

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

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

Date 7/26/88

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (89A-184)(C)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

15B-9705

U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE-POSSIBLE VICTIM
AFO;
OO: MIAMI

(title continued next page)

2 - Bureau	1 - Honolulu	1 - New York City
1 - Albany	1 - Houston	1 - Norfolk
1 - Albuquerque	1 - Indianapolis	1 - Oklahoma City
1 - Alexandria	1 - Jackson	1 - Omaha
1 - Anchorage	1 - Jacksonville	1 - Philadelphia
1 - Atlanta	1 - Kansas City	1 - Phoenix
1 - Baltimore	1 - Knoxville	1 - Pittsburgh
1 - Birmingham	1 - Las Vegas	1 - Portland
1 - Boston	1 - Little Rock	1 - Richmond
1 - Brooklyn-Queens	1 - Los Angeles	1 - St. Louis
1 - Buffalo	1 - Louisville	1 - Salt Lake City
1 - Butte	1 - Memphis	1 - San Antonio
1 - Charlotte	2 - Miami	1 - San Diego
1 - Chicago	1 - Milwaukee	1 - San Francisco
1 - Cincinnati	1 - Minneapolis	1 - San Juan
1 - Cleveland	1 - Newark	1 - Savannah
1 - Columbia	1 - New Haven	1 - Seattle
1 - Dallas	1 - New Orleans	1 - Springfield
1 - Denver	1 - New Rochelle	1 - Tampa
1 - Sacramento		2 - WMFO

MRM/bmac
(61)

RECEIVED SEARCH

15B-9705-3

Approved: *TLK/ik*

Transmitted

Per

(Number)

(Time)

☒ TELETYPE

☒ TELETYPE

LAG ins *SLR*
(INFO)

SC 89A-184
MRM/bmac

(title continued)

DR. VLADIMIR ZATKO;
SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD-VICTIM;
UNITED STATES SENATE;
EXTORTION (A);
OO: SACRAMENTO

DR. VLADIMIR ZATKO;
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE HARRY BLACKMUN-VICTIM.
UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT
EXTORTION (A)
OO: SACRAMETNO

DR. VLADIMIR ZATKO;
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
[REDACTED] VICTIM,
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT,
WASHINGTON, D.C.;
EXTORTION (A)
OO: SACRAMENTO

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b7C

RE: Miami teletype to the Bureau, 7/6/88; WMFO teletype to the Bureau, 7/12/88; and telephone conversation between SSA [REDACTED] FBI Headquarters and SSRA [REDACTED] Fresno RA, Sacramento Division.

For the information of receiving offices VLADIMIR ZATKO is a prolific letter writer who is currently serving two life sentences at the Southern Maximum Security Complex (SMSC), Tehachapi, California. In recent weeks, ZATKO has written numerous pieces of correspondence to various individuals throughout the United States. The letters sent by ZATKO are usually directed to judges, congressmen, and other individuals who are at the time receiving a great deal of media coverage. In addition to those individuals referenced in the captioned titles, ZATKO has recently communicated threats against President Reagan and the Pope. The referenced letters sent by ZATKO contain various possible threats and extortion attempts.

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ZATKO was first introduced into the California Penal System in 1971 following a conviction and sentencing of one year to life for second degree robbery and 6 months to ten years for grand theft auto. While assigned to San Quentin Prison, ZATKO took a hostage (the prison chaplain) in an attempt to escape. Prison authorities are convinced that ZATKO was not really trying to escape, but believed that he was only attempting to get additional time added to his sentence so he would not be deported to his native Czechoslovakia. In 1976, when again being considered for parole, ZATKO took another prisoner hostage and received an additional sentence. ZATKO claimed that these actions were designed to again avoid deportation to Czechoslovakia.

ZATKO has been the subject of numerous inquiries directed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Office in Sacramento, California. His letter writing began while he was incarcerated at Folsom Prison, Repressa, California and has continued subsequent to his transfer to Tehachapi, California. It is noted that in the past, matters similar to those captioned have been presented to the United States Attorney's Office in Sacramento, California for prosecutorial opinion. All prosecution has been declined.

Contacts with the United States Secret Service as far back as August of 1974 resulted in that agency conducting quarterly checks of ZATKO's status. On 7/20/88, contact of SA [redacted] U.S. Secret Service at Bakersfield, California revealed that those contacts had been suspended in view of the fact that ZATKO was not considered a serious threat. [redacted] also referenced the fact that ZATKO is still serving life sentences, and that he has exhibited a mental condition. [redacted] also related that ZATKO had refused most interviews with his agency. However, in two interviews which he submitted to, ZATKO either denied ill feelings against the public officials to whom he had written or he completely denied ever having written any threatening letters.

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The contact of prison officials at the SMSC at Tehachapi, California revealed that ZATKO's communications were usually sent by way of confidential legal mail. Specifically, on 7/20/88, Captain [] Investigative Services Division for the SMSC advised that his department had no authority to screen mail sent under the classification of legal mail. As such [] did not believe that his department could take any action to limit ZATKO's letter writing.

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As such all field offices are being advised of ZATKO's activities so that they can be forewarned in the case of any future instances in which a complainant brings a threatening communication to their attention. All field offices should note that the referenced letters are the work of an incarcerated mental patient and that undue concern should not be raised regarding the substance of the material contained in ZATKO's communications or threats he might make.

The following information concerning ZATKO is provided to all receiving offices to assist in proper indexing.

Name	Vladimir Alexander Zatzko
Aliases	Vladimir A. Zatzko, Alexander Vladimir Zatzko, Dr. Vladimir Zatzko
Race	White
Sex	Male
DPOB	2/10/46, Czechoslovakia
Height	6'1"
Weight	185
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Prison ID	#B34189
Current Residence	Southern Maximum Security Complex, Tehachapi, California

In view of ZATKO's current status at the SMSC, and his past activities and known mental condition, no further investigation is being conducted by the Sacramento Division.