

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

The Attorney General was further informed that if we sent our Negro Agents to the South, the situation would be even worse.

I had the Attorney General's complete attention, and there is no question he heard what I said. Nevertheless, he only remarked "Yeah" and immediately followed by saying, "I think Senator McClellan is interrupting Valachi too much in his testimony."

I returned to the situation in Birmingham by reiterating the fact that as the Attorney General was aware, we had been conducting the most exhaustive and intensive investigation possible; that we had been keeping the pressure on and had handled many interviews with the Chambliss group, using the polygraph where consent was secured. Chambliss himself was reinterviewed on Saturday and others of his associates on Sunday. Obviously these interviews have become known, as the subjects themselves must have told others they had been contacted by the FBI.

The Attorney General said he appreciated this and asked that we continue to keep him informed.

I left him with the remark that I personally hoped this action by the State Police, which appeared to be premature, would not ruin completely the possibilities of getting substantial information through hard intensive investigation. He said he hoped so, too.

E. A.

10-4-63

CODE

RADIOGRAM

URGENT

TO: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (157-352)

FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-1025)

BAPBOMB

REURTEL OCTOBER THREE, ONE NINE SIXTYTHREE.

RECORDS OF E. I. DUPONT COMPANY SHOULD BE CHECKED FOR ADDITIONAL SHIPMENTS OF DYNAMITE TO NEGRON GROCERY AND OTHER OUTLETS PRIOR TO AUGUST TWENTY DASH EIGHT, ONE NINE SIXTYTHREE. CARTON OF DYNAMITE RECOVERED BY ALABAMA HIGHWAY PATROL COULD POSSIBLY HAVE HAD CODE NUMBER BEGINNING WITH TWO ZERO AS REFLECTED IN PREVIOUS TELETYPES, DYNAMITE MANUFACTURED ON AUGUST TWENTY BY E. I. DUPONT COMPANY SHOULD BE CHECKED TO SEE WHERE IT WAS SHIPPED. ADVISE EXTENT OF YOUR INQUIRIES TO DATE CONCERNING SOURCES OF EXPLOSIVES AND YOUR EFFORTS TO TRACE SHIPMENTS AND DISTRIBUTION.

CONCERNING [REDACTED] A REVIEW OF BUREAU FILES INDICATES [REDACTED]

[Handwritten scribble]

[Handwritten mark]

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

RBL:sda (3)

[Handwritten signature]

REC-40

157-1025-1008

OCT 73

EX-116

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

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

OCT 4 - 1963

[Handwritten mark]

[Handwritten mark]

RADIOGRAM TO SAC, BIRMINGHAM
RE: BAPBOMB

SUCH BACKGROUND INFORMATION SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE
TELETYPES WHEN SUBMITTING NAMES.

BY SEPARATE AIRTELS IMMEDIATELY FURNISH NAMES OF ALL
SUSPECTS TO DATE DEVELOPED BY YOUR OFFICE INCLUDING BIRTH
DATE, FBI NUMBER OR POLICE DEPARTMENT NUMBER IF KNOWN.
ALSO INCLUDE SHORT STATEMENT AS TO WHY HE IS CONSIDERED
A SUSPECT.

Note:

If next radio contact missed, send by plain text,
deferred teletype.

3 13
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 4 - 1953

TELETYPE

FBI

Date: 9/25/63

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (157-352)
RE: BAPBOMB

670
[REDACTED]

It is noted the Bureau requested to be advised when the above had been done.

2 Copies made by LJC
for review by Rowe Task Force
Date 12/21/78
Entire Serial

REC-26

25 SEP 27 1963

3 - Bureau - AM
3 - Birmingham (2 - 157-352) JHC

6 4 001

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

C C - YHC

b2c
Memorandum for Mr. McGowan

[REDACTED] will be interviewed again.

X
LAKE LAND
I believe that we should press the matter involving the theft of dynamite in Montgomery, Alabama, yesterday, wherein two or three trucks at the Holiday Inn at Montgomery, belonging to the late oil company, Tulsa, OKLA, reportedly had six to nine cases of dynamite stolen and an unknown quantity of mercury fuses. This is a sizeable item and could be most pertinent to our inquiries and is all the more reason why the Mobile office should be on their toes in actively inquiring into this. Moore indicated that there is a car reportedly involved in this theft which was recovered in Birmingham. This should be run out.

Moore is briefing the Agents today and is continuing to press all phases of this case. The above is for your information. We should expect formal advice from the Birmingham Office concerning the above matters.

f

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XXXXXX
XXXXXX

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

2

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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157-1025-341

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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FBI

Date: 10/2/63

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

~~REC-11~~

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-1025)
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (157-290) (RUC)
SUBJECT: BAPBOMB

C

ReBuairtel to Birmingham and Dallas, 10/1/63.

Texas ORMER HARRY MENDENHALL, 3606 Howell Street, ^{E. APPROX 1782} Dallas, ^{WDC}

was contacted 10/2/63, by SA [redacted] and MENDENHALL advised he did not want to discuss anything with the FBI and that he had furnished all the information he had to Washington by letter and had no additional information.

Criminal checks, Dallas, negative. Credit checks reflect MENDENHALL to be 81 years old and operated a used furniture business from his residence in 1937. From 1937 to present time he manufactures and sells homemade medicine and remedies from door to door.

WDC

MENDENHALL has a married daughter living at [redacted] but refused to furnish her name and information about the daughter or any other relatives.

It appears with contact with MENDENHALL that he is mentally unstable.

- 3 - Bureau (Rm)
- 2 - Birmingham (157-352) (Rm)
- 1 - Dallas

[redacted] (6)

REC-11 157-1025-342

11 OCT 4 1963

WZ

EX-116

54 OCT 10 1963

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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For your information: _____

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157-1025-343

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	<input type="checkbox"/>
Casper	<input type="checkbox"/>
Callahan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conrad	<input type="checkbox"/>
DeLoach	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evans	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gale	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sullivan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tavel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trotter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: 10-2-63

FROM : A. Rosen *Sam*

Chambliss

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS,
 BOMBING OF SIXTEENTH STREET
 BAPTIST CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
 SEPTEMBER 15, 1963
 BOMBING MATTERS

McGowan

On 10-1-63 the Alabama Highway Patrol was served with writs of habeas corpus by Attorneys representing Robert E. Chambliss and Charles Arnie Cagle, the two men arrested by the Alabama Highway Patrol on 9-29-63 in connection with the Birmingham bombings. The serving of the writs necessitated charges being filed against Chambliss and Cagle. Also charged was John Wesley Hall, another member of the Chambliss group who was taken into custody 10-1-63 by the Alabama Highway Patrol. As indicated in copies of the complaint and warrant later exhibited to Bureau Agents by Hall, the three men were charged with having in their possession an explosive, to wit, dynamite, without a permit therefor as required by Section 451 of the General City Code of the City of Birmingham of 1944, all in violation of Section 464 of said General City Code.

The complaints were signed by Colonel Albert J. Lingo of the Alabama Highway Patrol before Judge J. Earl Langner of the Recorders Court of Birmingham. The offense with which the three men were charged is a misdemeanor. Bond for each of the men was set at \$300. Chambliss and Hall were released on bond but Cagle was not immediately released. Chambliss is scheduled to appear for trial 10-8-63. Trial dates for Cagle and Hall have not yet been set.

62-1,4

EX 104

REC-53 10-1-63



JCT: pab *pab*
 (9)
 1 - Mr. Mohr
 1 - Mr. DeLoach
 1 - Mr. Evans

1-BW

769
53 001 9 1963

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: UNSUBS, BOMBING OF SIXTEENTH STREET
BAPTIST CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

b7c, d
[REDACTED]

SAC Roy Moore advised that this substantiates the charge of possession of dynamite as alleged by the Alabama Highway Patrol but no information has been received to indicate that there have been any admissions to the Alabama Highway Patrol concerning the actual bombings. [REDACTED]

The Birmingham Office advised that reputable news representatives and members of local Birmingham law enforcement agencies repeatedly reported during the day that Colonel Lingo seemed to have been in an untenable position in that it was doubtful that he could substantiate any charges against Chambliss, Cagle, Hall and he was forced to sign the complaints charging possession of dynamite himself because he could get no other officer to sign them. These representatives also reported that the individuals picked up by the Alabama Highway Patrol on the night of 9-29-63 recognized Robert Shelton, Don Luna, and Hubert E. Reeves, Klan Representatives, riding with Alabama Highway Patrol and being present when some of the men were picked up.

b7c, d
[REDACTED]

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: UNSUBS, BOMBING OF SIXTEENTH STREET
BAPTIST CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

[REDACTED]

Other members of the Chambliss group are also being interviewed further and the intensive investigation of this group is being pushed.

652078
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

his information is being promptly run out and the Memphis Office is conducting investigation to identify and locate [REDACTED]

ACTION:

You will be kept advised of pertinent developments.

RJM btm/43
W.A. 10/2 pressing
keep pressing
investigation
this has been done 10/2 R

67C10

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED]

ALIBIS VERIFIED REGARDING [REDACTED]

ALIBIS OF [REDACTED] BEING
CHECKED, NO PERTINENT INFORMATION DEVELOPED TODAY.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

INVESTIGATION CONTINUES TO LOCATE, THOROUGHLY INTERVIEW, AND AFFORD POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION AND CHECK ALIBI ALL ASSOCIATES CHAMBLISS GROUP.

POLYGRAPH INTERVIEWS.

b7c
b7d

[REDACTED]

TWENTYFIVE SIXTYTHREE.

DYNAMITE PROJECT. :

b7c
b7d

[REDACTED]

END PAGE THREE

12-15

PAGE FOUR

[REDACTED]

IT WAS REPORTED THAT ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS TOLD STATE OFFICERS HE HAD PURCHASED A CASE OF DYNAMITE ON SEPTEMBER FOUR SIXTYTHREE AT NAVELS /PHONETIC/ HARDWARE STORE, NEAR BROOKSIDE, ALA. INVESTIGATION AT BROOKSIDE REFLECTS NO NAVELS HARDWARE STORE AND NO STORES SELLING DYNAMITE. HOWEVER, NEGRONS APPLIANCE AND GENERAL MDSE., AT ^{BLASSBURG} BLASBURG, ALA, DOES SELL DYNAMITE. ON OCTOBER [REDACTED]

17-14

[REDACTED]

END PAGE FOUR

62
15
PAGE FIVE

[REDACTED]

ON OCTOBER SECOND TWO BUAGENTS PRESENT AT RECOUNTING AND WEIGHING OF ONE HUNDRED THIRTY STICKS OF MONOBEL B DYNAMITE RECOVERED BY STATE AUTHORITIES OCTOBER ONE LAST. WEIGHT OF DYNAMITE RECOVERED FIFTY POUND FOURTEEN OUNCES. AT TIME OF RECOVERY DYNAMITE WAS WRAPPED IN PLASTIC AND IN CARDBOARD CARTON MARKED QUOTE HIGH EXPLOSIVES, DANGER, MONOBEL B UNQUOTE. CARTON PRESUMED TO BE ORIGINAL. CARTON CONSTRUCTED SO THAT ONE HALF SLIPS OVER THE OTHER. BOTH HALVES OF CARTON AND THE PLASTIC WRAPPING IN POSSESSION OF STATE AUTHORITIES. ACCORDING TO BIRMINGHAM FIRE DEPT. OFFICIALS, THE DYNAMITE APPEARS TO BE

END PAGE FIVE

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157-1025-345 p 6

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17c 10

PAGE SEVEN

[REDACTED]

WE WILL ALSO ENDEAVOR TO RESOLVE IF THE DYNAMITE
RECEIVED ON OCTOBER ONE SIXTYTHREE IS IDENTICAL WITH THAT
PURCHASED BY UNKNOWN SUBJECT ON AUGUST THREE SIXTYTHREE
END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

OR WHETHER STATE INVESTIGATORS LEARNED ON OCTOBER ONE OF THE SALE ON AUGUSTTHIRTYONE AT NEGRONS OR MONOBEL WAS PURCHASED ELSEWHERE.

L2710 NOI PROJECT.

[REDACTED]

LEAD BIRMINGHAM CONCERNING HAVING ALL MEMBERS OF NOI INTERVIEWED. ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE FOR SPECIFIC DATE AND TIME. INTERVIEWS WILL BEGIN OCTOBER THREE.

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING [REDACTED] CONTINUING. *L2c*

ONE HUNDRED ELEVEN INTERVIEWS TODAY. APPROXIMATELY FOUR HUNDRED REMAINING.

END ACK

WA 2-21 AM OK FBI WA JS

TU CLEARV

cc: Mr. Conrad

RECEIVED
OCT 21 1963
11

10/3/63

Airtel

To: SAC, Birmingham (157-352)

From: Director, FBI (157-1025)

BAPBOMB

A review of communications in this matter indicates the following leads, which do not appear to have been covered to date:

ST

b7c
b7d

[REDACTED]

2. Birmingham airtel 9/16/63, captioned, "Unsubs; Threat to Bomb, etc.", dated 9/15/63, BHFIL 157-339

b7c
b7d

[REDACTED] interviewed and occupants of vehicle identified and interviewed.

3. Birmingham teletype 9/13/63, captioned, "Unsubs; Bombing of residence of Arthur Shores, etc.," BHFIL 157-339, contained information concerning [REDACTED]

b7c

Advise what action has been taken concerning [REDACTED]

4. New York teletype 9/29/63, captioned, "Unsub; Bombing of Residence in 1700 Block, Center Street, South, Birmingham, Alabama, 9/25/63," set forth information from [REDACTED]

b7c
b7d

[REDACTED]

Owner of the car should be identified and interviewed.

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

RBL:jgs
(4)

MAILED 4
OCT 3 - 1963
COMM-FBI

REC-53 157-1025-34

19 OCT 4 1963

EX-103

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Airtel to SAC, Birmingham
Re: BAPBOMB

5. Insure that an attempt is made, when suspects are identified and interviewed, that any pliers or wirecutters they have in their possession are obtained and sample cuttings made of wire to be submitted to the Laboratory for comparison with cuttings made on a wire coat hanger found at the scene of the Center Street bombing on 9/25/63. Attempts should be made to recontact those persons already interviewed to obtain information concerning such pliers.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. TROTTER *cts*

DATE: September 24, 1963

FROM : S. F. Latona *A*

SUBJECT: BAPBOMB

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

McGowan
LHVII

Re memo from C. L. McGowan to Mr. Rosen dated 9-20-63, forwarding anonymous letter postmarked Ft. George G. Meade, Maryland, September 19, 1963, concerning writer's opinion that a man by the name of Adams may be involved in the bombing of 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. Memo requests that letter and envelope be processed for latent prints.

No latent impressions of value were developed on letter or envelope. Result of the examination was reported to SA [redacted] on 9-20-63. Letter and envelope were returned to Inspector J. R. Mailey, 9-20-63.

A photograph of the envelope and letter are attached.

ACTION:

For record.

Enc. (2)

REP
RER:sem *sem*
(3)
ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

BEP
cut

REC-26

157-1025-347

6 SEP 27 1963

6-11

3001-10-503

RA

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Evans
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

(Anonymous letter, postmarked Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, September 19, 1963, 5:30 a. m.)

Bapbomb

Dear Sir,

Remember the beating of Nat King Cole in B'Ham by some men from Anniston, Alabama? The leaders' name was Adam - This bombing Sunday sure seems like his work.

I could be wrong, but I would bet anything that he had something to do with it.

COPY:emm

REC-26

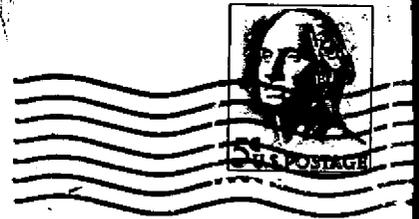
157-1025-1248

6 SEP 27 1963

911-116

6

16



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: September 20, 1963

FROM : C. L. McGowan

SUBJECT: BAPBOMB

Attached is an anonymous letter postmarked Ft. George G. Meade, Maryland, September 19, 1963, concerning the writer's opinion that a man by the name of Adams may be involved in the bombing of 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham.

Kenneth L. Adams is a Klan leader at Anniston, Alabama.

ACTION:

It is requested that the Identification Division process the anonymous letter for latent fingerprints.

1 - Mr. Trotter

RBL:nlr
(6)

REC-26

157-1025-249

6 SEP 27 1963

STAMP

16



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

To: FBI, Birmingham (157-407)

Date: October 1, 1963

Re: UNSUBS, EXPLOSION AT 1601 CENTER
STREET, S., BIRMINGHAM, ALA.,
9/25/63
BM

Handwritten mark resembling a stylized 'J' or '1'.

John Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No.

Lab. No. PC-77373 GH JV CWIJ
D-432066 JD

Examination requested by: FBI, Birmingham

Reference: Letter 9/26/63 - Teletype 9/27/63 (BAPBOMB)

Examination requested: Spectrographic - Explosives - Microscopic -
Miscellaneous - Toolmarks - Document

Remarks:

This report confirms and supplements the Bureau's teletype to your office dated 9/28/63.

The submitted evidence is being held in the FBI Laboratory for a period of thirty days.

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

1 - Birmingham (157-352) Enclosure (Lab report)

① - 157-1025 (use as yellow) *BAPBOMB*

DUPLICATE YELLOW

157-1025
NOT RECORDED
87 OCT 8 1963

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REPORT
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

To: FBI, Birmingham

Date: October 1, 1963

Re: UNSUBS, EXPLOSION AT 1601 CENTER
STREET, S., BIRMINGHAM, ALA.,
9/25/63
BM

FBI File No.

Lab. No. PC-77373 GH JV CW IJ
D-432066 JD

Specimens received 9/26/63

- Q1 - Q4 Four boxes containing metal fragments and miscellaneous debris
- Q5 Washer from 618 Center Street
- Q6 Paper material from suspected area of first explosion
- Q7 Steel pin and spring
- Q8 Nail, nut and bolt
- Q9 Material from Veal residence
- Q10 Portion of can
- Q11 Material from utility pole
- Q12 Material from crater
- Q13 Miscellaneous pieces of metal recovered by police department
- Q14 Material from Nunn residence
- Q15 Pieces of utility pole
- Q16 Large bag of miscellaneous metal pieces
- Q17 Piece of coat hanger

Results of examination:

The debris removed from some of the flat metal fragments of specimen Q16 was found to consist essentially of sodium nitrate and a complex mixture of sodium, sulphur and carbonate compounds. These deposits are consistent with and typical of those remaining after the detonation of a dynamite which originally contained significant percentages of sodium nitrate and sulphur. Black powder consisting essentially of sodium nitrate and sulphur will also leave similar deposits. The on-the-scene high-order explosive effects observed in this case would eliminate a low-order explosion as would result from the deflagration of black powder.

Among the metal fragments submitted were a variety of nails, screws, bolts, steel wire, hinge fragments, pipe fragments, et cetera. These metal fragments were subjected to explosive violence and were most likely packed around the explosive to serve as shrapnel. These miscellaneous metal pieces are like those from

a "junk" pile or source of waste material. These "junk" metal fragments are old, used and rusty. They are the type which might accumulate in a home over a long period of time.

Also among the metal fragments were rusty sheet metal fragments and one rusty fragment in specimen Q2 was fabricated like the rim portion of a can or bucket. This piece was too fragmentary to determine the size of the bucket or can. The sheet metal fragments, with the exception of the sheet metal of Q10, are all of the same approximate gauge as the metal of the rusty rim of specimen Q2. It is possible that the rusty rim fragment and the rusty sheet metal fragments represent a bucket or can which held the explosive and shrapnel pieces.

Specimen Q10 is a fragmentary rusty can. Originally this can was approximately 4 3/8" high and approximately 3 1/2" in diameter, based on the metal now present. A can of this size could not have held the shrapnel submitted. It is pointed out that this Q10 can does not exhibit the high degree of fragmentation as exhibited by the heavier gauge sheet metal fragments and rim fragment referred to above.

No solid identifiable explosive residues were recovered from the paper fragments of Q6. Many of these Q6 fragments are part of a container for "Barber's Lemon Ice Milk"

The greenish paper affixed to the piece of wire designated as Q17 is packaging tape. Tape of this nature has among its uses the sealing of plastic bags of fruits and vegetables at grocery stores as well as wrapping of mechanical items. The origin of this paper could not be determined.

The ends of the piece of coat hanger, Q17, have been cut with a pinching tool such as diagonal cutting pliers or electricians pliers. The marks are of value for identification of the specific tool used. The shape of the coat hanger fragment suggests that this may have been employed as a handle or hanger for the bomb package.

A piece of small diameter pipe among the submitted metal fragments possesses toolmarks of limited value for identification purposes. These marks were produced by a pipe wrench and possibly a chisel, both of undetermined size.

No blasting cap fragments, leg wires, fuse fragments or other material used specifically in connection with explosives were found in the submitted items.

Nothing particularly significant about the material submitted was found that would suggest a source, occupation or specific significant use of the material.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: October 4, 1963

FROM : A. Rosen *Rosen*

P

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;
 BOMBING OF SIXTEENTH STREET
 BAPTIST CHURCH
 BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
 SEPTEMBER 15, 1963
 BOMBING MATTERS

At 7:52 p. m. , 10-3-63, SAC Roy Moore at Birmingham telephoned Night Supervisor [redacted] and advised that plans have been made to interview [redacted] SAC Moore requested authority to afford [redacted] polygraph examination. *b2c-10 Ala.*

In connection with the investigation of the bombing of captioned matter, extensive investigation is being conducted of all potential subjects in order to bring this matter to a logical conclusion.

SAC Moore stated that a waiver would be obtained prior to this polygraph examination. *cl*

ACTION TAKEN:

In view of the importance of this matter together with the urgency of his request, SAC Moore was advised to proceed with the interview with the use of the polygraph.

1 - Mr. Conrad

HSU:hw
)7(

Rosen
 EX-112
 REC-26
 157-1025-350
 OCT 4 1963
 351-353
 FBI

77

[Handwritten mark]

FBI

Date: September 25, 1963

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: Director, FBI
Attention: Communications Division

FROM: SAC, Birmingham (157-352)

RE: BAPBOMB
TELEPHONE FACILITIES
BIRMINGHAM OFFICE
HEADQUARTERS CITY AND ANNISTON RA

Attachment

Re Birmingham teletype to Bureau 9-19-63 and Bureau's reply 9-20-63, captioned "BAPBOMB."

A number 28 teletype machine was installed in Birmingham Headquarters City, which will rent for \$80.00 a month. The installation charge was \$15.00. The teletype number is 205-328-1044. It is noted a rotary will throw any calls from the first number which the Birmingham Office had, if machine is busy, to the new number.

Additional trunk line was installed for a cost of \$32.38 per month. Four extensions were installed at \$1.75 charge per month. There was a charge of \$4.00 for a line trunk unit since the addition of one trunk was in excess of six in use. Total installation charge for the one trunk and four extensions was \$21.50 - \$6.50 for the trunk and \$3.75 per extension station.

Total rental and installation is \$64.88 based on one month's service.

In addition, there will be a charge of 30¢ a month for an external key bell cutoff switch on one of the night attendant stations, which station is located in the Agents' room. There will be an installation charge of \$3.00.

- 3 - Bureau - AMI cc Detached Communications Section
- 3 - Birmingham
- 1 - 157-352
- 1 - 66-1228 (Communications)
- 1 - 66-1208 (Anniston RA)

REC-11
XEROX
157-1025-351
OCT 7 1963

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 66-32

BH 157-352

The new telephone number of the additional trunk is 322-7774.

// At Anniston Resident Agency an additional private line telephone was installed, which number is 236-8091. This telephone was installed September 20, 1963, and the monthly cost is \$12.00. Installation charge was \$6.50 and charge of \$1.25 was made for a spring cord.

For the Bureau's information, it became necessary on September 20, 1963, to install one unlisted, unpublished telephone line at the Anniston Resident Agency to take over an overload on the sole existing telephone, which was caused by rushing six additional agents to the Resident Agency in connection with the BAPBOMB special, based on pertinent information received necessitating the immediate investigation by agents.

In addition, because of crowded conditions which were developing in the Headquarters City Office, space was secured in an adjacent office from the Federal Mediation Service, for which no charge is being made, to locate some personnel to take care of leads on a temporary basis, and with the authority of the Mediation Board officials a telephone extension was placed from the Headquarters telephone switchboard into this space, with a limiter thereon so that no calls outside the office could be made from that particular extension.

With regard to the installation of the key for bell cutoff switch, it is pointed out that during night conferences regularly held daily in the Agents' room, occasioned by the BAPBOMB special, it was found that the bell on the night attendant station rang during these conferences, and this tended to disrupt the proceedings. To alleviate this condition, a cutoff key has been ordered for that night attendant station at a cost of 30¢ per month and installation charge of \$3.00, as stated above.

The Anniston RA additional telephone line, the additional extension for the space on loan, and the bell cutoff switch were obtained on an emergency basis, as it was felt they simply constituted a reasonable amendment to the basic authority already granted by the Bureau and there was no question as to their urgent need at the moment, as well as continuing need as long as present conditions exist at Birmingham.

Walt
10-7-63
AP

3 10/7

FBI

Date: 10/5/63

PLAINTEXT

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Belmont.....
- Mr. Mohr.....
- Mr. Casper.....
- Mr. Callahan.....
- Mr. Conrad.....
- Mr. DeLoach.....
- Mr. Evans.....
- Mr. Gale.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Sullivan.....
- Mr. Tavel.....
- Mr. Trotter.....
- Tele. Room.....
- Miss Holmes.....
- Miss Gandy.....

EXPEDITE

K18-K21

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
 ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY

FROM : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (157-352)

7-15
PC 7 7490

SUBJECT : BAPBOMB

COPY 4 - SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB FOR LAB ACTION & REPORT

10/7/63

There is being forwarded under separate cover by air mail special delivery one package containing three pieces of wire cut by a pair of pliers, voluntarily furnished by [redacted] on 10/4/63, as well as a piece of iron pipe about 12" in length, which bears tool marks of a pipe wrench located in [redacted] garage. [redacted] voluntarily furnished the two tools from which the cuttings and marks were made.

The Laboratory is requested to compare the cuttings and the tool marks on the wire, and the pipe with other questioned material previously furnished in this case and other recent bombings in the Birmingham Division.

In the event these pieces of evidence are found to be without value, they can be discarded at the Laboratory.

Results of the examination should be made available to the Birmingham Office.

- ③ - Bureau
- 1 - Package **AM** RM
- 2 - Birmingham

REC-13

OCT 8 1963

EX-115

(6)

C. C. Wick

10/23/63

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

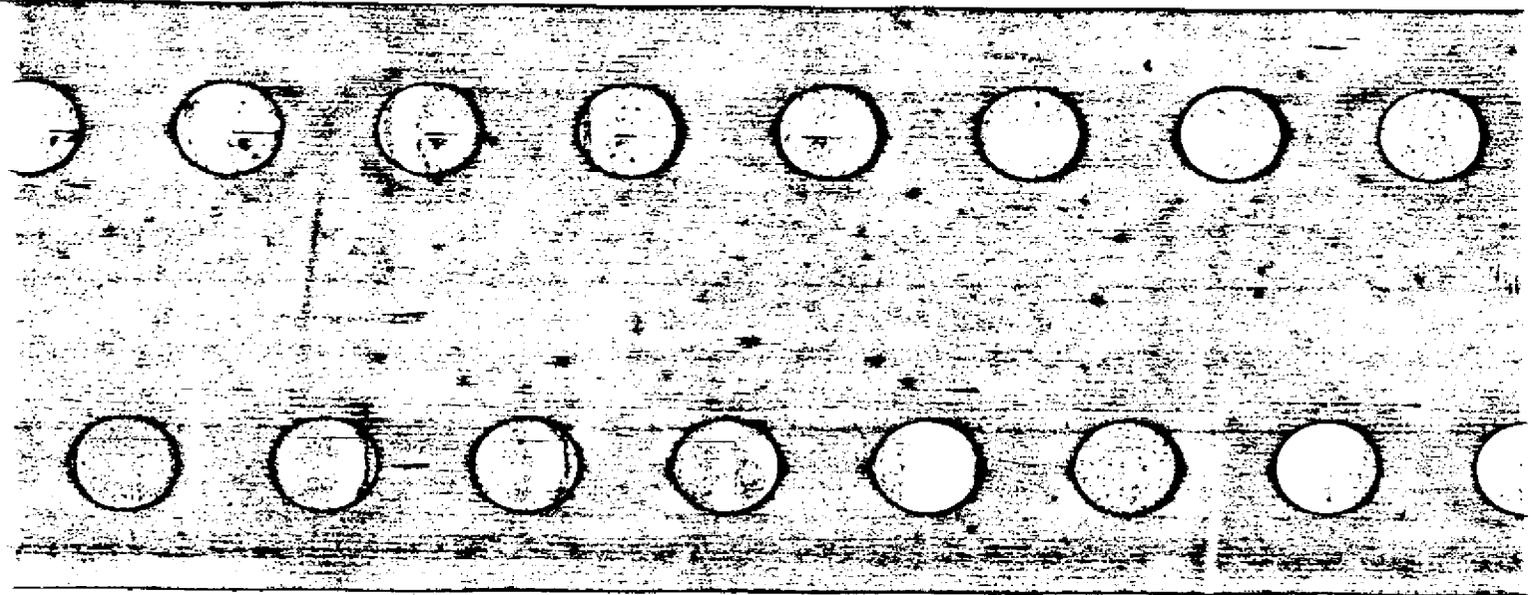
M

Per _____

INDEXED FILES

Anniston Resident Agency #5 2368091

Adm. Asst.
G. S. Smith
Chapman
~~Edith C. Smith~~
~~W. A. Smith~~
Mrs. Rose





FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

To: **FBI, Birmingham (157-352)**

Date: **October 23, 1963**

Re: **BAPBOMB**

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

Examination requested by:

Reference: **Birmingham**

Examination requested: **Letters 10/2/63 and 10/3/63
Airtels 10/5/63 and 10/6/63**

Remarks: **Microscopic - Toolmarks - Spectrographic**

FBI File No. **157-407-254**
PC-77472 IJ CW
PC-77476 IJ
PC-77490 IJ
PC-77545 CW IJ

EX-112

MAILED 5
OCT 23 1963
COMM-FBI

A listing of specimens Q1 through Q17 is contained in the Laboratory report PC-77373, dated 10/1/63, in the case captioned "Unsubs; Explosion at 1601 Center Street, South, Birmingham, Alabama, 9/25/63; BM" (your file 157-407, Bufile 157-1042).

A partial report dated October 15, 1963, concerning PC-77545 CW IJ, was submitted to you and a portion of the attached communication reports the completion of the examinations of specimens K22 through K26 listed in that report.

It is pointed out that the taking of test cuts or marks with a tool in the field imposes some limitations on the results of any subsequent Laboratory examination. Since the mechanics of a toolmark comparison involve the microscopic comparison of the test cut or mark with the

- Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)
- 2 - Birmingham (157-407) Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)
- 1 - Birmingham (157-391) Enclosure (Lab report)
- 1 - Bufile (157-1042)

Page 1 (continued on next page)
LWL:swb (10) ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

actual evidence cut or mark, it is imperative that all variations of the angle of cut or mark as well as the entire working edge of the tool be represented in the test. This can best be accomplished in the Laboratory by the experienced examiner. It is therefore, most desirable that the actual suspect tool, except where it is impossible to obtain, such as in the case of a hostile suspect, be secured for a Laboratory examination:

The old and rusty assortment of nails recovered at the scene of the explosion do not appear to have any value for comparative purposes with other specimens of old nails.

Specimens K2 through K26 are being returned to your office under separate cover by registered mail.

REPORT
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

To: **FBI, Birmingham**
Re: **BAPBOMB**

Date: **October 23, 1963**
FBI File No. **157-1025-352**
Lab. No. **PC-77472 IJ CW**
PC-77476 IJ
PC-77490 IJ
PC-77545 CW IJ

Specimens received **See below**

Evidence received 10/4/63, PC-77472 IJ CW

- K2 - K6 Five pieces of wire**
- K7 - K8 Two nails**
- K9 - K10 Two wire nails**
- K11 One piece of wire**
- K12 - K13 Two pieces of wire nail**
- K14 One metal hanger**

Evidence received 10/5/63, PC-77476 IJ

- K15 Needle nose pliers**
- K16 Diagonal cutting pliers**
- K17 Electrician's pliers**

Evidence received 10/7/63, PC-77490 IJ

- K18 - K20 Three pieces of wire**
- K21 Piece of pipe**

Evidence received 10/10/63, PC-77545 CW IJ

- K22 Insulated wire found under rear seat of 1955 Ford owned by Thomas Blanton, Sr.**
- K23 Five nails found on floor of Blanton's Ford**
- K24 Pair of pliers with insulated grips found in Blanton's Ford**
- K25 Pair of Barcale slip joint pliers found in Blanton's Ford**
- K26 Pipe nipple connected to street elbow**

Results of examination:

Nothing was found to suggest, as a result of the comparisons which were conducted, that any of the tools represented by the cuts and marks on specimens K2 through K6,

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

K11 through K14, K18 through K21 or K26 or test marks made with the K15 through K17, K24 and K25 tools were used to mark the Q17 piece of coat hanger or the piece of pipe in specimen Q2.

The K2 through K14 specimens were physically compared with the previously submitted Q1 through Q17 specimens. It was not possible to associate any of the first above-mentioned specimens with the material in specimens Q1 through Q17.

Recorded
10/7/63
bmm

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: BAPBOMB

File # 157-1025-352
Lab. # PC-77472 IJ CW G

Examination requested by: SAC, Birmingham (157-352) (let 10/2)

Examination requested: Toolmarks - Spectrographic Date received: 10/4/63 h

Result of Examination: Microscopic (met) - Miscellaneous Examination by: [REDACTED]

hrc

FILED OCT 10 1963 FBI - BIRMINGHAM

Specimens submitted for examination

- K2 - K6 Five pieces of wire
- K7 - K8 Two nails
- K9 - K10 Two wire nails
- K11 One piece of wire
- K12 - K13 Two pieces of wire nail
- K14 One metal hanger

See notes attached

7-2
Recorded
10/9/63
brm

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: BAPBOMB

File # 157-1025-352
Lab. # PC-77476 IH

Examination requested by: SAC, Birmingham (157-352) (let 103)

Examination requested: Toolmarks

Date received: 10/5/63 rm

Result of Examination:

Examination by: [REDACTED]
62c

FILED RECEIVED WITH ACTING DATED 10/2/63, 157-77476 13

K15 Needle nose pliers Specimens submitted for examination
K16 ~~Cutting~~ *Diagonal cutting* pliers
K17 ~~Pliers~~ *Electrician's* pliers

See notes attached

7-2
Recorded
10/7/63
Dmm

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: BAPBOMB

File # 157-1025-352
Lab. # ~~157-352~~
PC-77490 IJ

Examination requested by: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (157-352) (airtel 10/5)

Examination requested: Toolmarks

Date received: 10/7/63 am

Result of Examination:

Examination by: [REDACTED]
62c

F.B.I. RECEIVED WITH AIRTEL DATED 10/5/63, PC-77490 IS

Specimens submitted for examination

K18 - K20 Three pieces of wire
K21 Piece of pipe

See notes attached

10/7/63
157-352
2006

7-2
Recorded
10/10/63

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: **RANDOME**

File # **157-1023-352**
Lab. # **PC-77545 CW 13**

Examination requested by: **SAC, BIRMINGHAM (157-352)**

(air 10/8)

Examination requested: **Microscopic (net)**

Date received: **10/10/63 RAN**

Result of Examination: **Toolmarks - Spectrographic**

Examination by: 

hrc

EVID. RECEIVED WITH AIRTEL DATED 10/8/63. PC-77545 CW 13
Specimens submitted for examination

- K22 Insulated wire found under rear seat of 1955 Ford owned by Thomas Blanton, Sr.
- K23 Five nails found on floor of Blanton's Ford
- K24 Pair of pliers with insulated grips found in Blanton's Ford
- K25 Pair of Barcalo slip joint pliers found in Blanton's Ford
- K26 Pipe nipple connected to street elbow

See note attached

*Lab. ph.
10/23/63
LWL: sent*

PC 77472

10/2

K2 - K6 - NC vs cut ends of Q17
coat hanger - may be due to K2 \rightarrow
not representing entire cutting surf of
pliers at all the various angles possible

K11 - K14 no TM of value for comp
w/ Q17 -

No other spec. this PC for
comp prev. evid -

PC 77476 IS

K15 - ~~Not to ind~~ there used
to cut Q 17

K16 - Same as for K15 -

K17 - No skin noted ~~not to~~
ind as K15 - K16

PC 77490

K18 - K20 3 test cuts a wire
+ K21 - pc of pipe w/
pipe wrench rules -

Nothing to ind the tools rep
were used on Q17 or Q20 (pc of pipe w/ some rules of limited value)

PC 77545

K24 - 25 - 2 pr pliers
K26 Pipe nipple —

K25 pliers NI - shear cut type
Q17 punch

K27 - Noth to ind their used
Q17

K26 - TM on pipe - noth to ind
used to mk Q20 —

(1)

Dictation PC's 77472; 77476; 77490 & 77545

Administrative Page:-

It is pointed out that the taking of test cuts or marks with a tool in the field imposes some limitations on the results of any subsequent laboratory examination. Since the mechanics of a toolmark comparison involve the microscopic comparison of the test cut or mark with the actual evidence cut or mark, it is imperative that all variations of angle of cut or mark as well as the entire working edge of the tool be represented in the test. This can best be accomplished in the laboratory by the experienced examiner. It is therefore most desirable that the actual suspect tool, except where impossible to obtain, such as in the case of a hostile suspect, be secured for

(2)

Laboratory examination & comparison.

Results of Exam:-

Nothing was found to suggest, as a result of comparisons conducted, that any of the tools represented by the ~~test~~ cuts and marks on specimens K2 through K6, K11 through K14, K18 through K21 or K26 or test mark made with the K15 through K17, ~~or~~ K24 and K25 tools were ~~found~~ used to

③

mark the Q17 piece of coat hanger &
the piece of pipe in Q2 (submitted
in the ~~to~~ 6th and coming of 9/25/63 in
Birmingham Ala.

Recorded
10/7/63
bmm

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: **BAPBOMB**

File # **157-1025-352**
Lab. # **PC-77472 IJ CW G**

Examination requested by: **SAC, Birmingham (157-352)** (let 10/2)

Examination requested: **2 cc's " (157-407)** Date received: **10/4/63 h**

Result of Examination: **Toolmarks - Spectrographic**
Microscopic (met) - Miscellaneous Examination by 
1 cc " (157-391)

K2 through K14 could not be associated with Q1-Q11
1 Bufile yellow 157-1042  *67c*

Specimens submitted for examination

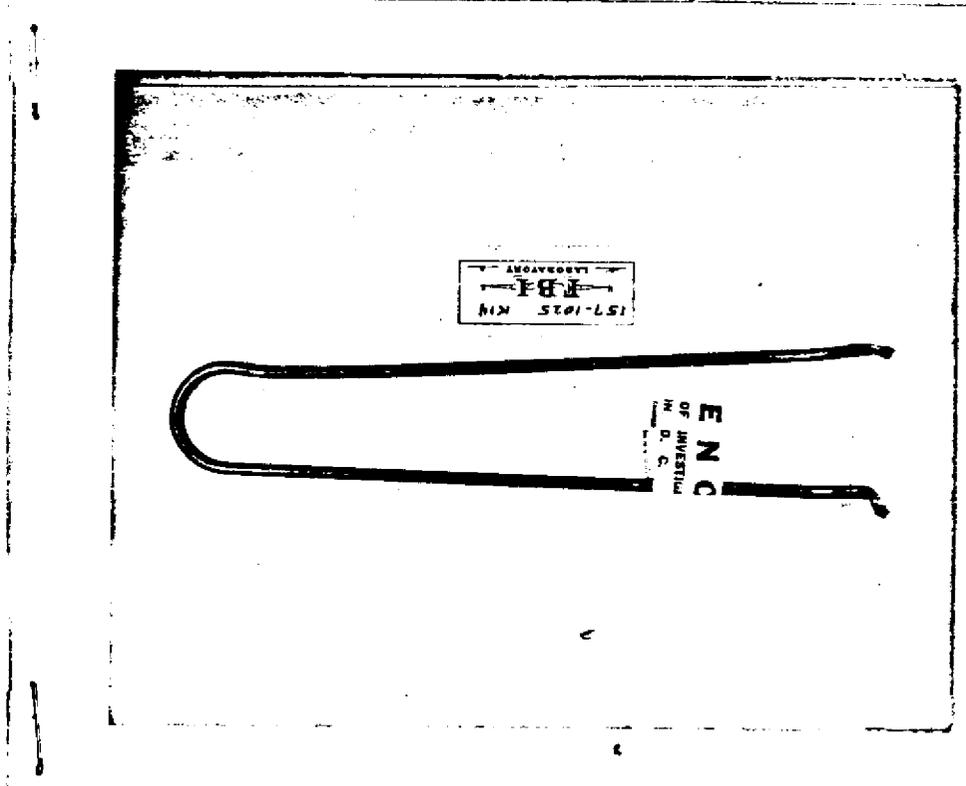
- K2 - K6 Five pieces of wire**
- K7 - K8 Two nails**
- K9 - K10 Two wire nails**
- K11 One piece of wire**
- K12 - K13 Two pieces of wire nail**
- K14 One metal hanger**

157-1025

472
PC-777#2

10-21-63

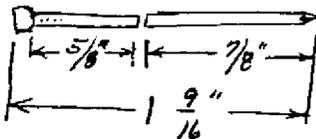
K14: Is a 0.148" wire hanger with diamond-sha points for driving into a wooden floor joist.



Hanger is a complete unit, none of it missing.
 Length $7\frac{7}{8}$ "
 Width about 1" at bend

K12-

K13:



Both pieces 0.071" diameter and except for the cut the nail is new appearing free of rust, steel.

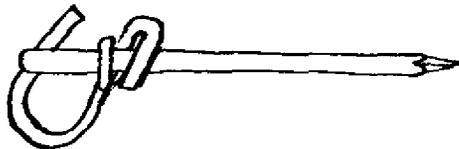
K11:

Piece of rusty steel wire about $9\frac{1}{2}$ " long which is about 0.036" dia measured over the rust

K9-

K10:

Two heavily galvanized unused nails, dia measured over very rough Zn coating is about .134"

K7-
K8

new appearing unused, heavily galvanized nails we used by the Telephone Company to hold wires on in structures. diamond-shaped point. Length of spike 2" (total length) and from point to shoulder is about $1\frac{3}{8}$ ". Approx. diameter of wire (measured over rough galvanizing) 0.125".

K2-
K6

K2 is pc. of $4\frac{7}{16}$ " long straight steel wire 0.105" diameter — wire appears galvanized, dark covering at 50% of its surface.

K3: Same length & comments as K2.

K4: Same comments as K2 & K3 except K4 is $4\frac{11}{16}$ " long

K5: " " " " K2, K3 & K4. K5 is $3\frac{15}{16}$ " long

K6: Piece of wire bent U-shaped which if straight out would be about 7" long. With exceptions of shape & length, it is similar to K2 thru K5.

K2 through K14 could not be associated with Q1, Q2, Q3, Q5, Q6, Q7, Q8, Q9, Q10, Q11, Q12, Q13, Q14, Q15, Q16 & Q17.

PC-77472

The K2 through K14 specimens were physically compared with the previously submitted Q1 through Q17 specimens. It was not possible to associate any of the first above-mentioned specimens with the material designate in specimens Q1 through Q17.

Adm page

A listing of specimens Q1 through Q17 is contained in Laboratory Report PC-77373 dated 10/1/63, in the case captioned "Unsubs; Explosion at 1601 Center Street, S., Birmingham, Alabama, 9/25/63; BM" (your file 157-407).

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE BIRMINGHAM	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BIRMINGHAM	DATE 10/4/63	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 9/15/63 - 10/3/63
TITLE OF CASE UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Bombing of 16th Street Baptist Church, Birmingham, Alabama, 9/15/63		REPORT MADE BY SA [REDACTED]	TYPED BY yk
CHARACTER OF CASE BOMBING MATTERS			

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-27-86 BY SP4/STW/ew**

*2 Copies made by C
for review by Rowe Task Force
Date 12/21/78
cover pg +
cover pg
G-K*

- REFERENCES:
- Birmingham teletype to the Bureau, 9/15/63, 1:27 PM, CST;
 - Daily summary teletypes from Birmingham to the Bureau;
 - Birmingham airtel to the Bureau and all Continental Offices, 9/18/63;
 - Birmingham airtel to the Bureau and all Continental Offices, 9/29/63.

- P -

LEADS

An information copy is furnished Mobile because of its mutual interest in racial and bombing matters throughout the state of Alabama.

ADMINISTRATIVE

No leads are being set out in this report inasmuch as all leads have been set out on an expedite basis and this

Handwritten notes and stamps on the left margin, including a vertical list of numbers (10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50) and other illegible markings.

APPROVED *[Signature]* SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

- COPIES MADE:
- 3 - Bureau (157-1025)
 - 1 - Mobile (Info)
 - 4 - Birmingham (157-352)
- 285-Cardie*
- 1 cc Orig Unit*

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

157-1025-353 REC 48

OCT 8 1963

EX 115

DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT	
AGENCY	<i>Crim Div</i>
REQUEST RECD.	
DATE FWD.	<i>6/26/64</i>
HOW FWD.	<i>6-94B</i>
BY	<i>hot [Signature]</i>

NOTATIONS

[Handwritten signatures and stamps]

REC-115

BH 157-352

practice will continue.

An additional copy is furnished to the Bureau in the event it is needed for dissemination.

This report is being submitted at this time as requested by the Bureau on 10/3/63. It includes material on stencil which had been run off as of 10/3/63 and does not intend to reflect all investigation conducted prior to 10/3/63.

Any reference herein to Klan, KKK, Ku Klux Klan, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, or any similar designation shall be construed as referring to United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, unless otherwise qualified, with the exception of investigation at Anniston, Alabama, which refers to Dixie Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc.

All suspects are being interviewed regarding all Birmingham bombings in conjunction with this case. Many FD-302's apply to other recent bombings, a history of which is being set out as follows:

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Bombing of the Gaston Motel, Birmingham, Alabama, May 11, 1963
BOMBING MATTERS
Bufile 157-881
Birmingham file 157-241

An explosion occurred at the A. G. Gaston Motel, 1510 - 5th Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama, at 11:58 PM, May 11, 1963. Crime scene revealed that a charge of high explosive, such as dynamite, was detonated near the west brick wall of the motel, leaving a large hole in the brick wall and damaging house trailers on an adjoining lot. One eye witness claims to have seen two white males in a 1960 hardtop white over blue Buick and stated passenger behind driver hurled package from such car toward the motel. Another witness describes a 1961 white over blue Buick with three white males passing motel, going west, shortly before bombing. Extensive investigation to date has not developed positive information regarding perpetrators. This motel is located within a block and a half of the 16th Street Baptist Church, and is owned by a wealthy and prominent Negro businessman.

BH 157-352

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Bombing of the Residence
of Reverend A. D. W. KING, Birmingham,
Alabama, May 11, 1963
BOMBING MATTERS
Bufile 157-881
Birmingham file 157-244

Two explosions occurred at the residence of
Reverend A. D. W. KING, 721 - 12th Street, Ensley Section,
Birmingham, Alabama, at approximately 11 PM, May 11, 1963.
The first explosion was detonated at a spot approximately
three feet from the sidewalk and about twenty-five feet
from the front of the KING residence. The second explosion,
which occurred one to three minutes afterward, was detonated
near the front of the house. FBI Laboratory examination
concluded dynamite was used as the explosive. Intensive
neighborhood investigation failed to develop eye witnesses
to dynamiting or any description of automobile. KING is
brother of MARTIN LUTHER KING, well-known Negro integra-
tion leader.

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Bombing of Residence
of ARTHUR SHORES, 1021 Center Street,
North, Birmingham, Alabama, Night of
August 20, 1963
BOMBING MATTERS
Bufile 157-979
Birmingham file 157-331

About 9:26 PM, August 20, 1963, the residence of
ARTHUR SHORES, a prominent Negro attorney who has handled
civil rights matters in Birmingham area in the past, 1021
Center Street North, Birmingham, Alabama, located in an
area now popularly known as "Dynamite Hill," was damaged
by an explosion believed to have been caused by dynamite.
SHORES was home alone at the time and was not injured. No
threats were received prior to explosion, which occurred
at the southwest corner of the house, where the garage, which
is part of the house, is located. A crowd of about 1,000
Negroes gathered and hurled stones at Birmingham Police De-
partment officers attempting to control them and preserve
the crime scene. Several police officers received injuries
from stones and several Police Department tires were slashed.
Order was restored about 1 AM, August 21, 1963, after nume-
rous shots had been fired over the heads of the crowd.
Reward of over \$10,000 available. No suspects developed to
date.

BH 157-352

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Bombing of Residence of
ARTHUR SHORES, 1021 Center Street North,
Birmingham, Alabama, September 4, 1963
BOMBING MATTERS
Bufile 157-1011
Birmingham file 157-339

About 9:36 PM, September 4, 1963, the SHORES residence was again damaged by an explosion believed to have been caused by dynamite. This explosion occurred at the northwest corner of the house and was estimated at about two sticks in intensity. Mrs. SHORES was slightly injured as she was asleep in the bedroom located nearest to the point of the explosion. A large crowd again gathered. Rocks were thrown at police and gunfire was heard emanating from this crowd. Police returned fire and the crowd was eventually dispersed. One Negro was killed by Police Department officers when he came running from his house shooting a gun at them. Crime scene search conducted by Police Department and carbonaceous smears noted on dirt from perimeter of explosion, although no conclusions as to the type of explosive used definitely made. No definite suspects developed.

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Explosion at
1601 Center Street South,
Birmingham, Alabama,
September 25, 1963
BOMBING MATTERS
Birmingham file 157-407

About 1:30 AM, September 25, 1963, persons in the vicinity of 1601 Center Street South, a well maintained Negro neighborhood of medium priced homes, reported an explosion to the Police Department. At 1:45 AM, a second explosion of greater intensity, possibly several sticks of dynamite, occurred at the corner adjacent to the captioned address. This second explosion shattered a telephone pole, blew a small crater in the curbing and showered the neighborhood with high oxidized nuts, bolts and other metal fragments which caused extensive shrapnel damage to surrounding property but no injuries. Laboratory reports dynamite residues on fragments. First explosion believed to have occurred within

BH 157-352

ten feet of the second and was believed to be lure to cause neighbors and police to be injured by the second blast.

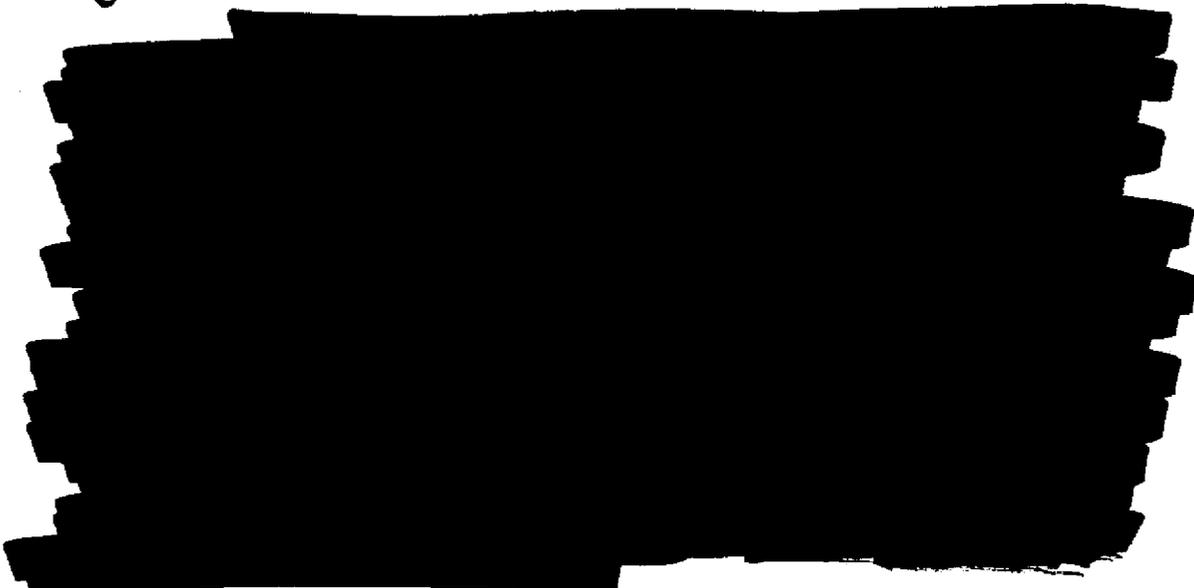
Intensive investigation of all of the above bombings by Police Department, Sheriff's Office, and FBI has failed to develop positive information identifying the perpetrators.

The whereabouts of bombing suspects in the Birmingham and Mobile offices as well as all surrounding offices were checked for the pertinent period, and no significant information obtained. Also, racial informants of the Birmingham and Mobile Offices as well as all surrounding offices were contacted immediately and although they furnished no pertinent information they were alerted to report any significant information they might receive in the future. All continental offices were requested to check informants and/or sources for information. Due to the volume of this report negative responses from other field divisions are not being set out.

Due to the limited preparation time only a table of contents is being prepared for this report. No index is being supplied at this time.

62c-5
157-352

ADMINISTRATIVE



These facts were relayed by phone to Assistant Director, AL ROSEN, General Investigative Division, at approximately 1:00 p.m., 9/17/63. Assistant Director ROSEN stated he would check into the matter, and advise us.

47c

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

Copy to:

Report of: SA [REDACTED] Office: BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
Date: October 4, 1963

Field Office File #: Birmingham 157-352 Bureau File #: 157-1025

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS, BOMBING OF
SIXTEENTH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, SEPTEMBER 15, 1963

Character: BOMBING MATTERS

247,392
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-27-86 BY SP4 GJW/LSW

Synopsis: 16th Street Baptist Church (negro) located northwest corner 16th Street and 6th Avenue North, Birmingham, was bombed at about 10:22 AM 9/15/63. 4 teenage girls killed and 16 other church members injured. Investigation instituted immediately. The following projects begun: Crime scene examination revealed extensive damage to building centering around northeast corner. High order explosive believed used. Crater measured 5½ feet wide, 2½ feet deep. Window sill and foundation in crater area demolished. Concrete stairs directly above crater fragmented. Extensive interior damage to church including a large crack in east wall. Numerous windows in church and neighborhood broken. Estimated at least 10 sticks of dynamite, or the equivalent, used to create this explosion. Damage to church estimated between twenty to thirty thousand dollars. No material for association with a bomb found in search. No residue located by FBI Lab on submitted material from church and surrounding area. Neighborhood investigation has developed several persons in proximity of explosion and in a position to observe any device placed, but no individual can recall seeing anything in area or anyone placing anything in area prior to explosion. Church members have advised that they cannot recall any suspicious individuals in vicinity of church prior to explosion. No threats to bomb made immediately prior to explosion. However, threats have previously been made as church has been headquarters for integration demonstrations in Birmingham. Survey of transportation and other facilities serving general area developed no new suspects to date. Numerous sources of dynamite evident in

BH 157-352

Birmingham area. Efforts to locate any logical source being pursued. Investigation of Klan type and segregation organizations has developed extensive background information on individual members and whereabouts at pertinent time of numerous members verified. Investigation developed there are many Klan members associated with other segregation organizations.

67-15
All of the above projects, with the exception of Anniston, being given continuous attention, as well as all logical suspects.

INVESTIGATION REFLECTS MANY MEMBERS OF KLAN AND
SEGREGATION TYPE GROUPS CARRY SOME TYPE OF WEAPON. ALL SUCH
INDIVIDUALS ARE THEREFORE TO BE APPROACHED WITH EXTREME CAUTION.

(P)

2

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PREDICATION

BH 157-352

DETAILS:

AT BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

At approximately 10:22 AM, September 15, 1963, an explosion occurred near down town area.

SAC RAY L. FAISST immediately dispatched agents to general area and it was determined that an explosion had occurred near the northeast corner of the 16th Street Baptist Church, located on the northwest corner of 16th Street and 6th Avenue North.

This church has been the headquarters for integration demonstrations. Police Department and Fire Department Unites were on the scene removing the dead and injured. It was later determined that four teenage girls were killed and sixteen other church members were injured. Agents interviewed individuals at scene, the details of which are reflected in later sections of this report.

BH 157-352

CRIME SCENE

Date 9/16/631

67c

[REDACTED] Birmingham Fire Department, furnished the following information at the scene of the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church:

He advised that a preliminary investigation and examination of the damaged area of the church appeared to have caused by at least ten sticks of 42% dynamite. He stated that the damage to the church and the hole in the ground immediately adjacent to the church appeared to have been caused by a "top blast" explosive. He stated that in his opinion the dynamite was detonated by a fuse type detonator. He added that this type detonator would make it very easy for an individual to walk by the 16th Street Baptist Church, drop any type package containing the dynamite and depart the area.

67c

[REDACTED] pointed out the path of damage as it appeared on the blocks remaining in the basement of the church and advised that this path indicated that the blast occurred outside of the church and forced debris into the women's lounge of the church. He estimated the damage to the church to be somewhere in the area of \$20,000 to \$30,000. He concluded that upon arrival at the scene, all of the victims had been removed from the church but stated that he understood one Negro female and two Negro children were removed dead from the women's lounge.

On 9/15/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # Birmingham 157-102
 by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/16/63

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67c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date September 17, 1963

On the night of September 15, 1963, an examination was made of damage to the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, 1530 6th Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama, and of the area surrounding the church, which church was bombed at 10:22 a.m., the morning of September 15, 1963.

The characteristics of the damage, the distribution of debris inside and outside the church, and the type of debris, indicated a high order type explosive, such as dynamite, had been placed on the ground in front of a double window of the church and under an outside concrete stairway that partially covered the double window. The stairway leads from the ground level to the second floor level and is located at the northeast corner of the church. The double windows are in a basement room of the church known as the ladies lounge and are covered on the outside by heavy gauge protective wire screens, as are all the basement windows of this church.

The floor of the lounge was approximately four feet below the window sill. The window sill was 8" above ground level. The church foundation was 30" thick at this point and consisted of a 10" stone facing over a 20" thick brick and masonry wall.

The explosion fragmented the outside concrete stairway. Directly beneath the stairway and opposite the window sill, in the ground, was a crater measuring 5½ feet wide, 2¼ feet deep, and it extended from the wall of the church to the inner edge of the sidewalk, a distance measuring 3 2/3 feet. The explosion fragmented the solid limestone window sill and tore out the foundation of the church immediately beneath the window sill. The window glass, window frames and heavy wire gauge protective screens were shattered and blown into the ladies lounge. Extensive damage was caused in the interior of the ladies lounge. A large hole, approximately 7' x 7', directly opposite the window and 16 feet from it was blown out of a partition forming one side of the lounge. This wall was constructed of two thicknesses of brick and covered with wet plaster. At the time of the examination, the floor of the lounge was covered with 6" of debris consisting of brick, stone, concrete, glass, mortar,

On 9/15/63 at Birmingham, Alabama 47 File # BH 157-352

by Special Agents [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/17/63
and [REDACTED]

BH 157-352

plaster, wood lath, and wood from a partition and from underneath an inside stairway.

The main supporting beams in the northeast corner area of the church were weakened. Numerous windows throughout the church were broken by the blast effect.

The main effects of the blast inside the church were confined to the ladies lounge.

Although there is no way of accurately determining the amount of explosives used, the damage caused by the bomb appears to be consistent with that which would be produced by more than ten sticks of dynamite, or its equivalent.

Date September 17, 1963

62c
On the morning of September 16, 1963, Special Agent [REDACTED] with the assistance of Special Agents [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] conducted a thorough systematic search of the area outside the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, 1530 6th Avenue, North, Birmingham, Alabama. The search encompassed the streets abounding the church, the buildings across the street and behind the church, including the roof areas of these buildings. The debris that was located was examined minutely where found.

No burned safety fuse, fragments of a time device, blasting or electric blasting caps, fragments of a container in which a bomb may have been placed, or other material for association with a bomb was found.

On 9/16/63 at Birmingham, Alabama ^{62c} File # BH 157-352
by Special Agent [REDACTED] mlc Date dictated 9/17/63

Date September 17, 1963

67c
 On September 16, 1963, at the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, 1530 6th Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama, Special Agents [REDACTED] assisted by Special Agents [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] conducted a search of the church, which was bombed on the morning of September 15, 1963.

The search consisted of a piece-by-piece examination of all debris in the ladies lounge of the church and rooms immediately adjacent to the ladies lounge, the bomb crater and area immediately surrounding it, for any material of value that would assist in identifying the type and physical make-up of the bomb device used.

The following material, found in the ladies lounge, ladies restroom adjacent to the lounge, and the room west of and adjacent to the lounge was obtained for further Laboratory examination in an effort to identify the explosive substance used from possible explosive residues that may be present:

- (1) Pieces of heavy gauge wire from the screen coverings over the windows in the ladies lounge.
- (2) Pieces of window frame from the windows in the ladies lounge.
- (3) Fragments of drapery material that covered the windows in the ladies lounge.
- (4) Part of the metal frame of the wire screen covering the windows in the ladies lounge.
- (5) Scrapings from window sill in ladies lounge.

No burned safety fuse, fragments of a timing device, container fragments, fragments of blasting or electric blasting caps, wires, igniter fragments, or other materials which could be associated with a bomb, were found.

On 9/16/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352

by Special Agents [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/17/63
 and [REDACTED]

BH 157-352

620
On September 16, 1963, Mr. JOHN MARTIN, Departmental Representative, advised he had received information from a [REDACTED] that a Negro male (first name unknown) [REDACTED] (phonetic) was standing on the corner of 17th Street and 5th Avenue North. [REDACTED] had found something which might be a part of a battery cell or conceivably could have had some connection with the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church.

Date September 21, 1963

62c
Patrolman [REDACTED] Birmingham Police Department, advised he received information about an object at the corner of 17th Street and 5th Avenue North at 9:45 a.m. He checked the scene and found this object lying near parking meter #5417, which was approximately 20 feet north of the corner.

Patrolman [REDACTED] turned this item over to interviewing Agents and observation of this object determined it to be a battery pack with the case missing. It is of the type used in transistor radios. The corroded nature of this battery pack and its remote location from the explosion scene precludes its use in connection with the explosion of the 16th Street Baptist Church.

On 9/16/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352

by 62c [REDACTED] Special Agents [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/16/63

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 9/22/63

[REDACTED] of the University Hospital, Birmingham Alabama, advised that he was the surgeon who removed fragments from the back of the right arm of SAM ZEIGLER, Negro, male, age 68.

62c He stated that Mr. ZEIGLER appeared to have been near the blast from the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham and had received these fragments as a result of the blast. [REDACTED] furnished these fragments for what ever value they might be to the FBI.

[REDACTED] stated that these did not need to be returned to him.

[REDACTED] furnished these samples in a brown paper envelope.

On 9/20/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352

62c by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/20/63

BH 157-352
[REDACTED]

67c

On September 22, 1963, fragments removed from the arm of SAM ZIEGLER, blast victim, were submitted to the FBI Laboratory. The Laboratory advised there was no explosive residue found on the concrete fragments from ZIEGLER'S arm.

1

BH 157-352

On September 20, 1963, the FBI Laboratory advised as follows:

67c
Specimens received 9/18/63, personally delivered by SA [REDACTED]

- Q1 Pieces of heavy gauge wire from the wire screen covering the windows in the ladies lounge
- Q2 Pieces of window frame from windows in the ladies lounge
- Q3 Fragments of drapery material from drapes covering the windows in the ladies lounge
- Q4 Fragment of metal frame from screens covering windows in ladies lounge
- Q5 Scrapings from windowsill of windows in ladies lounge
- Q6 Piece of red plastic-insulated wire found on floor among debris in ladies lounge
- Q7 Pieces of concrete from an Oldsmobile and Chevrolet outside of church
- K1 Piece of red plastic-insulated wire taken from a bell signal system used in the church

Results of examination:

Examinations of specimens Q1 through Q7 failed to reveal any foreign residues or fragments which were indicative of a specific type of explosive or fusing device.

Specimen Q6 is a 10" length of red plastic-insulated copper-coated steel wire similar in all respects to a wire used in jacketed telephone "JKT" Station Wire. Nothing was found from an examination of specimen Q6 to identify it as a part of a bombing device. Specimen Q6 is different from the copper wire, K1.

Date September 18, 1963

b7c
On September 18, 1963, at Kemp's Garage, 830 19th Street North, Birmingham, Alabama, Special Agent [REDACTED] examined a 1956 Chevrolet Bel Air, four door hardtop, with red body and white top, 1963 Alabama license 1-36022, Serial No. VC56A064159 (speedometer reading 34426). This car had been parked on the street adjacent to the point of the explosion that occurred on September 15, 1963, at the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, 1530 6th Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama.

The major damage was located on the two doors on the right side of the car. This damage was caused by flying fragments of concrete that resemble the concrete from the preformed steps that were on the northeast corner of the church.

The windshield and rear window were completely blown out of the car and all the window glass was shattered. Debris in the car was examined, but no physical evidence for association with an explosive or bomb accessory was found.

b7c
The car was made available for examination at Kemp's Garage by [REDACTED] an employee, who resides at [REDACTED] Birmingham, Alabama.

Photographs of this car were taken by SA [REDACTED]

Fragments of concrete removed from the car were removed for Laboratory examination.

On 9/18/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352

by Special Agent [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/18/63

Date September 18, 19631

62c On September 18, 1963, at Kemp's Garage, 830 19th Street, North, Birmingham, Alabama, Special Agent [REDACTED] examined a 1958 Oldsmobile, white, four-door hardtop, bearing 1963 Alabama license 1-48895, serial number 588A01987. This car had been parked on 16th Street, North, adjacent to the 16th Street Baptist Church on the morning of September 15, 1963, at the time of the explosion at the church. It was the car nearest the point of explosion.

The major damage was located on the hood of this car which was buckled and pierced by flying pieces of concrete. Large pieces of concrete resembling that of the preformed steps from the northeast corner of the church were found under the hood on top of the motor. These were removed for Laboratory examination.

The windshield, rear window and all door glass was broken. The debris in the car was examined but nothing was found for association with an explosive or bomb accessory.

62c Photographs of the car were taken by Special Agent [REDACTED]

The car was made available for examination at Kemp's Garage by [REDACTED] an employee, who resides at [REDACTED] North, Birmingham, Alabama.

On 9/18/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352

62c by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/18/63

Date 9/20/63

1
67c

On September 19, 1963, at the home of [REDACTED] 19th Street S.W., Birmingham, Alabama, at 4:00 PM, SA [REDACTED] examined the 1952 brown two-door Chevrolet, 1963 Alabama License 1A-58331, belonging to [REDACTED] for foreign material that may be associated with the bomb that damaged the 16th Street Baptist Church on September 15, 1963. No foreign material for association with the bomb was found. It was noted that the windshield and right door glass on this car was broken. The hood was badly scratched and the body on the right side had numerous dents caused by flying debris from the explosion. The gasoline tank had been punctured by debris, the rear window blown out and the trunk lid buckled. None of the flying debris penetrated the car either through the glass or through the body. This car was allegedly traveling south on 16th Street between 5th and 6th Avenues and was opposite the church at the time of the explosion.

On 9/19/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352
 by SA [REDACTED] 67c Date dictated 9/20/63

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 9/20/63

62 On September 19, 1963, at the home of [REDACTED] Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama, at 6:30 PM, SA [REDACTED] examined a 1955 blue Buick Super 8, 1963 Alabama License Number 1-58266, for the presence of foreign materials for association with the bomb that exploded at the 16th Street Baptist Church on September 15, 1963. No foreign material for association with the bomb was found. This car suffered glass damage to the windshield, door glass on right side, and dent in the right frame caused by flying debris. None of the debris penetrated the metal or glass of the car.

This car had been parked along 16th Street, at an angle on the right side of the street between 5th and 6th Avenues and was the third car parked from the rear of the church along 16th Street toward 5th Avenue.

On 9/19/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352
 by SA [REDACTED] *62x* Date dictated 9/20/63

Date 9/25/63I

62

On September 19, 1963, at the home of [REDACTED] Avenue, North, Birmingham, Alabama, Special Agent [REDACTED] examined a 1955 blue Buick Super 8, bearing 1963 Alabama license #1-58266, for the presence of foreign materials that may be associated with the bomb used to damage the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham that was bombed September 15, 1963.

The trunk of this car was buckled slightly, the windshield and windows on the right side broken and several dents appeared in the body on the right side. No debris penetrated the car. No foreign material for association with the bomb in question was found.

This car was diagonally parked on 16th Street alongside the church on the morning of the bombing, approximately midway between the front and back of the church,

On 9/19/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352
 by SA [REDACTED] 67c Date dictated 9/20/63

Date 9/20/63

62c
 Special Agent [REDACTED] examined a 1958 Chevrolet Sports Coupe which was burned at KEMP'S GARAGE, Birmingham, Alabama, on September 18, 1963. This car was determined to have Identification Number 58N145302. It is noted that there is an indentation in front of the identification number and the letter may be "F." This car was completely burned with the exception of the heavy metal. It is noted that the carburetor was melted and various other soft parts of the automobile were melted. The tires of the car had been burned, glass broken, and the paint burned to the extent that Special Agent [REDACTED] was unable to determine the original color.

62c
 On the 18th of September, 1963, Special Agent [REDACTED] made a search of a wooded area located approximately two and four tenths miles from the Birmingham Water Works Pumping Station, Cahaba Heights, on the Lake Purdy Road and one tenth mile from the paved portion of this road. It was determined that there had been a fire in the wooded area one tenth mile from the paved portion of the Lake Purdy Highway. A search of this area did not reveal any material which might be connected with the identity of the thief of the 1958 Chevrolet automobile.

On 9/18/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-339
BH 157-352

62c
 by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/20/63

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date September 18, 1963

42
 On September 18, 1963, at Kemp's Garage, 830
 19th Street North, Birmingham, Alabama, Special Agents
 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] examined a burned
 1958 Chevrolet Impala Sport Coupe, serial number 58N
 145302.

The car was burned to such an extent that its
 original color could not be determined. Everything in the
 car of a combustible nature was reduced to fine ash. All
 low melting point metal trim pieces were reduced to molten
 masses. The uniform manner in which the car burned suggests
 an accelerant was used, specific type of accelerant used
 could not be determined.

Nothing was found in the car to indicate the pre-
 sence of an explosive or a bomb accessory.

Photographs of car taken by SA [REDACTED]
 b7c

On 9/18/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352
 by Special Agent [REDACTED] mlc Date dictated 9/18/63
 b7c

BH 157-352

INTERVIEW OF INDIVIDUALS
FIRST AT SCENE OF BOMBING

BH 157-352

NEIGHBORHOOD

64

BH 157-352
[REDACTED]

SA [REDACTED] determined that the following are telephone numbers in public booths in the immediate vicinity of the 16th Street Baptist Church:

252-9164
252-9276
322-9443

Investigation was conducted to determine whether any long-distance telephone calls were made from these numbers on September 15, 1963, first of all to determine identities of possible witnesses, and for leads. It was determined that no toll calls were made from these telephones on the pertinent date.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 9/27/63

b7c

[REDACTED] Probate Court, Heflin, Alabama, made available records of cars registered in that county indicating the legal owner, license number, make and model of the car. These records failed to reflect that any Nash Rambler of any year or model had been registered and issued a 1963 Alabama license with an 18-7 prefix.

On 9/25/63 at Heflin, Alabama File # BH 157-352
by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/25/63

BH 157-352

CHURCH MEMBERS

BH 157-352

TRANSPORTATION AND BUSINESSES
OPERATING ON 9/15/63, BIRMINGHAM

339

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Pages 353 thru 8

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^{247,392} ²⁵²
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DATE 7-27-86 BY SP4 EHL/ED

SOURCES OF DYNAMITE

BH 157-352

CHAMBLISS GROUP

Date 9/17/63

ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS was contacted at his residence, 2505 32nd Avenue, North, at which time he was advised of the official identity of interviewing agents. He was further advised that he did not have to make a statement, but that anything he said could be used against him in a court of law. He was further advised of his right to consult an attorney prior to making available any information, and that no threats or promises would be made to him in order to induce him to make available any information.

CHAMBLISS stated at the outset of the interview that before he made available any information, he wished to make the following statement. He related that 78% of the FBI employees are Catholic and owe their allegiance to the Pope, and he had no use for the FBI.

CHAMBLISS was asked as to his whereabouts on September 15, 1963. He stated at this time that he was at a meeting in Midfield. He then immediately concluded the interview by stating that he had nothing further to state to the FBI and unless the interviewing Agents had a warrant he would no longer speak to them. He then indicated that the interviewing agents leave his residence and stated that he was not going to be pushed around by the KENNEDY brothers. He refused to discuss anything further with the Agents.

On 9/15/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352
 by SA [REDACTED] 670 Date dictated 9/16/63

Date 9/26/63

At 7:35 a.m., ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS was contacted in front of his residence, 2505 Thirtysecond Avenue, North, Birmingham, Alabama, as he was preparing to enter a 1961 Chevrolet, ton and one-half truck, parked in front of his residence.

After identifying themselves, the Agents were told by CHAMBLISS that he had nothing to say to them. He was asked where he was last night, to which he replied "Right here on this thing", pointing to the truck. He refused to answer any further questions, and ignored the Agents.

He then entered his truck with the windows rolled up, and slammed the door, thus terminating the interview.

After sitting in his truck several minutes, CLARENCE WESLEY DILL, 3513 Thirtysecond Avenue, North, CHAMBLISS' next door neighbor, walked to the truck and spoke briefly with him.

CHAMBLISS then alighted from his truck, and both he and DILL entered their respective residences.

After approximately one minute, CHAMBLISS left his residence, re-entered his truck, and drove toward downtown Birmingham.

On 9/25/63 at Birmingham, Ala. File # BH 157-352
BH 157-390
BH 157-407
 by SAs [REDACTED] d :mel Date dictated 9/25/63

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BH 157-352
157-357

b2c

On September 15, 1963, SAs [redacted] and [redacted] observed a 1957 blue and white Fordor Ford parked near the rear of the residence of [redacted]. This car had Alabama [redacted]

BH 157-352
157-357

On September 17, 1963, SA [redacted] and SA [redacted] observed a 1959 off-white Chevrolet convertible parked in the rear of the [redacted]. This car had 1963 Alabama License [redacted].

757

SAs [redacted] and [redacted] also observed parked in the parking lot of the Dixie-Ohio Express Company, 2100 Eighteenth Street, North, a tudor 1958 Chevrolet, white over aqua, bearing 1963 Alabama License [redacted]. This car was equipped with a whip antenna attached to the left rear fender.

On September 17, 1963, SA [redacted] caused the records of the Jefferson County Department of Revenue to be searched. He determined that Alabama License [redacted] is listed for a 1959 white Chevrolet Impala Convertible, registered to [redacted].

1963 Alabama License [redacted] listed to a 1958 Chevrolet, white over aqua, registered to [redacted] Birmingham.

1963 Alabama License [redacted] listed to a 1957 Ford blue and white, registered to [redacted].

Date 9/19/631

67c
 Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] examined a set of seats purportedly coming from the 1956 Ford owned by [redacted] which were removed from his automobile on September 15, 1963, between 9 and 12 a.m. These seats were located in the junk yard of JOSEPH ROBINSON HALL, operator of Bob Hall's Junk Yard, 2620 27th Avenue, North, Birmingham, Alabama. Portions of these seat covers were removed and on one part orange colored minute particles were located.

On 9/19/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # Birmingham 157-352
 by SAS [redacted] Date dictated 9/19/63

Date 9/27/631 67c

The following observations were made on the residence of [REDACTED] Birmingham:

A black 1959 Buick Invicta, license number [REDACTED] 1963 Alabama, was observed in the driveway at this residence at 1 p.m.

At 3:38 p.m., a white male came out of the house and entered the Buick, accompanied by a white female, 5' 6", 200 pounds, very heavy, stocky build, with dark hair. They proceeded south on 19th Street, North, to 8th Avenue, turned west on 8th Avenue and continued west on Graymont Boulevard to 17th Street, Ensley, turned left on Avenue "V" and then right on Pike Road, Ensley, at which time the surveillance was discontinued at 4:01 p.m.

On 9/22/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352
 by (SAB) [REDACTED] 67c Date dictated 9/24/63

BH 157-352

BIRMINGHAM KLANSMEN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 9/25/63

1

62c

Special Agent [redacted] observed [redacted] at the Hotel Stafford, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, between the hours of 8:40 a.m. and 9:04 a.m. on September 15, 1963. At that time he was in the company of four unknown white males in the dining room of the hotel. [redacted] Grand Prix Pontiac was observed in the parking lot of the hotel.

On 9/15/63 at Tuscaloosa, Alabama File # BH 157-339
BH 157-352
by SA [redacted] 62c Date dictated 9/20/63

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BH 157-352

NATIONAL STATES RIGHTS
PARTY MEMBERS

Date 9/16/63

At 11:45 a.m., a 1963 four-door Chevrolet Impala Sedan, with a white top, blue body, 1963 Alabama License [redacted], was observed parked in the driveway of the residence at [redacted] Alabama.

b7c

[redacted]

On 9/13/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352
by SA'S [redacted] b7c Date dictated 9/16/63

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490

Date 9/16/63

On September 13, 1963, Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] at 10:40 a.m. observed a 1958 blue Plymouth Station wagon in the driveway of [redacted] Alabama.

This station wagon bore a 1963 Alabama License [redacted]. In front of the station wagon in the same driveway was a 1963 Chevrolet Sedan, white over blue, license not visible.

On ^{13R} 9/18/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352
 by SA's [redacted] ^{b2c} Date dictated 9/16/63

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BH 157-352

WARRIOR, ALABAMA, KLANSMEN

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BH 157-352

INVESTIGATION

ANNISTON, ALABAMA

1

Date 10/1/63

62c
 ASA EARL CARTER, Box 330, Route 9, Oxford, Alabama, voluntarily furnished the following information to Special Agents F. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] after they had identified themselves as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. CARTER was informed that he did not have to answer any questions and that any information he did furnish could be used against him in a court of law. He was further informed of his right to consult with an attorney. He was not threatened in any manner or promised anything to cause him to furnish any information.

CARTER stated he is a firm believer in the state's right theory and an advocate of segregation, as well as an admirer and backer of Governor WALLACE, whom he described as being the hope of the South and in fact the nation. CARTER stated he is active as a professional writer for Governor WALLACE and concurs wholeheartedly in his policies and actions.

CARTER stated that both he and Governor WALLACE deplored the acts of violence committed in Birmingham and elsewhere because it has been damaging to both Governor WALLACE's prestige and the overall cause of the segregation movement. He stated Governor WALLACE has pledged \$5,000 of his personal funds toward the reward fund being offered for the identification of the person or persons responsible for the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church at Birmingham, Alabama, on September 15, 1963.

CARTER stated that while he has refused to cooperate with the FBI in past investigations, that under the present circumstances he will cooperate fully in the FBI investigation in an effort to solve the vicious and inhuman bombings. He stated this also is the attitude of Governor WALLACE.

CARTER related that he is well acquainted with pro-segregationists residing in the Oxford - Anniston area, including KENNETH L. ADAMS and his associates. He stated he knows ADAMS as a bully, but feels certain he had nothing to do with the Birmingham bombings, and that any action

On 9/23/63 at Oxford, Alabama File # BH 157-352
 by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/24/63

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taken by ADAMS will be in the Anniston area, as will any action taken by any person from the Anniston area. CARTER pointed out that for example he has no knowledge of the actual location of the bombed church or the identity of the persons or groups interested in it.

CARTER admitted that it is possible a white group could have committed the church bombing, but stated it is his personal opinion the crime was committed by a Negro group for the purpose of promoting their own causes, such as creating sympathy; raising additional funds; or forcing the Federal Government to declare martial law in Birmingham and elsewhere.

Concerning other possibilities, CARTER stated that he considers the members of the National States Rights group to be the most logical group likely to resort to acts of violence. In this connection, CARTER stated he considered those members from outside the state of Alabama to be the most unpredictable and dangerous, and that at least some of this group were communist-controlled. He stated he had no specific information or evidence to support his position.

CARTER stated he has no information concerning the handling of explosives, where explosives can be obtained, or the identity of any person possessing explosives. He stated he was at home with his family on Saturday, September 14, and on Sunday, September 15, 1963. He stated he and the members of his family visited his father's home located on Route 78 near Oxford, Alabama, both on Saturday and Sunday.

CARTER denied membership in the Ku Klux Klan or any similar group or movement. He did, however, admit addressing meetings of the Ku Klux Klan but denied advocating violence under any circumstances.

Set forth is a description of ASA EARL CARTER as obtained through interrogation and observation:

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Name	ASA EARL CARTER
Residence address	Box 330, Route 9, Oxford, Alabama
Business address	726 Adams Street, Montgomery, Alabama
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	38 years
Birth data	September 4, 1925, Oxford, Alabama
Height	6'1"
Weight	215 pounds
Hair	Black, graying
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Fair
Build	Husky, heavy
Scars	1" scar at right eyebrow
Education	Graduate Oxford High School; 3 years University of Colorado
Military record	Navy Veteran - Radio Operator (honorable discharge)
Marital status	Married to INDIA WALKER, father of one boy and three girls, oldest 14 years, youngest 3 years
Relatives	LARRY WEATHERLY CARTER, brother, presently practicing as a veterinary in North Carolina, address unknown; JAMES DOUGLAS CARTER, brother, student, Anniston, Alabama
Occupation	Professional publicity writer
Employer	OSCAR HARPER, 726 Adams Street, Montgomery, Alabama

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Residence phone

236-8451

(Oxford, Alabama)

Business phone

262-8298

(Montgomery, Alabama)

Personal automobiles

1961 Corvair sedan (white),

1963 Alabama License

11-22777

1958 Plymouth sedan, green
over dark green, 1963

Alabama License 3-27684

67c [REDACTED]

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67c On September 23, 1963, [REDACTED], 90th MP Detachment (CI), Fort McClellan, Alabama, made available the IBM list of automobiles belonging to both military and civilian personnel which are registered on the above military reservation. A review of these records by SA [REDACTED] failed to disclose that any 1960 or 1961 black 2-door Pontiac is presently registered on that reservation. [REDACTED] advised these records include only the vehicles which are allowed on the base, with the exception that all privately owned vehicles which enter the base on business or pleasure are recorded by the military personnel at each of the gates. He stated he would also make these records available.

67c On September 23, 1963, [REDACTED] made available all records for the former vehicles registered on the base for 1962 and a careful examination of these records by SA [REDACTED] failed to disclose any 1960 or 1961 black 2-door Pontiac as having been registered on the base to any individual who could be identified with the individual "Sgt. [REDACTED]" as reported by [REDACTED] 67c

67c On September 23, 1963, [REDACTED] also made available the post locator records and an examination of these records by SA [REDACTED] failed to reflect any individual with the name of "Sgt. [REDACTED]" of Polish extraction, who could be identified with the person in question.

Date September 25, 1963

W

[REDACTED] Anniston,
Alabama, was interviewed at the U. S. Court House. He was advised he did not have to make a statement and any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised he could talk to an attorney prior to making a statement. No threats or promises of reward were made to FAIR to induce the following information:

S.S.N. [REDACTED] *D.O.B.* [REDACTED] advised that he first came in contact with a Staff Sergeant BILL (Last Name Unknown) at the Hanging Tree Night Spot in Anniston during the summer or fall of 1962. [REDACTED] advised he was working for [REDACTED] Company in Anniston at the time he met BILL. He advised he had been with BILL on numerous occasions when they had been gambling and drinking in Anniston. During this time he became acquainted with BILL but cannot recall his last name. He advised that BILL was of Polish extraction or some other foreign extraction similar to Polish. His name began with a C and was a typical Polish type name.

On one occasion, [REDACTED] met BILL at Phillip's Bootleg Place on the Birmingham Highway near Harts Bakery. On this occasion BILL wanted to do some gambling so [REDACTED] called HARRISON GAY, another gambler, and a dice game was set up. This dice game was actually set up to take BILL for everything he was worth. The dice game took place at JOHN PAXTER's Place on Route 3, Box 666, Anniston, Alabama, during April, 1963. HARRISON GAY and his wife were living in the place where the dice game took place. It was the place owned by JOHN PAXTER and was directly behind the house PAXTER is living in. At the time of the dice game GAY's wife was not at home. BILL lost about \$200 in this dice game. After the dice game [REDACTED] and BILL bought some whiskey and left in BILL's car, a 1960 or 1961 Pontiac, two-door, color all black. They went to Anniston and drove around.

While driving around Anniston [REDACTED] asked BILL if he could get any Composition C-3 explosive. [REDACTED] told him he wanted it to blow pot-holes for stills. [REDACTED] told him a friend wanted the explosives and [REDACTED] was supposed to blow

On 9/23-24/63 at Anniston, Alabama File # BH 157-352

by SA [REDACTED] :saa Date dictated 9/25/63

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425
the pot-holes for him. BILL said he did not know for sure but would see about getting some of the C-3.

The next time [redacted] saw BILL was about three days later in April when BILL came to the 20th Century Pool Hall, Noble Street, in Anniston. He said he had the stuff, meaning the explosive C-3. [redacted] took him out to WILLIS VINSON's place in BILL's car. When they got into the car BILL showed [redacted] two U. S. Carbines, an M-1, and M-2 on the back seat of the car covered by a raincoat. He also pointed to a croker sack on the floor between the front and back seat. It looked as though there was about fifty or sixty pounds in the sack. The croker sack was made of burlap. When they arrived at VINSON's house BILL went into the house and stayed there with VINSON for about ten or fifteen minutes. Both BILL and VINSON came out and all three went back to Anniston. On the way back to Anniston they stopped at Adams Oil Company owned by KENNETH ADAMS. VINSON got out of the car and went into the station to see KENNETH ADAMS. [redacted] advised that he could see VINSON and ADAMS talking and could see ADAMS hand a large amount of money to VINSON. VINSON then came back to the car and he handed the money to Sergeant BILL. It appeared to be around two or three hundred dollars. The guns and explosives were not taken out of the car.

After the transaction at ADAMS' place, they drove back into Anniston and [redacted] stated he was let out at the 20th Century Pool Hall. [redacted] advised he did not get anything out of the deal and was doing it only as a friend of VINSON. Sergeant BILL and VINSON drove off and [redacted] said he never saw Sergeant BILL again.

[redacted] advised he is familiar with Composition C-3 as he has used it many times both in and out of service. He uses it mostly to blow pot-holes for stills.

62c

[redacted] advised that some of the other people and places where Sergeant BILL gambled were RUSSELL B. HURLEY, presently serving time at Draper Correctional Center, Elmore, Alabama, HARRISON GAY, 127 West Fifteenth Street, James Phillip's place, Old Birmingham Highway, near Harts Bakery, Nel's Truck Stop, Hubert McCuller's place, Front Street, Willie Waugh's place, on Old Birmingham Highway.

[redacted] furnished the following description of Staff Sergeant BILL (Last Name Unknown):

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	34 - 37
Height	5'11" to 6'
Weight	180 - 200 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Build	Well Built
Characteristics	Regional Accent

On September 24, 1963, seven photographs were exhibited to [redacted] in order to identify Staff Sergeant BILL (Last Name Unknown). Among the photographs was a photograph of [redacted] advised that the photograph of [redacted] resembled BILL very much but was definitely not BILL.

62c

The following description of [redacted] was obtained by observation and interview:

Name	[redacted]
Alias	[redacted]
Sex	Male
Race	[redacted]
Date of Birth	[redacted]
Height	[redacted]
Weight	[redacted]
Hair	[redacted]
Eyes	[redacted]
Education	[redacted]

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4

Occupation
Social Security Number
Build
Marital
Immediate Relatives

[REDACTED]

Small
Married

[REDACTED]

47c

Date October 1, 1963

67c

[redacted] Anniston, Alabama, was reinterviewed at the United States Courthouse, Anniston. He was readvised that he did not have to make a statement, that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised that he had the right to consult an attorney if he desired. No threats, promises or offers of reward were made in order to obtain the following information:

[redacted] was reinterviewed for any further information he might possess since he was first interviewed on September 23, 1963, or if there was any part of his previous statement he wished to change. He furnished substantially the same information as he had previously furnished. He continued to maintain that he did not know the last name of Staff Sergeant BILL from Fort McClellan, Alabama.

On 9/24/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352
by S [redacted] :saa Date dictated 9/30/63

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1

Date 10/1/63

[REDACTED] Anniston, Alabama, offered the following unsigned statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] at Anniston, Alabama, on September 25, 1963.

67c
"U. S. Court House
Anniston, Ala.
9-25-63

"I, [REDACTED], offer the following voluntary statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats or promises have been made to me and I know that any statement I make can be used against me in a court of law. I have been advised of my right to obtain an attorney.

"I was born on [REDACTED] in Calhoun County, Alabama and resided [REDACTED] Anniston, Alabama with my wife [REDACTED]. On Sept. 17, or 18, 1963 I was interviewed by a Special Agent of the FBI while I was confined to [REDACTED] Alabama. I told the warden that I wanted to see an FBI agent. I told the warden that I had some information for the agent pertaining to the bombing in Birmingham, Alabama, which would be useful to him. The warden said that he would get a man out to institution to talk to me. The FBI agent arrived at the institution and I told him the following story which I knew at the time was not true: I arranged for a soldier who I knew as 'Sgt Bill' from Ft. McClelland, Ala., to get about fifty or sixty pounds of an explosive I know as C-3 in about April or May of 1963. When I asked this soldier to obtain this explosive, he did not know whether he could get this C-3 or not. Shortly after I asked this soldier for the C-3, a few days later the soldier came to the 20th Century Pool Room

On 9/25/63 at Anniston, Alabama File # BH 157-352
by SA [REDACTED] SA [REDACTED] 67c Date dictated 9/25/63

BH 157-352

"in Anniston, Alabama and told me that he had the explosive in the car. I accompanied 'Sgt Bill' to the home of Willis Vinson in the west end section of Anniston. 'Sgt Bill' went into the home of Willis Vincent and talked with Vincent. Vinson and the soldier came out of the house and the three of us then drove to the gas station of Adams Oil Co. in the west end section of Anniston, Alabama. Vinson went into the gas station and the soldier and I stayed in the car. I could see Kenneth Adams in the station handing money to Vinson. Vinson then came out of the gas station and got in the car and handed the soldier the money. The soldier and Vinson then dropped me off at 13th and Noble St. Anniston, Alabama. I have not seen Vinson or the soldier since that day.

"I gave the above false statement with the hope of obtaining some of the reward money that is being offered in Birmingham, Alabama for any information being furnished which would lead to the arrest of those individuals who did the bombing. I used the names of Willis Vinson and Kenneth Adams as I know that they are avid segregationists and I know that Adams formerly belonged to the Ku Klux Klan and that Vinson was a member of the White Citizens Council. The name of 'Sgt Bill' was a name dreamed up by me and never existed to my knowledge. I used the name of Harrison Gay in relating my story as I used to gamble with Gay and I know that Gay is a local gambler. I know that the information I furnished to the FBI agents at Anniston, Ala on September 23, 24, 1963 pertaining to the above incident was false and I am aware that in furnishing false information to such agents is a violation of Federal law.

47c
"The four pages of this statement have been read by [redacted] and although this statement is true he does not desire to sign this statement.

663

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"Witness: /S/ [REDACTED], Special Agent,
FBI Anniston, Ala 9/25/63

670 /S/ [REDACTED] Special Agent, FBI,
FBI, Anniston Ala, 9-25-63"

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OTHER SUSPECTS

BH 157-352
[REDACTED]

470

The following investigation was conducted on the basis of an anonymous phone call received in the Birmingham Office stating that [REDACTED] Birmingham, along with [REDACTED] and another Negro nicknamed [REDACTED] had been in the vicinity of the church on Sunday morning, September 15, 1963, and were seen receiving a shoe box and some money from an unknown white man. The shoe box was alleged to have contained seven sticks of dynamite.

BH 157-352

MISCELLANEOUS

7

711

0

BH 157-352
[REDACTED]
I

FUNERAL SERVICES

bx
On September 17 and 18, 1963, the funeral services of the bombing victims, held at St. John's AME Church, 7th Avenue and 17th Street, and 6th Avenue Baptist Church, respectively, were observed by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

Activities consisted of church services and procession to the cemetery which received heavy coverage from all types of news media.

Many white families, including city officials, attended church services. The churches were filled to capacity and hundreds of Negro people lined the streets outside. Both services were held in a very orderly fashion and uniformed city police handled the traffic detail.

Several plain clothes city, county and state officers were noted in the crowd outside the church.

Approximately 10 cars, mostly unmarked, bearing four uniformed State Troopers to a car, were cruising the area of the churches. State Troopers were not wearing their hard hats and no weapons other than side arms were noted, except on September 18, 1963, Troopers on outlying streets carried rifles and shotguns.

No suspicious cars were observed and cars bearing white occupants were determined to be mostly persons attending the funerals, newsmen, or the normal flow of afternoon traffic.