent, is making a complete check of all possible angles at the Paxton Hotel, Western Union Telegraph Company and other places, that may develop facts to corroborate the statement of Bates, as shown in Agent [REDACTED] memorandum.

COPIES DESTROYED
20 5 MAR 16 1965

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Agent [REDACTED] is in possession of photographs of Bates and also of Ferris J. Anthon, which photographs are the more recent likenesses and believed to be good portrayals of their respective appearances. It may be possible to identify the parties at the Paxton Hotel and to secure additional facts in connection with the statement of Bates.

For use in the Division files of this case, a copy of the photograph of Ferris J. Anthon, deceased, is herewith enclosed.

It is found from investigation, that the fingerprints of Ferris J. Anthon are not on file at the Kansas City, Missouri, or Kansas City, Kansas, Police Departments. The photograph, which was secured, was obtained through the Kansas City Journal Post newspaper, confidentially, by [REDACTED] of Kansas City. The purpose of this investigation has not been disclosed to anyone outside of the Division by this office.

In pursuing this angle of the investigation, casual inquiries have been made by Special Agent [REDACTED] to locate the possible place where the funds and other properties of Ferris J. Anthon, deceased, may now be held. Sheriff [REDACTED] of Kansas City informed Agent [REDACTED] that the Merchants National Bank, Kansas City, Missouri, a State institution, deals exclusively with all Italian gangsters in Kansas City, and that it is very probable, that the banking business of Anthon was handled entirely through that institution.

Inquiry was made by Special Agent [REDACTED] through the intelligence division of the United States Treasury Department to ascertain whether or not that unit ever had occasion to investigate the income tax status of Anthon. It was believed possible that some information as to the status of his wealth and the whereabouts thereof might be ascertained through such an inquiry. However, no such records are available.

Special Agent [REDACTED] being qualified as an Accountant and familiar with investigation of banks, in which type of investigation he has been engaged quite exclusively at Kansas City, inquired of the officers of the Federal Reserve System of Kansas City, Missouri, and ascertained that the Merchants National Bank, while operating under a State charter and being under the supervision of the State Banking Commission, is a member of the Federal Reserve System. Agent [REDACTED] also ascertained at this time, and has heard in connection with his other bank investigations, that the Merchants National Bank of Kansas City, Missouri, is an institution known as a "fence" for illegitimate securities of various kinds.

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Three copies of the memorandum by Special Agent [REDACTED] in connection with his inquiries are attached hereto.

Through whatever discreet means that may develop within the next few days, it is intended to ascertain the name and address of the party that may be handling the estate of Ferris J. Anthon as executor or administrator.

You will recall that Anthon was killed by members of the John Lazia underworld gang at Kansas City several months ago, at which time, Sheriff [REDACTED] surprised the assassins, having killed two and captured Charles Gargotta, who is now awaiting trial on charges of murder in Kansas City, Missouri. Incidentally, it may be stated here, that the John Lazia faction is strongly supporting the defense of Gargotta.

Under the circumstances, it occurred to Special Agent in Charge E. E. Conroy, after full consideration of the facts, thus far shown, that there might be three avenues of approach open as a means to possibly locating the funds of Charles F. Urschel, provided they are in the Merchants National Bank. These would be:

1. The issuance of a federal subpoena calling upon the executives of the Merchants National Bank to produce all records of deposit box, or boxes, and all securities, or monies, held for the estate of Ferris J. Anthon.
2. Await the regular time of examination of the Merchants National Bank by the Missouri State Bank Department and endeavor at that time to secure the joint participation of the National Banking Examiner in the examination of the Merchants National Bank. In this case, it might be possible to have an Agent present and to cause a complete examination of the bank in line with the desired result, namely, locating the money identical with that of Charles F. Urschel, the serial numbers of which are available to the Kansas City office.
3. To seek a special examination by open conference in a confidential manner with the State Banking Commission. In such a case, a special examination of the bank might be secured at a time not expected by the bank, and if such were possible and made in a thorough and exhaustive manner, same might result in the location of the funds, assuming that they are in the possession of the bank.

All b7C

4. The Kansas City office is not aware of the possible arrangements that might be made with the State Banking Commission at Jefferson City, Missouri. There is a possibility that there may be political alliances making such action inadvisable. No approach has, of course, been made to the State Banking Commission, pending definite instructions from the Division. Neither of the other two avenues of approach has been attempted at this time for the same reason.

This matter is to be followed cautiously, but vigorously, and all possible means that may be advisable will be utilized to follow out information furnished by Bates. However, at this time, it is desired that the Division advise its views and issue instructions as to what means seems most desirable for the purpose of searching the Merchants National Bank for the funds of Charles F. Urschel.

Very truly yours,

M. C. Spear
M. C. SPEAR

Acting Special Agent in Charge.

Encl.
7-8-

b7C

Kansas City, Missouri.
December 30, 1933.

MEMORANDUM FOR S. A. C. CONROY:

In connection with the investigation being conducted by Special Agent [redacted] on the Urschel kidnaping case, Agent [redacted] requested that I endeavor to ascertain whether Ferris J. Anthon maintained an account, or rented a safety deposit box at the Merchants National Bank, Kansas City, Missouri, for the purpose of locating \$85,000.00 of the ransom money which is reported to have been turned over to Anthon by Albert Bates, to be disposed of.

Inasmuch as the Merchants Bank is generally known as a "fence" for hot bonds and money, no open approach will be made.

As the Merchants Bank is a member of the Federal Reserve System, I interviewed [redacted] of the Federal Reserve Bank, Kansas City, who referred me to [redacted], Assistant Federal Reserve Agent.

[redacted] was advised of the information at hand regarding the \$85,000.00, and stated that it would be possible for the examiner employed by the Federal Reserve Bank to obtain the information desired, but that it would be necessary to wait until the regular examination of the bank by the State Banking Department, inasmuch as the Federal Reserve Bank examiner conducts his examination with the State examiners. [redacted] informed that the examinations occur annually and that the next examination of the Merchants Bank would take place within the next six months.

[redacted] informed the writer that the Merchants Bank became a member bank about one year ago and that he, [redacted] was a little afraid of the bank as a member, due to the reports that the president, [redacted] had been under suspicion in connection with the bankruptcy case involving [redacted], and also in connection with the handling of the ransom money in the Katz kidnaping case.

(Signed) [redacted]

COPY.

COPIES DESTROYED
20 MAR 16 1965

All b7C

7-115-1061



UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.**

FILE NO. **7-26**

REPORT MADE AT: CHICAGO, ILL.	DATE WHEN MADE: Jan. 16, 1934	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 11/10-13/1933 12/23-29/1933 1/11-15/1934	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
TITLE: "CHANGED" GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, et al. CHARLES F. DRSCHEL, Victim			CHARACTER: KIDNAPING
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <p>F. W. Maurer not identical with Richard Galatas, according to [REDACTED] 1935 Illinois license plates issued to [REDACTED] Chicago, Illinois, for Graham Paige Motor 1017692, and are still in his possession. Kathryn Kelly identified as woman who purchased 1928 Chevrolet Sedan Motor 4424231, under name of Mrs. H.E. Campbell, of Brady, Texas. [REDACTED] to whom 1935 Illinois License Plates 613-210 were issued, admits being in Memphis, Tenn. on morning of arrest of George Kelly Barnes, but claims no connection with Kelly. \$20 bank note of Federal Reserve Bank, St. Louis, No. H-03162207A not identified as any of the notes in ransom list at Chicago office.</p>			
REFERENCE: <p>Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Dallas, Texas, 9/14/33; letter from Salt Lake City office, 9/28/33; report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Birmingham, 10/6/33; letter from St. Louis office dated 10/14/33; copy of letter from Birmingham office to Division, 1/10/34.</p>			
DETAILS: <p><u>AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:</u></p> <p>An undeveloped lead in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Dallas, Texas, dated September 14, 1933, requests that this office</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: M. A. Cunniff	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1062	RECORDED AND INDEXED: JAN 18 1934
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Division - 3 Okla. City - 2 Dallas - 2 S. Lk. City - 2 Birmingham - 2 Chicago - 2		UNITED STATES JAN 19 1934 AM BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO: GRC FILE	CHECKED OFF: JAN 20 1934 JACKETED: All b7C

endeavor to locate one FRED MAURER, through the McKenzie Gaskill Company, Chicago, Illinois, since Maurer's picture had previously been partially identified in Chicago as that of Richard Galatas, subject in the Vernon C. Miller case. Investigation with a view of locating the McKenzie Gaskill Company developed that there was formerly a McKendrie Gaskill Company, engaged in the handling of securities and investments, but that the company was no longer in existence, and that [redacted] was presently connected with the Goodwin Corporation of Chicago. It is to be noted that [redacted] given name is [redacted] and not [redacted]. He was interviewed by Agent at the Goodwin Corporation, 75 East Wacker Drive, and questioned as to whether he was acquainted with anyone by the name of F. W. Maurer. He advised that he has known a party by that name for a number of years; that for the last several years he has seen him only occasionally, but that he recalls distinctly having seen Maurer in Chicago some time during the Fall of last year; that the party he knows as F. W. Maurer lives somewhere in Texas, and he expressed the opinion that the city was Dallas. He was then questioned as to Maurer's occupation, and advised that he is not acquainted with the nature of Maurer's work at the present time, or with the nature of his work for the past several years. He was asked to describe F. W. Maurer, and the description that he gave did not coincide with that of Richard Galatas. He was then shown a photograph of Galatas, which he stated was not identical with the party whom he knows as F. W. Maurer.

This file does not indicate that the Kansas City office has been advised that inquiry was being made to determine whether F. W. Maurer was identical with Richard Galatas. Therefore a letter is being sent to the Kansas City office, which is the office of origin in the Vernon Miller case, advising them of the fact that it was thought at first that Maurer was identical with Galatas, but that it has been definitely determined that he is not identical with Galatas.

[redacted] also stated that Maurer's present address is unknown to him. However it is not believed necessary to conduct further investigation along that line.

In connection with the letter of reference from the St. Louis office, dated September 28, 1933, wherein it was stated that among the property located belonging to former subject Albert Bates, were two 1933 Illinois license plates, number 789-918, and requesting that it be ascertained to whom these plates were issued, it has been learned that the above license plates were issued to [redacted] who at the time was living at [redacted] Chicago, and had been issued for a Graham Paige automobile, motor 1017692.

All b7c

Page 3.

It was learned that [redacted] had formerly lived there, but had moved to [redacted] [Chicago]. [redacted] was subsequently located at his office, [redacted] and questioned relative to this matter. He stated he could not recall either the number of his license plates, but upon examining his car, accompanied by Agent, it was found that the license plates on his car bore number 789918, which it will be noted is the same number as the plates which the Salt Lake City office advises were found among the property belonging to Albert Bates. [redacted] stated that some time during the Summer of 1933, his Graham Paige had been stolen, but the car was located and returned to him two or three days later, and the plates were still on the car when it was returned to him. He stated that he had never purchased any additional 1933 license plates. These plates were examined by Agent, and they show no indication of any of the numbers having been changed or entered in any respect. Therefore it is thought there must be some mistake about the fact that these plates were found in the possession of Bates, and the Salt Lake City office is requested to check this matter again.

With respect to the undeveloped lead for the Chicago office set out in the report of Special Agent [redacted] Birmingham, Ala. dated October 6, 1933, requesting that the Automobile Protective and Information Bureau trace the ownership of 1928 Chevrolet Sedan, Motor 4424281, which is now in the possession of Langford Ramsey, it was ascertained from the Automobile Protective and Information Bureau, after they had traced the ownership of this car, that the automobile in question was last registered to Mrs. H. E. Campbell, of Brady, Texas, under 1933 Texas license 130-511, and under date of January 9, 1934, this office was advised by the Automobile Protective and Information Bureau that the Dallas office of that Bureau had learned that the instant Chevrolet bearing license 130-511, motor 4424281, was issued originally to one [redacted] of Brownwood, Texas, and that he had transferred it to the Texas Sales Company of Brownwood, and that they had transferred it to a Mrs. H. E. Campbell, who gave Brady, Texas as her address at that time; that they had checked the records in Brady for a Mrs. Campbell, but that no one by that name apparently lived there; that they had exhibited a picture of Kathryn Kelly to the Texas Sales Company, and that the salesman handling the transaction on this car had identified the photograph of Kathryn Kelly as the woman who had used the name of Mrs. H. E. Campbell. The above mentioned report of Special Agent [redacted] also requested that the St. Louis office ascertain to whom Illinois license plates 613210 were issued for the year 1933, and as a result of that lead to the St. Louis office, the Chicago office was advised by letter from St. Louis, dated October 14, 1933, that information had been received from the office of the Secretary of State of the State of Illinois that 1933 Illinois license plates 613210 were issued to one [redacted] Blue Island, Illinois, for a Nash automobile, Motor Number

All b7C

Page 11
B61348, Serial B68698. This office was requested to conduct appropriate investigation relative to the identity of [redacted]. This inquiry was being made for the purpose of determining why a touring car thought to be a five passenger Cadillac, was in Memphis, Tennessee early on the morning that Kelly and his wife were taken into custody at that place.

Accordingly, [redacted] who resides at [redacted], Blue Island, Illinois, who is [redacted] was located, and questioned as to whether the above mentioned license plates had been issued to him, and he advised that they had. With reference to the type of car on which he had used them, he stated that they had been previously issued for a Nash belonging to him, but that he had transferred them from the Nash to a five passenger Reo automobile; that the Reo was a dark colored car, and when questioned as to whether the car could be mistaken for a Cadillac he stated that it could very easily be mistaken for such a car, and in many respects resembled a five passenger Cadillac. He was then questioned as to whether he was out of the State of Illinois on or about September 24, 25 and 26, 1933. He stated that he recalled making a trip about that time to New Orleans, La. and as a result of further questioning stated that he recalls being in Memphis, Tennessee on the early morning of the day that George Kelly was taken into custody at that place. He recalls this by reason of the fact that the Kelly case was being given so much publicity at the time, and he was undecided as to whether he should go through Memphis, on that morning, because of the fact that he had a load of liquor in his car, and was doubtful as to whether he could get through that city with the load, since so many Police officers would be on the alert. He further advised that his wife accompanied him on this trip, and that she was sitting in the front seat with him; that the liquor was in the back seat of the car, covered with a blanket and that they possibly had two suit cases on top of the cases of liquor. He denied that anyone was in the back of the car, but stated that it was quite possible that someone passing his car in another car and seeing the blankets and suit cases in the rear might possibly think that someone was lying on the rear seat. [redacted] denied any connection with George Kelly, or Kelly's outfit, and though admitting that he had been in the liquor business before repeal, he insisted that he had had no dealings at all with that gang, and only knew of them by reputation as a result of the kidnaping case. He stated that he did not even stop in Memphis on that morning, and that he made no contacts with anyone in Memphis on that trip. He stated that the only persons with whom he is acquainted at Memphis is the foreman of the Nash Garage, and [redacted] who runs a tourist camp four miles south of Memphis, Tenn. on Route 51.

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b7c
In connection with the letter of reference from the Birmingham office to the Division, a copy of which was furnished to this office, requesting that all lists of ransom money be checked to ascertain whether a twenty dollar Federal Reserve note of the Bank of St. Louis, number H-03162207-A

Page 5.

was listed, that office is advised that the lists of ransom money in the Chicago office do not contain this number.

The title of this report has been marked changed, inasmuch as a new file has been started for subjects ABE and CHARLES CAPLAN, file number 62-1750, for harboring and concealing George Kelly Barnes and Kathryn Kelly, while fugitives in Chicago, and the Caplans are no longer being carried in the instant file.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

CHICAGO OFFICE: Will conduct investigation along the lines indicated in letter from the Salt Lake City office dated January 12, 1934.

P E N D I N G

CT

b7C

January 15, 1934.

RECORDED

POST FILED IN

62-29707

Mr. J. A. Dowd,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
900 Extra Thompson Building,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Sir:-

Please transmit to the Division at the earliest possible date the machine gun surrendered to the Division by the American Railway Express Company at Denver which was secured from Albert Bates. There is enclosed herewith a Government bill of lading for use in sending this gun to the Division.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED

Director

Encl. #360762.

7-115-1063	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
JAN 18 1934 P.M.	
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
4-10	FILE

FILES SECTION
MAILED
* JAN 15 1934 *
P. M.
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

801 Title Guaranty Bldg.
Saint Louis, Missouri
January 16, 1934

Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
201 Liberty National Life Bldg.,
Birmingham, Alabama.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the letter emanating from your office on January 10, 1934, addressed to the Director, relative to the case entitled GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, et al, Charles F. Urschel, Victim, Kidnaping, in which it is requested that an investigation be conducted relative to twenty dollar Federal Reserve Certificate No. H-03162807 A.

Please be advised that an examination of the St. Louis files fails to reflect any information whatsoever relative to the above described treasury certificate. Further, on January 12, 1934, [REDACTED] of the Money Department, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, was contacted for any information he might have concerning the above referred to certificate. [REDACTED] advised that it would be necessary to have the serial number of said certificate checked, pointing out that this would take some time. Subsequently, on January 13, 1934, [REDACTED] advised this office that he had no record of the above referred to certificate being used to pay ransom or stolen in any hold-ups or robberies, etc.

In view of the above, this matter is being considered
REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

Very truly yours,

F. F. YEARSLEY, Acting,
Special Agent in Charge.

FFY:
cc Division
7-17-77

All b7C

7-115
JAN 18 1934
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
ONE

K
224 Federal Building,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

January 17, 1934

Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
201 Liberty National Life Building,
Birmingham, Alabama

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

Dear Sir:

Your letter under date of January 10, 1934, requesting information as to whether or not twenty dollar bill number H-03162207-A was one of the Urschel ransom bills has been received, and I wish to advise at this time that there is no record in this office relative to the above bill, it not being on the list of the Urschel ransom bills.

Very truly yours,

R. H. COLVIN,
Special Agent in Charge.

cc Division ✓

7-115
RECEIVED
JAN 20 1934
one 432 FILE

This case originated at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

File No. 7-6

Report Made at: Oklahoma City	Date When Made: 1/16/34	PAROLE REPORT	Report Made by: [REDACTED] b7C
Name of Convict: Edward Barney Berman		Title of Case: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases CHARLES F. URSCHEL - Victim, Kidnaping	
<p>On the night of July 22, 1933, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Urschel were engaged in a social bridge game with their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Jarrett, in the sun-parlor on the ground floor of the Urschel home in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. At approximately 11:15 P. M., two widely known underworld characters entered this room; one was Albert L. Bates, who is known by that and many other names throughout the United States as a thief, burglar, bank robber, safe-blower, extortionist and kidnapper, and he carried an automatic pistol; the other was George Kelly Barnes, more familiarly known as George Kelly and "Machine-gun Kelly," who is known throughout North America as a liquor runner, thief, robber, kidnapper, and close associate of organized underworld gangs, and he carried a machine-gun. The latter demanded, "Which is Urschel? We want Urschel." As no one present replied, Barnes thereupon said, "Well, we will take them both." Then, by force of arms, they marched Urschel and Jarrett out through the back yard to a car which was parked in the driveway of the Urschel home. Shortly after leaving the Urschel home, the abductors took from the possession of Urschel his wallet containing about \$60.00 in cash and from Mr. Jarrett his wallet with approximately \$50.00 in cash. At a point about ten miles northeast of Oklahoma City, the kidnapers had satisfied themselves, from an examination of the identification cards in each wallet and a statement made by Mr. Urschel, which was Urschel, and Jarrett was released.</p> <p>Approximately twenty miles from Oklahoma City, the victim of this kidnaping was blindfolded by the use of adhesive tape. He was driven at a fair rate of speed over what seemed to him to be country roads until a short time before daybreak Sunday morning, July 23, when he was changed to another car on the farm of R. M. Coleman near Stratford, Oklahoma. After about thirty minutes wait, the abductors proceeded with their victim to the farm home of Robert Green Shannon, father-in-law of Barnes, near Paradise, Texas, in whose home he was held that night. The next morning he was removed to another house, located on the Shannon farm about three-quarters of a mile from the R. G. Shannon home, where his son, Armon Crawford Shannon, lives. He was held in this house in a miserable blind-</p>			
Approved and Forwarded: Special Agent in Charge		Do not write in these spaces	
Copies of This Report Furnished to:		7-115-1064	
3 Division		Bureau of Investigation	
3 Oklahoma City		JAN 20 1934 A M	
CDW		Department of Justice	
		Routed to: [REDACTED] File: [REDACTED]	
		Recorded or Indexed: [REDACTED]	
		Checked off: [REDACTED]	
		JAN 22 19	
		Jacketed: [REDACTED]	

folded condition, being always chained to a chair, and part of the time being forced to sleep on the floor, while a continuous guard watched over him with two .45 calibre automatic pistols. When one of the abductors was not guarding their victim, he was guarded by R. G. Shannon, who is known as Boss Shannon, or his twenty-two years old son, Armon Shannon.

The kidnapers demanded that Urschel designate a friend who would act as intermediary with his family and John C. Catlett of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was selected to make this contact. Through a well planned arrangement of having the Urschel family place an ad in a daily Oklahoma City paper, negotiations were opened and E. E. Kirkpatrick, friend and business associate of Urschel was instructed to take \$200,000.00 in used Federal Reserve Twenty Dollar Notes in a light-colored tan handbag and in a certain directed manner and appointed time, should go from Oklahoma City to Kansas City, Missouri with Mr. Catlett, where he was to receive further instructions. As directed in Kansas City about 5:30 P. M., July 30, 1933, Kirkpatrick, using the appointed name of E. E. Kincaid, took a Yellow Cab to the La Salle Hotel and walked west on Linwood Boulevard a short distance where he was met by a man whom he has since identified as George Kelly Barnes, who took the bag containing the \$200,000.00 and told him Urschel would be released shortly. A record of the number on each of these ten thousand bills had previously been made.

About 5:00 P. M., July 31, 1933, Mr. Urschel was taken from his temporary imprisonment in the Armon Shannon home by one of the abductors and they were later joined by the other and he was driven to Norman, Oklahoma, and released about 10:00 P. M., being instructed by the kidnapers to hire a car and proceed immediately to his home and not to communicate with any officers concerning his experience. This Urschel did. It was not until after a very detailed and extensive investigation, which covered the entire United States, was made that the identity of the kidnapers and those who conspired with and assisted them was established.

Edward Barney Berman, alias Barney Berman, was arrested August 14, 1933 after evading arrest for several days, for receiving \$5,500.00 of this ransom money knowing same was a part of the money paid for Urschel's release. He was indicted with thirteen other defendants, including the two abductors, at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 23, 1933, by a Federal Grand Jury for a conspiracy to kidnap Charles F. Urschel and transport him in interstate commerce and there hold him for ransom. He was convicted with six other defendants in Federal Court at Oklahoma City, September 30, 1933, and sentenced by Federal Judge Edgar S. Yaught, October 7, 1933, to serve five years in a United States Penitentiary. He filed notice of appeal and was granted his liberty on a continuing bond.

Berman always maintained that he and Clifford Skelly, his business associate, gave 125 cases of whiskey in exchange for this \$5,500.00 to a man who gave his name as Collins. It might be said here that after this trial, Albert L. Bates told the writer personally that no whiskey was received for any of about \$12,000.00 of the ransom money which was exchanged for other money at St. Paul and Minneapolis Minnesota, and that he, Bates, personally made the exchange for a small percentage fee in the same manner that he had exchanged other "hot" money and "hot" bonds for

good money and that Berman and other Minneapolis defendants knew this money was "hot." Berman is a notorious liquor dealer, "money-changer," and fence for stolen bonds and money.

He is 35 years old, married, and is an American of Jewish extraction. Nothing is known of his family history and home life.

He has apparently never served a prison sentence, but his reputation among law-abiding citizens is bad.

Form No. 2

This case originated at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

File No. 7-6

Report Made at Oklahoma City	Date When Made 1/16/34	PAROLE REPORT	Report Made by [REDACTED] b7C
Name of Convict Clifford Skelly	Title of Case: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, et al. CHARLES F. URSCHEL Victim Kidnaping		
<p>On the night of July 22, 1933, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Urschel were engaged in a social bridge game with their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Jarrett in the sun-parlor on the ground floor of the Urschel home in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. At approximately 11:15 P. M., two widely known underworld characters entered this room; one was Albert L. Bates, who is known by that and many other names throughout the United States as a thief, burglar, bank robber, safe-blower, extortionist and kidnapper, and he carried an automatic pistol; the other was George Kelly Barnes, more familiarly known as George Kelly and "Machine-gun Kelly," who is known throughout North America as a liquor runner, thief, robber, kidnapper, and close associate of organized underworld gangs, and he carried a machine-gun. The latter demanded, "Which is Urschel? We want Urschel." As no one present replied, Barnes thereupon said, "Well, we will take them both." Then, by force of arms, they marched Urschel and Jarrett out through the back yard to a car which was parked in the driveway of the Urschel home. Shortly after leaving the Urschel home, the abductors took from the possession of Urschel his wallet containing about \$60.00 in cash and from Mr. Jarrett his wallet with approximately \$50.00 in cash. At a point about ten miles northeast of Oklahoma City, the kidnapers had satisfied themselves, from an examination of the identification cards in each wallet and a statement made by Mr. Urschel, which was Urschel, and Jarrett was released.</p> <p>Approximately twenty miles from Oklahoma City, the victim of this kidnaping was blindfolded by the use of adhesive tape. He was driven at a fair rate of speed over what seemed to him to be country roads until a short time before daybreak Sunday morning, July 23, when he was changed to another car on the farm of R. M. Coleman near Stratford, Oklahoma. After about thirty minutes' wait, the abductors proceeded with their victim to the farm home of Robert Green Shannon, father-in-law of Barnes, near Paradise, Texas, in whose home he was held that night. The next morning he was removed to another house, located on the Shannon farm about three-quarters of a mile from the R. G. Shannon home, where his son, Armon Crawford Shannon, lives. He was held in this house in a miserable blind-</p>			
Approved and Forwarded: <i>R.H. Coleman</i> Special Agent in Charge		7-115-1665	Recorded and Indexed:
Copies of This Report Furnished to:		Bureau of Investigation	Checked off:
3 Division		JAN 20 1934 A.M.	JAN 22 1934
3 Oklahoma City		Department of Justice	Jacketed:
CDW		Routed to: <i>me</i>	File:

folded condition, being always chained to a chair, and part of the time being forced to sleep on the floor, while a continuous guard watched over him with two .45 calibre automatic pistols. When one of the abductors was not guarding their victim, he was guarded by R. G. Shannon, who is known as Boss Shannon, or his twenty-two year old son, Armon Shannon.

The kidnapers demanded that Urschel designate a friend who would act as intermediary with his family and John G. Catlett of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was selected to make this contact. Through a well planned arrangement of having the Urschel family place an ad in a daily Oklahoma City paper, negotiations were opened and E. E. Kirkpatrick, friend and business associate of Urschel, was instructed to take \$200,000.00 in used Federal Reserve Twenty Dollar Notes in a light-colored tan handbag and in a certain directed manner and appointed time, should go from Oklahoma City to Kansas City, Missouri with Mr. Catlett, where he was to receive further instructions. As directed in Kansas City about 5:30 P. M. July 30, 1933, Kirkpatrick, using the appointed name of E. E. Kincaid, took a Yellow Cab to the La Salle Hotel and walked west on Linwood Boulevard a short distance where he was met by a man whom he has since identified as George Kelly Barnes, who took the bag containing the \$200,000.00 and told him Urschel would be released shortly. A record of the number on each of these ten thousand bills had previously been made.

About 3:00 P. M., July 31, 1933, Mr. Urschel was taken from his temporary imprisonment in the Armon Shannon home by one of the abductors and they were later joined by the other and he was driven to Norman, Oklahoma, and released about 10:00 P. M., being instructed by the kidnapers to hire a car and proceed immediately to his home and not to communicate with any officers concerning his experience. This Urschel did. It was not until after a very detailed and extensive investigation which covered the entire United States was made that the identity of the kidnapers and those who conspired with and assisted them was established.

Clifford Skelly was taken into custody August 14, 1933 after evading arrest at Minneapolis, Minnesota, for several days and was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 23, 1933, with thirteen other defendants, including the two abductors, for a conspiracy to kidnap Charles F. Urschel and transport him interstate and there hold him for ransom. He was convicted with six other defendants in Federal Court at Oklahoma City, September 30, 1933 and sentenced by Judge Edgar S. Vaught, October 7, 1933, to serve five years in a United States Penitentiary. He filed notice of appeal and was granted his liberty on a continuing bond.

Skelly always maintained that he and Edward Barney Berman, his business associate, gave 125 cases of whiskey in exchange for this \$5,500.00 to a man who gave his name as Collins. It might be said here that after this trial, Albert L. Bates told the writer personally that no whiskey was received for any of about \$12,000.00 of the ransom money which was exchanged for other money at St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota and that he, Bates, personally made the exchange for a small percentage fee in the same manner he had exchanged other "hot" money and "hot" bonds, for good money, and that Skelly and other Minneapolis defendants knew this money was "hot." Skelly is a notorious liquor dealer, "money-changer," and operates a fence, or clearing house for stolen bonds and money.

Skelly is 35 years old, married, and an American. Nothing is known of his family history and home life.

He has apparently never served any prison sentence, but his reputation among law-abiding citizens is bad.

Form No. 2

This case originated at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

File No. 7-6

Report Made at Oklahoma City	Date When Made 1/16/34	Report Made by [REDACTED] b7c
Name of Convict Harvey J. Bailey	Title of Case GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, et al; CHARLES F. URSCHEL - Victim Kidnaping	

On the night of July 22, 1933, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Urschel were engaged in a social bridge game with their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Jarrett in the sun-parlor on the ground floor of the Urschel home in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. At approximately 11:15 P. M., two widely known underworld characters entered this room; one was Albert L. Bates, who is known by that and many other names throughout the United States as a thief, burglar, bank robber, safe-blower, extortionist and kidnapper, and he carried an automatic pistol; the other was George Kelly Barnes, more familiarly known as George Kelly and "Machine-gun Kelly," who is known throughout North America as a liquor runner, thief, robber, kidnapper, and close associate of organized underworld gangs, and he carried a machine-gun. The latter demanded, "Which is Urschel? We want Urschel." As no one present replied, Barnes thereupon said, "Well, we will take them both." Then, by force of arms, they marched Urschel and Jarrett out through the back yard to a car which was parked in the driveway of the Urschel home. Shortly after leaving the Urschel home, the abductors took from the possession of Mr. Urschel his wallet containing about \$60.00 in cash and from Mr. Jarrett his wallet with approximately \$50.00 in cash. At a point about ten miles northeast of Oklahoma City, the kidnapers had satisfied themselves, from an examination of the identification cards in each wallet and a statement made by Mr. Urschel, which was Urschel, and Jarrett was released.

Approximately twenty miles from Oklahoma City, the Victim of this kidnaping was blindfolded by the use of adhesive tape. He was driven at a fair rate of speed over what seemed to him to be country roads until a short time before daybreak Sunday morning, July 23, when he was changed to another car on the farm of R. M. Coleman near Stratford, Oklahoma. After about thirty minutes wait, the abductors proceeded with their victim to the farm home of Robert Green Shannon, father-in-law of Barnes, near Paradise, Texas, in whose home he was held that night. The next morning he was removed to another house, located on the Shannon farm about three-quarters of a mile from the R. G. Shannon home, where his son, Armon Crawford Shannon, lives. He was held in this house in a miserable blind-

Do not write in these spaces

Approved and Forwarded: <i>R.H. Coleman</i> Special Agent in charge	7-115-1066	Recorded and Indexed:
Copies of This Report Furnished to: 3 Division 3 Oklahoma City	Bureau of Investigation JAN 20 1934 A.M. Department of Justice	Checked off: JAN 22 1934 Jacketed:
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folded condition, being always chained to a chair, and part of the time being forced to sleep on the floor, while a continuous guard watched over him with two .45 caliber automatic pistols. When one of the abductors was not guarding their victim he was guarded by R. G. Shannon, who is known as Boss Shannon, or his twenty-two year old son, Armon Shannon.

The kidnapers demanded that Urschel designate a friend who would act as intermediary with his family and John G. Catlett of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was selected to make this contact. Through a well planned arrangement of having the Urschel family place an ad in a daily Oklahoma City paper, negotiations were opened and E. B. Kirkpatrick, friend and business associate of Urschel was instructed to take \$200,000.00 in used Federal Reserve Twenty Dollar Notes in a light-colored tan handbag and in a certain directed manner and appointed time, should go from Oklahoma City to Kansas City, Missouri with Mr. Catlett, where he was to receive further instructions. As directed in Kansas City about 5:30 P. M., July 30, 1933, Kirkpatrick, using the appointed name of E. E. Kincaid, took a Yellow Cab to the La Salle Hotel and walked west on Linwood Boulevard a short distance where he was met by a man whom he has since identified as George Kelly Barnes, who took the bag containing the \$200,000.00 and told him Urschel would be released shortly. A record of each number on these ten thousand bills had previously been made.

About 3:00 P. M., July 31, 1933, Mr. Urschel was taken from his temporary imprisonment in the Armon Shannon home by one of the abductors and they were later joined by the other and he was driven to Norman, Oklahoma, and released about 10:00 P. M., being instructed by the kidnapers to hire a car and proceed immediately to his home and not to communicate with any officers concerning his experience. This Urschel did. It was not until after a very detailed and extensive investigation, which covered the entire United States, was made that the identity of the kidnapers and those who conspired with and assisted them, was established.

Harvey J. Bailey, alias J. J. Brennan, was arrested at the R. G. Shannon farm near Paradise, Texas, August 12, 1933, during a raid by Federal and State officers, and was in possession of \$1,211.00 in currency, \$700.00 of it being thirty-five of the \$20.00 bills of the ransom money paid for Mr. Urschel's release. He was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 23, 1933, with thirteen other defendants, including the two abductors, in a conspiracy to kidnap Charles F. Urschel and transport him in interstate commerce and there hold him for reward and ransom. He was convicted, with six other defendants, in Federal Court at Oklahoma City, September 30, 1933, and sentenced by Judge Edgar S. Vaught, October 7, 1933, to serve the rest of his natural life in a United States Penitentiary.

Bailey has continued to maintain that he had no part in this conspiracy. This seems inconsistent in view of the fact that he has been well acquainted with the Shannons for three years and has been a partner in crime with their son-in-law "Machine-gun Kelly," another defendant in this case. While it has never been proved it is generally accepted that though Bailey probably did not directly help to guard Urschel, he guarded the farm where this victim was held in chains during the time of the ransom negotiations, as he was on the Shannon farm at least five days during the time Urschel was there and talked with Bates and Barnes together, at least

once, for about half an hour. Together with the \$700.00 of the ransom money Bailey had when he was arrested, he also had, and claimed ownership to, one Thompson sub-machine gun, number 4907, Model 1921, the one alleged to have been used in the abduction, one .351 calibre Winchester automatic rifle, and one .45 calibre automatic pistol. The latter two guns were on his bed, and within his reach, when Bailey was arrested. This defendant, who has been referred to and is so generally regarded as "a master criminal" and a "leader of the most high-powered band of liquor runners and bank robbers that ever roamed the Southwest," was placed in the County Jail at Dallas, Texas, and immediately after a special guard was removed from his jail cell, he escaped September 4, 1933, through the help of two assistant jailers, and about four hours later, after a most spectacular dash for freedom, he was re-captured at Ardmore, Oklahoma, in possession of an old and worthless pistol which had been furnished him by an assistant jailer for this break.

Bailey is 46 years old, married, has one son, and is an American citizen of Scotch-Irish descent. His occupation was formerly that of a railway engineer and until after the World War he was a respected and law-abiding citizen. Due to lack of employment following the war he gradually became engaged in the liquor business and at one time was a close associate of George Ramus, Alonzo Capone, and other kings of the bootleg racket. When he became a big dealer, he handled alcohol exclusively, through the "Syndicate" in Chicago. Bailey's mother is still living and she and his wife and son are apparently honorable and law-abiding citizens.

The records of the Division of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice reflect that Bailey was received at the Kansas State Prison at Lansing, Kansas, on August 17, 1932, under a sentence of ten to fifty years for bank robbery and that he escaped therefrom May 30, 1933 with ten other convicts in one of the most spectacular prison breaks ever staged. Before his conviction and sentence in the instant case, he was wanted in connection with the Union Station Massacre at Kansas City, Missouri, where three police officers, a Special Agent of the Division of Investigation, and their prisoner, were murdered, June 17, 1933. Bailey is known to be the leader of the same gang of bank robbers that the notorious Wilbur Underhill was. The latter died in the State Prison at McAlester, Oklahoma, January 6, 1934, following a desperate gun battle with Federal and State officers at Shawnee, Oklahoma, the early morning of December 30, 1933.

This case originated at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

File No. 7-6

Report Made at: Oklahoma City	Date When Made: 1/16/34	PAROLE REPORT	Report Made by: WJC
Name of Convict: Robert Green Shannon	Title of Case: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, et al. CHARLES F. URSCHEL - Victim Kidnaping		
<p>On the night of July 22, 1933, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Urschel were engaged in a social bridge game with their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Jarrett in the sun-parlor on the ground floor of the Urschel home in Oklahoma City. At approximately 11:15 P. M., two widely known underworld characters entered this room; one was Albert L. Bates, who is known by that and many other names throughout the United States as a thief, burglar, bank robber, safe blower, extortionist and kidnapper, and he carried an automatic pistol; the other was George Kelly Barnes, more familiarly known as George Kelly and "Machine-gun Kelly," who is known throughout North America as a liquor runner, thief, robber, kidnapper, and close associate of organized underworld gangs, and he carried a machine gun. The latter demanded, "Which is Urschel? We want Urschel." As no one present replied, Barnes thereupon said, "Well, we will take them both." Then, by force of arms, they marched Urschel and Jarrett out through the back yard to a car which was parked in the driveway of the Urschel home. Shortly after leaving the Urschel home, the abductors took from the possession of Urschel his wallet containing about \$60.00 in cash and from Mr. Jarrett his wallet with approximately \$50.00 in cash. At a point about ten miles northeast of Oklahoma City, the kidnapers had satisfied themselves, from an examination of the identification cards in each wallet and a statement made by Mr. Urschel, which was Urschel, and Jarrett was released.</p> <p>Approximately twenty miles from Oklahoma City, the victim of this kidnaping was blindfolded by the use of adhesive tape. He was driven at a fair rate of speed over what seemed to him to be country roads until a short time before daybreak Sunday morning, July 23, when he was changed to another car on the farm of R. M. Coleman near Stratford, Oklahoma. After about thirty minutes wait, the abductors proceeded with their victim to the farm home of Robert Green Shannon, father-in-law of Barnes, near Paradise, Texas, in whose home he was held that night. The next morning he was removed to another house, located on the Shannon farm about three-quarters of a mile from the R. G. Shannon home, where his son, Armon Crawford Shannon, lives. He was held in this house in a miserable blind-</p>			
Approved and Forwarded Special Agent in Charge		Do not write in these spaces	
Copies of This Report Furnished to: 3 Division 3 Oklahoma City		Bureau of Investigation JAN 20 1934 A M Department of Justice Routed to: <i>File:</i> <i>Ind</i>	
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folded conditions, being always chained to a chair, and part of the time being forced to sleep on the floor, while a continuous guard watched over him with two .445 calibre automatic pistols. When one of the abductors was not guarding their victim, he was guarded by R. G. Shannon, who is known as Boss Shannon, or his twenty-two year old son, Armon Shannon.

The kidnapers demanded that Urschel designate a friend who would act as intermediary with his family and John G. Catlett of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was selected to make this contact. Through a well planned arrangement of having the Urschel family place an ad in a daily Oklahoma City paper, negotiations were opened, and E. E. Kirkpatrick, friend and business associate of Urschel, was instructed to take \$200,000.00 in used Federal Reserve Twenty Dollar Notes in a light-colored tan handbag and in a certain directed manner and appointed time, should go from Oklahoma City to Kansas City, Missouri with Mr. Catlett, where he was to receive further instructions. As directed in Kansas City, about 5:30 P. M., July 30, 1933, Kirkpatrick, using the appointed name of E. E. Kincaid, took a Yellow Cab to the La Salle Hotel and walked west on Linwood Boulevard a short distance where he was met by a man whom he has since identified as George Kelly Barnes, who took the bag containing the \$200,000.00 and told him Urschel would be released shortly. A record of the number on each of these ten thousand bills had previously been made.

About 3:00 P. M., July 31, 1933, Mr. Urschel was taken from his temporary imprisonment in the Armon Shannon home by one of the abductors and they were later joined by the other and he was driven to Norman, Oklahoma, and released about 10:00 P. M., being instructed by the kidnapers to hire a car and proceed immediately to his home and not to communicate with any officers concerning his experience. This Urschel did. It was not until after a very detailed and extensive investigation which covered the entire United States was made that the identity of the kidnapers and those who conspired with and assisted them was established.

Robert Green Shannon alias Boss Shannon, was arrested on his farm near Paradise, Texas, August 12, 1933, in a raid by State and Federal officers. He was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 23, 1933 with thirteen other defendants, including the two abductors, in a conspiracy to kidnap Charles F. Urschel and transport him in interstate commerce and there hold him for ransom. He was convicted, with six other defendants, in Federal Court at Oklahoma City, September 30, 1933, and sentenced by Judge Edgar S. Vaught, October 7, 1933, to serve the rest of his natural life in a United States Penitentiary. He was granted a stay of sixty days with bond fixed at \$10,000.00 to prepare his personal affairs for his departure to the penitentiary.

After Shannon was arrested he claimed to know nothing about the Urschel kidnaping, but later admitted that Mr. Urschel had been held on his farm and that he, Shannon, had helped to guard him while he was so held in captivity with two

.45 calibre automatic pistols. He maintained that he guarded Urschel through fear of bodily harm threatened him by his son-in-law, George Kelly Barnes, if he did not guard Urschel. Evidence at the trial developed that it was a part of this huge conspiracy to take Urschel to the Shannon farm where he was to be held until a ransom was collected. The amount of Shannon's share of the ransom is not known, though his wife got \$10,000.00.

Shannon is 55 years old, married, a Texas farmer, and an American. His present wife is Ora L. Shannon, another defendant in this case, to whom he has been married for about five years and no children have been born to this marriage. He has a daughter seventeen years old and a son, another defendant in this case, 22 years old, by a former marriage. He has apparently been a thrifty farmer and law-abiding citizen until the last three or four years during which time his home has been a hide-out and rendezvous for liquor runners and gangsters and he has received money for the protection he has given this class of men. He enjoyed the confidence of other citizens and neighbors until three or four years ago, but now his reputation is that of one who protects and harbors criminals.

He has no previous criminal record.

Form No. 2

This case originated at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

File No. 7-6

Report Made at: Oklahoma City	Date When Made: 1/18/34	PAROLE REPORT	Report Made by: [Redacted]
Name of Convict: George Kelly Barnes	Title of Case: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, et al. CHARLES F. URSCHEL, Victim Kidnaping.		
<p>On the night of July 22, 1933, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Urschel were engaged in a social bridge game with their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Jarrett in the sun-parlor on the ground floor of the Urschel home in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. At approximately 11:15 P. M., two widely known underworld characters entered this room; one was Albert L. Bates, who is known by that and many other names throughout the United States as a thief, burglar, bank robber, safe blower, extortionist and kidnapper, and he carried an automatic pistol, and the other was George Kelly Barnes, more familiarly known as George Kelly and "Machine-gun Kelly," who is known throughout North America as a liquor runner, thief, robber, kidnapper, and close associate of organized underworld gangs, and he carried a machine gun. The latter demanded, "Which is Urschel? We want Urschel." As no one present replied, Barnes thereupon said, "Well, we will take them both." Then, by force of arms, they marched Urschel and Jarrett out through the back yard to a car which was parked in the driveway of the Urschel home. Shortly after leaving the Urschel home, the abductors took from the possession of Urschel his wallet containing about \$60.00 in cash and from Mr. Jarrett his wallet with approximately \$50.00 in cash. At a point about ten miles northeast of Oklahoma City, the kidnapers had satisfied themselves, from an examination of the identification cards in each wallet and a statement made by Mr. Urschel, which was Urschel, and Jarrett was released.</p> <p>Approximately twenty miles from Oklahoma City, the victim of this kidnaping was blindfolded by the use of adhesive tape. He was driven at a fair rate of speed over what seemed to him to be country roads until a short time before daybreak Sunday morning, July 23, when he was changed to another car on the farm of R. M. Coleman near Stratford, Oklahoma. After about thirty minutes wait, the abductors proceeded with their victim to the farm home of Robert Green Shannon, father-in-law of Barnes, near Paradise, Texas, in whose home he was held that night. The next morning he was removed to another house located on the Shannon farm about three-quarters of a mile from the R. G. Shannon home, where his son, Armon Crawford Shannon, lives. He was held in this house in a miserable blind-</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Do not write in these spaces</p>			
Approved and Forwarded: <i>[Signature]</i> Special Agent in Charge		7-115-1168	Recorded and Indexed:
Copies of This Report Furnished to:		Bureau of Investigation	Checked off:
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folded condition, being always chained to a chair, and part of the time being forced to sleep on the floor, while a continuous guard watched over him with two .45 calibre automatic pistols. When one of the abductors was not guarding their victim, he was guarded by R. G. Shannon, who is known as Boss Shannon, or his twenty-two year old son, Armon Shannon.

The kidnapers demanded that Urschel designate a friend who would act as intermediary with his family and John G. Catlett of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was selected to make this contact. Through a well planned arrangement of having the Urschel family place an ad in a daily Oklahoma City paper, negotiations were opened, and E. E. Kirkpatrick, friend and business associate of Urschel, was instructed to take \$200,000.00 in used Federal Reserve Twenty Dollar Notes in a light-colored tan handbag and in a certain directed manner and appointed time, should go from Oklahoma City to Kansas City, Missouri with Mr. Catlett, where he was to receive further instructions. As directed in Kansas City, about 5:30 P. M., July 30, 1933, Kirkpatrick, using the appointed name of E. E. Kincaid, took a Yellow cab to the La Salle Hotel and walked west on Linwood Boulevard a short distance where he was met by a man whom he has since identified as George Kelly Barnes, who took the bag containing the \$200,000.00 and told him Urschel would be released shortly. A record of the number on each of these ten thousand bills had previously been made.

About 3:00 P. M., July 31, 1933, Mr. Urschel was taken from his temporary imprisonment in the Armon Shannon home by one of the abductors and they were later joined by the other and he was driven to Norman, Oklahoma, and released about 10:00 P. M., being instructed by the kidnapers to hire a car and proceed immediately to his home and not to communicate with any officers concerning his experience. This Urschel did. It was not until after a very detailed and extensive investigation which covered the entire United States was made that the identity of the kidnapers and those who conspired with and assisted them was established.

Ora Lillian Shannon was arrested with her husband, R. G. Shannon, on the Shannon farm near Paradise, Texas, August 12, 1933, in a raid by federal and State officers. She was indicted by a federal Grand Jury at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 23, 1933, with thirteen other defendants, including the two abductors, in a conspiracy to kidnap Charles F. Urschel and transport him in interstate commerce and there hold him for reward and ransom. She was convicted, with six other defendants, in Federal Court at Oklahoma City, September 30, 1933, and sentenced by Judge Edgar S. Vaught, October 7, 1933, to serve the rest of her natural life in a United States Penitentiary.

When Mrs. Shannon was arrested she denied knowing anything about the Urschel kidnaping, and told her husband to say nothing and know nothing as "these officers have nothing on us," and said to her step-son, Armon C. Shannon, another defendant in this case, while some officers were talking to him, "Armon, keep your damm mouth shut." She later admitted, however, that Urschel was brought to the Shannon farm where he was held in chains as a captive during the time that

negotiations concerning the ransom were being carried out, though she maintained that her husband and step-son guarded Mr. Urschel and she fed him upon the orders of her son-in-law, George Kelly Barnes, and through fear of what he would do to them if they would not do this. This stand, of course, is inconsistent in view of her past reputation and record. Immediately before her marriage to H. G. Shannon, she operated a small hotel in Fort Worth, Texas, which had a very questionable reputation. During the past three or four years the Shannon home has been a place of protection for liquor runners and hide-out and rendezvous for escaped prisoners and gangsters. While it has never been definitely proven how much Mrs. Shannon received of the ransom as her share, one of the defense attorneys confidentially advised Mr. Hyde, the United States Attorney at Oklahoma City who prosecuted this case, that she received \$10,000.00.

Mrs. Shannon is 46 years old, married, and an American. She was born of good parents and was apparently a good and respected citizen until the last few years. She first married J. E. Brooks and to that union was born Kathryn Kelly, the wife of "Machine-gun Kelly", and another defendant in this case, both notorious criminals. This defendant enjoyed a splendid reputation as a citizen the first part of her life, but now is regarded as one who protects and harbors criminals.

She has no previous criminal record.

Form No. 2

This case originated at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

File No. 7-6

Report Made at: Oklahoma City	Date When Made: 7/18/34	PAROLE REPORT	Report Made by: b7C
Name of Convict: Ora Lillian Shannon	Title of Case: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, et al. CHARLES F. URSCHEL - Victim Kidnaping		
<p>On the night of July 22, 1933, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Urschel were engaged in a social bridge game with their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Walter S. Jarrett in the sun-parlor on the ground floor of the Urschel home in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. At approximately 11:15 P. M., two widely known underworld characters entered this room; one was Albert L. Bates, who is known by that and many other names throughout the United States as a thief, burglar, bank robber, safe blower, extortionist and kidnapper, and he carried an automatic pistol; and the other was George Kelly Barnes, more familiarly known as George Kelly and "Machine-gun Kelly," who is known throughout North America as a liquor runner, thief, robber, kidnapper, and close associate of organized underworld gangs, and he carried a machine gun. The latter demanded, "Which is Urschel? We want Urschel." As no one present replied, Barnes thereupon said, "Well, we will take them both." Then, by force of arms, they marched Urschel and Jarrett out through the back yard to a car which was parked in the driveway of the Urschel home. Shortly after leaving the Urschel home, the abductors took from the possession of Urschel his wallet containing about \$60.00 in cash and from Mr. Jarrett his wallet with approximately \$50.00 in cash. At a point about ten miles northeast of Oklahoma City, the kidnapers had satisfied themselves, from an examination of the identification cards in each wallet and a statement made by Mr. Urschel, which was Urschel, and Jarrett was released.</p> <p>Approximately twenty miles from Oklahoma City, the victim of this kidnaping was blindfolded by the use of adhesive tape. He was driven at a fair rate of speed over what seemed to him to be country roads until a short time before daybreak Sunday morning, July 23, when he was changed to another car on the farm of R. M. Coleman near Stratford, Oklahoma. After about thirty minutes wait, the abductors proceeded with their victim to the farm home of Robert Green Shannon, father-in-law of Barnes, near Paradise, Texas, in whose home he was held that night. The next morning he was removed to another house located on the Shannon farm about three-quarters of a mile from the R. G. Shannon home, where his son, Armon Crawford Shannon, lives. He was held in this house in a miserable blind-</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Do not write in these spaces.</p>			
Approved and Forwarded: Special Agent in charge		7-113-1069	
Copies of This Report Furnished to:		Recorded and Indexed:	
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folded condition, being always chained to a chair, and part of the time being forced to sleep on the floor, while a continuous guard watched over him with two .45 calibre automatic pistols. When one of the abductors was not guarding their victim, he was guarded by R. G. Shannon, who is known as Boss Shannon, of his twenty-two year old son, Armon Shannon.

The kidnapers demanded that Urschel designate a friend who would act as intermediary with his family and John G. Catlett of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was selected to make this contact. Through a well planned arrangement of having the Urschel family place an ad in a daily Oklahoma City paper, negotiations were opened, and E. E. Kirkpatrick, friend and business associate of Urschel, was instructed to take \$200,000.00 in used Federal Reserve Twenty Dollar Notes in a light-colored tan handbag and in a certain directed manner and appointed time, should go from Oklahoma City to Kansas City, Missouri with Mr. Catlett where he was to receive further instructions. As directed in Kansas City, about 5:30 P. M., July 30, 1933, Kirkpatrick, using the appointed name of E. E. Kincaid took a Yellow cab to the La Salle Hotel and walked west on Linwood Boulevard a short distance where he was met by a man whom he has since identified as George Kelly Barnes, who took the bag containing the \$200,000.00 and told him Urschel would be released shortly. A record of the number on each of these ten thousand bills had previously been made.

About 3:00 P. M., July 31, 1933, Mr. Urschel was taken from his temporary imprisonment in the Armon Shannon home by one of the abductors and they were later joined by the other and he was driven to Norman, Oklahoma, and released about 10:00 P. M., being instructed by the kidnapers to hire a car and proceed immediately to his home and not to communicate with any officers concerning his experience. This Urschel did. It was not until after a very detailed and extensive investigation which covered the entire United States was made that the identity of the kidnapers and those who conspired with and assisted them was established.

George Kelly Barnes was arrested with his alleged wife, Kathryn Kelly, at Memphis, Tennessee, September 26, 1933, following one of the most widespread man-hunts ever undertaken in the United States. He was indicted with thirteen other defendants by a Federal Grand Jury at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 23, 1933 in a conspiracy to kidnap Charles F. Urschel and transport him in interstate commerce and there hold him for ransom and reward. He was convicted, with his wife, Federal Court at Oklahoma City, October 12, 1933, and sentenced by Judge Edgar S. Veught, on that same date, to serve the rest of his natural life in a United States Penitentiary.

As stated above, Barnes is known throughout North America as "Machine-gun Kelly" which name he acquired by his expert handling of a sub-machine gun as an underworld character. His reputation is that of a liquor runner, robber, and gangster. During the approximate period of ten weeks that he was being hunted for the instant offense, he wrote and mailed several threatening letters to Mr. Urschel and United States District Court officials in which he threatened the lives of several people, especially Mr. Urschel and his family and Judge Veught, and in one letter said, "I hate and despise the Government for their

crooked dealings, and do not wish them to convict people innocent of that crime and guilty of one thing - talking on me. I can take care of my end and will - the way I want to." He claims to have owned six different automobiles during this period of fugitivity, one being a sixteen cylinder Cadillac nine passenger sedan. Barnes admitted that he owned a rifle, machine-guns and other weapons at the time of his arrest, but only two pistols were found in his possession when he was arrested, and he refused to tell where his other guns were hid and said he may, in the future, have use for them. He claims to be an expert machine-gunner and boasts of his widespread activities with that weapon. He frequently remarks of how he hates a "squealer." \$73,840.00 of the ransom money was found buried on a Texas farm, owned by Cass Coleman, uncle of Kathryn Kelly, and was admitted to be part of the Kellys share of this ransom.

Barnes is 33 years old, an American and claims to be married to Kathryn Kelly. His first wife now lives in Memphis, Tennessee. He apparently has no children. He has always associated with law violators and underworld characters.

The criminal history of this defendant as recorded in the Sheriff's office, Memphis, Tennessee and Division of Investigation, Washington, D. C., is as follows:

5/30/24 - as George Kelly Barnes, arrested Sheriff's Office, Memphis, Tennessee, violation liquor laws. Fined \$500.00 and sentenced to 6 months in Shelby County Penal Farm, Memphis. Given respite until 1/5/26 by Governor - never served.

As George Kelly, #1968, received State Prison, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 3/14/27. Crime - violation National Prohibition Act.

As George Kelly, #5298, arrested Police Department, Tulsa, Okla., 7/24/27. Charge - state vagrancy.

As George Kelly, #2332, arrested Sheriff's Office, Tulsa, Okla., 1/12/28. Charge - violation National Prohibition Act.

As George Kelly, #29362, received U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, 2/11/28 from Tulsa, Oklahoma. Crime - possession of liquor. Sentence - 3 years.

Form No. 1

This case originated at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma,

File No. 7-6

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Report Made at Oklahoma City	Date When Made 1/18/34	PAROLE REPORT	Report Made by [REDACTED]
Name of Convict Albert L. Bates	Title of Case GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, et al. CHARLES E. URSCHEL - Victim Kidnaping		

On the night of July 22, 1933, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Urschel were engaged in a social bridge game with their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Jarrett in the sun-parlor on the ground floor of the Urschel home in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. At approximately 11:15 P. M., two widely known underworld characters entered this room; one was Albert L. Bates, who is known by that and many other names throughout the United States as a thief, burglar, bank robber, safe blower, extortionist and kidnapper, and he carried an automatic pistol; and the other was George Kelly Barnes, more familiarly known as George Kelly and "Machine-gun Kelly," who is known throughout North America as a liquor runner, thief, robber, kidnapper, and close associate of organized underworld gangs, and he carried a machine gun. The latter demanded, "Which is Urschel? We want Urschel." As no one present replied, Barnes thereupon said, "Well, we will take them both." Then, by force of arms, they marched Urschel and Jarrett out through the back yard to a car which was parked in the driveway of the Urschel home. Shortly after leaving the Urschel home, the abductors took from the possession of Urschel his wallet containing about \$60.00 in cash and from Mr. Jarrett his wallet with approximately \$50.00 in cash. At a point about ten miles northeast of Oklahoma City, the kidnapers had satisfied themselves, from an examination of the identification cards in each wallet and a statement made by Mr. Urschel, which was Urschel, and Jarrett was released.

Approximately twenty miles from Oklahoma City, the victim of this kidnaping was blindfolded by the use of adhesive tape. He was driven at a fair rate of speed over what seemed to him to be country roads until a short time before daybreak Sunday morning, July 23, when he was changed to another car on the farm of R. M. Coleman near Stratford, Oklahoma. After about thirty minutes wait, the abductors proceeded with their victim to the farm home of Robert Green Shannon, father-in-law of Barnes, near Paradise, Texas, in whose home he was held that night. The next morning he was removed to another house located on the Shannon farm about three-quarters of a mile from the R. G. Shannon home, where his son, Armon Crawford Shannon, lives. He was held in this house in a miserable blind-

Do not write in these spaces

Approved and Forwarded: <i>R.H. Coleman</i> Special Agent in charge	7-115-1040	Recorded and Indexed:
Copies of This Report Furnished to: 3 Division 3 Oklahoma City	Bureau of Investigation JAN 20 1934 A M Department of Justice	Checked off: JAN 22 1934 Jacketed:
CDW	Routed to: <i>one</i>	File:

folded condition, being always chained to a chair, and part of the time being forced to sleep on the floor, while a continuous guard watched over him with two .45 calibre automatic pistols. When one of the abductors was not guarding their victim, he was guarded by R. G. Shannon, who is known as Boss Shannon, or his twenty-two year old son, Armon Shannon.

The kidnapers demanded that Urschel designate a friend who would act as intermediary with his family and John G. Catlett of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was selected to make this contact. Through a well planned arrangement of having the Urschel family place an ad in a daily Oklahoma City paper, negotiations were opened, and E. E. Kirkpatrick, friend and business associate of Urschel, was instructed to take \$200,000.00 in used Federal Reserve Twenty Dollar Notes in a light-colored tan handbag and in a certain directed manner and appointed time, should go from Oklahoma City to Kansas City, Missouri, with Mr. Catlett where he was to receive further instructions. As directed in Kansas City, about 5:30 P. M., July 30, 1933, Kirkpatrick, using the appointed name of E. E. Kincaid, took a Yellow Cab to the La Salle Hotel and walked west on Linwood Boulevard a short distance where he was met by a man whom he has since identified as George Kelly Barnes, who took the bag containing the \$200,000.00 and told him Urschel would be released shortly. A record of the number on each of these ten thousand bills had previously been made.

About 3:00 P. M., July 31, 1933, Mr. Urschel was taken from his temporary imprisonment in the Armon Shannon home by one of the abductors and they were later joined by the other and he was driven to Norman, Oklahoma, and released about 10:00 P. M., being instructed by the kidnapers to hire a car and proceed immediately to his home and not to communicate with any officers concerning his experience. This Urschel did. It was not until after a very detailed and extensive investigation which covered the entire United States was made that the identity of the kidnapers and those who conspired with and assisted them was established.

Albert L. Bates, alias George Bates, and many other aliases, was arrested at Denver, Colorado, August 12, 1933, in possession of \$777.00 in currency, and of this was thirty-three of the twenty-dollar bills of this ransom money. He was indicted, with thirteen other defendants, by a Federal Grand Jury at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 23, 1933 in a conspiracy to kidnap Charles F. Urschel and transport him in interstate commerce and there hold him for ransom and reward. He was convicted, with six other defendants, in Federal Court at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, September 30, 1933, and sentenced by Judge Edgar S. Vaught, October 7, 1933, to serve the rest of his natural life in a United States Penitentiary.

Bates maintained that he was not connected in this case all through the trial, but after being convicted, he admitted that he and "Machine-gun Kelly" were the abductors and said to the writer, "Mr. Urschel, in my opinion, is a good man. He told the truth in every respect at the trial and I have nothing against the man." He also admitted that he had been closely associated with George Kelly Barnes during the past three years and that their activities had included

handling liquor in practically every state in the Union, robbing banks and exchanging stolen money and bonds for other persons, through their Chicago and St. Paul connections, he has refused to tell where his part of the ransom money is hidden.

Bates is 40 years old and an American. He has lived with several different women, but it is not known whether he has ever been married, and he apparently has no children. Very little is known of his home life. He told the writer on one occasion, however, that he was born in southern Illinois, left home when he was fourteen years old, and has been engaged in some unlawful undertaking since that time, except for the time he has been in some prison.

The criminal history of Albert Lawrence Bates, No. 15732, as obtained from the Police Department, Denver, Colorado, is as follows:

5/28/16, as James B. King, #1868, State Penitentiary, Carson City, Nevada, to serve 1 year to 15 years for burglary 1st degree. Paroled 11/13/17.

4/4/19, as Albert L. Bates, #861, arrested Police Dept., Salt Lake City, for petty larceny. 6 months in County Jail.

5/28/20 as George Davis, received Utah State Prison from Weber County to serve indeterminate sentence for 2nd degree burglary.

5/13/21, as C. E. White, #---, arrested Sheriff's Office, Brighton Colorado. Charge - stealing auto tires. Disposition not given.

7/20/21, as George Harris, arrested Salt Lake City, Utah. Charge - burglary, 2nd degree. Sentenced to Utah State Prison.

8/3/21, as George Harris, #3945, received State Prison, Salt Lake City, Utah, to serve an indeterminate sentence for burglary, 2nd degree. 4/21/23 - ESCAPED. Returned.

8/12/24, as George Harris, arrested Police Department, Kimball, Nebraska; charge - suspect in bank robbery. Returned to Utah State Prison.

10/27/26, as Albert L. Bates, inquiry made by Sheriff at Grand Junction, Colorado.

5/10/27, as A. L. Bates, #14,000. Received State Penitentiary, Canon City, Colorado, to serve 3 to 5 years for burglary and larceny. Transferred to State Reformatory 8/5/27. ESCAPED; apprehended, discharged 9/15/30.

12/1/31, as Albert L. Bates, #---, arrested State Police, Paw Paw, Michigan; charge - C. C. W. and driving while intoxicated.
12/8/31 - sentenced to 35 days in jail, fine and costs of \$74.80 on second charge.

Notations appearing on record returned from the Division of Investigation, Washington, D. C.:

10/9/22, Leadville, Colorado - safe burglary.

WANTED - As George Harris, for robbery. Notify Sheriff's Office, Lincoln, Nebraska.

WANTED - as A. L. Bates, notify Police Department, Lincoln, Nebraska.

WANTED - as Roy Harris, for holdup. Notify Police Department, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

WANTED - As Albert L. Bates. Notify Police Department, Salt Lake City, Utah.

WANTED - As Albert L. Bates, who escaped from Paw Paw, Michigan County Jail, 12/25/31 while waiting trial.

WANTED - Burglary of money orders from bank at Tupelo, Mississippi.

WANTED - For bank robbery by Sheriff's Office, Colfax, Washington.

WANTED - For bank robbery at Louisville, Colorado.

Form No. 2

This case originated at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

File No. 7-6

Report Made at: Oklahoma City	Date When Made: 1/15/34	PAROLE REPORT	Report Made by: b7c
Name of Convict: Kathryn Thorn Kelly	Title of Case: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, et al CHARLES F. URSCHEL - Victim; Kidnaping		
<p>On the night of July 22, 1933, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Urschel were engaged in a social bridge game with their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Jarrett in the sun-parlor on the ground floor of the Urschel home in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. At approximately 11:15 P. M., two widely known underworld characters entered this room; one was Albert L. Bates, who is known by that and many other names throughout the United States as a thief, burglar, bank robber, safe blower, extortionist and kidnapper, and he carried an automatic pistol; and the other was George Kelly Barnes, more familiarly known as George Kelly and "Machine-gun Kelly," who is known throughout North America as a liquor runner, thief, robber, kidnapper, and close associate of organized underworld gangs, and he carried a machine gun. The latter demanded, "Which is Urschel? We want Urschel." As no one present replied, Barnes thereupon said, "Well, we will take them both." Then, by force of arms, they marched Urschel and Jarrett out through the back yard to a car which was parked in the driveway of the Urschel home. Shortly after leaving the Urschel home, the abductors took from the possession of Urschel his wallet containing about \$60.00 in cash and from Mr. Jarrett his wallet with approximately \$50.00 in cash. At a point about ten miles northeast of Oklahoma City, the kidnapers had satisfied themselves, from an examination of the identification cards in each wallet and a statement made by Mr. Urschel, which was Urschel, and Jarrett was released.</p> <p>Approximately twenty miles from Oklahoma City, the victim of this kidnaping was blindfolded by the use of adhesive tape. He was driven at a fair rate of speed over what seemed to him to be country roads until a short time before daybreak Sunday morning, July 23, when he was changed to another car on the farm of R. M. Coleman near Stratford, Oklahoma. After about thirty minutes wait, the abductors proceeded with their victim to the farm home of Robert Green Shannon, father-in-law of Barnes, near Paradise, Texas, in whose home he was held that night. The next morning he was removed to another house located on the Shannon farm about three-quarters of a mile from the R. G. Shannon home, where his son, Armon Crawford Shannon, lives. He was held in this house in a miserable blind-</p>			
Approved and Forwarded: <i>P.H. Coleman</i> Special Agent in charge		Do not write in these spaces	
Copies of This Report Furnished to:		7-115-1071	
3 Division		Bureau of Investigation	
3 Oklahoma City		JAN 20 1934 A M	
CDW		Department of Justice	
		Routed to:	File:
		Recorded and Indexed:	
		Checked off: JAN 22 1934	
		Jacketed:	

folded condition, being always chained to a chair, and part of the time being forced to sleep on the floor, while a continuous guard watched over him with two .45 calibre automatic pistols. When one of the abductors was not guarding their victim, he was guarded by R. G. Shannon, who is known as Boss Shannon, or his twenty-two year old son, Armon Shannon.

The kidnapers demanded that Urschel designate a friend who would act as intermediary with his family and John C. Catlett of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was selected to make this contact. Through a well planned arrangement of having the Urschel family place an ad in a daily Oklahoma City paper, negotiations were opened, and E. E. Kirkpatrick, friend and business associate of Urschel, was instructed to take \$200,000.00 in used Federal Reserve Twenty Dollar Notes in a light-colored tan handbag and in a certain directed manner and appointed time, should go from Oklahoma City to Kansas City, Missouri, with Mr. Catlett where he was to receive further instructions. As directed in Kansas City, about 5:30 P. M., July 30, 1933, Kirkpatrick, using the appointed name of E. E. Kincaid, took a Yellow Cab to the La Salle Hotel and walked west on Linwood Boulevard a short distance where he was met by a man whom he has since identified as George Kelly Barnes, who took the bag containing the \$200,000.00 and told him Urschel would be released shortly. A record of the number on each of these ten thousand bills had previously been made.

About 3:00 P. M., July 31, 1933, Mr. Urschel was taken from his temporary imprisonment in the Armon Shannon home by one of the abductors and they were later joined by the other and he was driven to Norman, Oklahoma, and released about 10:00 P. M., being instructed by the kidnapers to hire a car and proceed immediately to his home and not to communicate with any officers concerning his experience. This Urschel did. It was not until after a very detailed and extensive investigation which covered the entire United States was made that the identity of the kidnapers and those who conspired with and assisted them was established.

Kathryn Thorn Kelly was arrested with her alleged husband, George Kelly Barnes, at Memphis, Tennessee, September 26, 1933, following a nationwide man-hunt for them. She was indicted, with thirteen other defendants, by a Federal Grand Jury at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 23, 1933, in a conspiracy to kidnap Charles F. Urschel and transport him in interstate commerce and there hold him for ransom and reward. She was convicted, with her husband, in Federal Court at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 12, 1933, and sentenced by Judge Edgar S. Vaught, on that same date, to serve the rest of her natural life in a United States Penitentiary.

During the approximate period of ten weeks that she evaded capture for the instant offense, she resorted to many desperate acts of threatening witnesses and prosecutors and wrote some ugly and threatening letters for her husband in which he threatened the lives of Mr. Urschel and his family and Judge Vaught if certain people were prosecuted whom he did not want prosecuted.

Her alleged husband is a notorious bank robber, liquor runner and gangster, and this defendant talks freely of her connection and association with widely known underworld characters. She freely admits assisting her husband in crime.

While it has never been definitely established, it is generally thought that Mrs. Kelly is the principal one who planned this offense. She assisted the abductors by driving one of the automobiles used in this case, preparing the Shannon home as a place to hold Mr. Drachel captive, and was active in helping to carry out the ransom negotiations. She has admitted that \$73,240.00 of the ransom money which was found buried on a Texas farm owned by Cass Coleman, uncle of Kathryn, was a part of the share she and Barnes received of the \$200,000.00. She also purchased the machine gun which is alleged to have been used in this abduction.

Kathryn Kelly is twenty-nine years old, an American, and is alleged to be married to Barnes, whom she married as George Kelly, her third husband. She was born of law-abiding parents and apparently was an honorable citizen until she and her mother, Ora L. Shannon, another defendant in this case, moved to Fort Worth, Texas, and operated a small hotel which had a questionable reputation. She became associated with a lawless element there and married one Thorne, a professional gambler. Her first marriage was to L. C. Frye when she was 15 years old and to this marriage was born one daughter, Pauline, now 15 years old, Mrs. Kelly's only child.

Kathryn Kelly's other criminal history as obtained from the files of the Division of Investigation, Washington, D. C., and Police Department, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, is as follows:

As Cleo May alias Catherine Williams, #3113, arrested Police Department, Oklahoma City, Okla., 10/24/25 charged with robbery. Sentenced 3/18/26 to 5 years in State Prison, McAlester, Oklahoma. 3/25/26 filed notice of appeal and on 5/9/29, case was reversed. No further action was taken.

As Dolores Whitney, #5025, arrested Police Department, Fort Worth Texas, 11/30/29. Charge - shoplifting. Dismissed.

203 Post Office Building,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

January 17, 1934.

Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
P.O. Box 709,
Portland, Oregon.



Dear Sir:

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, et al.
CHARLES F. URSCHEL, Victim.
KIDNAPING.
St. Paul File No. 7-8.

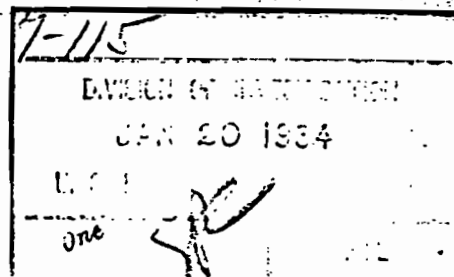
Reference is had to letter from your office, in the above entitled matter, dated August 17, 1933, in which you enclosed photograph of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bentz for the use of this office, with the request that it be returned to the Portland Office when it had served its purpose.

In accordance therewith, I am returning herewith the above referred to photograph.

Very truly yours,

WERNER HANNU,
Special Agent in Charge.

WH b7c
Enc.
CC Division ✓



Form No. 1

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

FILE NO. **7-6-**

REPORT MADE AT Oklahoma City, Okla.	DATE WHEN MADE 1-18-34	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1-12-34	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, et al. CHARLES F. URSCHEL - Victim			CHARACTER OF CASE Kidnaping

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:



Letter received dated 12-27-33 from [REDACTED] Chief of Police, Duncan, Okla., relative to information with regard to money thought to be part of the Urschel ransom money. [REDACTED] Duncan, Okla., special Policeman Duncan Police force, advises that [REDACTED] Langston, Oklahoma, has an unexplained amount of money, thought to be Urschel ransom money and is connected with [REDACTED] of the First National Bank, Coyle, Okla., in his operations and activities.

P.

DETAILS:

A letter was received under date of December 27, 1933 from [REDACTED] Chief of Police, Duncan, Oklahoma, in which [REDACTED] set forth the fact that a negro Policeman at Duncan had information that might lead to the recovery of some of the Urschel ransom money, and this office was requested at its earliest convenience to have an Agent interview this man.

On January 12, 1934 at Duncan, Oklahoma, Agent interviewed [REDACTED] whose address is [REDACTED] Duncan. [REDACTED] is employed as a special Policeman in Duncan. He stated that through his wife's sister, one [REDACTED], who is a teacher in the colored High School at Lawton, he had received information that a [REDACTED] in Langston, Oklahoma, on or about December 7, 1933 came to the vicinity of Duncan in a new Studebaker Sedan; that this car was equipped with a short wave transformer and also a short wave receiving set; that [REDACTED] informed several people in the vicinity of Duncan that he had joined an underworld gang and was making easy money.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>RWC Colvin</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1172	RECORDED AND INDEXED: JAN 22 1934
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3-Division 2-Oklahoma City All b7C		BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION JAN 22 1934 AM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO: <i>484</i> FILE	CHECKED OFF: JAN 22 1934 JACKETED:
EMB.			

also stated that at this time [redacted] had in his possession some of the bonds of the Franklin Title & Trust Company, which were of the same issue as those found in the possession of Wilbur Underhill at the time of his capture. [redacted] also stated that [redacted] store was simply a coverup for any underworld activities and that in reality he was a dope peddler, a bootlegger and a fence used by outlaws. He stated that [redacted] is well known in Oklahoma City and is always armed; also that he is well known to Charles Arthur (Pretty Boy) Floyd and that Floyd has frequently been seen in [redacted] store in Langston. [redacted] also stated that [redacted] has very close connections with a [redacted] who is Cashier of the First National Bank of Coyle, Oklahoma.

[redacted] is described as being a tall, brown-skinned negro, approximately 30 years of age; a flashy dresser; has a small mustache; and a small scar on the right side of his chin right below his mouth. The store referred to is [redacted] in Langston, Oklahoma. Photograph of [redacted] together with signature, is contained in the Oklahoma City file.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

OKLAHOMA CITY OFFICE will conduct investigation at Langston, Oklahoma with regard to the activities of [redacted] and at Coyle, Oklahoma will conduct investigation with regard to the connection between [redacted] and [redacted] of the First National Bank of Coyle with regard to their activities which might have a possible connection with the Urschel ransom money.

PENDING.

Addendum by SAC:

Information obtained as set forth in the above report does not appear to merit further attention in connection with the Urschel Kidnaping case and the leads set out for Langston and Coyle, Oklahoma will be ignored.

All b7C

7m
Room 1403
370 Lexington Avenue
New York, N. Y.

January 19, 1934

b7c
Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
201 Liberty National Life Building,
Birmingham, Alabama

Dear Sir:

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases, et al
(Charles F. Urschel - Victim)
KIDNAPING

Reference is made to your letter addressed
to the Director, dated January 10, 1934, relative to twenty
dollar bill No. H-03162207A. This office has no record of
this bill.

Very truly yours,

F. X. FAY
Special Agent in Charge

cc: Division

cc: Oklahoma City

7-115
JAN 22 1934

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.

7-10

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT: Salt Lake City, Utah.	DATE WHEN MADE: 1-17-34	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 1-15-34	REPORT MADE BY: W. L. O. ZIMMER
TITLE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases. CHARLES F. URSCHER - Victim.		SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Unable to locate [REDACTED] Clara Feldman, at Denver, Colorado. R.U.C.	
REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Portland, Oregon, 12-7-33.			
<p>DETAILS: AT DENVER, COLORADO.</p> <p>On past occasions efforts have been made to locate [REDACTED], but without success. Number 724 East 19th Avenue, Denver, Colorado, last address of [REDACTED] is now vacant, and has been for some time, and no information was secured in that neighborhood helpful in locating him.</p> <p>Inquiry through the Superintendent of Mails, U.S. Post Office, Denver, Colorado, resulted in learning that there is no removal address of record for [REDACTED] from 724 East 19th Avenue, Denver, Colorado, or any other address.</p> <p>Detectives [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] the Denver, Colorado, officers best conversant with the investigation in this matter. They are the officers who arrested Albert Bates alias George Davis. Interviewed they stated that they do not know the present whereabouts of [REDACTED] but they are seeking to locate him.</p> <p>REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>John A. [REDACTED]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1073	RECORDED AND INDEXED: JAN 22 1934
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3 - Division. 2 - Salt Lake. 2 - Portland. 2 - Oklahoma City.		UNITED STATES JAN 22 1934 A.M.	CHECKED OFF: JAN 23 1934
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO: [REDACTED]		JACKETED:	

COPIES DESTROYED
20 MAR 16 1945

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

File No. 7-7

REPORT MADE AT: Portland, Oregon	DATE WHEN MADE: 1-18-34	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 1-11, 18-34	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
TITLE: O GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases Charles F. Urschel - Victim			CHARACTER OF CASE: O Kidnaping

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Informants at Tacoma, Washington have been unable to ascertain the present whereabouts of Clara Feldman. George Davis, [REDACTED] Tacoma, who rented safety deposit box at the North Pacific Bank, Tacoma, October 7, 1933 and former subject Bates are not one and the same person.

P

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Portland, Oregon, dated December 7, 1933.

All b7C

--- At Tacoma, Washington ---

DETAILS:

[REDACTED] criminal investigator for the Sheriff's office Tacoma, Washington, again contacted and advised that he had been unable to obtain any information as to the present whereabouts of Clara Feldman.

[REDACTED] further advised that he had arranged through confidential informants who are in contact with Clara Feldman's relatives in Tacoma to advise him immediately should they obtain any information as to the present location of the Feldman woman.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1074	RECORDED AND INDEXED: JAN 22 1934
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3 Division 2 Oklahoma City 2 Portland	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION JAN 22 1934 A M DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO: <i>[Signature]</i> FILE	CHECKED OFF: JAN 23 1934 JACKETED:

COPIES DESTROYED
20 5 MAR 16 1962
KKB:Br

Chief of Police [redacted] Tacoma, was again interviewed and he advised that he was making every effort to ascertain the present whereabouts of the Feldman woman; that he was constantly in touch with Clara Feldman's relatives in Tacoma and felt that he would eventually ascertain her present whereabouts.

[redacted] North Pacific Bank, Tacoma, advised that one George Davis rented safety deposit box on October 7, 1935 and gave his address as [redacted] Tacoma.

Examination of the records at above bank disclosed that George Davis had visited the above bank and entered his safety deposit box on October 13, November 4, and 16, 1935.

Discreet inquiry at [redacted] Tacoma disclosed [redacted] had recently moved from above address to [redacted] Tacoma. Inquiry at the latter address disclosed George Davis, his wife and children reside at this address and that George Davis was employed as a mechanic, therefore could not be the same as subject Bates.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

PORTLAND OFFICE: At Portland will develop leads set out in report of reference.

At Tacoma, Washington will keep in touch with [redacted] Investigator with the Sheriff's office, and also Chief of Police [redacted] for any information they may obtain as to Clara Feldman.

PENDING

All b7C



124 1934 PM

Room 1403
370 Lexington Avenue
New York City



January 23, 1934

7-19

b7C

Special Agent in Charge
Division of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
224 Federal Building
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Dear Sir:

In compliance with request contained in your letter of January 6, 1934, I am pleased to transmit herewith editorials containing favorable comments in connection with the Urschel kidnaping trial, in order that these may be given to Federal Judge Vaught of Oklahoma City.

Very truly yours,

Enclosures - 7
cc/Division

F. X. FAX,
Special Agent in Charge

7-115
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 24 1934
ONE SPV

U. S. Department of Justice
Division
Bureau of Investigation

325½ Post Office Building,
New Orleans, La.
January 22, 1934.

RW: *b7C*
7-9.



Director,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Assistant United States Attorney W. H. Norman,
New Orleans, Louisiana, is working with the Post Office In-
spectors in connection with a case involving the disposition
of certain securities which were stolen in a Post Office rob-
bery in New York some time ago. Mr. Norman, from a description
of one of the individuals suspected of having disposed of some
of the securities in New Orleans, believes that he might be
ISADOR BLUMENFELD, who formerly operated in New Orleans as a
bootlegger and who was involved in the Urschel Kidnaping case,
being one of the so-called St. Paul money changers. Assistant
United States Attorney Norman has requested that a photograph
of Blumenfeld be secured from the Division, if available, for
use in this investigation.

Very truly yours,

R. Whitley

R. Whitley,
Special Agent in Charge.

RECORDED

FEB 3. 1934

7-115-1075 *One*

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
JAN 24 1934	
J. E. HARRIS	
one <i>CP</i> EDWARDS	FILE

CS: 1/11/34

LCS

7-115-1075

RECORDED

FEB 3 - 1934

January 31, 1934

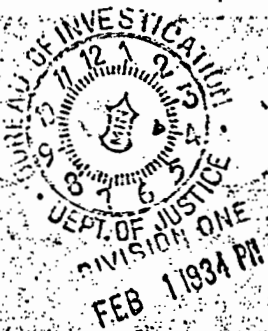
Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
326½ Post Office Building,
New Orleans, Louisiana.

Dear Sir:

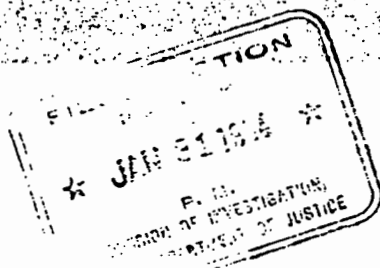
In reply to your letter of January 22, 1934 relative to the case of ISADOR BLUMENFELD, in whom Assistant United States Attorney W. H. Norman, at New Orleans, Louisiana, is now interested, I am attaching for your information a copy of the criminal record sheet of Blumenfeld as prepared in the Identification Unit of this Division, as well as a copy of his photograph for Mr. Norman's consideration.

Very truly yours,

Director.



Encl. #372951



[Handwritten signature]

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

The following is a transcript of the record, including the most recently reported data, as shown in the files of the Division of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, concerning _____

J. E. Hoover
Director

[illegible]

* Represents notations unsupported by fingerprints.
For completion of our records, please supply dispositions to this Division
in any of the foregoing cases where they do not appear.

MR. NATHAN _____
 MR. TOLSON _____
 MR. CLEGG _____
 MR. COWLEY _____
 MR. EDWARDS _____
 MR. Egan _____
 MR. QUINN _____
 MR. LESTER _____
 MR. LOCKE _____
 MR. ROGER _____

January 23, 1934.

MEMORANDUM

b7C

[REDACTED] of the Evening Star telephoned to inquire concerning a report he had received that Bates has told where the Urschel ransom money is. I told him that I had received no such information. He stated that he had been informed that Mr. Sanford Bates had sent a wire to ascertain if there was any basis for this story.

*Charles F. Urschel
 Wash. Star
 + Interview*

RECORDED
 &
 INDEXED

JAN 25 1934

7-115-1076

JAN 25 1934

FILE

P. O. Box 400
Portland, Oregon

January 23, 1934

Special Agent in Charge
Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
318 Hewes Building
San Francisco, California

RECEIVED
JAN 24 1934
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 30 1934

Dear Sir:

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

This office has just received confidential information that Clara Feldman, the woman who was living with subject George Bates, at the time of his apprehension, and whose whereabouts is being sought in connection with the recovery of part of the ransom money, purchased a Chevrolet Convertible Cabriolet car, 1933 model, some time in November, 1933. It is reported that either she purchased it or her son, Ed Feldman, made the purchase, and it was reported to this office that the car was bought in Portland. However, a survey of the Chevrolet dealers in this city today developed no information concerning such a car. The car is described as being of yellow color and a 1933 model.

It is requested that an immediate inquiry be made at the Chevrolet Assembling Plant at Oakland for the purpose of securing such information as possible relative to the places of shipment of all Chevrolet Convertible Cabriolets to dealers or distributors in the state of Oregon. If it is possible to make such a check, this inquiry should be limited to cabriolets of yellow color. The information received is considered reliable, and in the event the survey in the state of Oregon to locate this car is unsuccessful, it is anticipated that your office will be called upon to make a similar survey in the state of California. With that in mind, I would suggest that you make inquiry to determine the likelihood of being able to locate a car of the above description as being distributed in the state of California.

In the event any information developed by you may be furnished telegraphically, please communicate in that manner and, if

JAN 29 1934

7-115
FILE

San Francisco

1-23-34

not, please reply by air mail.

Very truly yours,

CCS
7-7

cc-Division
AIR MAIL

C. C. SPEARS,
Special Agent in Charge

cc Oklahoma City

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
DM	DAY MESSAGE
LC	CABLE MESSAGE
NY	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
NYL	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
NYL	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
NYL	NIGHT CABLE LETTER

STANDARD TIME
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

NA691 17 GOVT COLLECT

1934 JAN 24

CX OKLAHOMACITY OKLA 24 430P

DIRECTOR

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DIVN OF INVESTIGATION U S DEPT OF JUSTICE WASH DC

RETEL UNDERHILL GUNS ARE BEING BOXED FOR SHIPMENT AND IF READY
WILL BE SENT OUT TOMORROW

COLVIN.

MR. NATHAN	✓
MR. TOLSON	✓
MR. ELEG	✓
MR. COWLEY	✓
MR. EDWARDS	✓
MR. EGAN	✓
MR. QUINN	✓
MR. LESTER	✓
MR. LOCKE	✓
MR. ROBER	✓

Mr. Baughman

RECORDED
62-29709

RECORDED

JAN 26 1934

7-115-1077
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 25 1934 P.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ONE TOLSON	FILE
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Suite L, Federal Building
Kansas City, Missouri

January 24, 1934

Special Agent in Charge
Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
617 Federal Building
Los Angeles, California

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of January 8, 1934, setting out a list of Federal Reserve Bank notes of Kansas City, Missouri, and Dallas, Texas, furnished your office by [redacted] Chief of Police at Fullerton, California, with the information that the notes listed were recently deposited by a lady for her three children in a savings account in one of the Fullerton banks.

[redacted] of the Federal Reserve Bank, 10th District, Kansas City, Missouri, has advised me that no record is kept by his bank of any notes or bills which have possibly been obtained in connection with the perpetration of a crime. The only such record of any bills which was ever on file at that bank, according to [redacted] would be a list of bills furnished such as in the case of bills which were a part of the Urschel ransom money which list, of course, was furnished all banks by this Division. No attempt has been made by this office to check the numbers listed in your letter against the bills issued in the Urschel kidnaping as it is presumed your office has already taken those steps.

Very truly yours,

M. C. SPEAR,
Acting Special Agent in Charge.

MCS:

cc - Division —

All b7c

7-115
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 26 1934 A.M.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
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b7c

JANUARY 26 1934

J A DOWD
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
900 EZRA THOMPSON BUILDING
SALT LAKE CITY UTAH

PLEASE ADVISE WHEN DIVISION MAY EXPECT TO RECEIVE RATES GUN

HOOVER

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-29709

RECORDED

POSTAL TELEGRAPH

7-115-1078
20 1934
FILE

RECEIVED



JAN 26 1934

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA**

FILE NO. **62-876 A**

REPORT MADE AT Birmingham, Alabama	DATE WHEN MADE 1-25-34	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/8, 20/34	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
CHARACTER OF CASE PROPOSAL FOR PARDON OF GEORGE KELLY - MAIL FRAUD			

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS

[REDACTED] Knoxville, Tenn., admits writing and mailing letter at Knoxville, 12-4-33 to George Kelly, Leavenworth, Kansas, Penitentiary proposing pardon for \$8000. Also admits he has no facilities whatever for assisting Kelly in obtaining pardon. Claims he wrote the letter at suggestion of one Link Ellis, attorney, General Delivery, Pasadena, California, whom he casually met in 1921 and whom he has not seen since that time. **[REDACTED]**

[REDACTED] Knoxville, who stated he is of very low mentality. U.S. Attorney, Knoxville, advised no prosecution on mail fraud statute.

REFERENCE:

Letter from Division dated December 28, 1933.

DETAILS:

AT KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE:

Reference letter enclosed copies of a letter addressed to the Director of the Bureau of Prisons by Warden Zerkst of the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, dated December 12, 1933, together with copies of a letter addressed to George Kelly, who is serving a life sentence at Leavenworth, by **[REDACTED]** Knoxville, Tennessee, dated December 4, 1933, wherein it is proposed that **[REDACTED]** will obtain a pardon for Kelly for the sum of \$8,000.00. Copy of said letter is as follows:

Knoxville, Tennessee
December 4, 1933
[REDACTED]

Mr. Kelly:

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND
FORWARDED:

COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:

- 2- Division
- 2- Los Angeles
- 1- U.S. Attorney, Knoxville
- 2- Birmingham

**COPIES DESTROYED
20 MAR 16 1955**

All b7c

7-115-1079
UNITED STATES

JAN 27 1934 A M
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ROUTED TO:

FILE

RECORDED AND INDEXED:

JAN 25 1934

CHECKED OFF:

FEB 2 1934

JACKETED:

I can help you to become a free man from all of the law if you can trust upon me for plea. I see what there is points to free any man if you no how it is done. I am shure I can get you a pardon but it is going to cost you some money to do it. I will get it for eight thousand and 4,000 cash in advance and the other when you receive your pardon. I have helped only 5 persons in my life. I will ask you to do this Before 11 of Dec. for I will have all I can do for a long time you no life is a long time in a prison. I hope you can see where you can do this it is not unlawful the way I help you to Becom free.

Yours truly,

[redacted] letter indicated his address as [redacted]
[redacted] Knoxville.

Inquiry in the vicinity of the above address developed that same is a studio used for the teaching of Hiwaiian music; that it is operated by [redacted] a local white man who has lived in Knoxville many years; that [redacted] has operated this place for only a few months. It was the consensus of opinion that the place is often used as a loafing place.

This Agent and Special Agent [redacted] interviewed [redacted]. He advised that his full name is [redacted] that he now resides with his wife and two children at [redacted] and has been operating the [redacted] for the past 10 months; that the studio is merely a place for his 14 Hiwaiian stringed instrument pupils to come for their lessons at intervals during each week. He stated that for the past 15 years he lived at [redacted] and he only moved to the [redacted] address during the past month.

[redacted] admitted that he wrote instant letter and mailed it at Knoxville about December 4, 1933, to George "Machine Gun" Kelly, Leavenworth Penitentiary. However, he stated that he wrote it under the following circumstances:

In 1921 [redacted] was working as a laborer, or "roustabout" for the Standard Oil Company, Huntington Beach, California field office, under [redacted] that he held this job for about 13 months, beginning about April 1920; that in 1921 he attended some dances at Balboa Beach, California, and met a man at the dance hall who stated that his name is Link Ellis and claimed to be a lawyer; that he merely saw this person three or four times, and has not seen him since 1921; that he gave this attorney his address in 1921, and he wrote to him at Knoxville once or twice from 1921 to 1933, and during the latter year he wrote to him twice; that the first letter in 1933 made no mention of Kelly; that he received the second letter just a few days before December 4, 1933; that in this letter

All b7C

Ellis asked him to write a letter for him to George Kelly, Leavenworth Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, and to tell Kelly the same facts as contained in [redacted] letter, above quoted. [redacted] stated that the statement relative to his having helped only five persons in his life was his own statement, and that same was not suggested by Ellis. In explanation of this, [redacted] stated that he meant that he has never helped more than five persons in his life by testifying in court in their behalf.

[redacted] stated that he destroyed the letter he received from Ellis, as he does all letters he receives. He advised that he wrote Ellis a day or two after he wrote Kelly, advising that he had written Kelly; that in addition to this letter to Ellis he has answered three or four of Ellis' letters, always addressing Ellis in care of General Delivery, Pasadena, California, the only address he has ever known him to use. He informed Agent that no letters have ever been returned to him; that in each instance he, [redacted] places his return address on the letters.

Questioned regarding the remuneration he was to receive for writing the letter for Ellis, [redacted] stated that Ellis informed him in his letter that he "would do right by him", but that Ellis did not name any amount he would pay him. He stated that if Kelly had sent him the money he would have sent it, or taken it, to Ellis. He stated, however, that after he wrote the letter he realized what a foolish thing it was to have done, and he regretted that he ever wrote it.

[redacted] most emphatically stated that he hasn't the slightest idea regarding a method of helping Kelly get a pardon. In making this statement to Agent, [redacted] placed his hand upon a small bible in his studio, and stated that he knows of no way in the world to help a man get a pardon, and he never had any intentions whatever of doing anything to assist Kelly in getting a pardon. [redacted] admitted that it was his understanding that the Kelly referred to by Ellis is the notorious George "Machine Gun" Kelly who was convicted in Federal court for kidnaping.

[redacted] informed Agent that his parents, [redacted] live with him; that he has lived and worked in Knoxville practically all his life; that for about 1 year and 7 months in 1931 and 1932 or 1933 and 1933 he worked at the Tennessee Table Company, Knoxville, operating a shaper and mortise machine. He avowed that he has never been in any trouble of any kind.

[redacted] further stated that he is a son-in-law of [redacted]

Description of [redacted] as obtained from observation and interrogation, is as follows:

NAME	[REDACTED]
Age	30
Height	5' 9"
Weight	165 lbs.
Hair	reddish brown
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Florid
Race	White
Nationality	American
Marital Status	Married - two children
Residence	[REDACTED] Knoxville, Tenn.
Relatives	Parents [REDACTED] Knoxville, Tenn.
Occupation	Musician; instructor in Hawaiian stringed instruments; laborer.

Records of the Identification Bureau, Knoxville Police Department do not reflect a criminal record of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] described Link Ellis as follows:

NAME	LINK ELLIS
Age	30-35 (1921)
Height	5' 9"
Weight	165 lbs.
Hair	Black (slicked back)
Eyes	---
Complexion	Dark
Peculiarities:	Raw boned, broad shoulders, no scars, neat dresser.
Address	General Delivery, Pasadena, California.
Occupation	Lawyer.

Agent interviewed [REDACTED] who advised that he does not know [REDACTED]. He agreed to make contact with [REDACTED] regarding him. [REDACTED] later informed Agent that he questioned [REDACTED] and the latter informed him that [REDACTED] is his son-in-law; that he further advised that [REDACTED] is quite irresponsible and his mind is not much better than that of an idiot; that in his [REDACTED] opinion [REDACTED] wrote the letter himself without any request being made of him by the allged attorney, Ellis. [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] that he would arrange a joint interview with [REDACTED] himself, and [REDACTED] however, [REDACTED] has been ill recently and the interview has not been consumated.

Agent discussed the above facts with Assistant United States Attorney Robert Kennerly. He advised that he would not fevor prosecution under the mail fraud statute in view of the probable state of [REDACTED] mind, and in further view of the fact that no one lost by virtue of his

writing the letter. He stated that as the matter now stands he will not entertain prosecution, even though it is proven that there is no such person as Ellis. He advised, however, if it developed that [REDACTED] has committed other crimes, or if it develops that he is aligned with others who are violating the Federal laws he will consider prosecution. b7C

UNDEVELOPED LEAD:

LOS ANGELES OFFICE at Pasadena, California, through Postal authorities and other sources, ascertain if Link Ellis is known at that place, and if located quiz him regarding his association and correspondence with [REDACTED]

P E N D I N G

RECEIVED AT

INVESTMENT BLDG.

15th & K STS., N.W.

Phone N. 1000 00

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

1934 JAN 26 PM 4 43

W91 11 GOVT=MX SALT LAKE CITY UTAH 26 215P

DIRECTOR

=DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION US DEPT OF JUSTICE=

BATES GUN SENT YOU TODAY VIA RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY FROM DENVER

=DOWD..

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

60662-29

MR. NATHAN
MR. TOLSON
MR. CLEGG
MR. COWLEY
MR. EDWARDS
MR. EGAN
MR. QUINN
MR. LESTER
MR. LOCKE
MR. RORER

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TDV
29 1934

RECORDED

7-115-1080
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 27 1934
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON
FILE

Telephone Your Telegrams to Postal Telegraph