

that on the night of the kidnaping, Subject Holmes was very calm, deliberate, and she did not notice anything unusual at all about his behavior.

A statement was secured from Frank H. McKee, 157 1/2 South 3rd Street, San Jose, Cal. McKee, on November 18, 1933, by representatives of the Sheriff's Office at San Jose. This statement was secured owing to the fact it had been reported by Subject Thurmond that there was a possibility when they first kidnaped Hart that they would take him on a boat, and told him these facts, and it had been rumored that McKee had been approached concerning the purchase of a boat.

In this question and answer statement, a copy of which is on file at the San Francisco Office, McKee stated that he has known Subject Holmes for about ten years, although he had not associated with him intimately until on the 15th day of October, the day before the duck season opened. Holmes and McKee at Alviso, Cal. inquired of the keeper of the yacht club as to where there was any boat around for sale, and McKee pointed out a boat to Holmes, and quoted the purchase price as \$1500, and Holmes replied it was just the type of boat he desired, and stated if he did purchase it, he was a man by the name of Harold Thurmond would go along on the purchase, and that he would let his partner Thurmond know about it, and they would work out everything and look it over.

McKee then suggested that Holmes might care to look elsewhere for some boats, owing to the fact that a man does not usually buy the first boat he sees, but he replied he had been around several yacht clubs in San Francisco, and could not find what he wanted, but that this boat was just the type he wanted. Subject Holmes merely responded as to the purchase of a boat, and not the starting of same.

The following information was submitted in memorandum form by Special Agent H. R. [Name obscured]

On December 20, 1933, Agent interviewed James E. McIlroy, 1412 The Alameda, San Jose, California, one of the partners of the McIlroy-Cobb Lumber Company, reported by Jack Holmes to have been the lumber company which had produced the cement blocks used in the murder of [Name obscured].

Mr. McIlroy stated that he had known Subject Thurmond for a period of about 10 years, first meeting him when he had come to the lumber yard and applied for a job, that he had worked for him for a period of about two years around the lumber yard, and in driving a truck, but that he was unable to give the exact dates of this man's employment, the exact fact that most of their records for this period had been destroyed, and stated that following this period of employment of Thurmond, he last [Name obscured]

has been employed off and on for a day or two at a time, at the First Street plant, 925 South First Street, of the Kauloy-Gleim Lumber Company.

Mr. Madley stated that he had not seen Thompson for the past several months, and did not know what occupation he was in at the time instant offense was committed; but that his partner, Mr. Leo D. Gleim, of 925 South First Street, might have further information in connection with Subject Thompson. Mr. Madley advised that his lumber company carried no cement blocks whatever, and that therefore any statement concerning the theft of such blocks from his company's yard must be erroneous.

Mr. Leo D. Gleim was interviewed at 925 South First Street, San Jose, California. He stated that there were no cement concrete blocks of the type described by either Holmes or Thompson in their stock, nor on their grounds; that they had no reports of the loss of any materials of any kind whatsoever, either cement blocks or lumber, during the past two months, and that any statement by either Subject Thompson or Subject Holmes that they had stolen cement blocks from the Kauloy-Gleim Lumber Company at their two yards in San Jose was erroneous.

Mr. Gleim further stated that if Subject Thompson had worked for their company during the past year, he would have worked at the First Street plant, which he, Gleim, had charge of, and that he had no record of his employment during the past year.

The confessions of Subject Thompson and Holmes indicate that a gun used by Subject Thompson had been purchased from a Mr. Meyer, residing in Willow Glen, a suburb of San Jose, California. Agent located this Mr. Meyer at 400 Willow Street, Willow Glen, California, and he stated upon interview, in the presence of Deputy Sheriff Ray Hicks, that he had known Subject Holmes for a period of about one year, since August, 1934, when Holmes had contacted his garage at 400 Willow Street, for the purpose of selling the products of the Exxon Oil Company. He stated that he had been very friendly with Holmes, and had always regarded him as a very confidential and fine type of person.

With reference to the gun matter, Mr. Meyer stated that in August of 1935, a friend of his, one Bill Asmet, had left Willow Glen, that in leaving he had left him, Meyer, a .38 revolver, so that he, Meyer, had two revolvers, the .38 revolver left by Asmet, and a .41-caliber revolver which he himself had all the time. He stated that subsequently to the turning over of his gun to him by Asmet, he contacted in Holmes that he had an extra gun, told Holmes that he was willing to sell his own .41-caliber revolver for \$8.00. Mr. Meyer stated that he is not exactly sure of the date, but that on either Oct. 15th, 16th or 17th, Holmes appeared at the garage, 400 Willow Street, accompanied by Subject Thompson, that Subject Holmes introduced him, Meyer, to Thompson, and stated that he, Holmes, had secured a purchaser for his Meyer's .41-caliber revolver. Mr. Meyer stated that he had never seen Thompson, nor did he see Holmes after this date. He stated that Thompson appeared to be very shy, and that very soon after the .41-caliber revolver was purchased by Holmes from Meyer, the .38-caliber revolver was purchased by Thompson from Meyer.

picked up the gun, and handled it in a very indiscreet way, which indicated to him, Meyer, that Thurmond did not have much experience with guns, and did not know how to handle a gun.

He stated that, however, Thurmond without further investigation or quibbling as to price, advised him at once that he would take the gun, and tendered him a \$10.00 bill in payment therefor; that he entered the payment as an \$8.00 cash sale; that his cash book shows that he made cash sales of \$8.00 on Oct. 15th, 16th and 17th, and for that reason he, Meyer, is unable to definitely state which one of these dates the gun was purchased by Thurmond, but he is sure that it was either the 15th, 16th, or 17th.

Mr. Meyer further stated that he did not see Holmes again until three or four days after the first of November, when Holmes called at his garage and advised him that he had lost his job with the Union Drill Company, and told him, Meyer, that he had a proposition to sell products independently for another service company; and that he, Holmes, desired his Meyer's business in this connection. He stated that after a short visit on this date, Holmes left and he has not seen or heard from Holmes since that date.

Charles William J. Davis of Santa Clara County, advised Agent that Holmes had stated that the concrete blocks secured in connection with this case, had been placed on the parking space in front of his, Holmes' home at 1070 Bird Avenue, in San Jose, California, and that they had remained there for several days in plain view to the view of inquisitive neighbors.

In company with Deputy Sheriff Ray Hicks, Agent interviewed Mr. Victor Lydell, 1068 Bird Avenue, who advised that he had resided at that address for about seven years; that he had known Jack Holmes and his wife as a neighbor, over a period of several years; that he, Lydell, did not see and does not remember, any case of concrete blocks in the parking space in front of Holmes' home during the last year; that he believed that if these blocks had been there he would have seen them. Mr. Lydell was unable to state the times that he had seen Holmes in the last two weeks, but he did remember that he had seen him early on Monday morning, Nov. 13th, when he was about 7:00 a.m., taking the Chevrolet car, which he drove, out of the Holmes garage at 1070 Bird Avenue, and driving away.

He stated that he had no conversation with him.

Meyer left until about 8 or 8:15 o'clock. He was able to furnish no further information either regarding the actions or movements of Holmes, or the whereabouts of concrete blocks in the parking space in front of Holmes' residence.

In company with Deputy Sheriff Ray Hicks, Agent interviewed Mr. W. O. Harris of 1061 21st Avenue, which house is immediately across the street from the Holmes residence. Mr. Harris advised that he had resided in the neighborhood for about five years; that he knew Holmes only casually to greet but was not conversant with his movements, and that he believes that if any concrete blocks had been stored, or placed in the parking space near Holmes' home during the last three weeks, he would have noticed same. He stated that he did not notice these concrete blocks in front of Holmes' home.

Continued

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Mr. Tolson | |
| Mr. E. A. Tamm | |
| Mr. Clegg | |
| Mr. Glavin | |
| Mr. Ladd | |
| Mr. Nichols | |
| Mr. Rosen | |
| Mr. Tracy | |
| Mr. Carson | |
| Mr. Coffey | |
| Mr. Hendon | |
| Mr. Pennington | |
| Mr. Quinn | |
| Mr. Nease | |
| Miss Gandy | |

November 27, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Called at 11:30 Sunday, pursuant to appointment, and stated that he is a native of [redacted] where he was employed for some years, that a letter had recently come to him from a friend which indicated that one [redacted] of San Jose might possibly have been involved in the Hart kidnaping. [redacted] stated that no such statement was made in the letter but, knowing he committed that this was the inference to be drawn and he felt it was a logical one. [redacted] commented at some length upon his theory that the Hart boy was not thrown over the San Mateo Bridge and stated he thought it more likely that, if murder had been committed, the body had been buried in the hills, and he had read somewhere that [redacted] had been suggested as an intermediary prior to the abductions of the two kidnapers.

The only reference I find to [redacted] to the effect that [redacted]

[redacted] I have seen no [redacted] that he or any one else acted as an intermediary.

[redacted] stated that [redacted] that while it is not generally known, [redacted] undoubtedly acquainted with all criminals in the County and probably would be [redacted] stated that this [redacted] information was given in the strictest confidence and that [redacted] that he had so confided in us he might not [redacted] assured him that we would have nothing [redacted] to any one concerning his call.

In view of the developments since [redacted] call, [redacted] if it is worthwhile to bother the San Francisco office with [redacted] information.

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NOV 28 1935

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7-11-33

November 27, 1933

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In connection with the lynching of Thomas Thurmond and Jack Holmes, confessed kidnapers and killers of twenty-two year old Brooke Hart, I thought you should be advised immediately of the status of the Federal case against these men at the time of the lynching.

You will recall that Agents of the Division, with the assistance of the Sheriff and police officers, investigating the kidnaping, ascertained the identity of the kidnapers, took them into custody, and obtained confessions from them. Subsequently they were removed by the Sheriff of San Jose to San Francisco, where they were kept in jail, still under State custody, for a matter of five days. On November 27, 1933, they were indicted by a Grand Jury of the Federal District Court at San Francisco, charged with kidnaping and extortion. On the same evening the Sheriff of San Jose arrived at San Francisco and, pursuant to a warrant issued under a federal charge of kidnaping and murder in accordance with State Statutes, removed them that evening to the jail at San Jose, so that they were in the custody of the State at all times and, in fact, no bench warrant or warrant of any kind limiting Federal jurisdiction had been served upon them.

Mr. Vetterli, our Agent in charge of the San Francisco Office has advised us that at the time of the removal to San Jose and subsequent thereto, and within the past two days, he offered whatever assistance the Sheriff might require in connection with the safe custody of these prisoners. Sheriff King of San Jose stated, however, that he felt he was amply prepared and did not require such assistance. None of the Agents of the Division was at San Jose at the time of the lynching.

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★ NOV 27 1933 ★
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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| FBI - SAN FRANCISCO | |

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Report

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| Mr. Nathan | _____ |
| Mr. Ladd | _____ |
| Mr. Clegg | _____ |
| Mr. Glavin | _____ |
| Mr. Nichols | _____ |
| Mr. Rosen | _____ |
| Mr. Tracy | _____ |
| Mr. Carson | _____ |
| Mr. Egan | _____ |
| Mr. Gurnea | _____ |
| Mr. Harbo | _____ |
| Mr. Hendon | _____ |
| Mr. Jones | _____ |
| Mr. Quinn | _____ |
| Mr. Nease | _____ |
| Mr. Lester | _____ |
| Mr. Adams | _____ |

Case: THOMAS E. THORAN (HART CASE), Victimizing. Number: 7-375
Specimen: #1, envelope and post-card extortion message to Hart; #2, envelope
and two page letter extortion message to Hart; #3, envelope and four page
letter, extortion message to Hart.
Examination requested by: San Francisco Office.

Date received: November 22, 1933.
Examination desired: General and fingerprints.

Date of Report: November 28, 1933.
Result of examination:

Examination by: C.A. Appel.
CH

The envelope postmarked San Jose, California, November 15, 1 P.M., measures 5.3 by 3.54 inches. It is made of note paper and bears a three-cent stamp, although this may have been unnecessary. If so, it may be of use in questioning a suspect. There is no water-mark on the envelope.

The message is written on four sheets of soft textured paper measuring 5.01 by 7.93 inches. All sheets measure exactly the same and there are torn out pieces at the top of these sheets which probably indicated that the paper was a part of a pad glued at the top. The writer was unable to observe any glue, however, with the microscope as is usually the case. In this connection, treating the sheets with silver nitrate created a purple line across the top which is evidently where traces of glue exist, indicating the paper was part of a pad. There was no water-mark.

The envelope marked #3, postmarked San Francisco, November 15, 6:30 P.M., measures exactly 3.64 (torn) by 6.3 inches. It is exactly the same envelope as that described in the first paragraph. The letter measures 7.56 by 3 inches, the paper having a woven finish which is not the same as that of the paper described in the first paragraph. There is no water-mark and both sheets are the same.

The envelope postmarked Sacramento, November 10, 12:30 P.M., bears a three-cent stamp and measures 3.64 by 6.6 inches. It is exactly similar to the other envelopes. There is no water-mark.

RECORDED

DEC 1 1933

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| 7-375-31 |
| DEC 1 1933 |

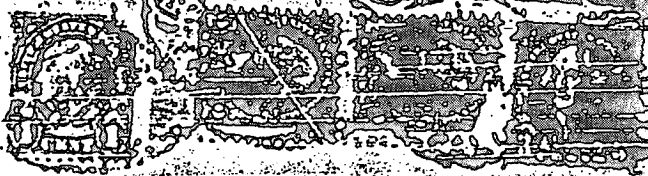
The post-card in this envelope is of the one-cent Post Office variety. The pencil printing on all of these communications is the same and a telegram was forwarded to the San Francisco Office requesting specimens of the pencil printing of the two subjects. In conducting any tests of the subjects, advantage should be taken of the apparent use of the word "irregardless" and the misspelling of the word "hence" as "hense".

A further report on the fingerprints in this case will be submitted later.

- 3 - Director.
- 2 - San Francisco.
- 2 - Laboratory.

San Jose, Calif.

670
Air mail



Head of
Mr. Edgar Hoover
Department of Justice
Washington
D. C.



Personal.

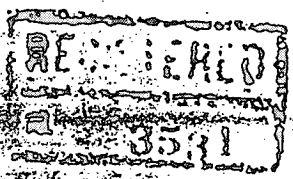
San Jose, Calif.

167C.



Via Air Mail

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Investigation Dept, and Identification Bro.
Washington
D.C.



Personal
Please
Deliver to Addressee Only

WE WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM OUR PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

BY THE SENDER OF THIS MESSAGE, PLEASE GIVE IT TO THE MESSENGER OR TELEPHONE IT TO

WESTERN UNION

| SIGNS | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| DL | Day Letter |
| NM | Night Message |
| NL | Night Letter |
| LC | Deferred Cable |
| NLT | Cable Night Letter |
| Ship Radiogram | |

The 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 703 14th St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

BA30^{PP} DPR ██████████ = BOSTON MASS 28 1933

1933 NOV 28 PM 1:36

J EDGAR HOOVER, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE =
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHDC =

| INDICES IN TRANSIT | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| REGISTERED | DAY LETTER |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

WILL YOU WIRE ME COLLECT STATEMENT ON SAN JOSE LYNCHING OF KIDNAPERS? YOU ARE THEIR NEMESIS. ISSUE A NATIONAL ONE. YOUR VIEWS OF GREAT WEIGHT. THANKS. REGARDS.

CHARLES HAVEN BOSTON SUNDAY POST. 7-375-42

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

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&
INDEXED

DEC 1 1933

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| NOV 29 1933 |
| U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE |
| FILE |

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

W
O
VMS:AKX

RM
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November 28, 1933

Mr. Charles Haven,
c/o Boston Sunday Post,
Boston, Massachusetts.

RECORDED 7-375-40

DEC 1 1933

Dear Mr. Haven:

I wanted to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of today requesting a statement from me relative to the lynching of kidnapers. I certainly appreciate your kind comments but I have consistently refrained from making any statement concerning this matter through reason of the fact that Agents of this Division took part in the original investigation.

With expressions of my warm regards, I

Sincerely yours,

Director

11-1-33

FILED
NOV 28 1933
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MS

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
318 Beves Building
San Francisco, California.

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|-------------|--|
| Mr. Nathan | |
| Mr. Tolson | |
| Mr. Clegg | |
| Mr. Glavin | |
| Mr. Ladd | |
| Mr. Nichols | |
| Mr. Rosen | |
| Mr. Tracy | |
| Mr. Carson | |
| Mr. Egan | |
| Mr. Gurnea | |
| Mr. Hendon | |
| Mr. Jones | |
| Mr. Quinn | |
| Mr. Nease | |
| Miss Gandy | |

*with
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REV/AP.
7-27

Nov. 27, 1933.

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

Dear Sir:

DEC 4 - 1933

RECORDED

RE: THOMAS H. THURMOND
JOHN M. HOLMES
BROOKS L. HART - Victim
Kidnaping.

| |
|-----------------------|
| 7-375-41 |
| RECEIVED |
| DEC 8 1933 |
| U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE |

With respect to the lynching of the above Subjects on midnight, Nov. 26, 1933, I desire to advise that while Federal indictments were returned against these Subjects recently at San Francisco, Subjects were always in the custody of either the San Francisco Police, where they had been placed for safekeeping, or the Sheriff at San Jose, California. We did question them one afternoon, on Nov. 18, 1933, at San Francisco, in our Division Office, but both Subjects were immediately returned again to the custody of the San Francisco Police.

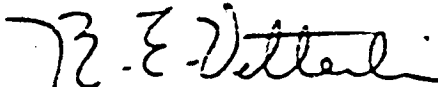
After the Federal indictments had been returned, no papers were served on Subjects, owing to the fact that on the same date, Nov. 23, 1933, a complaint was signed by Sheriff Exig at San Jose, California, charging both Subjects with kidnaping under the recent new California statute on kidnaping; on the same night, Nov. 24, both Subjects were taken by Sheriff Exig from the San Francisco County Jail to the County Jail at San Jose, where they remained in custody of the State until the lynching on Sunday night, Nov. 26, 1933, so that in no sense of the word was either prisoner in the custody of the Federal Government.

I have been in constant telephone communication with Sheriff Exig of San Jose, and have offered him the full service of this entire office, and was in contact with him on either Friday or Saturday, Nov. 24th or Nov. 25th on the subject matter. He advised me that he felt they had the situation well in hand, and expressed his appreciation of the offer of assistance by this office.

and as a result no Agent was in San Jose at the time the lynching took place.

The foregoing is for your information to show the exact status of the Division in this case at the time the lynching took place.

Respectfully,



R.E. Vetterli,
Special Agent in Charge.

AIR MAIL.