

This document is made available through the declassification efforts
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages released by the U.S. Government & Military.

Discover the Truth at: **<http://www.theblackvault.com>**



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

May 17, 2017

MR. JOHN GREENEWALD JR.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

FOIPA Request No.: 1371270-000
Subject: OTASH, FRED

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

Records responsive to your request were previously processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Enclosed is one CD containing 37 pages of previously processed documents and a copy of the Explanation of Exemptions. This release is being provided to you at no charge.

Additionally, records that may be responsive to your FOIA request have been transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). You may desire to direct a request to NARA, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001. Please reference the following file numbers 92-HQ-3267 serials 158 and 303, 44-HQ-24016 serial 1442, 63-HQ-4296 serials 26, 44, 46, 201, 246, 286, 452, 492, 515, 529 and 675, and 92-HQ-3156 serial 75.

Lastly, records which may be responsive to your FOIA request were destroyed. Since this material could not be reviewed, it is not known if it was responsive to your request. Record retention and disposal is carried out under the supervision of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Title 44, United States Code, Section 3301 and Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 12, Sub-chapter B, Part 1228. The FBI Records Retention Plan and Disposition Schedules have been approved by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and are monitored by NARA.

Please be advised that additional records potentially responsive to your subject may exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your information needs for the requested subject, you may request an additional search for records. Submit your request by mail or fax to – Work Process Unit, 170 Marcel Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, fax number (540) 868-4997. Please cite the FOIPA Request Number in your correspondence.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S. C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010)). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the www.fbi.gov/foia website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request. Your patience is appreciated.

You may file an appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal by creating an account on the following web site: <https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at 877-684-6448, or by emailing ogis@nara.gov. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foipaquestions@ic.fbi.gov. If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hardy", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David M. Hardy
Section Chief,
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

Some 1,000 Private Eyes Unlicensed for Peeping

By MIRIAM OTTENBERG

An estimated 1,000 men—some with criminal records—are now snatching cars, trailing spouses for divorce evidence and performing other chores as private detectives here without any police control over their activities.

The 1,000 men is an estimate from license officials and spokesmen for legitimate detective agencies. No one knows the exact figure because the employees of detective agencies and car snatchers working on a commission basis are neither registered nor licensed.

For nine years, the Police Department has been trying to get regulations to clear out the questionable characters and supervise the others.

Assistant Corporation Counsel Robert Kneipp said he has gotten as far as a "working draft" which will ultimately be presented to the District's Regulations Committee.

Regulations Never Written

Private detective agencies are licensed under the License Act of 1932, which authorized the Commissioners to write regulations to cover the field. The regulations, however, were never written.

In March, 1948, in response to a query from License Officer C. T. Nottingham, the then Corporation Counsel Vernon West

ruled that employees of private detectives were not required to be licensed.

Lt. Harry C. Blackman, then head of the police department's special investigations squad, came back with a proposal that every person employed by a licensed private detective should be cleared by the police chief, fingerprinted and photographed. The object: To get full information about the people flashing phony badges in search of confidential data.

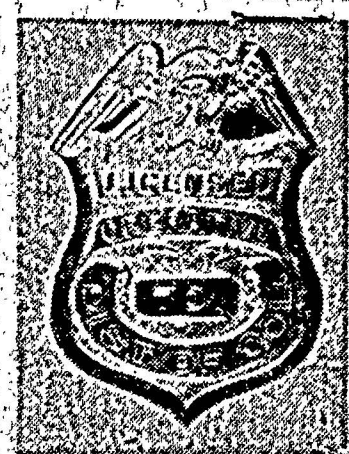
Mr. West then told the Commissioners that additional legislation was not needed, that the problem could be handled by adopting regulations prohibiting any licensed detective agency from hiring any person unless the chief of police said he was of good moral character. Mr. West suggested police draw up the regulation.

The police have been drawing up regulations ever since. Each set has been duly submitted. Years would pass and then another set would be forwarded as the problem grew more worrisome.

Some Evils Cited

Mr. Nottingham joined forces with police at one point, but nothing happened.

These are some of the evils cited by Capt. Michael J. Mahaney, now head of the Special



—Star Staff Photo

"LICENSED OPERATIVE" Police want to ban badge

Investigations Squad; Mr. Nottingham and spokesmen for private agencies:

Men denied licenses because of previous criminal record to work for some of the licensed agencies. Mr. Nottingham said he knew of one denied a license because of an auto theft record who was snatching cars on a commission basis for a finance company.

Repossessed cars with owner's property in them turn up at the finance company without the property and the owner can't recover it. Mr. Nottingham said

Tolson ☒
 Nichols ☒
 Boardman ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Parsons ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Tamm ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Nease ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Holloman ☒
 Gandy ☒

118-1

Wash. Post and Times Herald _____
 Wash. News _____
 Wash. Star A 17
 N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
 N. Y. Journal-American _____
 N. Y. Mirror _____
 N. Y. Daily News _____
 N. Y. Times _____
 Daily Worker _____
 The Worker _____
 New Leader _____

Date APR 28 1957

63 MAY 7 1957

NOT RECORDED

44 MAY 8 1957

*file 9/12/57
 Private Detectives
 62-32952-A*

he had numerous complaints of conducting investigations, repossessing property, "skip-tracing" "stripped" cars. Residents who call police to report somebody has been following them sometimes get close enough to see a badge. They take down a number and complain that a policeman has been bothering them. A check of all police badge numbers reveals that it wasn't a policeman but a "private eye" shadowing them.

Car Wasn't "Stolen"

People report cars stolen. Hours later, police find the car was repossessed. Police insistence has prompted the more reputable companies to report to police when they repossess cars but this report is not required by regulation and may not reach police for hours.

Reputable detective agencies, who get police clearance before they hire "private eyes," claim that some employees of other agencies are tempted to manufacture divorce evidence to earn their fee, use wire taps and entice spouses into compromising situations.

"An employee," said one private detective, "can do as much damage as his employer in the course of an investigation. The employee should be licensed along with the employer."

The regulations now being considered cover all employees of detective agencies and any one

conducting investigations, repossessing property, "skip-tracing" or collecting. Everybody covered by the regulations would have to be cleared by police as of good moral character. Approved persons would be issued an identification card, showing his name and the name or address of his employer, his photograph, fingerprint and signature. Badges would be eliminated.

Qualifications Urged

Police would be notified within a short time if the employee left the detective agency or lost his identification card. Licenses issued under the regulations would be subject to revocation at any time.

Police also have recommended that professional qualifications be added as a requirement for licensing private detectives, but not their employees. Now, no experience is required.

The holder of an approved identification card, the police propose, would have to show it to police on demand unless the circumstances of the moment give the detective good cause for refusing.

To end the headaches over stolen car reports, police also recommend that all private detective employees engaged in car-snatching would have to report such repossessions to police within an hour after the seizure.

Tolson _____
 Nichols _____
 Boardman _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Parsons _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Trotter _____
 Nease _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Gandy _____

Wm Moore
P. Anderson

Closer Check Planned Over Private Detectives

Private eyes hired to do leg-
work by the city's private de-
tectives, would be controlled
under proposed regulations
being studied by the District's
Regulations Committee.

Now they operate without ap-
proval of police, no licenses,
and no fingerprint records. In
fact, there is virtually no con-
trol over their activities.

Under the proposed regula-
tions, recommended by the
Police Department, private de-

be kept and licenses would be
subject to revocation on cause.

The regulations, according
to Assistant Corporation Coun-
sel Robert Kneipp, also would
require bill collectors and
"skip tracers" to take out li-
censes.

Kneipp said the present li-
cense act is too broad.

The proposed regulations
would exempt persons or agen-
cies engaged in such estab-
lished activities as credit re-
porting and insurance adjust-
ing and investigation.

PRIVATE L. to

file y/mc
Private Detectives

Wash. Post and Times Herald B.S.
 Wash. News _____
 Wash. Star _____
 N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
 N. Y. Journal-American _____
 N. Y. Mirror _____
 N. Y. Daily News _____
 N. Y. Times _____
 Daily Worker _____
 The Worker _____
 New Leader _____

NOT RECORDED

MAY 6 1957

Date APR 26 1957

304
 71 MAY 7 1957

For Informational Purposes Only

The originals removed from this file and replaced with duplicate copies of the original were accessioned to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) pursuant to the JFK Records Collection Act of 1992. Provision of the JFK Act allowed for certain information to be postponed from public release until the year 2017; therefore, the pages have NOT necessarily been released for public review in their entirety.

Under the JFK Act, originals to all material deemed assassination records must be accessioned to NARA regardless of whether the material is open in full or released with information postponed. Therefore, any documents or pages from FBI files accessioned to NARA pursuant to the JFK Act are no longer considered the possession of the FBI. The duplicate pages have been inserted strictly for research purposes.

The copies contained herein do not necessarily show the most up-to-date classification.

To attain a copy of the publicly released version of any materials maintained in the JFK Collection at the NARA facility in College Park, MD, you may contact the JFK Access Staff, at 301/713-6620.

The following materials were removed from this file and are maintained in the JFK Collection at NARA:

File & Serial Number

JFK Subject Identifier
(for NARA purposes)

62-32952-A DATED 3/1/57

FRED OTASH

For Informational Purposes Only

Tolson ☒
 Nichols ☒
 Boardman ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Parsons ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Tamm ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Nease ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Holloman ☒
 Gandy ☒

Witness Urges War on Scandal

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 1 (AP).—A private detective has told a State Senate investigating committee that the way to get rid of scandal magazines is to get rid of scandal.

His view posed a tough prob-

lem for the committee, which today pursues for the third day its inquiry into sources of information used for articles in such publications.

The private eye, Fred Otash, also testified yesterday that he once was Anita Ekberg's boy friend, and that he later supplied Confidential magazine with secret photographs of the shapely Swedish actress.

Mr. Otash suggested to the committee that the Communists and the sex deviates be ousted from the movie industry, that male movie stars stay with their wives and female movie stars stay with their husbands.

"If you do that," added Mr. Otash, "you'll have no scandal and no scandal magazines."

The committee heard testimony about a proposed \$350,000 movie industry fund to combat scandal magazines and about a pocket electronic device that can radio a conversation to a recorder in a panel truck three blocks away.

The Senate committee is in-

vestigating whether State laws need tightening to stop private eyes from selling information on their clients to expose magazines.

Mr. Otash, 35, black-haired and manicured, said he never had done that and knows no private sleuths who have. He said he was paid a minimum retainer of \$7,500 a year by Hollywood Research, Inc., which he said "buys stories for publications such as Confidential and, I imagine, other scandal magazines."

The husky investigator said he went with Anita "for about seven or eight months in 1954." State Senator Edwin Regan asked him about an article in the magazine concerning Miss Ekberg and British actor Anthony Steel, now her husband.

"Yes, I assigned men to photograph Anita and her house," Mr. Otash replied. "One photograph was made at the beach where my man hid behind a hill and shot movies of her coming out of a

beach house. He had a telephoto lens."

Mr. Otash described his agency's wireless listening device and said the panel truck has "one-way mirrors so pictures can be shot from the inside to the outside."

file

COPIES MADE
 8-1-78 DTC/ldp
 FOR REVIEW AT INDO BY
 HSCA REF-26-78 REQUEST
 (SEE BUFILE #62-117290)

INDEXED - 51

EX-173

62-32952-A
 NOT RECORDED
 138 MAR 1 1957

Wash. Post and Times Herald _____
 Wash. News _____
 Wash. Star _____
 N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
 N. Y. Journal-American _____
 N. Y. Mirror _____
 N. Y. Daily News _____
 N. Y. Times _____
 Daily Worker _____
 The Worker _____
 New Leader _____

Date MAR 1 1957

53 MAR 15 1957

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SENT TO
 NATIONAL ARCHIVES (NKA/CA)
 DATE 1/22/97 Fred Otash

ldp vol 141

For Informational Purposes Only

The originals removed from this file and replaced with duplicate copies of the original were accessioned to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) pursuant to the JFK Records Collection Act of 1992. Provision of the JFK Act allowed for certain information to be postponed from public release until the year 2017; therefore, the pages have NOT necessarily been released for public review in their entirety.

Under the JFK Act, originals to all material deemed assassination records must be accessioned to NARA regardless of whether the material is open in full or released with information postponed. Therefore, any documents or pages from FBI files accessioned to NARA pursuant to the JFK Act are no longer considered the possession of the FBI. The duplicate pages have been inserted strictly for research purposes.

The copies contained herein do not necessarily show the most up-to-date classification.

To attain a copy of the publicly released version of any materials maintained in the JFK Collection at the NARA facility in College Park, MD, you may contact the JFK Access Staff, at 301/713-6620.

The following materials were removed from this file and are maintained in the JFK Collection at NARA:

File & Serial Number

JFK Subject Identifier
(for NARA purposes)

62-32952-A DATED 2/24/57

FRED OTASH

For Informational Purposes Only

Private-Eye Probe Death Threat Told

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. (INS)—Death threats and evidence that Hollywood stars have been shaken down for big money to keep their names out of scandal magazines became ingredients today in the sensation-packed "private eye" probe set for next week.

Still another development was a report that the "inside story" of the strange and never fully explained Marie McDonald kidnaping has been offered for sale to the highest bidder among the expose publications.

Fred Otash, private detective who checks information on Hollywood personalities for Confidential, the best known of the scandal sheets, told International News Service that his life has been threatened since it became known that he faces quizzing about his work.

Otash is one of 30 to 40 witnesses to be heard by a State Senate Committee investigating private detective and collection agencies an dthe expose magazines.

He said:

"I have had a number of telephone calls from unidentified persons who told me that if I valued my life, I'd better not show up there on Wednesday.

"They not only threatened my life, but my daughter's life as well. They said if I appeared, I might not be able to find her after I leave the hearing."

Police Lt. Frank Cunningham, who has been checking into the operation of private detective agencies for more than a year, goes before the county grand jury's criminal complaints committee on Tuesday and he hinted that there would be extortion indictments.

He indicated that the charges

would be based on extortions in which film celebrities were the victims.

The long investigation of the "private eyes" has produced evidence that after the agencies turned up damaging information about a star they put it on the block to the highest bidder, whether that be the magazine or the star involved.

Lloyd Harris, chief investigator for the Committee, told of the "inside story" on the Marie McDonald kidnaping being on the market. He said it is being offered to the highest bidder. He indicated his investigators have the names of those involved in the project.

Tolson ☒
Nichols ☒
Boardman ☒
Belmont ☒
Mohr ☒
Parsons ☒
Rosen ☒
Tamm ☒
Trotter ☒
Nease ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Holloman ☒
Gandy ☒

NOT RECORDED
132 FEB 27 1957

Wash. Post and Times Herald A-3
Wash. News _____
Wash. Star _____
N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
N. Y. Journal-American _____
N. Y. Mirror _____
N. Y. Daily News _____
N. Y. Times _____
Daily Worker _____
The Worker _____
New Leader _____

Date FEB 27 1957

1 COPIES MADE

8-1-78 DJC/dhp

FOR REVIEW AT FBIHQ BY
HSCA REF 7-26-78 REQUEST
(SEE BUFILE #62-117290)

ORIGINAL SENT TO
NATIONAL ARCHIVES (HSCA)
DATE 4/20/97 Fred Otash
See Vol 131 dhp

Tolson _____
 Nichols _____
 Boardman _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Parsons _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Trotter _____
 Nease _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Gandy _____

Private Detectives Face Loss of Use of Badges

By David Wise
 ALBANY, Feb. 17.—Private detectives face loss of their badges and licensing of their aids and would come under even closer control in recommendations now being prepared by a joint legislative committee.

Secretary of State Carmine G. De Sapio already has prepared a series of nine bills that would, among other things, substitute identification cards for the state-issued badges that licensed detectives now get, and would require licenses for the assistants to whom the detectives now give badges that enable them to pose as policemen.

Even stricter control of the state's 600 licensed private detective agencies is contained in recommendations now being pre-

pared by the Joint Legislative Committee to Study Illegal Interception.

The group, which has recommended three bills to crack down on wire-tapping, was quietly authorized by the Legislature last year to extend its jurisdiction to a study of "private eyes." The committee is headed by Assemblyman Anthony P. Savarese Jr., Queens Republican.

At present, a private detective applies to the Department of State, is fingerprinted, pays a \$200 fee (\$300 if he is incorporated) and receives a license and a shiny badge from the state that says, "Private Detective." The department says the only other prerequisite is that the

Continued on page 10, column 7.

Wash. Post and Times Herald _____
 Wash. News _____
 Wash. Star _____
 N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
 N. Y. Journal-American _____
 N. Y. Mirror _____
 N. Y. Daily News _____
 N. Y. Times _____
 Daily Worker _____
 The Worker _____
 New Leader _____
 Date FEB 18 1957

62-32952-1
 NOT RECORDED
 133 FEB 20 1957

307
 52 FEB 26 1957

Detectives

(Continued from page one)

applicant must show "good moral character" and some previous investigating experience. Once in business, he can hire any number of assistants—without licensing them. And he can issue police-style badges to his men.

Pose as Police

With badges to flash, it is a simple matter for unscrupulous members of the private-detective business to create the impression they are police officers. The Secretary of State recently revoked the license of a detective for doing just that after a complaint was received from New York City Police Commissioner Stephen P. Kennedy.

The department's bills would take away all badges, either those issued by the state or by the detective to his employees, and substitute an identification card. Their title would be changed from "private detective" to "private investigator." Finally, all employees of investigating agencies would be licensed, not merely the head investigator.

When it started its own study of the problem, however, the Joint Legislative Committee discovered that it was entering a highly complicated area for legislation. Investigating agencies are not limited to the public's conception, enhanced by radio and television, of the tough private-eye with blonde-who-can-type.

Other Fields

For example, the committee found that investigating work is also performed by credit agencies like Dun & Bradstreet, which also does loyalty investigations; railroad and maritime security bureaus; arson investigators for insurance companies, large protective agencies like Pinkerton's, horse-racing associations and bill collection agencies.

The committee was confronted with the problem of just whom any new legislation should cover, as well as how far it should go. Should the state concentrate on screening license applications, or on regulations to prevent abuses afterward, or both? How far can the state go without violating the client-investigator relationship?

To answer these and similar questions, the committee has hired a team of top legal talents, which has been studying the situation for several months. The team consists of Professor Walter Gellhorn and Professor Monrad G. Paulsen, of the Columbia University School of Law; Dean William Hughes Mulligan, of Fordham Law School, and Professor Eugene J. Keefe, of Fordham Law School.

Wire-Tapping Case

The current efforts to tighten up laws affecting both wire-tapping and private detectives are the result of repercussions following the disclosure in February, 1955, by William J. Keating, then counsel to the New York City Anti-Crime Committee, of the existence of a wire-tap nest in an E. 55th St. apartment house in New York City.

The chain of events touched off led to the conviction of two private detectives on wire-tapping charges, John G. Broady and Charles V. Gris. The licenses of both men have been revoked by the Secretary of State. Despite all the fuss at the time, however, the Legislature after two years, has not yet enacted any package legislation to deal with either wire-tapping or private detectives.

Private Eyes 3 Ways to Tap—All Sneaky

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Boardman _____
 Mr. Belmont _____
 Mr. Mason _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Mr. Parsons _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Mr. Winterrowd _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Miss Gandy _____

Who knows what evil characters lurk somewhere along a tapped telephone line? **THE MIRROR**, in the second article of a series on wiretapping, tells how phone calls are intercepted, and what to do if your privacy is so violated.

By NORMAN MILLER and WILFRED ALEXANDER

All was serene in the courtroom. Henry, a wealthy textile man, was suing his pretty blonde wife for divorce. Grounds: adultery. Bored attendants awaited the dry, routine testimony of a hotel raid. And then out-poured the "canned" voices:



An induction platform, on which phone is being placed, taps conversations and records them on wired-in machine.

Male: "Hello, dear, are you alone yet?"
 Female: "Oh, yes, and I'm waiting. Henry's gone."

Male: "Been reading?"
 Female: "Yes, (giggle) as you like it. I'm in bed without a stitch on."

Male: "Hold everything. I'm practically there already."

That was it. Wiretapping had scored again. All Henry had to do was establish that he paid the phone bill for his apartment, and had authorized a private detective to eavesdrop on all his wife's calls. It took this one conversation to pay off with a decree.

But there were hours of planning, installing a tap on Henry's phone and weeks of patient listening and recording—all this for those 16 seconds of intimate conversation that took Henry off the marital hook.

AND, IN CASES like this, where one of the parties helps establish an intercepting device, the job of tapping a phone is easiest.

Otherwise, private detectives who resort to the vicious short-cut method of obtaining information by wiretaps must bribe their way into buildings, and also "hire" phone company employees to help them trace certain connections.

Many professional wiretappers are former phone company employees now working for private investigators. But even they, one of the best in the business confided, often need "inside"

Wash. Post and Times Herald _____
 Wash. News _____
 Wash. Star _____
 N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
 N. Y. Mirror 3 _____
 N. Y. Daily News _____
 Daily Worker _____
 The Worker _____
 New Leader _____

Date DEC 16 1955

DEC 27 1955

TOP CLIPPING
 DATED 12/16/55
 FROM N.Y. Mirror
 MARKED FILE AND INITIALED



Here is a wiretap "gimmick" without wires and highly effective within a range of 10 ft. The tiny electronic eavesdropper is a regular hearing aid connected to super-sensitive receiver with antenna (on chair). It easily picks up both ends of phone talk.

(Mirror Photo)

help. You'll understand why, as we gain the three methods of intercepting phone calls—by direct tap, by magnetic coil, and by short-wave radio. Because you're separated from and she files for di-

voice, demanding a bushel of alimony. You've been hearing stories of her playing around. If you can prove it, you're in to save a lot of money. So you hire a

Continued on Page 10

Methods Used To Tap Wires

Continued from Page 3

private-eye, to tap your wife's phone.

Since you two have been living apart, you don't know anything about her apartment.

THE TAPPER SLIPS the janitor of the building a sawbuck or two to get into the basement, where the control box generally is located. It is the same in most office buildings, but hotels have control boxes on each floor, with each room indicated by number.

In apartment buildings, however, there are just rows of "pairs"—two wires that form a circuit for each phone. In each control box are several spare "pairs" for emergency use or in case a tenant might want an extra phone.

A contact with a phone company employe can help determine quickly which "pairs" are spare ones, and which "pair" leads to the phone on which the tap is to be made.

Failing to establish such a contact, however, the tapper can check out "pairs" until he finds one that is open. Then he must get into the victim's apartment, dial the number of that phone which automatically gives it a busy signal, then leave the receiver off the hook and return downstairs and check out the busy signal.

Even if the occupant comes home before the receiver is replaced, he or she probably will think it was knocked off accidentally.

Once the proper "pair" is located, it is simple to plug one of the spare lines into it. A listening post can be set up right there, or in a nearby closet, if the janitor is properly taken care of.

OR, THE SPARE LINE can be traced to a corresponding spare in another building. It could be next door, or any place within the limits of the particular exchange.

Once a listening post is established, however, the tapper's job becomes simply a matter of waiting for the desired information. The days of sitting around the clock with earphones are just about gone. Now they have recording machines, on which either reels of tape or spools of wire "listen" to all calls on the particular phone.

The present-day machines are activated by voice, so they remain idle and don't use themselves up between calls. The tapper has only to change spools or reels whenever necessary, depending on how much talking the tap victim does.

There are magnetic coil devices that can be attached to the bottom of the phone set itself, right in the apartment, or to the underside of the piece of furniture on which the phone rests. It picks up the conversations by magnetic impulses. Wires are needed here, however, and may be discovered. Some such listeners can even catch conversations through an ordinary wall, so delicately are they constructed.

The short-wave radio device has an arm that, pointed at the target phone from the next apartment, or relatively near, can "hear" conversations and transmit them to a recorder.

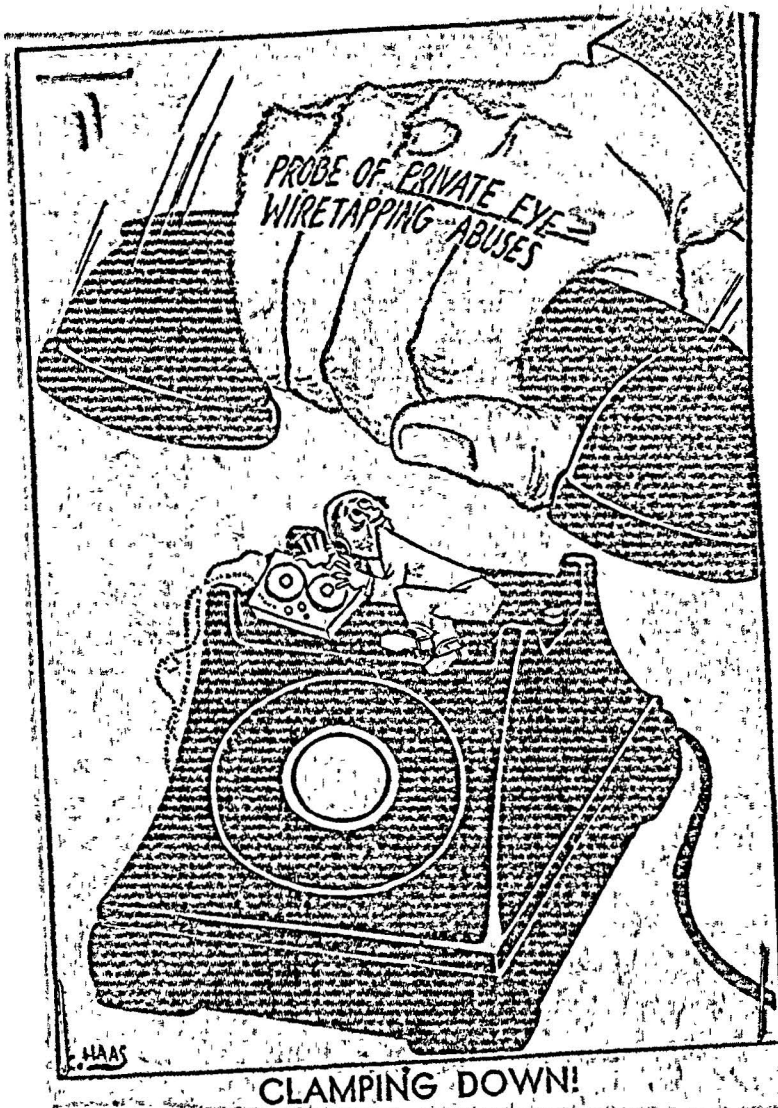
WHAT CAN A person do if he or she suspects a phone tap?

First, you can notify the phone company, and an investigator will be sent out to trace your line, and will remove any taps if they exist, and report back to you.

Some people don't like it known that there is a reason they suspect a tapped wire. In the case of bookmakers, etc., they can't afford any such investigation. So, these persons have to hire another wiretapper, through a private detective agency, to undo what the first tapper did. It thus becomes a vicious circle.

(Tomorrow: The various types of "bugs" that intruders install to butt in on conversations not made via phones.)

4K



Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Boardman _____
 Mr. Belmont _____
 Mr. Mason _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Mr. Parsons _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Mr. Winterrowd _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Miss Gandy _____

BAUMGARDNER

J. D. [Signature]
 Leggett
 file
 An.

Wash. Post and Times Herald _____
 Wash. News _____
 Wash. Star _____
 N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
 N. Y. Mirror _____
 N. Y. Daily News _____
 Daily Worker _____
 The Worker _____
 New Leader _____

Date DEC 16 1955

62-3295-17
 23 1955

59 DEC 17 1955
 1310

DETECTIVES FACE WIDER LICENSING

All Employees of Private
Agents Will Be Covered
Under Harriman Plan

Special to The New York Times.

ALBANY, Dec. 14—Governor Harriman will ask the 1956 Legislature to require the licensing by the state of all employees of private detectives.

Sidney Squire, executive deputy Secretary of State, said today that the Governor had "committed himself" to such a program and would include the request in his annual message to the Legislature.

Mr. Squire explained that Secretary of State Carmine G. DeSapio believed it was necessary for the department to do more than simply license private in-

vestigators, while having little or no control over their employees.

The State Department, now licenses 590 private detectives, of whom 432 are in New York City. Mr. Squire said the department had "no idea" how many other operatives were employed by the licensed investigators and conducted similar private investigations virtually free of state control.

Every employee, he explained, is required to fill out a State Department form, but this form is then filed with his employer. All the state gets, he said, is an anonymous set of fingerprints to check against state police records of persons with criminal records.

Mr. Squire reported that representatives of the State Department had attended the wiretapping trial of John G. Broady. He said department legal officers were studying the trial record to see if there was any evidence of evasion of licensing requirements.

Broady was licensed as a pri-

vate detective until two years ago, when he failed to renew his request, Mr. Squire reported.

Mr. DeSapio's deputy requested the public to submit to the department any complaints about wiretapping by private investigators or other instances of unwarranted behavior on their part.

He said the department was investigating "dozens" of letters of complaint about private detectives. However, many of the complaints were anonymous and did not provide enough solid facts, he said. Among the offenses reported, he said, were "usurping" police power and "breaking into" private homes and apartments.

See page 16

Private Detectives

162-32952-A

NOT RECORDED

138 DEC 15 1955

N. Y. TIMES

DEC 15 1955

5 DEC 27 1955

Governor Supports Wiretapping Probe

Directs State Police to Cooperate In Investigation of 'Private Eyes'

Gov. Harriman yesterday gave his "full support" to Secretary of State Carmine G. DeSapio's investigation of private detective wiretapping operations and said he was instructing the State Police to cooperate in the probe.

The Governor said the investigation of the activities of the State's 596 licensed private detectives was "long overdue." He said, "recent events illustrate the striking disregard which certain unscrupulous private detective agencies have both for the law and for the rights of the people."

The investigation was ordered by Mr. DeSapio Sunday, following the close of the New York City trial of John G. (Steve) Broady. Broady, a private detective, was convicted last Thursday on 16 counts of illegal wiretapping.

OTHER REVELATIONS

Other disclosures of wire-tapping activities have been made at public hearings conducted by the joint legislative committee to study illegal interception of communications in New York City.

Gov. Harriman said Mr. DeSapio "will cooperate fully" with the legislative committee.

Mr. Harriman announced he had instructed State Police Superintendent Francis S. McGarvey "to extend cooperation and technical assistance" to the Dept. of State.

Said the Governor, in his statement, "It is hard to believe, although true, that under existing law, no written examination is given to an applicant for a private detective license and yet, by meeting the barest minimum requirements such an applicant can obtain a badge, a permit to carry a pistol, and assume the weight of ostensible State approval for his activities."

PRACTICES RAPPEL

The Gov. said, real estate brokers, barbers, beauticians, steamship ticket agents, and notaries public are licensed by the State with greater care than private detectives, "some of whom, with their employees, appear to have taken liberties both with the law and with morality, and to have invaded the constitutional rights and civil safeguards of our people."

Mr. DeSapio announced Monday subpoenas had been issued directing all private detectives in the state to submit records of all cases they have handled since Jan. 1, 1953 in which wiretapping or electronic eavesdropping devices had been used.

They are to appear, starting Jan. 6, at the rate of 25 detectives a day, at the Division of Licenses, 85 Central Ave., in Albany, or at the Dept. of State's New York City office. About 70 percent of the private detectives licensed by the state are in the New York City metropolitan area.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

BAUMGARDNER

TITLE _____

CLASSIFICATION _____

CLIPPING FROM _____

Times Union

ALBANY

PAGE *33*

COL. *1, 2*

DATE *12/14/55*

RECORDED
18 1955

50 DEC 28 1955

Harriman Backs Probe Of Private Detectives

By Robert A. Potete

Gov. Harriman ordered the State Police yesterday to co-operate in Secretary of State Carmine G. DeSapio's investigation of wire tapping by private detectives, which the Governor said was "long overdue."

Meanwhile, the private detectives in the city were reported "up in arms" over Mr. DeSapio's action in subpoenaing all 590 private detectives licensed by the State Department. Starting Jan. 6, twenty-five of them a day must produce all their records of wire taps or electronic eavesdropping since Jan. 1, 1953, for departmental examination.

Mr. DeSapio's crack-down followed the conviction last Thursday of John G. (Steve) Broady for wire-tapping and conspiracy.

Harriman Backs Order

In a statement issued here, Gov. Harriman said he was determined to end "unlawful and immoral investigative tactics which invade the privacy of our citizens." He deplored a situation in which, he said, barbers, beauticians and others are licensed by the state "with greater care" than are private detectives.

"It is hard to believe, although true," the Governor said, "that under existing law no written examination is given to an applicant for a private detective's license, and yet, by meeting the barest minimum requirements, such an applicant can obtain a badge, a permit to carry a pistol and assume the weight of ostensible state approval for his activities."

"Recent events illustrate the shocking disregard which certain unscrupulous private detective agencies have both for the law and for the rights of the people," Gov. Harriman said.

He said he had instructed State Police to extend co-operation and technical assistance to the State Department.

The governor also said that the department will co-operate "fully" with the Joint Legislative Committee on wire tapping.

Detective's Reply

At the offices of the Associated Licensed Detectives (A. L. D.), 1834 Broadway, Irving Shumbord, secretary, showed his private detective badge and license, and described the stand of the organization which, he said, represents about 350.

The A. L. D. welcomes investigation, Mr. Shumbord said, but holds that the "sweeping investigation" ordered by Mr. DeSapio would "smear an entire group" in which there may be only a "few offenders."

Mr. Shumbord, whose statement was shared by Benjamin D. Fernbach, A. L. D. chief counsel, said the A. L. D. has called a "protest meeting" of its members for 8 p. m. tomorrow at the Henry Hudson Hotel, 353 W. 57th St.

Most private detectives, they said, have no interest in or association with wire tapping in any form. They added that few of them engage in marital cases and that few are licensed to or do carry guns. The function of private detectives is "primarily research work," and the A. L. D. frowns on wire-tapping, they said.

Probe to Cost Little

Mr. DeSapio's investigation of the investigators will cost the taxpayers very little, and nothing in the way of extra appropriations, a State Department representative said yesterday. The subpoenas went out by registered mail, and are returnable at 270 Broadway or in Albany—whichever is convenient for the private detectives—he said.

Informed of the A. L. D. protest yesterday, Mr. DeSapio issued a statement saying that "any private detective or private detective agency who is not guilty of any wrongdoing need fear mine, or any other investigation."

"One thing is certain," Mr. DeSapio said, "those who have abused their licenses will be dealt with firmly and fully in accordance with the law."

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Boardman _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mason _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Parsons _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

BAUMGARDNER

62-32952-A
NOT RECORDED
133 DEC 21 1955

Wash. Post and Times Herald _____
Wash. News _____
Wash. Star _____
N. Y. Herald Tribune 2-1 _____
N. Y. Mirror _____
N. Y. Daily News _____
Daily Worker _____
The Worker _____
New Leader _____

Date DEC 14 1955



A PRIVATE DETECTIVE'S CREDENTIALS—Badge and card permit issued by the State of New York as displayed here by the Associated Licensed Detectives of New York State. At right is the reverse side of a badge. Card is issued to also in photo below.



Herald Tribune photos by Ira Rosenberg

Two of the officers of the Licensed Detectives Association, Irving Shumbord, secretary (standing), and Benjamin D. Fernbach, general counsel for the association, at press conference yesterday at their headquarters, 1834 Broadway.

STATE SUBPOENAS PRIVATE SLEUTHS

DeSapio Asks 590 Licensed
Detectives to List Use of
Wiretaps in 3 Years

By RICHARD AMPER

The state's 590 licensed private detectives were ordered yesterday to reveal all cases in the last three years in which wiretapping was involved.

Carmin G. DeSapio, Secretary of State, announced that he had issued subpoenas directing the detectives to submit files and records of cases they had handled since Jan. 1, 1953, in which wiretapping or electronic eavesdropping devices had been employed.

A source close to Mr. DeSapio said that issuance of the subpoenas had been prompted by the receipt of signed and anonymous complaints that some private detectives had used wiretapping for blackmail and shake-downs and other forms of extortion.

Mr. DeSapio declared that he would revoke the licenses of any private detectives refusing to comply with the subpoenas.

The detectives are to submit their records to the Department of State at 270 Broadway or the Division of Licenses at 85 Central Avenue, Albany. They will

Both parties block sale of
dealers on clients' cash. Page 61
S. E. C. seeks accounting by
Page 61
U. S. Insurance of export
expand mortgage credit. Page 61
U. S. offers billion loans to
Page 61
ing trade deficits.
Britain, Canada report grow-

qualifications and backgrounds.

The issuance of the subpoenas followed orders by Mr. DeSapio for an investigation to determine what new legislation was needed to correct what he deemed laxity in administration of the state's licensing law.

The Secretary of State, who also is leader of Tammany Hall, said his investigation was being undertaken under Article 7 of the General Business Law, governing the licensing of private detectives.

The subpoenas will not affect private detectives who have not used wiretapping devices in the last three years. They call on detectives to produce "retainers, bills, invoices, records, recordings, correspondence, reports, papers and writings relating to the possession, leasing or use by

you from Jan. 1, 1953, to date, all telephone wiretapping equipment, microphones, room recorders, tape, files and any and all other auxiliary electronic equipment, apparatuses, devices, mechanisms, paraphernalia and recordings made by you, for you, under your supervision or with your cooperation, and that of any other persons, partnership, corporation, association or other entity in connection therewith."

Association Comment

Benjamin D. Fernbach, chief legal counsel of the Associated Detectives of New York State, Inc., said the majority of members welcomed the investigation and were opposed to wiretapping.

Mr. Fernbach added that the detectives would be "glad to cooperate" with Mr. DeSapio "within the scope of the law." The attorney was not able immediately to comment on the State Department's power to issue the subpoenas, other than to say that it had a certain subpoena power as a licensing agency.

Meantime, the Joint Legisla-

live Committee on Governmental Interception of Communications continued private hearings yesterday. Tapping is legal when done by court order or by a telephone subscriber on his own line. Public hearings by the committee, headed by Assemblyman Anthony P. Savarese Jr., Republican of Queens, were to have been resumed here yesterday, but were postponed indefinitely. Howard Cerny, assistant counsel to the committee, said they were called off because of the inability of certain law enforcement officials to attend and a need to coordinate committee findings.

Private Detectives

62-22952-A
NOT RECORDED
133 JAN 1 1955

DEC 1 1955

50 DEC 27 1955

Eyes on the Private Eye

Carmine DeSapio, as Secretary of New York State, has raised the important constitutional and moral issue of the freebooting activities of private detectives who interfere with the lives and private affairs of citizens.

The private detective, in many instances, performs no social duty; he exists to make a profit. He cares nothing about helping to break a home; his is the task of getting the dope on somebody for whoever pays a fee. It is a vicious occupation at best; it becomes intolerable when competitors tap the telephone wires of individuals or business firms to discover their secrets.

The office of the Secretary of State is empowered to grant a private detective a license, a badge and the right to carry lethal arms. Then that detective may hire a crew of rascals to do his business. None of these need be licensed under the law. They ply their trade freely and without interference, although the Constitution makes the following guarantees to the citizens of this country:

"The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

What the Constitution forbids the Government to do, private detectives do. When the Constitution was written, the telephone was not in existence; it is only reasonable to assume that the Constitution automatically extends itself and its purposes to cover all new inventions. It has been held by the courts that these security provisions only defend the citizens from acts of government; nevertheless, if the people have the right to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, they are entitled to the security of the telephone.



Carmine DeSapio

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Boardman _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mason _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Parsons _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

BAUMGARDNER

Leggett
file 4/cml
Private Detectives

Wash. Post and Times Herald _____
Wash. News _____
Wash. Star _____
N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
N. Y. Mirror 11 _____
N. Y. Daily News _____
Daily Worker _____
The Worker _____
New Leader _____

Date DEC 13 1955

52 DEC 20 1955

70

CC OC

The telephone company cannot and ought not to be required to police its lines as that is a police function of the state to protect property. Besides, it is an impossible task for a private company to undertake. It is a moot question as to whether Government authorities have the right to tap telephone wires, except in matters involving heinous offenses, and then only by court order. Public sentiment is against it as indecent.

There is no difference of opinion that it is wrong for private persons to tap telephone wires; it is immoral and indecent for private persons to tap telephone wires for a profit.

What Carmine DeSapio proposes is to tighten the laws governing private detectives, so that they are limited in their activities. Every person engaged in this work should be licensed annually. He ought not to have a criminal record. He ought not to have a subversive record.

He ought to be required to file a statement of all cases he undertook in his application for a renewal of license. He ought to be forbidden to tap telephone wires or own the equipment.

He ought to be forbidden to employ unlicensed personnel for any work whatsoever. He ought to be examined periodically and his license should be subject to cancellation, provided due cause is shown in a court.

Some private detectives will complain that that will put them out of business. Any objections?

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription _____

FRED OTASH, 1540 Oriole Lane, telephone 550-0401, advised that he originally met [redacted] in [redacted] approximately three years ago, and that at that time [redacted] was engaged in the [redacted] business and operated a firm named [redacted] believed to be headquartered in the [redacted]. He further advised that [redacted] was also believed to be a representative of [redacted] at that time.

b6
b7C

OTASH stated that approximately two years ago [redacted] visited him in Hollywood, and through him had met [redacted] and that [redacted] had returned to either [redacted] where he was engaged in the [redacted] of [redacted]. He further advised that he had been in [redacted] during the Christmas holidays of 1975 and had spent some time with [redacted] and had met some associates of [redacted] whose names he could not now recall, but that one of them according to [redacted] had been involved in [redacted].

b6
b7C

OTASH recalled that when he had originally met [redacted] that [redacted] claimed he was [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

b6
b7C

OTASH stated that while in [redacted] had paintings that were reportedly valuable, and that individuals from the [redacted] had ripped off the paintings from [redacted] but that he did not know the details of this situation. He further advised that [redacted] claimed during their association two years ago to have valuable paintings stored in the [redacted]. He continued that [redacted] arrived in Los Angeles in February or March, 1976, and that he, OTASH, assisted [redacted] in locating an apartment, establishing a bank account, renting cars, etc. as [redacted] had no credit or friends, other than he and [redacted] and that [redacted] and [redacted] resided together at [redacted].

b6
b7C

Interviewed on 1/24/77 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 87-43149-129
by SA [redacted] ⁷¹² mjc b6
b7C Date dictated _____

OTASH advised that he had introduced [redacted] to various people that he thought might be able to assist him in the [redacted] business, and that eventually he had invested \$9000.00 in a [redacted] business with [redacted] and that the [redacted] on them that are popular today. He had also introduced [redacted] to [redacted] who owns [redacted] in Los Angeles to assist in this venture.

b6
b7C

OTASH advised that apparently [redacted] sold this business to an unknown associate of his in the [redacted] and that to date [redacted] has failed to repay the \$9000.00 and that [redacted] had also lost some money on this business venture.

b6
b7C

OTASH stated that he had last seen [redacted] in late November or early December, 1976, and that [redacted] claimed to have friends in town from [redacted] and that they were to sell some artwork, and that OTASH would be repaid the \$9000.00. OTASH continued that he had thought nothing about this as he knew [redacted] had reportedly had artwork in the past, and he thought [redacted] was merely selling off some of his artwork to repay debts he had incurred.

b6
b7C

OTASH stated that the above incident was approximately three days prior to the arrest of [redacted] by the FBI.

OTASH advised that after he had been victimized by [redacted] for the \$9000.00 he had no more to do with him, and recalled that following the arrest of [redacted] that [redacted] had telephonically contacted him regarding attempting to arrange bail for [redacted] and that [redacted] had also telephonically contacted him from jail, and had written to him from jail requesting his assistance, but that he, OTASH, had done nothing to assist [redacted]

b6
b7C

OTASH stated that [redacted] was a nice guy, but a con man, and recalled that [redacted] had been interested in the possible [redacted] and that he, OTASH had warned him to be very careful and make sure that any dealings he had with this type of [redacted] were legal or he could get in trouble. He further advised that [redacted] had expressed an interest in [redacted] and that as a result of all of these things and his being victimized by [redacted] for \$9000.00 and that [redacted] had taken advantage of he and his friends, that

b6
b7C

OTASH had advised [] and [] another girl that he had introduced [] to, that they would be wise not to have anything to do with []

b6
b7C

OTASH advised that [] was unknown to him and that he had never met this individual.

From consulting various address books, OTASH advised that a [] who had a [] and a [] [] had been a business partner of [] in [] He further advised that [] was believed to reside in [] telephone []

b6
b7C

He stated that when [] had contacted him from the Los Angeles County Jail, that he had requested OTASH to telephonically contact a party in the [] for assistance, but that he could not recall the name of this individual, and that he had never called this individual. He stated that he had gotten the impression from [] that if this person in the [] did not come to the assistance of [] that this person would also be in trouble with the authorities.

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1371905-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 2
Page 4 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;
Page 5 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X Deleted Page(s) X
X No Duplication Fee X
X For this Page X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1342817-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 2
Page 4 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;
Page 5 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X Deleted Page(s) X
X No Duplication Fee X
X For this Page X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Complaint Form
FD-71 (Rev. 7-21-67)

NOTE: Hand print names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Indices: ☐ Negative ☐ See below

Subject's name and aliases

FRED OTASH (phonetic)

62-0-50121

Character of case

92

Complainant

Complaint received

☒ Personal ☐ Telephonic Date 7/15/69 Time 12:30 p.m.

Address of subject

New York City

Complainant's address and telephone number

phone

Subject's
Description

Race

Sex

Height

Hair

Build

Birth date and Birthplace

Age

☐ Male

Weight

Eyes

Complexion

☐ Female

Scars, marks or other data

Facts of complaint

[redacted] white male American, born [redacted] black hair, brown eyes, 5'9", 161 pounds, Cal D. L. # [redacted]

[redacted] former residence [redacted]

[redacted] advised as follows:

FRED OTASH [redacted] October 18, 1945 training class at the police academy of the LAPD. OTASH was dismissed about 1961. OTASH then started a detective agency in the Hollywood area.

[redacted] told [redacted] in May, 1969, that OTASH was now the president of a cosmetics company in New York City. [redacted] said that [redacted] was a member of a group in New York City. [redacted] said you mean those rotten good for nothing hoods? [redacted] said yes. [redacted] said he was referring to the La Cosa Nostra. [redacted] said he was also going to write Senator Murphy about the above and other communist matters. He could furnish no other information to further identify OTASH, or the hoods. Max

Action Recommended

(Agent)

92-3576-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 17 1969	
ES	

W.F.'s
139-28 I
139-76 I

00:20
J.M.
#6

7-21

W/m

1/6/22

1 million
fourteen, four

6'

195'

1515P

Truette O. J. H.

94-1440 - 4/1/65
my abstract of
background

my letter to Bureau 94-1536
2/24/66

File No. 92-3576-1A1

Date Received _____

From
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

By

To Be Returned ☐ Yes
☒ No

Receipt given ☐ Yes
☒ No

Description:

1 Photo of Fred Otash

8-20-69 ddo

b6
b7C
b7D



FRED OTASH
FBI #85 570 C

Fred Otash

92-3576-1a1



b7D

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, NEW YORK

DATE: 8/7/69

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (92-3576) (RUC)

SUBJECT: FRED OTASH
AR

Re New York letter to Bureau dated 2/26/65
captioned FRED OTASH, Information Concerning, New York
file 94-1536.

For the information of New York, [redacted]
[redacted] advised on
7/15/69 that in May 1969, [redacted]
[redacted] advised that FRED OTASH, [redacted]
training class in 1945 as a Los Angeles Police recruit, is
now the president of a cosmetic company in New York City.
[redacted] further commented that OTASH is a member of a group
in New York City. [redacted] asked [redacted] if he meant OTASH
is a member of "those rotten, good-for-nothing hoods."
[redacted] said yes. [redacted] said he, [redacted] was referring to
the La Cosa Nostra.

b6
b7C
b7D

Complete background information was furnished
New York by Los Angeles on 4/1/65 in reply to referenced
communication. The above information is the only additional
information received by Los Angeles regarding subject since
4/1/65.

2 - New York
① - Los Angeles

JEE/bje
(3)

Consolidated
Initials [redacted]
Date 9-28-70

OFFICE COPY

SEARCHED
INDEXED
SERIALIZED
FILED

92-3576-2

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (92-3576)

FROM : SA GILBERT G. BENJAMIN

SUBJECT: FRED OTASH
CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE

DATE: 11/8/74

On 11/8/74, [] advised that information had come to source's attention indicating that FRED OTASH who resides on Oriole Lane in the Hollywood Hills is reportedly currently out of the United States in the Middle East. He has sublet his home to American mystery novelist MICKEY SPILLANE for one year. SPILLANE and his [] are currently residing in the OTASH house and [] is readying a stage act which she hopes to put on in Las Vegas in the not too distant future.

b6
b7C
b7D

OTASH has loaned his automobile to someone else during his absence whose name source has not yet determined.

ACTION:

The above is to record information concerning OTASH and no further action is needed at this time.

1 - []
1 - [] b7D

GGB/cl's
(3)

92-3576-3

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
20 NOV 3 1974	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	



92-3576-4

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 11 1964	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

20

[Signature]

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20537

8-10-79 308 JLP

85 570 C

Use of the following FBI record, NUMBER _____, is REGULATED BY LAW. It is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY and should ONLY BE USED FOR PURPOSE REQUESTED. When further explanation of arrest charge or disposition is needed, communicate directly with the agency that contributed the fingerprints.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Marine	Fred Otash ✓	3-2-42	92-3576*(7/69) + num ref end	
OPM	Fred Otash	3-25-46		
PD Beverly Hills CA	Fred Otash 49468	8-7-59	offering false evid & preparing false evid	filing of complaint was postponed as the subject was to be indicted by the count grand jury for other felony charges subject was later indicted in connection with race horse doping 8-10-59 compl rejected by DA without prejudice
SO Los Angeles CA	Fred Otash B645456	9-3-59	corrupt sporting practices & criminal consp	9-3-59 Rel on bail 5 yrs prob serve 6 mos CJ imposition of SS on chg of 182 PC

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20537

8-10-79 308 JLP

The following FBI record, NUMBER 85 570 C, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.
Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE
DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE OR DISPOSITION IS DESIRED,
COMMUNICATE WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
CC: FBI Los Angeles	FLASH BY BUREAU: If any information or inquiry received notify BFD Los Angeles per inf rec 8-11-59			
THIS PAGE SHOULD NOT BE DISSEMINATED OUTSIDE FBI.				

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20537

8-10-79 308 JLP

1-BU

Use of the following FBI record, NUMBER 85 570 C, is REGULATED BY LAW. It is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY and should ONLY BE USED FOR PURPOSE REQUESTED. When further explanation of arrest charge or disposition is needed, communicate directly with the agency that contributed the fingerprints.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	Record furnished Head Witness Records Unit Dept. of Justice Wash DC 8-10-79 as maybe ident with subject of their inquiry			

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (145-1676)

DATE: 5/7/73

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] aka;
[REDACTED] aka
ITOM
OO: Los Angeles

This is to note for further reference that Supervisor WILLIAM JOHN NOLAN was telephonically contacted on 4/19/73, by FRED OTASH, 1540 Oriole Lane, West Hollywood, California, telephone 276-2782. [REDACTED] Supervisor NOLAN. OTASH requested to meet with Supervisor NOLAN and SA [REDACTED] for lunch to discuss a matter of importance. OTASH is [REDACTED] who was recently convicted on Interstate Transportation of Obscene Matter (ITOM) charges in United States District Court (USDC), [REDACTED] and was scheduled for sentencing on [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

On 4/24/73, OTASH met with Supervisor NOLAN and SA [REDACTED]. He advised he had instructed [REDACTED] to cooperate fully with the federal government in regards to this case, including the answering of any questions regarding his activities in this case, and the identity of the owner of the company. He advised he was not asking anything of the government in return for [REDACTED] cooperation but was convinced it would be in [REDACTED] best interest to cooperate with the government in any way he could.

b6
b7C
b7D

OTASH was advised that if [REDACTED] furnished all information requested regarding [REDACTED] and would testify to it before the Federal Grand Jury and in USDC, that this cooperation would be brought to the attention of Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) [REDACTED] who would inform the judge if he thought it was proper to do so.

b6
b7C
b7D

RKP/msc
(1)



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

145-1676-31
[Handwritten initials and stamps]

LA 145-1676

[redacted] thereafter contacted SA [redacted] and furnished limited information of value but indicated he would furnish all requested information and testimony after he had been sentenced.

AUSA [redacted] was advised of the foregoing matters on 4/29/73, and said he believed no action should be taken by his office until after the sentencing. He said if [redacted] received a substantial sentence and did cooperate with the federal government as he promised, he would then move for a reduction of sentence in federal court.

b6
b7C
b7D