

P. O. Box 1276  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
February 8, 1934



7-4  
DB  
Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
1331 First National Bank Bldg.,  
El Paso, Texas

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

My dear Mr. Colvin:

I am today in receipt of a letter from the Division making inquiry as to whether report covering the modus operandi of the kidnapers and the method of the solution used in the investigation of the Charles F. Urschel kidnaping case has been prepared and forwarded to the several Division offices.

From an examination of the file in this case, I find that under date of December 28, 1933, you wrote the Division a letter wherein you stated that in view of the fact that you are more conversant with this case than any agent assigned to the Oklahoma City office that you desire to prepare the report in this yourself. In view of the expression of your desire to prepare this report, I shall appreciate it very much if you will advise me whether you will be in a position to prepare this report at a very early date. Should you need certain papers and reports in connection therewith, please inform me as nearly as you can just what you desire and I will make arrangements to forward them to you.

Sincerely yours,

DWIGHT BRANTLEY,  
Special Agent in Charge

7-115  
FEB 12 1934  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
H.C.

cc Division ✓

U. S. Department of Justice  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
~~Bureau of Investigation~~  
Suite L -  
Federal Building,  
Kansas City, Missouri.  
February 8, 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

While at the U. S. Penitentiary Annex, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, Special Agent [redacted] received from Warden Robert E. Hudspeth, a large envelope postmarked Springfield, Illinois, January 28, 1934, 7 p.m. on stationery of the St. Nicholas Hotel, Springfield, Ill. The words "St. Nicholas Hotel" were scratched off on the envelope. The envelope was addressed to "Bates & Bailey," c/o Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas. The envelope contained a pamphlet entitled "Week by Week" from Springfield, Ill., dated November 25, 1933. Also some newspaper clippings were enclosed, some referring to both Failey and Pates. An unsigned note written on a piece of stationery from the St. Nicholas Hotel, Springfield, Illinois, was enclosed, which is quoted as follows:

"Greetings from H. Wet  
for Ears and Good Liquor  
for others. Tables with  
Better Beer for E.M.S.  
If you havent seen the en-  
closed I thought you would  
Be good & take your medicine  
thinking of the others for  
God hears and sees everything.

Best Wishes and Good Luck."

The originals of the enclosures, with the envelope mentioned, are being forwarded for analysis and study in the crime detection laboratory in the Division.

COPIES DESTROYED  
EX-101 JAN 10 1965 written in ink as a return address appears 7442 P.O.

*Copy Specimens  
Retained in Laboratory  
7/17/34 EBC*

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

FEB 14 1934

7-115-1094  
FEB 12 1934  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WARDEN [initials]  
One [initials] FILE

*Handwritten vertical note on left margin*

2.

Copy of this letter is being addressed to the St. Louis office, with request that all possible investigation be made at Springfield, Illinois, through the St. Nicholas Hotel, or such other sources as may be available.

Very truly yours,



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

 b7C

cc(2) Division Office St. Louis, Mo.

Encls to Division.

7-8-

P. O. Box 1276  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
February 9, 1934

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

Dear Sir:

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

Mr. Charles F. Urschel, the victim in this case, was in the office today and furnished me with a copy of a letter received by [redacted] of Oklahoma City from [redacted] of Samuels, Foster, Brown & McGee, 16th Floor Fair Building, Fort Worth, Texas, dated February 8, 1934, which relates to a recent discovery that Katherine Horne, or Katherine Thorne, has a lock box at the Hibernia Bank & Trust Company of New Orleans, Louisiana. The letter is as follows:

"Referring to the long distance telephone conversation had with you earlier in the week:

"I told you that I had been advised that some man thought that Katherine Kelly might have some of Charlie's funds in a lock box. [redacted] of the Court of Civil Appeals, called me with reference to it and yesterday, the man came to see me and talked with me.

"He lives in the Katherine Kelly home here and the Hibernia Bank & Trust Company, of New Orleans, sent a notice to her, under the name of Katherine Horne or Thorne, that her lock box rent was due. I think he opened the notice in connection with some of his bills which had been sent to his residence, and didn't know what it was until he had read it. He told me that the box number was 90, and that it was in the name of Katherine Horne or Thorne. He said that the notice said the rent had been due since perhaps May of last year, and while he did not have much faith that there was any of the money there, he thought he ought to report it and let you take whatever steps you thought were necessary to ascertain whether there was in fact, any of the money there.

All 57C

He does not want his name used in connection with it and he is not particularly anxious about being paid anything in case the money is found, but I felt like if any action was taken and the money is found, Charlie might feel like giving him something. He is a very good boy and a court reporter in one of the county courts at law here. He was a little nervous about having opened this notice, but I told him that I apprehended that nothing would come of that.

"I am passing you this information for whatever it may be worth to you."

It is requested that you immediately have the Hibernia Bank & Trust Company contacted and obtain all information concerning the identity of the person who rented this box, the dates thereof, together with full and complete details and dates as to when this box was entered, particularly should it be ascertained whether the box has been entered since Mr. Urschel was kidnaped, which was on July 22, 1933. In the event it is learned that this box has been entered at any time since July 22nd of last year, I shall appreciate it very much if you will inform me by long distance telephone in order that proper steps may be taken in an effort to institute the proper proceedings with the view to entering the same.

The Dallas office is requested to contact [redacted] for full and complete particulars concerning the information that his informant has, obtaining the name and address of such informant and interviewing him.

Very truly yours,

Dwight Brantley,  
Special Agent in Charge.

cc-Division  
Dallas (2)

b7c



P. O. Box 709  
Portland, Oregon

February 9, 1934

FEB 15 1934

Special Agent in Charge  
Division of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
1900 Bankers' Building  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sir:

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

With further reference to information furnished your office in an effort to locate Clara Feldman, please find enclosed an old photograph of Clara Feldman which appears on a postal card, the reverse side of which contains a sample of her handwriting. The date of this photograph is unknown, but from appearance it is probably at least fifteen years old. This photograph was loaned to me and I am asking that it be returned to this office promptly, when it has served its purpose.

In reviewing the Portland file in this case, it is noted that a [redacted] address Lawrence Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, was believed to have been connected in some way with Clara Feldman, either as a friend or relative. The information regarding [redacted] is vague, however, and it may be that this name was one used by Clara Feldman in Chicago. In any event the address given as the Lawrence Hotel appears to be located at 4800 Kenmore, the same address previously furnished your office, and this name of [redacted] should be borne in mind in any investigation conducted at 4800 Kenmore.

Very truly yours,

CCS  
7-7

Enc.  
cc-Division  
Oklahoma City

All b7C

AIR MAIL

7-115

C. C. [redacted] DEPARTMENT OF INVESTIGATION  
Special Agent in Charge.

FEB 14 1934 P.M.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FILE

1531 First Nat'l. Bank Bldg.,  
El Paso, Texas,  
February 10, 1934.



Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U.S. Department of Justice,  
P. O. Box 1276,  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Mr. Brantley:

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

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 8,  
1934 concerning modus operandi and solution report in the Urshal  
kidnaping case. I had fully contemplated preparing this report  
before leaving Oklahoma City but owing to the pressure of routine  
work was unable to do so.

I think I have the case pretty well in mind but wish  
you would send me a summary report which was prepared by SAC Jones,  
I think just before the case went to trial. Also, you will find  
somewhere in the files a report by the writer covering the outcome  
of the trials, convictions had, sentences imposed, etc., which I  
would like to have. If you will extract copies of these two re-  
ports and forward them to me I think they will be all that I shall  
need for the purpose.

Very truly yours,

R. H. Colvin,  
Special Agent in Charge.

PHC  
de Division.

7-175

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 13 1934 P.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

me [Signature]

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
DIVISION ONE  
FEB 13 1934 PM

*Cowley*

*K*  
*ll*

February 12, 1934.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
DIVISION ONE  
FEB 13 1934 PM

Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Post Office Box 1276,  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of January 27, 1934, in connection with the case entitled GEORGE KELLEY BARNES, et al, CHARLES F. URSCHEL; Kidnaping.

In accordance with your request there are transmitted herewith to your office and to the Dallas office photostatic copies of the envelope postmarked Bridgeport, Texas, January 22, addressed to Charles F. Urschel, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and the letter dated January 22, 1934, at Chico, Texas.

Your office will be further advised regarding the fingerprints which appear on this letter.

Very truly yours,

Director.

FILES SECTION  
MAILED  
★ FEB 12 1934 ★  
P. M.  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
CC - SAC Dallas.

Enclosure #787056.

RECORDED

7-115-1095  
1934

*[Handwritten mark]*

*[Handwritten mark]*



326 1/2 Post Office Building,  
New Orleans, Louisiana.  
February 12, 1934.

b7C  
Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Post Office Box 1276,  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated February 9, 1934,  
addressed to this office concerning the above entitled matter.

[redacted] of the Safety Deposit Vault of the  
Hibernia Bank & Trust Company, New Orleans, Louisiana, was interviewed, and  
after referring to his index he advised that the only lock box rented to a  
person named Horne or Thorne was Box #89, rented to Mrs. Charles G. Thorne,  
on November 30, 1932. The application for this box was examined and was found  
to be dated November 30, 1932, signed "Mrs. Charles G. Thorne," who gave her  
address as Decatur, Texas, and 361 1/2 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana,  
and who stated her mother's maiden name as Eve L. Coleman, father's name as  
J. E. Brooks. She gave the Fort Worth National Bank as a reference.

[redacted] stated that on January 24, 1934, he had written the  
Fort Worth National Bank inquiring as to Mrs. Thorne's present address and had  
been advised by said bank that her last address on their records was 857 East  
Mulkay Street, Fort Worth, Texas, this address not having been revised since  
1929. [redacted] stated that on receiving this information he had mailed  
notice of the rent for the safety deposit box to the Fort Worth, Texas address.  
[redacted] advised that at the time this box was rented he and [redacted]  
were the only persons who would have contacted the person renting the box.

Neither [redacted] nor [redacted] could recall Mrs. Thorne and  
they could not identify photographs of Mrs. Katherine Kelly or George Kelly  
Barnes as being persons whom they had ever seen before.

The signature on the application is very similar to the hand-  
writing of Mrs. Kelly's signature on the Identification Order issued on her,  
and from the information stated in the application it, of course, appears that  
this Mrs. Thorne is identical with Katherine Kelly.

7-115  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

All b7C

██████████ referred to his records and advised that deposit box #89 had been opened on the following dates:

December 5, 1932; December 31, 1932; January 4, 1933;  
May 22, 1933.

He further advised that the box had not been opened since May 22, 1933.

██████████ was questioned as to what parties rented box #90 and he refused to give this information upon the ground that it would be improper to his client. He stated, however, that the party who rented this box was well known to him; that Mrs. Thorne had never rented box #90, and that the party who did rent box #90 was a respected resident of New Orleans.

With reference to opening box #89, ██████████ stated that it was the policy of the bank to drill these boxes open when six months had expired since the date when the rent for same became due, and the bank had exhausted every effort to locate the lessee of the box. Rent on box #89 came due on November 28, 1933, and ordinarily the bank would not drill the box open until May 28, 1934. However, he finally stated that he probably would be willing to drill this box open within the next week, and that it would be entirely agreeable to the bank for a representative of the Division to be present when the box is opened. He also stated that he will not allow anyone to open the box, between now and the time the bank would drill it open, without giving ample notice to the New Orleans Division Office which would enable the apprehension of the parties attempting to open same.

Since it appears that this box has not been opened since July 22, 1933, it does not appear that its contents could be of much interest in the present case, but this office will keep in close touch with the officials of the Hibernia Bank & Trust Company and will advise of the contents of the box at the time same is opened.

Very truly yours,

R. Whitley,  
Special Agent in Charge.

cc-  
Division ✓  
Dallas

All b7c

7

ll

Suite 1 -  
Federal Building,  
Kansas City, Missouri.  
February 12, 1934.

Mr. Robert H. Hudspeth, RE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases,  
Warden, U. S. Penitentiary Annex, ET AL  
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. KIDNAPING

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of January 31, 1934, enclosing a letter received by you from [redacted] Oakland, Iowa, regarding Albert L. Bates, who he believes visited Oakland on several occasions defrauding people there.

I desire to thank you for your letter and to advise that investigation will be made pursuant to the letter of [redacted]

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE.

cc-Division  
7-8-

All b7c

RECEIVED  
FEB 14 1934  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

7-115  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
FEB 14 1934  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
inc [signature]

# UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

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

FILE NO. **7-26**

REPORT MADE AT: <b>Chicago, Ill.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE: <b>2/12/34</b> <i>5/5/34</i>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <b>1/30-51-2/4-5</b> <b>7/34</b>	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
---	--	---	-------------------------------

TITLE: <b>GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, et al</b> <b>CHARLES F. OURSCHE, Victim</b>	CHARACTER OF CASE: <b>KIDNAPING</b>
--	--

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Clara Feldman, using name of Ruth Johnson and Ed Feldman, using name of Axel C. Johnson, registered at 3307 Warren Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, on 8/23/33 and checked out on 9/14/33; registered at 4800 Kenmore Avenue on 9/22/33 and checked out on 10/15/33. Left no forwarding addresses at either place. Post offices have no forwarding address or record of delivery of mail to these parties. Axel C. Johnson on 9/1/33 purchased Chevrolet Coach, motor number 2446168 which was traded in 10/9/33 on the purchase of a Dodge Coach, motor number DP55800. Sellers of these automobiles do not remember denominations of bills given in payment. Automobile Division, Secretary of State's Office, unable to find 1933 or 1934 registration for Chevrolet Cabriolet, motor number 5126905.

**REFERENCE:**

Telegram from Special Agent in Charge William Larson, dated at Detroit, Michigan, January 30, 1934. Reports of Special in Charge C. C. Spears, dated at Portland, Oregon, January 29 and February 1, 1934.

**DETAILS:**

On receipt of telegraphic advice from the Detroit Division Office, the Dodge Coach, motor number DP55800, had been shipped to [REDACTED] of the Dodge Bros. Truck Corp., Chicago, Illinois. [REDACTED] was interviewed at the automobile exhibit at the Congress Hotel, Chicago.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>W. A. Smith</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>7-115-1096</b>	RECORDED AND INDEXED: <b>FEB 14 1934</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Division - 3 Oklahoma - 2 Portland - 2 St. Louis - 2 Detroit - 1	<b>COPIES DESTROYED</b> <b>20 MAR 16 1955</b>	CHECKED OFF:  JACKETED:
Chicago - 2	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO: [REDACTED] FILE	

All b7c

- 2 -

He stated that this car had formerly been the property of the Dodge Corporation and had been assigned to him for his own use, but that the car had been sold on July 15, 1933 to ██████████ 5725 Broadway, Chicago, a Dodge dealer. ██████████ telephonically advised that this car had been sold on October 9, 1933, to an Axel C. Johnson, residing at 4800 Kenmore Avenue.

At 4800 Kenmore Avenue, the Lawrence Arms Hotel, the ██████████ stated that a Ruth and Axel C. Johnson had lived there for a short time in the fall of 1933, and he had the impression that they were brother and sister. A search through his receipt books showed that Ruth and Axel C. Johnson had checked in on September 2, 1933, and had departed on or about October 15, 1933, as the last rent receipt was dated October 8, and covered one week's rent. ██████████ stated that he recalled only one letter, which had been received by them while at the hotel, and this letter contained a registration certificate for an automobile. He recalled that one particularly, because he had later received a wire from some point in Oregon asking ██████████ to forward this certificate to Axel Johnson. ██████████ had not retained this telegram and could not recall the name of the town in Oregon from which it had been sent. ██████████ stated that while at the hotel, the Johnsons had no visitors and kept very much to themselves, and that while the woman was quite talkative, she did not at any time disclose any information about herself or her personal affairs. ██████████ describes Ruth Johnson as being about 5' 3" or 4" in height, weighing about 110 lbs., of slender build, fair complexion, having light hair but not blonde, a number of gold teeth, well dressed, about 40 years of age, color of eyes not known. ██████████ describes Axel C. Johnson as being 20 to 21 years of age, 5' 11" in height, weight 160 to 165 lbs., slim build, thin face, fair complexion, blond hair, trying to raise a mustache, well dressed.

At the time they departed from the Lawrence Arms Hotel they left no forwarding address with ██████████, but about one week before Christmas, Ruth Johnson telephoned ██████████ and told him she was back in Chicago, and said that she had contemplated coming back to live at the hotel, but that she had changed her mind. ██████████ told her to come over to the hotel some time, and a couple of days later she came over to see him. When she was leaving ██████████ walked a short way with her, but she refused to tell him where she was living at the time. When he last saw her she was walking up Lakeside Place towards Clarendon Avenue. During the course of this visit Ruth Johnson mentioned an automobile accident in Oregon. A tracing of the registration at the Lawrence Arms Hotel was taken for future use, and upon comparison with the tracing of registration at Portland, Oregon, sent with the reference report, was found to be in the same handwriting.

All b7C

At the Lawrence Avenue Branch Post Office no removal notices were found for Ruth or Axel C. Johnson, or for Clara or Ed Feldman. The superintendent of the post office was asked to communicate with his carriers to determine whether or not they had delivered any mail to the above mentioned names. On the following day he advised that no such deliveries had been made.

[redacted] Dodge dealer, 5725 Broadway, Chicago, stated that [redacted] of the used car department had handled the sale of the Dodge car to Axel C. Johnson. [redacted] stated that at the time of the purchase Johnson had been accompanied by a woman who stated that she was Johnson's sister. Their records show that on October 9, 1933, Axel C. Johnson purchased Dodge Coach, motor number DP55800, serial number 3629360, trading in a Chevrolet Coach, motor number 2446169, serial number 21AE28858, and paid the balance of the purchase price, \$400, in cash. [redacted] stated that he remembered that the bills which were given in payment made quite a large bundle, and therefore were probably in small denominations, but he could not recall whether or not they were \$10 or \$20 bills. [redacted] also was questioned, but he stated that he had no recollection whatsoever of the bills tendered in payment. As reference report, transmitting photographs of Clara Feldman had been received just prior to this interview, [redacted] was shown photograph and he identified it as that of the woman who accompanied Axel C. Johnson when the car was purchased. He stated, however, that the photograph was not a good likeness. His description of Axel Johnson conformed generally to that obtained from [redacted] contained in the file at [redacted] was a bill of sale covering the Chevrolet Coach traded in on the Dodge. It appeared from this bill of sale that the car had been purchased on September 1, 1933, by Axel C. Johnson, residing at 3307 Warren Avenue, Chicago, from the Community Motors, at 4949 West Madison Street, Chicago.

On receipt of reference report of Special Agent in Charge C. C. Spears, advising that Clara and Ed Feldman were driving a Chevrolet Cabriolet, motor number 5126905, a telegram was dispatched to the automobile department of the Secretary of State's Office at Springfield, Illinois, advising that Chevrolet Cabriolet, motor number 5126905, serial number 6BA0314291, was reported to have been registered in Illinois either in 1933 or 1934 under the name of Ruth Johnson or Axel C. Johnson, and requesting that they advise this Office if this car had been registered and if so, the name and address of the party registering it. On the following day a telegram was received from this department which read as follows: "License 178-378 assigned [redacted] Chicago in 1934."

The writer accompanied by Special Agent [redacted] conducted the following investigation at the above mentioned address. In the entrance hall of the apartment building at [redacted] the mail box for the first floor south apartment gave the names of [redacted] and [redacted]. The mail carrier, [redacted] who delivers mail to the [redacted] address, was interviewed at the branch post office at 109th and Michigan Avenue, and he stated that [redacted] and his family had lived at that address for over a year and had resided in the general vicinity for a period of several years. He did not recall the source of their mail and his description of [redacted] did not conform to the descriptions of Subjects furnished in reports. He stated that [redacted] had first received mail at this address some time during June or July of 1933, and that he thought he was a son of [redacted]. He estimated the age of [redacted] as being 30 years. This information indicated that [redacted] and [redacted] were probably not identical with the Johnsons sought for, and therefore [redacted] of the automobile division of the Secretary of State's Office, who was in Chicago, was asked to check back on the license numbers previously furnished to us.

Pending receipt of this information inquiry was made of [redacted] real estate agency, 306 East 103rd Street, which company manages the apartment building at [redacted]. It was learned that [redacted] and his wife had occupied that apartment for about eighteen months, and that [redacted] had resided in the neighborhood for a number of years and was known to have owned a home in that vicinity.

[redacted] residing at [redacted] who is the janitor at the apartment building at [redacted] stated that he had been so employed for approximately two years, and that he thought the [redacted] had been tenants for about eighteen months. He stated that they were quiet and orderly, and in his opinion were highly desirable tenants. He appeared to have no information concerning [redacted] occupation and was unable to furnish detailed descriptions of their personal appearance, but when shown the photograph of Clara Feldman, he said that [redacted] residing at [redacted] in no way resembled the photograph. Such description as he was able to furnish of [redacted] did not conform in any way to that of Axel C. Johnson.

Acting Special Agent in Charge W. A. Smith on February 3, 1934, was informed by [redacted] over the long distance telephone, that the information previously furnished this Office, with reference to license plates 173-378, was erroneous, as this number had been issued to cover a Plymouth Sedan. [redacted] was requested to search his records

All  
b7c

5

and again advise us as to whether or not Chevrolet Cabriolet, motor number 3126905, had been registered in Illinois in 1933 or 1934. Because in the State of Illinois automobile registrations are not cross-indexed by motor number, but are indexed alphabetically under the name of the owner, such a search is difficult to make, and although this Office has communicated by telephone and telegram with [redacted] since that date, he has as yet been unable to furnish any information as to the registration of this car. A lead is therefore being set out for the St. Louis Office to check with the automobile division of Springfield, Illinois, to see if this information can be obtained.

[redacted] at 3307 Warren Avenue, Warfield Apartment Hotel, [redacted] checked through her receipt books and advised that Ruth Johnson had registered there on August 3, 1933. She recalled that Ruth had arrived in a cab with her luggage, and a few days later had been joined by Axel, who was supposed to be her brother. [redacted] advised that they were quiet and retiring, that they received no company, but had gone out quite frequently. She remembered that they had received two or three letters, but they volunteered no information as to where they came from, and on their departure Axel instructed [redacted] to hold all mail for him. According to the rent receipts they checked out on or about September 14, 1933, as the last rent receipt is dated September 7. [redacted] is still holding a letter from the Secretary of State, Illinois, addressed to Axel C. Johnson, 3307 Warren Avenue, postmarked September 18, 1933, and which contains a license certificate. The first few numbers of the serial number can be seen through the envelop and they are "21AE2885-". It will be noted that this is the first part of the serial number of the Chevrolet Coach traded in at [redacted] ranch. [redacted] was shown the photograph of Clara Feldman, and she stated that it was not a very good likeness, but that it was undoubtedly that of Ruth Johnson. [redacted] said that the photograph must have been taken some years ago, as Clara Feldman's face is now wrinkled and lined.

[redacted] at the Community Motors, 4949 West Madison Street, produced their records which show that on September 1, 1933, Axel C. Johnson purchased from them a Chevrolet Coach, motor number 2446168, serial number 21AE28858, paying \$185.00 in cash and receiving an allowance of \$110.00 on a traded in Pontiac. Their records failed to show the motor or serial numbers for the Pontiac. The cashier, employed at that time, has been discharged, and no one about the place could recall the denominations of the bills paid. But the records do show that the payment was in cash and not by check.

All b7C



At the Garfield Park Branch Post Office, [REDACTED] could find no removal notices for Ruth Johnson, but did find one for an Axel Johnson dated April 25, 1929, showing removal from 3201 Warren Avenue to 3700 South Halsted Street. This latter address was checked and found to be the office of the Economy Ice Company. Mr. Axel Johnson was found to have been employed there for a number of years. He was about 45 years of age, had dark hair and a dark complexion, and in no way answered to the descriptions of the Axel Johnson sought for. He advised that he had no relatives named Ruth or Axel, and obviously had no connection with the parties wanted.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS: CHICAGO OFFICE will continue its efforts to locate Clara and Ed Feldman.

ST. LOUIS OFFICE at Springfield, Illinois will check with the automobile division of the Secretary of State's office in an endeavor to ascertain whether or not Chevrolet Cabriolet motor number 3126905, serial number 6BA0314291, has been registered in the State of Illinois.

PENDING

AM b7C

U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

801 Title Guaranty Bldg.  
Saint-Louis, Missouri  
February 13, 1934

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

IN RE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases,  
et al,  
Charles F. Urschel - Victim,  
Kidnaping.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the letter addressed to the Division by the Kansas City Office under date of February 8, 1934, requesting an investigation at the St. Nicholas Hotel and other places regarding the letter posted at Springfield, Illinois and addressed to Bates and Baily at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas.

[redacted] of Mails, Springfield, Illinois, stated that Post Office Box 442 is assigned to Gene Simmons of Springfield, Illinois. He stated that Gene Simmons has resided in Springfield during his entire life time, and is a well known character to residents of Springfield. [redacted] stated that he has known Simmons for a long period of years; that Simmons is an old man and formerly worked as a clerk in the book store of his brother; that the brother now pays Simmons a weekly wage to keep him out of the store. He further stated that Simmons is a moral pervert, but not a criminal, and has never been arrested; that he does considerable reading and writes to many prominent persons, and recently received acknowledgment of the receipt of a letter he had written to the President. [redacted] stated that he is a harmless person.

[redacted] in the Post Office, stated that he is well acquainted with Simmons; that Simmons comes into the post office about three times each day and delivers a box of matches to [redacted] at the post office every day; that Simmons is known as a moral pervert and picks up papers and magazines in the business houses, post office and hotels in Springfield, Illinois and delivers them to the prisoners at the city and county jails in Springfield.

Eugene M. Simmons was interviewed at his residence, Room 21, 313 1/2 East Adams Street, Springfield, Illinois. He readily admitted writing the letter quoted in the letter of reference, but stated that the first sentence is not quoted correctly. He stated it should be as follows:

"Greetings from a Wet for Bars and Good liquor for others."  
He stated that "Greetings from H" is the letter.

7-115-1097  
FEB 15 1934 A.M.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
EDWARDS and [signature] FILE

COPIES DESTROYED  
20 MAR 16 1965  
RECORDED & INDEXED  
1934

All  
b7c

Copy Specimens  
Retained in Laboratory  
7/5/34  
[signature]

He stated that he is not acquainted with Bates, Bailey, Kelly and the others involved in the Urschel case, and only wrote to Bates and Bailey for the purpose of doing them some good, sending them two clippings from newspapers showing the comment of Arthur Brisbane on their case; that he also enclosed the "Week by Week" magazine of Springfield, Illinois. He stated that he has written many letters of this kind, not meaning harm by doing so; that he never intends to write another letter of this kind as he does not wish to put the Government to any expense.

A specimen of the handwriting of Simmons was obtained and is being forwarded to the Division for comparison with the handwriting of the original letter in this case, in order that it may be definitely established that Simmons wrote this letter.

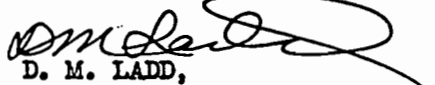
Simmons is described as follows:

Name, Eugene M. Simmons.  
Age, 74 years.  
Height, 5 ft. 4 in.  
Weight, 150 pounds.  
Build, medium stout.  
Hair, gray.  
Complexion, fair.  
Marital status, single.  
Residence, 313<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> East Adams Street,  
Springfield, Illinois.  
Occupation, clerk.  
Peculiarities, very effeminate.  
Gray mustache.  
Criminal record, none.  
Relatives, nephew, [REDACTED] book  
store proprietor, Springfield, Illinois.

Judging from the information furnished and from the interview with Simmons, it appears that he is in no way associated with Bates and Bailey. He is a very effeminate little man, and aside from the alleged degeneracy, his conduct is said to be excellent.

There being no further investigation necessary in this district, this matter is being considered referred upon completion to office of origin.

Very truly yours,

  
D. M. LADD,  
Special Agent in Charge.

DML **b7c**  
cc Kansas City  
cc Oklahoma City  
7-17-

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# 381

Laboratory Report

Case: George Kelley Barnes, with aliases, et al. Number: 7-115-1097  
Chas. F. Urschel - Victim

Specimens: Handwriting specimens of Eugene M. Simmons

Examination requested by: St. Louis Division Office

Date received: Feb. 15, 1934

Examination requested: Handwriting

Result of examination:

Examination by:

*2/17*  
The handwriting of Simmons  
is that on letter to Gentry &  
Gato without question.

P. O. Box 1276,  
Oklahoma City, Okla.,  
Feb. 13, 1934.

7-3.  
**AIR MAIL**

Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
1331 First National Bank Bldg.,  
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Sir:

RE: George Kelly Barnes, with aliases,  
et al  
Charles F. Urschel - Victim  
Kidnaping.

As requested in your letter of February 10, 1934,  
there are being forwarded to you herewith summary report of  
Special Agent in Charge Gus T. Jones, dated at Oklahoma City,  
Okla., September 13, 1933, and report of Special Agent in Charge  
R. H. Colvin, Oklahoma City, Okla., dated October 23, 1933.

Very truly yours,

K. D. Deaderick, Acting  
Special Agent in Charge.

cc-Division.

7-113

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 16 1934 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
me	FILE

Suite L, Federal Building  
Kansas City, Missouri  
February 15, 1934

Special Agent in Charge  
Division of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
322 Federal Building  
Birmingham, Alabama

Dear Sir:

George Kelley Barnes, alias Machine Gun Kelley, has been interviewed by Agents of this office at the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, under various occasions in the recent past. He is in solitary confinement and is unable to receive or send any mail, or receive visitors.

Recently Kelley advised one of the Agents that he had received some Christmas presents from his former wife, [redacted] Memphis, Tennessee, and also from his children by that wife. Kelley advised that it has been impossible for him to acknowledge receipt of the Christmas presents, which incidentally were not delivered to him. He stated, however, that he desired to have word communicated to his former wife and children in order to let them know that he appreciated their thoughtfulness and kindness. In view of these circumstances and other circumstances I do not believe that it would be inappropriate to have an Agent of your office, when convenient, call upon [redacted] and inform her that Kelley received the Christmas presents which were deeply appreciated, but that it has been impossible for him to convey this information to her direct.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY,  
Special Agent in Charge.

REC

cc - Division

All b7c

7-115  
FEB 18 1934  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FILE

825 Lafayette Building  
Detroit, Michigan  
February 14  
1934

RECEIVED  
FEB 17 1934  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

Special Agent in Charge  
Division of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Federal Building, Suite 1  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that [redacted] of the Homicide Squad of the Detroit Police Department called at this office yesterday stating that he was anticipating accompanying the United States Marshal with prisoners to Leavenworth within the near future, and desires at that time to interview George (Machine Gun Kelly) Barnes concerning the killing of Vernon C. Miller in Detroit.

[redacted] has always cooperated very nicely with this office and has spent a good deal of time in attempting to determine who killed Miller, and the reason why Miller was in Detroit. He has kept in close touch with this office and we have furnished him such information which we have received from time to time. He feels however that he would like to come in personal contact with Kelly regarding this matter and I informed him to communicate with your office upon his arrival in Kansas City for the purpose of making necessary arrangements to interview Kelly at the Penitentiary.

Very truly yours,

Em. Larson  
Special Agent in Charge

WL [redacted]  
cc Division

All b7C

7-115	
FEB 16 1934 A.M.	
FILE	

EPC

b7c

*Jim*

February 14, 1934.

Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Post Office Box 1276,  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to my letter of February 12, 1934, in connection with the threatening letter addressed to Charles F. Urschel, postmarked Bridgeport, Texas, January 22, 1934.

You are advised that several latent prints have been developed on the extortion letter and accompanying envelope. Of these three were found to be identical with each other. It has been possible to classify but one of these latent prints and it has been searched through the single fingerprint file maintained in the Division but no identification has been effected. It is being placed in the unidentified section of this file with a view to possible identification at a subsequent time as additional fingerprints are added thereto. This print together with the remaining prints of a fragmentary nature may also prove of value for comparison with the finger impressions of any suspects your office may subsequently name.

In connection with the latent prints developed it is noted your office has not submitted for elimination the fingerprints of any persons known to have handled this letter and this should be done in order to eliminate unnecessary comparisons at the Division.

Very truly yours,

FILES SECTION  
MAILED  
★ FEB 14 1934  
P. M.  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

7-115-1098  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
Director FEB 15 1934 P. M.  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
*10E*

CC - Dallas.

*RC*

*Jim*



# UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

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

FILE NO. **7-9**

REPORT MADE AT: <b>San Francisco, Calif.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE: <b>Feb. 12, 1934.</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <b>Feb. 11, 1934.</b>	REPORT MADE BY: <b>[REDACTED]</b> <b>b7c</b>
---	--	---	---

TITLE: <b>GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, et al CHARLES F. URSCHEL - Victim.</b>	CHARACTER OF CASE: <b>KIDNAPING.</b>
--	---

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: **As no further investigation required in this district, case is being**

R.U.C.

REFERENCE:  
**Report Special Agent in Charge D. C. Spears, Portland, Oregon, Jan. 29, 1934.**

DETAILS:  
**AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.**

A review of the file shows requested investigation in this district completed, so case is therefore -

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

DETAILS:

FEB 16 1934 PM

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R. E. Vetter</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	FILE NO. <b>7-115-1099</b>	RECORDED AND INDEXED: <b>FEB 16 1934</b>
---	----------------------------	---

COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 Division</li> <li>2 Oklahoma</li> <li>1 Portland</li> <li>2 San Francisco</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COPIES DESTROYED</b> 20 April 16 1965 J</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FEB 16 1934 AM</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION</p> <p>ROUTED TO: <i>[Signature]</i> FILE</p>	<p>CHECKED OFF: <b>FEB 17 1934</b></p> <p>JACKETED:</p>
--	---	---	---

27

P. O. Box #709  
Portland, Oregon

February 16, 1934

Special Agent in Charge  
Division of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
503-A U. S. Court House & P. O. Bldg.  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Sir:

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with  
aliases et al  
Charles Urschel - Victim  
Kidnaping

This will refer to reports of the undersigned dated January 29 and February 1, 1934 in the above matter. Particular attention is invited to the information contained therein indicating that Clara Feldman has been using the name of Ruth Johnson and that Ed Feldman, her son, has been using the name of A. C. Johnson. In this connection attention is invited to your letter of September 6, 1933 which refers to the woman who claimed to have been the wife of Bates at Denver, Colorado as having been at Cheyenne, Wyoming accompanied by a young man on or about August 17, 1933 as a woman using the name of Johnson or Johnston at the rooming house where she stopped.

It is kindly requested that you cause inquiry to be made at Cheyenne for all information available at that point relative to the persons staying there under the name of Johnson as subsequent developments make it appear positive that these parties were Clara Feldman and Ed Feldman and that they were using the name of Johnson as far back as August, 1933. The proprietor of the rooming house should be interviewed for all information in her possession and particularly to ascertain what statements these parties may have made as to their connections at Chicago, Illinois or place of residence or intended residence at that point if any such statements were made.

Very truly yours,

b7C

CC: [redacted]  
7-7  
cc-Division

C. C. SPEARS,  
Special Agent in Charge

2-115-

FEB 20 1934

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FILE

From ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL KEENAN

To

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

- MR. NATHAN
- MR. TOLSON
- MR. CLEGG
- MR. COWLEY
- MR. EDWARDS
- MR. Egan
- MR. QUINN
- MR. LESTER
- MR. LOCKE
- MR. RORER

MEMORANDUM

- The Attorney General
- The Solicitor General
- Assistant to Attorney General Stanley
- Assistant Attorney General Wideman
- Assistant Attorney General Stephens
- Assistant Attorney General Sweeney
- Assistant Solicitor General MacLean
- Mr. Stewart
- Director, Division of Investigation
- Mr. Bates, Director, Bureau of Prisons
- Division of Accounts
- Chief Clerk
- Appointment Clerk
- Division of Supplies
- Mail and Files
- Mr. Finch, Pardon Attorney
- Mr. Parrish
- Mr. Key
- Mr. Ridgely
- Mr. Wixson
- Mr. Fisher
- Mr. Ramsey
- Mr. Brabner Smith
- Mr. Morrison
- Mr. Kiefer
- Mr. Norris
- Mr. Gottshall
- Miss Brookley
- Miss Broomhead



*Keenan*

RECORDED

FEB 16 1934

7-115-1100  
 DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
 FEB 16 1934 P.M.  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 FILE

You might try Minneapolis, Minnesota, for Twenty-five Grand of this,  
as informed he paid above amount for Slot-machines monopoly.

*Handwritten scribble*

*Handwritten scribble*

*2 Encl*

*MS  
3  
G  
B*

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

FEB 16 1904

7-115-1100
DIVISION OF GENERAL INVESTIGATION
FEB 16 1904
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
etc

*Handwritten notes:*  
FILED  
FEB 15 1904

### KIDNAPER BATES IN 'SOLITARY' UNTIL HE 'DIGS UP' \$100,000

New York, December 13, Albert Bates, Denver desperado and convicted kidnaper of Charles F. Urschel, Oklahoma City oil millionaire, is in solitary confinement in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, it was revealed by Joseph B. Keenan, assistant United States attorney general, in an exclusive interview today.

Keenan said Bates will remain in solitary confinement until he discloses the whereabouts of \$100,000, the sum which the government regards as his "split" of the \$200,000 Urschel ransom money.

The other \$100,000, nearly \$80,000 of which has been recovered, went to Bates' pal in the crime, George Machine Gun Kelly.

Bates and Kelly, as well as the notorious Harvey Bailey, are serving life sentences at Leavenworth for the Urschel abduction.

The actual "snatching" of Urschel was done by Kelly and Bates at the point of a machine gun.

"I'm getting screwy in here," Keenan quoted Bates as saying.

"I told him," Keenan added: "All you've got to do, Bates, is to dig up that \$100,000."

Machine Gun Kelly, according to Keenan, is the most unpopular man in Leavenworth.

"The prisoners have dubbed Kelly 'Blabber Mouth,'" said Keenan.

"You recall Kelly bragged he would be out by Christmas. Well, Kelly has less than two weeks to go and I'm willing to lay heavy odds that he won't make good his boast."

Joseph B. Keenan,

Asst. U.S. Atty Gen'l.

Washington,

D.C.

Personal.

7-115-1100

SPC: b7C

7-115-1100

February 16, 1934

RECORDED

FEB 16 1934

Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Post Office Box 515,  
St. Paul, Minnesota.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the case entitled HARVEY J.  
O BAILLY, ET AL, Kidnaping.

There are enclosed herewith copies of an anonymous  
letter, together with a copy of a newspaper clipping attached  
thereto, concerning the whereabouts of the Urochel ransom  
money.

Very truly yours,

FILES SECTION  
MAILED  
★ FEB 16 1934 ★  
P. M.  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Director.

Incl. #522311

cc - Oklahoma City

Division

U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

1216 Smith Young Tower,  
San Antonio, Texas,  
February 17, 1934.

W

W

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

RE: George (Machine Gun) Kelly, et al  
Urschel Kidnapping Matter.

Dear Sir:-

On May 22, 1933, about 2 P. M. The First National Bank of San Marcos was robbed by four bank robbers and after robbing the bank they compelled two employees of the bank and one customer to enter their car and drive them to a point four miles East of San Marcos, Texas, where they made the three leave the car.

About three weeks ago Sheriff [redacted] of San Marcos called at this office and secured the latest photographs of George (Machine Gun) Kelly, Alfred Bates and Harvey Bailey and took these photographs to San Marcos, Texas, where they were shown all bank officials and employees and Sheriff [redacted] reports that [redacted] of the above bank, positively identified photograph of George (Machine Gun) Kelly as the man who came into his office with a machine gun and compelled him to go to the back of the bank to the vault which was locked by a time lock and ordered [redacted] to open the vault and upon being told by [redacted] that it was impossible to open the vault as the time lock was set to open at four P. M. He then cursed [redacted] and threatened to kill him if he didn't open the vault to which [redacted] replied "you will have to kill me as it is impossible for anyone to open the vault until four P. M." [redacted] stated that the robbers then scooped all money in the cages into money bags of bank and left the bank with the two employees and the one customer.

[redacted] of the bank and [redacted] were the two employees forced to enter the bankrobbers' car. Both partially identified the photograph of Alfred Bates as being one of the robbers who covered them in the bank and one of the robbers who was in the car when they were taken to the point four miles East of San Marcos and put out of the car.

I am furnishing you the above information in order that same may be placed in the Division files and the records of George Kelly.

RECORDED

~~INDEXED~~

All BTC

7-115-1101

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

FEB 21 1934

U. S. Very truly yours, [Signature]

Gus T. Jones

Special Agent in Charge.

COPIES DESTROYED  
20 March 10 1965

FEB 23 1934



# UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Oklahoma City**

K.C. FILE NO. **7-8**

REPORT MADE AT: <b>Kansas City</b>	DATE WHEN MADE: <b>2-20-34</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <b>12-30-33 1-25-34 2-2-34</b>	REPORT MADE BY: <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE: <b>GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases, et al.</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE: <b>KIDNAPING</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Federal Reserve Bank Examiners, Kansas City, Mo. report no record of an account or safety deposit box at the Merchants Bank, Kansas City, Mo. in the name of Ferris J. Anthon. Further investigation to locate part of Urschel ransom money deemed inadvisable.

**REFERENCE:**

Letter of Acting Special Agent in Charge M. C. Spear, Kansas City, Mo. dated 1-5-34 and Division letter dated 1-17-34.

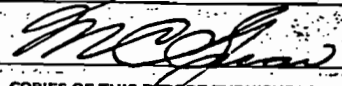

**DETAILS:**

On December 6, 1933 Albert Bates informed Special Agent [REDACTED] that he had turned over \$90,000.00 of the Urschel ransom money to Ferris J. Anthon at Omaha, Nebr. on August 9, 1933. Sheriff [REDACTED] of Kansas City also informed Agent [REDACTED] that he had received information that Ferris J. Anthon was in possession of \$85,000.00 in cash which it is reported had been left at the Merchants Bank, Kansas City, Mo.

**DETAILS:**

Inasmuch as the Merchants Bank, Kansas City, Mo. is reputed to be a fence for various underworld activities, it was deemed advisable not to contact the bank direct to ascertain whether Ferris J. Anthon had any dealings with that bank, however, the Merchants Bank is a Member of the Federal Reserve system and it was deemed advisable to work through the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Mo. To this end [REDACTED] Asst. Federal Reserve Agent, was consulted relative to procedure in obtaining information from the records of the Merchants Bank. At that time [REDACTED] advised that the Merchants Bank being a Member of the Federal Reserve system was subject to examination by

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	<b>ACTING</b> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	<b>7-115-1102</b>	RECORDED AND INDEXED: <b>FEB 23 1934</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3 Division 2 Kansas City 1 U.S. Atty. K.C.Mo. (Personal and Confidential) 2 Oklahoma City		UNITED STATES <b>FEB 23 1934 4 M</b> BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO:  FILE	CHECKED OFF: <b>FEB 24 1934</b> JACKETED: <b>All 57C</b>

**COPIES DESTROYED**  
20 MAR 10 1965

2.

the Federal Reserve Bank Examiners and that usually the examiners accompanied the State Bank Examiners at the time of their examination. [redacted] further informed that an examination would be made within a period of six months but that the date would not be known until the State Banking Department notified the Federal Reserve Bank. On 1-25-34 [redacted] contacted the Kansas City Division Office by telephone and advised that the examiners of the Federal Reserve Bank were then making an examination of the Merchants Bank. [redacted] referred Agent to [redacted] Asst. Cashier and Chief Examiner. A conference was had with [redacted] and [redacted] at which time they stated that to secure a list of holders of safety deposit boxes to be turned over to the Division of Investigation for perusal was in their estimation more or less a breach of trust on the part of the Federal Reserve Bank, however, they expressed a willingness to co-operate with this Division in every way. [redacted] stated that he would have his Examiner in Charge ascertain whether Ferris J. Anthon had an account at the Merchants Bank.

On February 2, 1934 Acting Special Agent in Charge M. C. Spear and the writer conferred with United States Attorney Maurice Milligan relative to the instructions contained in Division letter of 1-17-34. Mr. Milligan had no further suggestions to make relative to obtaining information from the Merchants Bank records. On February 3, 1934 [redacted] together with Acting Special Agent in Charge M. C. Spear and the writer again consulted with Mr. Milligan at which time it was deemed inadvisable to proceed further with obtaining information from the safety deposit records. [redacted] advised that the safety deposit vault at the Merchants Bank is operated by the Merchants Safety Deposit Co. which is an affiliated institution. He further advised that only since the passage of the Banking Act of 1933 has the Federal Reserve Bank had access to the records of the safety deposit vaults and that in his opinion should any information be given out by the Federal Reserve Bank the Merchants Bank would have knowledge as to the source of the information, however, [redacted] advised that his Chief Examiner had examined the list of safety deposit box holders and had failed to find the name of Ferris J. Anthon. It will be noted that Ferris J. Anthon apparently had no known alias. This angle was later discussed with Special Agent in Charge Conroy who deemed it inadvisable to make further investigation toward the location of the money reported to have been given to Ferris J. Anthon.

For the further information of the Division Ferris J. Anthon was killed at Kansas City, Mo. by Sheriff [redacted] on August 12, 1933. An examination was made of the records of the Probate Court, Jackson County, Mo. which disclosed that Ferris J. Anthon died intestate; that William T. Alford

04 03

3.

was appointed public administrator. The appraisal report shows that the entire estate of Ferris J. Anthon consisted of \$150.50 on deposit at the Commerce Trust Co. in a savings account and a DeSoto automobile valued at \$250.00.

Investigation at the Commerce Trust Co. discloses that Ferris J. Anthon had four savings accounts from time to time, the largest balance in any of these accounts being approximately \$400.00. The balance of \$150.50 was withdrawn by the public administrator August 31, 1933. The safety deposit records at the Commerce Trust Co. fail to show the name of Ferris J. Anthon as having a safety deposit box at that bank.

PENDING

45737

# UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form 1  
OFFICE ORIGINATED AT **OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA** FILE NO. **7-115-1103**

CITY MADE AT: **DALLAS, TEXAS** DATE WHEN MADE: **2-21-34** PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: **2/19/34** REPORT MADE BY: **[REDACTED]**

TITLE: **CHARLES F. OURSCHIN, Victim; GEO. KELLY BARNES, with aliases, et al.; KIDNAPPING.**

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Three notices sent by Hibernia National Bank, New Orleans, La., addressed to Mrs. Chas. G. Thorne, 857 E. Mulkey Street, Ft. Worth, Texas, advising of past due rental on vault Nos. 89, and requesting payment. Notices opened by [REDACTED] tenant. No further mail received addressed to Mrs. Thorne.

REFERENCE: Letter from Oklahoma City Office, dated Feb. 9, 1934.

### DETAILS:

[REDACTED] of Samuels-Eoster-Bronp & McGee, 16th floor Fair Building, Ft. Worth, Texas, was out of the city, however, [REDACTED] of said firm advised the writer that the information contained in the above reference letter was secured from [REDACTED] who is a tenant of the old Kathryn Kelly Home, located at 857 E. Mulkey Street, Ft. Worth, Texas. [REDACTED] and his wife were interviewed by the writer, and stated that there had been received through the mail, addressed to Mrs. Charles G. Thorne, 857 E. Mulkey Street, Ft. Worth, Texas, two regular notices from the Hibernia National Bank of New Orleans, Louisiana, advising the addressee of her past due rent on vault #89, in the amount of \$5.00, which notices were delivered to [REDACTED] by him; that since that time there had been delivered to said address a letter addressed to Mrs. Charles G. Thorne from the Hibernia National Bank, which letter was delivered to the writer and is with the files in this case of the Dallas Division Office, and reads as follows:

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1103	RECORDED AND INDEXED FEB 23 1934
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Division.....3 New Orleans...2 Okla. City....2 Dallas.....2		UNITED STATES FEB 23 1934 AM BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO: FILE	CHECKED OFF: FEB 23 1934 JACKETED:

COPIES DESTROYED  
MAY 1965

All b7c

New Orleans, La.,

Feb. 9, 1934.

"I have no reply to several letters which I have addressed to you reminding you of the past due rent on vault #29, at \$5.00, plus \$0.50 Federal Tax, which expired May 30, 1933, and is consequently nearly a year overdue.

"It is not customary for us to carry a past due rental this length of time, as these are payable in advance. We would like to have you continue the use of this vault, but must insist upon payment being made when due.

"Kindly send us your payment for this amount without further delay, and greatly oblige,

(signed)

Safe Deposit Dept.

██████████ stated that no further mail had been received addressed Mrs. Thorne other than those referred to above; that in the event anything else should be delivered to the above address he will communicate with the Dallas Division Office.

██████████ stated that they rented this property from J.E. Brooks, the father of Kathryn Kelly, and took possession on September 1, 1933; that Mr. Brooks remained there, occupying a room for approximately five days when he left, and his present address is Saltillo, Miss.; that they paid the monthly rent to Mr. Brooks until just recently when they were notified to make subsequent payments of rent to the Equitable Building & Loan Company of Ft. Worth, Texas, which company holds a mortgage on the premises.

██████████ advised that just prior to the time Brooks left Ft. Worth in September 1933, Jew Morris, a notorious bootlegger of Ft. Worth, Texas, knocked at her door and inquired for Mr. Brooks, and being advised that he was not at home at the time, Morris left instructions for him to come directly to his garage, but not to call him on the telephone; that she heard nothing further from this until shortly before Christmas when Brooks came through Ft. Worth and stopped by to see her and in the conversation Brooks told her that the time Jew Morris gave her the above instructions, Kathryn Kelly was in Ft. Worth, Texas, and that was what Jew Morris was anxious to see him (Brooks) about.

PENDING.

All b7C

224 Federal Bldg.,  
Oklahoma City, Okla.,  
Dec. 14, 1933.

45738

REC-  
7-5.

Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Post Office Building,  
Dallas, Texas.

Dear Sir:

RE: George Kelly Barnes, et al  
Charles F. Urschel, Victim  
Kidnaping.

You have no doubt learned through the press that the so-called "citizens committee", which offered the reward for the capture of George and Kathryn Kelly, have refused to pay any portion thereof to any person on the grounds that it was due solely to the efforts of the Agents of the Division that George and Kathryn were captured. Their claim of course is unfounded in fact.

The Director is very anxious that the law enforcement officials interested in claiming a portion of this reward be informed of all facts in the case; that is, that they be given definitely and clearly to understand that this Division has taken no part in any negotiations or otherwise in connection with the distribution of the reward money in the Urschel case. The Division at Washington furnished to the committee the information contained in its files, which would have enabled them to judge as to the part played by any and all of the individuals indicated by the committee in the Urschel investigation.

Inasmuch as Officers [redacted] and [redacted], who had a part in this matter, are located in your territory, it is requested that in accordance with the Director's desire you inform them of the facts as aforementioned.

Very truly yours,

H. H. Colvin,  
Special Agent in Charge.

cc-Division.

All b7C

7-115-

DEC 18 1933

SPZ

411 U. S. Court House  
Portland, Oregon

45739

November 13, 1933

██████████  
Postmaster  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Sir:

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

To assist this Division in official investigation, will you kindly have placed a cover on all first class mail addressed to 3633 S.E. Tenino Street, in this city, for a period of thirty days. It would be of further assistance if tracings of such mail, when submitted, were marked with our file number 7-7.

Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

C. C. SPEARS,  
Special Agent in Charge.

██████████  
7-7  
cc-Division ✓

All b7C

7-115-

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 18 1933
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

420 Federal Building,  
Dallas, Texas.

February 20, 1934.

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

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, et al.  
Charles F. Urschel (Victim)  
Kidnaping.

Dear Sir:

This office is in receipt of copies of  
Division letters dated February 12 and 14, 1934, re-  
ferring to a letter addressed to Charles F. Urschel  
and postmarked at Bridgeport, Texas, January 22.

This is all the information concerning this  
matter received at the Dallas Office, and it is desired  
that you advise the investigation necessary at Bridge-  
port or whether any investigation is to be conducted.

Very truly yours,

D. L. McCORMACK, Acting  
Special Agent in Charge.

DLMc  
cc-Division  
7-7

7-115

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 20 1934	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

*[Handwritten signature]*



70  
326 1/2 Post Office Building,  
New Orleans, Louisiana.  
February 20, 1934.

Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Post Office Box 1276,  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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

Dear Sir:

Further reference is made to your letter dated  
February 9, 1934, addressed to this office, and to my letter  
of February 12, 1934, in reply thereto.

On February 17, 1934, the Hibernia Bank & Trust  
Company Safety Box #89, rented on 11-30-32, to Mrs. Charles  
G. Thorne, Decatur, Texas, was drilled open by the officials  
of the bank upon their own initiative, in the presence of  
Special Agent [redacted] of this office, and the box  
was found to be empty.

It appearing that no further investigation is  
desired by this office, the case is referred upon completion  
to the office of origin.

Very truly yours,

R. Whitley,  
Special Agent in Charge.

cc-  
Division  
Dallas

All b7c

7-115

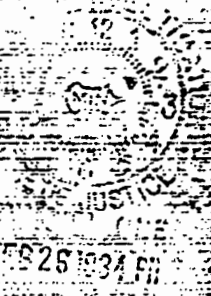
FEB 24 1934 AM
572

U. S. Department of Justice  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
~~Bureau of Investigation~~  
P. O. Box 1276,  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma,  
February 20, 1934

Handwritten initials and numbers: "T-10" and "4-1"

DB: ● b7C

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



Dear Sir :

Reference is made to Division letter dated February 17, in which it is requested that you be furnished immediately with a list of all wire-taps which have been installed since January 1, 1933, together with the date, the title of the case, the name of the individual whose wires were tapped and the date of the letter from the Division granting authority for such action.

Please be advised that a search of the records here and inquiry of the various agents fail to disclose any information to the effect that any telephone wires were tapped in any case in this district with the exception of the Urschel kidnapping matter, and those agents now assigned here do not recall the names of the parties whose wires were tapped. A review of the confidential files here and of the Urschel kidnapping case files fails to disclose this information or any authority emanating from the Division with respect thereto.

It has occurred to me that perhaps in the emergency caused by the Urschel case such authority was obtained telephonically from the Division for which reason no written communication was found. In view of this situation, I am communicating by letter with Special Agent in Charge Colvin, formerly here but now at El Paso, concerning this matter, with the request that he apprise the Division of the information desired in this respect.

Very truly yours,

*Dwight Brantley*  
Dwight Brantley,  
Special Agent in Charge.

Wire Tapping

RECORDED COPY FILED 27214

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED  
FEB 27 1934

7-115-1104  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
FEB 28 1934  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FILE

Post Office Box 515,  
St. Paul, Minnesota.

February 21, 1934.

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

Dear Sir:

In connection with Director's letter  
of February 17, 1934, concerning information as to tapping  
of telephone and telegraph lines since January 1, 1933.

Please be advised that only one telephone  
line has been tapped by the St. Paul office which occurred  
during the investigation of the Kansas City Massacre, as well  
as the Urschel and Hamm Kidnaping Cases, and instructions  
to the effect to tap telephone was given by long distance  
from Kansas City, Missouri by Assistant Director Harold Nathan.  
Telephone line tapped was that of the Hollyhocks Road House  
operated by [redacted]. There is no letter of authority  
to do this in the file. The tapping of this telephone line  
was conducted entirely unbeknown to the telephone company.

Very truly yours,

WERNER HANNI,  
Special Agent in Charge.

WH b7c

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

FEB 27 1934

7-115-1105	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 24 1934	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
W. H. G. G.	FILE

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-24715

Charles  
F. Hanni  
b7c

FORM NO. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

FILE NO. 7-7

REPORT MADE AT: Portland, Oregon	DATE WHEN MADE: 2-20-34	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 2-14-34	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
TITLE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases Charles F. Urschel - Victim			CHARACTER OF CASE: Kidnaping

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED] of Clara Feldman, who resides at [REDACTED] Denver, Colorado, found visiting his father, William Hurtienne, in Manatau, a suburb of Tacoma, Washington, denies all knowledge as to whereabouts of [REDACTED] Clara Feldman.

P

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Portland, Oregon, dated January 18, 1934.

--- At Tacoma, Washington ---

DETAILS:

Agent while in Tacoma on other business conferred with Chief of Police M. B. Guy who has been assisting in ascertaining the present whereabouts of Clara Feldman. During this conference with Chief of Police Guy it was decided to visit the home of Clara Feldman's father, [REDACTED] who resides in Manatau, a suburb of Tacoma.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1116	RECORDED AND INDEXED: [REDACTED]
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3 Division 2 Oklahoma City 2 Salt Lake City 2 Portland	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO: FILE	CHECKED OFF: FEB 27 1934 JACKETED:

COPIES DESTROYED  
29 JAN 16 1965  
WKB:Br

All b7c

Chief Guy and Agent upon arriving at the home of William Hurtienne found [REDACTED] and his wife there visiting his father. [REDACTED] upon being questioned stated that he resided at [REDACTED], Denver, Colorado; that he came to the home of his father in Tacoma about ten days ago on a visit and expected to return to Denver in the next few days. He stated that he and his wife stopped in Portland, Oregon on the way to Tacoma, Washington and spent one day with Alvin Scott and [REDACTED] that Clara Feldman's name was not mentioned; that he had no idea where Clara Feldman could be located; that the last time he saw her was in Denver, Colorado the last of July, 1933 at which time her son, Eddie, accompanied her; that he only knew Albert Bates slightly, having only seen him on two or three occasions while he was in Denver, Colorado residing with his sister Clara Feldman under the name of Davis. It was very noticeable to Chief of Police Guy and Agent during the time he was being questioned that he was extremely nervous and the cold sweat would appear on his forehead and it was evident that he was not telling the truth. Another fact was that he, [REDACTED], looked extremely prosperous, and it is the opinion of Chief of Police Guy and Agent that he no doubt has been given some of the money which was obtained in the Urschel kidnaping and known to have been in possession of Clara Feldman at the time Albert Bates was arrested in Denver, Colorado.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

SALT LAKE CITY OFFICE: At Denver, Colorado, is requested to make discreet investigation at the home of [REDACTED] Denver, ascertain if he has been spending money freely, what kind of work he is doing, and ascertain if possible if he is receiving mail through any other source than his residence address, as it has been ascertained that he and Clara Feldman are very fond of each other and it is the belief that they are constantly in communication with each other. If thought advisable a mail cover should be placed on all mail addressed to [REDACTED] Denver, Colorado.

PORTLAND OFFICE: At Tacoma, Washington, will keep in touch with Chief of Police Guy and [REDACTED] Chief Investigator for the Pierce County Sheriff's office, for any information they may obtain as to the present location of Clara Feldman.

PENDING

All b7c

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#318

Laboratory Report

February 17, 1934.

Case: Unknown Subjects, Charles F. Urschel, Victim. Number: 7-115

Specimens: 1 envelope addressed to victim and postmarked Bridgeport, Texas,  
Jan. 22, 1934.  
1 letter addressed to victim (3 pages)  
1st page begins "Dear Charles: Well old friend how are you coming?"  
2nd page begins "you can't spend all you have"  
3rd page begins "If I should tell you all that I know".

Examination requested by:

Oklahoma City Office.

Date received: January 31, 1934.

Examination requested: General and Fingerprint.

Result of examination:

Examination by: C.A. Appel

January 31. The envelope has the water-mark "hy-tone" and this is probably that of the Western Tablet and Stationery Company, St. Joseph, Missouri. The letter is written on lined note paper fastened by glue at the top in a pad. It has blue green lines and is written in pencil script which is identical handwriting with that on the envelope. There is a water-mark in this paper, the first part of which is obscured. That which is visible reads "ELEN

RAG COMENT  
N FABRIC".

This is possibly a water-mark of linen fabric of the Whiting Paper Company, Holyoke, Massachusetts. Inasmuch as the envelope and paper are different, the investigation to identify the paper may result in tangible evidence of the identity of the writer.

The handwriting is not similar to other letters in this case. The envelope measures roughly 5.44 by 3.47 inches and the letter paper 4.97 by 8 inches.

RECORDED

7-115-1107

THE ORIGINAL EVIDENCE WHICH WAS SUBMITTED IS BEING RETAINED IN THE LABORATORY FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS WHICH MAY BE DESIRED. SHOULD YOUR OFFICE DESIRE THIS ORIGINAL EVIDENCE FOR USE IN ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDINGS WHICH MAY DEVELOP, THE DIVISION SHOULD BE NOTIFIED IN AMPLE TIME TO PERMIT THE TRANSMITTAL.

- 3 - Director.
- 2 - Oklahoma City
- 2 - Laboratory.

COPIES DESTROYED FEB 26 1934  
20 JAN 26 1965

one

K  
SPC: *b7c*

February 23, 1934.

RECORDED

*7-115-1107*

FEB 26 1934

Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Post Office Box 1276,  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS  
Charles F. Urschel, Victim.  
Kidnaping.

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith the laboratory report covering the examination of specimens submitted by your office in connection with the above entitled matter and received in the Division January 31, 1934.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Hoover*

Director

Enclosure: #691534.

*SFC*  
FEB 28 1934

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#558

Laboratory Report

31951

February 17, 1934.

Case: George Kelly Barnes, with aliases, et al.,  
Charles F. Urschel, Victim; Kidnaping.

Number: 7-115

Specimens: 1 envelope addressed to "Bates & Bailey" c/o Penitentiary,  
Leavenworth, Kansas. 1 pamphlet entitled "Week by Week" from  
Springfield, Ill. 3 newspaper clippings and 1 unsigned note  
written on a piece of stationery from the St. Nicholas Hotel,  
Springfield, Ill., beginning "Greetings from H."

Examination requested by: Kansas City Office.

Date received: February 12, 1934.

Examination requested: General and Fingerprint.

Result of examination:

Examination by: C.A. Appel

February 12. The envelope and letter are stationery of the St. Nicholas  
Hotel, Springfield, Illinois. The newspaper clippings appear to indicate  
that they were taken from Hearst newspapers of January 22 to 25 inclusive,  
being probably the Herald Examiner of Chicago. It will be noted that the  
magazine "Springfield" is dated Saturday, November 25, 1933.

It is believed that the letter and enclosures may be for the  
purpose of informing Bailey and Bates that the sender is in Springfield pre-  
pared to assist or hoping to help "spring" them when possible. On the other  
hand the principal meaning of the message seems to be "do not tell anything  
for the sake of the others". There may be some significance in the date,  
November 25, or in the wording of the letter or the subjects spoken of in the  
clippings, which is unknown to the laboratory because the details of the  
investigations are not known. These possibilities should not be overlooked.  
Of course, one familiar with prisons would not usually expect a letter  
addressed like this one to reach the addressee. On the other hand the fact  
that it has the appearance of ignorance may have been used as a disguise in  
attempting to communicate with him.

*Handwritten note:*  
Kans. City  
2/29/34  
SPC

THE ORIGINAL EVIDENCE WHICH WAS SUBMITTED IS BEING RETAINED IN  
THE LABORATORY FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS WHICH MAY BE DESIRED. SHOULD  
YOUR OFFICE DESIRE THIS ORIGINAL EVIDENCE FOR USE IN ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEED-  
INGS WHICH MAY DEVELOP THE DIVISION SHOULD BE NOTIFIED IN ADEQUATE TIME TO  
PERMIT THE TRANSMITTAL.

7-115-1108  
RECEIVED  
*Handwritten initials*

- 3 - Director
- 2 - Kansas City.
- 2 - Laboratory.

COPIES DESTROYED  
20 5 MAR 16 1965



FFR 26 1934

31950

REC-576

February 23, 1934.

RECORDED

7-115-1108

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:

There is transmitted herewith the laboratory report  
covering the examination of specimens submitted by your office  
in connection with the above entitled matter and received in  
the Division February 12, 1934.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

Director.

Enclosure: #691535.

FILES SECTION  
MAILED  
FEB 23 1934

SPC

# WESTERN UNION

CC 764 22 GOVT COLLECT-PORTLAND ORG 24 1222P

DIRECTOR, <sup>W. C.</sup> DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHDC-

LEAVING IMMEDIATELY FOR SEATTLE INFORMATION RE WHEREABOUTS  
CLARA FELDMAN CASE GEORGE KELLEY BARNES ETAL KIDNAPING  
ADDRESS SEATTLE CONTINENTAL HOTEL KING ACTING  
SPEARS.

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

FEB 26 1934

MR. NATHAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MR. TOLSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MR. CLEGG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MR. COWLEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MR. EDWARDS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MR. EGAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MR. QUINN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MR. LESTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MR. LOCKE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MR. RORER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

7-15-1109  
1934 A.M.  
JUSTICE  
FILE

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS SOLVE THE PERPLEXING QUESTION OF WHAT TO GIVE

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

1531 First Nat'l. Bank Bldg.,  
El Paso, Texas,  
February 23, 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.

In accordance with instructions received some months ago,  
but which I had never been able to carry out up until now, I am  
today mailing my report as to the modus operandi and solution of  
the Urschel kidnaping case.

I am forwarding one copy to the San Antonio office in  
order to have enough photostatic reproductions prepared for each  
Division office, and will suggest that the San Antonio office mail  
them direct to each individual office.

This report may not be as complete in detail as would be  
desired and there may possibly be some inaccuracies as to dates,  
etc., for the reason that it is written almost entirely from memory,  
not having the basic file of the Oklahoma City office before me.  
I regret that I was unable through pressure of business to prepare  
this report while at Oklahoma City.

Very truly yours,

*R. H. Colvin*

R. H. Colvin,  
Special Agent in Charge.

*Number 6/6/34  
P. H. ...*

PHC: ● b7C  
cc San Antonio.

RECORDED

COPIES DESTROYED  
20 MAR 16 1955

MAR 1 1934

7-115-1110	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 26 1934 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

# UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

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

FILE NO. **7-7**

REPORT MADE AT: <b>El Paso, Texas.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE: <b>2-23-34</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <b>2/18/34</b>	REPORT MADE BY: <b>R. H. Colvin</b> <span style="float: right;">b7C</span>
TITLE: <b>GEO. KELLY BARNES, with aliases, et al CHARLES F. URSCHEL VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE: <b>KIDNAPPING</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Modus Operandi and solution as detailed hereunder in narrative.

P.

DETAILS:

CHARLES F. URSCHEL and his wife BERNICE SLICK URSCHEL, residing at 327 N.W. 18th St., Oklahoma City, Okla., are the principal heirs and trustees of the Estate of the late T.B.SLICK, oil producer, which Estate is variously estimated to be valued at from ten to twenty million dollars.

On the night of July 22, 1933, MR. AND MRS. URSCHEL, with their friends and neighbors, MR. and MRS. WALTER R. JARRETT, were having a social game of bridge in a sun room at the rear of the URSCHEL mansion on the ground floor. At about 11:00 p.m., [REDACTED] of MRS. URSCHEL, drove her car into the driveway to the garage at the rear, came to the screen door of the sun room, which was fastened on the inside. MR. JARRETT let her in and apparently did not refasten the door. [REDACTED] proceeded to her room and to bed. About 15 minutes later, or at 11:15 p.m., two men suddenly came in through the screen door, one with a machine gun, the other with a pistol and menaced the four bridge players. One of the intruders said: "Which is URSCHEL? We want URSCHEL." No one of the players said anything, whereupon the individual said: "Well, we will take them both."

The intruders then threatened the women and told them to stay away from the phone. They marched URSCHEL and JARRETT out onto the driveway of the URSCHEL garage, where they had their own car parked;

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R.H. Colvin</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1111	RECORDED AND INDEXED: <b>FEB 26 1934</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:  Division <span style="float: right;">2</span> All Division Offices <span style="float: right;">each</span> El Paso <span style="float: right;">2</span>		<b>FEB 26 1934 A M</b>	<b>FEB 28 1934</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COPIES DESTROYED</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>20 MAR 16 1965</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">91</p>		BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO: <i>[Signature]</i> FILE	JACKETED:

1934

All b7C

apparently a '33 model Chevrolet sedan. They put both URSCHEL and JARRETT in the rear seat while the two kidnapers both got in the front seat and drove rapidly away out of town by a dirt road paralleling the main highway. URSCHEL and JARRETT were both in their shirt sleeves and were not searched for arms.

Immediately the kidnapers left the house, MRS. URSCHEL phoned the police; and then, within ten minutes of the event, phoned long distance to W. H. Hoover, Director of the Division, giving him the particulars. 21703

The writer was immediately called on the phone by John Watt, Chief of Police, at Oklahoma City, and dressing hurriedly called two other Division Agents and sent them to the URSCHEL residence, the writer proceeding to Police Headquarters where, almost immediately after my arrival, telephonic instructions were received from the Director to concentrate the entire energies of the Oklahoma City Office on the case. Wires were immediately sent calling all Agents then in the field to headquarters.

About 12:40 a.m., a message was received from the Agents stationed at the URSCHEL residence that JARRETT had returned. He was immediately brought to the police station and questioned by the writer and by Police Chief Watt.

He related that while driving out of the City the kidnapers had taken the pocket books of both him and URSCHEL, and after examining identification cards, etc., had taken about \$50.00 out of his pocket book and given it back to him. While driving along, one of the kidnapers said to the other: "Floyd give me a cigarette," evidently with the purpose of creating the impression that Charles "Pretty Boy" Floyd, notorious Oklahoma outlaw was one of the kidnapers. However, neither of the men resembled Floyd and their subterfuge was so obvious that it was properly discounted in subsequent investigation.

JARRETT, while quite agitated, was able to describe quite accurately the route taken to a point about 10 miles northeast of Oklahoma City, where the car was stopped on a lonely road. He was put out, told to keep his mouth shut and get home. After starting back on foot along the dirt road, he was overtaken by some boys in an old Ford whom he hired to take him back to town.

JARRETT gave a fair description of the two men; but as to the car, was confused as to whether it was a coach or a sedan, and did not secure any license number.

This was the first commercial kidnaping to have occurred in Oklahoma. Hence, authorities were at a loss as to whom to suspect. Photos of numerous Oklahoma outlaws and police characters were pulled from police files and taken to the URSCHEL residence with JARRETT, where all were exhibited to MRS. URSCHEL, MRS. JARRETT and to JARRETT. But no definite identification was made.

Composite descriptions, as given by the JARRETTs and MRS. URSCHEL, were compared with literally hundreds of police photos.

It was learned that no previous threat to kidnap, which appeared serious, had been received by the URSCHEL family, and no suspicious letters at all had been received for several months.

At this time, about 4:00 a.m., JARRETT was put in a car with Division Agents and Police and instructed to follow, as near as he could, the route taken by the kidnapers.

He unerringly took the officers to the spot where he was released, although it was still dark and the route followed was quite intricate. The tracks where the car had stopped and JARRETT had been put out were quite plain, as well as JARRETT'S foot prints going back down the road. It might be interesting to note that the ease with which JARRETT took officers to the above spot caused considerable suspicion to be directed towards him as a possible "finger man." Other circumstances, as to his financial condition and certain circumstances in connection with the bridge party, strengthened this suspicion; but suffice it to say that nothing was ever developed along this line.

At the spot where JARRETT was released, efforts were made to photograph the tracks of the automobile. But, owing to improper colored background, the efforts were not successful. However, it was definitely determined by a tire expert that the tracks were those of United States Rubber Company tires, of a size used on a certain model Chevrolet.

The tracks of this car turned south at the point where JARRETT was released, and were followed in that direction for about 3 or 4 miles and then 1 mile northeast by Division Agents and Police. There the trail was lost, by reason of later traffic. Owing to the several turns made by the kidnapers' car, it was difficult to decide definitely what direction it would eventually take. Since the travel so far had been in the darkness of night and over infrequented roads, no one could be located who had seen the car.

In the meantime, at the URSCHEL residence, a heavy Police guard had been placed, with Division Agents inside the house who answered all telephone calls and received all mail.

The full cooperation of the members of the URSCHEL FAMILY was solicited and secured MRS. URSCHEL stating that she was in the hands of her Government and would do any and all things we might request. She was given complete assurance that the Government's first concern would be the safe return of her husband; that while we would not interfere with any plans to insure the safe return of MR. URSCHEL, we would need to be informed of every development as it came up.

Early in the game, there were those who insisted that the kidnapping was a frame-up; that the URSCHEL Estate had borrowed to the limit; that URSCHEL had had himself kidnapped in order that funds might be raised for payment of an ostensible ransom, etc. This caused an examination of the will of the late T.B. SLICK, wherein it was discovered that a certain Board of Trustees had been named, with provisions as to their successors, in the event of demise of any of them. This led to a certain attorney, who would have been first in line as successor to URSCHEL, in the event of his death. (It will be noted that up to now it was not known whether URSCHEL had been taken for ransom or for a more sinister purpose). Naturally, in the circumstances, and coupled with certain information as to this attorney's character, and although he had been fully trusted by the URSCHEL family, he became a person of considerable interest and inquiry, including adequate telephone surveillance. Similar surveillance was maintained over the main switchboard in

the SLICK ESTATE offices, and also over the offices of other suspected persons. One hundred per cent cooperation from the offices of public communications systems was had in this case.

21705

By now, the Director had sent SAC Jones, from the San Antonio Office, SAC -Blake, from the Dallas Office, and Agents- [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] from their respective Districts to assist in the investigation.

Practically all routine business of the Oklahoma City Division Office was stopped. Clocks and beds became relics of a bygone age, and Division Agents took complete charge of the investigation, although it had not been determined whether a Federal offense had been committed.

In this program, we were fortunate in having the full and complete cooperation of the Police Department and Sheriff's Office, who placed their whole resources at our command and practically under our direction; and while not evading any of their own responsibilities, at the same time looked to us for direction and leadership.

This sensational abduction of one of Oklahoma's most prominent citizens aroused such national and international interest as to cause three or four newspapers to set up a telephone station and temporary office across the street from the URSCHER home, with crews of reporters, photographers, etc., on 24 hour duty. This newspaper surveillance was so thorough that it severely handicapped investigative and contact efforts in that no member of the URSCHER household or no Division Agent could leave the premises without being tailed by reporters.

On Tuesday after the abduction, [REDACTED] of the URSCHER'S and co-trustee of the Estate, arrived and, together with E. E. Kirkpatrick, partner in the Estate, took charge of the family affairs. [REDACTED] happened to be an old friend of Agent in Charge Gus Jones and Kirkpatrick also. Through these, it was then possible to solidify and guarantee the further absolute cooperation on the part of those most affected. This perfect coordinatic continued to the very end.

Now began floods of fake telephone calls and letters, purporting to be from the abductors, and it was no small task to sift the wheat from the chaff.

A series of phone calls which it appeared might be actually from the abductors, were received. Division Agents handling the matter were at once consulted and, on their advice, a test was made to ascertain whether or not the parties attempting to make contact were actually holding URSCHER. To do this, it was necessary for MRS. URSCHER to agree to pay \$5,000 for evidence of the possession by the alleged abductors of any identifiable property of MR. URSCHER, such as his watch, and she agreed to meet the contact man at the designated spot with this amount of money.

On the advice of Agents, the money was put up in five separate packages so that if the parties were contacted and produced proper evidence, the whole amount could be handed over in good faith. If not, and it proved to be a hijacking, perhaps only one package would be lost. The latter turned out to be the net result and the net loss was one thousand dollars. The net gain was the determination of the fact that still no genuine contact had been made. To carry out the above

All b7c

b7c

test, it was necessary for MRS. URSCHEL and [redacted] to be smuggled out of the URSCHEL house and for Division Agents to refrain from any activity whatsoever.

21706

At this time, it was felt that the constant heavy police guard and the army of newspaper sleuths was seriously handicapping any possible contact with the kidnapers. The police were withdrawn and ostensibly so were all Division Agents and public announcement in the press was made to that effect. However, Division Agents were kept in the house, unknown to anyone except the immediate family. Then the press was prevailed upon to withdraw their forces from the immediate vicinity, at least temporarily. The latter concession was secured only after the utmost difficult persuasion.

Agreement was had by Division Agents with the URSCHELS and their representatives that should a genuine contact be made with the abductors and negotiations entered into, that Division Agents would not engage in any activity which might jeopardize the negotiations; that, in fact, we preferred them not to advise us of any negotiations or contacts until release had been effected. In return, the family had agreed that once MR. URSCHEL was safe every bit of information available would be furnished us.

At this time, arrangements were made that if any contact was effected and payment of ransom made, that a record be kept of the serial numbers and description of the ransom money for future use.

During a period of more or less apparent inactivity on the part of Division Agents, and because the Press could learn nothing of what was being done, one of the large publishing companies wired a long protest to Washington, requesting that competent investigators be put on the job. This was done in a spirit of pique because of their consistent failure to obtain from Division Agents the full story of our activities. It happened that exactly the same crew of Agents who were then on the job were the ones who finally brought the case to a successful conclusion, which necessitated the papers to make a sort of left-handed apology for their previous action.

On Wednesday morning, July 26, at Tulsa, Okla., a Western Union Messenger boy delivered to JOHN G. CATLETT, a personal friend of the URSCHEL'S, a package containing certain personal documents of CHARLES URSCHEL, with a letter to CATLETT, from URSCHEL, in the latter's handwriting, in which CATLETT was asked to get into immediate contact with E. E. KIRKPATRICK, business associate of URSCHEL, and deliver to him another typewritten letter, written by the abductors and instructing that if the family desired to open negotiations, they should run a certain worded advertisement in the Daily Oklahoman on July 27th, to run for one week. (Proper efforts to identify the persons who delivered the package to Western Union at Tulsa were later made, but without success).

CATLETT did as instructed, proceeded to Oklahoma City at once and delivered the letter to KIRKPATRICK, and the ad was placed as directed.

On July 28, a Special Delivery, Air Mail, letter, postmarked: "Joplin, Mo., 5 p.m., July 27," addressed to: "Box 67, The Daily Oklahoman," was delivered to KIRKPATRICK. It was from the abductors and instructed him to pack \$200,000 in used \$20.00 Federal Reserve notes in a light colored tan hand bag; to board an



M. K. & T. train at Oklahoma City, at ten p.m. on the night of July 29, with ticket and Pullman to Kansas City, Mo., upon arrival there, to register at the Muehlback Hotel, as E.E. Kincaid, Little Rock, Ark., when he would receive further instructions. P 21707

b7C  
KIRKPATRICK, with [REDACTED] procured the money, in the form of ten thousand used \$20.00 notes of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, at the First National Bank and Trust Co., in Oklahoma City, packed them as directed, after having the serial numbers (which were not in sequence) recorded. He proceeded as directed and checked in at the Muehlback Hotel on the morning of July 30th. Shortly after ten a.m., he received a Postal Telegram from one C. H. Moore, sent from Tulsa, Oklahoma, saying that due to an unforeseen incident contact would be delayed; but that he would receive a telephone call about 6:00 p.m.

At about 5:30 p.m., he did receive a telephone call from a person who identified himself as the sender of the telegram, and who instructed him to take a cab to the La Salle Hotel, to alight there and walk West.

KIRKPATRICK did so, and, after walking half a block or so, was met by a man who said: "All right, Kirkpatrick, I'll take that bag," whereupon he did so and told KIRKPATRICK to return to the Hotel, where he would phone him later, and that the "deeds to the farm" ought to be received within 12 hours,--meaning, of course, that URSCHEL would be home in that time.

On July 31st, at about 11:00 p.m., the Oklahoma City Division Office received a telephone message from the URSCHEL home saying that "Mr. URSCHEL has just returned home."

The writer and Agent in Charge Jones proceeded there immediately and found that MR. URSCHEL had been released by two men in a car near Norman, Okla., about 20 miles south of Oklahoma City, at approximately 10:00 p.m., and was instructed to proceed to his home. He had procured a taxi and had done so. He was very nervous and exhausted and was only questioned briefly at this time.

All the activity herein related from the time JOHN CATLETT received the first communication, up to the time URSCHEL arrived home, had been without the specific knowledge of Division Agents. We were aware that something was going on. But, in accordance with our previous agreement, we had refrained from inquiry, so as to give full opportunity for the completion of any transactions which might effect the safe return of MR. URSCHEL.

MR. URSCHEL was at this time quite pessimistic about ever apprehending the kid-nappers, and seemed to have no idea as to where he had been held captive, stating that in so far as he knew it might have been in any one of three or four different states.

b7C  
Immediately after Urschel returned, it was ascertained from Kirkpatrick and [redacted] that the \$200,000 ransom money consisted of \$20.00 notes on the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Mo., serial numbers of these notes having been placed on small slips of paper by the Bank employees and thrown indiscriminately into a box, without regard to numerical sequence. However, as a preliminary step towards locating any of the ransom money which might be put in circulation, every Division Office was requested, by wire, to notify every bank in their respective districts to look out for any large deposits or exchange of large amounts of used \$20.00 notes on said Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. This necessitated notification of thousands of banks and was, of course, a rather indefinite clue.

21708

In the meantime, the entire force of the Oklahoma City Office was put to work sorting and arranging in numerical sequence the 10,000 tickets representing the serial numbers of the individual bank notes. This was a huge task in that the serial numbers ran anywhere from 3 figures to 8 figures and necessitated the sorting and arranging of the 10,000 tickets approximately 20 times. However, this task was completed in 16 hours, the list properly typed, and on its way to the Division in Washington by air mail for printing and distribution to 17,000 banks.

On August 4, 1933, a wire was received from the St. Paul Office to the effect that the Hennepin State Bank, of Minneapolis, Minn., had reported the receipt of \$1000 in one batch of used \$20.00 notes on the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, in connection with their sale of a Cashier's Check in the sum of \$1800. Again on August 5th, the St. Anthony Falls Branch of the Northwestern National Bank, of Minneapolis, Minn., received a \$500 deposit, all of the same bills. The serial numbers were furnished the Oklahoma City Office and quickly compared with the list of the original ransom money, and it was definitely determined that both lots of money were a part of the original ransom fund.

Quick work by the St. Paul Office resulted in the arrest of some 7 suspects who had had something or other to do with the passing of this money. It was determined that they had handled altogether \$5500, their claim being that the money was paid to them by a Southern bootlegger in an alcohol transaction. The persons arrested in connection with this angle at that time were: Barney Berman, Clifford Skelly, Isadore Blumenfield, Sam Kronick, Sam Kozberg, Charles Wolk, and Peter Valder. Protracted grilling of these 7 suspects produced no tangible results whatever as to the identity of the kidnapers; nor did extended subsequent investigation connect them directly with the kidnapers.

The next day after his return, Mr. Urschel, having had a good night's sleep and being refreshed, was questioned for 6 hours. He is a man of brilliant mind and cool headed and was able to recall many details of events transpiring from the time of his abduction until the time of his release, a period of 9 days.

It was ascertained that after Jarrett had been released from the automobile 10 miles northeast of Oklahoma City, Urschel had been made to lie down in the back of the car, his captors remarking that they would probably meet some officers and, if they did, there would be shooting and that they did not desire to hurt him. After proceeding about 20 miles, he was handcuffed and his eyes blindfolded with adhesive tape. They drove, in a roundabout manner,

over apparently infrequented dirt roads until about 3 or 4 oclock in the morning, when they arrived at a house and the car was driven into some sort of enclosure or barn, the nature of which Urschel was, of course, unable to describe exactly. Here they remained for approximately 30 minutes and he was transferred into a larger car, and license plates were changed. Also, Urschel was able to determine from the sounds that gasoline was being taken from one car and being put into the other. Shortly before daylight, they left this place in the larger car and drove, continuously, in a roundabout manner until approximately 3:00 p.m. Sunday, July 23rd. He recalled that enroute they stopped once at a filling station run by a woman. 21709

Upon stopping at 3:00 oclock that afternoon, the car in which he was captive was driven into a garage and one man remained with him on guard, until after dark when the other came back and they escorted him, still blindfolded, out of the garage to a distance of 50 or 60 feet into a house and into a bedroom. Urschel carefully remembered that when coming out of this garage he stepped up on to a boardwalk and then up a couple of steps into the house which apparently contained 3 or 4 rooms, judging from the noises and the doors through which he passed. He was confined in this room until dark on Monday, the 24th, being fed with meals prepared by some woman in the house whose voice he could hear. After dark, on the latter date, the two men placed him in a small roadster, one riding on each side of him, and each carrying machine guns. They drove for approximately 15 or 20 minutes over very rough roads and arrived at a house where he was taken out and taken inside, where apparently arrangements had been made to receive and care for him. Here he was placed under guard by the two men and a third, who apparently lived there, and forced to sleep on an old mattress on the floor and kept handcuffed. Urschel had remembered that at the first place where he was held captive there were a number of guinea hens whose presence he detected by their incessant noise.

On Tuesday, the 25th, one of his abductors asked Urschel to name a friend who would act as intermediary for him in negotiations looking to his release and finally John G. Catlett, of Tulsa, was agreed upon. The abductors then compelled him to write a letter to Catlett, which has been previously described herein as the first communication. They stood over him and one removed his blindfold sufficiently for him to look down and write. They would not let him look up. Urschel very cleverly remembered that the man who stood over him while writing this letter had very hairy hands and wore a gold ring with a red setting. One of his abductors apparently went away with this letter at this time and asked Urschel for his hat and shirt size.

The next day, or the next, the other abductor disappeared and an old man came to assist the third younger man in guarding and caring for Urschel. The first abductor reappeared, bringing Urschel a new shirt and new straw hat which had been purchased in Joplin, Mo. He also brought a steel chain about 20' in length and with which Urschel was chained to the bed or to a table at night.

The two guards, apparently natives of the vicinity, remained with him constantly and were not reluctant to engage in conversation. Urschel carefully noted significant remarks in an effort to gain some clue as to their identity or as to his own whereabouts. He observed that the older of the men, from his conversation, seemed to be sort of a boss in the community, perhaps a neighborhood political leader of the farmer type. This man frequently made remarks

on different subjects and used the phrase: "Down in Oklahoma." This was obviously for Urschel's benefit and in order to make him think he was perhaps north of Oklahoma. In various conversations with his guards, and judging from sounds which he heard about the place, the victim was able to deduce that they had about 5 or 6 hogs. He also heard the bellowing of a bull nearby and artfully abstracted from the younger of the two men the fact that it was a white-faced bull.

[ 21710

Urschel observed that water for the house was procured from a well situated to the north of the house according to his best ability to orient himself; and that this well was equipped with a rope and pulley which squeaked when water was being drawn. He observed that the country thereabouts was inhabited by many quail whose cries he could hear early each morning.

He engaged his guards in conversation about fishing, in an endeavor to ascertain whether they were located near streams and was able to deduce from their replies that such was not the case. He talked with them about crops and ascertained that it had been quite dry in that community; and that one of the crops raised around there was broom corn. He observed that the water which he drank was strongly impregnated with iron and that it had stained the kitchen utensils a rusty color. This latter information was secured because he was able to see out occasionally, in a downward manner, under his blindfold.

In casual conversation with one of his guards, he heard about a young girl in the community who was a public prostitute, with bookkeeping proclivities as to her business with the male sex.

He observed that twice a day could be heard the sound of an aeroplane passing over, always going in the same two directions. He realized that the place must be on or near a regularly travelled aeroplane route and therefore attached the proper importance to this event and by adroit questioning at proper times, finally was able to determine that this plane went north at 9:45 a.m. and south at 5:45 p.m. each day. Of course, his watch had been taken from him and it was therefore more difficult to elicit this information without raising the suspicion of his captors than would have been ordinarily.

He was careful to observe the weather and remembered distinctly the days on which it rained and those on which it did not. He was able to remember that on a certain day on which it rained heavily, the aeroplanes did not pass over.

During the period of his captivity, he was moved occasionally from one room to another in the house and allowed to walk about a little, blindfolded, however. In this manner, he determined the approximate shape and size of the house and the nature of its construction. He was able to state that in one room there was an old-fashion, round top, tin trunk; that in another there was a wooden bench; that there were no door nobs on one of the outside doors; and that there was a round hole through the door which was fastened with a wooden button on the inside. In a surreptitious manner, he was able to get a glimpse through one of the front windows and observed that there was a small porch on the front of the house which had holes in the roof.

He observed that each day fresh baker's bread and ice were brought to the

house and was able to learn that trips to town were necessary to secure the ice. On one day, several days after his abduction, he remarked that he would like to have a good meal, having been fed up to this time principally on canned goods and sandwiches. The next day a woman brought them a fried chicken dinner with all the accessories. The food was still warm and the woman had apparently walked from the place where it was prepared to the place where he was held captive.

21711

From remarks made by his guards, the victim was able to deduce that the place where he was being held was apparently the home of the younger guard who accidentally let slip the fact that he was married and that his wife had been sent away while Urschel was being held there.

About Saturday, July 29, the elder of his captors became worried about the failure of the two absent kidnapers to return and had informed Mr. Urschel that if the men did not get back in a day or two with the ransom money, he, himself, would take Mr. Urschel home.

On Sunday morning, July 30, a woman came to the house afoot, walking through the rain, and informed the elder man, who was guarding Mr. Urschel, that there had been a delay on account of the weather; and that the boys would not be back until the next day. She stated that she had received a telephone call to that effect.

On Monday, July 31, about 3:00 p.m., one of the abductors of Mr. Urschel came to the shack in which he was confined, shaved him or allowed him to shave himself, gave him the new shirt and new hat, placed him in, apparently, the same car in which he had been brought to the place and they left.

After travelling some few miles, they were apparently contacted by another car and the second abductor got in with Urschel. They drove continuously until 10:00 o'clock that night, over roads other than paved highways most of the time. About 10:00 p.m. they apparently drove through the outskirts of Norman, Oklahoma, to the northerly edge of that town, where they took the blindfolds off of Urschel's eyes, put him out of the car, near a barbecue stand, and directed him to proceed home, without telephoning to anyone, as described earlier in this report. Urschel was unable to see from which direction they had come to Norman. Upon continued and detailed questioning, however, he recalled that they crossed the Canadian River Bridge a half hour or so before arriving at Norman. Although blindfolded and in the dark, Urschel was able to recognize this bridge by its peculiar construction in that in coming to it from the south one goes down a steep hill and then goes up a steep approach to the bridge which is of steel construction but with wooden flooring, which is loose and rattles with the passing of an automobile. The length and contour of this bridge are well known to Mr. Urschel who has travelled over it many times and from the familiar sensations, he was able definitely to establish the fact that his captors had evidently brought him at least from a point south of this bridge which is known as the Lexington Purcell Bridge, some 40 miles south of Oklahoma City.

Mr. Urschel was still, of course, unable to say how far he had been hauled, as his captors had evidently purposely, and with cunning, driven many hours longer than was necessary to cover the direct distance from the place of

his abduction to the place of his captivity. In fact, judging from his calculation as to the speed travelled and the hours consumed, it would have been possible for him to have been 500 or 600 miles from Oklahoma City and either in the State of Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Colorado, Texas, or Oklahoma. 21712

A careful summation and study of all the bits of information furnished by Urschel was made with a view, of course, to determining, first, the place of his captivity. First importance was attached to the information relative to the daily passing of the aeroplane at designated hours. An intensive study of various aeroplane commercial lines was begun, finally resulting in the information that the Bowen Air Lines' commercial route from Tulsa to Dallas had a schedule in which the northbound plane would be over the same spot at 9:45 a.m. as would the southbound plane at 5:45 p.m. This spot was indicated to be, roughly, 100 miles northeast of Oklahoma City, and in the approximate vicinity of Weleetka and Wetumka, Oklahoma. Due consideration was given to the few miles of possible variation on account of head or tail winds, or side drift on account of cross winds; but this was determined to be the general vicinity which would meet the required conditions. Agents flew over this route, after having made arrangements with the pilots of the regular planes to fly as low as regulations permitted in order to allow observation of places on the ground which might fit the description given by Urschel as to his prison. It will be noted that Urschel had furnished what turned out to be a very good description of the shack in which he was confined.

A large oil concern placed at the disposal of Division Agents one of their private planes and pilots, in which additional flights were made over the terrain above described, but no success was had in locating a place of the type described.

Agents were also sent into that section in automobiles, together with officers familiar with the territory, and 3000 miles were driven in the immediate vicinity in an effort to locate characters described by Mr. Urschel as his guards and places such as described herein, without success.

In the meantime, an intensive study had been made of weather reports for that section of Oklahoma, with regard to rains, and in checking up on this, it was found that the planes flying over this particular route had not missed a trip on the rainy Sunday described by Mr. Urschel. We, therefore, had to start all over again and make checks of the aeroplane schedules of commercial air lines operating within a radius of 600 miles of Oklahoma City. This brought to light another aeroplane schedule between Dallas and Wichita Falls, Texas, on which line was discovered another locality which met the requirements in so far as the passing of the planes at the hours of 9:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. had to do. This point was determined to be in the vicinity of Paradise, Texas. Weather maps of this vicinity disclosed that it had rained heavily in that vicinity on the particular Sunday. Inspection of the Air Company's records disclosed that on that particular day the planes had been diverted by reason of the storm. Agricultural crop reports from that vicinity disclosed a condition as described by Mr. Urschel, and the further fact that broom corn was grown in the neighborhood.

217-  
-113 1

With this information, an Agent was dispatched into the vicinity of Paradise, with a full description of the two places where Mr. Urschel had been held. This Agent contacted an old time officer, thoroughly familiar with every detail of the farms and ranches in that vicinity, through whose assistance the Agent finally was taken to the farm of R. G. Shannon, about 4 miles west of Paradise, Texas. Under appropriate pretext, the Agent managed to enter the actual shack where Urschel had been confined, and by a quick and keen observation noted the many objects of furniture and so forth in the house which Urschel had previously described. The well, northwest of the house, with its rope and pulley, was there. The 5 hogs were in the barnyard. The white-faced bull was grazing nearby. The guinea hens, previously mentioned by Urschel, were located at the main farm house of R. G. Shannon about a mile away from the shack. It was ascertained by cautious inquiry that a 16 year old girl prostitute lived nearby.

Prior to this time, some suspicion was directed to this same locality by detectives of the Ft. Worth, Texas, Police Department who had information that the Shannon farm was somewhat of a rendezvous for criminals; that the Shannons were the mother and step-father, respectively, of one Catherine Thorne Kelly, whose husband, known as George Kelly, was a bandit and bank robber.

Upon receiving telephonic report from Agent [redacted] who had made the undercover investigation at Paradise, Texas, and vicinity, it became certain that the place of Urschel's captivity had been definitely located and steps were taken to visit the place immediately.

All  
b7c

Agents Jones, [redacted] and [redacted] accompanied by Mr. Urschel and by Chief Deputy Sheriff [redacted] of Oklahoma City, left Oklahoma City immediately upon Friday afternoon, August 11, after having made arrangements for Agents from the Dallas Office, together with members of the Dallas Police Force, and with detectives from the Fort Worth Police Department, to meet the Oklahoma City party at Denton, Texas, where it was planned to raid the Shannon farm that afternoon. However, some delays were encountered and it was seen that arrival at the farm would be too late in the evening to accomplish a thorough raid and search before darkness. Therefore, matters were continued until next morning when it was planned to reach the farm about daylight.

The raid was executed as then planned and the farmhouse of R. G. Shannon was first visited. At this point, R. G. Shannon and wife were located and apprehended and Harvey Bailey, notorious bandit and escaped convict from Lansing Penitentiary, was found asleep on a cot in the backyard and captured, together with his automatic pistol, automatic rifle, and machine gun.

Urschel at this time was able to identify R. G. Shannon as one of his captors and, in fact, practically identified this place as the one where he was held on the first day of his captivity.

The raiders then hurriedly made their way to the shack home of Armond Shannon, son of R. G., and located about a mile away from the main farmhouse, where Armond Shannon and his wife were apprehended. Urschel, of course,

immediately identified the place and Armond Shannon and at this time Armond Shannon recognized and called Urschel by his name. 21714

When Bailey was searched, \$700 of the original ransom money was found in his pockets. Subsequently, confessions were obtained from R. G. and Armond Shannon as to their part in the affair and implicating George Kelly, Catherine Kelly, and one George Bates, alias G. L. Davis, Kelly and Bates being indicated as the actual kidnapers.

All  
b7c

The four Shannons and Bailey were taken to jail at Dallas, Texas, on August 12, and a nationwide search begun for Bates, alias Davis, and Kelly and his wife. On this same date there was received at the Fort Worth Police Department a telegram from Denver, Colo., addressed to Detectives [redacted] and [redacted] signed by George L. Davis, and stating that Davis was in jail at Denver and urging [redacted] and [redacted] to proceed there immediately by aeroplane, as Davis was wanted at two points in Texas for bank robbery, and that other officers had placed hold orders and were attempting to procure custody. It was apparent from the wording of the telegram that the person sending it was desirous of getting into the custody of Detectives [redacted] and [redacted] as soon as possible, in order to prevent being taken somewhere else where he was badly wanted. Upon receipt of this wire, [redacted] and [redacted] immediately recognized that it was from George Bates, with whom they had no doubt had previous contact, it having been developed by now that these two officers had been more or less familiar with George and Catherine Kelly and their associates.

Upon learning of the arrest of the alleged Davis in Denver, telephonic communication with Agents in Denver disclosed the information that Davis, when arrested, had in his pockets about \$700 in \$20.00 notes of the Federal Reserve Bank, of Kansas City, and a check disclosed that the serial numbers of these bills corresponded with like numbers of the ransom money. Complaint was therefore immediately filed against him. In the meantime, the Railway Express Agents were endeavoring to hook Bates up with the robbery of several thousand dollars worth of Express Travellers' Checks. He was also wanted in several states on bank robbing charges. However, the Denver Police Authorities consistently held him for the Government.

The Railway Express Agency tied up by Court attachment all funds in the possession of Bates, alias Davis, on the pretense that even the \$700 ransom money found in Bates' possession was the proceeds of stolen traveller checks belonging to that corporation. These funds were impounded in the State District Courts of Denver and it was only after threats by the U.S. District Judge at Oklahoma City to cite the Clerk of said Court for contempt if he failed to produce these particular moneys in response to a sub poena which was procured for the production of this money in Court to be used as evidence.

After the true identity of the kidnapers was disclosed, it was also discovered that George Kelly Barnes and wife Catherine Kelly Barnes, heretofore known as George Kelly and Catherine Thorne Kelly, had frequently used and travelled in the names of R. G. Shannon and Ora L. Shannon which are the true names of Catherine Kelly's step-father and her mother. It was likewise discovered that George Bates, alias George L. Davis, etc., had frequently used the name of Feldman; and that numerous telegrams had been exchanged between these parties in the names above mentioned. Therefore, most intensive investigation of the records of telegraph companies at Dallas, Texas; Paradise, Texas; Denv



Colorado; and Oklahoma City, was made with the resultant disclosure of many telegrams over a period of several months, indicating constant communication between Bates and Kelly under their various names, including that of L. E. Lang, and which telegrams were finally located and produced under sub poenas duces tecum, it being noted that telegrams were also sent and received at Stratford, Oklahoma; at which place Kelly and his wife were using the name of T. M. Coleman, which is the name of the grandfather and grandmother of Catherine Thorne Kelly Barnes. These telegrams played an important part in the conviction of subjects when introduced in evidence.

Disclosures by the Shannons and resultant investigation made at Stratford and vicinity, Oklahoma, brought forth evidence to the effect that for two or three days prior to the kidnapping, George Kelly and wife had been stopping at the farm of Catherine Kelly's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Coleman, at Stratford, and where they were joined by Bates; that on the afternoon preceding the kidnapping, Kelly and Bates had left for Oklahoma City, Catherine remaining at the farm; that shortly before daylight on Sunday morning, July 23rd, Kelly and Bates returned with Urschel a captive, changed cars, and left almost immediately after old lady Coleman had informed them that they could not stay there. Catherine Kelly also immediately departed, alone, in her Ford Roadster.

It has been indicated that had the Colemans permitted the abductors to remain at their farm with Urschel, he would not have been taken out of the state of Oklahoma and hence the Federal jurisdiction of the case would have been lost.

The Colemans, when first detained, were hostile and uncommunicative but later broke down and testified freely for the Government.

*Handwritten notes:*  
See March 1933  
OKla City

After the apprehension of the Shannons, Harvey Bailey, and Bates, the Grand Jury, at Oklahoma City, returned indictments charging those, together with George and Catherine Kelly, and the 7 Minneapolis and St. Paul defendants hereinbefore mentioned, with kidnapping and conspiracy.

The only charge which could be made against the St. Paul defendants was that they had knowingly received and assisted in exchanging a portion of the ransom money, knowing its true character at the time of their acceptance and exchange of same.

In September, 1933, Harvey Bailey, George Bates, R. G. Shannon, Ora L. Shannon, Armond Shannon, and the seven St. Paul defendants, were placed on trial at Oklahoma City; the defendants George Kelly Barnes and Catherine Kelly Barnes still being fugitives. It will be noted that while Harvey Bailey was being held in jail at Dallas, pending removal, he had, with the connivance of certain jailers, made his escape but was recaptured on the same day near Ardmore, Oklahoma. All defendants pleaded "Not Guilty." The trial resulted in the conviction of Bailey, Bates, R. G., Ora L., and Armond Shannon, and Edward Barney German, and Clifford Kelly.

While the trial of the aforementioned was in progress, concentrated efforts were being made to locate the fugitive Kellys. It had been ascertained that at Cleveland, Ohio, in June, prior to the kidnapping, they had purchase

a 16 cylinder Cadillac Sedan, making a down payment of \$1000, title being issued in the name of Ora L. Shannon. Upon ascertaining these facts, and that they still owed on the car, arrangements were made to cover their possible appearance in Cleveland. Unfortunately, these arrangements were perfected one day too late and it was ascertained that they did appear there on August 8th, paid their balance due on their 16 Cylinder Cadillac, amounting to some \$1600, and deposited \$500 on the purchase price of a new Cadillac 12. By this time, they had become aware that their connection with the kidnapping had been disclosed and they went on the dodge, disposing of their big dillac by storing it in Chicago and purchasing a small Chevrolet Coupe.

During the course of the trial of the first group of defendants at Oklahoma City, through a confidential source it was ascertained that an attorney named Roberts, from Enid, Oklahoma, was stopping at the Skirvin Hotel, Oklahoma City, claiming that he was representing George and Catherine Kelly; and that he was contacting a man who claimed to be contact man for Kelly and who was stopping in the same Hotel with two women.

Immediate close cover was placed on these persons and it was observed that not only Roberts but some of the leading attorneys for the Shannons made contact with this room occupied by the so-called contact man and the two women. Investigation of Agents disclosed that Attorney Roberts and the alleged contact man, Luther Arnold, had arrived at the Hotel on the same day; and that all bills were being charged to Arnold's room.

A vactuphone set was installed in an adjoining room and Agents placed on 24 hours shift for observation purposes. However, before results could be had, one of the women, in moving the bed, accidentally dislodged the microphone and disrupted the plans.

However, it was learned that Arnold had departed for Texas, ostensibly to contact Kelly and his wife. Enough evidence had been discovered to warrant investigation of Arnold and the two women for violation of the White Slave Traffic Act. Therefore, when he returned he and the two women were immediately arrested for investigation on such charge.

Through vigorous, but appropriate, methods, Arnold was convinced that he should give all information in his possession to the Government and, in order to cover him up, a charge of violation of the White Slave Traffic Act was filed against him with the two women named as material witnesses. He was allowed to make bond after arrangements had been made for his proper surveillance.

From Arnold it was learned that some two weeks before while he, his wife, and 12 year old daughter were hitch-hiking through Texas, they had been picked up by Catherine Kelly, who was travelling alone and who had approached them to act as contacts to arrange for counsel for the Kellys, in Oklahoma, and otherwise keep them posted as to the progress of the case. Catherine Kelly had furnished Arnold with the Chevrolet car which they had purchased in Chicago, and with several hundred dollars in money, and furthermore had taken old, his wife, and their daughter to San Antonio, Texas, where a house was and to serve as meeting place and rendezvous for Kelly and his wife. Kelly visited there once and both he and Catherine Kelly departed, taking the

12 year old Arnold girl with them, ostensibly for only a one day trip, but never having been seen again by Arnold or his wife. Arnold had expected that the Kellys would return momentarily to the house in San Antonio which was, therefore, kept under proper surveillance for a reasonable time and, nothing having shown up, Mrs. Arnold was arrested and confirmed the information previously given by her husband.

21717

In the meantime, J. T. Brooks, father of Catherine Kelly, had moved from Fort Worth to Oklahoma City, stopping in a cheap rooming house. Proper surveillance over this place, including the telephone, had been established and about this time a Citizen's Committee, of Oklahoma City, offered rewards totalling \$15,000 for the apprehension of George and Catherine Kelly. This aroused the cupidity of the landlady where Brooks was stopping and she too became confidential informant, co-operating in so far as she was able. It was known that Arnold and Brooks, the father of Catharine were in communication. And while Arnold had promised faithfully to shoot square, every precaution was taken to see that there was no doublecross. Therefore, Arnold's telephone in his room, as well as the telephone at the Brooks room, was properly covered 24 hours per day.

All of these precautions necessitated the employment of 8 or 10 extra telephone operators, besides the confidential co-operation of telephone switchboard operators in Hotels.

On September 25, while Agent was assisting in covering the movements of Arnold, at Welles-Roberts Hotel, at Oklahoma City, a Western Union telegram arrived for him which was intercepted before delivery, same being sent from Fort Worth, Texas, that afternoon, signed "Gerry," and stating that she would arrive at Oklahoma City at 10:35 that night and for him to meet her. "Gerry" was the 12 year old daughter of Arnold. Nothing was said to Arnold about the telegram and delivery was made to ascertain if he would keep faith. He did, immediately calling the Division Office, advising of its receipt.

He was instructed to meet the train and to bring his daughter to the apartment of the writer. The arrival of the train was covered by other Agents as was Arnold's trip to the apartment of Agent, where Arnold and his wife brought their daughter immediately. In the meantime, the Dallas office had been requested, by phone, to check the sending of the said telegram from Fort Worth.

Immediately this girl arrived at Agent's apartment, where Assistant Director Nathan was waiting, we ascertained from her the story of her travels with George and Catherine Kelly from San Antonio, Texas, through northern Texas, up into Chicago and thence to Memphis, Tenn.

It was ascertained that George and Catherine Kelly were then stopping in Memphis, at the house of a paralytic called "Tich," who operated a garage and used car place; and that Geraldine Arnold, the 12 year old girl, accompanied by one Ramsey, a lawyer of Memphis, and who was the brother of Kelly's first wife, had been sent by Kelly to Coleman, Texas, to the farm of J.C. Coleman, for the purpose of recovering a large sum of the ransom money which had been buried on the Coleman farm; that they had been unsuccessful in inducing Coleman to dig up the money. They had then proceeded to Fort Worth intending to come to Oklahoma City where they were to contact the Arnold girl's parents and see what could be

done. The girl, however, had persuaded Ramsey to put her on a train at Fort Worth while he followed by car.

21718

At this moment, about 11:00 p.m., a telephone call was received from the Dallas Office, advising that at the same time that the telegram to Arnold had been filed, another had been filed by the same man, addressed to J. R. Tichnor, Central Garage, Memphis, Tenn., advising him that the deal had been a failure and to communicate with the sender at Gainesville, Texas, immediately.

Upon mentioning the name "Tichnor" to the Arnold girl, she recalled that this was the full name of the man at whose house Catherine and George Kelly were stopping in Memphis. She described accurately the location and the house.

The Birmingham Office was immediately called by telephone and advised as to the exact whereabouts of George and Catherine Kelly. The Agent in Charge was instructed by Assistant Director Nathan to proceed immediately to Memphis, by aeroplane, with a suitable number of Agents and to contact the Police there immediately for a proper raid on the Tichnor premises. The Director was contacted in Washington, by telephone, and instructed that Agents from the St. Louis Office be also dispatched by aeroplane.

All this was accomplished, the Birmingham Office having great difficulty in procuring a plane at that time of night. However, the plans were successfully carried out and George and Catherine Kelly were apprehended at Memphis at daylight on the morning of the 26th of September.

Kelly had his hair dyed a dirty yellow and Catherine was wearing a red wig over her closely cropped, dark brown hair. They did not, however, deny their identity.

Previous underground information had been received from a more or less reliable source to the effect that a portion of the ransom money was buried on the farm of J. C. Coleman, in Texas, which information was strongly confirmed by the story of the Arnold girl. Therefore, immediately upon the apprehension of the Kellys, telephonic request was made of the Dallas Office to cause the immediate apprehension and detention of J.C., or "Cass", Coleman, the uncle of Catherine Kelly.

b7C  
At 10:40 a.m., September 26, the writer, accompanied by SAC Jones, of the San Antonio Office, left Oklahoma City by automobile, proceeding to Dallas where we picked up SAC Flake, of the Dallas Office, proceeding thence to Coleman and to the farm of Cass Coleman where we found the latter under guard of the Sheriff of that County, Tom Mills and Agent [REDACTED]. At this time, Coleman said that he was ready to talk and that he had realized that he had gotten in bad and wanted to get out of it the best way he could. He had been shown the newspapers of that day, reflecting the capture of the Kellys in Memphis, and decided to tell what he knew.

He stated that a large amount of money was buried in his cotton field and that he would assist in digging it up; that the location of this money was known only to himself and to George Kelly.

We proceeded into the middle of a 240 acre cotton field and, at a spot indicated by Coleman, we dug up a two gallon thermos jug and a one gallon syrup can containing \$72,940 of the original ransom money.

Coleman was incarcerated and charged with harboring the Kellys.

The writer and Agent Jones returned directly to Oklahoma City with the recovered money, arriving there at 12:40 P.M., the 27th, and having driven 900 miles without rest.

On October 7th, 1933, George Kelly and Catherine Kelly, whose true names have been in the meantime disclosed as George Kelly Barnes and Catherine Kelly Barnes, having been removed from Memphis, Tenn., to Oklahoma City, were arraigned and pleaded: "Not Guilty." They went to trial on October 9, 1933, a jury returning a verdict of "Guilty" on 10/12/33.

The other defendants who had been convicted were, on October 7, 1933, sentenced as follows: Harvey J. Bailey; Albert L. Bates, alias George L. Davis; R. G. Shannon; and Ora L. Shannon, were sentenced to life imprisonment in a United States Penitentiary. Armond C. Shannon was, on the same date, sentenced to 10 years probation and paroled in the custody of his attorney. Subjects Berman and Skelly were sentenced to 5 years each in a United States Penitentiary, filing notice of appeal and allowed freedom on continuing bond.

On October 12, when the jury returned the verdict of "Guilty" as to George Kelly Barnes and his wife, they were both immediately sentenced to life imprisonment in a United States Penitentiary.

Thereafter J.C., "Cass", Coleman and one Will Casey were indicted, convicted, and sentenced in the Dallas District for harboring Kelly and his wife. Thomas L. Manion, and the other Deputy Sheriff at Dallas, Texas, who procured the escape of Harvey J. Bailey from jail at that place, were convicted and sentenced to the Penitentiary for assisting a Federal Prisoner to escape.

At Memphis, Tenn., Langford Ramsey and J. R. Tichnor were convicted and sentenced to the Penitentiary for harboring and concealing the Kellys. In Chicago two other persons, whose more specific identities are not recollected by the writer, at this time have been indicted for harboring and concealing the Kellys.

In this case it will be seen that practically every person having had any active part in the conspiracy from beginning to end, has been apprehended, convicted, and sentenced, even to a couple of Minneapolis gangsters whose only participation was an attempted exchange of some of the "hot" money for "clean" money. All of the principals, with the possible exception of a reputed finger man, or locator, have been convicted. Nearly one-half of the ransom money has been recovered.

The effective results accomplished in this case, were due to the whole.

hearted and vigor , untiring efforts the following Division  
each of which had an active part in the investigation:

St. Paul,  
Chicago,  
Kansas City,  
St. Louis,  
Cincinnati,  
Detroit,  
Birmingham,  
San Antonio,  
Dallas,  
Salt Lake City,  
Portland,  
Oklahoma City.

21700

The perfect and instantaneous co-ordination of effort on the part of the various offices, together with a very unusual response from the public, local and State officials, and public service corporations everywhere, all tended to the success of the undertaking.

The publicity given the case and the facilities afforded by the Court for such publicity, as a matter of public policy and interest, was unprecedented in Federal Courts, in that during the entire trial there were batteries of moving picture cameras, and sound recording instruments located in the Court Room itself.

The precautions taken by the Division in the transfer, safe-keeping, and guarding of the prisoners throughout the trial and prior thereto and until final delivery of the prisoners to their places of confinement was also extraordinary. Fortunately, due to such precautions no untoward event or escape occurred, with the exception of the jail break of Bailey who was recaptured after approximately 4 hours liberty.

OHIO STATE REFORMA  
MANSFIELD, OHIO

T. C. JENKINS, SUPERINTENDENT

21723

February 14, 1934.

Mr. J.E. Hoover, Director,  
United States Dept. Justice,  
Bureau of Identification,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Kindly forward to this department a photo of Kathryn Kelly, George Kelly, and Harvey J. Bailey. We have fingerprints and description on the above mentioned. Due to typewriter marks on the faces of the photos now in our files, we cannot make good reproductions.

Thanking you in advance and assuring you of my co-operation at all times, I remain,

Very truly yours,



E.C. Fuller, Supt.,  
Bureau of Criminal Identification.

RECORDED

7-115-1112

FEB 28 1934

FEB 28 1934

etc

1/23/34

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

From IDENTIFICATION UNIT

2/15 1934

To:  Director  
 Mr. Nathan  
 Mr. Tolson  
 Mr. Clegg  
 Miss Gandy  
 Chief, Unit 1  
 Chief Clerk  
 Printing Section  
 Files  
 Mr. \_\_\_\_\_

21722

*Send copies  
to 7.*

*[Signature]*

L. C. Schilder.



W

~~79-362~~ b7C

10  
+

February 23, 1934.

RECORDED 7-115-1112

21721

FEB 28 1934

Mr. E. C. Fuller, Superintendent,  
Bureau of Criminal Identification,  
Ohio State Reformatory,  
Mansfield, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Fullers:

In reply to your letter dated February 14, 1934,  
there are enclosed, herewith

- Identification Order 1189, Harvey J. Bailey,  
with aliases,
- Identification Order 1203, George R. Kelly,  
with aliases,
- Identification Order 1207, Kathryn Thorne  
Kelly, with aliases

Assuring you that this Division is always ready to  
cooperate with you in any way it possibly can, I am,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
Director.

*H*

Enclosure 686738

91

FILED  
FEB 28 1934  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1331 First Nat'l. Bldg.  
El Paso, Texas,  
February 23, 1934.

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

Re: TELEPHONE TAPS -  
Oklahoma City Office.

Dear Sir:

Having reference to Division form letter of February 17, 1934, I have received a letter from the Agent in Charge at Oklahoma City requesting me to furnish you with data as to the telephone taps maintained by the Oklahoma City office during my regime as agent in charge.

The only telephone taps maintained by that office while I was there occurred during the progress of the investigation of the kidnaping of Charles F. Urschel. These taps were installed and maintained by confidential arrangement with the telephone company who used their own operators and apparatus. The telephones covered at various times during the Urschel investigation, from about July 24th or 25th until the first part of October, 1933, were as follows:

Residence of [REDACTED]  
Telephone of T.B. Slick Estate, Colcord Bldg., Phone 2-4275;  
[REDACTED] Attorney, Perrine Building, Phone 7-7684;  
Mathers & Mathers, Attorneys, Equity Bldg., Phone 3-8485.

For a time there was also maintained a tap on the premises at 126 1/2 West Reno, known, I believe, as the Alpine Rooms. I cannot recall from memory the number of that telephone and it is not listed under the Alpine Rooms but in the name of the proprietress whose name I do not recall.

I cannot give from memory the dates during which these various taps were in operation. Authority to place them was obtained by either telephone or telegraph from the Director himself as to those first listed. The authority as to the tap at the Alpine Rooms, I believe, was granted verbally by Mr. Nathan, Assistant Director, while he was in Oklahoma City. The telephone dial recording instrument in the Oklahoma City office has never been used by that office.

Very truly yours,

FEB 27 1934

R. H. Colvin,  
Special Agent in Charge.

RHC:  
cc Oklahoma City.

7-115-1113  
FEB 27 1934  
H. C. Colvin  
SAC

All b7C

1531 First Nat'l. Bank Bldg.,  
El Paso, Texas,  
February 23, 1934.

Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U.S. Department of Justice,  
1216 Smith-Young Tower,  
San Antonio, Texas.

Re: GEO. KEELY BARNES, with aliases,  
et al. CHARLES F. URSCHEL, Victim -  
Kidnaping.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with previous understanding, I am forwarding herewith one copy of the modus operandi and solution report in re the Urschel kidnaping case and request that twenty-two (22) photostatic copies of same be prepared in your office and one mailed to each Division office, with the exception of El Paso and the Division. I have picked out for your use the clearest carbon copy we have.

This report was written almost entirely from memory and if there are any material discrepancies or divergencies from the facts which may be noticed by Agent in Charge Jones, who is as thoroughly familiar with the case as the writer, I would appreciate such variations being called to my attention.

Very truly yours,

R. H. Colvin,  
Special Agent in Charge.

RHC: **b7C**  
cc Division. ✓

7-115

FEB 28 1934 A

JWC *GR*

14

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# 223

Laboratory Report  
February 26, 1934.

Case: Unknown Subjects, [REDACTED] Victim;  
Kidnaping.

Number: 7-576

Specimens: 1 envelope addressed to [REDACTED] and postmarked Brooklyn,  
N.Y., 1-31-34 - two page letter enclosed beginning "The  
greatest shock of my life came" - page 2 beginning [REDACTED] is  
very ill", letter signed by [REDACTED].

New York Office.

Examination requested by:

Date received: February 16, 1934.

General and Fingerprint.

Examination requested:

Result of examination:

Examination by: C.A.Appel.

February 16. The envelope measures 6.49 by 5.68 inches and there is no  
water-mark. The letter was written on two pages of the letter-head of  
[REDACTED] Democratic Club Incorporated in Brooklyn. The stationery has  
already been identified.

The handwriting was compared with that of Clara Feldman and  
others in the Urschel case for the reason that it is the same style of  
writing and possesses some similarities. It, however, is not identical with  
that writing. Attention is invited to the composition and spelling in this  
letter indicating it was written by a person with little education.

THE ORIGINAL EVIDENCE WHICH WAS SUBMITTED IS BEING RETAINED  
IN THE LABORATORY FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS WHICH MAY BE DESIRED.  
SHOULD YOUR OFFICE DESIRE THIS ORIGINAL EVIDENCE FOR USE IN ANY SUBSEQUENT  
PROCEEDINGS WHICH MAY DEVELOP THE DIVISION SHOULD BE NOTIFIED IN AMPLE TIME  
TO PERMIT TRANSMITTAL.

3 - Laboratory (1 copy for Urschel file).  
4 - Director (1 copy for Urschel file).  
2 - New York.

All b7c

NOT RECORDED

7-115

P. O. Box #709  
Portland, Oregon

February 21, 1934

Special Agent in Charge  
Division of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Post Office Box #536  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Sir:

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases  
Charles F. Urschal - Victim  
Kidnaping

This office has for some time past been working upon information obtained indicating that Mrs. Clara Feldman, the woman who was living with subject Albert L. Bates at the time he was apprehended at Denver, Colorado, either has in her possession part of the ransom money collected by subject Bates or has definite knowledge as to the whereabouts of this money. Through investigation in this district it has been ascertained that Clara Feldman has been using the name of Ruth Johnson and Clara Feldman's son, Ed Feldman, is using the name of Axel G. Johnson. These two persons were last known to have been in Portland, Oregon in November, 1933 at which time they were driving a Chevrolet Cabriolet, motor number 3126905, bearing 1933 Oregon license plates number 101-555. In November, 1933 they were believed to have left Portland and gone to Chicago, Illinois and the Chicago office is conducting investigation at that point in an effort to locate Clara Feldman and Ed Feldman.

Clara Feldman has [redacted] whose name is [redacted] who resides at 3635 S. E. Tenino Street, Portland, Oregon with one A. H. Scott. A cover has been maintained on the mail at this address for some time past but little mail has passed through the postoffice department for delivery there. You will find enclosed a tracing of an envelope addressed to [redacted] post-marked at Ventura, California February 15, 1934 bearing return address, 1132 Poli Street, Apartment B., Ventura.

7-115  
DEPT. OF INVESTIGATION  
FEB 26 1934 A.  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
ONE FILE

All b7c

It is requested that cautious and discreet inquiry be made at Ventura to determine the identity of the writer of the letter in question from 1132 Poli Street and particularly to determine whether the writer could be Clara Feldman. In the event the party residing at that address is not Clara Feldman effort should be made to secure in a discreet manner information as to whether the party or parties residing there are closely related to her. If such close relationship is established a mail cover should be placed on all mail received

SAC - Los Angeles

- 2 -

2-21-54

at that address and tracings forwarded from time to time to this office.

There is enclosed herewith an old photograph of Clara Feldman which contains a partial description of her on the reverse thereof. For your information she is now approximately forty-five (45) years of age and it is believed that the photograph in question was taken at least twelve or fifteen years ago.

The best available description of Ed Feldman is as follows:

Age	About 28 or 29
Height	5 ft 9 in
Weight	150 to 155 lbs.
Hair	Fairly light with some curl
Eyes	Blue
Peculiarities	Scandinavian type Fairly prominent nose Smooth shaven

Please give the above matter as expeditious attention as possible.

Very truly yours,

CCS: [redacted]  
encl:  
cc-Division  
Oklahoma City  
7-7

C. G. SPEARS,  
Special Agent in Charge

All b7C

Dallas, Texas,  
Feb. 23, 1934.

Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U.S. Department of Justice,  
P.O. Box 1276,  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Dear Sir:

RE: LOUISE SEATON, With Aliases,  
Harboring Fugitives  
File No. 62 - 446.

7-115	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 26 1934	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

Inclosed herewith is report of Special Agent [redacted] dated Dallas, Texas, January 25, 1934.

On February 22, 1934, the Federal Grand Jury at Ft. Worth, Texas, returned an indictment against LOUISE SEATON, with Aliases, charging that on or about August 11, 1933, she conspired with George Barnes, Alias George Kelly, and with Katheryn Kelly, knowing them to be fugitives, for whom a warrant of arrest was outstanding, that they, the Kellys, should be harbored and avoid arrest, at Brownwood, Texas, and among other overt acts the indictment alleges that on or about August 17th, 1933, pursuant to the conspiracy, she, LOUISE SEATON, purchased a 1928 Chevrolet Sedan Automobile, from [redacted] at Brownwood, Texas.

It is assumed that Louise Seaton can be located through her mother at Milburn, Oklahoma, and when apprehended she should be questioned and a statement obtained detailing all of her associations with the Kellys during the time Mr. Urschel was held by his kidnapers, and up to the time of the arrest of George and Katheryn Barnes, alias Kelly.

It is thought that she remained at the home of Katheryn Barnes, alias Kelly, in Ft. Worth, during the time Mr. Urschel was held captive at the Shannon farm near Paradise, Texas.

It is suggested that the Agent who interviews the Subject should first read report of Special Agent [redacted] dated Dallas August 28, 1933, in the Urschel Kidnapping case.

United States Attorney Clyde Eastus advised the Dallas Division Office on this date that bond for Louise Magness Seaton was fixed at \$5,000.00 and is returnable to the San Angelo Division of the Northern District of Texas.

All  
b7c

The next regular term of Court at San Angelo is set for the fourth Monday in April, 1934. However, Mr. Eastus advised that the bond is made for instanter appearance.

Very truly yours,

F. J. Blake  
Special Agent in Charge.

██████ b7c

62-446-

cc Division



COPY

1900 Bankers Building,  
Chicago Illinois

February 23, 1934

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

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of February 17, 1934, which requested list of all wire taps which have been installed by this office since January 1, 1933. The records of this office indicate that the following telephones were tapped on the dates indicated, and in connection with the cases named.

June 25, 1933 and for a few days thereafter.  
Telephone [redacted] listed in the name of [redacted] Winthrop Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, in connection with the case entitled: Verne C. Miller with aliases (deceased) et al. Conspiracy to deliver escaped Federal Prisoner.

June 26 to 30, 1933 inclusive.  
Telephone [redacted] listed in the name of [redacted] West Van Buren Street, Chicago, Illinois, in connection with the case entitled; Verne C. Miller with aliases (deceased) et al. Conspiracy to deliver escaped Federal Prisoner. At this address resided two women, known as [redacted] and [redacted] who were friends of Harvey Bailey. This tap was placed on specific authorization of Mr. Hughes by telephone.

July 1 to 17, 1933 inclusive.  
Telephone [redacted] This telephone is for [redacted] and [redacted] Chicago, Illinois. In connection with case entitled: Verne C. Miller with aliases (deceased) et al. Conspiracy to deliver escaped Federal Prisoner.

*Tap - [unclear]*

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-12114

All b7C

RECORDED

~~INDEXED~~

MAR 6 1934

7-115-1114	
FEB 27 1934	
SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

July 3 to 12, 1933 inclusive  
Telephone [REDACTED] which is  
the telephone of [REDACTED] Melrose Park,  
Illinois. In connection with case entitled:  
Verne C. Miller with aliases (deceased) et al.  
Conspiracy to deliver escaped Federal Prisoner.

July 7, 1933 and for several days thereafter.  
Telephone [REDACTED] listed in the name of  
[REDACTED] South Oakley Street,  
Chicago, Illinois, in connection with cases  
entitled: Verne C. Miller with aliases  
(deceased) et al. Conspiracy to deliver  
escaped Federal Prisoner.

September 23 to October 9, 1933 inclusive.  
Telephone [REDACTED]. This is telephone of  
[REDACTED] Hermitage Avenue,  
Chicago, Illinois. In connection with case  
entitled: Verne C. Miller with aliases  
(deceased) et al. Conspiracy to deliver  
escaped Federal Prisoner.

September 27, 1933 and approximately one week  
thereafter. Telephone [REDACTED]. This is  
telephone of [REDACTED] Indiana  
Avenue. At the same time a tap was maintained  
on telephone [REDACTED], which is the  
telephone of hotel operated by [REDACTED]  
745 South State Street, Chicago, Illinois.  
Both of these taps in connection with case  
entitled: Verne C. Miller with aliases  
(deceased) et al. Conspiracy to deliver  
escaped Federal Prisoner.

October 7 to 16, 1933 inclusive.  
Telephone [REDACTED]. This is telephone  
of [REDACTED] Kenwood Avenue,  
Chicago, Illinois. Telephone Webster 3397.  
This is telephone at the Michigan Avenue Tavern  
operated by [REDACTED] at 1150 South Michigan  
Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. These two taps were  
placed in connection with case entitled:  
George Kelly Barnes with aliases, et al  
Charles Urschel, Victim, kidnaping.

All b7C

October 15 to 17, 1933 inclusive. Tap on telephone Austin Hall, River Forest, Illinois. In connection with case entitled: Unknown Subjects. [REDACTED] Victim, Kidnaping.

October 29, 1933. Telephone [REDACTED] Telephone at the hotel operated by [REDACTED] South State Street, Chicago, Illinois. In connection with case entitled: Verne C. Miller with aliases (deceased) et al. Conspiracy to deliver escaped Federal prisoner.

October 29 to November 1, 1933, inclusive. Tap on telephone at the apartment of [REDACTED] in the Sherone Apartments, 4423 Sheridan Road, Chicago, Illinois. In connection with case entitled: Verne C. Miller with aliases (deceased) et al. Conspiracy to deliver escaped Federal prisoner. Telephonic authority received from the Director to place this tap.

November 1, 1933. Tap on telephone in the apartment of [REDACTED], Sherone Apartments at 4423 Sheridan Road, Chicago, Illinois. In connection with case entitled: Verne C. Miller with aliases (deceased) et al. Conspiracy to deliver escaped Federal Prisoner.

November 2 to 5, 1933, inclusive. Tap on telephone in the apartment of [REDACTED] in the Sherone Apartments at 4423 Sheridan Road, Chicago, Illinois; in connection with case entitled: Verne C. Miller with aliases (deceased) et al. Conspiracy to deliver escaped Federal prisoner.

November 17 to 22, 1933 inclusive. Telephone [REDACTED] which is the apartment of [REDACTED] West Washington Blvd., Chicago, Illinois. In connection with case entitled: [REDACTED] with aliases, National Motor Vehicle Theft Act.

In the event a tap on any telephone wires becomes necessary

All b7c

in the future, authority from the Director will be requested before taking steps to install such taps.

Very truly yours,

W. A. SMITH, Acting  
Special Agent in Charge.

WAS  b7c

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# 578

Laboratory Report  
February 24, 1934.

Case: Edward Doll, with aliases, Fugitive,  
I. O. #1814.

Number: 7-578

Specimens: 1 agreement between G. Kelly and Cesarro Spinose  
signed by George Kelly.

Boston Office.

Examination requested by:

February 17, 1934.

Date received:

Handwriting.

Examination requested:

Examination by: C.A.Appel.

Result of examination:

February 19. A comparison of the handwriting with that of George R. (Machine Gun) Kelly indicates that the latter is distinctly different. A comparison was made with the signature of Edward Doll as it appears on I. O. #1814. A signature such as this one does not show enough of the normal characteristics to enable a decision to be made; however, some of the characteristics are very similar; for instance, wherever he writes "ll", Doll makes the first "l" very much smaller than the second and the curve between the first and second is distinctive. This appears in the agreement. The slant is the same, the manner of making the "r", and several other characteristics so that it may be said Doll could very easily have written the agreement. If additional specimens of the handwriting of Doll are obtained a more positive conclusion may be made.

- 4 - Director (1 copy for Kelly file).
- 2 - Boston.
- 3 - Laboratory (1 copy for Kelly file).

NOT RECORDED

7-115

SPC  
7-115

b7C

February 26, 1934

Mr. R. H. Colvin,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
1331 First National Bank Building,  
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Sir:

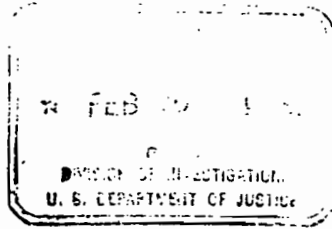
It is requested that you advise the Division when the report covering the modus operandi of the kidnapers and the methods of solution used in the investigation of the Charles F. Urschel kidnaping case has been prepared and forwarded to the various Division offices.

The Division believes that the preparation of this report has been inexcusably delayed.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Director.



PC

Handwritten signature or initials

RECORDED

7-115-1115  
27  
FILE

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# 381

Laboratory Report

February 23, 1934.

Case: George Kelley Barnes with aliases, et al,  
Charles F. Urschel, Victim; Extortion.

Number: 7-115

Specimens: Handwriting specimens of Eugene H. Simmons.

Examination requested by: St. Louis Office.

Date received: February 15, 1934.

Examination requested: Handwriting.

Result of examination:

Examination by: C.A. Appel.

February 16.

The handwriting of Simmons is positively identical with that  
on the letter to Bailey and Bates.

3 - Director ✓  
2 - St. Louis.  
2 - Laboratory.

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

COPIES DESTROYED  
20 MAR 16 1965

MAR 2 1934

7-115-1116	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
MAR 1 1934 P.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
FILE	

7  
b7C  
SPC: 7-115 - 1116

February 27, 1934

MAR 2 1934

RECEIVED

Special Agent in Charge,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
801 Title Guaranty Building,  
St. Louis, Missouri.

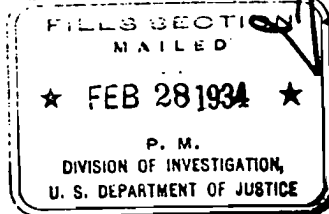
RE: GEORGE KELLEY BARNES with aliases, et al,  
CHARLES F. URSCHEL, Victim,  
EXTORTION.

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith the laboratory report covering the examination of specimens submitted by your office in connection with the above entitled matter and received in the Division on February 15, 1934.

Very truly yours,

*J. Edgar Hoover*



Director.

Enclosure: 681956.

*Q*

*Spe*

*H*



WILLIAM STANLEY  
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Department of Justice  
Washington

MR. NATHAN	.....
MR. TOLSON	.....
MR. CLEGG	..... ✓
MR. COWLEY	.....
MR. EDWARDS	.....
MR. SCAN	.....
MR. QUINN	.....
MR. LESTER	.....
MR. LOCKE	.....
MR. HORER	.....

FEBRUARY  
13th,  
1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER

What do you think of the attached?

I am inclined to be against it.

William Stanley,  
The Assistant to the Attorney General.

RECORDED

MAR 2 - 1934

*22*  
*all*  
*my*  
*my*  
*my*

7-115-1119	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 27 1934	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
CLERK	FILE

SANFORD BATES

DIRECTOR

COPY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF PRISONS

February 10, 1934

MEMORANDUM TO MR. STANLEY

I return herewith letter of Henry Clay Agnew which has just been received here with your notation and with Mr. Keenan's approval of the request.

I have only two objections to make to this procedure:

First, it has not been our practice to permit private interests or lawyers apart from prosecuting attorneys to interview inmates for the purpose of making evidence.

Second, in cases like this there is always a tendency for a man who is in prison serving a long sentence to confess to the crime with which another man is charged for the purpose of securing an acquittal and later on repudiating his own confession. I remember this very thing was done some years ago by a man named Murphy in Philadelphia.

If the interview is permitted, of course, it should be held not to establish any precedent of this sort and if you or Mr. Keenan will drop me a line to the effect that you think the circumstances warrant an exception being made to the rule and will indicate the conditions under which the interview should be permitted, I will promptly give the necessary instructions.

Respectfully,

(S) Sanford Bates

Director.

7-115-1117

COPY

HENRY CLAY AGNEW  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
1815 Smith Tower  
Seattle

February 2, 1934

Attorney General's Office,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: Alfred Bates  
Leavenworth Penitentiary

Gentlemen:

I have employed the Burns Detective Agency, Kansas City, Missouri, to interview Alfred Bates. I have delivered to them, among other things, a letter from Anthony Savage, United States District Attorney for this district, requesting the Warden to grant this interview.

The Warden received the Manager of the Burns Agency with great courtesy but informed him that no one was allowed to interview Bates without special permission from the Attorney General.

I do not desire that the interview be private. In fact I very much prefer to have as many persons witness the interview as would be willing to. I also am willing to have the Warden or any other offices supervise the interview and stop it immediately, if, in his judgment, it is in any way improper or in any way in conflict with the interest of the government.

The purpose of the interview is to see whether Bates or his confederates were guilty of the hold-up of the Railway Express Agency, in Tacoma, Washington, March 26, 1932. Another man stands charged with this offense. I believe that I have convincing proof that Bates and his confederates are guilty of this offense. Under the circumstances I would be very much pleased to have a representative of your office sit in at the interview.

If you see fit to grant me this permission, I would appreciate it if you would communicate directly with the office of the Burns Detective Agency, Kansas City, Missouri. Although I am engaged in this case in the defense of a person accused of crime, everything I am doing is open and above board and I welcome the most rigid scrutiny. For reference as to my personal reliability, I refer you to my personal friend, Will G. Beardsley, who is I believe at present employed in your office. It is very important to me that you make a prompt decision.

Respectfully yours,

(S) Henry Clay Agnew

HENRY CLAY AGNEW

HCA:MB

13

All  
b7C

February 26, 1934

7-115-1117

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

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

MAR 2 1934

Reference is made to the attached correspondence relating to the request of attorney [redacted] of Seattle, Washington, for authority for representatives of the Burns Detective Agency to interview Alfred Bates, a prisoner in the Leavenworth Penitentiary.

It occurs to me that if [redacted] has information concerning the robbery of the Railway Express Agency, at Tacoma, Washington, and in the event there were any interstate shipments involved in this robbery, if this information is turned over to the Special Agents of this Division they can make the necessary inquiries relative to the matter if it should fall under Federal jurisdiction. In the event this matter does not fall within the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice, however, I am inclined to agree with the suggestions of Mr. Sanford Bates, that it would likely be unwise to permit such an interview as the one requested.

Very truly yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover  
Director.

777 24 1934

Enclosure 683401

N  
C

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

P. O. Box 515,  
St. Paul, Minnesota.

February 26, 1934.

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

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that Special Agent R. C. Coulter has been subpoenaed to appear in Federal Court at St. Paul at 10:00 a.m., March 1, 1934, in the case of United States versus Thomas Banks, et al, which is in connection with a conspiracy charge in connection with liquor law violations and internal revenue violations. The testimony expected from Mr. Coulter is relative to the fact that in a conversation with [redacted] he was told that \$1,800, of which part was Urschel ransom money, was to be used for the purchase of liquor.

Mr. Coulter has informed the United States Attorney handling the case that any information obtained by him in connection with the Urschel kidnaping investigation which had to do with liquor law violations was considered not to be used for any prosecutive purpose in that that information was given merely in connection with the Urschel case. For your further information, all these subjects who have been questioned by agents of this office during the Urschel kidnaping investigation were informed that we were not interested in any of their law violations concerning liquor. I feel that Mr. Coulter should not be called upon to testify in any liquor law prosecution on information obtained by him in the Urschel kidnaping case.

Will you please give this matter your consideration and advise me as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

*Werner Hanni*

WERNER HANNI,  
Special Agent in Charge.

All

WH: [redacted] b7c

Spec. Delivery

RECORDED & INDEXED

7-115-1118

FEB 28 1934

TOLSON

FILE

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 66-200-1

27

b7c

RECORDED 7-115-1118

FEBRUARY 28 1934

MAR 3 1934

WERNER HANKE  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
203 POST OFFICE BUILDING  
ST PAUL MINNESOTA

RE SUBPOENA COULTER LIQUOR CASE CRIMINAL DIVISION TELEPHONED  
USA THERE TODAY USA ADVISED COULTER NOT NECESSARY WITNESS  
PLEASE CONFER WITH USA FOR VERIFICATION

HOOVER

RECORDED

COPY FILED IN 65-2529

*[Handwritten scribbles]*

6348  
FEBRUARY

*[Handwritten signature]*

# UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

104234

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

DALLAS, TEXAS.

FILE NO. 62-446-

REPORT MADE AT: <b>DALLAS, TEXAS,</b>	DATE WHEN MADE: <b>2-28-34</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <b>2-28-34</b>	REPORT MADE BY: <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE: <b>LOUISE SEATON, with aliases.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE: <b>HARBORING FUGITIVES.</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject as Louise Clark purchased through Western Union, Ft. Worth, Texas, airplane ticket to Des Moines, Iowa, August 11, 1933. On August 12, 1933, she left Ft. Worth by United Airlines. Pilot [REDACTED] Co-Pilot [REDACTED] and Steward - a [REDACTED] Ft. Worth, Texas, has record of a ticket showing Louise Clark's address as 857 E. Mulkey Street, Ft. Worth, Texas.

P.

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Dallas, Texas, dated 1-25-34; and Division letter, dated February 1, 1934, transmitting Louise Seaton's criminal record.

All  
b7c

**DETAILS:**

It has been developed that [REDACTED] Western Union Office, Ft. Worth, Texas, can identify Louise Seaton as the person who under the name of Louise Clark received a Western Union Money Order No. 8564, on August 11, 1933, and a message signed Kathryn Moore, transmitting her \$150.00, instructing [REDACTED] to meet the sender at Des Moines, Iowa; and on August 11, 1933, the person Louise Clark, through the Western Union, purchased a ticket over the United Airlines from Ft. Worth, Texas to Des Moines, Iowa; that the person Louise Clark left Ft. Worth on the 10:20 AM Plane, August 12, 1933, giving her address as 857 E. Mulkey Street, Ft. Worth (former residence of Kathryn Kelly and George Kelly); these records may be obtained from [REDACTED] United Air Lines Office at Ft. Worth, Texas.

She was accompanied on this plane by [REDACTED] Pilot; [REDACTED] Co-Pilot, and a [REDACTED] Stewardess.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:  <i>F. J. Bean</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1119	RECORDED AND INDEXED: <b>MAR - 8 1934</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:		UNITED STATES	CHECKED OFF: <b>MAR 6 - 1934</b>
Division.....2	Kansas City.....2	<b>MAR 3 1934 AM</b>	JACKETED:
San Antonio....2	Oklahoma City.....2		
Chicago.....2	Dallas.....2		
U.S. Atty. Ft. Worth.1		BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
		ROUTED TO:	
		one <i>CAF</i>	

COPIES DESTROYED  
205 MAR 16 1965

101232

Louise Seaton, Ft. Worth P.D. No. 2703, has the following criminal record as shown by the Identification Unit at Washington, D. C.:

PD, Fort Worth, Texas.	Louise Seaton, #2703	4-24-23	Inv. & shoplifting.
PD, Houston, Tex.	Louise Magness, #7070	5-25-27	burg. and fel. theft
PD, Des Moines, IO.	Esther Magness, #5956	8-1-27	inv.
PD, San Antonio, Texas.	Louise Magness, #5414	7-13-29	burg. - agg. assault. Trans. to Co.
PD, Grand Rapids, Mich.	Louise Magness, #5326	11-6-30	shoplifting

(Long Police Record in San Antonio, Texas. (As on Print #5414)  
 Admits being arrested in St. Louis and Omaha, Nebr. (As on print #5414)  
 Louise Magness, #3821-A, San Antonio, Texas, 2-12-27, assault to murder.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

DALLAS OFFICE at Ft. Worth, Texas, will ascertain disposition of cases in above record.

SAN ANTONIO OFFICE will ascertain the disposition of case for which he was arrested at San Antonio and Houston, Texas.

KANSAS CITY OFFICE will ascertain disposition of case on which Seaton was arrested at Des Moines, Iowa.

CHICAGO OFFICE will ascertain disposition of case on which subject was arrested at Grand Rapids, Michigan.

PENDING.



U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

1900 Bankers Building,  
Chicago, Illinois  
February 28, 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. DURSCHEL, Victim,  
Kidnaping.

Reference is made to Division letter dated November 9, 1933, which enclosed a copy of a letter from [redacted] Kalamazoo, Michigan, addressed to [redacted] Chicago, Illinois.

Special Agent [redacted] interviewed [redacted] at her residence at [redacted] Kalamazoo, Michigan. She advised that she was married to James E. O'Donnell at Battle Creek, Michigan during the year 1924, that she had a great deal of trouble with him, and upon one occasion, he almost took her life. Due to the terrible abuse of her husband, she left him about eight years ago, and the last time she heard from him was in February, 1926, from some town in Ohio, and she does not know where he is at the present time.

[redacted] stated that she saw in the newspaper an account where Jim O'Donell, sometimes spelled O'Donnell, was mixed up in the Urschel kidnaping case; that since her husband was a drinking man, gambled and went with bad women and did a great deal of fighting, she was not sure whether this Jim O'Donell was her husband or not, and for that reason wrote the letter above-mentioned to [redacted] of Chicago, Illinois, and asked that she be furnished with a picture of Jim O'Donell, so that she could make sure of the identity of this man, and if it was her husband, she would be able to tell of his past life, and assist the Government in this way.

[redacted] stated that subsequent to October 30, 1933, the date of her letter to [redacted] she saw a photo of Jim O'Donell in the CHICAGO HERALD-EXAMINER, an issue prior to the date she wrote the letter, and the picture of Jim O'Donell was not that of her husband. She claimed her husband had a long face, while this man had a round face.

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

MAR 7 - 1934

7-115-1120
EX-107
MAR 3 1934
OLBAG
Jme
SAC

All  
b7C

COPIES DESTROYED  
20.5 MAR 16 1965

[REDACTED] stated that her husband had taken out two insurance policies of \$360 each with the Western and Southern Insurance Co. of Mishawaka, Indiana, wherein she was named the beneficiary; that she had kept the premiums up on the policies until a few years ago when she allowed them to lapse and she was anxious to know whether her husband was dead, for she would like to collect the value of the policies.

The following description of her husband was obtained by Agent during the interview:

Age: 42 years.  
Weight: 142 pounds  
Build: 5 feet 5-1/2 inches  
Color eyes: Blue  
Color hair: Brown  
Complexion: Fair (red cheeks)  
Occupation: Horse trader and gambler.  
Condition teeth: Good  
Peculiarities: Very quick temper  
Marital Status: Married: [REDACTED] RR #7, Kalamazoo, Mich.  
Nationality: Irish-American  
Race: White  
Nativity: New York State  
Scars: 1" scar thru left eyebrow, Tattooed nude woman on forearm  
Criminal Record: Police Dept., South Bend, Ind.  
Relatives: Cousin: [REDACTED] Cleveland, Ohio

All b7C

[REDACTED] stated that since she has not heard from her husband in 8 years, she has no way of knowing whether he has been mixed up in the Urschel kidnaping case or any other Federal violation. She stated that if she ever got any information that would link him up with any violation, she would be glad to communicate with the Chicago Division Office, the name and address being furnished her for this purpose.

Very truly yours,

*M. H. Furvis*

M. H. FURVIS,  
Special Agent in Charge.

P. O. Box 709  
Portland, Oregon

March 2, 1934

All Division offices  
excepting Dallas, St. Louis and Chicago

Dear Sir:

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

This office and the Chicago office have been endeavoring to locate Mrs. Clara Feldman, the woman who was living with subject Albert Bates at the time he was apprehended at Denver, Colorado in August, 1933, in connection with the above case. In August, 1933, they were living as Mr. and Mrs. George L. Davis.

Through investigation in this district, it has been ascertained that Clara Feldman has for the past six months been using the name of Ruth Johnson, and her son, Ed Feldman, who is traveling with her, is using the name of Axel C. Johnson. These two persons are known to have been in Portland in November, 1933, at which time they were in possession of a Chevrolet Cabriolet Motor #3126905, serial 6 BA 0314291, and carrying 1933 Oregon license plates 101-555. This car, when purchased, was of light tan or cream color, trimmed in a dark shade of brown. It had black fenders, cloth top and one spare wire wheel on the rear, and was a 1932 model. In November, 1933, these persons left Portland and returned to Chicago, Illinois. Investigation at Chicago developed definite information that Clara Feldman was in Chicago but no accurate information has been secured as to the present whereabouts of Clara Feldman and Ed Feldman.

At the time these parties left Oregon, a statement was made that they intended to register the Chevrolet Cabriolet in the state of Illinois, in order to obtain 1934 license plates. However, investigation by the Chicago and St. Louis offices has

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

MAR 9 - 1934

7-115-1121
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 6 1934 A.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
inc <i>[Signature]</i> FILE

*[Handwritten mark]*

2.

3-2-34

developed no record of this car having been registered under the motor or serial number or under the known aliases of Clara Feldman or her son, Ed Feldman.

Recent information was obtained by this office through a letter mailed at Bellingham, Washington, indicating that Clara Feldman was in this part of the country, but a thorough investigation at Bellingham failed to reflect her whereabouts.

It is accordingly requested that immediate contact be had with automobile registration bureaus in your district to ascertain whether there is a record of 1934 registration of the above described Chevrolet Cabriolet or a registration under the name of Ruth Johnson or Axel C. Johnson. It is believed altogether probable that if this car is registered, it will be registered by Axel C. Johnson as the title papers for the car are in that name and it is not believed that Clara Feldman or Ed Feldman are aware of the fact that the Division has information as to the aliases they are using.

For your information, Clara Feldman is believed to be in possession of a substantial portion of Albert Bates' share of the Urschel ransom money, and this investigation is being conducted in an effort to trace this money in her possession to the ultimate end that both she and Ed Feldman may be prosecuted in the state of Oklahoma in connection with the instant case. It is, of course, likewise desired to recover any of the ransom money which may be found in possession of either of these persons.

In the event your office locates any information on the registration of this car, please notify this office immediately by telegraph, furnishing full details.

Very truly yours,

C. C. SPEARS,  
Special Agent in Charge.

CCS. *b7C*  
7-7

cc-Division ✓

St. Louis - for information only.  
Chicago - for information only.

Letter sent to all Division offices  
with exception of Dallas, St. Louis and Chicago.