

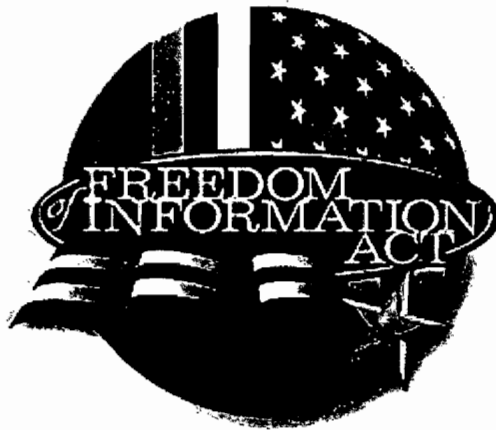
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS**

SUBJECT: GEORGE BARNES

(AKA "MACHINE GUN KELLY")

FILE: 7-115

PART 14 OF 23



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

NOTICE

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WESTER UNION (12)

or Cable-
less its de-
character is in-
d by a suitable
sign above or preced-
ing the address.

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

NY - Night Letter
LC - Deferred Cable
NLT - Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at 708 14th St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

1934 DEC 18 PM 8 15

CA212 16 GOVT=OKLAHOMACITY OKLA 18 633P

29094

DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

US DEPT OF JUSTICE PENNSYLVANIA AVE AT 9 ST NORTHWEST

WASHDC=

b7C

UNSCHL KIDNAPPING AGENTS [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED]

RETURNED THIS EVENING FROM DENVER WITH

EDWARD FELDMAN

BRANTLEY.

RECORDED
INDEXED

DEC 20 1934

7-115-1467
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 6 1934
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Covley
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy

WESTERN UNION MESSENGERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE DELIVERY OF NOTES AND PACKAGES

b7c

December 17, 1934

29095

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

You will note that the attached clipping is of an article which appeared in the Washington Evening Star for Thursday, December 13, 1934. It practically discloses the confidential work which our Agents have been doing on the Urschel case and in particular the developments at Oklahoma City. It is my recollection that specific instructions were issued to our Agents that this matter should be handled with the utmost secrecy. Yet you will note from this article that the name of the principal informant, the younger Feldman, has been disclosed to the press with some other details.

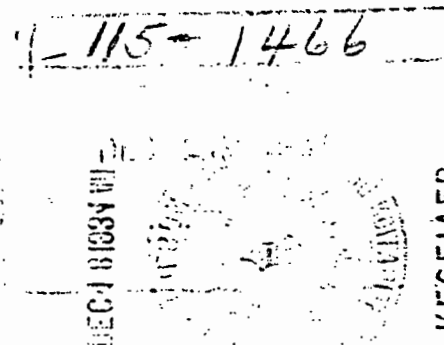
Please make inquiry of the Oklahoma City Office as to how this information reached the press.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

1 copy

RECORDED
&
INDEXED



335 pms

JEH: b7C

December 17, 1934.

Time-2:24 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Mr. Nathan telephoned, as per my instructions, to advise me of any developments arising out of the arrest of Ben Laska in Denver, Colorado. Mr. Nathan stated that they were able to get into Laska's safe deposit box; that he voluntarily gave them the key; but that when they opened it, they didn't find anything.

Mr. Nathan advised that the only thing they found at Ben Laska's office was a diary, so far; that they hadn't found any ransom money, of course; but that in the diary were several recordings of the name of Axel C. Johnson, and Axel C. Johnson was the alias which Laska told the Feldman boy to use, according to the Feldman boy's statement; that in the diary also was a notation reading "Money order, but not cash, because Urachel ransom money"; that he didn't know what the notation meant but thought it might be worth going into. Mr. Nathan said they also found in Laska's office an account of a payment by Bates/Laska of \$2,000.00 early last August.

I inquired how Laska acted when he was arrested. Mr. Nathan said Laska was a "wise bird"; that he had instructed the men to bring Laska right over to the office, which they did, and that he immediately began questioning him. Laska said to Mr. Nathan, "Now, here, you might think you are talking to one of my clients". Mr. Nathan stated that his line of attack was that he told Laska that he knew he held the opinion that anybody participating in the division of ransom money, after the kidnaping, would be charged with conspiracy; and if he had any knowledge to the contrary as a result of his legal training and ability, he, Mr. Nathan, would be glad to have him admit it and fight it out along that line. Mr. Nathan said that he talked with Laska about an hour and a half; that Laska said that he was a lawyer; and that he had nothing to say and nothing to admit. Laska did admit, however, that the Feldman boy had called on him on two occasions and Clara Feldman had called on him on one occasion; and in other ways he admitted several details of his relationship with them.

Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Baughman.....
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Cowley.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Keith.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Schilder.....
Mr. Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....

I told Mr. Nathan that I thought it was very important that the Feldmans be kept in a good frame of mind. Mr. Nathan agreed and said that the boy was up there then and things were going nicely.

I inquired as to the publicity of the ~~INDEXED~~ ^{RECORDED}. I stated that I hadn't seen any papers as yet; that I had only seen the announcement of the arrest over the teletype. Mr. Nathan stated that the release he had given the papers contained just about everything. I stated that he should give out the information from there as we did not intend to make any statement here.

7-1-1467

Telephone call
Mr. Nathan- Denver

12/17/34

-2-

I asked Mr. Nathan if Laska had made bond yet. Mr. Nathan stated that they had him in the office all morning and that he had just been taken over. I instructed Mr. Nathan to fix the bond as high as possible. Mr. Nathan stated that Oklahoma City wanted him and so did we; that Oklahoma City had set \$50,000.00 bond for Mathers; that they didn't want to set it any higher. I stated that it would be all right to get him in Oklahoma City.

Mr. Nathan advised that he wanted to personally go to Laska's home and office and see that there was nothing left undone. 29000

I instructed Mr. Nathan to let me know if any developments appeared later today. I further stated that if the press were allowed to take any pictures of the prisoner, our men should get in on it and not the Marshals. Mr. Nathan stated that three of our men were with Laska.

Mr. Nathan said that he was going out for a while, over to the Commissioner's office. I asked him to let me know concerning the bond.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

1 copy

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Cowley
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
.....

JEH: *b7C*

December 17, 1934.

Time-4:32 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Mr. Nathan telephoned from Denver, Colorado and stated that the Commissioner was holding Ben Laska for a hearing on January 2nd with a \$50,000.00 bond. Ben Laska put up the plea that the bond was exhorbitant, and he said that he could never raise it. Mr. Nathan said that after everything was all settled, Laska asked to be taken to the Judge. Mr. Nathan said that in spite of Laska's plea that he couldn't make bond, he felt that he would be able to make it within twenty-four hours.

I instructed Mr. Nathan to handle the publicity angle of the matter very carefully as that would have much to do with a case of this sort. Mr. Nathan said that he had seen one copy of the newspaper report of it and it looked very good.

Mr. Nathan stated that the two Agents from Oklahoma City would return there tonight and the Feldman boy would go with them; that if the Feldman boy had to be back for the hearing January 2nd, he could be brought back.

Mr. Nathan remarked that he would probably remain in Denver another day or so. I asked him to call me again tomorrow.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

1 copy

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Edwards	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Schilder	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-10-1469

DEC 18 1934

[Handwritten signature]

29090

Portland, Oregon,
December 7, 1934
Western Union--Telegram

D BRANTLEY
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
244 FEDERAL BUILDING
OKLAHOMA CITY OKLAHOMA

b7C

RE^O URSCHER CASE SUBJECTS ALVIN H^O SCOTT AND [REDACTED] ORDERED
REMOVED TODAY AND LEAVING CUSTODY MARSHALS WITH CLARA^O FELDMAN ARRIVING
OKLAHOMA CITY TUESDAY STOP I WILL ARRIVE MONDAY WITH ED^O FELDMAN STOP
WILL ADVISE FURTHER FROM DENVER.

Chg.off.gov.bus.
Division of Investigation
U S Department of Justice
411 U S Court House

SEARS

cc Division

7-115
DEC 17 1934
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

29081

Portland, Oregon,
December 7, 1934
Western Union—Telegram

J C NEWMAN
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
422 MIDLAND SAVINGS BUILDING
DENVER COLORADO

HAVE AGENT MEETING RE BRING LARGE SEARCH LIGHT

SPEARS

Unack'd

chg. off. gov. bus.
Division of Investigation
U S Department of Justice
411 U S Court House

cc Division

7-115

DEC 17 1934
ONE
[Signature]

JEH:

b7C

December 17, 1934.

Time-12:55 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

29088

I telephoned the Attorney General and advised him that we had arrested Ben Laska and James C. Mathers this morning; and that the story would come out in the Denver papers by reason of the return of the search warrants.

I stated that Ben Laska was arrested in Denver, Colorado and that at the present time, our men were searching his home, and his office, and endeavoring to get into his safe deposit box; and that Mathers was arrested in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. I remarked that the two men were arrested simultaneously; that I had secret indictments returned last week in order to protect us thoroughly on all legal action; that the indictments were not served yesterday because there was some question as to their legality when served on Sunday.

I advised the Attorney General that Ben Laska and James C. Mathers were the Attorneys for the "Machine Gun Kelly" crowd during the trial following the Urschel Kidnaping Case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Baughman.....
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Cowley.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Keith.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Schlader.....
Mr. Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....

1 copy

7-115-1470

luc

RECORDED & INDEXED

gnd

Jan: b7C

December 17, 1934

Time-11:30 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. Tamm

29087

Mr. Nathan telephoned from Denver and advised that he had just learned that the arrest of Ben Laska had been made without any trouble. Mr. Nathan stated that the men were going over the house and would also go through the safe deposit box; that they might have some trouble in regard to the safe deposit box as the person in charge of the box refused to sign an affidavit that Laska had a safe deposit box there; but that he had, however, instructed his men to go through the box and not to let anyone in during that time.

I inquired if he, Mr. Nathan, had flashed Oklahoma City to make the arrest there also and Mr. Nathan said that he had.

I further asked Mr. Nathan if it had been released to the papers. Mr. Nathan stated that the newspaper reporters would not get there for fifteen or twenty minutes yet. I instructed him to give them the story.

Time-12:00-Noon

Mr. Nathan called again and advised that he had heard from SAC Brantley at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and Mr. Brantley had informed him that they had effected the arrest of the man there also.

Mr. Nathan stated that he had released the story to the newspapers, and everything was going along smoothly. I requested Mr. Nathan to keep me informed of developments in the case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

RECORDED & INDEXED

1 copy

Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Laughman.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Cowley.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Keith.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Schilder.....
Mr. Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....

7-115-1471

DEC 22 1934

December 17, 1934.

JEN

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM.

Time 3:40 PM

All b7C

Mr. Nathan telephoned from Denver and advised that the bond of Laska had been fixed at \$50,000; that a hearing was scheduled for noon tomorrow; that he had ascertained from the newspapers that the bond of Mathers at Oklahoma City had been reduced from \$25,000 to \$10,000 and that this might influence the Judge at Denver to reduce Laska's bond. I advised Mr. Nathan that I had not heard from Oklahoma City regarding the reduction of the bond, but that I would like to see that every effort is made to keep the bond of Laska at the present figure; that in my opinion we should fight every attempt of these two men in any direction which they might take.

Mr. Nathan stated that the publicity at Denver was very favorable to the Division, as a matter of fact the Division was the only agency mentioned in connection with the case. Mr. Nathan further advised that he had been interviewed by several representatives of the "Rocky Mountain News"; that, at their request, they took several pictures of Special Agents in Charge Newman and Spears and of Special Agent [redacted] and also of Feldman; that they had questioned Mr. Nathan and while doing so mentioned several things which were to be used in the trial, having information about the money which was found under a rug in the Biltmore Hotel in Oklahoma City and also of the fact that the boy had given Laska a phoney map which indicated the money was buried near Cheyenne, Wyoming. Mr. Nathan stated that this information had not emanated from the Denver office and that he had later ascertained that it had come from the United States Attorney, a man named Rogers, he having admitted to Mr. Nathan that he had given it out to the press. Mr. Nathan stated that he had requested the United States Attorney, in a diplomatic way, to keep from the press any further information which would be used at the trial. I advised Mr. Nathan that the release of this information was quite embarrassing, due to the fact that I had given it to the Attorney General this evening with the Request that it be kept confidential.

Mr. Nathan stated that they had completed a search of the house and the office of Laska; that nothing was found at the house, but at the office they had found some things which can be used, among which was a registration card given by Feldman to Laska for the purpose of having the registration name changed to Johnson, and also a telegram believed to be in Laska's handwriting which indicated an address in Chicago to which Feldman was going and several other things which fit in well with the evidence already on hand, and which is convincing evidence for a jury.

I instructed Mr. Nathan to get in touch with Mr. Brantley and instruct him to keep the Division advised of any developments such as the reduction of bond in Mathers case.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy

Telephone call from Mr. Nathan
Denver. 12/17/ 34

-2-

Mr. Nathan stated that everything was going smoothly, both at the office and regarding the publicity.

Mr. Nathan also added that he had talked with the United States Attorney and advised him that the Division was there to contest every step of the way and would grant nothing or concede nothing. He also stated that he presumed that Laska was in jail tonight, and I instructed him to ascertain if the Marshal really did have him in jail or was possibly keeping him in a hotel room. Mr. Nathan advised that he had had Laska fingerprinted.

I requested Mr. Nathan to keep the Division advised of the developments in this case.

Very truly yours,

29036

John Edgar Hoover
Director.

1 copy

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

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

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

TDQ:

December 17, 1934

12:45 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Carson ✓
Mr. Coffey ✓
Mr. Edwards ✓
Mr. Egan ✓
Mr. Gurnea ✓
Mr. Keith ✓
Mr. Lester ✓
Mr. Quinn ✓
Mr. Spencer ✓
Mr. Tamm ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓

Please be informed that [redacted] just 'phoned and stated a flash had come over the Associated Press line to the effect that Mr. Nathan, Assistant Director, would shortly make a most important announcement from Denver and wanted to know if I had any knowledge of the nature of the announcement.

I advised him that I did not, whereupon [redacted] stated that usually announcements of any importance were made from here and not from the field. I informed him I was fully aware of that fact.

Respectfully,

T. D. Quinn

T. D. Quinn.

All b7C

RECORDED & INDEXED

DEC 21 1934

7-115-1473
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 6 1934 P.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

U. S. Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Baughman..
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Keith.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Schilder.....
Mr. Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....

P. O. Box 1276,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma,
December 17, 1934.

DB:
7-6

b7C

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

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases;
BEN B. LASKA - FUGITIVE;
JAMES C. MATHERS; ET AL,
CHARLES F. URSCHEL - Victim,
Kidnaping.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith copies of the Oklahoma
City Times and the Oklahoma News, Oklahoma City, of December
17, 1934 which contain news with respect to the arrest of
Subjects Laska and Mathers.

Very truly yours,

Dwight Brantley
DWIGHT BRANTLEY,
Special Agent in Charge.

DEC 24 1934 7-115-1474

RECORDED & INDEXED

YOUNG MATHERS, LASKA INDICTED IN URSCHIEL CASE

**U. S. Charges Kidnap
Trial Lawyers With
Ransom Plot**

ONE IS HELD HERE

**James C. Mathers
Named; Agents Bare
Treasure Hunt**

Indictments charging Attorney James C. Mathers of Oklahoma City with participating in the Charles F. Urschel kidnaping on the ground that he allegedly received \$1000 of the \$200,000 ransom money were returned today by the federal grand jury here.

In the same indictment similar charges were listed against Ben B. Laska, Denver attorney, and Alvin H. Scott, Clara Feldman and Edward George Feldman, all relatives or associates of Albert Bates, one of the actual kidnapers.

Mathers was arrested in his Equity Building law office here shortly before 11 a. m., and at the same time Laska was taken into custody at his Denver office.

Refuses to Comment

Mathers was still in custody of U. S. Marshal Rube Geers at the Federal Building at 3 p. m., and refused to talk with newspaper men or pose for photographs.

Officials said he would be taken to the county jail if he failed to raise the bond to be fixed by the U. S. court. It was indicated he would be arraigned next Saturday. It was reported from Denver that Laska's bond would be fixed at \$50,000.

Mr. Mathers is the son of James H. Mathers, veteran Oklahoma City attorney, who also appeared for the defense in the sensational Urschel trials here in the fall of 1933.

Calls Charge Surprise

"This was a complete surprise to Jimmie and me," said James H. Mathers.

"We'll have to look into the charges before saying anything about the case, although you can say for us right now that neither Jimmie nor I has ever seen any of the ransom money and that neither of us knows anything about what was done with any part of it."

The other suspects indicted today were brought here from Oregon last week and testified before the grand jury. It was expected they would be indicted, as they were. The charges against Mathers and Laska were unexpected, although it was reported several days ago that some alleged "higher-ups" might be implicated.

Face Life in Prison

Officials said the men would be prosecuted under the Lindbergh law, which carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment.

The Government contemplates prosecuting all those named today along the same lines it proceeded against the five men from St. Paul who also were charged with receiving part of the ransom money. Three of the St. Paul suspects were convicted here.

After telling a story of buried treasure which rivals the most extravagant fiction, the indictment sets out that Laska, who was Bates' attorney, had Edward Feldman meet him in Denver Aug. 16 last year and give him \$8000 of the ransom money.

It also is charged that Feldman came here during the kidnaping trial and paid Laska \$2000 more, Sept. 16, 1933. That same day, the indictment claims, Laska gave Mathers \$1000.

Mathers represented Harvey Bailey, George and Kathryn Kelly, and the Shannon family during the trial.

Following the arrests a statement was issued here by Dwight Brantley, head of the division of investigation of the Department of Justice in this district, indicating that the federal Government intends to follow through its criminal prosecutions to get at the attorneys who represent underworld characters, whenever there is any possibility of

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy

trying to connect the attorneys with the fruit of the crime.

Ransom Plot Bared

It is charged that it was part of the original kidnaping conspiracy to take the \$200,000 ransom money to various parts of the country after Urschel's agents paid it to the kidnapers in Kansas City, Mo.

Bates' share of the ransom fund was \$90,000, it was claimed. This money was taken by Bates to a place of hiding far from Oklahoma City.

The indictment claims that Aug. 13, 1933, Bates notified Clara Feldman, who was his wife, where the money had been cached and told her to get it and take it to a new place of concealment.

Cached Money in Wyoming

It is further charged that Clara Feldman and her son, Edward, took the money two days after Clara had received the letter from Bates and buried \$75,000 of it 10 miles east of Laramie, Wyo.

For almost a year the money remained buried there.

Then, on Aug. 4, 1934, Clara Feldman and Alvin Scott, Bates' brother-in-law, dug up the \$75,000 and took it to Woodland, Wash., and Roseburg, Ore., according to the indictment.

Exactly one year after they had buried the money in Wyoming, the indictment claims, part of the money was buried in Dunsmuir, Cal., near Scott's home. The burying of part of the money there probably accounts for the arrest of Margaret Hurtienne, who was Scott's housekeeper. But Mrs. Hurtienne was not indicted.

Buried \$28,400 More

It was Nov. 9 of this year that part of the money was buried in California, near Scott's home. Later it is charged, Scott and Mrs. Feldman buried \$28,400 on Green Mountain, six miles from Woodland, Wash.

Between August and November of this year Scott and Mrs. Feldman are charged with burying smaller sums in various places, the transfer of parts of the huge sum stopping only when the suspects were arrested by federal agents after part of the ransom money was found on Scott's person when he was hurt in an automobile crash while returning from one of the hiding places.

Mr. Brantley said that J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the division of investigation, took personal charge of the Urschel case following the conviction of Bates, Boss Shannon and his wife, Harvey Bailey, George (Machine Gun) Kelly and Kathryn Thorne Kelly.

It was at Mr. Hoover's order that agents throughout the country continued active work on the case in an effort not only to recover the ransom money, but to follow its trail wherever it might lead.

Centered on Bates Angle

"It was apparent from the beginning that the greater part of Bates' share of the ransom money

was unaccounted for," Mr. Brantley said.

"We concentrated on this angle of the case and soon discovered that Bates had a number of relatives living on the Pacific Coast.

"From that day every move they made was watched by the Government, the whole force in the Pacific Northwest being at our disposal whenever it was needed.

"We had to proceed with the utmost caution, for a single bad break or tipoff would have frustrated our plans. Finally, the break came when Scott was involved in an automobile accident and part of the Urschel money was found in his pockets.

"After this break in the case federal agents donned overalls and went on a treasure hunt. The money was dug up from its various hiding places on country acreage and on the sides of mountains in the far west."

Mr. Brantley left no doubt of the Government's attitude toward attorneys who specialize in defending underworld characters when he pointed out that Laska had defended a number of persons accused under the Lindbergh law.

\$76,000 Still Missing

Officials said that \$76,000 of the Urschel money still was unaccounted for, but added that they expect to recover all the unspent portions before they are through with the case.

The action of the grand jury today brought to 20 the number of persons indicted in connection with the kidnaping.

Bates, the Kellys, Bailey, Shannon and his wife are serving life sentences. Bates and Kelly and Bailey are in solitary confinement at Alcatraz, the new federal prison off the California coast.

Harold Nathan, assistant director of the Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice in Denver, also announced the indictments.

Attorney for Harvey Bailey

Mathers was attorney for Harvey Bailey, desperado convicted as leader of the gang which kidnaped Urschel and obtained \$200,000 in cash for the oil millionaire's release.

Laska has become nationally known for his defense of such kidnapers as Verne Sankey, Mrs. Fern Sankey, and others involved in the abductions of Charles Boettcher II of Denver and Haskell Bohn of St. Paul.

Only a few days ago Laska obtained acquittal for Mrs. Sankey on charges in connection with the Boettcher kidnaping.

Younger Mathers, Laska Held in Urschel Probe

Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Baughman.....
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Fox.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Mumford.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Tamm.....
Mr. Tully.....

Federals Issue Written Statement to Explain Their Long Hunt.

Agents Don Overall's

Illegal Participation in Bates's Share of Huge Ransom Is Charged.

With this formal statement describing recent activities of the department of justice in the Urschel kidnaping case, Dwight Brantley, bureau head, announced the arrest of James C. Mathers and Ben B. Laska Monday.

A CRIME should never be considered solved until all of those implicated either in a major or minor degree can receive appropriate punishment. The trials of those implicated in the kidnaping of Charles Urschel in September and October of last year in Oklahoma City necessarily did not result in the punishment of all those implicated in this heinous crime.

A substantial part of the money paid in ransom for the return of Charles Urschel to his family had still not been located. John Edgar Hoover, the director of the division of investigation of the department of justice, issued specific instructions that this case should not be considered closed, and personally supervising the intensive and persistent country-wide investigation that ensued. It was evident that the portion of the ransom money appropriated to Albert A. Bates was for the greater part unaccounted for. Investigation also indicated that considerable efforts should be directed to the specific searching, relative and associates of Bates having been found located there.

A long series of expensive investigations caused this activity being centered in the territory under the jurisdiction of the Portland, Ore., office of the division of investigation. It would have been futile to make arrests unless it was certain that these arrests would result in the location of the money. Preventive action would have been disastrous in the final, successful consummation of this

LEADS UP LONG TRAIL



Ben Laska



James C. Mathers

Indictment of Attorneys and Three Oregon Suspects Is Announced Here; U. S. Charges Lawyers Received Part Of Bates's Share in Ransom Money.

Mrs. Clara Feldman, wife of George Bates, pleaded guilty in federal court Monday afternoon to an indictment charging conspiracy in the Urschel kidnaping case. Alvin Scott, indicted with her, pleaded not guilty after he told the court he "would plead guilty in part" and was told he could not do that. Bond of James C. Mathers was reduced by order of Judge Edgar S. Vaughn from \$25,000 to \$10,000. No date of sentence for Mrs. Feldman was set.

James C. Mathers, city criminal lawyer, and Ben B. Laska, famous criminal lawyer of Denver, have been indicted by the federal grand jury for alleged participation in the Charles F. Urschel ransom money, the department of justice revealed Monday.

They are charged specifically with participation in the part of the \$200,000 ransom loot that went to Albert Bates, one of the actual kidnapers who is serving a life term at Alcatraz island prison.

Both attorneys participated in the Urschel trial, Mathers as co-counsel with his father for Harvey Bailey and Laska as attorney for Bates.

At the same time Brantley revealed that the grand jury indicted Clara Feldman, wife of Bates; Edward Feldman, her son, and Alvin Scott, her brother-in-law. These indictments grew out of the discovery of \$44,000 of the ransom money in Oregon.

Bond for Mathers was fixed at \$25,000. Early Monday afternoon he was in the office of W. C. Gera, United States marshal, awaiting posting of bond.

He was visited four hours after his arrest by his mother and father. The elder Mathers was in the federal building at the time of his son's arrest but didn't learn about it until he reached his office two hours later.

Young Mathers said he thought he could get friends to post the bond. He said he didn't know when he would ask for arraignment. Frank M. Dudley, assistant federal attorney, said arraignment will be held whenever they want it.

Dwight Brantley, in charge of the bureau's city office, whose office has frequently hinted at sensational developments to come in the kidnaping case, indicated that the surprise indictments constitute the final chapter. "All of the evidence in possession of the division of investigation having been presented to the grand jury."

"The action taken against these lawyers," said a formal statement from Brantley, "reflects the determination of the division of investigation that individuals appropriately known as criminal attorneys who sponsor, guide, advise and protect the members of the underworld in their criminal operations shall receive appropriate punishment."

The Seattle indictment charged that Mathers came in contact with a portion of the ransom money early in August, 1934. It stated that on August 13 Bates wife made arrest in Denver, and a message to Mrs. Feldman, in which he advised her concerning the location and place of concealment of approximately \$50,000, his share of the \$200,000 ransom.

It alleged that following receipt of Bates message Mrs. Feldman and her son had possession of the money and had turned about \$10,000 of it to the two sons, near Loveland, Wyo.

The indictment then stated that the Mathers and Scott, charged December 1, 1934, removed the money from its hiding place of a year and transported it to "various places in the states of Oregon and Washington."

"The division has suspected for a considerable period that the relations in the various members of the underworld with whom he has been associated have been more intimate and extensive than those stated upon the indictment and has recommended of an attorney to his client."

The indictment alleged that Mathers received \$10,000 of the ransom money and delivered it to Bates.

The indictment also stated that Mathers and Scott, charged December 1, 1934, removed the money from its hiding place of a year and transported it to "various places in the states of Oregon and Washington."

"The division has suspected for a considerable period that the relations in the various members of the underworld with whom he has been associated have been more intimate and extensive than those stated upon the indictment and has recommended of an attorney to his client."

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County Employees Fired, Replaced

Commissioners Name New Firm For Custodian.

The county board of commissioners today voted to fire the custodian of the county jail and to replace him with a new firm.

The board also voted to hire a new firm to act as the custodian of the county jail.

Burglar Tears Out Wall of Jail Escapes

Winnipeg, Dec. 17.—(United Press.)—A burglar today tore out a section of the wall of the Winnipeg jail and escaped.

The burglar was seen by a guard and was shot at, but he escaped.

The burglar was seen by a guard and was shot at, but he escaped.

The burglar was seen by a guard and was shot at, but he escaped.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

December 18, 1934

EAT/

Time: 10:20 AM

Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Baughman.....
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Keith.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Schader.....
Mr. Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

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

While talking with Mr. Brantley at Oklahoma City in connection with another matter he advised that James C. Mathers had not as yet made bond. However, Clara Feldmann was arraigned yesterday and pleaded guilty. Alvin Scott was arraigned and he said he was partially guilty, and the court made him enter a plea of not guilty. [REDACTED] was not indicted. Ed Feldmann is in Denver, but is on his way back to Oklahoma City. He has not been arraigned.

Mathers bond was originally set at \$25,000, but has been reduced to \$10,000. Mr. Brantley stated that eventually he, Mathers, would make this bond, and he would advise the Division when this was done.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm.

RECORDED & INDEXED

COPIES DESTROYED
20 MAR 17 1965
DEC 21 1934

- 115 - 1475	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 20 1934 P.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON TAMM ONE	FILE

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

FROM: UNIT 1 & UNIT 3

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy

TO: _____ Director
 _____ Mr. Nathan
 _____ Mr. Tolson
 _____ Mr. Edwards
 _____ Mr. Quinn
 _____ Unit Two

_____ Unit Four
 _____ Files Section
 _____ Personnel Files
 _____ Equipment Section
 _____ Chief Clerk's Office

_____ Unit Five
 _____ Identification Unit
 _____ Statistical Section
 _____ Technical Laboratory

SUPERVISORS

Unit One
 _____ Mr. Listerman
 _____ Mr. Lowdon
 _____ Mr. Bryan
 _____ Mr. Newby
 _____ Mr. Richmond
 _____ Mr. Thompson

Unit Three
 _____ Mr. Joseph
 _____ Mr. Fagan
 _____ Mr. Smith

_____ Miss Gandy
 _____ Mrs. Kelley
 _____ Washington Field Office
 _____ M

_____ Secretary
 _____ Correct
 _____ Re-write
 _____ Re-date
 _____ See me
 _____ Send file

DIRECTOR WILL BE
 interested in the

*Director will
 be interested
 in these*
Thanks

J. E. A. TAMM - Room 5107

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DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
(Name and address of Contributor)

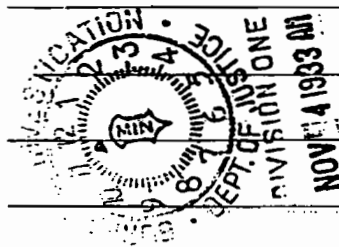
Date November 2, 1933.

Mr. J. E. Hoover,
Director, U. S. Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Following are the dispositions of cases on which
fingerprints have been mailed to the U. S. Bureau of Investiga-
tion:

Print Number	Name and Alias	Disposition
<i>ad gm</i> #6590	<i>8/12/15</i> HARVEY J. BAILEY,	As Harvey J. Bailey
P.D.	aliases: J. J. Brennan,	arrested 3-23-1920,
Omaha, Nebr.	John Brown	charge - Investigation (hi-jacking and burglary). Disposition 3-23-1920 forfeited \$200.00 bond.



DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
NOV 4 1933 A.M.	
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
<i>[Signature]</i>	FILE

This form to be submitted to the U. S. Bureau of Investigation to report dispositions of cases in which prints were forwarded previously. Dispositions include such information as advice relative to sentences imposed, fines, discharges from custody, etc. Several cases may be listed on each sheet.

b7C
K. C. FILE 62-760-

Very truly yours,
[Signature]
M. C. SPEAR, ACTING
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
(Official Title)

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
422 Midland Savings Bldg.
Denver, Colo.
December 16, 1934

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

Dear Sir:

This is to advise that Special Agents [redacted]
and [redacted] assigned to the Oklahoma City Of-
fice, arrived in Denver at 10:55 a.m. today in com-
pany with Edward Feldmann, a Subject in the Urschel
kidnaping case.

It is expected that these Agents will depart for
Oklahoma City tomorrow night. While in Denver, they
will stop at the Roosevelt Hotel, 711 Eighteenth
Street, Keystone 0261.

Very truly yours,

Jay C. Newman
JAY C. NEWMAN
Special Agent in Charge

JCN [redacted]

cc Oklahoma City

All b7C

RECORDED & INDEXED

7-115-1476

DEC 26 1934

DEC 21 1934

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

P. O. Box 1276
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
December 20, 1934

DE 7-6

b7C

Hon. H. W. Cabee,
United States Commissioner,
Chickasha, Oklahoma.

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with
aliases; BEN B. LASKA-
Fug. et al.
Charles F. Urschel-Victim,
Kidnaping.

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your communi-
cation of December 19, 1934 containing information con-
cerning the activities of Jimmy Mathers.

I desire to thank you for the interest
manifested by you in this matter and you are advised
that an Agent will contact you and the other parties at
Chickasha in the not distant future.

Very truly yours,

DWIGHT BRANTLEY,
Special Agent in Charge.

cc-Division.✓

7-115

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 24 1934	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
ONE	FILE

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

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

FILE NO. **7-7**

REPORT MADE AT: Denver, Colo.	DATE WHEN MADE: 12/19/34	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 12/1-18/34	REPORT MADE BY: [REDACTED]
TITLE: "Changed"-- GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases; ALVIN H. SCOTT ; [REDACTED] CLARA FELDMANN alias CLARA FELDMAN alias CLARA DAVIS alias MRS. GEORGE L. DAVIS alias MISS RUTH JOHNSON alias DORIS MANFIELD alias DORIS ROBERTS ; EDWARD GEORGE FELDMANN alias ED FELDMAN alias AXEL C. JOHNSON alias GEORGE SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: FELDMAN alias ROBERTS ; BEN B. LASKA alias BERYL BENJAMIN LASKA --FUGITIVE; JAMES C. MATHERS CHARLES F. OURSCHET --Victim			CHARACTER OF CASE: KIDNAPING
<p>Clara Feldmann and Edward George Feldmann waived removal hearing, Portland, Ore., 12-1-34. Additional recovery of \$34,020 actual ransom money near Woodland, Washington, on 12-5-34, and recovery of \$5,620 actual ransom money effected same place 12-6-34. Total amount actual ransom money recovered \$44,140. Clara Feldmann made full statement of facts implicating Subject Ben B. Laska at Portland, Ore., 12-4-34. Hearing on removal of Subjects Scott and [REDACTED] held Portland, Ore., 12-4-34. Ordered removed by Commissioner 12-6-34 and by the Court the following day. Subject Edward George Feldmann delivered to County Jail, Oklahoma City, Okla., 12-10-34. Subjects Scott, Clara Feldmann, and [REDACTED] delivered to County Jail, Oklahoma City, Okla., 12-11-34. Case presented to Federal Grand Jury 12-13-34 and true bill returned 12-14-34 against Subjects Edward and Clara Feldmann and Alvin H. Scott, with no true bill as to Subject [REDACTED]. Three Subjects indicted held County Jail, Oklahoma City in default of bail. True bill returned against Subjects Ben B. Laska and James C. Mathers, Attorneys, in same indictment at Oklahoma City, 12-14-34. Subjects Mathers and Laska taken into Federal custody at Oklahoma City and Denver, respectively, 12-17-34. Information, Subject Mathers released Oklahoma City same day under \$10,000 bond, and Subject Laska released 12-18-34 under \$18,000 bond after arraignment</p>			
<p>RECEIVED DEC 21 1934 AM DEPT. OF JUSTICE DIVISION ONE</p> <p>DETAILS:</p> <p><i>TO MR. LASKA 12-19-34 B. B. LASKA</i></p> <p>DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Ray S. Querman</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	7-115-1477	RECORDED AND INDEXED: DEC 21 1934
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3 Division (Enc.) 1 Dallas 3 Oklahoma City (Enc. &) 1 Kansas City (1 U.S. Atty., Okla. City) 1 El Paso 2 Portland 1 Salt Lake City 1 Chicago 2 Denver 1 Los Angeles		ROUTED TO: ONE	CHECKED OFF: DEC 26 1934 JACKETED:

1 U. S. Atty., Denver

COPIES DESTROYED
20 MAR 17 1965

at Denver and hearing upon removal being set for 1-2-35. Considerable corroboration of statements made by Subjects Edward Feldmann and Clara Feldmann at Denver and Oklahoma City.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent in Charge C. C. Spears, Portland, 11-23-34, and report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Denver, 12-3-34.

DETAILS:

The title of this case is changed to record the names of Subjects Ben B. Laska with alias and James C. Mathers for whom indictment was returned on December 14, 1934 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and to record additional alias of Subjects Clara and Ed Feldmann, discovered in the course of investigation as underlined in the title.

This is a joint report of Special Agent in Charge C. C. Spears of the Portland office and Special Agent [REDACTED] of the Denver office covering investigative activity in this case performed in the Portland, Oklahoma City, and Denver territory.

On December 1, 1934, prior to the hearing upon removal set for December 4, 1934, as to Subjects Edward George Feldmann, Clara Feldmann, [REDACTED] and Alvin H. Scott, Clara Feldmann and Edward Feldmann indicated their desire to waive hearing upon removal and appeared before Federal Judge Alger Fee and consented to removal. The Court signed the order of removal as to each defendant forthwith.

Subjects Alvin H. Scott and [REDACTED] represented by council stood hearing upon removal commencing December 4, 1934, and at the conclusion of the taking of testimony on December 6, 1934, the United States Commissioner Kenneth H. Frazer ordered them removed subject to the order of the Court. However, on December 7, 1934 both Subjects against represented by council appeared before Federal Judge Fee and waived any further contest as to removal and the Court forthwith signed an order removing them to the District of Oklahoma. Bond as to Clara Feldmann was continued at \$50,000 and \$25,000 as to each of the three remaining Subjects.

On the night of December 7, 1934, Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] left Portland, Oregon for Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, upon subpoena to testify before the Federal Grand Jury at that place on December 11, 1934. There was removed in their custody to Oklahoma City all of the ransom money recovered, together with the containers in which said ransom money was found.

All b7C

On the morning of December 8, 1934, Special Agent in Charge C. C. Spears, accompanied by Deputy United States Marshal proceeded by airplane removing Subject Ed Feldman from Portland, Oregon, to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, by way of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Denver, Colorado, where additional investigation was necessary with the assistance of Subject Edward Feldmann.

On the night of December 8, 1934, Subjects Clara Feldmann [REDACTED] and Alvin H. Scott were removed from Portland, Oregon, in the custody of the Deputy United States Marshal and guards, and were delivered to the County Jail at Oklahoma City, on December 11, 1934. Subject Ed Feldman was delivered to the County Jail, Oklahoma City, on December 10, 1934.

In order to complete the prosecutive action taken in this case, it should be stated that the facts of the case were presented to the Federal Grand Jury at Oklahoma City on December 13, 1934. The following witnesses testifying: Charles F. Urschel, E. E. Kirkpatrick, [REDACTED] Special Agents C. C. Spears and [REDACTED] and Subjects Clara Feldmann and Edward George Feldmann, who waived their rights before testifying in the Grand Jury room.

A secret indictment was returned by the Grand Jury on December 14, 1934 naming Clara Feldmann, Edward George Feldmann, Alvin H. Scott, Ben B. Laska, attorney at Denver, Colorado, and James C. Mathers, attorney at Oklahoma City, as defendants. Indictment contained twenty-nine counts, twelve of which were counts included in the indictment and taken from the indictment returned in the principal case tried in Oklahoma City during the fall of 1933, and seventeen counts pertained to the five Subjects just named, charging them with conspiracy to violate Section 408a, U.S.C.A. The same bail as heretofore indicated as to Subjects Clara Feldmann and Edward George Feldmann and Alvin H. Scott was set. Bail as to Subject Ben B. Laska was set at \$50,000 and \$25,000 as to James C. Mathers. Upon information received from the Oklahoma City office by telephone Subject James C. Mathers was taken into Federal custody on December 17, 1934 and he was released the same day after his bail had been reduced to \$10,000. At Denver, Colorado, Subject Ben B. Laska was taken into custody by United States Marshal [REDACTED], accompanied by Special Agents Jay C. Newman, [REDACTED] C. C. Spears, and [REDACTED] Subject Laska was arraigned before United States Commissioner Leo J. Crowley on December 17, 1934 and he entered a plea of not guilty and demanded a hearing, which was set for January 2, 1935. He was incarcerated in the Denver County Jail on December 17, 1934 in default of bail and was released on December 18, 1934 upon furnishing bail in the amount of \$18,000, this amount being the reduced bail set by Federal Judge J. Foster Symes, after a hearing upon the petition of reduction of bail filed in behalf of Subject Laska.

AT PORTLAND, ORE.

Interrogation of Clara Feldmann was commenced at her apprehension at Duns-muir, California, on November 9, 1934 and continued up to December 4, 1934; no material admissions being obtained from her, however, except for her

All b7C

repeated statements that she was to blame for the entire trouble and was for the exclusion of the other Subjects held in custody. However, about midnight on December 4, 1934, while being interrogated by Special Agent C. C. Spears, she indicated her desire to make a complete statement and to turn over all of the remaining ransom money in her possession.

Accordingly, on the following morning, she was taken to a point known as Green Mountain, Washington, located six miles northeast of Woodland, Washington, and in the presence of Assistant Director Harold Nathan, Charles F. Urschel, E. E. Kirkpatrick, and Special Agents [REDACTED], and C. C. Spears, she directed us to a point approximately two hundred yards above the shack located in the vacated premises of her father's, William A. Hurtienne, ranch, and at the base of a large fallen log, there was a green one-gallon thermos jug which was dug up by Special Agent [REDACTED] and when opened in the presence of those named was found to be practically filled with the original ransom money. Actual count of this money and verification of its identity as the original ransom money developed the jug contained \$23,400.00. On discovery of this jug Clara Feldmann informed Special Agent C. C. Spears there was one additional container located on the same premises which contained the entire balance of the ransom money, and made the further statement that she was not certain if she could find it.

She led the above named persons to a point approximately one hundred yards to the rear of the shack referred to heretofore and indicated this jar was located in an embankment rising above a small creek flowing around the premises, and she located several burnt snags near one of which, she stated, the jar should be found. She furnished information that this jar was located ten paces from one of these snags.

Continued search and digging during the day failed to divulge any of this ransom money and it became evident that Subject Clara Feldman, while endeavoring to locate the jar, she had no direct information as to its whereabouts. It appeared from her stories and actions that some one else had buried this container and had informed her of its whereabouts, but not accurately enough for her to locate it upon her information. The following morning she admitted that she had not buried this last container but that it had been buried during the past summer by either [REDACTED] or Alvin H. Scott; that she was not sure which of the two had buried it as Scott and [REDACTED] were on the premises the day it was buried and she had asked one of the two to bury it and was not aware of the exact spot where it had been placed.

Subjects [REDACTED] and Alvin H. Scott were accordingly interrogated, the result being that Alvin H. Scott stated that if he were taken to the Hurtienne ranch, he could direct us to the place where the jar was buried containing the money in question. On December 6, 1934, Scott was taken to Green Mountain, Washington, there being present Deputy United States Marshal [REDACTED] of Portland, Special Agents, [REDACTED]

All b7C

C. C. Spears and [REDACTED] and Charles F. Orschel and E. E. Kirkpatrick, Scott directed the party to a spot in the woods to the rear of the shack above mentioned and to a point across the creek to a place about one hundred yards from the cabin, where Scott pointed out a small area at the base of a large tree. Scott made the statement, "Dig there", indicating a spot in the ground. After a short period of digging a quart glass jar was uncovered, which was entirely filled with money, which upon checking and verification was found to be \$5,620 of the original ransom money, and which represented, according to statements of all Subjects, all of the ransom money in their possession, making a total of \$44,140 in actual money recovered in the States of Oregon and Washington.

The previous day, December 5, 1934, during the time Clara Feldmann was endeavoring to locate the last jar as hereintofore mentioned, she made a complete statement to Special Agent C. C. Spears, which was almost entirely in accordance with the information previously furnished by Edward George Feldmann and set forth in the report of this Agent dated November 23, 1934. Her statement which was made at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, repeated in the presence of Assistant United States Attorney F. M. Dudley, was in substance as follows:

That at the time she met Albert Bates in Tacoma, Washington, she knew him as George L. Davis. She stated that she married Bates under that name at Littleton, Colorado, on May 15, 1933; that she, at no time since she met him knew that his name was not George L. Davis, and did not discover that fact until he was arrested at Denver, Colorado, on August 12, 1933 in connection with instant case.

She stated that she resided with Bates in Denver, Colorado, and during the month of May, 1933, she communicated with her son, Subject Edward George Feldmann, asking him to come to Denver to drive an automobile for a lady. She stated that Bates had purchased a new Buick automobile as a wedding present and as she could not drive, she desired her son's assistance in that respect. She stated that they resided in several different localities in Denver, and during the summer moved to 1801 Grant Street, where they resided until approximately July 17, 1933, when Bates suggested that she and Ed take a trip to Portland to visit their folks. She stated that Bates had previously given her \$5,000, \$2,000 of which she used in purchasing a Certificate of Deposit at the Denver National Bank, Denver, Colorado, on July 17, 1933. (This Certificate of Deposit was recovered in one of the jars dug up by Agents at Medford, Oregon, and which has been hereintofore reported.

She stated that she and Ed drove the Buick car from Denver to Portland, arriving at Portland on or about July 20, 1933, and that they visited with Alvin H. Scott and [REDACTED] in Portland until shortly after the first of August. She cannot fix the exact date she left Portland, but stated that they drove directly to Denver in the Buick car accompanied by Alvin H. Scott, and that they arrived in Denver the same day that they rented the apartment at 1275 Pearl Street. The day of

All b7c

this rental was August 7, 1933 as disclosed in a previous investigation by the Denver office. She stated that Scott accompanied she and Ed merely for the trip and that he returned to Portland after remaining in Denver for about two days, and that, he, in fact, returned to Portland before the return of Bates from Omaha, Nebraska, on August 10, 1933. She further stated that on or about August 9, 1933, she received a telegram from Bates sent from Omaha, Nebraska, in which he stated he was returning to Denver the following morning, and that, in fact, he returned the following day and came out to the apartment.

One or two days later, to the best of her recollection, Bates left the apartment and did not return. She recalls that she and Ed waited approximately one full day and that it was on a Sunday, which would have been August 13, 1933, a man called at their apartment and stated that he had just been released from the County Jail at Denver and had a message from her husband. She stated that he informed her that Bates desired him to tell her he had been arrested and that everything was all right, and for her to look in one of his handbags and pay the messenger \$200 for delivering this message. This messenger also turned over a note which Bates desired to be sent to the police at Fort Worth, Texas, and which was in substance a request for the Fort Worth police to come and get him.

b7C She stated that she and Ed found the bags in question and one of them proved to be a handbag, the lock thereon being fastened, but in the presence of the messenger they opened the bag and took it into the closet and found it to be completely full of currency. She withdrew \$200 of same and paid the messenger (both Clara and Ed Feldmann identified the photograph of [REDACTED] as the individual who brought the message to them from Bates in the County Jail.).

She further stated that she had no suspicion whatever that Bates was implicated in the Urschel kidnaping or that he was implicated in any unlawful endeavor as Bates had told her that he was in the show business in the East and she fully believed him, inasmuch as he had plenty of money and was absent from their home in Denver approximately three-fourths of the time.

On the discovery of the handbag of money, she stated that she and her son were both considerably upset and did not know how to proceed, but that on the same night, they packed hurriedly and proceeded in the direction of Laramie, Wyoming, in a coupe belonging to Bates; that they slept that night in the car keeping the money and handbag in their possession all night; that the following day they proceeded on to Cheyenne and remained in Cheyenne for approximately one week, but cannot recall the identity of the places in which they lived, with the exception that they lived in two different places, one of which was a rooming house. She stated that after arriving in Cheyenne they purchased two one-gallon thermos jugs, in which they placed all of the money in their possession, and took them to a point approximately ten miles east of Laramie, where they were buried in a clump of pine trees some distance from the main highway.

She further states that within two or three days after their arrival in Cheyenne, Ed had made a trip to Denver, and upon his return informed her that an attorney in Denver, by the name of Laska, desired to see them about Bates. Mrs. Feldmann stated that she was ill in bed at the time and that it was agreed that Ed should call upon Laska. She stated that Ed did call upon him on several occasions and that after returning to Cheyenne from one of these visits, she was informed that Laska had asked for \$10,000 of the ransom money for the purpose of meeting Bates attorney's fees and expenses. She stated that approximately \$15,000 of the ransom money was then removed from the two jugs buried near Laramie, and she gave what she believed to be \$10,000 of this sum to Ed to deliver to Laska, and that Ed did deliver the money, according to statements made to her by Ed, although she was not present.

She stated that after remaining in Cheyenne for about one week, she and Ed proceeded to Chicago by train and that after living a few days in some apartment house, which she does not now recall, they moved into the Warfield Apartments, and after residing there several weeks, they moved to the Lawrence Arms Apartments. She stated that to the best of her recollection during the time they were residing at the Warfield Apartments, Ed went to a suburb of Chicago and transmitted to Laska a telegram advising Laska of their whereabouts. She also furnished information as to Ed's leaving Cheyenne for the purpose of calling upon Laska in Denver in accordance with his instructions and in accordance with his request for an additional \$2,000 of the ransom money. She stated Ed was gone for over a week, after which he returned to Chicago. They remained in Chicago until some time about the middle of October, 1933, when they proceeded to Portland in a Dodge car previously purchased by Ed, and that they resided at the Blackstone Apartments in Portland for a period of approximately one month, after which they again returned to Chicago, by way of Denver, and while at Denver they called upon Laska. Upon that visit she signed a transfer of title covering the Buick Victoria coupe given her by Bates the previous summer. She stated that they called upon Laska at his home and Laska phoned a person stating, "a lame man is at my home, who cannot walk," and that this man desired to transfer a title to the car. Shortly, thereafter, a woman appeared with a notary seal and signed her signature to the title papers.

After returning to Chicago, they remained there until after the first of the year, when they again drove back to Oregon. From then on, she saw very little of Ed and she remained in southern Oregon living in various tourist camps under the name of Doris Mansfield. She stated that about the first of August, 1934, she became fearful of the fact that Ed, who appeared considerable frightened at threats made by Ben Laska, might remove all the remainder of the ransom money and turn it over to Laska, the money still being buried near Laramie, Wyoming. She then prevailed upon Subject Alvin H. Scott to drive her to Laramie for the purpose of removing this money. She stated that Scott did not want to make the trip, but that after she agreed to pay his expenses, they

left Medford about the first of August, although she could not recall the exact date, and made the return trip in approximately five days. They dug up the two jugs where they were buried near Laramie, and placed all of the remaining money in one jug and upon their return trip they proceeded to Portland, Oregon, and went to the vacant ranch of her father near Green Mountain, Oregon, where she buried the remaining jug full of money.

Mrs. Feldmann appeared to be entirely frank in her statements and investigation which has been conducted subsequent to that time has developed that she has been truthful in all respects, insofar as verification was possible. She stated that she desired to clear up the entire matter and as stated hereintofore, she waived her rights and appeared before the Grand Jury in Oklahoma City, where she made a full statement of facts.

As heretofore stated, Subject Edward G. Feldmann was removed from Portland, Oregon, by airplane, leaving Portland December 8, 1934. At 6:00 p.m. on December 8, this Agent, together with Deputy United States Marshal [REDACTED] from Portland, Oregon, and Subject Edward Feldmann arrived at Cheyenne, Wyoming, via United Air Lines. We were met by Special Agent [REDACTED] of the Denver Office, and at the direction of Subject Edward Feldmann, we drove west from Cheyenne on the main highway towards Laramie. Feldmann was to point out and locate if possible the two holes in which the two one-gallon jug containers were buried and which containers contained practically the total amount of ransom money taken into the possession of Clara and Edward Feldmann in August of 1933.

At a point which was later measured as exactly ten miles east of Laramie, Feldmann directed that the car be stopped, and all of those mentioned above accompanied him from the highway, in an easterly direction, about 500 yards. He led us into a clump of pine trees and, after a short search, he located one tree which bore a mark, four feet from the ground, which Ed Feldman stated he had made with a shovel in order that he might be able to locate that particular tree at any time. The ground was covered with approximately six inches of snow, and under the direction of Ed Feldman, two holes were found, one lying approximately five feet from the base of the above-mentioned tree and the other lying approximately four feet from the base of the tree, the two holes being approximately three feet apart. The ground surrounding the two holes was hard and frozen; whereas, at the immediate point of the two holes the ground was soft and easily removed to the depth of two feet. Feldmann stated that he and his mother, Clara Feldmann, placed two one-gallon jugs, each of which were full of the ransom money, same having been buried there shortly after they proceeded to Cheyenne, Wyoming, from Denver, Colorado, on or about August 13, 1933.

After locating the two holes mentioned above, all of the persons hereinbefore mentioned, proceeded by automobile to Denver, Colorado, arriving at 12:15 A.M. December 9th. Feldman was asked upon arrival at Denver if he could locate the hotel in which he and his wife Betty stayed in August, 1934, when they made the trip to Denver from Idaho for the purpose of visiting Ben Laska. Agent [REDACTED] was driving and at the direction of Ed Feldman, we drove up Broadway to 11th Avenue, and he immediately pointed out the 11th Avenue Hotel as the hotel in question.

At about 5:00 P.M. December 9th, the following persons accompanied Ed Feldman to a point on Broadway near the 11th Avenue Hotel, where the car was parked in order that an investigation might be made at the hotel. These persons were: Special Agents [REDACTED] [REDACTED] C. C. Spears, and Deputy United States

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Marshal [redacted] Agent [redacted] and Spears inquired of [redacted] of the 11th Avenue Hotel, as to the manner in which the registration records of the hotel were kept. Upon being informed that they were kept in card system, all the cards for the month of August, 1934, were asked for and produced by [redacted] Card No. 1902 was located, which bears the registration of Mr. and Mrs. A. Johnson, no street number given, city, Los Angeles, California. This card reflects that the above mentioned Mr. and Mrs. A. Johnson arrived on August 7, 1934, were assigned Room 29, rate \$2.00 per day; that there were two in the party; that the registrants possessed baggage; and that the clerk who took the registration was one [redacted]. Additional records of the hotel were searched, which consisted of room cards, which further reflected that Mr. and Mrs. A. Johnson had Room 29; that they arrived August 7, 1934, and that they checked out on August 9, 1934. The card bore a notation that \$4.10 was the total amount paid the hotel. It also bears the notation consisting of two check marks, which [redacted] advised reflects to two telephone calls made. This would appear to account for the 10¢ additional charge, to the \$4.00 charge for two days' lodging. This card also bears the number 1902. [redacted] produced the daily record of 'phone calls made from the various rooms of the hotel, which reflected two calls made on August 9 from Room 29, the calls being to York 5105 and Tabor 2233.

It was ascertained that [redacted] full name is [redacted] and that he is the [redacted] who took the registration of the above Mr. and Mrs. A. Johnson, and [redacted] of the hotel. [redacted] advised Agent [redacted] after reviewing the registration card, telephone record, and room record card regarding the registration of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Johnson at that hotel on August 7, 1934, that he was unable to furnish any information regarding these parties. He stated that if he were given an opportunity to view them in person, he might recall them.

The original registration card, referred to above, was exhibited to Subject Edward Feldmann, who immediately identified his handwriting thereon and stated that the two 'phone numbers referred to represent the office and home telephones of Ben Laska. The registration card was exhibited to Ed Feldman in the automobile outside of the hotel, and, at that time, a photographic reproduction was made of the card. [redacted] agreed to place the two cards and the telephone record in safe keeping and place them in an envelope to be kept in the hotel safe until needed. Neither of them recalled the identity of the persons referred to as Mr. and Mrs. A. Johnson.

The same afternoon, the same above-named persons proceeded with Ed Feldman to ascertain if he could locate the home of Ben Laska. Agent Spears, who is entirely unfamiliar with the city or streets of Denver,

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drove the car and was directed on the trip solely by Subject Edward Feldmann. At his direction, we proceeded up Broadway and turned left on East Colfax, proceeded to Cook Street and to a point approximately three blocks from East Colfax, where Edward Feldmann, without hesitation, pointed out the second house from the third corner south of East Colfax, which proved to be 1164 Cook Street and was a brick house with a rather low, sloping, green-colored roof. Feldmann also pointed out the house immediately on the right of 1164 Cook Street, as we were facing the house, as being the next-door neighbor of Laska in whose garage he parked his Ford car at the time of the visit to Ben Laska's house early in August, 1934. Feldmann was then asked to direct us in exactly the same manner that he followed in parking his car in Laska's neighbor's garage, as previously stated by Feldmann. Under his direction, Agent Spears drove the car, in which all of us were seated, north on Cook Street to the first corner north of Laska's house and turned right, to the alley, and again turned right, up the alley and passed a single garage located at the back of Laska's premises, and on the premises immediately south of Laska's house was located a double garage. Feldmann pointed out the double garage and stated that he kept his car on the right-hand side of the double garage, as we were facing the garage doors from the alley. It should be stated that Feldmann gave the directions with reference to the location of Laska's house and the garage, without hesitation.

Following this, Feldmann was asked to direct this Agent, Spears, to the office building in which Ben Laska maintained his offices - and under the direction of Edward Feldmann - he pointed out the building on the corner of 16th and Champa Streets, which he stated was the building in question, the entrance being on 16th Street, quite some distance from the Champa corner, and above the entrance there appears the name of the building, Symes Building.

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Following the above investigation, Subject Edward Feldmann was taken to Oklahoma City. It will be recalled that Subject Edward Feldmann had stated that some time in September of 1933, he visited Subject Ben B. Laska in the Biltmore Hotel, upon which occasion he delivered to Laska and another person present, whom he thought was introduced to him as Mr. "Hyde", some \$2,000.00 of the original ransom money. Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] had Subject Edward Feldmann direct them, if possible, to the hotel in which he had previously stated he registered upon his arrival in Oklahoma City from Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Denver, Colorado. Without difficulty, he led the Agents to the Harvey Hotel, and upon the register of September 16, 1933, there was located the registration of Axel C. Johnson, Chicago, Illinois, showing that he occupied Room 67 on that date. Feldmann was able to identify the registration as being in his handwriting.

It was ascertained, during this investigation, that Feldman also registered at the Hotel Lawrence in Oklahoma City, September 18, 1933, as Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Johnson, no place of residence stated. Their registration reflects that they were assigned Room 408. Feldmann could not recall where he stayed the night of September 17 and could not locate the hotel at which he stayed. With reference to the registration of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Johnson, he stated that he had met a young woman who accompanied him to the hotel, and on arriving there he was asked to identify the woman, and he informed the employees of the hotel that she was his wife and accordingly registered as such. He stated that the young woman left the hotel and did not remain with him there. Photostatic copies of this register were obtained and are being attached to the Oklahoma City copies of this report. ~~Appropriate arrangements are being made for the retention of the original register sheets for use if subpoenaed.~~

The same Agents above named, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] accompanied Subject Edward Feldmann to the Biltmore Hotel for the purpose of determining whether he had any present recollection as to the identity of the room in which he met Laska and the individual whom he thought was introduced to him as Mr. "Hyde". Feldmann knew the location of the Biltmore Hotel and stated that the room in question was an outside room, located on an upper floor, and such room overlooked a parking lot. This was found to be true, but Feldmann was unable to identify any of the furnishings or equipment of the room with the exception of his ability to identify some articles of the bathroom. The identification made by him was considered very fair inasmuch as he had made only one visit to this room and was in the room for a period of only ten or fifteen minutes.

Up to this time Feldmann had been persistent in his statements that the individual introduced to him in the room of Ben Laska in the Biltmore Hotel was a Mr. "Hyde". He had stated, however, that during his conversation with Laska and this Mr. "Hyde", some reference had been made to the fact that the person in the company of Laska was a Junior. There was considerable question about the individual to whom he was introduced actually being Mr. Hyde, former United States Attorney. It was learned at Oklahoma City that there was an individual who resembled Mr. Hyde considerably, one James C. Mathers, young attorney, son of James H. Mathers, employed as counsel for Harvey Bailey during the trial at Oklahoma City in the fall of 1933. The reputation of James E. Mathers is not of the best, and in view of the similarity in appearance between Mathers and Herbert Hyde, a number of photographs were made available to Subject Feldmann and included in these photographs was one of James C. Mathers.

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Upon viewing this assemblage of photographs in the office of Special Agent in Charge Dwight Brantley, and in the presence of Mr. Brantley and Special Agent C. C. Spears, Subject Edward Feldmann immediately pointed out the photograph of James C. Mathers and stated that he was the individual introduced to him by Ben Laska as Mr. "Hyde". Subsequent interrogation of Feldmann developed, however, that he had been in error in referring to this individual as Mr. "Hyde" and recalled that Laska introduced this individual in the room at the Biltmore Hotel as Mr. Mathers or Mathews and not as Mr. "Hyde". Feldmann stated that he believed the name of Hyde was retained in his memory in view of references made to Mr. Hyde during numerous conversations with Ben Laska in Denver, but that he was positive as to the identification of Mathers and likewise positive that Herbert Hyde, former United States Attorney, was not the individual in question.

In order that a personal identification of Mathers might be made, if Feldmann was able to do so, Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] accompanied Feldmann to the Equity Building, in which building James C. Mathers maintained offices with his father in Room 305. Special Agent [REDACTED] remained in the background, and accompanied by Special Agent [REDACTED] Subject Feldmann was taken to the third floor where it was discovered that the door of Mathers' office, leading to the hallway, was open, and immediately inside the room there was seated an individual, who was in plain view of the door, and this individual, upon being observed by Feldmann, immediately was identified by Feldmann as being the Mathers to whom he was introduced in Laska's room at the Biltmore Hotel in August, 1933, and to whom \$1,000.00 of the ransom money was paid on that occasion. ✓

In order to avoid any possibility of error, former United States Attorney, Herbert Hyde, was taken into the presence of Edward Feldmann, and although Edward Feldmann noted the resemblance between Mathers and Mr. Hyde, he stated positively that Mr. Hyde was not the individual in question; that he had never previously seen Mr. Hyde, and that he was absolutely positive that Mathers was the individual involved.

Immediately following the return made by the Federal Grand Jury at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at noon on December 14, Special Agents C. C. Spears, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] proceeded from Oklahoma City to Denver, Colorado, arriving on December 15, and on that date Assistant Director Harold Nathan arrived at Denver from San Francisco. A conference was had with Assistant United States Attorney Byron G. Rogers, with reference to securing search warrants covering 1164 Cook Street, Denver, the residence address of Ben B. Laska, and Room 620 Symes Building, where Laska maintains his offices, and for Safety Deposit Box No. 997, in the Colorado National Bank, which deposit box

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was in the name Ben B. Laska and [REDACTED]

On December 16, 1934, affidavit for search warrant covering the premises 1164 Cook Street, which is the residence address of Ben B. Laska, was sworn to by Subject Edward Feldmann, who arrived from Oklahoma City on that date, accompanied by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of the Oklahoma City Office. Likewise Subject Edward Feldmann made a sworn affidavit for search warrant covering the office of Subject Ben B. Laska, 620 Symes Building, Denver, Colorado. A search warrant was also prepared covering the Safety Deposit Box owned by Subject Ben B. Laska and [REDACTED]

December 17
On ~~November 16~~ December 17, 1934, at the Denver Division Office a fugitive complaint was filed against Subject Ben B. Laska before United States Commissioner Leo J. Crowley, charging Subject Ben B. Laska with violation of Section 408A, U.S.C.A., based on the indictment returned at Oklahoma City, December 14, 1934, a certified copy of which was received by the Denver Division Office on December 15, 1934.

At 9:00 a.m., December 17, 1934, Special Agents Jay C. Newman, C. C. Spears, [REDACTED] and United States Marshal [REDACTED] and his deputy, [REDACTED] proceeded to the Symes Building where Subject Ben B. Laska was apprehended as he was leaving his office. The search warrant for his office was executed by United States Marshal [REDACTED] and Ben B. Laska was taken in custody by the United States Marshal and taken to the Denver Division Office.

Subject Ben B. Laska was questioned at the Denver Division Office by Assistant Director Harold Nathan and Special Agent C. C. Spears. Laska, as was expected, assumed an evasive manner and would not discuss any phase of the investigation which directly or indirectly involved him. He stated that he intended to resist removal to Oklahoma City. He admitted that he knew both Edward Feldmann and Clara Feldmann and made references to the fact that he would not disclose any information that passed between an attorney and his client; and when asked how he first got into contact with Edward Feldmann and Clara Feldmann, he stated that he would not answer that question. When asked as to the last time he saw Clara Feldmann, he stated that he believed it was at the time she transferred the title to the Buick car, which was, in fact, during the month of November 1933, although he did not state the date. Then asked as to the last time he saw Edward Feldmann, he stated that Edward Feldmann had visited him during the past summer. When asked as to the purpose of or reason for

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Edward Feldmann's visit, he stated that he would have to refuse to answer that question. Continued interrogation of Subject Laska resulted in no admissions, and he could not be drawn into any conversation or discussion of any of the material facts pertaining to the charges against him.

Ben B. Laska stated that he would voluntarily open his Safety Deposit Box at the Colorado National Bank in the presence of Agents of this office and exhibit the contents thereof.

Immediately upon the arrest of Subject Laska, Special Agent [REDACTED] and Deputy United States Marshal [REDACTED] conducted a systematic search of Laska's office. Simultaneously with this search, the residence of Ben B. Laska at 1164 Cook Street was searched thoroughly by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] accompanied by Deputy United States Marshal [REDACTED] who executed the search warrant on these premises. No evidence of value in this case was secured at the Laska residence. However, at the office of Subject Laska a considerable amount of documentary evidence was secured. A list of the papers and documents secured in the search of Ben Laska's office is attached to copies of this report to the Division and the Oklahoma City Office.

It will be noted that this list merely furnishes a meager description of each document and paper in order to identify the same. These documents are being retained in the possession of the Denver Division Office until the hearing set for January 2, 1935, has been held, after which they will be forwarded to the Oklahoma City Office. Each document was initialed by Special Agent [REDACTED] who placed the initials [REDACTED] and the date 12-17-34 on each paper seized.

It should be noted that among the more important exhibits found were the following:

A piece of 3" by 5" white paper bearing the name Axel Rock, which according to Edward Feldmann was one of the names Subject Ben Laska suggested that he, Feldmann, use.

A sheet of legal size yellow lined paper bearing numerous pencil figures and computations which appear to represent the expenses of Subject Laska in connection with both the defense of Bates (in the Urschel case) and Sankey (in the Boettcher case)

A 3" by 5" white slip bearing the notation "Hazel Johnson will arrive at 4:04, Warfield, Axel C. Johnson", this slip containing the information which Subject Edward Feldmann claims was the substance of a wire which he sent to Ben Laska from a suburb of Chicago.

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A small black memorandum book labeled 1933 General Electric, from which it will be noted that a notation appears on the page beginning Sunday, 13 August 1933, "Bates get money order but no cash as it was Urschel money. Received \$1,000.00 as fee for Bates", and on the page beginning Sunday 20 August, 1933, "Received \$2,000.00 for Bates as fee". There also appear several other notations regarding transportation and expenses in connection with the defense of Bates.

A small red diary which bears notations in same regarding expenses for Bates.

b7C A small slip of torn paper bearing in pencil writing "George Hurlienne, 724 E. 19th Avenue, second floor apartment. [redacted] apartment [redacted] brother."

A file marked U. S. vs. Feldmann, et al, containing telegrams and letters between Ben Laska and Subject Edward Feldmann subsequent to his arrest, Feldmann's, by the Portland Office.

1933 Colorado operator's license #105957, made out to Edward G. Feldmann, 724 E. 19th Avenue, Denver.

1933 Colorado operator's license #105656, made out to Mrs. G. L. Davis, Auditorium Hotel, Denver.

1933 Washington motor vehicle operator's license #454627, made out to Edward G. Feldmann.

State of Colorado registration license, 1933, signed Mrs. G. L. Davis.

Certificate of inspection, Colorado Brake Company, showing owner G. L. Davis.

Photostatic copy of State of Illinois 1933 registration #787918, showing owner Mrs. G. L. Davis.

Identification card of Edward G. Feldmann, showing, in case of accident or illness notify A. H. Scott.

State of Colorado certificate of title to motor vehicle #388615 in the name of Mrs. G. L. Davis, Auditorium Hotel.

All of the documents and papers seized as a result of the search made of Ben B. Laska's office, among which are those described above, have been placed in manila envelopes showing the location where these exhibits were found.

Special Agent [REDACTED] obtained a sample of the typewriting on the Royal typewriter bearing #X511552 found in the office of Ben B. Laska. This sample of typewriting is being furnished the Division by separate cover in order that same may be compared with the original ransom notes in this case. The Oklahoma City Office, it is understood, has secured samples of the typewriting prepared upon the typewriter in the office of James C. Mathers and will forward samples to the Division for similar comparison.

On December 17, 1934, [REDACTED] mentioned by Subject Edward Feldmann as being the party who advised him that Ben B. Laska desired to get in contact with him and his mother, was taken to the Denver Division Office by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] where he was questioned concerning this matter and furnished the following signed statement:

"I, [REDACTED] make the following voluntary statement to Special Agents C. C. Spears and [REDACTED] and no threats or promises of any kind have been made to me, and I make this statement freely and the same is true.

My name is [REDACTED] I reside at [REDACTED] Denver, Colorado, and in August and September, 1933, I resided at 724 East 19th Avenue, Denver, Colorado. My mother is [REDACTED] and my sister, [REDACTED] is married to George Hurtienne, who is a brother of Clara Davis or Clara Feldman.

At the time of the arrest of Albert Bates, who is known to us as George Davis, in Denver in August, 1933, we were residing at 724 East 19th Avenue. About a day or two after Bates was arrested, a man called at our home, my mother and I being present. He introduced himself as Ben Laska, attorney, who was representing Bates, who we knew as George Davis.

Laska stated to us that he wanted to get in touch with Mrs. Davis and her son, meaning Clara and Ed Feldman. He asked us whether or not we knew where they were, and my mother and I or one of us told him that we did not know where they were. He then told us that if we saw them or got in touch with them, that he, Laska, wanted to see them. This is all of the conversation that I can remember, at the present time, that we had with Mr. Laska.

On the following day Ed Feldman came to our house and asked me to send a telegram, which was a telegram that Bates wanted sent to the police department at Fort Worth, Texas. I sent this telegram and at the time of Ed's visit, I told him that Attorney Ben Laska had called and wanted to see him and his mother. I believe I either helped Ed look in the phone book to find Mr. Laska's address, or I told Ed to

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look in the phone book, and we found it was in the Symes Building. Ed and I walked downtown to the vicinity of the Symes Building, where I left Ed.

To the best of my recollection, Ben Laska has not called upon us or contacted us in any way since that first visit.

/s/ [REDACTED]

WITNESSES:

/s/ C. C. Spears

Special Agent in Charge, Division of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, 411 U. S. Court House Bldg., Portland, Ore.

/s/ [REDACTED]

Special Agent, Division of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, 422 Midland Savings Bldg., Denver, Colorado.

[REDACTED] Denver, Colorado, the mother of [REDACTED] voluntarily appeared at the Denver Division Office and furnished a signed statement which, in substance, is to the effect that at the time of the arrest of Albert Bates in Denver during the month of August, 1933, she was residing at 724 East 13th Avenue, and that about a day or two after Bates was arrested, a man called at her home and introduced himself as Ben Laska, stating that he was the attorney for George Davis, whom she later learned used the name of Bates, and that Laska stated to her that he desired to get in touch with Mrs. Davis and her son, meaning Clara and Edward Feldmann. She stated that she told Mr. Laska that she did not know where they could be located, and that this was the only conversation she had with Ben Laska at any time.

It having been ascertained through interview with Subject Edward Feldmann that he placed his car in the garage of the neighbor occupying the house on the south side of 1164 Cook Street, the address of Ben Laska, an investigation was made which revealed that this house is the residence of [REDACTED] and bears the street address 1158 Cook Street. [REDACTED] voluntarily appeared at the Denver Division Office and furnished the following signed statement:

"I, [REDACTED] make the following voluntary statement to C. C. Spears and [REDACTED] whom I know to be Special Agents of the Division of Investigation, United States Department of Justice. No threats or promises of any kind have been made to me. I make this statement freely and voluntarily, and the same is the truth.

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Q. What is your full name.

A. [REDACTED]

Q. How old are you.

A. 24. I reside with my parents at 1158 Cook Street, Denver, Colorado. I resided at that address in the summer of 1934. My family and I have been neighbors to Ben B. Laska for about 15 years, and we are, of course, friendly with them as neighbors.

On one day last summer, the date I can not remember, I was at home in the evening and received a telephone call from Ben Laska, in which he stated to me that he had a kid visiting there from the mountains who had a car and wanted to know if both sides of our garage were rented. I informed him that one side of the garage was available and that he could use it. As a matter of fact, I had my Hupmobile in the garage on the side next to Laska's premises and moved my Hupmobile out in order to give space for the car Laska wanted parked. In the telephone conversation, Mr. Laska stated that he would pay us for the use of the garage, and I believe he said that the garage would be needed for a few nights.

As stated above, I moved out my Hupmobile, and the car Mr. Laska was referring to was parked in the garage that evening although I did not see them put the car in the garage. I did, however, see the car the following morning and noticed that it was a Ford V-8, and it appeared to be a new car. I am not positive how long the car stayed in our garage but believe it was two or three days and nights.

In his telephone conversation, Mr. Laska was insistent about making payment for the use of the garage, and while I did not receive any money from Mr. Laska, I understood that my mother received a dollar from Mrs. Laska some time shortly after the occurrence.

/s/ [REDACTED]

WITNESSES:

C. C. Spears

Special Agent in Charge, Division of
Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice,
411 U. S. Court House Building, Portland, Ore.

[REDACTED]
Special Agent, Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice, 422 Midland
Savings Bldg., Denver, Colorado.

Deputy United States Marshal [REDACTED] advised Special Agent in Charge Jay C. Newman that he understood that Subject Ben B. Laska owned a

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summer house located at Grand Lake, Colorado. Special Agent [REDACTED] was advised by [REDACTED] during the time the house was being searched, that they had disposed of this house at Grand Lake. [REDACTED] also advised that he understood Laska had disposed of this property. In order to verify this information, Special Agent in Charge Jay C. Newman made telephonic inquiry of the County Clerk's Office, Hot Sulphur Springs, Colorado, which office covers Grand Lake, Colorado, and was advised that the house at Grand Lake, previously in the name of Margaret Laska, the wife of Subject Ben B. Laska, was deeded on September 1, 1934, to Robert and Frances M. Mayo.

On the night of December 17, 1934, Subject Edward Feldmann was taken back to Oklahoma City by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] assigned to that office.

On November 18, 1934, the Division was requested by wire to obtain and forward to the Denver Division Office photostatic copies of the Federal Income Tax returns made by Subject Ben B. Laska for the years 1932 and 1933.

The Division was also notified by wire on December 18, 1934, that Subject Laska had been released on an \$13,000.00 bond.

The following is a description of Subject Laska:

Name	BEN B. LASKA alias BERYL BENJAMIN LASKA
Age	36
Height	5 feet 10 inches
Weight	139
Build	Medium
Complexion	Medium
Hair	Dark brown, partially bald
Eyes	Brown
Place of birth	New York City
Peculiarities	Wears pinch glasses
Fingerprints	On file Washington, D. C. U. S. Marshal Denver #2586

The Division has been requested to furnish the criminal record of Subject Laska.

PENDING.

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Denver, Colorado,
December 18, 1934.

List of items obtained under search warrant dated December 17, 1934, covering the office of Ben B. Laska, 620 Symes Building, Denver, Colorado.

The following items were located in a case file entitled "Bates". This file was located in the lower file cabinet in the inner office of Ben B. Laska:

Letter from James H. Mathers dated August 8, addressed "Den".

Letter addressed to Ben B. Laska dated September 1, 1933, signed Philip S. Van Cise, together with assignment and authorization to transfer a 1933 Buick Victory Coupe dated August 30, 1933.

Carbon copy of a telegram addressed to Messrs. Mathers and Mathers, dated September 8, 1933, from Ben B. Laska.

Envelope addressed to Ben B. Laska, postmarked October 6, 1933, containing letter addressed to "Friend Ben", dated September 6, 1933, signed "George".

Blank envelope containing letter addressed "My Darling" dated September 6, 1933, signed "George".

Carbon copy of night letter addressed to Albert L. Bates, dated October 4, 1933, from Ben. B. Laska.

Carbon copy of letter addressed James H. Mathers, dated October 9, 1933.

Carbon copy of letter addressed to Mr. Albert L. Bates, dated October 9, 1933, with identification initials
BBL:J

Carbon copy of two-page letter addressed to Mr. Albert L. Bates, dated October 13, 1933.

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Envelope addressed to Mr. Ben B. Laska, postmarked October 17, 1933, attached to letter addressed "Dear Friend Ben", dated October 14, 1933, signed Albert L. Bates; and a receipt dated October 9, 1933, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, signed "T_____ M. Fusin, Clerk."

Carbon copy of three-page letter addressed to Mr. Albert L. Bates, dated October 19, 1933, with identification initials BBL:E.

Letter addressed "Dear Ben", dated October 25, 1933, signed James Mathers.

Carbon copy of a letter addressed Messrs. Mathers and Mathers, dated January 18, 1934.

Envelope addressed to Mr. B. B. Laska, postmarked October 26, 1934, containing letter addressed to Mr. B. B. Laska, dated October 25, 1934, signed Albert L. Bates.

Carbon copy of a letter addressed to Mathers and Mathers, dated February 23, 1934, with identification initials BBL:E.

Letter addressed to Hon. Ben B. Laska, dated February 26, 1934, from James H. Mathers.

Carbon copy of a letter addressed to Mr. James H. Mathers, dated August 30, 1934, with identification initials BBL:E.

Letter addressed "Friend Ben", dated October 9, 1933, signed by Albert L. Bates.

Photograph of Albert L. Bates with written notation "To My Darling, September 28 - 33. George".

Front page of The Oklahoma News of October 1, 1933.

One yellow sheet of paper, size 8 3/8" by 13 15/16" with notations of expenses.

One envelope from the Oklahoma Biltmore, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, with the pencil notation "221 W. 5th, Apt. 327"

One white sheet of paper, size 3" by 5" with pencil notation "Axel Rock".

One white sheet of paper, size 3" by 5" with pencil notations at top "5.50 Sept. 15" and other pencil notations.

One white sheet of paper, size 3" by 5" with pencil notations "775 in cash, Police, 660 to Gvt" and other pencil notations.

One billfold containing a card for George L. Davis for the Showmans League, and a Colorado operator's license of G. L. Davis.

One newspaper photograph of Mrs. George L. Davis.

The following items were located in the center of the left hand section of the pigeonhole of the desk located in the inner office of Ben B. Laska, 620 Symes Building.

One 1933 black General Electric Diary, size 2-3/4" by 4 1/2", the first notation in said Diary being for Wednesday, January 4, 1933, in which there is a pencil notation "Glenn20". The second notation is on Thursday, January 5, 1933, in which there is a pencil notation "Smaldone 50".

One red diary, size 3" by 5" with the word "Dairy" printed across the top in gold letters. On the inside coverpage of this diary, there is written in ink the figures "1934". The first notation in this diary is on January 1, where again there is written in ink the figures "1934". On the lower part of the same page is the pencil notation "Transportation and expense for Bates".

One white sheet of paper, size 3" by 5" with three lines of pencil notations, the first being "Hazel Johnson".

The following items were located on a blotter of the desk located in the inner office of Ben B. Laska, 620 Symes Building.

One irregular size piece of paper, approximate size being 3" by 3", with seven lines of pencil notations, the first being "George Hurtienne".

One yellow sheet of paper, size 8 3/8" by 13 15/16" with four lines of pencil notations, the first being "Gallagher and Gallagher".

The following items were located in a case file entitled "U. S. vs. Feldman, et al". This file was located on the desk in the inner office of Ben B. Laska, 620 Symes Building.

One piece of lined paper, size 5 3/4 by 6 1/2", headed by "Edward G. Feldman, Portland, Oregon, in care of County Jail".

Telegram addressed to attorney Ben B. Laska, dated November 10, from Edward G. Feldmann.

Telegram to Ben B. Laska, attorney, dated November 12, from Edward G. Feldmann.

Carbon copy of telegram to Edward G. Feldman, dated November 13, 1934, from Ben B. Laska.

Carbon copy of letter to Mr. Edward G. Feldmann, dated November 13, 1934.

The following items were located in a brown envelope, size 4 1/2" by 10 3/4". This envelope has the notation at the left hand corner "Motor Vehicle Receipts". This envelope was located among the general files in the filing cabinet located in Ben B. Laska's inner office.

Colorado operator's license #105957, issued to Edward G. Feldman.

Colorado operator's license #105656, issued to Mrs. G. L. Davis.

State of Washington Motor Vehicle operator's license #454627, issued to Edward G. Feldmann.

State of Colorado Motor Vehicle registration for 1933 license #65483 for a Buick Victoria coupe, motor #2823917.

Certificate of Inspection for a Buick car, owner G. L. Davis, by the Colorado Brake Company.

State of Illinois license plate certificate, dated April 21, to Mrs. G. L. Davis, 5519 S. Blackstone, Chicago.

One white piece of paper, size 3" by 5" with pencil notations "Mrs. G. L. Davis, Aud. Hotel".

California Department Motor Vehicle Questionnaire for Chauffeurs.

Statement from the Central Auto Body Shop, Denver, Colorado, dated 7-1-33.

Identification card for Edward G. Feldmann.

Invoice from the Heinz Motor Company, Niles Center, Illinois, for a Buick Victoria coupe sold to Mrs. G. L. Davis, 5519 Blackstone Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Colorado Certificate of Title to Motor Vehicle, issued to Mrs. G. L. Davis, Auditorium Hotel, for a Buick Victoria coupe, motor No. 2823917. The Certificate is dated Denver, Colorado, May 12, 1933.

29072

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

) ss

AFFIDAVIT FOR SEARCH WARRANT

DISTRICT OF COLORADO)

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 17th day of December, 1934, A. D., before me the undersigned United States Commissioner, District of Colorado, came EDWARD GEORGE FELDMANN, who being by me duly sworn, deposes and says, as follows:

That, there is now located and concealed in Room 620 Symes Building, at 832 Sixteenth Street, in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado certain property, to-wit:

1. A sheet of paper with a drawn diagram purporting to show the location of certain described ransom money, the said sheet of paper being approximately five (5) inches wide and nine (9) inches long, and shows by diagram and reference the City of Denver, the line drawn from Denver to Cheyenne, Wyoming, and line drawn from the place designated as Cheyenne to Laramie, Wyoming, and at a curve in said line a clump of trees and hillside and a dot to designate the place said money was concealed.
2. One Colorado automobile operator's license, described as follows: "State of Colorado, Motor Vehicle Department, Operator's License No. 105957. This is to certify that EDWARD G. FELDMANN of 724 E. 19th Avenue, Denver, has this 17th day of May, 1933, been licensed to operate motor vehicles in accordance with the provisions of the uniform Motor Vehicle Act of Colorado. Age, 21; sex, male; height, 6'; weight, 165; color eyes, L. green; color hair, L. brown. By, ES."

3. One Western Union telegram sent from a suburb of Chicago, Illinois, to Ben B. Laska, 1164 Cook Street, Denver, Colorado, said telegram giving an address in Chicago, Illinois, and being signed as Axel C. or A. C. Johnson.
4. One office file with papers, letters, and notes in said file, said papers, letters, and notes being correspondence consisting of papers, letters, and notes between the said Ben B. Laska and one Albert Bates, showing the transactions and written instructions between said Ben B. Laska and Albert Bates, and papers, letters, and notes showing transactions between the said Ben B. Laska and Edward George Feldmann alias Axel C. Johnson and Clara Feldmann alias Ruth Johnson, said papers, letters, and notes are more specifically described as those papers, letters, and notes that give instructions from the said Albert Bates to Ben B. Laska to be by him conveyed to Edward George Feldmann alias Axel C. Johnson and Clara Feldmann alias Ruth Johnson as to the disposition of said ransom money, the amount to be paid to the said Ben B. Laska and the hiding and secreting of said ransom money by Edward George Feldmann alias Axel C. Johnson and Clara Feldmann alias Ruth Johnson, and all transactions dealing with the disposition of said money and acts to be performed or done by Edward George Feldmann alias Axel C. Johnson and Clara Feldmann alias Ruth Johnson, to-wit: Four hundred (400) Federal Reserve notes of the Federal Reserve Bank, Tenth District, Kansas City, Missouri, in denominations of

39072P

twenty dollars (\$20.00), said notes bearing certain numbers within and between 00000291 and 32130174, bearing the letter "J" prefixed to the aforesaid numbers, which numbers are followed by the letter "A", the aforesaid Federal Reserve notes being a portion of the original ransom money paid on or about July 31, 1933 at Kansas City, Missouri, for the release of Charles F. Urschel, who was kidnaped at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on or about July 22, 1933.

That, the map or drawn diagram hereinbefore described was by this affiant drawn in the office of the said Ben B. Laska, Room 620, Symes Building, in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, and was given to said Ben B. Laska for the purported purpose of informing and conveying to the said Ben B. Laska where more than sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) of the ransom money was hidden as hereinbefore described.

That, on or about the 15th day of August, 1933, your affiant states that he delivered to one Ben B. Laska at his office, 620 Symes Building, in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, a Colorado automobile operator's license, No. 105957, in pursuance to a scheme and design whereby the said Edward George Feldmann was to change his name to that of Axel C. Johnson so that the said Edward George Feldmann could more readily deceive the officers as to his identity, and thereafter to communicate with the said Ben B. Laska without suspicion on the part of the said officers.

That, on or about the 7th day of September, 1933, your affiant sent to the said Ben B. Laska a telegram from a suburb and station of Chicago, Illinois, in which he disclosed to the said Ben B. Laska his then address in Chicago, Illinois, and signed said telegram as Axel C. or A. C. Johnson; that said telegram was sent by your affiant to said Ben B. Laska so that the said Ben B. Laska could know the whereabouts of this affiant and more readily communicate as to the disposition of the ransom money hereinbefore described, which was, at that time, in the possession, or under the control of this affiant and one Clara Feldmann.

That, during the period from on or about August 15, 1933, to and including September 13, 1933, your affiant and one Clara Feldmann alias Ruth Johnson did on various dates during this period consult with the said Ben B. Laska at his office and at his home relative to said ransom money above described and the disposition thereof; and, that, in his office at 620 Symes Building, in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, and during the period hereinbefore described, the said Ben B. Laska did then and there read to this affiant certain papers, letters, and notes received from one Albert Bates directing the said Ben B. Laska and this affiant and Clara Feldmann as to what disposition should be made of the ransom money above described and what action this affiant and Clara Feldmann should take in concealing themselves from the officers, and that said papers, letters, and notes were all then located in a file in the office of the said Ben B. Laska at 620 Symes Building, in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, and that thereafter on or about the 7th day of August, 1934, your affiant conversed with the said Ben B. Laska relative to the instructions and disposition of said ransom money as contained in said papers, letters, and notes received from Albert Bates.

That, all of the property hereinbefore described has been used as a means of committing certain crimes, to-wit: the felony of kidnaping and willfully violating the provisions of Section 408a, U.S.C.A., an Act of Congress approved June 22, 1932, Chapter 271, 47 Statutes at Large 326, and that all of the above described property is now located in the office of the said Ben B. Laska at 620 Symes Building, the street number being 832 Sixteenth Street, in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado.

WHEREFORE, affiant prays that a search warrant be issued empowering the United States Commissioner with the necessary and proper assistants to enter into and thoroughly search the said premises, to-wit: the

office of Ben B. Laska, located at 832 Sixteenth Street, Room No. 620, in the City and County of Denver, in the daytime and to seize and to take therefrom all of the above described property found in said office.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 17th day of December, 1934, A.D.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

) SS

)
DISTRICT OF COLORADO)

SEARCH WARRANT

29075

The President of the United States of America

To the Marshal of the United States for the District of
Colorado and to his deputies and to any or either of them,

GREETING:

WHEREAS, EDWARD GEORGE FELDMANN, has this day made oath in writing
before the undersigned, a United States Commissioner for the District of
Colorado, to the effect that there is upon certain premises within said
district, to-wit: the office of Ben B. Laska, Room 620, Symes Building,
832 Sixteenth Street, in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado,
there has been and now is located and concealed certain property, to-wit:

1. A sheet of paper with a drawn diagram purporting to
show the location of certain described ransom money,
the said sheet of paper being approximately five (5)
inches wide and nine (9) inches long, and shows by
diagram and reference the City of Denver, the line
drawn from Denver to Cheyenne, Wyoming, and line
drawn from the place designated as Cheyenne to Laramie,
Wyoming, and at a curve in said line a clump of trees
and hillside and a dot to designate the place said
money was concealed.
2. One Colorado automobile operator's license, described
as follows: "State of Colorado, Motor Vehicle Depart-
ment, Operator's License No. 105957. This is to
certify that EDWARD G. FELDMAN of 724 E. 19th Avenue,
Denver, has this 17th day of May, 1933, been licensed
to operate motor vehicles in accordance with the pro-
visions of the uniform Motor Vehicle Act of Colorado.
Age, 21; sex, male; height, 6'; weight, 165, color eyes,
L. green; color hair, L. brown. By, ES."

29076

3. One Western Union telegram sent from a suburb of Chicago, Illinois, to Ben B. Laska, 1164 Cook Street, Denver, Colorado, said telegram giving an address in Chicago, Illinois, and being signed as Axel C. or A. C. Johnson.
4. One office file with papers, letters, and notes in said file, said papers, letters, and notes being correspondence consisting of papers, letters, and notes between the said Ben B. Laska and one Albert Bates, showing the transactions and written instructions between said Ben B. Laska and Albert Bates, and papers, letters, and notes showing transactions between the said Ben B. Laska and Edward George Feldmann alias Axel C. Johnson and Clara Feldmann alias Ruth Johnson, said papers, letters, and notes are more specifically described as those papers, letters, and notes that give instructions from the said Albert Bates to Ben B. Laska to be by him conveyed to Edward George Feldmann alias Axel C. Johnson and Clara Feldmann alias Ruth Johnson as to the disposition of said ransom money, the amount to be paid to the said Ben B. Laska and the hiding and secreting of said ransom money by Edward George Feldmann alias Axel C. Johnson and Clara Feldmann alias Ruth Johnson, and all transactions dealing with the disposition of said money and acts to be performed or done by Edward George Feldmann alias Axel C. Johnson and Clara Feldmann alias Ruth Johnson, to-wit: Four hundred (400) Federal Reserve notes of the Federal Reserve Bank, Tenth District, Kansas City, Missouri, in denominations of twenty dollars (\$20.00), said notes bearing certain numbers within and

between 00000291 and 32130174, bearing the letter "J" prefixed to the aforesaid numbers, which numbers are followed by the letter "A", the aforesaid Federal Reserve notes being a portion of the original ransom money paid on or about July 31, 1933 at Kansas City, Missouri, for the release of Charles F. Urschel, who was kidnaped at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on or about July 22, 1933.

which said property has been used as a means of committing certain crimes, to-wit: the felony of kidnaping and willfully violating the provisions of Section 408a, U.S.C.A., an Act of Congress approved June 22, 1932, Chapter 271, 47 Statutes at Large 326, and that all of the above described property is now located in the office of the said Ben B. Laska at 620 Symes Building, the street number being 832 Sixteenth Street, in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado.

AND, WHEREAS, From an examination upon oath of said complaint hereinbefore and the written affidavit of the complainant hereinabove, it appears from the facts that the drawn diagram purporting to show the location of more than sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) was given by the complainant to the said Ben B. Laska in his office at Room 620, Symes Building, in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado; and, that, on or about the 15th day of August, 1933, the said complainant delivered to the said Ben B. Laska his Colorado automobile operator's license, No. 105957, pursuant to a scheme and design to deceive the officers and readily dispose of said ransom money; and, that, on the 7th day of September, 1933, the complainant forwarded a telegram from a suburb of Chicago, Illinois, disclosing to the said Ben B. Laska the address of the complainant; and, that, for the period from on or about August 15, 1933 to and including September 13, 1933, the complainant saw certain files, papers, letters, and notes in the office of the said Ben B. Laska at 620 Symes Building in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, and there conversed with the said Ben B. Laska relative

to the instructions contained in said notes, letters, and papers received from one Albert Bates as to the disposition of said ransom money, all showing a scheme and design to dispose of said ransom money.

Whereas, this cause coming on for hearing on the application for Search Warrant supported by affidavit as herein stated, and being satisfied of the existence of the grounds of said application, and there is probable cause to believe their existence.

YOU ARE, THEREFORE, HEREBY COMMANDED, in the name of the President of the United States to enter said premises, to-wit: the office of Ben B. Iaska, Room 620, Symes Building, at 832 Sixteenth Street, in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, with the necessary and proper assistants in the daytime and thoroughly to search the same and to secure and take therefrom all of the above described property unto your possession, if found, to bring the said property before me and to report and act concerning the same, as required of you by law.

Given under my hand and seal this 17th day of December, 1934.

United States Commissioner
for the
District of Colorado

J-1A2-1A22

29079

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
DISTRICT OF COLORADO)

SS

AFFIDAVIT FOR SEARCH WARRANT

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this Seventeenth day of December 1934 A. D., before me, the undersigned United States Commissioner for the District of Colorado, came EDWARD GEORGE FELDMANN, who, being by me duly sworn deposes and says as follows:

That, there is concealed upon certain premises within said District, to wit: a brick house located at 1164 Cook Street, in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, occupied by one Ben B. Iaska, and other persons

1. Certain United States currency, to wit: four hundred (400) Federal Reserve notes of the Federal Reserve Bank, Tenth District, Kansas City, Missouri, in denomination of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) each, certain notes bearing certain numbers within and between 00000291 and 32130174, bearing the letter J prefixed to the aforesaid numbers, which numbers are followed by the letter A, the aforesaid Federal Reserve notes being a portion of the original ransom money paid on or about July 31, 1933, at Kansas City, Missouri, for the release of one Charles T. Urschel, who was kidnaped at Oklahoma City on July 22, 1933.

2. One cloth money belt, color white, about thirty-six inches long and four inches wide.

3. One office file containing letters, papers, and notes, and certain typewritten papers reported to be copies of notes received from said Albert Bates, and the original note written in the handwriting of one Albert Bates, setting forth instructions to the said Ben B. Iaska to inform this affiant and Clara Feldmann as follows:

"For this affiant and said Clara Feldmann to pay to Ben B. Iaska as much of the money as the said Ben B. Iaska

"asked for his expenses", and "For this affiant and Clara Feldmann to dispose of the balance of said money as they thought best", and "For this affiant and Clara Feldmann to get out of the country or give themselves up to the officers."

That, all of said property above described is concealed at 1164 Cook Street, City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, by the said Ben B. Laska, the said Ben B. Laska receiving the above described property in the following manner:

That, on or about the Sixteenth day of August, 1933, your affiant delivered to the said Ben B. Laska at 1164 Cook Street, City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, the four hundred (400) Federal Reserve notes, as above described, in the cloth money belt, above described, and that the said Ben B. Laska did then and there take and conceal and hide said money on the premises at 1164 Cook Street, City and County of Denver, State of Colorado.

That, on or about November 20, 1933, your affiant within the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, conversed with the said Ben B. Laska, and there was shown a file containing letters, notes, and papers, received from the said Albert Bates; and said Ben B. Laska, after showing this affiant said letters, notes, and papers placed them in his file and thereafter concealed said file in the building at 1164 Cook Street.

That, all of said property hereintofore described has been used as a means of committing certain crimes; that is to say, the felony of kidnaping and entering into a conspiracy to violate the provisions of Section 406a, U. S. C. A., an Act of Congress, June 22, 1932, Chapter 271, 47 Statutes 326. And that your affiant knows that all of the above described property were located at 1164 Cook Street, City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, on the dates above mentioned.

Therefore, affiant prays that a search warrant be issued

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
DISTRICT OF COLORADO)

SS

SEARCH WARRANT

29081

- 3 -

empowering the said United States Marshal with the necessary and proper assistance to enter into and thoroughly search the said premises, to wit: the said residence of Ben R. Iaska, located at 1134 Cook Street, City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, in the daytime, and to seize and take therefrom all of the above described property.

Signed: _____

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this Seventeenth day of December, A. D. 1934.

Signed: _____
United States Commissioner
for the District of Colorado

note written in the handwriting of one Albert Bates, setting

forth instructions to the said Ben B. Laska to inform this affiant and Clara Feldman as follows: "For this affiant and said Clara Feldmann to pay to Ben B. Laska as much of the money as the said Ben B. Laska asked for his expenses", and "For this affiant and Clara Feldmann to dispose of the balance of said money as they thought best", and "For this affiant and Clara Feldmann to get out of the country or give themselves up to the officers."

That, all of said property heretofore described has been used as a means of committing certain crimes; that is to say, the felony of kidnaping and entering into a conspiracy to violate the provisions of Section 408a, U. S. C. A., an Act of Congress, June 22, 1932, Chapter 271, 47 Statutes 326.

And, whereas, the particular grounds for probable cause for the issuance of this Search Warrant consists of facts furnished by EDWARD GEORGE FELDMANN, who personally appeared before me, the undersigned, the United States Commissioner, and testified under oath and made affidavit as follows:

That on the Sixteenth of August, 1933, within the City and County of Denver, at 1164 Cook Street, there was delivered to Ben B. Laska four hundred (400) Federal Reserve notes as above described in the cloth money belt above described, and that on or about November 20, 1933, the said Ben B. Laska, at 1164 Cook Street, City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, there had in his possession certain letters, notes, and papers received from one Albert Bates; and it appears from the facts set forth in the affidavit and the statement of the complainant that said facts are true and that there is probable cause to believe their existence and for this Search Warrant to issue.

YOU ARE, THEREFORE, HEREBY COMMANDED, in the name of the President of the United States, to forthwith enter said premises during the daytime, to-wit: The residence of Ben B. Laska, located at 1164 Cook Street, City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, and

- 3 -

thoroughly to search the same and any building, room, closet, cellar, or sub-cellar in connection therewith for all such property hereinbefore specified, to seize and to take the same unto your possession if found, to bring said property before me and to report and act concerning the same as required of you by law.

Given under my hand and seal this Seventeenth day of December, 1934.

United States Commissioner in and
for the District of Colorado

29082

JEH

December 18, 1934

Time-10:43 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

During a telephonic conversation with Mr. Stanley, I cited several instances where too much publicity has been given cases. I stated that some of the confidential information contained in papers regarding the arrest of Ben Laska and James C. Mathers which I sent through to the Attorney General last night appeared in the morning papers as given out by an Assistant District Attorney.

I advised Mr. Stanley that Laska would easily be convicted if we could only keep things a secret; that our main difficulty lay in getting him out of Denver into Oklahoma City; that his conviction would be a much simpler matter in Oklahoma City. I stated that the trial was set for January 2nd and it might be necessary for us to have a Special Assistant for the trial or a special criminal lawyer as it is a big case. Laska was indicted once before and wasn't convicted..

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

1 copy

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

RECORDED & INDEXED

7-115-1478	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 20 1934 P.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
Post Office Box 1276
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
December 18, 1934

DB:
7-6

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

RE: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases;
BEN B. LASKA - FUGITIVE;
JAMES C. MATHERS; ET AL;
CHARLES F. URSCHEL, Victim
KIDNAPING.

Dear Sir:

This is to advise the Division that on December 18, 1934 subject James C. Mathers was released on a \$10,000.00 bond, which was approved by Honorable Edgar S. Vaught, United States District Judge at Oklahoma City.

The sureties on this bond are named as Key Mathers, H. B. Cable, H. J. Mackey, Mrs. Lynn Walter and Katie L. McWilliams, all of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. It is alleged in the bond that the property owned by these sureties is worth \$27,000.00.

Assistant United States Attorney F. M. Dudley stated that Mathers' father entered a plea of not guilty for subject Mathers with the provision that the same can be withdrawn any time between now and the fixing of a date for trial, which he understands to mean that the predicate has been laid in the entering of such a plea for the filing of any motions, demurrers, etc.

Clara Feldman entered a plea of guilty on December 17, and the imposition of sentence has been postponed indefinitely. Ed Feldman has not been arraigned. Alvin Scott entered a plea of guilty on December 17, 1934 and stated to the Court that he was "partially guilty", but the Court did not permit such a plea and he, therefore, entered a plea of not guilty. [REDACTED] was not indicted and is being released.

Very truly yours,

Dwight Brantley,
Special Agent in Charge.

RECORDED

INDEXED

DEC 22 1934

7-115-1479
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 21 1934
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

422 Midland Savings Bldg.,
Denver, Colo.,
December 19, 1934.

RECEIVED

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

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

Dear Sir:

For your information, there is set forth below a list of cases submitted to Special Agent in Charge C. C. Spears of the Portland office by Elton Watkins, attorney for subject Alvin H. Scott. These cases are purported to show that where A and B conspire to kidnap and do it and get the money, and later on others who had no connection with the conspiracy, or perhaps had nothing to do with it, come into the matter by receiving the money actually procured, they come within the conspiracy:

Lincoln v. Claflin, et al, 19 L. Ed. 106, and notes.
U. S. v. Lake Shore and M. S. Ry., 203 Fed. 307
Lomita Land Co. v. Robinson (Cal.) 18 L.R.A. (N.S.) 1106.
Pacific Livestock Co. v. Gentry, 38 Ore. 275
6 Am. & Eng. Enc. Law (2 ed.) 870
State v. Thaden, 43 Minn. 253 (45 Pac. 447)
Com. v. Smith, 151 Mass. 491 (24 N.E. 677)
Baker v. State, 80 Wis. 416 (50 N.W. 518)
State v. Smith, 55 Ore. 408.

Very truly yours,

JAY C. NEWMAN,
Special Agent in Charge.

JCN:

b7C

cc Division
U. S. Attorney, Denver.

7-115	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 24 1934 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
ONE	FILE

lcs; b7c

Division File

J

December 20, 1934

Special Agent in Charge,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:

Referring to fingerprints forwarded by you, please be advised that an examination of the fingerprint records of the Division of Investigation fails to disclose any data concerning the following:

Original

James Carson Mathers

AIR MAIL

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-115-1480	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 21 1934 P.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
ONE	FILE

FILES SECTION	
MAILED	
★	DEC 20 1934 ★
P. M.	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION,	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

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

DB:
7-6

P. O. Box 1276,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma,
December 17, 1934.

ay
F
K
Director,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Re: GEORGE KELLY BARNES with aliases;
BEN B. LASKA - FUGITIVE;
JAMES C. MATHERS; ET AL,
CHARLES F. DURSCHEL - Victim,
Kidnaping.

All b7C

Dear Sir:

This is to confirm telephonic conversation I had with Mr. Tamm of the Division today to the effect that James C. Mathers, an attorney, was arrested at the office of his father at Oklahoma City by Division Agents this morning in connection with his indictment in the above captioned case.

The Agents who arrested Mathers are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Immediately after Mathers arrest he was brought to this office where he was searched and fingerprinted. He had none of the ransom money in his possession nor any papers or letters of identification of any consequence.

Mathers stated that he would not make any statement concerning the case.

Following the foregoing events he was delivered to the custody of the United States Marshal, Oklahoma City. His bond originally was fixed at \$25,000 but was reduced to \$10,000 by the Court, which he has not made. He is presently in the County Jail, Oklahoma City. He has not been formally arraigned before the Court and therefore has not entered a plea to this indictment.

The matter of issuing search warrants to be executed at the time of the arrest of Mathers was discussed with Assistant United States Attorney Dudley at Oklahoma City, who stated that in view of the fact that young Mathers resides at the home of his father, James H. Mathers, and inasmuch as he has space in his father's office, it was not considered desirable.

The Division will be informed of developments in this case.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Very truly yours,

7-115-1481

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

DWIGHT BRANTLEY,

Special Agent in Charge

21 1934 A.M.

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

DEC 24 1934

FILE

7-115

December 20, 1934

Special Agent in Charge,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

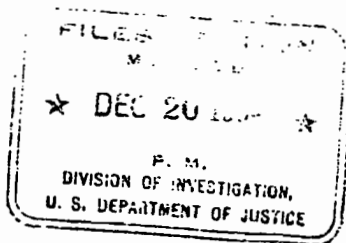
Please refer to Division letter dated November 21, 1934, addressed to [redacted] in care of the Chamber of Commerce, Ottawa, Illinois, a copy of which was forwarded to your office, in which [redacted] was advised that an Agent from your office would interview him relative to the Urschel kidnaping case.

Kindly give this matter your early attention.

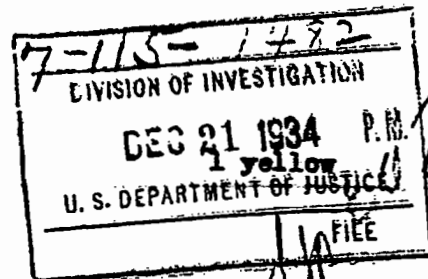
Very truly yours,

All b7C

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.



RECORDED



Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Room 1403

370 Lexington Avenue

New York, N. Y.

FXO'D:
66-605

December 19, 1934

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Baughman.....
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Keith.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Quinn ✓
Mr. Schilder.....
Mr. Tamm ✓
Mr. Tracy.....

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Pennsylvania Avenue & 9th Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

RE: MAILING LISTS FOR DISTRIBUTION OF
RANSOM LISTS AND IDENTIFICATION
ORDERS.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of December 5 in which you instructed that contact be again made with the officials of the Postal Telegraph Company and Western Union Telegraph Company to ascertain if arrangements might be made with said companies for a general distribution among all branch offices of said companies of ransom lists and identification orders.

Agreeable with said instructions, appropriate negotiations were undertaken with the following results:

Postal Telegraph Company, 67 Broad Street, New York City, readily acceded to the above described request and stated that he would be willing at any time to conduct a complete coverage of all Postal offices in the United States; that if such a step was requested in order to accomplish this purpose it will be necessary for him to have 3000 ransom lists or identification orders, 3000 penalty envelopes and at the same time 200 labels bearing the penalty frank in order that the latter may be used in readdressing portions of the 3000 circulars to several superintendents located in various parts of the country, the circulars to be redistributed by these superintendents within the territories of their various domains.

At the office of the Western Union Telegraph Company similar arrangements were completed with of the law department of said company, at his office at 60 Hudson Street, New York.

COPIES DESTROYED
20 MAR 17 1961

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

All b7C

Director,

December 19, 1934.

City. [redacted] promptly acceded to the request but stated that because of the magnitude of the job and the further fact that time might be conserved thereby, he would suggest that instead of sending to New York all ransom lists and identification orders for distribution among the various Western Union offices, he felt that it would be better were an appropriate number of lists and identification orders sent direct to various company district superintendents at those points in the United States hereafter enumerated. A total of 21,281 offices are maintained by the Western Union Company throughout the United States, known as classes 1, 2 and 3 offices which are independent Western Union offices and classes 4 and 5 which are joint offices operated in connection with railroads. (1) For the Eastern division of which [redacted] is superintendent with his headquarters at 60 Hudson Street, New York City, 4,036 circulars and identification orders or lists and envelopes would be required. (2) For the Metropolitan division of which [redacted] is acting general superintendent, with his office at 60 Hudson Street, New York City, 379 identification orders or lists and envelopes will be required. (3) For the Southern division of which [redacted] is general manager, with his office in the Western Union Building, Atlanta, Georgia, 3,027 items of each class will be required. (4) For the Lake division of which [redacted] is general manager, with his office in the Western Union Building, Chicago, Illinois, 4,369 items will be required. (5) For the Central division of which [redacted] is general manager, with his office in the Western Union Building, Omaha, Nebraska, 4,744 items will be required. (6) For the Gulf division of which [redacted] is general manager, with his office in the Western Union Building, Dallas, Texas, 2,282 items will be required. (7) For the Mountain division of which [redacted] is general manager, with his office in the Western Union Building, Denver, Colorado, 1,097 items will be required. (8) For the Pacific division of which [redacted] is general manager, with his office in the Western Union Building, San Francisco, California, 1,367 items will be required.

It had been hoped that it might have been possible to submit at this time a segregated list showing such Western Union offices as

All b7C

Director,

December 19, 1934.

are known as money order offices, but as this sub-division is not yet ready it will be necessary to transmit it at a later date.

Very truly yours,

F. X. Fay

F. X. FAY,
Special Agent in Charge.

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Re: Mailing Lists for Distribution of
Ransom lists and Identification orders.

1. Postal telegraph will send such material from their New York Office.
2. Western Union agrees but states that their 21,281 offices can be better covered by having their District Superintendents send them out.
3. A segregated list showing those Western Union offices that are money order offices, will be furnished later by the N Y office.

ST

Mr. Tolson says this appears to be a most desirable arrangement.

RECORDED

December 28, 1934.

Special Agent in Charge,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

Inquiries have recently been made of the Postal Telegraph Company and Western Union Telegraph Company by the New York City office to ascertain what arrangements might be made for the distribution of identification orders to the various local offices maintained by these companies. Arrangements were effected with the Postal Telegraph Company whereby identification orders, ransom lists and other such material can be sent to each branch office by the headquarters office of the Postal Telegraph Company.

With regard to the Western Union Telegraph Company, [redacted] of the Legal Department of that Company suggested that the desired distribution could be more expeditiously handled by supplying an appropriate number of identification orders to the various company district superintendents maintained by that concern in various cities in the country. A total of 21,281 offices are maintained by the Western Union Company throughout the United States, these offices being divided into classes numbered from one through five and classes four and five being offices jointly operated by the Western Union Telegraph Company in connection with railroads. This Company has the following various district superintendents:

- (1) For the Eastern division of which [redacted] is superintendent with his headquarters at 60 Hudson Street, New York City, 4,036 circulars and identification orders or lists and envelopes would be required.
- (2) For the Metropolitan division of which [redacted] is acting general superintendent, with his office at 60 Hudson Street, New York City, 379 identification orders or lists and envelopes will be required.
- (3) For the Southern division of which [redacted] is general manager, with his office in the Western Union Building, Atlanta, Georgia, 3,027 items of each class will be required.
- (4) For the Lake division of which [redacted] is general manager, with his office in the Western Union Building, Chicago, Illinois, 4,369 items will be required.
- (5) For the Central division of which [redacted] is general manager, with his office in the Western Union Building, Omaha, Nebraska, 4,744 items will be required.
- (6) For the Gulf division of which [redacted] is general manager, with his office in the Western Union Building, Dallas, Texas, 2,262 items will be required.
- (7) For the

SAC, Chicago, Illinois.

-2-

12/28/34.

Mountain division of which [REDACTED] is general manager, with his office in the Eastern Union Building, Denver, Colorado, 1,097 items will be required. (6) For the Pacific division of which [REDACTED] is general manager, with his office in the Eastern Union Building, San Francisco, California, 1,367 items will be required.

It is requested that the field offices covering the cities in which these various district superintendents are located make appropriate arrangements for the mailing by the superintendents of Identification Order No. 1233, issued on Thomas Henry Robinson, Jr. with aliases, to each branch office located in the various districts. It is probable that the Division will desire to avail itself of this service in future instances. Each field office receiving a copy of this letter is requested to advise by return mail of the arrangements made and of the probable date upon which the Identification orders can be mailed. Should the supply of Identification Order No. 1233 in the various field offices be insufficient, the Division, of course, must be immediately advised in order that an appropriate supply may be promptly forwarded.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

CC - New York City
Birmingham
Cuba
Dallas
Denver
San Francisco

All b7C

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

EAT:

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

December 19, 1934

3:25 P.M.

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Baughman..
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Keith.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Schilder.....
Mr. Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Newman called from Denver and stated that he had just received telephonic advice from one [REDACTED] of the Greeley (Colorado) Tribune that while Urschel was held captive, two automobiles containing several men, stopped at a gasoline filling station on the outskirts of Greeley, at which time one of the occupants of the automobile contacted by long distance telephone, Chicago, Illinois and Cheyenne, Wyoming. [REDACTED] states that the person making the telephone call talked to an individual in Cheyenne whom he referred to as "Laska", and that a heated discussion was held of some matter, during which the person making the call stated that he would "find out who was running this thing".

Mr. Newman stated that [REDACTED] advised him that the Denver Post already has this story.

Mr. Newman is now endeavoring to locate [REDACTED] who was the filling station attendant in charge of the gasoline station at the time that the above telephone calls were made. [REDACTED] is now employed as a school teacher in Aurora, Colorado but is not located there at the present time, having been reported to be in Denver on a shopping trip.

Mr. Newman stated that an immediate check will be made of the telephone calls and that efforts will be made when [REDACTED] is located to have him identify photographs of the various principals in this case. An effort will also be made to locate one [REDACTED] of Purcell, Colorado for interview, it having been stated that this person was in the gasoline station at the time these calls were made. Mr. Newman advises that the diary found in connection with the search of Laska's premises shows that he was evidently in Cheyenne, Wyoming on July 10 and again on July 20.

I instructed Mr. Newman to give this matter vigorous attention and to advise the Division immediately of any developments.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

RECORDED & INDEXED

DEC 22 1934

1 copy

All b7C

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

422 Midland Savings Bldg.,
Denver, Colo.,
December 18, 1934.

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

Re: **GEORGE KELLY BARNES et al**
CHARLES F. URSCHEL - Victim
KIDNAPING.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is a specimen of type-
writing made with Royal typewriter No. X51 1552,
which typewriter is in the office of Ben B. Laska,
subject in this case. This specimen was obtained
at the time subject Laska's office was searched
on December 17, 1934, pursuant to the search
warrant executed by the United States Marshal
on that date.

This specimen of typewriting should be
compared with the original ransom notes in this
case, in order to determine whether this type-
writer was the one which was used in writing the
original ransom notes.

Very truly yours,

Jay C. Newman
JAY C. NEWMAN,
Special Agent in Charge.

Enc. *67C*

cc Oklahoma City
9. SW

RECORDED

DEC 26 1934

7-115-1475	
DEC 22 1934	FILE
ADWARDS	LAB.

Copy and Specimens forwarded to Laboratory
CH 12/24

affid

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

2703

Laboratory Report

Case: George Kelly Barnes et al
Charles F. Urschel - Victim

Number: 7-115-1435

Specimens: One page of typewriting specimens made on Royal typewriter
No. X51 1552.

Examination requested by: Denver Division Office.

Date received: December 24, 1934.

Examination requested: Typewriting.

Result of examination:

Examination by: Appel.

1 2/2
1/2 c could not be the same as
written on different
manufg. machine.

7-115-1486

RECORDED

December 28, 1934

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

Attached hereto is a copy of a memorandum
which I have today submitted to the Attorney General,
concerning the transportation of Alvin H. Scott,
Clara Feldman and [REDACTED] subjects in
the Urschel kidnaping case, from Portland, Oregon
to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

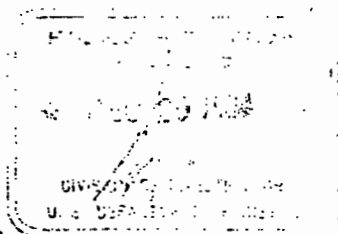
Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Inclosure No. 839104

All b7C

1 yellow



December 28, 1934

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

With reference to the recent developments in the Urachal kidnaping case, I desire to bring to your attention certain information which I have just received concerning the removal of Clara Feldman, [redacted] and Alvin H. Scott, from Portland, Oregon to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where Clara Feldman and Scott were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on December 14, 1934. These subjects were taken from Portland, Oregon, on the night of December 8, 1934, by Deputy United States Marshal [redacted] and two women guards, and were delivered to the County Jail at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on December 11, 1934.

I am now advised by the Butte, Montana Office of this Division that a Special Agent of that office quite recently was informed by [redacted] Special Agent of the Oregon Short Line Railroad, that while the train on which the above mentioned defendants were being transported, was in motion somewhere near Pendleton, Oregon, in the early morning of December 9, 1934, Deputy United States Marshal [redacted] was sleeping soundly in a lower berth, with the prisoner, Scott, in the berth above him; that Scott dressed and emerged from the upper berth and was in the act of securing the Deputy Marshal's gun when a colored porter observed his actions and immediately shouted and threw the bedding off the Deputy, awaking him in time to prevent the prisoner's escape.

The Railroad Special Agent, [redacted] further stated that this commotion terrorized all the passengers in the Pullman Car, so that the porter and the Pullman conductor patrolled the train until it arrived at Huntington, Oregon, at which point the conductor requested the assistance of Special Agents of the Railroad Company to protect the Deputy Marshal and the passengers from the possible danger of a further attempted escape, it being felt by the railroad employees that the prisoner, Scott, might have attempted to rob the passengers in the Pullman Car should he have succeeded in securing the Deputy Marshal's gun.

1 thin white (sent to
Mr. Stanley - c-1)
1 yellow
c-2

All b7C

Memo. for the Att'y Gen. - 2 -

12/28/34

Railroad Special Agent [REDACTED] boarded the train at Nampa, Idaho, and accompanied it to Pocatello, Idaho, where he was replaced by another Special Agent of the railroad to accompany the train to Green River, Wyoming. A third Special Agent of the Oregon Short Line Railroad then accompanied the train to Denver, Colorado, and arrangements were made for Special Agents of the Santa Fe Railroad to assist in the guarding of the train to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

[REDACTED] also advised that when Scott was eating, the Deputy Marshal would unlock the shackles from his legs in such a manner that the prisoner might easily have kicked him in the head and otherwise assaulted him had he cared to do so and had not [REDACTED] been there to prevent it. According to [REDACTED] the Deputy Marshal was apparently more interested in one of the women guards than he was in the prisoners.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

All b7C

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice

P. O. Box 1583

Butte, Montana, December 17, 1934

Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Laughman.....
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Keith.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Schilder.....
Mr. Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....

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

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith copy of a memorandum received from Special Agent [redacted] at Boise, Idaho. I feel that it should be sent to you, and I am sending three copies of this letter, together with two carbons of my letter, to the Director.

It seems a flagrant case of carelessness and similar to the one which occurred in Montana when [redacted] escaped from Deputy U. S. Marshal [redacted] having a woman along instead of a guard.

I trust this will be satisfactory to the Division.

Very truly yours

D. E. Dickason

D. E. Dickason
Special Agent in Charge

DID

3 ENC. W

All b7C

Memo. Atty. Gen.
Memo. Mr. Stanley
12/18/34
gms

RECORDED

JAN 2 - 1935

7-115-1486

Call this to a. g. & Stanley's
attention by memo.
12/26/34 J. C. H.

Boise, Idaho, December 12, 1934

MEMORANDUM FOR SPECIAL AGENT D. H. DICKASON, BUTTE, MONTANA:

While in Nampa, Idaho, on the 12th instant, I had occasion to interview [redacted] Special Agent of the O. S. L. Railroad, who advised me that one Scott, who is the Federal prisoner in the Kidnapping case of the Urschel at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, together with two women which were apprehended by the Portland Office, and had in their possession a large amount of the Marked money, were removed from Portland, Oregon, to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on Saturday evening, December 8, 1934. That a Deputy U. S. Marshal named [redacted] and two women guards had them in custody. That, while the train was in motion somewhere near Pendleton, Oregon, in the early morning of the 9th, the United States Marshal was in the lower berth sleeping soundly and snoring well, the prisoner, Scott, got out of the upper berth and put on his clothes and was in the act of getting the Deputy U. S. Marshal's gun when the colored porter, whose name is [redacted] saw the prisoner and "hollered" and threw the bedding off the Deputy and he awoke in time to keep the prisoner from leaving the train and probably robbing everybody on the train. This terrorized all the passengers in the Pullman Car (Radiant Rose # 25) and, upon this exhibition, the porter and the Pullman Conductor, [redacted] patrolled the train until it arrived at Huntington, Oregon. Upon its arrival at Huntington, the Conductor asked for Special Agents from the Railroad Company to protect this Marshal and the passengers from this bunch of criminals. [redacted] boarded the train at Nampa, Idaho, and accompanied it to Pocatello, Idaho, and during this time the conductor was obliged to tell the passengers that they had competent men guarding the train and that they need have no fear. Upon their arrival at Pocatello, Idaho, [redacted] of the O. S. L., accompanied the train to Green River, Wyoming, and there another Special Agent of the O. S. L. Railroad accompanied the train to Denver, Colorado, and made arrangements to have Special Agents of the Santa Fe Railroad accompany this train to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Lewis told me when the Deputy took the prisoner in to eat, he got down to unlock the shackles from his legs and the prisoner could have kicked his head off if he had wanted to and had not [redacted] been there to prevent it. [redacted] stated that the Deputy Marshal was more interested in the peroxide blonde, who was a guard, than he was in the prisoners. This will make it nice for some other Marshal and also for other Government Agents in the future to travel with prisoners. They will be as welcome as a rattlesnake after this. I thought you should know this and report it to the proper place, as it is a shame to let those kind of officers get away with such stuff, and a man as dangerous and desperate as Scott would not hesitate at anything, as he has it all to do when he gets to Oklahoma City.

COPIES DESTROYED INDEXED


20 MAR 17 1955

7-113-1416

All b7C

He might have held up the entire car, and it's a cinch he would have taken the women, whom I understand was Bates's wife and another moll, away with him. He had no money and why not rob the passengers of what they had in the Pullman and no one would have known it until they arrived at the next station. That's that.

Yours truly,

 b7C
Special Agent
Div. of Investigation.

422 Midland Savings Bldg.
Denver, Colo.
December 20, 1934

my

Mr. Rowland W. Woodard,
Operator in Charge,
Secret Service Division,
Treasury Department
307 Post Office Building,
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated December 19, 1934, furnishing information given you by [REDACTED] of Greeley, Colorado, relative to telephone calls being made from a gasoline filling station in Greeley during the time Charles F. Urschel was being held by kidnapers.

I wish to thank you for calling this matter to my attention and to assure you that your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

JAY C. HODMAN
Special Agent in Charge

JCH
7-7

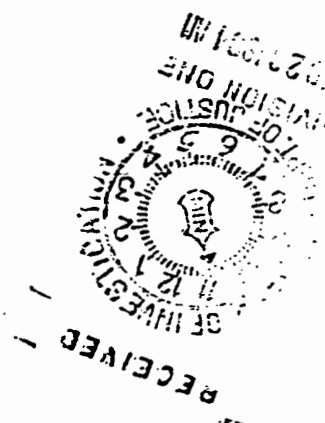
cc Division

GEORGE KELLY BARNES, with aliases,
CHARLES F. URSCHER - Victim
KIDNAPING

RECORDED & INDEXED

DEC 27 1934

7-115-1
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 24 1934
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ONE



All b7C

December 17, 1934.

JER: **b7C**

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM.

Time 9:30 PM

I telephoned Mr. Brantley and inquired why he had not advised the Division of the reduction of the bond in the case of the lawyer Mathers at Oklahoma City. Mr. Brantley stated that he had no excuse to offer for his negligence and that he was sorry that he had failed in this respect. I instructed him to be certain that in the future he advise the Division of such important developments in cases at hand.

I inquired as to the reason the bond had been reduced, and Mr. Brantley replied that the only reason he could determine was that the Judge reasoned that because the boy's father and mother were both there, there would be no danger of him jumping his bond. I stated that he should keep after the United States Attorney and make certain that every step that was taken by the principals in the case was contested strongly; that no concessions would be made to them.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

1 copy

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-115-1486
DEC 18 1934
JH

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

422 Midland Savings Bldg.,
Denver, Colo.,
December 19, 1934.

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

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

Dear Sir:

Kindly furnish the known criminal record of the following:

Name (inc. aliases)	City, Police Arrest, or Other Number.	Approximate date Fingerprints for- warded Division of Investigation.	Fingerprint Classifica- tion.
27, 1/17 BEN B. LASKA, alias 01/27/20 BERYL BENJAMIN LASKA 027, 1/21	U. S. Marshal, Denver, Colorado #2856	December 19, 1934	

Please furnish Oklahoma City office with copy criminal record.

RECORDED
JAN 5 - 1935

Very truly yours

Jay C. Newman

JAY C. NEWMAN

Special Agent in Charge.

7-115-1489
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 24 1934 P.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IDENT. ONE FILE

cc Oklahoma City.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

EAT: **b7C**

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

December 15, 1934

Time - 1:55 P.M.

Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Baughman..
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Keith.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Schilder.....
Mr. Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Nathan telephoned from Denver, Colorado with reference to the issuance of a search warrant to search the house and office of Ben Laska, and stated that the first obstacle which they have encountered is the decision of the United States Attorney that before the warrant can be issued, it would be necessary to have the person who personally knows the facts to sign the complaint or affidavit; that it would not suffice for one of our Agents to sign it. He stated that the Oklahoma City Office has been instructed to have Ed Feldman sent to Denver just as soon as possible, and it is anticipated that he will reach Denver tomorrow morning. He further stated that the complaint and other necessary procedure are being completed today, and the United States Attorney is trying to decide now whether they may be served on Sunday; that if they can be served on Sunday, the thing will be put over tomorrow.

Mr. Nathan stated that he would telephone me in the morning and report any further developments.

Very truly yours,


E. A. TAMM

1 copy

COPIES DESTROYED
20 MAR 17 1965
RECORDED & INDEXED

DEC 27 1934

7-115-1470

RECORDED

January 3, 1935.

Special Agent in Charge,
Denver, Colorado.

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

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of December 19, 1934, regarding BEN B. LASKA, United States Marshal, Denver, Colorado, #2856, and in reply thereto, please be advised that from the information furnished it has not been possible to locate a record of this individual in the fingerprint files of the Division of Investigation.

It is observed that you have indicated that a fingerprint record card of this individual was forwarded on December 19, 1934. Please be informed that an appropriate notation has been placed in the files of the Identification Unit and you will be informed immediately of any existing record should the said card be received in the near future. In the meantime, it is suggested that you verify whether this fingerprint record actually was mailed.

In compliance with your request a copy of this letter is being forwarded to the Division Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

CC - Division Office,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

2 Copies
c-2

Handwritten notes and signatures:
46
J. Edgar Hoover
1/3/35
1/1

ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
To
OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Chief Clerk
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy

The Attorney General
The Solicitor General
Assistant Attorney General Stephens
Assistant Attorney General Keenan
Assistant Attorney General Wideman
Assistant Attorney General Sweeney
Assistant Attorney General Blair
Assistant Solicitor General MacLean
Mr. Stewart, Administrative Assistant
Mr. Hoover, Director of Investigation
Mr. Bates, Director, Bureau of Prisons
Mr. McMahon
Mr. Suydam
Mr. Carusi
Mr. Dean
Mr. Beardslee
Mr. Holtzoff
Mr. Gardner, General Agent and Chief Clerk
Mr. Sornborger, Appointment Clerk
Mr. Moore, Division of Records
Miss Berard
Mrs. Wade
Mr. Boyd
Mr. Gallagher
Miss Thomas
Miss Bowers

DEC 29 1934

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-15-149
DEC 24 1934
CLERK
TAMM
ONE

Handwritten initials and marks

RECEIVED
DIVISION ONE
DEC 18 1934 PM
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

December 10, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Chas 40
I am attaching hereto, for your information, a copy of a memorandum giving the results recently attained in connection with the Urschel Kidnaping, in which \$44,080.00 of the ransom money which had been paid in this case, was recovered.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Incl. #667425

3 copies

C-1

7-115-1491

December 8, 1934

MEMORANDUM

During the past several months an intensive investigation has been pursued by Special Agents of the Portland, Oregon Office of the Division of Investigation for the purpose of locating certain individuals believed to be in possession of a portion of the money paid as ransom in the kidnaping of Charles F. Urschel, who was abducted from his Oklahoma City home on July 22, 1933, and for which abduction Harvey J. Bailey, Albert L. Bates, R. G. Shannon, Ora L. Shannon, George R. Kelly and Kathryn Thorne Kelly have been sentenced to serve life imprisonment in Federal Penitentiaries.

b7C
This investigation by the Portland Division Office has resulted, over fifteen months after the kidnaping, in the apprehension of Alvin H. Scott, Clara Feldmann, the wife of Albert L. Bates and sister-in-law of Alvin H. Scott, her son Edward George Feldmann, and [REDACTED] and the recovery of \$44,080 in currency actually paid as ransom in this case. In addition, miscellaneous cash totalling \$2,374 was located. This money was found on the persons of various of these suspects, and buried in seven separate lots in four different localities in the vicinity of Medford, Oregon, Roseburg, Oregon, Woodland, Washington, and Dunsmuir, California.

The four individuals above named have been held in default of bond on the order of the United States Commissioner at Portland, Oregon, to await prosecution in the United States District Court at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

December 10, 1934.

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

I am attaching hereto, as of possible interest to you, a copy of a memorandum which I have just addressed to the Attorney General, transmitting a copy of a memorandum giving the results recently attained in connection with the Urschel Kidnaping, in which \$44,080.00 of the ransom money which had been paid in this case, was recovered.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Incl. #667380

Noted

Congratulations
W. Stanley

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

December 14, 1934

Samme

Hoover

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In regard to your memorandum dated December 6, 1934, transmitting a communication received from Honorable Joseph T. Robinson, United States Senate, dated December 3, 1934, together with the enclosure thereto, relative to Colonel Carson Angel, Durant Hotel, Berkeley, California and L. G. Leon, using the name of Senator Robinson in connection with what appears to be a confidence game, you are informed that the matter has been referred to our San Francisco Office for immediate attention. Senator Robinson has been informed that the Division is conducting appropriate inquiry.

I will advise you further regarding this matter upon the receipt of a report from the San Francisco Office of the Division.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

*Thanks!
Noted
148C
Dec 17/34*

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

December 13, 1934.

108
Hoover

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am attaching hereto for your information a copy of a letter addressed to me under date of December 9, 1934, by Commissioner of Police L. V. Jenkins of Portland, Oregon, in which you will note that Mr. Jenkins requested that I convey his best wishes to you.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Encl. #821013

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b7c

DECEMBER 24 1954

7-115-1492

RECORDED

C. C. SPEARS
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
411 U.S. COURT HOUSE BUILDING
PORTLAND OREGON

URSCHER KIDNAPING WARDEN ALCATRAZ PENITENTIARY HAS BEEN
AUTHORIZED PERMIT YOUR INTERVIEW WITH ALBERT RATES

HOOVER

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jc.
POSTAL
g/

Division of Investigation

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

GNI *b7c*

December 24, 1934

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM *E*

I telephoned Mr. Bennett of the Bureau of Prisons at approximately 10:15 A.M. and requested that authority be issued to the Warden of Alcatraz Penitentiary to allow Special Agent in Charge Spears to interview Albert Bates some time within the next few days. *o*

~~At approximately 11:00 A.M., Mr. Bates' secretary~~ telephonically advised that a telegram had already been sent to the Warden authorizing the desired interview.

There is attached hereto a telegram advising Mr. Spears in this regard.

Respectfully,

G. N. Lowdon
G. N. Lowdon. *✓*

COPIES DESTROYED
20 MAR 17 1965
DEC 27 1934

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7-115-1492

DEC 28 1934

EAT:

Time:
12:10 A. M.

December 22, 1934.

All b7C

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

I called Mr. Spears at Portland and told him that he had probably been notified by Mr. Guinane that [REDACTED] was seen in Butte; that you felt that there should be a couple more men there and that he send a good man over to Butte right away. Mr. Spears said that the plane had left and wanted to know if he should charter one. I told him to get an agent to Butte by the most expeditious commercial means. He said he would attend to this matter right away. I told him to have the agent take a rifle or shotgun, whichever he is the most familiar with. Mr. Spears said he would send Agent [REDACTED] and I told him that [REDACTED] was a good man as he knows the country around Butte.

Mr. Spears advised that he was going to call me about Bates at Alcatraz; that over in Denver when Laska was up for hearing he made a remark about getting a deposition; that he thinks he had in mind getting a deposition for Bates; that if he got the deposition it would be very damaging evidence to the Division, that is, if it is the proper kind of a deposition; in other words, that if Laska got Bates to say that he had not told him anything about this ransom money, it would look bad for the Division; that it could be arranged with the Superintendent of the prison that in the event Laska arranges to get a deposition, the Division have a man present. I told Mr. Spears that the Division should interview him first. Mr. Spears said he would be in San Francisco next week interviewing applicants and could talk to Bates at that time. I told him the best thing to do would be to get a statement from Bates and to wire the Division a day or so before he reaches San Francisco to get authority so he could interview Bates at the prison.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm.

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JAN 4 1935

7-1493
JAN 7 1935

EAT: **b7C**

December 24, 1934

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

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith a photostatic copy of a newspaper article appearing in the Washington Evening Star on December 13, 1934, which bears an Oklahoma City date line, and relates to recent arrests in the Urschel case. You will observe from this newspaper dispatch that the Associated Press had obtained details concerning the Division's investigative activity in this case prior to the time that any announcement was made concerning the developments in the case. I am particularly concerned that the name of Edward Feldman appears in this article, since he is the principal informant and will undoubtedly be one of the most essential witnesses in the ultimate prosecution of the case. I desire to be advised fully as to how the information quoted in this press dispatch reached the news correspondents.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Enclosure #701770

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&
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2 copies

7-115-1494

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WASHINGTON EVENING STAR,
December 13, 1934.

STAR, WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1934

URSCHEL SUSPECTS GET DEATH THREAT

U. S. Agents Refuse to Say
if Gangsters at Large
Gave Warnings.

By the Associated Press.

OKLAHOMA CITY, December 13.—Threats of death by the underworld harrassed four Federal prisoners as they prepared to testify before a grand jury today in the latest chapter of the Urschel kidnaping case.

The four—Edward Feldman, Clara Feldman, Alvin H. Scott and Margaret Hurlienne, brought here from Oregon after the discovery of additional portions of the \$200,000 ransom paid by Charles F. Urschel, Oklahoma

City oil millionaire—were being guarded by Federal officers.

Agents who disclosed the threats would not say whether they came from friends of kidnapers already convicted or from members of the abduction gang who so far have evaded justice.

A report of a local "master mind," the "finger man" who arranged the details of the kidnaping, gained credence as the word went out that the grand jury would search deeply into this phase of the investigation.

It was learned that Feldman, 22-year-old step-son of Albert Bates, one of the convicted members of the gang, is booked at the jail under an assumed name and has been spirited out for questioning several times since his arrival here.

7-115-1494

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

December 13, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

Time 9:15 PM

I telephoned Mr. Brantley at the Oklahoma City office with reference to the indictment to be returned against Ben Laska, and he stated that practically all the witnesses were heard this afternoon and he expects a report from the Grand Jury tomorrow morning. I cautioned Mr. Brantley about publicity in this connection, and he assured me that everything in their power is being done to keep the affair out of the newspapers.

With further reference to the above matter, Mr. Brantley stated that it is his opinion that the witness they are presently holding in jail and who is the only witness against the other lawyer being included in the above indictment, might be killed. He stated that he has absolutely no facts to substantiate such an opinion; that it is merely a "hunch" on his part based upon certain existing circumstances in connection with the lawyer; that this lawyer's father has as much influence in the underworld in Oklahoma as any other man in the State and it would be entirely possible for him to get someone into the jail to kill this witness.

Mr. Brantley stated that in view of the above facts, it would be a good idea to have him removed to another district immediately and that he would like to have my opinion. I suggested that it could be arranged for this man to be apprehended at St. Louis and there held for removal while the proceedings could be delayed from time to time. Mr. Brantley stated that he will discuss this suggestion with the others at the office and telephone me in the morning about it.

Respectfully,

RECORDED & INDEXED

E.A. Tamm

1 copy

No. I do not think we should do this.

COPIES DESTROYED
20 MAR 17 1965

7. E. N.

7-11-1495