

PAGE TWO

MR ROGGE REQUESTED DISCREET INVESTIGATION OF J M SPEED, PRESENT
GRAND JUROR, BECAUSE OF AN ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION THAT SPEED
CONNECTED WITH MUNDET CORK COMPANY, SOLD BIG ORDERS TO NEW ORLEANS
CHARITY HOSPITAL, SO IN TURN SPEED IS GIVING INFORMATION TO
SEYMOUR WEISS, ROBERT MAESTRI AND POLITICIANS HERE, ROGGE BELIEVES
THERE IS SOME LEAK IN THE GRAND JURY AND THAT SPEED MIGHT BE THAT
LEAK.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASH DC WV

58

1308 Masonic Temple Building
New Orleans, Louisiana
August 3, 1939

Honorable Rene A. Viosca
United States Attorney
New Orleans, Louisiana

RE: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS;
Information Concerning

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are photostatic copies of the following-listed communications received by the office of the Attorney General:

Postal card postmarked Shreveport, Louisiana, July 12, 1939, 12:30 p.m., signed "A Citizen";

Letter dated July 18, 1939, addressed to Honorable Frank Murphy, signed L. J. Raphael, Sr., 244 E. Alexander Street, New Orleans, Louisiana;

Letter dated June 28, 1939, New Orleans, Louisiana, addressed to Mr. Eden Hardie, Jr., New Orleans, Louisiana;

Letter dated July 19, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General, signed "Louisiana Democrats";

Letter dated July 19, 1939, Covington, Louisiana, addressed to the Attorney General;

Letter dated July 18, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General, from Mrs. Wm. A. West, Jr.;

Undated letter, addressed to the Attorney General, signed "American";

Letter dated July 16, 1939, signed "American";

Undated, anonymous letter, addressed to the Attorney General, postmarked New Orleans, Louisiana, July 11, 1939, 7:30 P.M.;

Anonymous letter dated July 10, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General, together with newspaper clipping;

62-22509-
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 8 1939
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
TWO

Crim. Co. - Louisiana

53

August 3, 1939

Letter dated July 18, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General, signed Frank M. Atwood;

Letter dated July 18, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General, signed J. C. Corbin;

Newspaper clipping from The Times-Picayune June 23, 1939, New Orleans, Louisiana;

Letter dated July 14, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General, signed "American";

Letter dated July 13, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General, signed "A New Orleans Schoolgirl", together with newspaper clipping.

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AUG 3 1939
FBI - NEW ORLEANS

Very truly yours,

E. E. SACKETT
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures.

cc-Bureau

1308 Masonic Temple Building,
New Orleans, Louisiana

August 1, 1939

Honorable Rene Viosca,
United States Attorney,
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

RE: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS -
Information Concerning

I have received information from a responsible individual in New Orleans to the effect that there is some apparent irregularity in connection with the issuance of one million dollar Atchafalaya Levee Board bonds. It appears that about a year or so ago this issue of bonds, which was callable at 5%, was called at 5% and was then replaced with long term 5% bonds which were immediately sold for 117. It appears that the brokers, who were White and Dunbar and Scharf and Jones of New Orleans, received as a result of such transaction about \$100,000.00.

It is not known who was involved in connection with the issuance of these bonds, nor does the person who furnished me this information have any further data or information of value. He requested that his name be kept in the strictest confidence and, therefore, in accordance with my promise to him, I am not supplying his name in this communication. It may be stated, however, that he is a responsible, substantial citizen in the community, and I am convinced that he has no further information other than given above.

I am transmitting this to you for such action as you deem appropriate. This office is conducting no investigation into the matter in the absence of any jurisdiction therein.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT,
Special Agent in Charge

cc Bureau

BES:sh
#62-978

62-32509-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 4 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Note: Mr. Clark Salmon, Managing Editor of the Item-Tribune newspapers, New Orleans, furnished me with this information on July 31, 1939.

55

(ed)

TELETYPE

FBI NEW ORLEANS 7-31-39 10-36 PM ABS

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY IS AN ATTORNEY

IN NEW ORLEANS PRESENTLY PRACTICING LAW WITH CLEM H. SEHRT. SEHRT IS A NEW ORLEANS WARD LEADER AND WAS FORMER LAW PARTNER OF GOVERNOR EARL K. LONG. INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED BY THIS OFFICE INDICATES WIMBERLY, SEHRT AND LONG STILL VERY CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH EACH OTHER IN ALL RESPECTS. WITHOUT ANY PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT, WIMBERLY TONIGHT, FROM EIGHT THIRTY TO NINE THIRTY, BROADCASTED A TALK OVER THREE RADIO STATIONS, NAMELY, ONE IN NEW ORLEANS, ONE IN BATON ROUGE AND ONE IN ALEXANDRIA, LA. WIMBERLY PAID FOR THE TIME OVER THESE THREE STATIONS. HE APPARENTLY SPOKE TO THE "COMMON PEOPLE" OF LOUISIANA, BITTERLY DENOUNCING THE NEWSPAPERS FOR THEIR CAMPAIGNS AGAINST THE LOUISIANA POLITICAL MACHINE AND CALLING UPON ALL THE COMMON PEOPLE TO CARRY OUT THE POLICIES OF HUEY LONG. HE BITTERLY DENOUNCED ATTORNEY GENERAL MURPHY, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE AND HIS STAFF, CHARGING THAT THEY ARE INTERFERING WITH THE RIGHT OF STATE GOVERNMENT BY INQUIRING INTO THE ACTS OF THE STATE ADMINISTRATION. HE CALLED UPON THEM TO CONFINE THEIR INQUIRIES SOLELY TO POSSIBLE FEDERAL VIOLATIONS. HE DID NOT MENTION YOURSELF OR THE FBI IN ANY MANNER. HE CHARGED THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL MURPHY AND ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE AND THEIR AIDES ARE PURE POLITICIANS WHO HAVE ADVANCED TO THEIR PRESENT POSITIONS THROUGH POLITICS. HIS STATEMENTS IN THIS REGARD COULD ALMOST BE CONSIDERED LIBELOUS. HE STATED THAT IF GENERAL MURPHY SEEKS THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION IN THE FUTURE, HE WILL TELL THE WHOLE COUNTRY OF GENERAL MURPHY'S INTERFERENCE WITH STATES RIGHTS IN LOUISIANA. WIMBERLY'S TIRADE INCLUDED STATEMENTS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE RICH CONTROLLED THE NEWSPAPERS, THAT THEY WERE LITERALLY WIPING THEIR FEET UPON THE ORDINARY COMMON PEOPLE OF THE STATE AND THAT THE PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BE FOOLED BY THE STATEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE NEWSPAPERS AND GENERAL MURPHY'S ASSISTANT. WIMBERLY PROCLAIMED HIS FRIENDSHIP FOR EARL LONG. WIMBERLY INDICATED THAT HE WOULD MAKE MORE BROADCASTS IN THE FUTURE ALONG THESE LINES. I WILL ATTEMPT TO SECURE THE TEXT OF HIS TALK AND WILL FORWARD SAME TO YOU.

Louisiana

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-230
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 AUG 1 1939
 FORWARD SAME TO YOU.

889

56

IN VIEW OF WIMBERLYS APPARENT CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH SEHRT AND EARL LONG, IT IS APPARENT THAT EARL LONG MUST HAVE KNOWN OF WIMBERLYS PROPOSED BROADCAST AND PROBABLY IT WAS FINANCED BY THE STATE POLITICAL MACHINE. WIMBERLYS TALK TONIGHT TO THE SO CALLED COMMON PEOPLE OF LOUISIANA IS EXACTLY THE SAME TYPE OF TALK THAT HUEY LONG USED IN HIS POLITICAL ACTIVITIES HERE AND WAS DELIVERED IN THE SAME BOMBASTIC RARSPLITTING MANNER USED BY HUEY.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASH DC WV

57

copy
(ed)

TELETYPE

FBI NEW ORLEANS 7-31-39 7-13 PM WH

DIRECTOR

advised

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS INFORMATION CONCERNING ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE HAS JUST REQUESTED THAT IT BE DETERMINED IF WILLIAM HELIS, OWNER OF SEVERAL OIL COMPANIES INVOLVED IN THIS INVESTIGATION, WHO BECAME A NATURALIZED CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES IN AUGUST NINETEEN THIRTY EIGHT, REGISTERED THE YACHT NAMED WILLIAM HELIS NUMBER TWO BEFORE HE BECAME A CITIZEN AND THE DATE OF REGISTRY THEREOF. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER INVESTIGATION SHOULD BE CONDUCTED.

SEVERAL COMPLAINTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED RELATING TO WPA AND OTHER IRREGULARITIES IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA. ADVISE IF THESE SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO USA SHREVEPORT WHICH IS THE PROCEDURE FOLLOWED IN SUBMITTING INFORMATION TO USA NEW ORLEANS OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASHINGTON DC OEC

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-108

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-224

JES

58

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 7 - 1939

TELETYPE

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Gurnea.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. Lawler.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Sears.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Gandy.....

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-7-39 10-08 PM AHS

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. SEYMOUR WEISS

RELEASED TODAY TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR BOND, LOUIS LESAGE TEN

THOUSAND DOLLAR BOND, RICHARD W. LECHE FIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR BOND.

~~RE~~ PURSUANT MR. ROGGE'S REQUEST, THIS OFFICE CONCENTRATING ON

INVESTIGATION SHUSHAN JURY IN EFFORT TO COMPLETE INVESTIGATION

BY WEDNESDAY NIGHT AS MR. ROGGE INTENDS TO CALL WITNESSES BEFORE GRAND

JURY RELATIVE THIS MATTER BEGINNING THURSDAY MORNING. I HAVE EIGHT

AGENTS WORKING ON THIS MATTER.

RECORDED & INDEXED

TONIGHT BETWEEN ~~8:30~~ ~~8:30~~ EIGHT THIRTY AND NINE THIRTY SHIRLEY G.

WIMBERLY BROADCASTED OVER ~~WDSU~~ RADIO STATION WDSU, NEW ORLEANS.

HIS TALK WAS ADDRESSED TO THE "POOR PEOPLE" OF THE STATE AND IN MAIN

ONE WAS A TIRADE AGAINST THE NEWSPAPERS, PARTICULARLY THE NEW ORLEANS

TIMES PICAYUNE AND THE RICH PEOPLE, INCLUDING CORPORATION LAWYERS AND

ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCE MEMBERS. HE CHARGED THAT THESE PEOPLE WERE

TRYING TO GET THE STATE GOVERNMENT AWAY FROM THE POOR PEOPLES OF

LOUISIANA BY LIES THROUGH THE CONTROL OF NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER PROPAGANDA.

HE CLAIMED ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE, ~~HIS PUBLISHED~~ STATEMENTS

~~CONCERNING~~ BY HIS PUBLISHED STATEMENTS URGING PEOPLE TO TALK ABOUT

CRIMES, WAS INTIMATING TO REMAINDER OF THE NATION THAT HOODLUM

TERRORISM REIGNED IN LOUISIANA AND PERSONS WOULD BE TAKEN FOR A RIDE

IF THEY TALKED ABOUT CRIMES. HE DENOUNCED THESE TACTICS, URGING ROGGE

NOT TO BE MISLEAD BY THE NEWSPAPERS AND HIS VANITY FOR PERSONAL

I read this to all and let it

62-32509-207
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AUG 5 1939
NEW ORLEANS

PUBLICITY. HE CHARGED THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL MURPHY WAS CREATING IMPRESSION THAT CHICAGO AND KANSAS CITY TERRORISM REIGNED IN LOUSIANA FOR THE PURPOSE OF GIVING HIMSELF REPUTATION AS RACKET BUSTER SIMILAR TO DEWEY AS AID IN HIS PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRATIONS. HE CLAIMED THAT GENERAL MURPHY WAS INTERFERING WITH THE RIGHTS OF STATE GOVERNMENT BY INQUIRIES INTO MATTERS OTHER THAN FEDERAL VIOLATIONS AND ADMONISHED HIM TO CONFINE HIS ACTIVITIES SOLELY TO FEDERAL VIOLATIONS.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASHINGTON DC OEC

V

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:COH

August 7, 1939

Time: 11:05 a.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

RE: POLITICAL CORRUPTION IN
LOUISIANA

9
SAC Sackett telephonically advised me that Mr. Rogge while talking to him last Friday had requested the details of the Abe Shusham jury investigation before the report is submitted. I told Sackett this would be satisfactory.

EAT
E. A. TAMM

Louisiana

62 - 32509 - 228
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 8 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten initials and signatures over the stamp]

67

ACH:AI
62-32509

August 4, 1939

Special Agent in Charge
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

There are enclosed photostatic copies of the following communications which have been received by the Department and referred to the Bureau. It is desired that a copy of these be furnished to United States Attorney Rene A. Viosca, for any consideration deemed appropriate by him.

Anonymous letter dated July 19, 1939, signed "American"

Anonymous letter dated July 18, 1939, enclosing newspaper clippings from the New Orleans States and The Times-Picayune

Letter signed Robert Reed and enclosure

Two letters dated July 11, 1939 from Miss Agnes E. Lewis and enclosure

Letter dated July 11, 1939, from Miss Annie C. Lewis

Letter signed Georg Harrison

Letter from J. C. Wigginton, enclosing clipping from New York Sun

Letter signed T. S. Weber

Very truly yours,

RECORDED

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED
 ★ AUG - 4 1939 ★
 P. M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

John Edgar Hoover
Director

62-32509-22
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 AUG 8 1939
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Enclosure

62

DECODED COPY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 5 - 1939

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Nathan	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Crowl	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Lawler	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sears	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

T

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-5-39 4-20 PM ALS

DIRECTOR

RE LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. JAMES M. BROWN, EQUITIES, INC., WHO WAS INTERMEDIARY BROKER FOR JAMES MONROE SMITH, ADVISED HE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE TO EFFECT THAT IF ANY ATTACK IS MADE BY GOVERNMENT OR BY O. JOHN ROGGE ON SHIRLEY WIMBERLY AS RESULT OF WIMBERLYS SPEECH A STORY WOULD BE CIRCULATED TO EFFECT THAT ALFRED B. TETON, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO ATTORNEY GENERAL, WHO IS NOW IN NEW ORLEANS, ROOMED WITH A NEGRO WHILE ATTENDING COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AND THAT TETON WAS TELLING THE NEGRO THEY WILL GET EQUAL RIGHTS. NEWSPAPER STORIES INDICATED TETON WAS FORMERLY CONNECTED WITH THE CIVIL LIBERTIES DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT. FROM CONVERSATIONS WITH TETON BY AGENT OF THIS OFFICE PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF THIS INFORMATION, TETON ADVISED HE HAD ATTENDED UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO AND DID NOT MENTION HAVING ATTENDED COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY. IT IS BELIEVED THAT SHOULD THIS ALLEGATION THAT TETON ROOMED WITH A NEGRO BE TRUE, AND SHOULD IT BE CIRCULATED IN THIS SECTION OF THE COUNTRY IT WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON CASES PRESENTLY PENDING HERE

Print conditions Louisiana

RECORDED & INDEXED
SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASHINGTON DC OEC

62-32501-220
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 8 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
180 63

EAT:HA
5-162-110
62-32509-228
62-1045-72

RECORDED

August 22, 1939

Mr. J. Fair Hardin
Special Assistant Attorney General
Nineteenth Judicial District
of Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Hardin:

With reference to your letter of August 5, 1939 advising of your desire to use Federal Bureau of Investigation Document Examiners for the purpose of examining a number of bonds of the Louisiana State University upon which the signature of former Governor O. K. Allen is supposed to have been forged, I would appreciate your furnishing me more specific information concerning the nature and volume of the documentary work to be done. I am particularly interested in knowing how soon it would be necessary to complete this examination, the contemplated date of the trial of this case, and the approximate time that the services of a Document Examiner would be utilized in testifying at the trial of the case. At the present time the volume of work being handled in the Technical Laboratory of the Bureau is such that before I can definitely determine whether it will be possible for the Bureau to conduct this examination it is necessary for me to have an estimate of the amount of time which will be required to perform the work. If you will furnish me with the additional data outlined above, I will then be pleased to give your request for Laboratory assistance further consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC - New Orleans

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gandy

5-162-110

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APR 19 1939
RECEIVED DIRECTOR

64

copy - v

DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Nineteenth Judicial District
of Louisiana
Baton Rouge

August 3, 1939

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-2

You will probably recall me as Assistant U. S. Attorney for many years at Shreveport. I have recently been engaged to assist in the prosecution of Dr. James Monroe Smith and a number of other grafters at the Louisiana State University and elsewhere in the State. I have had a number of conferences with Mr. O. John Rogge and have been cooperating fully in this work.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
LAB.
TAMM
TOLSON

Among the numerous crimes committed by Dr. Smith was the forgery of former Governor O. K. Allen's signature to about 118 genuine bonds of Louisiana State University. We are going to have to prove this forgery by handwriting experts. I spoke to Mr. Rogge about this and he said that he felt sure that you would be glad to let us have the facilities of the Bureau laboratory and one of your experts on this very important matter. I am writing to know if it is so that you can do this, and, if so, I will send ten specimens of Series A and Series C bonds each for examination of the questioned bonds, and five genuine bonds bearing genuine signatures.

Please let me hear from you as nearly as possible.

With best regards, I am

Very Sincerely yours,

/s/ J. Fair Hardin, Special
Asst. Attorney General.

Washington

Gentlemen:

If every business large and small, if every individual with

RECORDED
ACH:LL
62-32509-141
-212
-225

August 16, 1939

and pay an income tax should not be

which view of things as the lottery

62-32509

to make to their books and pay

Special Agent in Charge
New Orleans, Louisiana

re from a ... in the ...

Re: CRIME CONDITIONS - LOUISIANA

Dear Sirs

There are inclosed herewith two photostatic copies

of the following described communications received by the

Bureau, and it is desired that one copy of each be fur-

nished by your office to United States Attorney Rene A.

Viosca, New Orleans:

Anonymous communication postmarked at
Nashville, Tennessee, July 16, 1939.

Anonymous postal card postmarked at
Shreveport, Louisiana, July 12, 1939,
from "A Citizen."

Anonymous communication postmarked at
New Orleans, Louisiana, August 3, 1939,
from "Veni Vidi," together with its

inclosures.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ AUG 17 1939 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Inclosure

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Crowl _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Lawler _____
- Mr. McIntire _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Scare _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Q. Tamm _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Miss Gandy _____

RECEIVED - DIRECTOR
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
AUG 15 5 18 PM '39

ACT

66

FBI
Washington D.C.

8/1/39

Gentlemen:

If every business large and small, if every individual with a sizable salary in America is compelled by law to show his earnings and pay an income tax why should not those who collect the "rakeoff" of such vast enterprises as the lottery shops in the New Orleans area be made to show their books and pay income tax also.

In the New Orleans Area there are easily 100 lottery shops. These shops are from a hole in the wall to large halls where Nos. are drawn. The "rakeoff" to be paid to (?) to run one of these shops cost from 2.00 a day to \$10.00 according to size and neighborhood, and you must pay or you can't operate. Now 100 lottery shops with an average pay off of \$7.00 a day to (?) that makes about \$700.00 a day; A good deal of money to be split between a few big shots. Now all the ward leaders and other officials will tell you they don't know a thing about lottery shops. How can they lie like that when you must go see them and have their OK before you can operate.

ENCLOSURE

Now they are beginning to be scared by U.S. agents, if you don't catch on time they will tell you that there never was any lottery shops in New Orleans and Uncle Sam will have been cheated of hundreds of thousands of dollars of good income tax money.

Truly Yours,

Veni Vidi

8/10/39 - fel.

ACH

P.S. The bookies that's big money too.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

67 32501

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 7 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

467

TWO

BLUE
EAGLE

DAILY



THURSDAY
AUGUST
3
1939

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NO LIMIT
Come see the
Drawing



TUES
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See Our
Drawing



THURS.
AUG.
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Come see the
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Come see the
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ORIGINAL



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NIGHT

GOLD



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Come see the
Drawing

68

1-2-32509-121A

Handwritten scribble

ACH:LL

August 18, 1939

Handwritten initials

Special Agent in Charge
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

Handwritten initials

Recently, Mr. Harry J. Costello, who resides at the St. Charles Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, was interviewed at the Bureau, along with Mr. Ralph Alexis, who was staying temporarily at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C., and who resides at 4408 Audubon Boulevard, New Orleans. These individuals were subsequently interviewed by the Attorney General.

The information furnished by Mr. Costello and Mr. Alexis when interviewed at the Bureau was recorded by stenographers, and there are being forwarded herewith two copies of the memorandum prepared in this connection.

Mr. Costello also furnished the following, two photostatic copies of each being inclosed herewith:

1. A list of various persons who received tax reductions by the State Board of Affairs, it being the contention of Mr. Costello and Mr. Alexis that any person who received a tax reduction from the State Board of Affairs would be prejudiced if sitting as a juror in any proceeding concerning the present situation in Louisiana.
2. A sheet of paper which sets forth information relative to Hutchinson serving on the jury in the Shushan income tax trial, it being noted that he is supposed to have been reached by Detective Captain Henry Asset of the New Orleans Police.
3. A 7-page statement concerning the power of the local assessors of New Orleans.
4. Memorandum entitled "Notes on Some Boat Deals."

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Crowl _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Lawler _____
- Mr. McIntire _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Sears _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. G. Tamm _____
- Mr. Tracy _____

~~COPIES DESTROYED~~

170-SEP 17 1964

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED
 ★ AUG 18 1939 ★
 P. M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Handwritten notes and initials

RAG
New Orleans

- 2 -

August 18, 1939

5. Memorandum relative to the income tax cases of Robert S. Maestri, which has a note to Drew (who evidently is Drew Pearson of the Washington Merry-Go-Round) suggesting that maybe Bob Allen could help on this matter.
6. Memorandum concerning the visit of Mr. Joseph Keenan to New Orleans on December 3, 4, and 5, 1938, and a list of those who were present at the time of this trip.

It is desired that one copy of each of the inclosures to this letter be furnished personally to Honorable O. John Rogge, Assistant Attorney General.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

70

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JFS:VTM

August 2, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

Pursuant to the instructions of Mr. E. A. Tamm, I interviewed Harry J. Costello, residence St. Charles Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, who was temporarily residing at the Mayflower Hotel. Present during the interview was Supervisor Hayden. Mr. Costello communicated with Ralph Alexis, who was temporarily residing at the Mayflower Hotel, and who resides at 4408 Audubon Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana, and they together advised of their reasons for contacting Attorney General Murphy, with whom they had an appointment on August 3, 1939, 11:15 A. M.

The substance of their complaint was taken by two stenographers, and is included as part of this memorandum. A summary memorandum was prepared for the Attorney General over the Director's signature, and was forwarded to the Attorney General prior to the time of the appointment of Mr. Costello and Mr. Alexis on the morning of August 3, 1939.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-224K

In addition to the information submitted by Mr. Alexis and Mr. Costello, Mr. Costello presented a list of various persons who received tax reductions by the State Board of Affairs, it being the contention of Mr. Costello and Mr. Alexis that any persons who received a tax reduction from the State Board of Affairs would be prejudiced if sitting as jurors in any proceedings concerning the present situation in Louisiana.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
INDEXED
FILED

Likewise, Mr. Costello furnished a sheet of paper which sets forth information relative to Hutchinson serving on the jury in the Shushan income tax trial. He is supposed to have been reached by Detective Captain Henry Asset of the New Orleans Police. He also furnished a seven page statement concerning the power of the local assessors of New Orleans.

It is noted in these memoranda that there is "Note to Drew", who evidently is Drew-Pearson of the Washington Merry-Go-Round.

There were also furnished the following: Memorandum concerning "Notes on some Boat Deals"; Memorandum concerning the income tax cases of Robert S. Maestri, which has a note to Drew

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8/18/39
J.E.H.
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Vertical handwritten notes on the left margin, including "Costello" and "Alexis".

Memorandum for the File

- 2 -

August 2, 1939

suggesting that maybe Bob Allen could help on this matter; Memorandum concerning the visit of Joseph Keenan to New Orleans on December 3rd, 4th and 5th, 1938, and who were present at the time of this trip.

Photostatic copies have been made of these papers, both for the Bureau files and the New Orleans Division for the information of that office.

J. F. Sears
J. F. Sears

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*Show to the General
Attorney
Cue*

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 2 - 1939

TELETYPE

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Lawler	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Sears	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

FBI NEW ORLEANS

8-2-39

6PM

WH

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS INFORMATION CONCERNING. O JOHN ROGGE

ADVISED E. V. CAMPBELL ASSISTANT TREASURER, EAST TEXAS OIL COMPANY, STATED THAT HE LEARNED LAST DECEMBER THAT IN NINETEEN THIRTY SIX A COMMISSION OF TEN CENTS PER BARREL WAS PAID FOR PERMISSION TO RUN OIL IN EXCESS OF PRORATION THROUGH PIPE LINES AND THAT SYMOUR WEISS GOT FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS OUT OF ONE HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS COMMISSIONS PAID. ROGGE BELIEVES WEISS SPLIT WITH R. W. RECHE, THAT HE BELIEVED THAT IN ORDER TO RUN THE OIL AND AGREEMENT WAS MADE TO PAY THE TEN CENTS COMMISSION, SO BELIEVES A VIOLATION OF THE CONELLEY ACT IS APPARENT.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AUG 3 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PLANNED TIME

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