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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**MACK CHARLES PARKER**

**PART 1 OF 1**

SUBJECT

MACK CHARLES PARKER

**FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION**

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS  
RELEASE**

**SUBJECT:** MACK CHARLES PARKER

**FILE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SUB:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VOL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PAGES REVIEWED:** 370

**PAGES RELEASED:** 370

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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THE ABDUCTION OF MACK CHARLES PARKER  
FROM THE PEARL RIVER COUNTY JAIL,  
MOBILEVILLE, MISSISSIPPI,  
APRIL 24 - 25, 1957

44-14501-476

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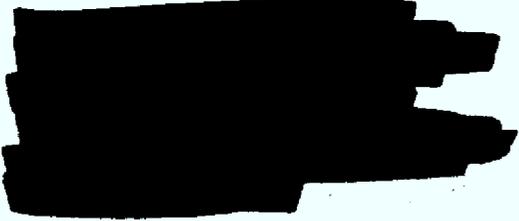
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

**SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION OF  
THE ABDUCTION OF MACK CHARLES  
PARKER FROM THE PEARL RIVER  
COUNTY JAIL, POPLARVILLE, MISSISSIPPI,  
APRIL 24-25, 1959**

On February 24, 1959, MACK CHARLES PARKER, a colored male, Lumberton, Mississippi, was arrested by City Marshal HAMOND H. SLADE, Lumberton, Mississippi, on charges of rape and kidnaping of Mrs. JUNE VIRGINIA MALTERS, a white female of Petal, Mississippi, early that morning south of Lumberton and in Pearl River County. PARKER was lodged in Hinds County Jail, Jackson, Mississippi, on February 24, 1959, for polygraph tests and was removed to the Pearl River County Jail, Poplarville, on April 13, 1959.

Between 11:30 PM, April 24, 1959, and about 12:15 AM, April 25, 1959, a band of hooded or masked men, eight to ten in number, entered the Pearl River County Jail, located in the Pearl River County Courthouse, this jail being unattended by a jailer during the night hours. These men forcibly removed PARKER from the jail and placed him in an automobile parked on the south side of the courthouse. PARKER's body was found in the Pearl River on the Mississippi side approximately two and one-half miles south of State Highway #26 on May 4, 1959. His identity was established through fingerprints. An autopsy disclosed that death occurred from a penetrating wound in the left auricle of the heart.

A "John Doe" warrant charging kidnaping of PARKER was issued by Justice of the Peace J. E. HOLCOMB, Poplarville, on April 25, 1959. A "John Doe" warrant charging murder of PARKER was issued on May 5, 1959, by Judge HOLCOMB. Both of these warrants were based on affidavits sworn to by Sheriff W. GIBORNE MOODY, Pearl River County.

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During the early morning hours following the abduction of PARKER, representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were informed of PARKER's abduction by Sheriff MOODY and members of the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol.

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SUMMARY OF FBI INVESTIGATION

I. DESCRIPTION OF CRIME SCENE

The following ten charts were prepared by Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED] on April 28, 29, 30, and May 1, 1959, from observations and measurements, or from maps of the areas shown. b7c

Chart "A" was prepared from a current road map in the scale of the map. For comparison purposes, the distance between cities 1 and 7 is 23.5 miles. Names of the pertinent counties have been typed in. The charts on Poplarville, Mississippi, Charts "B" and "C", were taken from a local town map plus some detail from a map of the water mains. Chart "D" of the three block area from Main Street to Pine Street are approximate measurements with building details not shown. Chart "E" of the courthouse square and building is drawn closely to proportion as is Chart "F" showing Pearl River Hospital square. Charts "G" and "H" of the two floors of the courthouse are in proportion without unnecessary detail being shown. Charts "I" and "J" of the tiers of the jail are also in proportion with all pertinent detail shown.

North is shown as the top direction on A, B, and C making up the Mississippi area and town of Poplarville. Other charts have directions shown but, because of size or shape, they do not show north at the top.

Poplarville has a population of about 1900 and has not changed materially since the 1950 census. North Street generally divides the town from east to west, while Main Street, running north and south, is the division in the other direction.

The courthouse square is the center point of the town and faces on Main Street. East of the courthouse, across South Julia Street, is the square containing the Pearl River Hospital and the County Health Building. Main Street runs down the south side of the courthouse, the hospital squares and West Willie Street and ends at the north end of the same squares. Pearl and Willie Streets continue east past South Strahan and South Pine Street and come to a dead end. Julia, Strahan, and Pine Streets come to North Street.

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12 going north after crossing Willie Street. North Street is,  
13 Mississippi Highway 26 to Bogalusa, Louisiana, which is  
14 twenty miles west of Poplarville. North Street crosses  
15 United States Highway 11 about one-half mile west of Main  
16 Street. This highway runs north to Hattiesburg, Mississippi  
17 thirty-six miles away and south to Picayune, Mississippi  
18 twenty-four miles away.

19  
20 Julia, Strahan and Pine Streets go south  
21 across Cumberland, also a dead end street, to Beers Street.  
22 Highway 11 can be reached by going west on Beers Street.

23  
24 In Chart "C", it will be noted that Main  
25 Street continues south to Gulfport, Mississippi as State  
26 Highway 53. At Michigan Avenue, State Highway 26 turns off  
27 Main Street to go east to Wiggins, Mississippi. Going west  
28 on Michigan Avenue would bring a car back to United States  
29 Highway 11. These are all improved roads.

30  
31 Chart "D" showing the three block area  
32 bounded by Main, Pearl, Pine and Willie Streets shows the  
33 relationship between the hospital and the courthouse and  
34 shows two of the dead end streets which would limit get-  
35 away routes.

36  
37 Chart "E", showing the courthouse square, is  
38 in proportion and all exterior detail is shown. This block  
39 is approximately 175 feet square. The front entrance to the  
40 courthouse is not used and is blocked on the inside by desks  
41 and chairs. The south entrance is actually used as the main  
42 entrance, although the north entrance is also used. The  
43 building is three stories high with the entrance to the jail  
44 portion being on the second floor. The jail portion of the  
45 building is also three stories high with the two top floors  
46 being used for a jail. The chart shows at the southeast  
47 corner of the courthouse is so large that it covers almost  
48 to the parking area and is about two stories in height.

49  
50 The Pearl River Hospital building is one  
51 story in height. The main entrance is on Julia Street  
52 directly across the street from the jail, but the entrance  
53 on the Pearl Street side is used by many doctors as it gives  
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12 direct access to rooms on that side.

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14 Chart "G", showing the first floor of the  
15 courthouse, shows the office of the Sheriff on the Main  
16 Street side of the building. The larger part of his space  
17 is a public room where records are kept. The small room to  
18 the south of the public room is the Sheriff's private office  
19 and contains the file cabinet in which the keys were  
20 kept. The last small room has one window that is normally  
21 open for ventilation of that room. This window cannot be  
22 easily reached from the ground. The other open window shown  
23 at the north end of the public room opens into the raised  
24 section, forming the front entrance to the courthouse. To  
25 enter through this window would only require stepping over  
26 the sill.

27  
28 There is a stairway at the south end of the  
29 first floor just as shown at the north end, but this comes  
30 up back of the courtroom and is not readily accessible to  
31 the jail door. It therefore was not shown on this chart.

32  
33 The second floor, chart "H", shows the only  
34 entrance to the jail. This entrance is in the courtroom  
35 space and there are seats in the courtroom near the railing  
36 back to the north end of the room. It is necessary to walk  
37 around these seats to get from the jail door to the court-  
38 room exit.

39  
40 The jail is on two floors with the entrance  
41 door being about half-way between the floors. The Negro  
42 section is on the third floor, while the white section is  
43 on the second floor. Both of these floors are shown on  
44 Chart "I" and "J", with PARKER's cell being noted. The  
45 windows at the south end of each jail floor are those  
46 looking out over the street at the south side of the court-  
47 house. There are similar windows on the north side.

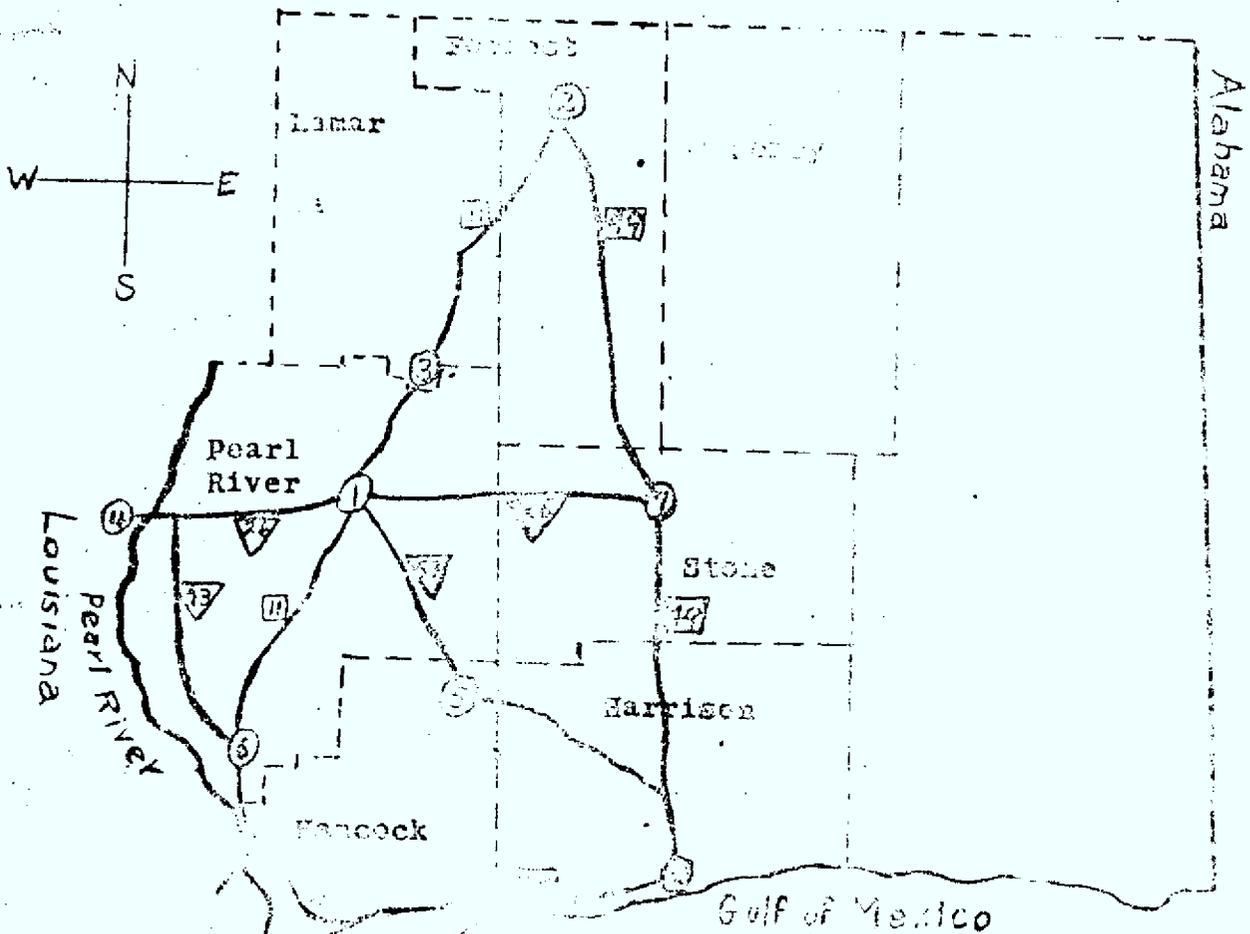
48  
49 The route by which PARKER was taken from the  
50 jail to Pearl Street at the south end of the courthouse has  
51 been marked by arrows on Charts "I", "J", "K", "L", "M", "N", "O", "P",  
52 "Q", "R", "S", "T", "U", "V", "W", "X", "Y", "Z", "AA", "AB", "AC", "AD", "AE",  
53 "AF", "AG", "AH", "AI", "AJ", "AK", "AL", "AM", "AN", "AO", "AP", "AQ", "AR", "AS",  
54 "AT", "AU", "AV", "AW", "AX", "AY", "AZ", "BA", "BB", "BC", "BD", "BE", "BF",  
55 "BG", "BH", "BI", "BJ", "BK", "BL", "BM", "BN", "BO", "BP", "BQ", "BR", "BS",  
56 "BT", "BU", "BV", "BW", "BX", "BY", "BZ", "CA", "CB", "CC", "CD", "CE", "CF",  
57 "CG", "CH", "CI", "CJ", "CK", "CL", "CM", "CN", "CO", "CP", "CQ", "CR", "CS",  
58 "CT", "CU", "CV", "CW", "CX", "CY", "CZ", "DA", "DB", "DC", "DD", "DE", "DF",  
59 "DG", "DH", "DI", "DJ", "DK", "DL", "DM", "DN", "DO", "DP", "DQ", "DR", "DS",  
60 "DT", "DU", "DV", "DW", "DX", "DY", "DZ", "EA", "EB", "EC", "ED", "EE", "EF",  
61 "EG", "EH", "EI", "EJ", "EK", "EL", "EM", "EN", "EO", "EP", "EQ", "ER", "ES",  
62 "ET", "EU", "EV", "EW", "EX", "EY", "EZ", "FA", "FB", "FC", "FD", "FE", "FF", "FG", "FH", "FI", "FJ", "FK", "FL", "FM", "FN", "FO", "FP", "FQ", "FR", "FS", "FT", "FU", "FV", "FW", "FX", "FY", "FZ", "GA", "GB", "GC", "GD", "GE", "GF", "GG", "GH", "GI", "GJ", "GK", "GL", "GM", "GN", "GO", "GP", "GQ", "GR", "GS", "GT", "GU", "GV", "GW", "GX", "GY", "GZ", "HA", "HB", "HC", "HD", "HE", "HF", "HG", "HH", "HI", "HJ", "HK", "HL", "HM", "HN", "HO", "HP", "HQ", "HR", "HS", "HT", "HU", "HV", "HW", "HX", "HY", "HZ", "IA", "IB", "IC", "ID", "IE", "IF", "IG", "IH", "II", "IJ", "IK", "IL", "IM", "IN", "IO", "IP", "IQ", "IR", "IS", "IT", "IU", "IV", "IW", "IX", "IY", "IZ", "JA", "JB", "JC", "JD", "JE", "JF", "JG", "JH", "JI", "JJ", "JK", "JL", "JM", "JN", "JO", "JP", "JQ", "JR", "JS", "JT", "JU", "JV", "JW", "JX", "JY", "JZ", "KA", "KB", "KC", "KD", "KE", "KF", "KG", "KH", "KI", "KJ", "KL", "KM", "KN", "KO", "KP", "KQ", "KR", "KS", "KT", "KU", "KV", "KW", "KX", "KY", "KZ", "LA", "LB", "LC", "LD", "LE", "LF", "LG", "LH", "LI", "LJ", "LK", "LL", "LM", "LN", "LO", "LP", "LQ", "LR", "LS", "LT", "LU", "LV", "LW", "LX", "LY", "LZ", "MA", "MB", "MC", "MD", "ME", "MF", "MG", "MH", "MI", "MJ", "MK", "ML", "MM", "MN", "MO", "MP", "MQ", "MR", "MS", "MT", "MU", "MV", "MW", "MX", "MY", "MZ", "NA", "NB", "NC", "ND", "NE", "NF", "NG", "NH", "NI", "NJ", "NK", "NL", "NM", "NN", "NO", "NP", "NQ", "NR", "NS", "NT", "NU", "NV", "NW", "NX", "NY", "NZ", "OA", "OB", "OC", "OD", "OE", "OF", "OG", "OH", "OI", "OJ", "OK", "OL", "OM", "ON", "OO", "OP", "OQ", "OR", "OS", "OT", "OU", "OV", "OW", "OX", "OY", "OZ", "PA", "PB", "PC", "PD", "PE", "PF", "PG", "PH", "PI", "PJ", "PK", "PL", "PM", "PN", "PO", "PP", "PQ", "PR", "PS", "PT", "PU", "PV", "PW", "PX", "PY", "PZ", "QA", "QB", "QC", "QD", "QE", "QF", "QG", "QH", "QI", "QJ", "QK", "QL", "QM", "QN", "QO", "QP", "QQ", "QR", "QS", "QT", "QU", "QV", "QW", "QX", "QY", "QZ", "RA", "RB", "RC", "RD", "RE", "RF", "RG", "RH", "RI", "RJ", "RK", "RL", "RM", "RN", "RO", "RP", "RQ", "RR", "RS", "RT", "RU", "RV", "RW", "RX", "RY", "RZ", "SA", "SB", "SC", "SD", "SE", "SF", "SG", "SH", "SI", "SJ", "SK", "SL", "SM", "SN", "SO", "SP", "SQ", "SR", "SS", "ST", "SU", "SV", "SW", "SX", "SY", "SZ", "TA", "TB", "TC", "TD", "TE", "TF", "TG", "TH", "TI", "TJ", "TK", "TL", "TM", "TN", "TO", "TP", "TQ", "TR", "TS", "TT", "TU", "TV", "TW", "TX", "TY", "TZ", "UA", "UB", "UC", "UD", "UE", "UF", "UG", "UH", "UI", "UJ", "UK", "UL", "UM", "UN", "UO", "UP", "UQ", "UR", "US", "UT", "UU", "UV", "UW", "UX", "UY", "UZ", "VA", "VB", "VC", "VD", "VE", "VF", "VG", "VH", "VI", "VJ", "VK", "VL", "VM", "VN", "VO", "VP", "VQ", "VR", "VS", "VT", "VU", "VV", "VW", "VX", "VY", "VZ", "WA", "WB", "WC", "WD", "WE", "WF", "WG", "WH", "WI", "WJ", "WK", "WL", "WM", "WN", "WO", "WP", "WQ", "WR", "WS", "WT", "WU", "WV", "WW", "WX", "WY", "WZ", "XA", "XB", "XC", "XD", "XE", "XF", "XG", "XH", "XI", "XJ", "XK", "XL", "XM", "XN", "XO", "XP", "XQ", "XR", "XS", "XT", "XU", "XV", "XW", "XZ", "YA", "YB", "YC", "YD", "YE", "YF", "YG", "YH", "YI", "YJ", "YK", "YL", "YM", "YN", "YO", "YP", "YQ", "YR", "YS", "YT", "YU", "YV", "YW", "YZ", "ZA", "ZB", "ZC", "ZD", "ZE", "ZF", "ZG", "ZH", "ZI", "ZJ", "ZK", "ZL", "ZM", "ZN", "ZO", "ZP", "ZQ", "ZR", "ZS", "ZT", "ZU", "ZV", "ZW", "ZX", "ZY", "ZZ",

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NO 44-1018

CHART "A"

PERTINENT MISSISSIPPI AREA



- 1. Poplarville
- 2. Vicksburg and Petal
- 3. Hattiesburg
- 4. Bogalusa, Louisiana
- 5. Hattiesburg
- 6. Flowood
- 7. Higgins
- 8. Gulfport

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 Miss. Roads

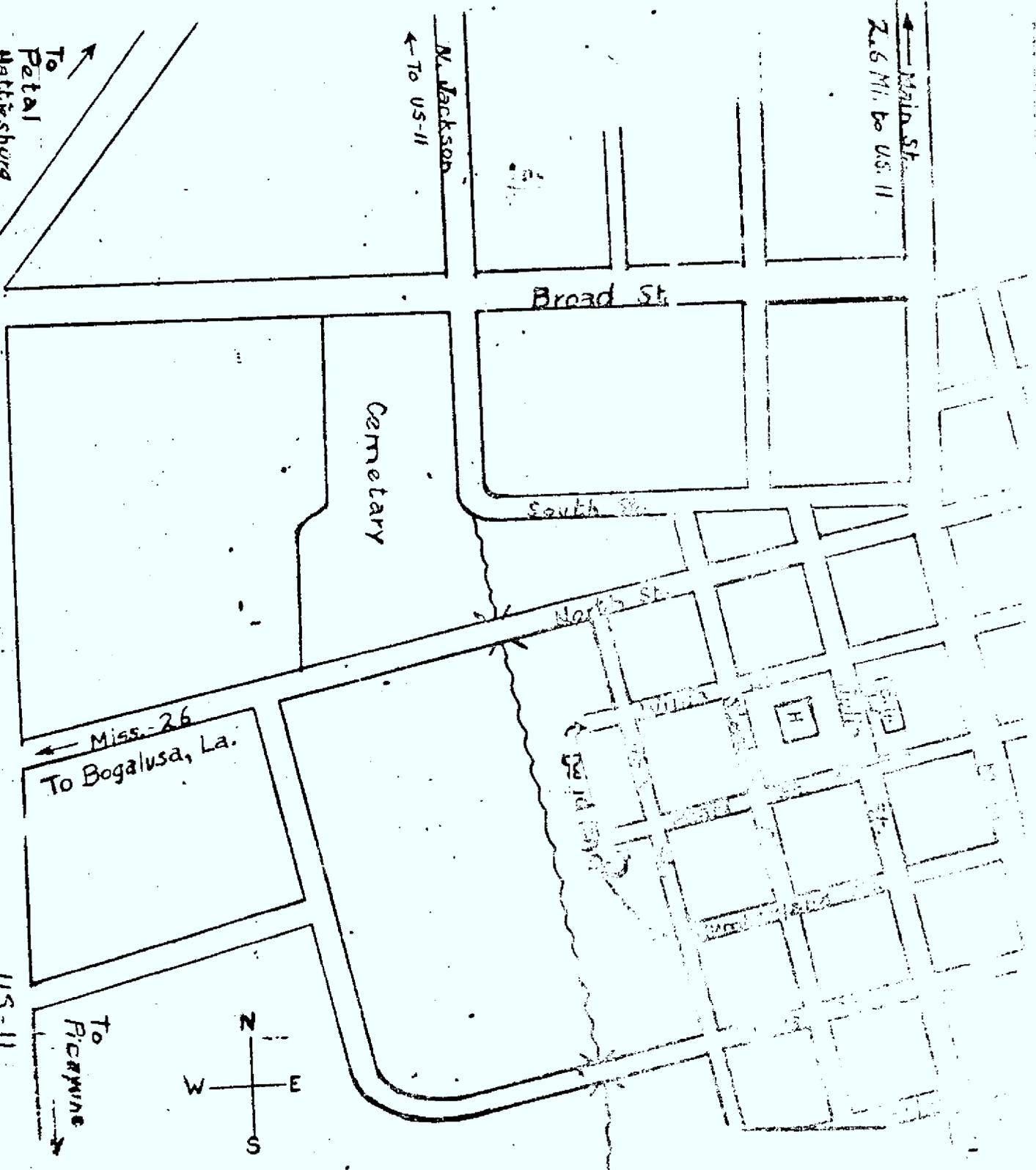
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CHART "B"

POPLARVILLE, MISS.

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CRAY NC

Michigan Ave

Dead End

Evangelical

Maid St

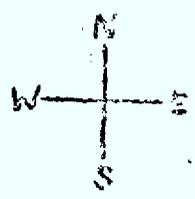
Ford St

Church St

R.P.

Michigan Ave

To US-11



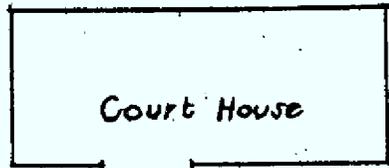
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100 Main St.

100 W. Willie St.

100 W. Pearl St.



Jail

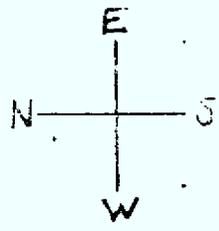
S. Julia St.

Health Bldg.



200

S. Strahan St.



300

S. Pine St.



Dead End

50

NO 44-1018  
CHART "E"

Main St.

Walk

Monument

Paved

Court House

Jail

Parking

John St.



100 W. Willie St.

100 W. F. St.

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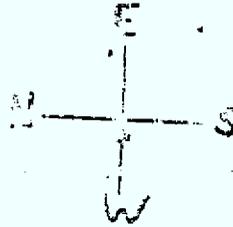
CHART "A"

S. Julia St.

Parking

County  
Health  
Dept.

Pearl River  
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S. Strahan St.

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W. Willis St.

W. Pearl St.

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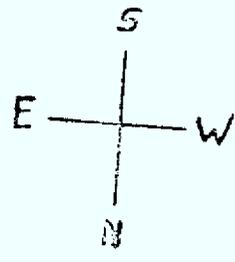
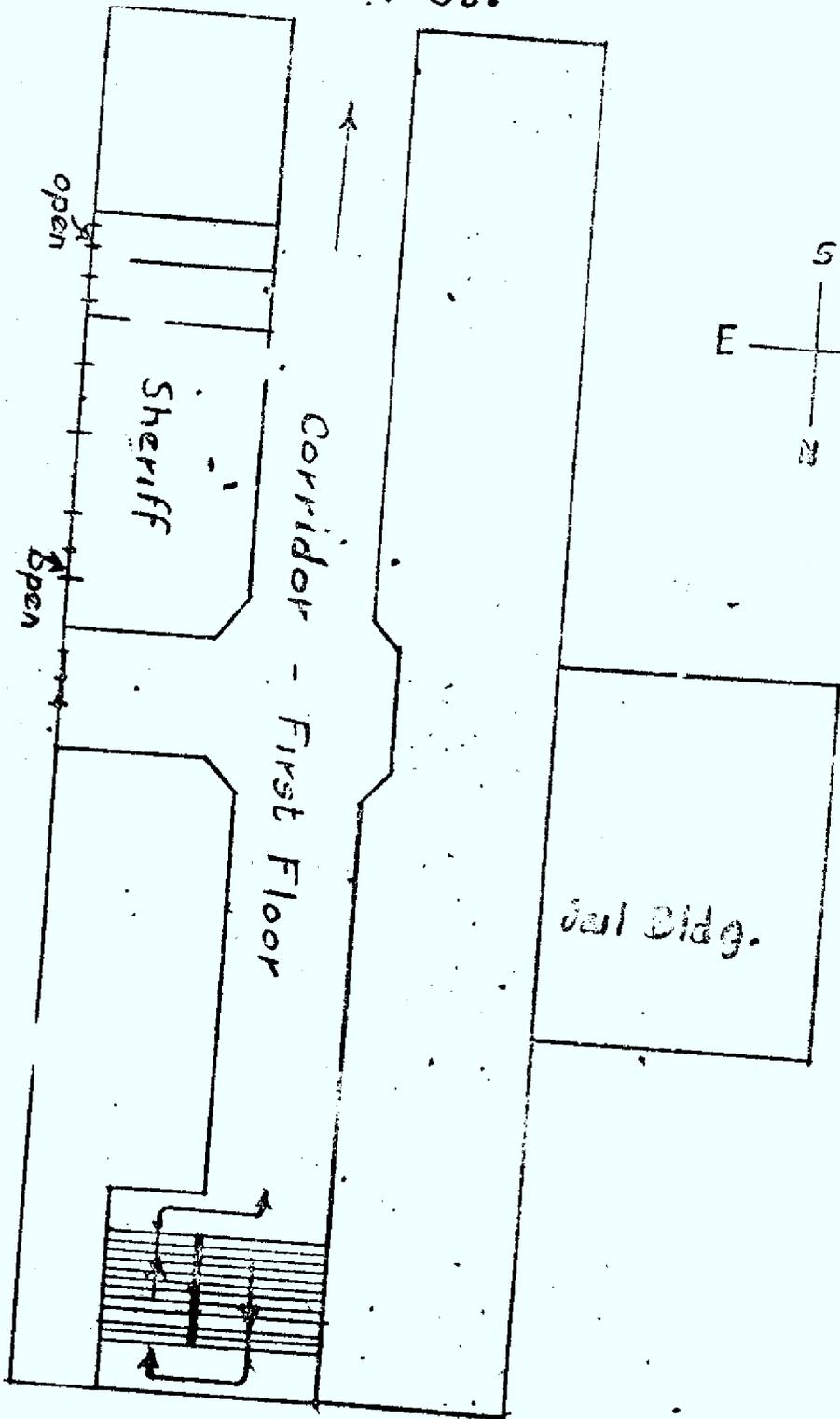
NO 44-1018

CHART "G"

W. Pearl St.

Main St.

W. Willie St.

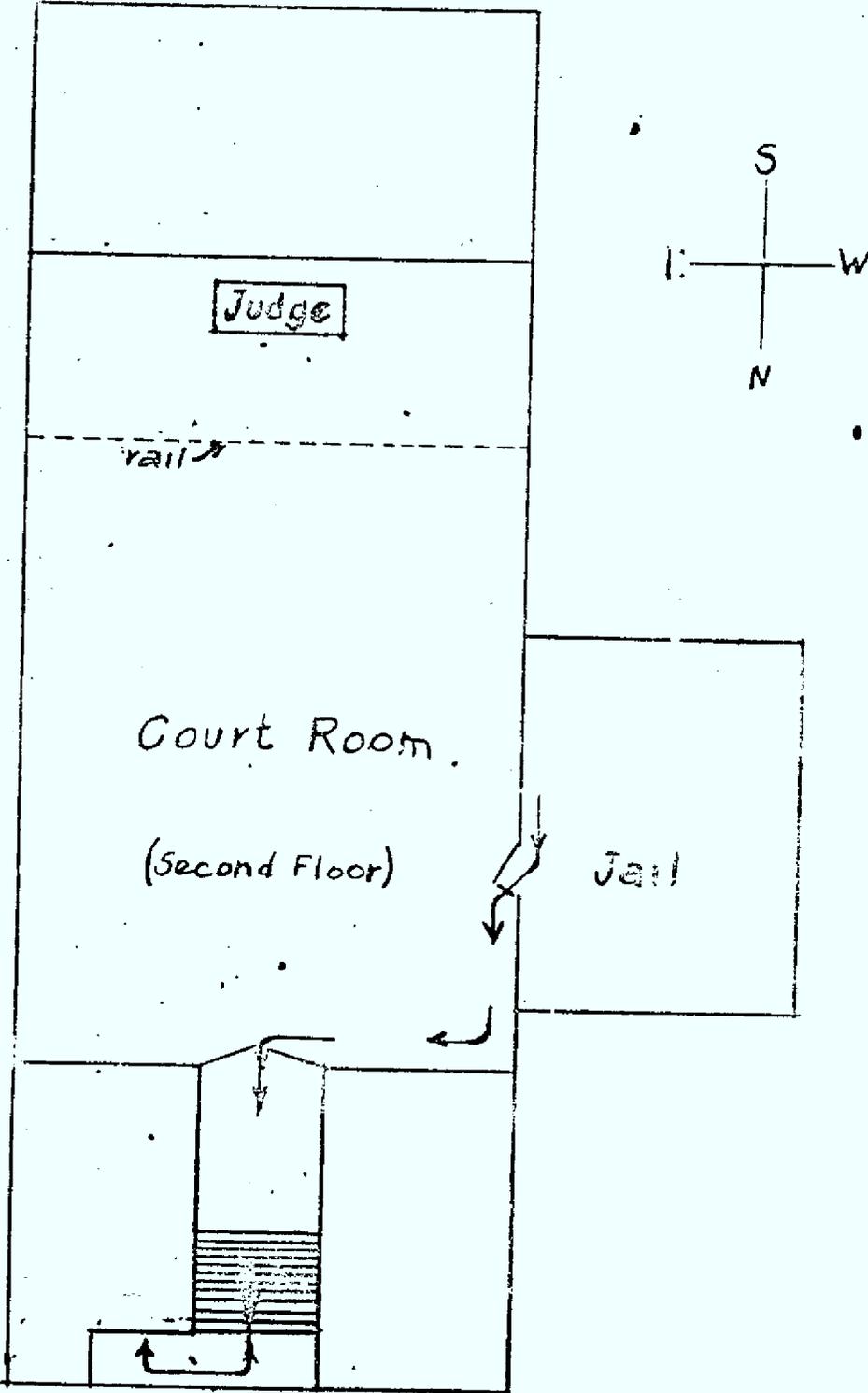


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NO 44-1018

CHART "H"

W. Pearl St

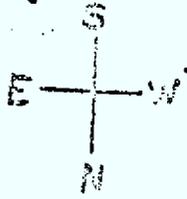


W. Willie St

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Upper Floor - Memo Room

Bell Room



Cell

Court Room

Down

Platform

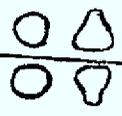
Down To W

Cell (Parker)

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Windows

Bull Pen



Up Negro

Platform

Down White

Lower Tier - White Jail

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13 WILLIAM H. STEWART, County Attorney, Pearl  
14 River County, Poplarville, advised Special Agents (SA's)  
15 [redacted] and [redacted] on May 1, 1959, b7c  
16 that, between 1:30 AM and 2:00 AM, on the morning of  
17 April 25, 1959, he had taken photographs of the Pearl River  
18 County Courthouse and the immediate area outside with a  
19 Polaroid Camera. He stated that these photographs had been  
20 fifteen in number and that he had turned the photographs  
21 over to Deputy Sheriff GEORGE MOODY.

22  
23 The photographs taken by Mr. STEWART were b7c  
24 obtained from Deputy Sheriff MOODY on May 1, 1959, by SA's  
25 [redacted] and [redacted]. On this same date, Mr. STEWART identified  
26 these photographs as follows:

- 27  
28 #1. Taken from the north door of the  
29 courtroom facing west into the  
30 entrance to the jail showing a  
31 trail where dust was disturbed  
32 on the courtroom floor.
- 33  
34 #2. Indicates the top of the West  
35 flight of stairs outside north  
36 door of the courtroom in the north  
37 end of the courthouse showing  
38 spots of blood.
- 39  
40 #3. At the foot of the stairway in  
41 the north end of the courthouse  
42 showing bloodstains and smears on  
43 the floor, which, according to  
44 STEWART, indicate PARKER was dragged  
45 south from this point.
- 46  
47 #4. Same as #3, except [redacted] a slightly  
48 greater distance into blood [redacted].
- 49  
50 #5. Taken from center corridor of the  
51 courthouse with camera facing north,  
52 showing bloodstains on the wall and  
53 on wall, indicating PARKER had been  
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12 dragged on the floor and had rubbed  
13 against the east wall of the hall.

14 #6. Taken from center of courthouse  
15 corridor toward the east showing  
16 the door to the Sheriff's Office  
17 reflecting blood smears on the  
18 floor and on the wall just outside  
19 Sheriff's Office.  
20

21 #7. Close-up view of blood smears  
22 described above in #6.  
23

24 #8. Photograph taken from center of  
25 corridor in front of Sheriff's Office  
26 door facing toward south door of the  
27 courthouse and, according to STEWART,  
28 blood smears in the hall indicating victim  
29 dragged toward south door.  
30

31 #9. Taken just outside the south door of  
32 the courthouse facing north, a close-up  
33 view of blood smears in an entrance  
34 to the courthouse apparently made by  
35 PARKER and also showing a visible heel-  
36 print in the doorway.  
37

38 #10. Taken from the top of the steps at  
39 the south door of the courthouse facing  
40 south showing bloodstains on the steps  
41 indicating PARKER was dragged down these  
42 steps.  
43

44 #11. Taken at bottom of stairs leading  
45 to the south door showing blood  
46 splatters which, according to  
47 STEWART, indicate PARKER was probably  
48 carried from the bottom of the stairs  
49 rather than dragged.  
50

51 #12. View of blood splatters on hallway  
52 between bottom of stairs to door  
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12 south door and street.

13  
14 #13. View of sidewalk in front of south  
15 door to the courthouse showing blood  
16 splatters and blood smears on sidewalk.

17  
18 #14. Indicates blood splatters which were  
19 just north of the splatters and blood  
20 smears shown in photograph #13. These  
21 splatters were between the bottom of  
22 the stairs leading to the south door  
23 to the courthouse and the blood shown  
24 on the sidewalk in photograph #13.

25  
26 #15. Shows curb, part of sidewalk, blood  
27 on the sidewalk and curb and the absence  
28 of blood in the street which, according  
29 to STEWART, would indicate PARKER was  
30 placed in car which was immediately  
31 adjacent to this curb.

32 The above-described photographs are attached.

33  
34 On April 27, 1959, Patrolman T. V. THOMAS,  
35 Mississippi Highway Safety School (MSSP), Stennis, Miss-  
36 sissippi, advised SA [REDACTED] that he made photo-  
37 graphs inside and outside the Pearl River County Courthouse  
38 about 2:30 AM on the morning of April 25, 1959. Patrolman  
39 THOMAS described these photographs as follows:  
40

41  
42 #1. Northeast corner of the Pearl River  
43 County Sheriff's Office, showing northeast  
44 corner window partially open.

45  
46 #2. Photograph taken from Pearl Street  
47 looking north toward the  
48 entrance of the Pearl River County  
49 Courthouse. Photograph shows  
50 leading from Pearl Street to the  
51 entrance of the courthouse.

52  
53 #3. First floor corridor of Pearl River  
54 County Courthouse; photograph taken

11  
12 looking in a northeasterly direction.  
13 Doorway in upper right hand corner of  
14 photograph is entrance to Sheriff's  
15 Office.

16  
17 #4. First floor corridor and stairway in  
18 northern section of Pearl River County  
19 Courthouse.

20  
21 #5. First floor corridor of Pearl River  
22 County Courthouse, looking in a northerly  
23 direction along corridor.

24  
25 #6. First floor corridor of Pearl River  
26 County Courthouse; photograph taken at  
27 south entrance, looking in a northerly  
28 direction.

29  
30 #7. Photograph taken in courtroom, second  
31 floor, Pearl River County Courthouse,  
32 photograph being of outer door leading  
33 from courtroom into cell block proper.

34  
35 Patrolman THOMAS advised that the negatives  
36 of these photographs would be filed in the MISSP at Jackson,  
37 Mississippi, re MACK CHARLES PARKER case. The photographs  
38 were taken with a Crown Graphic 4 X 5 on Tri-X Film.

39  
40 Copies of the above-described photographs are  
41 attached.

42  
43 On April 27, 1959, SA's [redacted] and [redacted] b7c  
44 [redacted] searched the jail area and the route by which  
45 PARKER was taken to a car at the south side of the courthouse.

46  
47 A garbage can in the Negro bull pen of the  
48 jail contained a broken broom handle on which appeared to be  
49 bloodstains. The garbage can also had what appeared to be a  
50 smear of blood on the side. This smear was scraped off with  
51 a penknife.

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12 A mattress cover from one of the jail bunk  
13 had on it what appeared to be bloodstains and these stains  
14 were scraped off with a knife.

15  
16 The interior of the bars at the exit to the  
17 stairway going down to the platform also had some faint  
18 stains, which were scraped off. No other stains were found  
19 in the jail or any place else in the courthouse which  
20 appeared to be bloodstains.

21  
22 Outside the courthouse, where the concrete  
23 walkway met the gutter at the street, there appeared to be  
24 some bloodstains on some grass. This stained grass was  
25 taken up with a knife. In a gutter immediately below this  
26 stained grass, there was a brown stain, which was taken up  
27 with the possibility that it might be a bloodstain.

28  
29 The above evidence was submitted to the FBI  
30 Laboratory, April 28, 1959.

31  
32 No latent fingerprints were located at the  
33 crime scene, and witnesses indicated that immediately follow-  
34 ing the abduction and prior to the investigation by the FBI  
35 numerous persons were milling around in the area. It is also  
36 noted that the abductors, according to witnesses, were wearing  
37 gloves.

38  
39 The FBI Laboratory, in a report dated May 6,  
40 1959, concerning the evidence referred to above, advised that  
41 human blood from either a Group "O" or a Group "A" person  
42 was found on the broomstick. Scrapings from the mattress  
43 cover, from the garbage can and from the grass clippings  
44 from the edge of the curb were also determined to be blood  
45 from a Group "O" or Group "A" person.

46  
47 It is to be noted that immediately after the dis-  
48 closed that, on the early morning of April 28, 1959, a  
49 trusty in the jail and janitors of the courthouse, using  
50 soap and water, cleaned up the jail and the courthouse of the  
51 courthouse, thereby removing most of the evidence at the  
52 crime scene by the abductors.

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II. INDIVIDUALS AT CONFERENCES  
FOLLOWING ABDUCTION

A. W. OSBORNE MOODY,  
Sheriff, Pearl River County

Sheriff MOODY was interviewed on April 25, 26, and 28, 1959, by SA [redacted] and [redacted] and on April 27 and 29, 1959, by SA [redacted] and [redacted]. He furnished the following information concerning his activities on the night of April 24, 1959 and the morning of April 25, 1959:

b7c

On Friday evening, April 24, 1959, he and his wife went to the home of his son, Deputy Sheriff GEORGE MOODY, at Poplarville, where his wife was baby-sitting for the son. He advised after leaving GEORGE MOODY's home he arrived home at about 11:50 PM, and shortly thereafter, at a time not noted, he received a telephone call from a nurse at the Pearl River County Hospital in Poplarville, whose name he could not recall. This individual advised that there was considerable noise in the jail located directly across the street from the hospital and that it appeared as if the prisoners might be fighting. During the course of this call, the nurse stated that the noise had suddenly ceased and the lights in the jail had gone out. He said he would go and check it as it was probably a fight. He had no reason in hurry, so he did not put his clothes on in a big hurry and took his time driving to the jail from his home, about eight miles west of Poplarville on the Bogalusa, Louisiana road.

Upon arriving in Poplarville, the time estimated to be about 1:00 AM, April 25, 1959, the Sheriff drove to the hospital and saw a small group of people standing there, consisting of RAYE ORR, Magistrate R. E. ORR, Day Marshal, [redacted] and a man known as [redacted]. He did not pay too much attention to this group at this time, but when he did occur to him that something serious must be going on, the Day Marshal, E. F. ORR, was rarely out of his mind. He stopped and asked the group what had happened and [redacted] in the group spoke up and said, "They got the nigger."

b7c

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12 He drove around and parked at the south side  
13 of the courthouse and noted the door was open at the south  
14 end of the courthouse. He saw some blood on the steps, in  
15 the hall and all along the hall to the steps leading up-  
16 stairs from the north end of the courthouse and it appeared  
17 to him that some bloody object or person had been dragged  
18 down the entire length of the hall. He later noted this  
19 blood trail led upstairs through the courtroom and in the  
20 jail cell.

21  
22 He also noted that the lights were off in the  
23 main hall leading from the north to the south portion of the  
24 courthouse and the lights in his office were also off. It  
25 is customary to leave at least one light on in the Sheriff's  
26 Office and to leave one or more lights burning in the hall.

27  
28 Sheriff MOODY had to use a flashlight in  
29 order to see when he went into the hall and into his office.  
30 The hall door of his office was locked. When he got into  
31 his office, he noted the bathroom window was open and that  
32 the northeast window in his office, which leads off the east  
33 portion of the courthouse, was open. It is customary to  
34 close these windows each night and they are secured by hook  
35 and eye located on each side of the window at the bottom.  
36 In order for someone to force these windows from the outside,  
37 it would be necessary for them to break the glass, reach  
38 inside and release these hooks. He was unable to state  
39 whether or not these windows had been closed and secured the  
40 night previous.

41  
42 He noticed no sign which would indicate  
43 entrance to his office had been gained through the northeast  
44 window, but it was his opinion the persons had probably used  
45 this window because the window in the bathroom, which was  
46 open, is some distance from the ground. He also saw no  
47 indication that the bathroom had been used. MOODY pointed  
48 out that the jail keys are, as a rule, kept in the top  
49 drawer of a metal four-drawer file cabinet, located on the  
50 west side of his office, across the office from his desk.  
51 The key to this file cabinet is usually kept in the top  
52 left-hand drawer of his desk, which is also locked. There-  
53 fore, the usual procedure in going to the jail is to take the  
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12 file cabinet key from the desk drawer, open the file cabinet,  
13 remove the jail keys from the top drawer of the file cabinet,  
14 and then proceed to the jail.

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16 When Sheriff MOODY first came into his office  
17 he reached for his personal key to the file cabinet, which  
18 he carries on his key chain or person, and then noticed the  
19 upper drawer of the file cabinet was open a few inches.  
20 At first he did not notice whether the key to the file  
21 cabinet, which is usually kept in the desk drawer, was in  
22 the lock. However, the next time he noticed this file  
23 cabinet, it was in an unlocked position and the key was in  
24 the lock. He could not state whether the key was in this  
25 lock when he first came into his office, but stated it could  
26 very well have been there and probably was. He looked into the  
27 drawer, noted the jail keys were missing and proceeded upstairs  
28 to the jail.

29  
30 On the way to the jail, he was met in the  
31 hall by B. F. ONE, Day Marshal of Poplarville, who handed  
32 him the jail keys, which he identified as the keys which had  
33 been regularly maintained in his office. ONE stated he had  
34 found these keys where members of the mob had apparently  
35 dropped them. Upon arriving at the jail, Sheriff MOODY  
36 noted the front door to the jail was locked and closed.  
37 This door is equipped with a night latch which will lock  
38 when drawn closed and members of the mob could have locked  
39 the door by closing it.

40  
41 Sheriff MOODY inquired of the prisoners  
42 as to what had happened and they told him a group of masked  
43 men had taken "M. C.", that they had keys with them and  
44 they were wearing white gloves. He talked to the prisoners  
45 hurriedly, but they said one of the men seemed to be fumbling  
46 around with the lock on the outside door as though he did not  
47 know which key to use.

48  
49 One of the Negro prisoners named FLOYD  
50 informed Sheriff MOODY that he said to HENDER when the masked  
51 men came in, "M. C., they must be after you." FLOYD went  
52 the stairs, tried several keys before they got the door open,  
53 asked where M. C. was and wanted to know how do you get in  
54 there."

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12 Negro prisoner [redacted] claimed he showed  
13 members of the mob how to open the cell door by unlocking b7c  
14 a metal box containing levers which open the cell door  
15 to PARKER's cell. The prisoners said members of the mob  
16 changed keys while trying to open this box, that the first  
17 key did not work, indicating they did not know which key  
18 opened the box.

19  
20 The Negro prisoners said there were eight  
21 or nine members of the mob. A white woman prisoner said  
22 some of the men stayed in the courtroom and she could see  
23 some of them wearing different colored handkerchiefs and  
24 masks.

25  
26 A small group of people accompanied the  
27 Sheriff when he went to the jail. Among this group were  
28 PETE CARVER, B. F. ORR, Day Marshal, one or two of the  
29 WHEAT men and several others.

30  
31 Sheriff MOODY noticed planks of blood in  
32 the halls and other places and remarked these would be  
33 blood in the car used to carry PARKER away.

34  
35 The first thing Sheriff MOODY did upon  
36 returning to his office was to call [redacted] Patrolman,  
37 MHSF, and ask him to get other stations and boys alerted to  
38 stop all cars and be on the lookout for a S. W. [redacted] car  
39 blood in any car. Next, he called SA [redacted] b7c  
40 and thought perhaps he had called the wrong person so he  
41 and then called his home number and the line was busy. He  
42 then telephoned VERNON BROOKS, District Attorney; W. E. DARR,  
43 Circuit Judge; Governor J. P. COLLEMAN and [redacted]  
44 [redacted] told SA [redacted] a mob had taken PARKER.

45  
46 Shortly after the Sheriff had made these  
47 telephone calls, JOHN [redacted] came into the Sheriff's office  
48 and sat down. A number of other people were there at the  
49 time, including the individuals previously mentioned.  
50 [redacted] J. WHEAT, PETE CARVER, B. F. ORR and [redacted] b7c  
51 [redacted] The Sheriff inquired if any had seen [redacted]  
52 had happened. PETE CARVER said he had had [redacted] contact  
53 at the time.  
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12 JOHN REYER said he had driven up to the  
13 hospital at about the time of the commotion in the jail  
14 and had gone on around to the south entrance to the  
15 courthouse and had gotten pretty close to the mob. He  
16 could not tell who they were as they were all masked,  
17 however, one or two of them who had been using handker-  
18 chiefs to mask the lower portion of their faces had  
19 apparently let their masks slip down before they got to  
20 the car and he could see part of their faces. However,  
21 REYER told Sheriff MOODY he had never seen them before.

22  
23 REYER told Sheriff MOODY he did not have  
24 an opportunity to tell whether or not the cars were using  
25 license plates, but he did not see any license plates. In  
26 answer to Sheriff MOODY's further questioning, REYER  
27 stated the men had just flushed, one car went north, one  
28 south and one west, and that all together he thought that  
29 probably three or four cars left the scene immediately after  
30 the mob came out of the courthouse.

31  
32 REYER was unable to describe the make or the  
33 cars, but did reiterate he did not know any of the men.

34  
35 REYER could tell that at least two of the  
36 men whose masks had slipped were white men. He did not  
37 notice whether the men were wearing gloves.

38  
39 All of the other individuals who had been in  
40 and around the Sheriff's Office claim they did not see  
41 members of the mob, REYER being the only one who claimed he  
42 had seen them. Sheriff MOODY did not recall questioning  
43 the [redacted] man. A little while later Sheriff MOODY got in  
44 to see JIM ALFORD, the jailer, and a GUS V. MOODY,  
45 who is an officer deputy and they proceeded to the  
46 jail and helped search.

47  
48 WILLIAM STEWART, County Jail warden, was also  
49 present at the jail shortly after the shooting but when  
50 the Sheriff noted he, STEWART, made some photographs of  
51 blood at various parts of the courthouse. When questioned  
52 MOODY did not question any of the nurses at the hospital.

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13 Sheriff MOODY said that on April 25, 1959  
14 HOUSTON AMACKER, janitor at the courthouse, told him the  
15 doors of the courthouse at the north end of the hall could  
16 not be opened from the inside with a key. This was the  
17 first time any trouble had been experienced in opening  
18 these doors from the inside with a key. They could still  
19 be opened from the outside.  
20

21 On May 1, 1959, these doors were examined by  
22 Agents and no marks or scratches were found to indicate that  
23 the doors had been forced.  
24

25 Sheriff MOODY said it is customary for the  
26 jail to be last checked as a rule at about 6:00 P. M. at  
27 the latest. Thereafter, at night no one goes to the jail  
28 unless summoned by the prisoners or unless it is necessary  
29 to place a prisoner in the jail at night.  
30

31 He said it has been customary for a long  
32 time for the prisoners to call over to the hospital in any  
33 emergency and arrangements have been made with the nurses  
34 to call him when the prisoners call over to the hospital.  
35

36 Sheriff MOODY advised he had no suspects;  
37 that numerous people had inquired of him as to whether PARKER  
38 was in the jail and he had told all of them PARKER was in the  
39 jail and remarked that PARKER was brought back to the jail  
40 on April 13, 1959, from the Hinds County Jail in Jackson,  
41 Mississippi.  
42

43 With reference to suspects having knowledge of  
44 the location of various keys, MOODY informed any number of  
45 people from all parts of the United States who had ever been  
46 booked and placed in the jail and numerous people who had  
47 appeared to make bonds for prisoners would have had an  
48 opportunity to have witnessed the procedure in securing the  
49 jail keys in his office, and he could see nothing signifi-  
50 cant for this reason in view of the fact that the jail  
51 keys were found outside.  
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53 In further commenting on the jail keys,  
54 Sheriff MOODY stated that, when PARKER was first brought to  
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13 the jail, it was decided that for security purposes it  
14 would be advisable for the jailer, JAMES ALFORD, to retain  
15 the jail keys in his personal possession and not leave them  
16 in the file cabinet as customary. He said ALFORD had these  
17 keys in his possession at all times for two or three days  
18 after PARKER was lodged at the jail. ALFORD discussed the  
19 matter with him, pointing out he was afraid that, if a mob  
20 did come to get M. C. PARKER, they would force him to give  
21 them the keys even though he buried them in the yard and  
22 would endanger his personal safety. Sheriff MOODY said he  
23 then discussed this matter with Circuit Judge SIME DALE and  
24 that Judge DALE told him to go back to the regular routine  
25 of leaving the keys in his office and, further, that in the  
26 event someone did attempt to remove PARKER from the jail no  
27 action should be taken which would endanger any law enforce-  
28 ment officer. Judge DALE further remarked he did not expect  
29 any violence in connection with this case.  
30

31  
32 Sheriff MOODY advised the Grand Jury was in  
33 session in Pearl River County in April, 1959, and made their  
34 usual routine inspection of the courthouse county jail and  
35 other county property on or about April 12th or 13th. He  
36 said that, while the Grand Jury consists of all men, it is  
37 customary that, when an inspection such as this is made of  
38 the jail, some of the female employees in the courthouse will  
39 accompany them through the jail out of personal curiosity  
40 and that such probably happened during the last inspection.  
41

42 Sheriff MOODY advised there were no organized  
43 search parties conducting searches in the area, although he  
44 had personally driven through all the nearby country roads  
45 as well as his deputies, officers of the MSP, and other local  
46 citizens immediately after learning of PARKER's abduction.  
47 Sheriff MOODY advised that within a short time after learn-  
48 ing of the abduction, he went personally to the scene where  
49 PARKER had allegedly raped Mrs. BARRIS and had located no  
50 evidence indicating that PARKER's abductors may have taken  
51 him to that area.

52 Sheriff MOODY advised that he had received  
53 a telephone call on April 13 or April 14, 1959, which he  
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thought was a local call, from an individual who declined to identify himself. This person, whom he felt sure to have been a man, said he had heard rumors that some people in Hattiesburg were upset about the case since a trial of PARKER would necessitate cross-examination of the rape victim, JUNE WALTERS, by a Negro attorney.

As a result of this call, MOODY stated he had a conversation with Circuit Judge SEBE DALE at Poplarville on either April 13 or April 14, 1959, at which time he informed Judge DALE of the context of the call and of the fact that he was concerned for PARKER's safety. He asked Judge DALE's advice about telephoning Governor J. P. COLEMAN at Jackson, Mississippi, and requesting the presence of National Guard troops at PARKER's arraignment. He stated Judge DALE said he did not feel that such action was warranted, as he felt that the people would not molest PARKER. Accordingly, Sheriff MOODY stated he took no further action toward notifying Governor COLEMAN.

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13 B. HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, JR.

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15 HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, JR., also known as PETE  
16 CARVER, was interviewed on April 25, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED]  
17 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He was interviewed on April  
18 27, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].  
19 He was again interviewed on April 27, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] b7c  
20 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. CARVER advised that he re-  
21 sides on South Julia Street in Poplarville, Mississippi, and  
22 that he has been Night Marshal in this town for the past seven  
23 years. He furnished the following information concerning his  
24 activities on the night of April 24, 1959:

25  
26 On Friday night, April 24, 1959, he came to  
27 work at about 9:00 PM, at which time he stopped by the Star  
28 Cafe in Poplarville to let them know that he would be on the  
29 streets and around town. He went to the Pearl River Junior  
30 College between 10:00 and 10:30 PM to fill the tank while at  
31 the school talked to R. J. WHEAT and [REDACTED] and  
32 told them he would pick them up when they were working at  
33 the college at 11:00 PM. He said [REDACTED]  
34 [REDACTED] who is generally known as [REDACTED] and  
35 and about Poplarville. His general procedure is to go to  
36 the school three or four times a week and always on Friday  
37 night where he picks up both [REDACTED] and WHEAT to ride  
38 with him on his rounds. Neither [REDACTED] nor WHEAT have  
39 any police powers but merely accompany CARVER for assistance.

40  
41 At approximately 11:00 PM, he picked up [REDACTED] b7c  
42 [REDACTED] and WHEAT at the college and went directly to the [REDACTED]  
43 Service Station on Highway 11, north of the intersection of  
44 Highways 11 and 26, for coffee. They returned to town at ap-  
45 proximately 11:10 PM, and saw two men walking on a back street  
46 behind the Star Cafe. They did not pay much attention to the  
47 identity of these two men and he was unable to describe either  
48 of the men other than to say one of them was wearing khaki  
49 pants. Since there is an agreement between CARVER and E. M.  
50 ORR, the Day Marshal, that if anything unusual is seen by  
51 CARVER he is to wake up ORR and bring him to town, he, CARVER,  
52 went to ORR's home to wake him after seeing these two men. As  
53 they went by the Mississippi Power Company, located on Main  
54 Street at the corner of Cumberland, he also observed two men  
55 standing on this corner. He recalled having seen three men  
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13 talking to [REDACTED] at the door of the Star Cafe earlier  
14 in the evening and recognized these two women as being two  
15 of the women who had been talking to [REDACTED] earlier in  
16 the evening. Because of their apparent acquaintanceship with  
17 [REDACTED] he did not place any particular significance  
18 on their presence on the street at approximately 11:30 PM. b2c

19  
20 Before going to get ORR, CARVER rode around  
21 several blocks and out Main Street under the underpass and  
22 back to town and estimated it was approximately 11:30 PM when  
23 he went to get B. F. ORR at his home. Upon arriving at ORR's  
24 home, he left WHEAT and [REDACTED] in the car and he walked b2c  
25 through the garage to a back window in ORR's bedroom and  
26 awakened ORR. He then returned to the car and waited for ORR  
27 to get dressed and join them. He estimated that this took  
28 approximately five or ten minutes.

29  
30 Upon arriving at the car, ORR suggested that  
31 they have a cup of coffee. They proceeded to the Amoco Ser-  
32 vice Station north of Poplarville on Route 11, arriving there  
33 at approximately 11:45 PM. He does not recall the exact route  
34 taken from ORR's to the Amoco Station but recalls definitely  
35 that they did not pass the courthouse while en route.

36  
37 They left the Amoco Service Station at approxi-  
38 mately midnight and as they were leaving the station, the motor  
39 of the car went dead. It took several minutes to get the car  
40 started and they then proceeded to Poplarville, passing down  
41 the main street in front of the courthouse. When passing the  
42 courthouse, he noticed no unusual activity. Upon passing the  
43 Star Cafe on the main street of Poplarville, he noticed that  
44 [REDACTED] was motioning to him to stop. He stopped and b2c  
45 [REDACTED] a woman had phoned requesting that CARVER be asked  
46 to come to the jail. [REDACTED] did not say that it was urgent.  
47 He proceeded to the jail by turning left by the Marine Temple.  
48 After making the block, he proceeded up Main Street past the  
49 courthouse and turned left on the north side of the courthouse  
50 after which he made another left turn, coming in behind the  
51 courthouse and in front of the hospital.

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53 Upon stopping, he saw several people on the  
54 front walk of the hospital and to the best of his recollection,  
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12 JOHN REYER, [REDACTED] boy, DEMPSE BERGE, ODELL  
13 LOVELESS, and possibly [REDACTED] comprised the group stand- b7c  
14 ing on the walk. He told W. J. WHEAT to get out and see  
15 what they wanted. WHEAT, upon leaving the car, walked up  
16 to the crowd and he, CARVER, heard someone say "They got  
17 the nigger out of jail." CARVER asked "What nigger?" and  
18 someone said "The nigger in jail." Someone in the crowd  
19 said W. O. MOODY, the Sheriff, was on the way to the jail.  
20 CARVER did not get out of the car until the Sheriff arrived.  
21 Someone in CARVER's car asked if they were sure they had  
22 gotten him. REYER said that they had because he walked down  
23 the street where he could see them bring him out and put him  
24 in the back seat of a car. CARVER asked what type car was  
25 used and REYER said the car was blue and grey and someone  
26 else in the crowd said it was blue and white. He thinks some-  
27 one said the car was at the curb at the south entrance to the  
28 courthouse. Later, he examined the spot where he had been  
29 told the car was parked and he observed skid marks indicating  
30 that the car had gone west on Pearl Street as it left the  
31 courthouse. He also heard someone in the crowd make the state-  
32 ment that four or five cars had been involved and that  
33 these cars left the area traveling in all directions.

34  
35 After the arrival of Sheriff MOODY, all of  
36 the men in CARVER's car and those in the crowd on the side-  
37 walk went with the Sheriff to the courthouse and entered it  
38 through the south entrance. He noticed that the door at the  
39 south entrance was partially open and he pointed out that  
40 this door is normally locked. After entering the courthouse,  
41 the Sheriff went to his office where he approached the cabinet  
42 in his private office and upon looking in a drawer, said the  
43 keys were gone. B. P. ORR then said that perhaps the keys  
44 were upstairs.

45  
46 CARVER saw blood on the steps outside of the  
47 courthouse, a handprint in blood on the top step, and a blood  
48 smear on the door at the south entrance to the courthouse. He  
49 saw the window located on the north side of the Sheriff's  
50 Office was open and pointed out that the lights in the Sheriff's  
51 Office are normally left on and that this window which was open  
52 could be seen from the street. He stated that as he had been  
53 passing the courthouse earlier in the night, he had failed to  
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11 notice whether or not this window was open in the Sheriff's  
12 Office.

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14 After the Sheriff had determined that there  
15 were no keys in the cabinet in his office, everyone in the  
16 group went upstairs at which time the Sheriff unlocked the  
17 wooden door from the courtroom into the jail. The Sheriff  
18 proceeded halfway up the metal stairs leading to the upper  
19 portion of the jail and asked the prisoners what had happened.  
20 One of the prisoners replied that they had gotten PARKER.  
21 The Sheriff asked what had been done with the keys and the  
22 prisoners said they took the keys with them. CARVER did not  
23 observe the Sheriff entering the door at the top of the stairs.  
24 He did not notice any large quantity of blood in the jail it-  
25 self.

26  
27 After the Sheriff had obtained this informa-  
28 tion, everyone returned to the first floor of the courthouse  
29 at which time the Sheriff returned to his office. CARVER,  
30 [REDACTED] WHEAT, and ORR went outside the south entrance  
31 of the courthouse at which time B. F. ORR found the keys just  
32 outside the door. b7c

33  
34 CARVER, ORR, R. J. WHEAT, and [REDACTED] then  
35 went to the City Hall in Poplarville where CARVER phoned the  
36 Sheriff in Purvis, Mississippi, HAM STARR at Lumberton, Miss-  
37 sissippi, and BILL STEWART, County Prosecuting Attorney in  
38 Poplarville, to advise them of the abduction. CARVER then  
39 phoned the Sheriff's Office and was advised that they were  
40 preparing to ride the roads around Poplarville and he advised  
41 them that he would assist in this riding of the roads.

42  
43 CARVER, [REDACTED] and R. J. WHEAT then  
44 rode out on Highway 53 south to the dirt gravel road where  
45 they turned right and proceeded to the Wolf River bridge. b7c  
46 They drove around the back roads in this vicinity for approxi-  
47 mately one hour and then returned to Poplarville. In their  
48 coverage of the back roads, they noticed nothing pertinent  
49 to the abduction.

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51 When asked whether he would furnish a signed  
52 statement concerning his activities as outlined above, CARVER  
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11 said that although the facts he furnished were true, he did  
12 not desire to sign a statement until he had cleared with B.  
13 F. ORR.  
14

15 When asked concerning his views on the abduc-  
16 tion of PARKER, CARVER said that he did not believe that it  
17 was perpetrated by persons from Poplarville. He was unable  
18 to furnish any definite opinion as to the locality in which  
19 he believed the abductors might live. It was pointed out to  
20 him that someone in the group apparently was familiar with  
21 the location of the keys to the jail and he said that he had  
22 also considered this fact and had concluded that there is a  
23 good possibility that someone in Poplarville had either fur-  
24 nished this information to a group or was involved in the mob  
25 that took PARKER from the jail.  
26

27 He said that in his opinion while the people  
28 in Poplarville do not condone the activities of April 20, 1959,  
29 he does not feel that they will cooperate in any investigation  
30 since the identifying of the subjects might result in involving  
31 someone from Poplarville. He said that he personally deplored  
32 the abduction and felt very strongly that PARKER should have  
33 been granted a fair trial. He added, however, that if PARKER  
34 had been convicted and had subsequently been released as a  
35 result of the reversal of such a conviction, he might feel that  
36 some drastic action should be taken to punish PARKER.  
37

38 He said that the information furnished by him  
39 concerning his activities was complete and that nothing had  
40 occurred that evening to the best of his recollection which  
41 he had not reported. He said that the people of Poplarville  
42 were not "worked up" over the alleged rape committed by PARKER  
43 since neither PARKER nor the victim were local people. He  
44 added that he had heard no discussion around town concerning  
45 the possibility of a lynching and in his opinion if there  
46 had been any such discussion or any plans made for a lynching,  
47 he definitely would have received information concerning it.  
48

49 CARVER stated that it is a common practice for [redacted] b7c  
50 and R. J. WHEAT to ride with him on his rounds  
51 and it is also common for him to notify B. F. ORR when he  
52 observes any suspicious strangers in town. He emphatically  
53 denied that he had any indication that there would be trouble  
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13 at the courthouse and stated positively that the only reason  
14 he got ORN was the fact that he had seen two strange men on  
15 Julia Street.

16  
17 Near the completion of the interview of April  
18 27, 1959, with SA's [redacted] and [redacted] CARVER said that  
19 there were two items of information which he had failed to  
20 furnish. One was the fact that immediately prior to going  
21 to ORN's house at approximately 11:30 PM, on April 24, 1959,  
22 he observed a 1953 or 1954 blue and gray Chevrolet on Main  
23 Street near the courthouse. This car did not have a license  
24 plate and was occupied by three or more males. He was unable  
25 to state whether the car was blue on top or blue on the bottom,  
26 whether it was a two-door or a four-door, or furnish any ad-  
27 ditional descriptive data on the car. He also said that he  
28 could not furnish any descriptive data concerning the occupants,  
29 their physical characteristics, or their wearing apparel. He  
30 denied that the seeing of this car was his reason for going  
31 to ORN's house. CARVER was questioned in great detail concern-  
32 ing this car and its occupants and the possibility that there  
33 may have been additional cars seen by him in the vicinity of  
34 the courthouse. He denied that there were any additional cars  
35 and stated that he was unable to provide any data concerning  
36 the description of the Chevrolet or its occupants.

37  
38 The other item of information recalled by CAR-  
39 VER was the fact that when he arrived at the courthouse at  
40 approximately 12:15 AM, on April 25, 1959, someone in the crowd  
41 standing on the walk in front of the hospital made the comment  
42 that a red and white car was in the group of cars believed to  
43 have been used by the mob which abducted PARKER. He was unable  
44 to furnish any further information regarding this car.

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46 CARVER stated that he did not intentionally  
47 withhold the two items of information mentioned above but they  
48 had merely slipped his mind during the interviews.  
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11 C. BOLIVAR F. ORR

12 BOLIVAR F. ORR advised that he has been the  
13 Marshal in Poplarville, Mississippi, for approximately twenty-  
14 five years. He was interviewed on April 25, 1959, by SA's  
15 [redacted] and [redacted] and on May 1, 1959, b7c  
16 by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]

17  
18 Mr. ORR furnished the following information:

19  
20 At approximately 11:30 PM, April 24, 1959, the  
21 Night Marshal, "PETE" CARVER, came to his home, awakened him,  
22 and told him that he had observed two strangers in Poplarville  
23 and thought they should be checked out. [redacted] and b7c  
24 R. J. WHEAT were with CARVER when he came to his home. He  
25 dressed and joined CARVER, WHEAT and [redacted] and suggested  
26 they go get a cup of coffee. They drove down the back road  
27 north of Poplarville to Route 11, where they stopped at the  
28 Amoco Gas Station for coffee.  
29

30  
31 Upon arrival at the Amoco Station, he noticed  
32 there were a number of teen-age boys and also some additional  
33 males who were strangers to him. He paid no particular at-  
34 tention to these people and could furnish no descriptive data.  
35 Upon leaving the Amoco Station, he, CARVER [redacted] and b7c  
36 WHEAT drove back to Poplarville and [redacted] when  
37 they were passing the Star Cafe, [redacted] flagged them  
38 down and told them there was a disturbance at the jail. They  
39 turned around and proceeded toward the courthouse. He pointed  
40 out they did not rush back to the courthouse, since he felt  
41 that inasmuch as he had no prisoners in the jail the distur-  
42 bance was no concern of his. When they arrived at the rear  
43 of the courthouse, there were a number of people standing in  
44 front of the hospital. The only person he recalls is JAMES  
45 RAY, who was "doing a lot of talking," and one nurse said  
46 she thought they took someone out of the jail and "went every  
47 which way." When asked the identity of this nurse, CARVER stated  
48 he could not recall. He did recall that [redacted] informed they  
49 had arrived only three or four minutes after the incident. CARVER  
50 told CARVER they would do nothing until the arrival of Sheriff  
51 MOODY. They waited ten or fifteen minutes for the sheriff to  
52 arrive.

53 Upon the arrival of the sheriff, the exact time  
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11 of which he does not recall, the group, consisting of five to  
12 ten people, proceeded to the courthouse. The outside door  
13 of the south entrance to the courthouse was open. They went  
14 to the Sheriff's Office and turned on the light in the office.  
15 The Sheriff looked for the keys, did not find them and then  
16 proceeded up the stairway to the jail. The Sheriff opened  
17 the wooden door leading to the jail. ORR stated he believed  
18 this door was not locked but secured by a bolt, which was  
19 opened by the Sheriff with a lever. The Sheriff asked the  
20 Negro prisoners what had happened and one of the prisoners told  
21 him; however, ORR does not remember either the questions or  
22 the admissions. They remained at the jail for just a few  
23 seconds and then returned to the Sheriff's Office. As ORR  
24 was leaving the courthouse, he found the keys to the jail on  
25 the outside steps leading to the south entrance. He gave the  
26 keys to the Sheriff and then proceeded to the City Hall where  
27 he made telephone calls to Sheriff HICKMAN, Purvis, Mississippi;  
28 Marshal SLADE at Lumberton, Mississippi; County Attorney WILL-  
29 LIAM STEWART to advise them of the abduction. Sometime later,  
30 after Sheriff HICKMAN had arrived in Poplarville, ORR went with  
31 him to check the roads. He recalls they searched the roads  
32 in the vicinity where the alleged rape occurred and checked  
33 numerous side roads north of Poplarville. This search con-  
34 tinued for between three and four hours and during the search  
35 nothing of value was observed.

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38 ORR said that from his observation at the  
39 courthouse and the amount of blood he observed, it was his  
40 opinion that either PARKER or someone in the mob was seriously  
41 injured and was bleeding profusely. He said that from the  
42 appearance of the trail of blood he believed that PARKER had  
43 been dragged all the way, since the trail of blood was approxi-  
44 mately 2" wide and in some places was a steady trail for a  
45 distance of 7' to 8'.

46  
47 ORR said that before going to the City Hall  
48 and after leaving the Sheriff's Office, he walked the street  
49 at the south entrance of the courthouse and at this point  
50 leading from the courthouse side of South Pearl Street and  
51 the entrance of the courthouse, east to Main Street, and then  
52 turning south. He said there were skid marks near the inter-  
53 section of South Pearl Street and Main Street indicating the  
54 car made this turn at a high rate of speed. He pointed out

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12 that although in all probability he was on Main Street near  
13 the time of the abduction he does not recall seeing any cars  
14 proceeding south on Main Street. ORR said sometime during  
15 the evening JOHN REYER had mentioned that four or five cars  
16 were involved in the abduction and someone had said that a  
17 pickup truck may have been involved. He stated he could fur-  
18 nish no additional information concerning the cars or the  
19 truck.

20  
21 Mr. ORR stated he has given instructions to  
22 PETE CARVER that whenever he observes any strangers in town  
23 or thinks that a crime has or will be committed he should  
24 immediately come to get him. He pointed out that CARVER is  
25 his nephew and he does not desire that he become involved in  
26 any investigation where there is a possibility he might be  
27 injured. He said it is not unusual for CARVER to come get  
28 him while he is on duty at night, although it has not hap-  
29 pened very often because there have been very few occasions  
30 which CARVER felt any investigation should be conducted at  
31 night. He said the only reason given by CARVER for calling  
32 him on the night of April 24, 1959, was the fact he had seen  
33 two strangers in town and no mention was made by CARVER of  
34 the possibility of anyone attempting to break into the court-  
35 house. When asked whether any attempt was made to locate  
36 the two strangers, ORR stated no such attempt was made and  
37 they were forgotten in the light of the incident at the court-  
38 house.

39  
40 ORR said that the abduction came as a complete  
41 surprise to him since he had heard no discussion around town  
42 about such a possibility and he did not feel the people in  
43 Poplarville were particularly concerned over the alleged rape  
44 since neither PARKER nor the victim were local residents.

45  
46 ORR pointed out that he did not make any effort  
47 to check the courthouse since the arrival of PARKER from Jack-  
48 son, Mississippi, since he had received no request from the  
49 Sheriff to do so. He said that if he had known that an at-  
50 tempt was being made to abduct PARKER, he would not have at-  
51 tempted to prevent it since the incarceration of PARKER was  
52 a matter for the Sheriff to handle and was no concern of his.

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54 He added that for this reason he made no ef-  
55 fort to hurry to the courthouse when he heard there was a  
56 disturbance and made no effort to look for the abductors until  
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12 after the Sheriff had arrived.  
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14 On May 8, 1959, when interviewed by SA's [REDACTED]  
15 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], ORR volunteered that he knew  
16 nothing about the circumstances under which PARKER was abduc-  
17 ted, but stated that had he been aware PARKER was being ab-  
18 ducted on April 24, 1959, he would have not gone any where  
19 near the vicinity of the jail or courthouse. He explained  
20 that it is not his duty to protect the prisoners at the jail,  
21 that this duty was the Sheriff's, and that he did not want  
22 to get involved in anything having to do with an abduction.  
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12 **D. ROBERT JAMES WHEAT**

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14 ROBERT JAMES WHEAT was interviewed on April 27,  
15 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. He was  
16 interviewed on April 28, 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] b7c  
17 [redacted] WHEAT advised that he is employed as  
18 an instructor at the Pearl River Junior College, Poplarville,  
19 where he teaches automobile mechanics. He has been so em-  
20 ployed for approximately eleven years. He is thirty-six years  
21 of age, married, and has two children. WHEAT furnished the  
22 following information concerning his activities on the night  
23 of April 24, 1959, and the early morning of April 25, 1959:

24  
25 He went to work at approximately 6:00 AM and  
26 went to the Star Cafe on Main Street in Poplarville for a cof-  
27 fee break at approximately 9:00 AM. [redacted] went  
28 to the Star Cafe with him in his, [redacted] automobile, which  
29 is a 1956 Dodge four-door sedan. He was gone from work for  
30 approximately twenty minutes and during this period he met b7c  
31 numerous individuals whom he knew but does not recall meeting  
32 PETE CARVER. He returned to work and remained there until  
33 approximately 11:00 PM. When PETE CARVER called for him, he  
34 went with CARVER and [redacted] and drove to Poplarville.  
35 He has ridden with PETE CARVER for one or seven years on an  
36 average of two or three times a week. He does not have any  
37 police powers, but merely rides with him for amusement.

38  
39 When they arrived in Poplarville, they passed  
40 two middleaged women standing on the corner of Main Street  
41 near the Mississippi Power Company. CARVER mentioned that  
42 he had seen two strange men on the streets and there was a  
43 possibility that the two women might possibly be trying to  
44 spot for a burglary. He assumed that CARVER was of the opinion  
45 that the two women and the two men he had seen previously might  
46 be connected in some way with some criminal activity.

47  
48 At about 11:30 PM, CARVER drove to the home of  
49 B. P. ORR. WHEAT does not recall CARVER mentioning any reason  
50 for getting ORR. WHEAT said that there was considerable traf-  
51 fic on Main Street prior to 11:30 PM and also on the street  
52 leading to the college; however, he did not notice any unusual  
53 cars. He explained this by stating that while he recognizes  
54 the cars of most people in Poplarville, he does not recognize  
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12 the cars of the students and he felt that the cars that he  
13 did not recognize on the night of the 24th may have belonged  
14 to students attending a dance at the college. He definitely  
15 did not notice any cars with groups of men in them. Prior  
16 to picking up ORR at his residence, CARVER drove down Main  
17 Street past the courthouse and WHEAT did not notice any un-  
18 usual activity.

19  
20 Upon their arrival at the residence of E. P.  
21 ORR, CARVER got out of the car, went through the passage to  
22 the window of ORR's bedroom. WHEAT and [REDACTED] remained  
23 in the car and did not hear any conversation between CARVER  
24 and ORR. CARVER returned to the car and sat with WHEAT and  
25 [REDACTED] for approximately five minutes waiting for ORR  
26 to dress and join them. b7c

27  
28 WHEAT, although he has ridden with CARVER on  
29 an average of two or three times a week for approximately  
30 seven years, cannot recall CARVER ever going to ORR's resi-  
31 dence to secure his assistance or to confer with him. On a  
32 number of occasions CARVER has picked up ORR on the streets  
33 of Poplarville and ORR has ridden with them and on a few oc-  
34 casions CARVER has made telephone calls to ORR to secure ad-  
35 vice or assistance.

36  
37 When ORR joined CARVER, [REDACTED] and WHEAT  
38 in CARVER's car, ORR suggested that they go and get a cup of  
39 coffee. They drove to the Amoco Station approximately a mile  
40 north of Poplarville on Route 11 for coffee. He does not re-  
41 call the route taken by CARVER in proceeding from ORR's resi-  
42 dence to the Amoco Station. They remained at the Amoco Station  
43 for between twenty and twenty-five minutes and during this  
44 time they discussed politics and no mention was made as to the  
45 reason for picking up E. P. ORR. They left the Amoco Station  
46 at approximately 11:30 P. M. Shortly after leaving the station,  
47 the car stalled and they were unable to start it again for ap-  
48 proximately two or three minutes. They then drove to Poplar-  
49 ville and down the Main Street past the courthouse. WHEAT  
50 did not notice any commotion or any unusual activity or traf-  
51 fic around the courthouse building.

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53 As they drove past the State Cafe on Main Street,  
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13 WHEAT saw [redacted] standing in the doorway of the cafe  
14 waving at them. He told CARVER that [redacted] was trying to get  
15 their attention, whereupon CARVER stopped the car and backed  
16 up to the cafe. [redacted] told CARVER that a woman had  
17 called and told her that there was a commotion at the jail, or  
18 words to that effect. She may possibly have stated that the  
19 prisoners were fighting; however, WHEAT could not recall just  
20 what she had said. WHEAT pointed out that BESSIE DAVIS quite  
21 often takes calls for CARVER since she is employed as a clean-  
22 up woman at the Star Cafe and remains there all night.

23  
24 After receiving the message from [redacted]  
25 CARVER went around the block to the left returning to Main  
26 Street, went past the courthouse, turned left and proceeded  
27 to the rear of the courthouse. When he drove up in back of  
28 the courthouse, people were coming off the porch of the Grand  
29 River County Hospital. WHEAT got out of the car and asked a  
30 nurse what had happened. The nurse did not answer but JOHN  
31 REYER, who was in the group, said that he thought they got  
32 "that nigger" out of jail. One of the other occupants of the  
33 car then got out of the car and at about that time Sheriff  
34 MOODY arrived on the scene.

35  
36 WHEAT identified the persons in the group coming  
37 from the hospital as [redacted] who had been visiting  
38 [redacted] a patient in the hospital; nurse DORIS  
39 LOVELESS; [redacted] who had been visiting  
40 [redacted] father in the hospital; and [redacted]  
41 [redacted] There was also a heavy-set man [redacted] who  
42 had been visiting a patient in the hospital home. [redacted]  
43 The identity of this individual was not known to WHEAT. There  
44 were two or three cars parked in front of the hospital when  
45 CARVER arrived.

46  
47 Sheriff MOODY arrived at the scene between two  
48 and five minutes after the arrival of CARVER, WHEAT, and  
49 [redacted] and during this period there was a [redacted] conversation;  
50 however, WHEAT could not recall the [redacted] statements.  
51 Approximately five or ten minutes elapsed [redacted] until the  
52 Sheriff arrived until the group went to the Sheriff's office.  
53 WHEAT recalls that the Sheriff [redacted] his [redacted] in  
54 front of the hospital and that he asked WHEAT, REYER, what had  
55 happened, whereupon WHEAT told him that they had received [redacted] just  
56 shortly before the Sheriff and he did not know what had happened.

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12 but he thought that "they got that nigger."  
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14 WHEAT, Sheriff MOODY, [REDACTED], CARVER, and  
15 ORR entered the courthouse at the south entrance. It is pos-  
16 sible that JOHN REYER and [REDACTED] accompanied them; how-  
17 ever, WHEAT does not specifically recall their being with them.  
18 The door at the south entrance of the courthouse was open and  
19 WHEAT saw a considerable amount of blood on the outside steps  
20 leading to the entrance and on the floor just inside the en-  
21 trance. He also saw blood on the floor from the entrance to  
22 the door of the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff unlocked the  
23 door to his office and WHEAT noticed that the light was on in  
24 this office. The Sheriff commented that the window was open  
25 in his office, this window being the window on the north side  
26 of his office which opens on the front porch of the courthouse.  
27 The Sheriff then went to the back room in his office and looked  
28 in a file cabinet that was already open. He put his hand into  
29 the drawer and said that the keys were gone.  
30

31 Sheriff MOODY, B. F. ORR, PAUL CHAPMAN, [REDACTED]  
32 and WHEAT then went up to the jail and the Sheriff  
33 and WHEAT went into the jail. Sheriff MOODY unlocked the front  
34 door of the jail and turned on a light near the door. As near  
35 as he can recall, there were no lights on in the jail when they  
36 arrived.  
37

38 Sheriff MOODY asked the prisoners what had hap-  
39 pened and one of the Negro prisoners said that they had come  
40 in and "got that boy." The Sheriff asked which one, and they  
41 said "PARKER." Someone in the group asked if they got the  
42 right one and one of the Negro prisoners said, "Yes, uh."  
43 Sheriff MOODY asked if the prisoners recognized any of the  
44 persons who broke into the jail and they said that they did  
45 not because they wore masks. The Sheriff asked if they called  
46 any names or if any of the prisoners could recognize their  
47 voices and they said that they could not. He then asked how  
48 many persons were involved and one of the prisoners said that  
49 there were close to a dozen and they heard more out in the  
50 courtroom.  
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52 There was blood on the floor from the jail to  
53 the Sheriff's Office; however, there did not appear to be a  
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10 large amount of blood and it appeared to WHEAT from the  
11 tions of the blood that PARKER was dragged part of the way  
12 walked part of the way since there was not a continuous trail  
13 of blood.  
14

15 The group returned to the Sheriff's Office and  
16 Sheriff MOODY called his son and JESSE MULLINO, Mississippi  
17 Highway Safety Patrol, notifying them that PARKER had been  
18 taken from the jail. At this time WHEAT noticed that JOHN REYER  
19 and [REDACTED] were present. WHEAT stayed at the Sheriff's  
20 Office until 7:00 or 8:00 AM, April 25, 1959. During this  
21 period he tried to call JAMES WARD of the Jackson Daily News b7c  
22 but could not reach him. He also called the Hattiesburg Ameri-  
23 can and notified the person answering the phone of the fact  
24 that someone had taken PARKER from the jail.  
25

26 A number of people came to the Sheriff's Office  
27 during the night, but he could not recall who they were or  
28 when they arrived. At some time during that night, GARLAND  
29 MOODY, the son of the Sheriff, went to the scene of the al-  
30 leged rape to see if PARKER was there and a number of patrol-  
31 men of the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol searched the area  
32 in the vicinity of Poplarville. During the night, Sheriff  
33 MOODY asked REYER what kind of a car was used by the persons  
34 taking PARKER from the jail and REYER said that it was a four-  
35 door car, but he did not know the make or color.  
36

37 WHEAT said that shortly after the indictment  
38 of PARKER he heard several people say that they thought that  
39 they should "kill that nigger" or that they should shoot him  
40 but he did not pay any attention to those remarks and he does  
41 not now recall who made these statements or the circumstances  
42 under which they were made. He pointed out the possibility  
43 that they might have been made by students at the Pearl River  
44 Junior College.  
45

46 He said that since the time immediately follow-  
47 ing the indictment he had heard no discussion around Poplarville  
48 concerning the possibility of any violence and he does not be-  
49 lieve that the persons who took PARKER from the jail were from  
50 Poplarville. He added, however, that in his opinion someone  
51 in Poplarville had furnished information to the group concerned  
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13 the location of the keys to the jail and the layout of the  
14 courthouse building. He said that one reason he believed  
15 this to be true was the fact that when he and Sheriff MOODY  
16 first arrived at the Sheriff's Office, no papers were strewn  
17 about and it did not appear that any search had been made  
18 for the keys. It was his opinion that whoever broke into  
19 the Sheriff's Office knew exactly where the keys were and  
20 how to get to them.

21  
22 WHEAT said that he positively did not have any  
23 information whatsoever indicating that anyone had any infor-  
24 mation to the effect that PARKER was to be broken out of the  
25 jail. He added that at no time did he hear anyone state that  
26 they suspected any individual of being involved in the abduc-  
27 tion of PARKER. He added that he had heard a number of theo-  
28 ries advanced as to who was responsible for the abduction,  
29 one of these theories being that it was planned by the National  
30 Association for the Advancement of Colored People and another  
31 being that the persons involved were from Detroit, Michigan.  
32 He stated, however, that as far as he knew, these were merely  
33 personal opinions expressed by various individuals and were  
34 not based on any facts available to them. He said he could  
35 not recall the identity of the persons advancing these theories.

36  
37 He said that he is positive that there was no b7c  
38 discussion among PETE CRAWLER, B. F. GAY, [REDACTED] and  
39 himself as to the possibility of a mob attempting to get PARKER  
40 out of jail. He added that he knows of no one who might plan  
41 such a jail break through a feeling of animosity toward the  
42 Sheriff or in an attempt to embarrass the Sheriff or his de-  
43 partment.  
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down the Main Street at which time we saw two women standing on the corner where the Miss. Power Co. is located. This was at about 11:15 P.M. Carver stated he had seen these women downtown before and that he thought they might be connected in some way with a planned burglary. Carver did not give any indication he knew the identity of these two women. I did not know the two women that were on the corner and I have not been told their names. After we saw the two women, Carver said he was going to the home of B. F. Orr and wake him up. We then went to the home of Orr and Carver went in and waked Orr. I did not go in was Orr house but waited outside. When Orr came out we all four went to the Amoco Service Station just north of Poplarville on Highway 11. We left the Amoco Service Station at about 12 midnight and drove down the main street of Poplarville. When we passed the courthouse I did not notice any activity and I cannot recall that any cars were parked at the southside of the courthouse.

"As we passed the Star Cafe, [REDACTED] said a woman had called by phone and said there was a disturbance at the jail. We immediately went around the block and proceeded to the back of the courthouse and in front of the hospital. We arrived at the back of the courthouse at approximately 12:15 A.M. As we got out of the car we noticed John Royer, Frank Wheat and a man named [REDACTED] standing in the parking area in front of the hospital. Royer said a thing they got that 'nigger' or words to that effect. In describing what had happened one of the three said 'they' were there only a few minutes. There was considerably more conversation, however, I do not recall what was said. I do not recall hearing how many or what type cars were used. I would estimate that we talked for 10 to 15 minutes during which time Sheriff [REDACTED] arrived. b7c

"After the arrival of Sheriff [REDACTED], Mr. J. Wheat, B. F. Orr, Pete Carver and myself went to the Sheriff's Office in the courthouse. Others may possibly have gone with us but I cannot specifically

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13 recall this fact. The Sheriff unlocked his office  
14 and as we entered the office the Sheriff looked  
15 around and said 'I wonder how they got in.' He  
16 then went to a file cabinet and opened the drawer.  
17 We then all went upstairs to the jail. I believe  
18 the door was locked and that the Sheriff opened  
19 the wooden door to the jail. The Sheriff then  
20 opened the jail door to the bull pen and went in  
21 to talk to the prisoners. The rest of us did not  
22 enter the bull pen. I heard the Sheriff ask the  
23 prisoners how many men broke in. One of the pri-  
24 soners said eight or nine. The Sheriff then asked  
25 if the prisoners recognized any of the men and the  
26 prisoners stated the men wore masks and they did  
27 not recognize anyone. I do not recall the Sheriff  
28 asking any further questions. The lights was off on  
29 the landing just inside the entrance to the jail and  
30 I did not observe any blood or evidence of a strug-  
31 gle.  
32

33 "We then all returned to the Sheriff's  
34 Office on the first floor at which time the Sheriff  
35 said we should get out and check the roads. He asked  
36 if anyone there could identify anyone of the persons  
37 who broke in and no one answered. To my knowledge  
38 two cars left the courthouse to make a search. One  
39 car was driven by George Moody, the Sheriff's son,  
40 which I think went north on Route 11. I went with  
41 Pete Carver and E. F. Orr toward Gidgert, Miss. on  
42 Route 53. A short distance from town we turned off  
43 on side roads. We searched the side roads until ap-  
44 proximately 2:30 AM. on 4-25-59 when we returned to  
45 the Sheriff's Office. The search did not produce any-  
46 thing of value. I left the Sheriff's Office and went  
47 to the hospital where I went home. b7c  
48 He was asleep so I left the hospital and did not  
49 where I arrived about 2:45 A.M. 4-25-59.  
50

51 "I have read the above statement on this and  
52 5 other pages. This statement is true to the best  
53 of my knowledge contains all the information that I  
54 have concerning the breakin at the Lenoir County  
55 Jail, Poplarville, Miss. on the night of 4-25-59. I  
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12 have initialed the first five pages and all correc-  
13 tions.  
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15 /s/ [REDACTED]  
16

17 "Witnesses:  
18

19 [REDACTED] Sp. Agent, F.B.I., New Orleans, La.,  
20

21 [REDACTED] F.B.I., New Orleans, La. 4-27-59  
22

23  
24 On May 4, 1959, [REDACTED] was interviewed  
25 by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] at which  
26 time he admitted that he had misinformed agents when he gave  
27 the signed statement as to the route that was taken from the  
28 Star Cafe to the hospital. He declined to furnish further in-  
29 formation at this time. However, on May 8, 1959, he advised  
30 that from further recollection and discussion of the circum-  
31 stances with R. J. WHEAT, he now recalled that after [REDACTED],  
32 B. F. ORR, and PETE CARVER had been flagged down by [REDACTED]  
33 in front of the Star Cafe, they actually turned [REDACTED]  
34 made the block around Shrock's Western Auto Store instead of  
35 right as he had previously mentioned.  
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F. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Poplarville, Mississippi, was interviewed on April 25, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He was interviewed on April 26 and 29, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] furnished the following information concerning his activities on the night of April 24, 1959, and the morning of April 25, 1959:

He went to a show in Poplarville which ended at approximately 9:00 PM. He then went home for a few minutes and proceeded to the Pearl River County Hospital arriving there between 9:30 PM and 10:00 PM. His purpose in going to the hospital was to visit his [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] with him until the arrival of his [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was working at the Pearl River Junior [REDACTED] and his wife were also staying with [REDACTED] and his wife, [REDACTED] were visiting [REDACTED] father, who was a patient in the same [REDACTED].

At about 11:45 PM or 11:50 PM, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] room, which is located near the rear of the hospital, when [REDACTED] motioned for him to come to the front of the hospital. She told him that somebody was fighting over at the jail. He went to the front door of the hospital where he heard someone shouting for help. He said that the shout was not real loud. The front door of the hospital was open and he could tell the shouts were coming from the Pearl River County Courthouse Building. When he [REDACTED] at the front door of the hospital, he noticed that [REDACTED] a nurse at the hospital, DIMPLE BURGE, a nurse at the hospital, JOSEPH [REDACTED] and his wife, and JOHN REYER were in the lobby of the hospital. One of the nurses, believed by him to be a Mrs. [REDACTED], said she was going to call the police as someone might be putting a drunk in jail.

When [REDACTED] was standing at the front door of the hospital, he noticed that there was a car parked near the south entrance to the courthouse on South Pearl Street [REDACTED] west. He could see the front portion of [REDACTED] car only and was unable to state the make, color, size or model of the car. He also could not say whether there were any occupants in the

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13 car. [redacted] stood at the hospital door for approximately one  
14 minute when he went back to the water fountain in the hospital  
15 corridor and then returned to his uncle's room. About  
16 four or five minutes later, he walked [redacted] to the front door  
17 and went out on the hospital porch with [redacted] and  
18 JOHN REYER. When he arrived on the porch the shouting had  
19 ceased, but he noticed that the above mentioned car was still  
20 parked on South Pearl Street. He also saw another car drive  
21 up in front of the south entrance to the courthouse and park  
22 on the southside of South Pearl Street headed east. This car  
23 parked slightly off the street in front of a vacant lot be-  
24 tween the Poplarville Furniture Company and Poplarville Auto  
25 Parts. He saw a man get out of this car and walk toward the  
26 south entrance to the courthouse. He was unable to state  
27 whether this man went into the courthouse because from his  
28 position on the porch he could not observe this entrance.  
29 He was unable to furnish any description concerning the car  
30 with the exception of the fact that it was dark in color.  
31 He was also unable to furnish any description whatsoever of  
32 the male who alighted from this car.

33  
34 [redacted] and JOHN REYER left the porch  
35 of the hospital and walked across Julia Street to a point  
36 near a bush located at the southwest corner of the courthouse.

37  
38 [redacted] stood on the porch for two or three minu-  
39 tes and then went back into the hospital. As he was going into  
40 the hospital, he noticed that [redacted] and [redacted] were starting  
41 back toward the hospital. Before [redacted] re-entered the hospital  
42 he saw the car which had been parked near the courthouse en-  
43 trance start up and proceed west on South Pearl Street. At  
44 approximately the same time, the car which was headed east on  
45 South Pearl started out and proceeded east on South Pearl Street.  
46 He does not recall seeing any car proceed north on Julia Street  
47 between the hospital and the courthouse. [redacted] was stand-  
48 ing on the porch, he did not hear any shouting or cry for help  
49 and did not observe any men leaving the courthouse.

50  
51 [redacted] remained in the hospital lobby for [redacted] minutes  
52 and during this time [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]  
53 entered the hospital and REYER said he saw a [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]  
54 a "nigger" in the car. He stated that all of the men were  
55 masked and that they dragged the "nigger" from the streets and  
56 pushed him in a car. Others present when [redacted] made these

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12 statements were [redacted] and JOSEPH MEYER and his wife.  
13 According to [redacted] one or more of the nurses in the hospital  
14 may have been present, but he does not definitely recall.  
15

16 During the above conversation, either JOHN  
17 REYER or [redacted] said that the car in which the men  
18 had placed the "nigger" went west on South Pearl Street.  
19

20 [redacted] requested that the interview be terminated  
21 because of personal commitments and it be continued on the  
22 morning of April 29, 1950.  
23

24 On April 29, 1950 [redacted] furnished the following  
25 information:  
26

27 About five minutes after he had re-entered the  
28 hospital, he looked out the front door and saw B. F. ORR, [redacted]  
29 CARVER, R. J. WHEAT, and [redacted] drive up in front  
30 of the hospital. He walked out to the car along with several  
31 others who had been in the hospital and he believes that either  
32 JOHN REYER or [redacted] said to B. F. ORR "they got the  
33 nigger." He does not recall any other conversation at this  
34 time. After about five minutes, Sheriff [redacted] pulled up in  
35 front of the hospital, parked his car in [redacted] of the courthouse  
36 and went into the courthouse accompanied by [redacted]  
37 B. F. ORR, PETE CARVER, JOHN REYER and [redacted]  
38 The outside door at the south entrance of the courthouse was  
39 open and the group, after entering the courthouse, proceeded  
40 to the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff went to a back door in  
41 his office and remarked that the keys were gone. [redacted] noticed  
42 that there was blood on the steps leading to the [redacted]  
43 and in the hallway near the Sheriff's Office. The group went  
44 up [redacted] stairway inside the courthouse and the Sheriff unlocked  
45 the [redacted] leading into the jail. The lights were off in the  
46 jail and the Sheriff was the only one who entered the jail,  
47 the rest stopping at the door. The Sheriff asked the Negro  
48 prisoners what had happened and one of the prisoners said  
49 that a crowd had taken [redacted] out. The Sheriff asked how  
50 many were in the crowd and one of the prisoners said eight  
51 or nine. He asked if they knew what had happened to the [redacted]  
52 and one prisoner said they must have taken [redacted] with them.  
53 There were also some remarks made about the men wearing [redacted]. It  
54 appeared to [redacted] that one of the Negro prisoners did practically  
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12 all of the talking. The group then went back down to the  
13 Sheriff's Office.  
14

15 [redacted] remained at the Sheriff's Office for  
16 approximately ten minutes, during which time the Sheriff was  
17 making phone calls notifying various individuals of the ab-  
18 duction. [redacted] then returned to the hospital. He does not  
19 recall how long he stayed at the hospital, but a short time  
20 later he drove in his father's car, a 1955 Plymouth, four  
21 door, faded light green in color, to his home. To the best  
22 of his recollection he arrived home sometime between 1:30 a.m.  
23 and 2:00 a.m. A short time later he returned to the courthouse  
24 and upon arriving he noticed that various members of the  
25 Mississippi Highway Patrol were there. He went to the hospital  
26 and then walked over and joined the crowd outside the court-  
27 house entrance. He remained there until approximately 3:00 a.m.  
28 when he went home.  
29

30  
31 While standing with the group in front of [redacted]  
32 courthouse entrance, County Attorney WILLIAM STUBBS told [redacted]  
33 that the FBI would probably be investigating this case and  
34 should be sure to tell the truth about what he had seen. [redacted]  
35 said this remark was not necessarily directed to him since  
36 there were other persons standing around when the remark was  
37 made.  
38

39 [redacted] said that in his opinion the local people  
40 from Poplarville were not involved in the abduction. He said  
41 he felt this was true since the local people had not been dis-  
42 cussing the case at any length and he had heard no comments  
43 as to whether PARKER was guilty. He added that the local  
44 people were not acquainted with the rape victim and the kid-  
45 napping was not running high in Poplarville. He said he has  
46 obtained no information since the abduction which would in  
47 any way indicate who was responsible for it. He said he did  
48 not approve of the action taken by the mob, but refused to  
49 say whether he desired to see them identified and apprehended.  
50 He also refused to furnish a signed statement.  
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14 G. WILLIAM H. STEWART

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16 WILLIAM H. STEWART, Attorney at Law and County  
17 Attorney for Pearl River County, Poplarville, Mississippi, who  
18 resides in Poplarville, was interviewed on April 25, 1959, by  
19 SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He was inter-  
20 viewed on April 29, 1959, by SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].  
21 He was again interviewed on May 1, 1959, by  
22 SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. STEWART furnished  
23 the following information:  
24

25 STEWART first heard about this case when he re-  
26 ceived a telephone call at about 1:00 A. M., April 25, 1959,  
27 from PETE CARVER, Night Marshal at Poplarville, who stated he  
28 was calling from the City Hall. STEWART lives about two blocks  
29 from the City Hall and immediately put on some clothes over  
30 his pajamas and proceeded to the City Hall.

31  
32 Upon arrival at the City Hall, he noted that  
33 B. F. ORR, Day Marshal, PETE CARVER, Night Marshal, and W. J.  
34 WHEAT were at the City Hall.  
35

36 Upon arrival, they told him someone had "broken  
37 the nigger out", and there was some blood on the floor and  
38 steps of the County Courthouse. He pointed out someone had seen  
39 it, and they told him JOHN REYER and [REDACTED] had been there.  
40

41 According to STEWART, CARVER told Mrs. DORIS  
42 BURGE, a nurse at the Pearl River County Hospital, [REDACTED] told  
43 him of the incident by means of a telephone call to [REDACTED]  
44 [REDACTED] waitress at the Star Cafe on Main Street in Poplarville,  
45 requesting that [REDACTED] notify CARVER when she saw him, as  
46 it was common practice for PETE CARVER to stop by and pick up  
47 messages at periodic intervals from [REDACTED].  
48

49 STEWART said that shortly thereafter, the  
50 group went to the courthouse a few blocks distant. Upon  
51 arrival at the courthouse, STEWART noted that Sheriff W.  
52 OSBORNE MOODY was there, as well as [REDACTED] [REDACTED],  
53 [REDACTED] JOHN REYER, and a [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. STEWART looked  
54 over the scene, was advised that one or more cars of the  
55 Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol had reported to the scene  
56 and were out searching for the mob.  
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11 He first questioned JOHN REYER inasmuch as he has  
12 known REYER for a long time and has represented REYER and other  
13 members of REYER's family in a number of law suits.

14  
15 REYER said he was in front of the hospital when  
16 he heard a "ruckus" at the jail which is located directly across  
17 the street from the hospital in the upper floors of the County  
18 Courthouse. He walked over that way and actually got there in  
19 time to see them put the "nigger" in the right rear door on the  
20 back seat of a car which was parked by the curb at the south  
21 side of the courthouse. REYER described this car as being a  
22 four-door car and as being two tone in color. He was unable  
23 to state whether the car was shiny and new or old and muddy or  
24 to give any other description regarding the make or model of  
25 the car nor could he furnish any information as to whether or  
26 not the car bore a license plate. He could not say how many  
27 people got into the car. REYER did state "the boy" was strugg-  
28 ling while they put him in the car and was giving a good ac-  
29 count of himself. STEWART wanted to know if REYER could iden-  
30 tify any of the people involved in this incident and REYER told  
31 him he was unable to identify any of the people. REYER told him  
32 there was no conversation among the members of the mob and none  
33 of the mob said anything to REYER. When the car which had been  
34 parked at the south entrance to the courthouse headed in a westerly  
35 direction pulled away from the curb, REYER stated it was  
36 toward Bogalusa.

37  
38 STEWART pointed out that he understood by this  
39 remark that the car had headed in a westerly direction. REYER  
40 told STEWART he estimated there were about four to six men in  
41 the mob. He stated that he did not know how many cars had  
42 pulled away from the courthouse at about that time. REYER stated  
43 the men had on masks and some were wearing hankchieves over  
44 the lower portion of their faces as masks. He asked REYER if  
45 anyone else might have seen the mob and REYER said no.

46  
47 STEWART wanted to know how REYER got to the hospital  
48 and REYER informed him he had just brought his sister-in-law,  
49 JOE REYER, to the hospital, which fact was verified by STEWART.

50  
51 [REDACTED] was present in the hall of the  
52 house in front of the sheriff's Office along with JOHN REYER  
53 while STEWART questioned REYER. STEWART also questioned [REDACTED]  
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11 at the same time he questioned REYER and then questioned [REDACTED]  
12 some in addition to this. During the interrogation while the  
13 two individuals were standing together, JOHN REYER did most of  
14 the talking and [REDACTED] continued to verify the information  
15 which had been furnished by JOHN REYER. [REDACTED] told STEWART  
16 he was present in the area because he had been visiting his uncle  
17 who was a patient in the hospital. b7c

18  
19 [REDACTED] said he was near the mob when the mob  
20 came out of the courthouse, but was not up close as JOHN REYER,  
21 and STEWART got the impression that [REDACTED] was standing  
22 about 25-30 feet behind JOHN REYER at a point at or near a large  
23 tree or bush which is located at the southwest corner of the  
24 courthouse when the incident happened and JOHN REYER had been  
25 much closer or approximately 10-20 feet from the sidewalk lead-  
26 ing out of the south entrance of the courthouse and that both of  
27 these would have had a good opportunity to observe any person or  
28 vehicle, active or moving, in the area at that time. b7c

29  
30 STEWART volunteered the information that both  
31 JOHN REYER and [REDACTED] were wise as to the ways of the  
32 world; that they did not want to identify any of the mob;  
33 however, he did not think that they could make an identification.  
34 He thinks they would have been reluctant to make an identifica-  
35 tion if they could have made one.

36  
37 STEWART went to the hospital for a short time  
38 and again questioned [REDACTED] and JOHN REYER and was con- b7c  
39 vinced that they could not make an identification. At this  
40 time, he impressed upon them the importance of telling the truth  
41 to the FBI in this case when the FBI came into the area.

42  
43 JOHN REYER did not tell STEWART how many cars  
44 were seen or noted at the time the mob left the scene. Someone  
45 told him there were about three cars leaving in three different  
46 directions immediately after PARKER was placed in the car, south  
47 of the courthouse, and he did not recall exactly who told him  
48 this, but he is of the opinion that he got this information from  
49 [REDACTED] told him he did not see or see any li-  
50 cense plates and could, therefore, not give him any information  
51 as to a description of the license plates or as to whether or  
52 not there were license plates on the vehicles involved. b7c

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11 STEWART pointed out he had not questioned either  
12 of these individuals extensively because he was making a quick  
13 investigation in an effort to determine if he could find anyone  
14 who could give him an immediate identification of any of the  
15 members of the mob.  
16

17 STEWART also talked with the [redacted] boy and as-  
18 certained that he did not have anything that would help in iden-  
19 tifying any of the mob. He did not talk to [redacted] and b7c  
20 would not know whether or not she was in a position to have made  
21 any pertinent observations.  
22

23 STEWART then went up to the jail and talked to the  
24 Negro prisoners. They told him generally that a masked mob had  
25 gone into the jail and had taken PARKER.  
26

27 A white woman prisoner, whose name was not re-  
28 called at the time by STEWART, told him she saw and heard some  
29 more men in the courtroom and from this rather vague information  
30 that there were more men involved than the men that went into  
31 the jail cell. She pointed out that [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]  
32 [redacted] bulb located on [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]  
33 [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] that part of the building.  
34

35 STEWART talked to [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] b7c  
36 who told him he was a veteran of [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] b7D  
37 in the bull pen section of the jail and was [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]  
38 wooden door. He saw the first masked man come into the jail  
39 and knew what was taking place immediately and did not look at  
40 them and went back to his bunk in order that he would not be a  
41 witness. STEWART did not question [redacted] to any observation  
42 [redacted] might have made while looking out of the south windows  
43 of the jail during the departure of any of the vehicles or per-  
44 sons connected with the mob.  
45

46 While in the jail, STEWART made photographs with  
47 his Polaroid camera of blood stains on the courthouse floor,  
48 the steps, sidewalks, and curb at the back side of the court-  
49 house. He recalled these blood spots were not large patches of  
50 blood, but were smears and drops of blood. He gave these pho-  
51 tographs to GEORGE VAUGHT MOODY, son of STEWART MOODY. STEWART  
52 does not object to these photographs being used by the FBI in  
53 connection with this investigation.  
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STEWART then went to the hospital and talked to nurses Dimple BURGE, [REDACTED] and Odell LOVELESS, all at the nurse station at the left side of the lobby of the hospital. While he was talking to them, [REDACTED] another nurse, came up. b7c

STEWART asked the nurses if they had seen the people and they told their story about hearing the boy falling over in the jail and thought perhaps someone wanted a doctor. Then shortly thereafter they could hear them whacking the boy at which time Miss Dimple BURGE ran to the telephone and called Sheriff MOODY, Jewel ALFORD, and then placed a call for Earl CARVER at the Star Cafe.

The nurses stated they went out on the porch of the hospital, but claimed they were unable to identify any of the men or cars involved.

STEWART ascertained that [REDACTED] had looked out of the bathroom window after hearing the call from the jail. b7c

STEWART then had coffee with the nurses at the hospital kitchen, and he asked them again if they could make an identification of the cars and persons in the mob and they convinced him they were unable to make an identification of the persons in the mob or any of the cars. He did not question them closely as to the number of cars involved or the directions in which these cars had proceeded. He did make it a point to point out to the nurses that they would be questioned and requestioned and told them how important it was to tell the truth and they agreed to do this.

The only other person STEWART contacted who might be able to furnish information of value to the case was a young fellow named [REDACTED] who resides either at [REDACTED] Poplarville, Mississippi, or at [REDACTED] Mississippi. He saw this man in the hall at [REDACTED] talked to him very briefly, determined that he could not help make an identification of any of the cars of the mob. He got the impression somewhere that [REDACTED] any [REDACTED] out the south entrance of the hospital as [REDACTED] the cars were pulling away from the courthouse. b7c

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13 opportunity to observe at least the car that reportedly pro-  
14 ceeded in a westerly direction with PARKER.

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16 He could think of no other witnesses.

17  
18 STEWART did not ask any of the persons he con-  
19 tacted any specific questions as to whether or not any of the  
20 cars leaving the scene had proceeded in a westerly direction  
21 between the hospital and the jail and did not recall anyone  
22 volunteering any information that any of the cars which may  
23 have been driven by members of the mob had proceeded in that  
24 direction.

25  
26 STEWART received some information from some  
27 sources about someone stating that some of the handkerchiefs  
28 part of the mob used as masks had slipped down from their  
29 faces before they got PARKER in the car; however, he could not  
30 recall where he got that information, but believed it probably  
31 came from JOHN REYER.

32 He also remarked that [REDACTED] BIRSE, and  
33 PETS CARVER usually meet each night at [REDACTED] for a  
34 cup of coffee and that he did not consider it unusual for them  
35 to be having a cup of coffee at about midnight on the night of  
36 April 24, 1959. b7c

37  
38 According to STEWART, Sheriff HODGE had gone to  
39 the jail before he got there and had questioned the prisoners  
40 and some of the people at the hospital before he arrived at the  
41 scene.

42  
43 On the night of April 24, 1959, [REDACTED] b7c  
44 [REDACTED]  
45 [REDACTED] was visiting [REDACTED] in Poplarville, [REDACTED]  
46 down to the courthouse about thirty minutes before [REDACTED] left  
47 his home to bring him some telephone messages. He did not think  
48 [REDACTED] had received any information which would be pertinent  
49 to this case.

50  
51 It was the opinion of STEWART that [REDACTED] the  
52 local officers were in the dark and he did not expect that it was  
53 apparent to STEWART that the local officers would not know any-  
54 thing and did not expect any trouble.  
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12 H. GEORGE VAUGHT MOSEY  
13 Deputy Sheriff  
14 Pearl River County

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17 GEORGE VAUGHT MOSEY was interviewed on  
18 April 25 & 28, 1959, by SA's [redacted] and  
19 [redacted] and on May 2, 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. b7c  
20 [redacted] and [redacted] He furnished the fol-  
21 lowing information concerning his activities on the  
22 night of April 24, 1959, and morning of April 25, 1959:  
23

24 He advised that he is employed on a  
25 full-time basis as a Mathematics Instructor at the  
26 Pearl River Junior College, Poplarville, Mississippi.  
27 He said his hours at the school are from 8:00 AM to  
28 2:00 PM. At the conclusion of his school work, he  
29 generally goes to the Sheriff's Office, where he handles  
30 office work for his father. He stated he resides in  
31 Poplarville approximately three blocks from the courthouse.  
32

33 On April 24, 1959, he came to the Sheriff's  
34 Office after school at approximately 2:00 PM and worked  
35 for about one hour. He then left and went to the grove  
36 which he owns, approximately one mile north of Poplarville,  
37 and worked in the grove until about 5:00 PM, when he re-  
38 turned to his home. He stayed at home from 5:00 PM to  
39 approximately 8:30 PM, when he and his wife left to attend  
40 a dance at the Pearl River Junior College. He said he had  
41 no phone calls or visitors at his home between 8:00 AM  
42 and 8:30 PM. He said he left the dance at the college at  
43 approximately 11:05 PM, April 24, 1959, and drove south  
44 to his home, accompanied by his wife, arriving at home  
45 approximately 11:10 PM. He said he did not go by the  
46 courthouse en route to his home from the college. He  
47 said that while at the dance he had contact with [redacted]  
48 [redacted] and [redacted] who were  
49 home after the dance terminated.

50 Attorney in Poplarville, [redacted] b7c  
51 Masonic Temple Building, [redacted]  
52 Pearl River Junior College. He said they [redacted]  
53 approximately the same time he and his wife did. He said  
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12 his father, who is Sheriff W. OSBORNE MOODY, and his mother  
13 were at his home, baby sitting; that they stayed briefly  
14 after they had arrived from the dance, and left at approxi-  
15 mately 11:20 PM. He recalled that [redacted] as [redacted] b7c  
16 visited with them until approximately midnight and then  
17 left.

18  
19 MOODY said he and his wife went to bed  
20 sometime between 12:15 and 12:30 AM, April 25, 1959.  
21 Shortly after retiring, he received a phone call and  
22 while en route to answer the phone he looked at the clock  
23 and noted it was 12:35 AM, April 25, 1959. He said that  
24 the caller was his father, Sheriff MOODY, who told him  
25 that a group of men had removed M. C. PALMER from the jail  
26 and that he was to come to the Sheriff's Office to assist  
27 his father. He said his father told him he was then calling  
28 from the Sheriff's Office. MOODY said he dressed very  
29 hurriedly and arrived at the Sheriff's Office no later  
30 than 12:40 AM, April 29, 1959.

31  
32 He said when he arrived at the Sheriff's  
33 Office he noticed the following individuals present:  
34 Sheriff W. OSBORNE MOODY, Night Marshal CHARLIE CANTOR, Day  
35 Marshal B. F. ORR, R. J. WHEAT, JOHN SMITH, and a in-  
36 dividual unknown to him at the time, but later identified  
37 to him as [redacted]. He said all of these individuals  
38 were standing around in the Sheriff's Office. He said he  
39 could not specifically state, but feels that possibly [redacted] b7c  
40 [redacted] and [redacted] may have been there at the time,  
41 inasmuch as he does recall seeing them a short time thereafter.  
42 after. He said when he arrived his father was busy on the  
43 telephone and after speaking briefly with the men present  
44 he took his flashlight and proceeded upstairs to the court-  
45 room where he went as far as the jail door, but did not  
46 enter the jail. He said when he arrived at the rear of  
47 the courtroom he observed a trail on the floor of the  
48 courtroom which led from the jail door to the north or  
49 rear exit of the courtroom, such as might have been made  
50 by smeared blood. He was of the opinion that this was not  
51 merely disturbed dust, but did show evidence of the type  
52 of moisture which might be considered as blood. He said he  
53 observed blood spots on the landing of the rear hallway  
54 and a larger smear and a small puddle of blood at the base  
55 of these stairs. He noted numerous small smears of blood  
56 on the floor of the main corridor of the courtroom  
57 indicating someone had been dragged over the

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12 corridor in a southerly direction. He said he observed  
13 a smear of blood on the wall immediately adjacent to the  
14 doorway leading into the Sheriff's Office, which would be  
15 on the east side of the main corridor. He also observed  
16 drops of blood in the center of the corridor immediately  
17 opposite the door to the Sheriff's Office, and several  
18 small drops of blood on the floor close to the west wall  
19 of the corridor opposite the door to the Sheriff's Office.  
20 He observed the same smears of blood leading from the  
21 door to the Sheriff's Office out to the south door of  
22 the courthouse. He said the smears indicated to him  
23 that the victim had been dragged toward the middle of  
24 the south door and then pulled off to the west of the  
25 center of the south door, indicating to him that it had  
26 been necessary for the individuals carrying the victim  
27 to pull him to one side so that they could open the door.  
28 He observed blood spots and smears leading down the steps  
29 from the south door of the courthouse. Commencing at  
30 the foot of the stairs and leading out onto the sidewalk  
31 and to the curb, he observed drops or spots of blood, but  
32 observed no smears, which indicated to him that the victim  
33 may not have been dragged at that point and possibly  
34 could have been walking.

35  
36 He said that his examination of the scene  
37 took no more than two or three minutes and, at the con-  
38 clusion, he rejoined his father in the Sheriff's Office.  
39 He was of the opinion that County Attorney WILLIAM A.  
40 STEWART and Patrolman Fred [REDACTED] came into the  
41 Sheriff's Office at approximately the time he rejoined  
42 his father. He said the group in the Sheriff's Office  
43 had a general discussion and, at approximately 1:00 p.m.,  
44 April 25, 1959, it was commonly decided that a search  
45 should be conducted in the Poplarville vicinity in an  
46 attempt to observe anything of value which might be of  
47 assistance in locating M. C. FARMER.

48  
49 He recalled specifically mentioning to L. J.  
50 WHEAT during the time he had been in the Sheriff's Office  
51 preliminary to the search because he, WHEAT, had answered  
52 the phone and an individual who identified himself as being  
53 affiliated with Radio-TV Station WREV, Poplarville, Louisiana,  
54 had asked him about developments in the case and suggested  
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11 to him that they had received information to the effect  
12 that R. J. WHEAT had been an eye witness to the matter.  
13 He said that while on the phone or immediately thereafter  
14 he turned to R. J. WHEAT and asked him if he had been an  
15 eye witness. It was his recollection that R. J. WHEAT  
16 said, "No, I wasn't--it might have been [REDACTED] MOODY  
17 said by that, WHEAT meant that it might have been [REDACTED]  
18 [REDACTED] who was reportedly across the  
19 street from the courthouse at approximately midnight. b7c  
20 He said R. J. WHEAT told him that he had been with PETE  
21 CARVER in PETE CARVER's car when he first heard of the  
22 incident. MOODY could not recall specifically that he  
23 spoke individually to JOHN REYER, [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]  
24 [REDACTED] concerning the matter at this time.  
25

26 He recalled hearing conversation to the  
27 effect that the mob may have used "a couple of cars,"  
28 that they were masked, including some mention of black  
29 hoods, and that possibly eight to ten men had been involved.  
30 He said no car descriptions nor descriptions of clothing  
31 worn by the men were mentioned to him. He said he obtained  
32 most of the details from his father in very brief conver-  
33 sation with him.  
34

35 After the decision to search the area, he  
36 went from the Sheriff's Office to his car and proceeded  
37 alone to conduct the search. He said at the time he took  
38 on the search he noted PETE CARVER, B. F. ORR, R. J. WHEAT,  
39 and possibly [REDACTED] in CARVER's car, presumably  
40 to conduct a search on their own. He said he had not asked  
41 anyone to accompany him on his search and no one volunteered.  
42 He said it was not particularly unusual that he should  
43 conduct the search alone, whereas possibly four other in- b7c  
44 dividuals entered one car to search. He pointed out that  
45 it is very rare for anyone from the Sheriff's Office to  
46 work with either B. F. ORR or PETE CARVER and, further,  
47 that CARVER, ORR, WHEAT and [REDACTED] were close friends  
48 and often worked together on various projects. He said no  
49 one suggested to him what area should be searched, although  
50 he recalled mentioning to the group that he planned to go  
51 north on Highway 11. He said no one attempted to dissuade  
52 him from searching in that direction. He did not know in  
53 which direction PETE CARVER and the others intended to search.  
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MOODY approximated that he left the Sheriff's Office at 1:00 AM and headed north on Highway 11, searching all dirt roads for a distance of approximately one mile east and west of Highway 11 for a total distance of about seven miles north on Highway 11. He said he observed nothing of value during this search. At the conclusion of his search, he returned to the Albee Gas Station just north of Poplarville on Highway 11, where he washed his car and then returned to the Sheriff's Office. He said he arrived at the Sheriff's Office at 3:00 AM. When he arrived there, he observed several MHP patrolmen and some reporters present. He stayed in the Sheriff's Office approximately five minutes, answering phone calls from newspapers, and then received a call from his mother, inquiring as to what had happened at the jail, and, because of her nervous condition, he decided he would leave the Sheriff's Office and check on her, which he did. He said he left the Sheriff's Office at about 3:05 AM, drove to his father's home, which is eight miles west of Poplarville, and stayed there with his mother until approximately 4:00 AM. He said that at that time he had "checked out" and he returned to the Sheriff's Office.

He said he had received no suspicious phone calls, had observed no strangers or other persons acting in a suspicious manner at the coastguard and had not been contacted by anyone in a suspicious manner relative to PARKER during the day of April 24, 1968.

MOODY was asked whether or not the name of any suspects had crossed his mind in connection with hearing the news that PARKER had been removed from the jail. He said that he had thought of [redacted] in this connection, and said that [redacted] house while searching for [redacted] at 3:00 AM. He approximated that he had observed [redacted] at 2:45 AM and observed [redacted] at the house at that time, [redacted] as [redacted] has only one vehicle, which is white, [redacted] unable to specifically explain [redacted] a suspect other than that [redacted] who is constantly seeking [redacted] of the Sheriff's Office and is [redacted] a great deal of time hanging around the Sheriff's Office. b7c

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10 said he is just generally suspicious of him and has thought  
11 [redacted] in the past has possibly "pumped" him for informa-  
12 tion which he might have later passed on to bootleggers.  
13 He said [redacted] has contacted him almost daily since  
14 the incident of PARKER's removal, seeking information in  
15 a general way as to the progress of the investigation. b7c  
16 He said [redacted] had also told him since that time that  
17 he had been out with a woman, not identified, the night  
18 that PARKER was taken from the jail.  
19

20 I. JEWEL HAYSEL ALFORD  
21 Jailer  
22 Pearl River County  
23

24 JEWEL ALFORD was interviewed on April 22,  
25 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]  
26 and on May 4, 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] b7c  
27 [redacted] He furnished the following information:  
28

29 He advised his official title is Pearl River  
30 County Patrolman, but that this title is merely for  
31 pay purposes only, and that he functions as a Deputy  
32 Sheriff and Jailer, and is deputized by the Sheriff of  
33 Pearl River County. He stated that in addition to his em-  
34 ployment as set out above he also owns a part interest in  
35 the C. & A. Cafe in Poplarville with [redacted] b7c  
36 is a part-time salesman for the Rebel Hardware Store,  
37 518 East Capitol Street, Jackson, Mississippi, operating  
38 in the Poplarville area, and also has a part interest in  
39 a small body shop in Poplarville. He said that his wife  
40 is the former ORSE MOODY, who is the sister of Pearl River  
41 County Sheriff W. OSBORNE MOODY. He said she is employed  
42 on a part-time basis at the Magnolia Court, a motel in  
43 Poplarville. He resides approximately three blocks north  
44 of the Pearl River County Courthouse in Poplarville. He  
45 has two sons, ages 7 and 10.  
46

47 He said that on the morning of April 22,  
48 1959, he went to the C. & A. Cafe at Poplarville, as is  
49 his normal custom, at approximately 5:00 or 5:30 AM, at  
50 which time he prepared breakfast for prisoners in Pearl  
51 River County Jail and carried the breakfast to the jail,  
52 arriving at about 6:00 AM. It was his recollection that  
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13 MOODY, who said, "come on around to the Sheriff's Office,  
14 they took the Negro." He said he had very brief conversa-  
15 tion with the Sheriff at this time, learning only that a  
16 group of masked men had removed W. C. PARKER from the jail.  
17 He said he immediately crossed and was at the Sheriff's  
18 Office no more than ten minutes after receiving the Sheriff's  
19 phone call. He recalled the following persons as being  
20 present when he entered the Sheriff's Office: Sheriff W.  
21 OSBORNE MOODY; WILLIAM H. STEWART, County Attorney; E. F.  
22 ORR, Town Marshal; PETER CARVER, Night Marshal; A. J. WHEAT;  
23 (FNU) [redacted] and some Mississippi Highway Safety Patrolmen. b7c  
24 He said there may have been others there, but he does not  
25 specifically recall this. It was his recollection that  
26 after arriving at the Sheriff's Office he heard general  
27 conversation, specific sources unrecalled, that a group of  
28 men masked and driving four or five cars presumably came  
29 through the window of the Sheriff's Office and obtained  
30 the jail keys from a filing cabinet and then removed W. C.  
31 PARKER from the jail. He said he recalled making a phone  
32 call at this time to Deputy Sheriff WILLIAM OSBORNE MOODY at  
33 Picayune, Mississippi, which is also in Pearl River County,  
34 and advising MOODY of PARKER's abduction. He made the ob-  
35 servation that MOODY seemed thoroughly displeased and shocked  
36 to hear of the abduction. He said he stayed in the Sheriff's  
37 Office approximately thirty minutes after arriving on the  
38 scene and then went to the jail to inspect the scene at  
39 the jail for himself.

40  
41 He could not remember whether the door leading  
42 from the jail to the courtroom was locked or unlocked,  
43 closed or standing open when he arrived. He said he  
44 [redacted] what had happened and [redacted] b7c  
45 [redacted] "get his legs" and no more. WHEAT could  
46 not recall specifically speaking to any of the other prisoners  
47 at this time concerning the incident. He said that he ob-  
48 served smears which appeared to him to be blood on the  
49 floor of PARKER's cell and some on the wall of PARKER's cell  
50 and on the jail floor leading from PARKER's cell to the jail  
51 door opening into the courtroom. He said there was trash  
52 consisting of paper and other debris scattered all over  
53 PARKER's cell and the cell immediately north of PARKER's.  
54 He said he assumed this had come from a garbage can which  
55 is customarily filled with this debris and which was at  
56 that time lying overturned in PARKER's cell. He also  
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12 observed what appeared to him to be water on the floor in  
13 PARKER's cell. He did not recall seeing any clubs or  
14 weapons which might possibly have been used to beat BIRNER,  
15 but recalled later while cleaning the jail he saw one of  
16 the prisoners pick up a portion of a broom handle which had  
17 been split lengthwise and watched the prisoner break it in  
18 half and throw it in the garbage can for disposal. He said  
19 that this portion of the handle apparently came from a straw  
20 broom which is customarily kept in the jail and which he  
21 observed at that time to be split. He said he saw no masks  
22 or gloves in the jail.

23  
24 It was his recollection that he next went  
25 down to the Sheriff's Office and asked the Sheriff about  
26 cleaning up the jail and the blood stains in the courthouse  
27 proper. He said the Sheriff told him to postpone cleaning  
28 up for awhile until all necessary photographs and investi-  
29 gation at the scene had been completed.

30  
31 In connection with the cleaning of the jail  
32 and courthouse, he said that at about 7:00 AM, April 25,  
33 1959, the blood in the area began to smell slightly and it  
34 was decided that inasmuch as the women prisoners at the  
35 courthouse would be arriving shortly the jail should be  
36 cleaned up. He said that he and first [redacted] started to  
37 clean the blood from the floors and get the worst of it  
38 up; however, they were not able to do a thorough job and,  
39 consequently, when the janitors arrived, they completed the  
40 work. He said the prisoners themselves cleaned up in the  
41 jail. He recalled that he saw one [redacted] and possibly another [redacted] carry [redacted] to  
42 the back of the hospital immediately across the street from  
43 the jail where they burned it in an incinerator. b7c  
44 ALFORD said that after he finished cleaning the area he  
45 stayed at the courthouse until 1:00 in the day of April 25,  
46 1959, leaving late that night to his home in his recollection.

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49 ALFORD stated that unless someone else had  
50 had occasion to use the jail keys he would have been the  
51 last to place them in the filing cabinet after feeding the  
52 prisoners in the approximate area of 9:00 AM, April 26, 1959.  
53 He pointed out that sometimes the janitors will take the  
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12 jail keys from the cabinet and let out one or two prisoners  
13 to assist them in cleaning and later lock the prisoners  
14 back in the jail. He distinctly remembered that on that  
15 night the janitor, HOUSTON "FLAT" AMACHER, left the court-  
16 house before he did, so he was of the opinion that some of  
17 the prisoners would have been used by the janitor in  
18 cleaning after he, ALFORD, left. He said he ordinarily  
19 leaves the filing cabinet containing the jail keys open  
20 when he leaves and probably left it open that night. He  
21 said sometimes the latch to the filing cabinet is left  
22 unsnapped and the key in the latch. He does not recall  
23 whether or not the windows to the Sheriff's Office were  
24 latched when he left, although he pointed out as a rule  
25 they are locked. He specifically recalled locking the  
26 south door to the courthouse with his key when he left.  
27 He also specifically recalled that when he returned to  
28 the Sheriff's Office early in the morning of April 25, 1959,  
29 after receiving the Sheriff's call, he examined the south  
30 door to the courthouse and noticed that the door was open  
31 and the latch was standing out from the door which would  
32 indicate the door had been opened without the use of a key  
33 because, had a key been used, the latch would have been  
34 recessed. He said the latch on the bottom of the west  
35 double door was loose, which would make it possible for  
36 someone to either pull the double doors open from the  
37 inside or push them open from the outside, causing the  
38 doors to part sufficiently so that the latch would slip  
39 out of place.

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41 ALFORD said that when W. C. SMITH was being  
42 brought to Poplarville on the night of April 23, 1959, he  
43 and Sheriff W. OSBORNE HOOBY discussed the possibility of  
44 ALFORD maintaining the jail keys in his personal possession  
45 at that time rather than leaving them in the filing cabinet  
46 drawer as was customary. He said this would have been for  
47 security reasons, inasmuch as when ALFORD was first arrested  
48 in Lumberton, there had been talking and rumors from unre-  
49 called sources about possible violence. He emphasized he  
50 had heard nothing specifically at that time and had no  
51 information whatsoever about individuals who may have been  
52 responsible for this talk. He said after discussing the  
53 matter with the Sheriff they decided that ALFORD should  
54 maintain the keys in his personal possession which he did  
55 for several days. ALFORD said he then "got to thinking about  
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12 it" and decided that in the event a crowd came after the keys  
13 in order to get PARKER out of jail he himself would be in  
14 danger, and, not wanting to risk his personal safety, he told  
15 Sheriff MOODY of his fears. He said Sheriff MOODY was in  
16 agreement with him and that, after consulting with the Judge,  
17 Sheriff MOODY told him to go back to the normal routine of  
18 placing the jail keys in the filing cabinet at the Sheriff's  
19 Office, which he did.

20  
21 ALFORD stated he did not know if any persons  
22 other than law enforcement officials knew that he was  
23 personally carrying the jail keys for the several days  
24 immediately after M. C. PARKER was lodged in the Poplarville  
25 jail. He said that he had no suspicious contacts in any  
26 manner from any persons concerning these keys. He explained  
27 that replacing the keys in the filing cabinet was prompted  
28 only by his own thinking and fears on the matter, and he had  
29 no threats whatsoever from any source previous or subsequent  
30 to so doing.

31  
32 ALFORD was of the recollection that [redacted] b7c  
33 [redacted] Pearl River County Tax Assessor, told him he worked  
34 late in his office at the courthouse on the night of April 26,  
35 1959. ALFORD said he had no suspects in this matter and  
36 stated that he did not believe the perpetrators of this crime  
37 were from the Poplarville vicinity. He said he was of the  
38 opinion had they been from Poplarville they could have re-  
39 moved PARKER from the jail when first brought into Poplarville.

40  
41 He said no one contacted him prior to PARKER's  
42 abduction with any information of any kind indicating that  
43 such an abduction was being planned and said he has not been  
44 contacted since by anyone with any information whatsoever as  
45 to the identity of the abductors. He said he has furnished  
46 all pertinent information concerning this case to the FBI.

47  
48 J. HOUSTON AMICKER  
49 Janitor, Pearl River  
50 County Courthouse

51  
52 HOUSTON AMICKER was interviewed by SA [redacted] b7c  
53 [redacted] on April 28, 1959,  
54 and SA [redacted] on May 2,  
55 1959. He stated that he resides at House # [redacted] Poplarville,  
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and has been employed as a janitor at the courthouse since 1951.

He advised that on Friday, April 24, 1959, he worked his regular hours, leaving the courthouse at about 6:00 PM. He then ate his meal at Joe Orr's Cafe and talked to him for awhile. At the Star Cafe, he also talked to FRANCIS BARKER, another acquaintance, and also met J. P. WALKER of Poplarville. At about 8:00 PM, the fire whistle started blowing, and Mr. AMACKER went with WALKER in WALKER's car to follow the fire engine. They traveled out the Bogalusa Road to the White Sands Community and went to the home of HORACE SMITH, where the house was on fire. He and WALKER returned to Poplarville at about 9:00 PM, arriving in Poplarville, R. J. WHEAT and [REDACTED] drove up behind them and, after WALKER came into the Star Cafe to order coffee, WHEAT and [REDACTED] followed them in and joined them. After talking together for a short while, [REDACTED] a neighbor of AMACKER's, came in. He eventually took AMACKER home at about 9:30 PM. b7c

On Saturday morning, April 25, 1959, AMACKER started towards town and was given a ride by Mrs. W. O. AMACKER, Route 3, Poplarville, who was taking her son, BUDDY, to work at Movie Star of Poplarville. Mr. AMACKER stated that she left him off at the north side of the courthouse square and he entered the north door of the courthouse at about 6:45 AM. He stated that he was intending to do extra work that day in connection with the forthcoming meeting of the court scheduled for the next week. When he entered the door, he found that it was unlocked and he noted that JERRE ALFOLD, the jailer, was there with J. WHEAT, [REDACTED] and possibly E. F. ORR, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. ALFOLD was the only representative of the Sheriff's Office seen. b7c

ALFOLD immediately told AMACKER that Sheriff W. O. MOODY wanted him to clean the floor. AMACKER could see for himself there were brown stains which he said were apparently caused by blood and [REDACTED] had been mopping everywhere but was only using [REDACTED] and not getting the stains up. b7c

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AMACKER went to the janitor's room near the south door of the courthouse to get a bucket and then went outside the building on the west side to fill his bucket with water. He returned then to the janitor's room to get cleaning fluid and picked up a mop somewhere but could not recall exactly which one. ALFORD suggested he get some prisoners to help with this mopping and he believes ALFORD said that the Sheriff wanted the floors clean before the office people arrived for work at 8:00 AM. AMACKER told ALFORD he could handle this work himself and did not call for any prisoners.

He stated that he began mopping the south end of the building, which is at the landing of the stairs which come down from the courtroom proper and the adjoining jail. The first large spot of stain he found was near the foot of the stairs. He proceeded down the main corridor going towards the south door. The stain was located in locations up to a width of about 10 inches. He noted that the stain was not continuous but was visible as far as the south door. Going outside on the stone steps, there were additional stains there and on the sidewalk leading from the courthouse grounds to the street and the regular sidewalk. He believed that the last spot he recalled cleaning was the largest one visible outside, and it was closer to the courthouse steps than it was to the street.

While proceeding with this work, he could recall no one approaching him for any purpose and, when he had finished outside, he returned to the north end of the corridor and started working up the stairs. By the time he got to the top of the stairs, he was feeling nauseated and, since it was about 8:00 AM by then, when he ordinarily went to the Post Office to get his mail by that time, he decided to handle his own affairs and do no further work. His brother, [redacted] arrived by this time and was told to continue the mopping in the courtroom and up to the jail door.

He went outside the building and he [redacted] half-way to the Post Office when he met [redacted] the [redacted] b7c



that he laid the keys on top of the cabinet at that time, inasmuch as [REDACTED] and WILFORD were still there in the office. WILFORD was waiting at this time to go to the C. & A. Cafe to pick up the evening meal for the prisoners. He stated that he remembered locking the north and east doors of the courthouse and then looking in the Sheriff's Office to tell WILFORD he was leaving for the day. He departed through the south door, which was left unlocked inasmuch as WILFORD was still on the premises.

b7c

Mr. WACKER stated he was not aware at any time of any plans for abduction of M. C. FARMER and that, since the incident took place, he has heard from no source any information relating to the identity of the people involved.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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**X. HUBERT AMACKER**  
Janitor, Pearl River  
County Courthouse

HUBERT AMACKER was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 2, 1968. He advised he resides at Route 3, Poplarville, and assists his brother, HOUSTON AMACKER, as a janitor at the Pearl River County Courthouse.

b7c

He stated that on Friday, April 24, 1969, he was at his usual work in the courthouse until about 6:00 PM. He left at that time and went downtown to eat and, after visiting with various acquaintances at the cafes, he departed at about 9:00 PM with his brother, JEPPIE AMACKER, to ride to Bogalusa, Louisiana. The principal purpose of going to Bogalusa was to buy some beer which they brought with them, return to Poplarville about 11:00 PM. At that time, they and [REDACTED] and drank a few beers together while parked in their cars on the east side of the railroad tracks. When ready to go home, Mr. AMACKER stated he would estimate it was about midnight. They drove past the ice house on a street which is several blocks east of the main street and crossed Main Street at the traffic signal near City Hall. From this point, they traveled on State Highway 93 to the intersection of U. S. Highway 11 and then proceeded home. He stated he could not recall they saw any cars at all until they reached Highway 11 on the east side of town and then possibly met a few there, but no notice was given of them. [REDACTED] drove his own car ahead of them and they eventually crossed Highway 11 and traveled towards his home on the Bogalusa Road.

b7c

As they crossed Main Street near the City Hall, AMACKER stated he caught a glimpse of light on the

corridor of the Pearl River County Courthouse. He stated that lights in the corridor are usually not on at night but that he could see some reflections showing through the east door. He thought at the time it might be someone bringing in a prisoner, and JEPPIE commented that it might be a State Highway Patrolman. They proceeded to their home without further incident.

On the morning of Saturday, April 20, 1958, he obtained a ride into town with a neighbor [redacted] and [redacted] related some of the news concerning the break-in at the jail, in which a [redacted] apparently been in Poplarville sometime during the night.

On arrival at the courthouse, at about 7:30 AM, Mr. AMACKER went in the south door, which was unlocked. He met his brother, HOUSTON, who said there was some mopping to be done and that he was to work on the courtroom floor. He stated he used mops and could see signs that someone had previously been mopping, apparently with clear water, inasmuch as there were white stains remaining on the floor. He obtained his mopping equipment, including cleaning solution, and started to work near the jail door because there were heavier stains visible at that point.

He worked from the jail door towards the back of the courtroom and then towards the main center doors at the rear of the courtroom. As this work was found it was necessary to clean about 100 feet in the center aisle going towards the bench. He stated that the stains were brown in color and appeared to be mostly composed of scattered spots. He explained cleaning as far as the head of the stains, which was the spot where HOUSTON left off.

After completing his mopping, he began sweeping around the courtroom and found a number of cigarette butts at the jail door, which he placed in his trash. He found no noticeable evidence of prints anywhere else and found no clubs or other items or pieces of clothing of any kind. He did not attempt to clean inside the jail door.

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12 He stated he remained on the second floor  
13 until about 10:30 or 11:00 AM and then worked elsewhere  
14 in the courthouse throughout the day and noted nothing  
15 unusual in the trash collected.  
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18 Concerning his access to the jail keys,  
19 Mr. AMACKER stated he obtains them with permission from  
20 the Sheriff's Office when told to enter the jail. He  
21 stated that the keys were always kept in a cabinet drawer  
22 in the Sheriff's Office. He stated that he has never used  
23 the keys without permission.  
24

25 Concerning his knowledge of the security  
26 of the courthouse on the night of April 21, 1969, he  
27 advised that he recalled that he checked the north and  
28 east doors to be certain they were locked and was aware  
29 that JEWEL ALFORD was still in the Sheriff's Office when  
30 he departed. He left by way of the south door and left  
31 it open because the jailer was still on the ground floor.  
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L. [REDACTED]

FRED MELLING, Unit 61, Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol, Poplarville, Mississippi, was interviewed on May 5, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. MELLING advised he received a telephone call at his residence in Poplarville between 1:00 and 1:10 a.m., Saturday, April 25, 1959, from Sheriff W. O. MOODY. [REDACTED] advised Sheriff MOODY informed "they got our boy out." [REDACTED] asked which boy MOODY had reference to and the Sheriff said "they got the nigger." MELLING advised he assumed MOODY was referring to the PARKER Negro and stated Sheriff MOODY requested that he come to the Sheriff's Office. b7c

MELLING advised he immediately thereafter dressed, got in his patrol car, and informed the Gulfport, Mississippi Substation of the Highway Patrol by radio of the information given him by Sheriff MOODY and of the fact that he would furnish more information later. He arrived at the Sheriff's Office at approximately 1:25 AM and met Sheriff MOODY at the south entrance of the courthouse. MOODY showed him some stains on the corridor inside the courthouse which appeared to be fresh blood and which the Sheriff said was apparently blood from PARKER, who had been taken from his cell by some masked men. At this time, Pearl River County Attorney W. H. STEWART arrived. MELLING, Sheriff MOODY, and STEWART then went upstairs to the jail where they talked briefly with the prisoners concerning descriptive data of the individuals who had taken PARKER. MELLING advised he was in the jail no longer than five or ten minutes at the most, after which he returned to his car and radioed Gulfport, furnishing them with the available descriptive information.

He then went back to the Sheriff's office where someone, believed to have been Sheriff MOODY, pointed to a window partially open through which he said the masked men had apparently gained entrance to the office. [REDACTED] also examined a cabinet in the Sheriff's office where he stated that the jail keys were kept. He advised the top drawer of this cabinet, which ordinarily contains the keys, appeared to have been tampered with, explaining that the upper part of the drawer was bent slightly inward and here what appeared to be tool marks.

MELLING was not certain but stated he believed

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12 that he re-traced his steps to his car and radioed the  
13 Nattosburg Substation to alert the Bogalusa, Louisiana Police  
14 Department and the Louisiana State Police. Shortly thereafter,  
15 he received a radio call from the Sulphur Substation giving  
16 him a telephone number for Sheriff MOODY to call. He was in-  
17 formed that this was the number at which Mississippi's Governor  
18 JAMES P. COLEMAN could be reached.

19  
20 He furnished this number to Sheriff MOODY and,  
21 thereafter, accompanied by E. J. WHEAT and S. F. ORR, he pro-  
22 ceeded east on Highway 26 searching for any evidence of the  
23 unknown abductors, during the course of which he looked for  
24 blood and other evidence on the Wolf Creek bridge on Highway  
25 26, and drove over several dirt roads in the area, all with  
26 negative results.

27  
28 He then returned to the Sheriff's Office where  
29 WHEAT and ORR got out of the car. He picked up Sheriff MOODY  
30 and Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol Inspector R. M. [redacted],  
31 who had arrived, and the three drove to the area where PARKER  
32 was alleged to have raped a housewife from Bogalusa, Louisiana.  
33 They found no evidence indicating that any persons who abducted  
34 PARKER had taken him to that area.

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36 WELLS advised that he thereafter searched a  
37 number of roads in the Bogalusa area until about daylight  
38 when BILL HOOD, Chief of the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol,  
39 arrived at Bogalusa and took charge of the Sheriff's inves-  
40 tigation.

41  
42 WELLS stated he had no information whatever  
43 as to possible suspects and stated that the feeling in the  
44 Bogalusa area prior to PARKER's abduction, appeared to be  
45 one of relief that PARKER would be convicted of the rape,  
46 and that he would get a good and long term.

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III. WITNESSES

A. PRISONERS IN THE PEARL RIVER COUNTY JAIL

1. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was a prisoner in the white section of the Pearl River County Jail at the time of the abduction of MACK CHARLES PARKER. He is 34 years of age and had been confined to the jail since February 9, 1959, on a charge of taking mortgaged property out of the state without permission. He was a trusty and in that capacity slept on a cot in the hallway outside the cells in the white section of the jail.

[REDACTED] was interviewed on April 25, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 26, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] on April 28, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] on May 11, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] ROCKHOLD; on May 13, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] on May 14, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] on May 15, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] on May 16, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] on May 20, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and on May 21, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] has been released from the Pearl River County Jail and subsequently from [REDACTED] Jail. He can be reached through his [REDACTED] employed by [REDACTED] His address is in Pearl River County, [REDACTED] Picayune, Mississippi.

[REDACTED] advised when interviewed on April 25, 1959, that he had seen asleep the night of April 24, 1959, on a cot in the hallway outside the cells in the white section of the Pearl River County Jail. He was awakened by someone rattling the door at the entrance of the jail.

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His first thought was that the Sheriff was bringing in a drunk so he got up and walked toward the platform on the jail side of the entrance door from which an open stairway leads up to the colored section and down to the white section. As he got even with this platform, the jail door opened and a man wearing a black hood which covered his entire head walked through the door. This hood had no eye holes and was thin enough so that the man could see through it. This man was also carrying a revolver, which appeared to [redacted] to be about the same size as a .38 caliber snub-nose revolver. This man wore an old hat but the color was not noted. He wore work clothing, which [redacted] could not otherwise describe.

[redacted] said that this man did not say anything but held his forefinger up in front of his mouth to indicate that [redacted] should be quiet. [redacted] said that he immediately thought that they had come for PARKER and he was so scared that he immediately turned around facing the door of the cell where the woman prisoner was sleeping and tried to keep her quiet so that she would not get hysterical. He said that he only saw the one man come through the door, although he realized there were others going up the stairs. He claimed that he kept his back turned to the stairway the entire time the men were there. He also said that he did not go to the window at the end of the hallway to look out toward the street after the man had taken PARKER out.

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He estimates that the men were in the jail about seven minutes and he heard PARKER yelling for help. He did not hear any of the men say anything and cannot estimate how many men there were.

About 4:30 or 6:45 AM the next morning, the jailer told him to start cleaning up the blood in the jail. Most of the blood was in the cell where [redacted] had been kept but there was also blood all the way down the stairs although PARKER had been dragged. He did not see any clubs or sticks during the time he was cleaning up the blood.

On April 23, 1950, [redacted] furnished the following descriptive data of one of the persons who had entered the jail:

12. [redacted] stated that the only person he observed  
13. was the first individual who entered the jail through the  
14. jail door. He described this individual as 5' 9" or 5' 10",  
15. 160 pounds, dressed in blue denim trousers and blue denim  
16. jumper. He stated this individual was wearing a light  
17. colored felt hat either tan or gray. He stated this indi-  
18. vidual was wearing white cotton work gloves with knit wrists  
19. and a mask of black cloth, which covered the area between  
20. the hat brim and the chest. He stated he noted no eye holes  
21. in this mask and the cloth appeared to be plain.

22.  
23. He advised that this individual was carrying  
24. a blue steel snub-nose revolver in his right hand. He ad-  
25. vided that this individual was observed by him while this  
26. individual was standing approximately 3 to 3½ feet directly  
27. in front of a burning light bulb.

28.  
29. On May 13, 1959, [redacted] advised that four  
30. men came into the cell block of the Pearl River County Jail  
31. to abduct JACK CHARLES FARMER and that he could identify all  
32. four. He stated he would not make any statement so long as  
33. he was confined in the jail, that he felt his life was in  
34. jeopardy, particularly since the MISSISSIPPI State Troopers  
35. who were guarding the jail.

36.  
37. On May 14, 1959, [redacted] furnished the follow-  
38. ing signed statement to SA's [redacted]  
39. BRETT:

40.  
41. "Poplarville, Mississippi  
42. May 14, 1959

43. "I, [redacted] do the  
44. following free and voluntary signed statement to  
45. [redacted] and [redacted] both of whom  
46. have identified themselves to me as Special Agents  
47. of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I know I  
48. do not have to make a statement, and any  
49. statement I make may be used against me in Court  
50. of Law. I know I have a right to stop making any  
51. threats, promises, or offers of reward which induce  
52. me to make this statement.  
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"I am 34 years of age, and have been confined to the Pearl River County Jail at Poplarville, Mississippi, since February 9, 1959, on a charge of False Pretense. I was born and raised in Pearl River County, and am acquainted with a large number of the citizens of the county.

"On April 24, 1959, I was confined in the Pearl River County Jail, located on the second floor of the courthouse. I was a trusty in the jail and as such had the run of the corridor and bull pen in the cell block. At about 12:25 AM Saturday, April 25, 1959, while I was lying awake on my bunk, I heard keys rattling in the door leading from the cell block into the courtroom. Since I had been told several times by Jewel Alford, jailer, that if anybody came up there for Parker, a Negro held for raping a white woman, that I should point Parker out there to them, and to make sure they got the right Negro, I immediately assumed that the keys rattling at the door indicated that somebody had come for Parker. My bunk being in the south end of the bull pen, I got up and walked over by the steps leading up to the door. A light was burning over the landing in the bull pen, and another light was burning in the upper tier of cells, occupied by Negro prisoners.

"About the time I got to the steps, the door leading out into the courtroom opened, and a man came through the door and walked down the steps to the lower tier. This man curly-headed with black hair whose identity I did not know, but whom I am positive I have seen on a number of occasions standing around in front of the Poplarville Furniture Company, which store is located directly across Pearl Street from the courthouse. This man was followed by a second man who I immediately recognized as J. P. Walker, owner of Walker's Body Shop at Picayune, Mississippi, and who is a candidate for Sheriff of Pearl River County. Walker was closely followed through the door by a man whom I recognized

as Floren Lee, a Baptist preacher who resides east of Poplarville. Right behind Floren Lee was Jewel Alford, the jailer at the Pearl River County Jail. I'm certain that this was Jewel Alford, because I recognized a gun which he held in his right hand, a .38 caliber blue steel revolver with bone handles. Jewel has a gun like this, and I saw on this gun a sort of bolt which sticks through the grips on the gun, which is the same kind of bolt on Jewel's gun. Further, right after Jewel entered the jail, he leaned over to me and said 'Be quiet, boy', and I immediately recognized his voice. He was wearing a pair of light tan low quarter dress shoes which I recognized as shoes which I have frequently shined for him, using a dark Esquire stain. Jewel was wearing a blue chambray work shirt and blue dungarees. Over his head was what appeared to be a black silk scarf, which was completely draped over his head down over his shoulders, outside his shirt. There were small slits for eyeholes, and I could see what appeared to be his glasses protruding from inside the scarf. His shirt sleeves were rolled down, and he was wearing white cotton gloves with a blue elastic band at the wrist. He was wearing an old gray felt hat with the brim pulled down all the way around, and the crown was pushed out at the top.

"The fifth man to come to the door I immediately recognized as [redacted] who operates [redacted]. I am personally acquainted with [redacted] have been in [redacted] on a number of occasions, and he frequently accompanies [redacted] into the [redacted] [redacted] corner. I know that he had [redacted] his [redacted] which was in a splint. When I saw [redacted] in the door of the cell block, where he stopped, he was wearing grey work pants and the same color cotton shirt, with the sleeves buttoned. He, too, was wearing white cotton gloves with a blue elastic wrist band, and I saw that his right index finger in the glove was [redacted]

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which immediately indicated that it was [REDACTED] to me. [REDACTED] had a blue bandana across the front of his face, from the bridge of his nose down to the neck. He was bareheaded, and I recognized him from his general appearance from his eyes and his partially bald head. b7c

"After the curly-headed man, whose identity I do not know, entered the door first, he walked down the steps to the first tier of cells, looked around for a second or two, then walked back up the steps, and screwed loose the light bulb which was burning over the landing in the bull pen, extinguishing this bulb.

"J. P. Walker, Floren Lee and Jewel Alford walked up the steps to the barred door at the head of the stairway. Walker had the jail keys, and he called out to one of the Negro prisoners whom I believe was [REDACTED] and said 'Which cell is M. C. Parker in?' I heard [REDACTED] say, 'He's over there', and at about the same time I saw Walker unlock the door at the head of the stairway. Walker, Lee and Alford then went onto the second tier and went to the control box in the center of the second tier, which operates the door to the maximum security cell on the north end of the tier, where M. C. Parker was lodged. At about the time they reached the control box, I heard Parker start hollering for help and for somebody to get the sheriff. b7c

"All this time, [REDACTED] was standing in the doorway leading to the courtroom, holding in his left hand a .38 nickel-plated snub nose revolver. I walked to the north end of the bull pen corridor, and from this point saw J. P. Walker operate the control box on the second tier, and open the door leading into Parker's cell. After the door was open, I saw Walker, Lee and Alford go toward Parker's cell and go out of sight. Then I heard a crash as if a bucket had been thrown, and the sounds of a scuffle. I heard somebody b7c

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3 "In the Parker cell, whose voice I cannot identify,  
4 say 'Shoot him, shoot him'. Then I heard the scuff-  
5 ling move from the North cell to the South cell,  
6 which was occupied by [REDACTED] b7c  
7 [REDACTED] I heard Parker call out for O. J.  
8 Henry to help him, and then I saw M. P. Walker pick  
9 up a garbage can from the corner of the South cell  
0 and throw it.

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2 "Then I saw J. P. Walker and Floren Lee  
3 dragging Parker out into the corridor of the upper  
4 tier, followed by Jewel Alford. They were dragging  
5 Parker by his heels, Walker pulling Parker by his  
6 right leg, and Lee was pulling Parker by his left  
7 leg. Walker was at the same time hitting Parker  
8 with a policeman's club, a long, smooth wooden club,  
9 and Lee was hitting him, Parker, with a piece of  
0 dressed wood about fourteen inches long, which  
1 appeared to be grey-looking in color, and may have  
2 been painted. Alford was hitting Parker with a  
3 broom, and I saw the handle break when he hit  
4 Parker. Alford picked up the piece of handle, and  
5 hit Parker several times with it. Parker was groan-  
6 ing and crying out as they dragged him out, and he was  
7 bleeding considerably. I saw Floren Lee appeared  
8 to be favoring his left arm as he was walking, and  
9 I believe he must have been hit by Walker on this  
0 arm.

1 "As Walker and Lee stopped dragging  
2 Parker down the stairs from the upper to the lower  
3 tier of cells, Parker grabbed with his hands to the  
4 railing alongside the steps. Jewel kicked his  
5 hands loose. When they reached the landing at the  
6 door leading to the courtroom, Parker grabbed again  
7 with his hands to the railing, and the other man  
8 kicked his hands loose. As they reached the  
9 door, Parker begged the men to let him go so he  
0 could walk. When he made this statement, [REDACTED]  
1 said 'Hell no, you won't walk,' and at the same  
2 time reached back with his stick [REDACTED] Parker  
3 on the head with the stick. [REDACTED] then stopped  
4 back into the courtroom and [REDACTED] and Lee [REDACTED] b7c  
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"Parker out, followed by Alford and the curly-headed men. Then the door leading to the courtroom closed, and I could hear the iron latch outside this door fall into place, locking it.

"While they were bringing Parker down the steps from the second tier, I was standing in front of the cell on the lower tier occupied by [redacted] I told her to put her head down on her bunk, so she wouldn't see anything. During the time the door to the courtroom was open, I could see into the courtroom, since the light on the upper tier was burning the whole time. I saw what appeared to be six or seven people standing around in the courtroom. Those that I saw wore some kind of masks which appeared to be bandanas over their lower faces, and some wore the same kind of white cotton gloves with blue wrist bands. I did not recognize any of these people, and did not hear them say anything. b2c

"The curly-haired man who I have previously mentioned is a white male about 27 or 28 years of age, five feet eight or nine inches tall, about 150 pounds, medium build, with black, kinky hair. He appeared to be excited and to be enjoying himself. He was wearing khaki work shirt and trousers, and he had the cuffs to the shirt turned up about twice, showing two or three inches of the hair on his lower arm, which hair was black. He was wearing white cotton gloves with blue elastic wrist band. He was bare-headed and wore brown low quarter dress shoes. He had a blue bandana over the lower part of his face, from the bridge of his nose to his neck.

"J. P. Walker, whom I have known all my life, is a white male about six feet, one or two inches tall, weighs about 200 pounds, has red hair and is very red-faced. On this occasion, he was wearing khaki work pants and shirt, and the sleeves were buttoned on his shirt. He was wearing white cotton gloves with a blue elastic wrist

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12 "band, and had on a red bandana across the lower  
13 part of his face from his nose to his neck. He  
14 was bareheaded and had on brown low quarter dress  
15 shoes. Walker is about 45-50 years old.

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17 "Floren Lee, whom I have known practi-  
18 cally all my life, is a white male in his late  
19 50s, about five feet ten inches, and weighs about  
20 155-160 pounds. On this occasion, he was wearing  
21 an old pair of blue dungaree pants and blue  
22 chambray work shirt. He was bareheaded, wearing  
23 hightop work shoes, and he had a red and white  
24 checked bandana across the lower part of his face  
25 from the bridge of his nose to his neck. Floren  
26 Lee's shirt sleeves were down and buttoned, and  
27 he wore a pair of white cotton work gloves with  
28 blue wrist bands.

29  
30 "After the men left the jail with Parker,  
31 I went to the south end of the cell block and looked  
32 out. I heard Parker yell twice as if he had been  
33 hit, and shortly afterward saw about four men, whom  
34 I could not identify from that distance, in a 1950  
35 Chevrolet Forder Sedan, white in color, which was  
36 parked on the street at the south entrance of the  
37 courthouse, which car was facing in a westerly  
38 direction. I saw somebody open the back door of  
39 this car next to the curb, and I saw two men throw  
40 somebody into the back seat. The men then got into  
41 the car and it started up and drove west out of  
42 sight. As it drove under the overlight on the  
43 corner by the courthouse and the Poplarville Furni-  
44 ture Company, I could see several persons in the  
45 car, but I could not say how many were there, or  
46 who they were.

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48 "As soon as the Chevrolet started leaving,  
49 I saw two men run from the south side of the court-  
50 house diagonally across the street to the westward  
51 to be a 1955 or 1956 white Ford Club Coupe sedan,  
52 which was parked on Julia Street in front of Everett  
53 law office, heading in a northward direction. This  
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12 "car" started up after these two men got in it,  
13 took a left at the corner onto Pearl Street and  
14 went out of sight following the Chevrolet. I  
15 could not identify these two men.  
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18 "At the same time I saw the two men  
19 run to the Ford, I saw three unidentified men  
20 run from the South side of the courthouse to about  
21 a 1953 International pickup truck, dark green in  
22 color with a cow body, parked on Pearl Street  
23 facing East. These men got in the truck, which  
24 sped to Julia Street and drove off out of sight  
25 on Julia Street in a southerly direction.  
26

27 "About this time, I saw two men who  
28 had been standing by some bushes at the southwest  
29 corner of the courthouse walk across Julia Street  
30 and go up to the porch of the Pearl River County  
31 Hospital. I could not identify these men, but  
32 they stopped at the hospital porch and talked with  
33 nurse in a white uniform. I heard the nurse call  
34 out to these men that she had called the sheriff.  
35 I don't know the identity of the nurse.  
36

37 "The three vehicles described were the  
38 only cars I saw, except for some cars parked at  
39 the hospital, which cars remained parked after the  
40 men left with Parker. However, at the time J. P.  
41 Walker and Floren Lee were dragging Parker out  
42 the jail door, I turned around and looked out the  
43 north window of the jail and saw about five or  
44 six men standing near a clump of bushes at the  
45 north west corner of the courthouse, and about the  
46 time I saw the white Chevrolet leave. I heard a  
47 number of cars start and leave from north of the  
48 courthouse. I cannot identify any of the five or  
49 six men I saw at the north window, as they were in  
50 a dark area.  
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52 "At about 6:00 AM Saturday, April 25,  
53 1959, Jewel Alford instructed me to get a bucket,  
54 pail and some water, and to wash up all the blood  
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12 from Parker, from the cells all the way through  
13 the courthouse and outside on the sidewalk. In  
14 response to these orders, I washed up most of  
15 the blood, assisted some by Jewel Alford.

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17 "I have had the above statement read  
18 to me by Special Agent [redacted] at my request. It  
19 consists of this and four other typewritten pages,  
20 and it is true and correct, to the best of my  
21 knowledge.

22  
23 "/s/ [redacted]

24  
25 "Witnessed:

26 "/s/ [redacted] Special Agent, FBI,

27 New Orleans, La.  
28 "/s/ [redacted] Special Agent, FBI,  
29 Memphis, Tenn."

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31 In addition to the information furnished  
32 in the signed statement, [redacted] questioned specifically  
33 about where he was standing when he observed the  
34 1958 white Chevrolet sedan, described in his statement.  
35 He stated he had gone to the southwest window in the  
36 lower tier in the cell block and observed the Chevrolet  
37 through the branches of a large bush-like tree which  
38 grows in the southwest corner of the courthouse. He  
39 declared he was able to see the Chevrolet as the leaves  
40 on the tree were not full grown at that time. He re-  
41 called, however, he was not able to see the entire car,  
42 the portion of the automobile from the rear end forward  
43 being hidden by the corner of the courthouse. [redacted]  
44 insisted that the car he saw was a 1958 Chevrolet, four-  
45 door sedan, white in color, explaining that he had long  
46 been associated with automobiles and has worked as a  
47 mechanic in the past.

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49 On May 15, 1959, [redacted] advised that on  
50 Saturday AM, April 25, 1959, [redacted] Captain  
51 prisoner in the jail, told him that he had seen  
52 some of the men who had come for PARKER. [redacted] noted  
53 [redacted] also a prisoner, commented on [redacted]  
54 [redacted], that he had seen one of the men's name slip from

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12 his face, leaving the implication that [REDACTED] had  
13 recognized at least one of the men.  
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15 [REDACTED] stated that C. J. MONDY, also a  
16 prisoner, had lived in the Picayune, Mississippi area all of  
17 his life, adding that MONDY also implied to him on  
18 April 25, 1959, that he could identify some of the men.  
19

20 He stated that about a week after PARKER  
21 had been taken [REDACTED] brought [REDACTED]  
22 [REDACTED] which [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
23 thought were the [REDACTED] worn by [REDACTED] on the night of  
24 the abduction. [REDACTED] instructed him to put a glass  
25 [REDACTED] on the shoes and instructed him to use a brush  
26 [REDACTED] In the process of [REDACTED]  
27 [REDACTED] started he saw two dark stains on [REDACTED]  
28 each of which were about the size of a ten-year-old's head.  
29 He stated that he immediately concluded that the stains  
30 were blood and added that in [REDACTED] so  
31 apparently eradicated these stains. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] so,  
32 however, he advised he exhibited the [REDACTED]  
33 to his girl friend, [REDACTED], who was [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
34 and stated they discussed the probability that the stains  
35 were PARKER's blood.  
36

37 On May 16, 1959, [REDACTED] stated he was  
38 certain that [REDACTED] had a [REDACTED] which was  
39 in [REDACTED] by virtue of the fact [REDACTED] [REDACTED] his  
40 [REDACTED] in a [REDACTED] with him. [REDACTED] at Poplarville  
41 on the night of April 23, 1959. [REDACTED] explained that as  
42 a [REDACTED] at Poplarville he was allowed to go downtown and  
43 [REDACTED] that on the night of April 23, 1959, he and  
44 [REDACTED] were drinking together and [REDACTED] in a fight,  
45 during the course of which [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
46 stated he was not positive [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
47 his [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
48 [REDACTED] was definitely on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and that he  
49 was of the opinion it was a [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
50

51 [REDACTED] stated emphatically that the auto-  
52 mobile he had observed parked on the north side of the  
53 Pearl River County Courthouse on the night of PARKER's  
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11 abduction was a 1958 white Chevrolet, four-door sedan.  
12 He stated he was not certain of the exact position in  
13 which this car was parked when he first observed it,  
14 but recalls specifically that he could not see the rear  
15 end of the car which was blocked by the southwest corner  
16 of the courthouse. He stated, however, he got a good  
17 look at it as it left the scene in a westerly direction,  
18 and recalled that when the driver applied the brakes at  
19 the corner of Pearl and Julia Streets he noted the left  
20 rear brakelight flashed, but the right light did not  
21 flash, thus indicating the right brakelight may have  
22 been out.  
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2. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] also known as [REDACTED] was a prisoner in the Pearl River County Jail at the time of the abduction of PARKER. She was in the white section, or lower floor. Her address is care of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] She was in jail on a charge of removing mortgaged property from the state.

[REDACTED] was interviewed on April 26, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] April 20, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] on April 22, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] on May 12, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] on May 14, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] on May 18, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] furnished the following signed statement:

"April 25, 1959  
Poplarville, Miss.

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"I, [REDACTED], do hereby make the following true and correct statement to [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] who I know to be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in connection with an official investigation.

"I [REDACTED] means of [REDACTED] been born [REDACTED] family [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Pearl River County Jail at Poplarville, Miss., for about 3 months on a charge of removing mortgaged property from the state.

"On Friday night 4/24/59, I went to sleep shortly after 10:30 P.M. I was sleeping soundly when I heard noise about me and someone.

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12 "yelling 'Don't let them kill me,' 'Mondy,  
13 don't let them kill me,' 'Don't let them take  
14 me.' This was repeated three or four times.  
15 I could hear heavy shuffling of feet and  
16 running around. I heard what I would think  
17 was a garbage can fall or tip over.  
18

19 "I was lying on my stomach and  
20 raised my head and noticed a man standing on  
21 the landing at the entrance to the cell block,  
22 he had a white or blue handkerchief over his  
23 face and wore white work gloves now in appear-  
24 ance. I believe he had on worn dungarees and  
25 a dark jacket with long sleeves. He had what  
26 I believe was a billed cap on his head.  
27

28 "Moments later he reached up and  
29 twisted the light bulb which lies over my cell  
30 and slightly to the left. The only light then  
31 remaining came down from the upper tier.  
32

33 "Directly behind the man standing a-  
34 bove on the platform the door to the cell block  
35 stood open - there was a continuous noise of  
36 shuffling like some one was walking around out-  
37 side the door.  
38

39 "I was terrified and did not venture  
40 to look at this man but put my head down. In  
41 just a few minutes I noticed there looked up a  
42 number of pairs of legs and hanging down between  
43 these men was a negro whom they were holding by  
44 his arms and legs. He seemed to be struggling  
45 to get away and I heard him say 'I'm going  
46 to take me back to work.' Someone said 'No' and  
47 then the door closed and all was quiet.  
48

49 "I saw only a group of legs to my left. I  
50 estimate that they were at least eight or ten  
51 men in the group. The pants these men were  
52 wearing seemed also to be dark work pants like  
53 dungarees.  
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12 "After it had gotten quiet just a few  
13 minutes elapsed and then Sheriff Moody appeared  
14 along with two or three other persons I did not  
15 know. He went immediately up stairs and I  
16 heard him ask about the keys and I also recall  
17 hearing someone ask C. J. Mondy what time it  
18 was and he replied 'ten minutes to one.'

19  
20 "I believe the men that carried the  
21 negro out of jail had the keys because I heard  
22 someone rattling keys when they were carrying  
23 him down the stairs.

24  
25 "The only man that I got a good look  
26 at was the one standing on the landing and I  
27 would say that he was of median build and possibly  
28 a little on the heavy side. His finger tips in  
29 the gloves seemed to be turned up on the ends.

30  
31 "This two and a half page statement  
32 has been read to me by [redacted] and it is true to  
33 the best of my recollection.

34  
35 " /s/ [redacted] b7c  
b7D

36  
37 "Witnessed by:

38 [redacted], Special Agent, Federal Bureau  
39 of Investigation, New Orleans, La.  
40 [redacted] Spec. Agt., F.B.I., New Orleans,  
41 La.

42  
43 She furnished the following additional  
44 information regarding the individual whom she observed  
45 standing on the landing inside the jail door:

46  
47 She described this individual as a white  
48 male, approximately 5' 10", 160 pounds, of a stocky  
49 build, wearing tightly drawn bandana type  
50 mask, dark colored, having more than one color, all  
51 colors unknown.

52  
53 This individual wore [redacted] work  
54 gloves with knit wrists and dark trousers of a blue-jean  
55 type and a long sleeve shirt or jumper of the same color.

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13 She stated she could not recall whether this individual  
14 wore a hat; however, the area of the eyes and forehead  
15 were not covered.  
16

17 She stated that this individual appar-  
18 ently was stationed as a guard or lookout at the jail door  
19 inasmuch as he was at this location during the period of  
20 the disturbance above.  
21

22 She advised that she observed this indi-  
23 vidual from her cell bank and this individual was standing  
24 in front of a burning light bulb about 35 feet directly in  
25 front of this individual.  
26

27 [REDACTED] furnished the following  
28 additional signed statement:  
29

30 "Hattiesburg, Miss.  
31 May 13, 1959  
32

33 "I, [REDACTED],  
34 following [REDACTED]  
35 and [REDACTED] who have  
36 solved to serve special agents of the FBI. I know  
37 of my right to an attorney and to remain silent; this state-  
38 ment. I know that I do not have to give a statement  
39 and that anything I say may be used against me in a  
40 court of law. No threats or promises were used to  
41 induce this statement.  
42

43 "I was born [REDACTED]  
44 [REDACTED]  
45

46 "I was during the night of May 11, 1959,  
47 25, 1959 I was taken [REDACTED] to the  
48 Pearl River County Jail where I have been incarcerated  
49 since January, 1959. I looked up [REDACTED] and  
50 standing in the doorway next to my cell. This man  
51 is known to me as [REDACTED] last [REDACTED]  
52 believed to be [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] This  
53 man runs a [REDACTED] near  
54 the [REDACTED] He was wearing  
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12 "blue clothing, with a blue and white handker-  
13 chief across his face below his eyes, and white  
14 cotton work gloves. I have seen this man on at  
15 least one day on occasions with [REDACTED]

16 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were  
17 in identifying this man. After I noticed Homer,  
18 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of mine  
19 and I plan on carrying came over and put his  
20 hand on my head and held it down so I wouldn't  
21 see any more. He said 'Don't worry, everything's  
22 alright.' However I saw about seven men drag  
23 Parker down the steps. I could not positively  
24 identify any of these men as I could not see  
25 the legs of these men. I am aware that [REDACTED]  
26 normally wears glasses but that he didn't have  
27 them on at this time.

28  
29 "About three days later I discovered  
30 Parker being taken from the jail with [REDACTED]  
31 [REDACTED]. He told me that [REDACTED]  
32 [REDACTED] was being one of the mob that [REDACTED]  
33 from the jail. He told me that [REDACTED] was  
34 ing a black hood and was the man who was carrying  
35 the gun.

36  
37 "About that same day [REDACTED] was not  
38 recalled, [REDACTED] came into the jail and  
39 set down on the steps leading to the jail and  
40 changed shoes. He put on [REDACTED] which  
41 he had previously left for [REDACTED] and  
42 left the pair he had been wearing [REDACTED]  
43 to be polished. [REDACTED] set these shoes  
44 night stand within arms reach of the cell. As I  
45 sat looking at these shoes I noticed some dark  
46 stains around the sides of these shoes which  
47 appeared to be blood. As I continued to look at  
48 these shoes without saying anything [REDACTED]  
49 apparently noticed that I had checked the stains  
50 on the shoes and he asked me 'What does it look  
51 like.' I said 'It looks like blood.' [REDACTED]  
52 said 'It sure does.' I believe [REDACTED] was  
53 day that [REDACTED] polished the shoes at which time

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12 "he used a darker stain polish. This stain  
13 or polish seemed to make the shoes darker in  
14 color than they were originally.  
15

16 "Something after [redacted] had told me  
17 that [redacted] as being a  
18 member of the gang and was removed from the  
19 jail, he told me not to mention anything to  
20 anyone regarding the Parker case as these Masonic  
21 people stick together.  
22

23  
24 "I have read the statement consisting  
25 of the above and 4 other hand written pages and  
26 find it to be true to the best of my knowledge.  
27

28 " /s/ [redacted]

29 Witnesses:

30 [redacted], Special Agent, F.B.I.,

31 [redacted], Special Agent, FBI,  
32 New Orleans, La.  
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12 [redacted] has advised that [redacted]  
13 told her [redacted] discussing [redacted]  
14 in the PARKER abduction case. [redacted]  
15 a few days after the incident. [redacted]  
16 [redacted] said [redacted] [redacted]  
17 a [redacted] hood and carrying a gun. [redacted]  
18 [redacted] You're pretty smart.

19  
20 She also stated that she could positively  
21 identify [redacted] as one of the men who came into  
22 the cell block for PARKER since she has seen [redacted] with  
23 [redacted] on a number of occasions. She stated [redacted]  
24 [redacted] did not have glasses on in the jail to the best of her  
25 recollection nor could she recall seeing a weapon in  
26 [redacted] possession. She recalled he was wearing blue  
27 overalls and a dark shirt with long sleeves and white  
28 cotton work gloves. She thought he had bandaged his  
29 [redacted] but could not recall noticing that one of his fingers was in  
30 a splint.

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3. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is a white male, [REDACTED] also known as [REDACTED] and is [REDACTED] and residing at [REDACTED]. He was a prisoner in the white section of the court room [REDACTED] in the south cell and was being held on a charge of breaking and entering. He is now a prisoner at the Mississippi State Penitentiary, Parchman, Mississippi.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 25, 1959; by SA's [REDACTED] on April 26, 1959; by SA's [REDACTED] on April 26, 1959; by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 16 and 17, 1959.

[REDACTED] furnished the following signed statement regarding the abduction of MACK JAMES PARKER:

"April 25, 1959  
Poplarville, Miss.

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"I, [REDACTED], make the following voluntary statement to [REDACTED] whom I know to be a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

[REDACTED] old and reside at [REDACTED] usual job is [REDACTED] have been in jail many times since I moved to Jail at Poplarville.

"Early on the morning of [REDACTED] 1959, I was asleep in my cell at [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] tier. I woke up when I heard scuffling and yelling in the upper tier. [REDACTED] someone say, 'Don't kill me, it was Kingo.'

"I got up then and went to the front of the cell to look out. I could see a man standing at the court room door. He had a [REDACTED]

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12 "on which looked like a blue handkerchief with  
13 white figures on it. It was a western style  
14 bandana. He was wearing work clothes including  
15 blue denim pants and khaki shirt. He had no  
16 hat.

17  
18 "After a little while, I saw four  
19 white men wearing work clothes come down the  
20 stairs dragging a negro man by the feet. Each  
21 one had him by the arm or leg. All of them wore  
22 masks, hats and gloves.

23  
24 "These men went out the door and when  
25 another man came down who had the jailer's keys.  
26 He was a slender man, nearly six feet tall. I  
27 believe he wore blue overalls with a brown or  
28 tan shirt over the top. He also wore a hat, mask,  
29 and gloves. It was a white, western style hat  
30 with rolled edges on the side.

31  
32 "He turned around as if he was talking  
33 to someone upstairs. He said 'you guys don't say  
34 anything, there is some more of us outside.' His  
35 voice was what I call 'countrified.' He pulled  
36 the court room door shut but I didn't hear him  
37 use the keys.

38  
39 "In a little while I heard someone yelling  
40 for help out on the south side of the court house  
41 but I couldn't see anyone. I next saw three men  
42 running from in front of the court house who got in  
43 a car parked at the southwest corner of the square.  
44 They drove past the west side of the court house.  
45 I saw a car wheel west from the front of the court  
46 house as a high speed of speed. I didn't hear any-  
47 thing more. I called upstairs and the man said it  
48 was ten minutes to one.

49  
50 "I have read the above statement on two  
51 pages and it is true and correct.

52  
53 " /s/ [REDACTED]

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12 "Witness:

13 [redacted] Special Agent, FBI,  
14 New Orleans, La.  
15 [redacted] Special Agent, F.B.I.,  
16 New Orleans, La. 4-25-59"

17 [redacted] also advised that the first indi-  
18 vidual observed by him was the one standing at the court-  
19 room door. He advised that this man was approximately  
20 35 to 40 years of age and was white. He was about 5' 7"  
21 in height and weighed about 150 pounds and appeared to be  
22 of about medium build. [redacted] stated that this individual  
23 had a mask which was worn just below the eyes and appeared  
24 to be a blue bandana handkerchief with some white design  
25 on it. Above the mask [redacted] could observe that his eyes  
26 were about normal width and appearing to be piercing. The  
27 man's forehead appeared to be well tanned and there were  
28 some pronounced wrinkles on the forehead.  
29

30  
31 He stated that this individual's hair was  
32 brown and combed straight back. The hair was medium  
33 thickness with no curl noted and no gray foliage. The hair  
34 receded somewhat across the entire front of the head.

35  
36 [redacted] stated this individual was wearing  
37 blue denim pants of slacks-jeans style and khaki shirt. The  
38 shirt had long sleeves and the man did not exhibit his  
39 hands for [redacted] to see. No weapon was seen on this  
40 individual and he wore no hat.

41  
42 Concerning the second individual seen by him,  
43 who carried the jailer's keys, [redacted] advised this was a  
44 white man who appeared to be about 30 years of age. He  
45 was about 6' tall and about 130 pounds in  
46 weight. [redacted] stated this man was noticeably thin and  
47 also showed the skin of the back of his neck.

48  
49 [redacted] stated this individual apparently  
50 wore overalls inasmuch as he saw a blue denim overalls  
51 pants leg for carrying small tools. Over the overalls  
52 a tan or brown shirt with short sleeves and a buttoned  
53 up loose style like a sport shirt. He wore a very light colored,  
54 western style hat. He had a white cloth mask worn up to  
55

his eyes and the hat was pulled down to permit only his eyes to show. This individual carried no weapon.

Concerning the four individuals who carried PARKER out of the jail [redacted] stated these were average size men with nothing recalled specifically about their age, height, or weight. He had the impression that all four wore khaki colored clothes, possibly work clothes or the type that can be made into uniforms. All had long sleeves and none of the shirts showed any type of insignia or decoration. All wore hats of some kind and possibly some of the hats were western style.

[redacted] stated he recalled that one of these four had a sack or hood of some kind over his entire head while the others had masks which may have been made out of large handkerchiefs. Colors of the masks or hood were not recalled by him. All four wore plain white gloves.

Concerning the car which was observed to be parked at the southwest corner of the square, [redacted] stated it was parked in front of the law offices of Morse and Morse. It was parked on the west side of the street and was headed north. After the three men got in they drove off north and passed the west side of the courthouse. He described the car as a 1958 Ford Custom sedan, probably four-door. He said the car had a dark blue top, light blue center, and dark blue bottom. No special equipment of any kind was observed. [redacted] stated he observed this car while it was both standing and running and was quite positive that he was correct in the make and model.

Concerning the second car seen by him to come south of the courthouse and proceed directly west at a high rate of speed, he stated he got the impression the car was a fairly late model, probably about 1957, and that it looked like a Dodge. The color was over orange or possibly cream over red. [redacted] could not tell from the lines of the car what year it was but got the impression from the acceleration that it may have been a Dodge. He stated he could not identify the car in this car.

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13 [redacted] furnished the following additional  
14 description of the individuals he observed at the jail and  
15 the automobiles he observed from the window of the jail:

16 [redacted]  
17 [redacted] described an individual whom he  
18 believed was a leader of unknown subjects as approximately  
19 6' to 6' 2", bean-pole build, wearing overalls or blue  
20 dungarees with a light tan or dirty white shirt. He ad-  
21 vised that the shirt tails were worn outside the trousers  
22 and the shirt tails were causer out. He believed the  
23 shirt had long sleeves as he does not recall bare forearms.  
24 He stated that he believes this individual was wearing a  
25 mask consisting of a brown paper bag with eye holes. He  
26 advised this individual was wearing a semi-western type  
27 white hat, brim at the sides being rolled up.

28  
29 He stated that this individual was the last  
30 person to leave the jail and just prior to leaving, stood  
31 on the second step above the landing and addressed the  
32 Negro prisoners by saying, "You all be quiet now. There  
33 is plenty more outside." He described this person as  
34 having a "countryified voice" with a "long drawl" and be-  
35 lieves this individual spoke similar to a native of south  
36 central Mississippi.

37 [redacted]  
38 [redacted] described another unknown subject  
39 as a man who held the jail keys and described this indi-  
40 vidual as a white male, 5' 7" or 5' 8", 150 to 165 pounds,  
41 medium build, wearing a blue bandana handkerchief over  
42 his face below the eyes. He stated this individual was  
43 wearing a khaki work shirt and blue-jean pants. He advised  
44 that this individual was not wearing a hat and noted this  
45 individual had brown straight hair combed straight back.  
46 [redacted] hat hairline receded at the sides of the  
47 forehead and was [redacted] at the center of the forehead.

48 [redacted] stated he also observed two indi-  
49 viduals who were dragging a Negro down the steps from the  
50 top tier to the jail door. He stated these individuals  
51 were masked with handkerchiefs, possibly white in color,  
52 and were wearing khaki work clothes. [redacted]  
53 believes these individuals were wearing light colored  
54 semi-western hats.

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12 [redacted] stated he observed only six unknown  
13 subjects and believes only six came into the jail.  
14

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16 Regarding automobiles which he observed  
17 at the intersection of Julia and Pearl Streets shortly  
18 after unknown subjects left the jail, [redacted] stated he  
19 noted three individuals, believed wearing casual clothes,  
20 running from the area of the jail toward a 1958 Ford  
21 Fairlane, dark blue top, light blue sides, and dark blue  
22 bottom, which was parked on Julia Street, directly in  
23 front of Horse and Horse Lawyers' Office. He stated he  
24 noted a figure seated behind the steering wheel.

25 He advised that as these individuals neared  
26 the Ford, he noted a red and white, or possibly orange and  
27 white, automobile traveling in a westerly direction on  
28 Pearl Street across the intersection. He stated he  
29 believes the model of this car would be between 1955 and  
30 1958, but he could not recognize the make. He stated that  
31 after the red and white car passed through the inter-  
32 section, the Ford started off in a northerly direction  
33 on Julia Street, crossing the intersection of Pearl.  
34

35 [redacted] advised that the street light  
36 located on the southeast corner of the intersection of  
37 Julia and Pearl Streets was burning. b7c  
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38 Upon interview at [redacted] the  
39 Penitentiary, Parchman, Mississippi, [redacted] furnished  
40 the following additional signed statement:

41 [redacted]  
42 [redacted]  
43 [redacted]  
44 [redacted]  
45 [redacted]  
46 [redacted]  
47 [redacted]  
48 [redacted]  
49 [redacted]  
50 [redacted]  
51 [redacted]  
52 [redacted]  
53 [redacted]  
54 [redacted]  
55 [redacted]  
56 [redacted]  
57 [redacted]  
58 [redacted]  
59 [redacted]  
60 [redacted]  
61 [redacted]  
62 [redacted]

"I, [redacted], make the following  
statement to [redacted] and [redacted]  
both of whom I believe are Special Agents of the FBI. No threats,  
promises or any offers of reward have been made to  
me to induce me to make this statement.

"On April 24, 1959 I was confined in  
the Pearl River County Jail at Oshterville, Miss.

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12 "Some time around midnight of April 24,  
13 1959 I woke up in my cell in the jail & heard  
14 someone hollering for help & don't kill me. The  
15 yelling was coming from upstairs. I got out of  
16 my bunk & saw a man in the doorway that goes into  
17 the court room. This man had on a long sleeved  
18 khaki shirt, blue jeans & wore a blue bandana  
19 handkerchief, as a mask. I didn't notice his  
20 hands & couldn't see the lower part of his legs,  
21 because I was locked in the south cell in the white  
22 section of the jail.

23  
24 "When I saw this man & the noise of  
25 fighting continued I figured it was a lynching  
26 party for Parker.

27  
28 "The next thing I saw was a colored man  
29 being brought down the steps from the colored section  
30 of the jail. Four men were carrying him. One man  
31 had each leg & one man had each arm. I could not see  
32 any skin on any of the men that were carrying him.

33  
34 "I could see the two men on my side both  
35 had on khaki uniforms, long sleeved khaki shirts &  
36 khaki pants. Each had on a mask, one was a dirty  
37 white, the other a light tan or brown. I couldn't  
38 see anything but the hats on the two men on the  
39 other side. All four men had on western style,  
40 white, straw hats with the edge of the brim curled  
41 up.

42  
43 "The man who had his arm and leg on my  
44 side was about medium build about 5' 8" and about  
45 150#. The man who had his leg and arm about the same  
46 size. I could not tell anything else about them.

47  
48 "The man in the court room was close  
49 to 6' tall & about 180# and had a flat top. He had  
50 dark brown hair, combed straight up and it was  
51 higher than usual in the temples and came to a  
52 point in the middle. He was possibly in his late 30's  
53 or 40's of age -- He had a good sunken face, like he had  
54 been through a hard time.

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12 "There was a sixth man who was behind  
13 the four men carrying the colored man. He was  
14 about 6' tall, slim build, weighing about 150 to  
15 160#, bean pole built. He had on either overalls  
16 or blue jeans with a tan sport shirt worn on the  
17 outside. I don't remember whether it had long  
18 sleeves. He had on a white, straw, western type  
19 hat with small holes in it. When he got about  
20 halfway down the steps, he turned around and said  
21 to the prisoners upstairs, something like you fellows  
22 be quiet, there's some more of us outside. He had  
23 a country accent and I immediately thought I recog-  
24 nized him from his voice and general build. I  
25 thought it was [redacted] who lives [redacted]  
26 [redacted] have  
27 [redacted] since [redacted] have  
28 [redacted] with him in the same [redacted] have  
29 [redacted] another prisoner & [redacted] have  
30 that I thought it was [redacted] have  
31 thought was [redacted] had the keys to the jail in his  
32 right hand.

b7c  
b7D

33  
34 "I did not recognize any of the other men  
35 but I believe that [redacted] put on a mask and  
36 spoke I could identify him because I don't know  
37 anyone else that has a voice like his.

b7c

38  
39 "After they left the jail I looked out  
40 of the south window of my cell & heard Parker yell  
41 for help twice. I saw 3 men dressed in khaki pants  
42 & white hats like the ones inside run from the  
43 direction of the court house to a 1957 Ford, dark  
44 blue on bottom, light blue in the middle & dark  
45 [redacted]. The Ford was parked in front of the  
46 [redacted] office. [redacted] & [redacted], facing north. I  
47 saw another car leave the [redacted] [redacted] straight  
48 west, but I couldn't identify it. The [redacted] [redacted]  
49 off going north. The car that went west was [redacted]  
50 white or orange & white but I don't know what kind  
51 it was.

52  
53 "After I saw these cars leave one of  
54 the other prisoners asked what time it was & the  
55 [redacted]

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12 "someone else said it was ten minutes to one.  
13 I went back to sleep after that & know nothing  
14 more about the incident.  
15

16 "I have read this statement of five  
17 pages and it is true.  
18

19 " /s/ [REDACTED]  
20

21 "Witness:  
22

[REDACTED], Special Agent, F.B.I.,

[REDACTED], Special Agent, F.B.I.,

Memphis, Tenn."  
25  
26

27 [REDACTED] when shown a group of pictures  
28 which included the photograph of J. F. LEE, JR., held a  
29 card over the lower part of LEE's face and stated that  
30 the hair and eyes looked like that of the man who stood  
31 in the courtroom doorway but said he could not make a  
32 positive identification. He said that he did not recog-  
33 nize JEWEL ALFORD as being one of the men who participated  
34 in the abduction.  
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4. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] of age and resides with his [REDACTED] Mississippi. He was released from the Pearl River County Jail on April 25, 1959, after serving a sentence of fourteen days for issuing a worthless check.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 25, 1959; by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], on April 29, 1959.

[REDACTED] furnished the following signed statement:

"April 25, 1959  
Picayune, Miss.

"I, [REDACTED] do hereby make the following free and voluntary statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who I know to be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in connection with an official investigation.

"I am [REDACTED] years of age having been born at [REDACTED] Miss., on [REDACTED] I reside principally [REDACTED] in Picayune, Miss. On the morning of 4/25/59 I was released at about 9:00 AM having been in jail about 14 days for issuing a worthless check.

"On the night of 4/24/59 I was locked in my cell located on the white tier of the Pearl River County Jail at Poplarville. The cell I was in along with [REDACTED] is located in the Southwest corner of the building. I went to sleep about 9:30 or 10:00 PM. I was awakened sometime later by a loud series of noises and shuffling about including a trash can banging

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"and a glass breaking. I heard someone screaming 'don't let them take me out of here, don't let them kill me,' at least five or six times.

"At that time I looked up and saw [REDACTED] was standing just outside my cell and looking toward the platform leading out of the cell block. I noticed as I looked that way that there was a man standing in the landing with a hat on, wearing dark clothes, a dark face mask and wearing white or light grey gloves. As I looked at him he reached up and turned out a light which hangs over the landing and lights the lower tier at night. b7c

"Seconds later I saw about four or possibly five men on the landing or passway down the stairs carrying what appeared to be a man. On the landing someone said something about 'let me walk' and someone else said 'no.' They had been carrying this body by the arms and legs with a man at each arm and leg. At that moment one of the men struck at the body with a club about three or four times.

"I then heard a voice to the effect 'there's a crowd of people gathering outside.' The men then carried the body out, the door closed and I heard the door locked.

"There was just a faint light over head from the upper tier and I can say these unknown men appeared to be masked, wearing gloves and had dark clothing on them.

"Within several minutes I heard someone running, and heard someone yell 'help, help.' I looked out the window and at that time saw a red metallic Dodge about a 1957 model. This car was moving terribly fast and headed directly west away from the side of the Court House. At the same time a light green over a dark green Ford with a gold stripe along the

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13 "side drove away from the Southwest corner of  
14 the intersection traveling in northerly  
15 direction.

16  
17 "Within about ten minutes Sheriff  
18 Moody appeared on the scene with some other men  
19 I did not see. At about that same time [redacted] b7c  
20 yelled upstairs to C. J. Moody who had a watch b7D  
21 and asked him what time it was. Moody replied  
22 ten minutes to one.

23  
24 "I know none of the men involved nor  
25 am I able to provide any more information con-  
26 cerning this matter.

27  
28 "I have read this two and a quarter  
29 page statement and it is true to the best of  
30 my recollection.

31  
32 " /s/ [redacted] b7c  
33 b7D

34 "Witnessed by:

35 [redacted], Special Agent, Federal Bureau  
36 of Investigation, New Orleans, Louisiana  
37 [redacted] Special Agent, F.B.I., New Orleans,  
38 La., 4/25/59 b7c  
39 b7D

40 [redacted] has advised that he could furnish  
41 no further description of the unknown subjects. He has  
42 stated that after the abductors left the jail with [redacted]  
43 he heard two calls for help coming from the vicinity of  
44 the south entrance of the jail. He advised that a  
45 [redacted] was stopped by two popping sounds, somewhat  
46 similar to a saw blade by hitting something hard with  
47 a stick. He stated that shortly thereafter, he heard  
48 individuals running but did not observe any.

49  
50 He stated that just after [redacted] was  
51 running, he got a glimpse of a red and white car travel-  
52 ing in a westerly direction on Pearl Street, across the  
53 intersection of Julia Street. He stated that this car  
54 was accelerating rapidly. He stated he believes this  
55 car was a 1957 Dodge, losing his opinion on what it  
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12 believes was the swept-wing style of the car. [REDACTED] stated  
13 that after the red and white car passed, a 1950 two-tone  
14 green Ford Fairlane with gold stripes on side, which had been  
15 parked on Julia Street in front of the lawyer's office,  
16 started off in a northerly direction. He stated that he  
17 heard a metallic bang as the Ford proceeded over dips in  
18 the intersection, indicating that the bumper of the Ford may  
19 have struck the pavement at the dips.  
20

21 [REDACTED] further advised that he is of the  
22 opinion that a county or city emblem or tag, was attached  
23 to the front bumper of the Ford in the place used for license,  
24 but that he did not observe what county or city this tag repre-  
25 sented.  
26

27 [REDACTED] advised that the street light on the  
28 southeast corner of the intersection of Julia and Pearl  
29 Streets was burning.  
30

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5. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7c  
Mississippi, and is employed as [REDACTED] b7D  
[REDACTED] He was a prisoner in [REDACTED] section,  
upper tier, of the Pearl River County Jail.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 24, 1959; by SA's  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED], on April 23,  
1959; and by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 15,  
1959.

[REDACTED] furnished the following signed  
statement:

"April 26, 1959  
Poplarville, Miss.

b7c  
b7D

"I, [REDACTED], make the following  
voluntary statement to [REDACTED] and  
[REDACTED] whom I know to be special  
agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

[REDACTED] I am about [REDACTED] and  
reside at [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] for [REDACTED] for the past  
the months I have been confined in the Pearl  
River County Jail at Poplarville.

"A little after midnight of April 24,  
1959, or the early morning of April 25, 1959, I  
was asleep in my bunk. I was in the cell of the  
[REDACTED] of the tier. G. J. Waddy, another  
prisoner, woke me up and I sat at the edge of  
my bunk. I saw one man standing at the door to  
M. C. Parker's cell at the north end of the tier.  
I don't know who opened the cell door but  
this man go in where Parker was. I couldn't  
hear anything but Parker yelling. I didn't see  
anyone else go in Parker's cell and a little  
while Parker came running over to my cell.

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12 "He sat down on one of the bunks, I saw  
13 he was bleeding around the face. The man I had  
14 first seen came over to us. He was a heavy set  
15 man in work clothes with some kind of mask over  
16 his whole face. This was a black mask with no  
17 eye holes. This man carried a short stick about  
18 the size of a mop handle.

19  
20 "A second man came in my cell, probably  
21 coming from the hallway. He was also a heavy set  
22 man with work clothes. He had a mask up to his  
23 eyes. It was a dark cloth of some kind. He had  
24 a short piece of rope with no knots showing. This  
25 looked like half inch rope to me.

26  
27 "A third man came in who had been stand-  
28 ing in the doorway to the cell block. He was a  
29 heavy set man in work clothes probably khaki color.  
30 He had his whole face covered with a mask that had  
31 eye holes. It was a dark color. He wore a hat  
32 of dark color and it looked like a felt hat. I  
33 saw no weapon of any kind in his hands.

34  
35 "After the man with the club hit Parker  
36 a time or two, all three of the men grabbed him  
37 by the feet and dragged him out of my cell. The  
38 same three men had Parker by the feet the last  
39 time I saw them and they were just outside the  
40 cell. I went back to my bunk and sat down and  
41 didn't see any of them again.

42  
43 "I didn't hear any conversation at any  
44 time by any of these three men. I didn't ever see  
45 any else in the cell block. Right away I heard  
46 the door to the court room shut.

47  
48 "I stayed in my cell and I did look  
49 at the windows. In a little while I saw some  
50 cars start up but couldn't tell where they were  
51 going.

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53 "I have read statement of [redacted] and  
54 is correct to my knowledge.  
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12 " /s/ [REDACTED]  
13

14 "Witness:  
15 [REDACTED], Special Agent, FBI,  
16 New Orleans, La.  
17 [REDACTED], Special Agent, FBI,  
18 New Orleans, La."  
19

20 [REDACTED] related that the first individual seen  
21 by him was a man about 5' 6", 180 pounds, with a stocky  
22 build. The second man who had come from the vicinity of  
23 the hallway was a larger man about 5' 11" and weighing  
24 between 180 and 190 pounds. He appeared to have some hair  
25 showing which [REDACTED] recalled to be sandy colored and quite  
26 long. His recollection was that this individual may have  
27 worn blue jeans.  
28

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29 The third individual standing in the doorway  
30 of the cell block was stocky in appearance, 5' 6", and weigh-  
31 ing about 180 pounds. [REDACTED] related that from sleepiness  
32 and fright, he took no great pains to observe more than  
33 necessary. He related that all individuals wore socks and  
34 gloves.  
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6. CHARLIE JAMES MONDY

CHARLIE JAMES MONDY is 25 years of age and is from Picayune, Mississippi. He is usually occupied as a laborer. He is now residing care of his sister [REDACTED] b7c

MONDY was a prisoner in the upper tier (colored section) of the Pearl River County Jail and was being held on a murder charge.

MONDY was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 25, 1959; by SA [REDACTED] on April 26, 1959; by SA [REDACTED] on April 26, 1959; by SA [REDACTED] on April 26, 1959; by SA [REDACTED] on May 12, 1959; and by SA [REDACTED] on May 19, 1959. b7c

CHARLIE JAMES MONDY furnished the following signed statement:

"April 25, 1959  
Poplarville, Miss.

"I, Charlie James Mondy, make the following voluntary statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] whom I know to be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. b7c

"I am 25 years of age and reside in [REDACTED], Miss. My usual employment is as a laborer at [REDACTED].

"Since November, 1958, I have been in custody in the Pearl River County Jail, Poplarville. On the evening of April 24, 1959, I was playing cards in the prison bull pen with several other prisoners. There were four of us in the bull pen. W. D. Parker, another prisoner, was locked in a separate part of the tier. In the tier downstairs there were 4-5000 prisoners.

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12 "We played cards until after midnight.  
13 A little after midnight I talked to Parker while  
14 he was in his bunk. [redacted] was also awake  
15 but he was in his bunk. The other 3 on our tier  
16 were in their bunks and possibly asleep. b7c

17  
18 "At about 12:30 AM on April 25, 1959,  
19 I heard someone come to the courthouse door lead-  
20 ing to the cell block. I heard some low voices  
21 and someone was using a key to open the door. At  
22 that time we thought it was the jailer bringing  
23 in a prisoner.

24  
25 "When the door opened the first man who  
26 came in had a black cloth tied over his face with  
27 only his eyes showing over it. This man turned  
28 to the right which would have been downstairs to  
29 the white prisoners but the next man who came in  
30 after him stopped him and told him "this way"  
31 indicating upstairs to our tier.

32  
33 "This first man had a bunch of keys on  
34 a ring and went to the first cell door upstairs.  
35 He tried several keys before he found the right  
36 one. While he tried to open the door, about ten  
37 men in all came in through the courthouse door  
38 and waited on the stairs. They all had coverings  
39 on their faces. Some had women's stockings pulled  
40 over the lower part of their faces. Some of these  
41 coverings may have been handkerchiefs and there  
42 were different colors, both white and black. I  
43 believe that each man had a cap or hat. Some of  
44 the caps or hats looked new. The shoes were like  
45 work clothes. Every man I saw had cloth gloves  
46 on. The gloves looked new and were solid colors,  
47 either white or brown. These were what I call  
48 work gloves.

49  
50 "All of the men were work clothes in-  
51 cluding blue jeans, khakis and other cotton pants.  
52 A part of them had jackets and jumpers on.

53  
54 "Most of the men had chains of various  
55 kinds. They looked like they had picked up

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11 "different pieces of wood. The clubs were about  
12 2 feet long and a little bigger than a broom  
13 handle.  
14

15 "When they got the cell door open, about  
16 ten men came in where we were. I noticed maybe  
17 two more, dressed like the others, who stood in  
18 the courtroom door.  
19

20 "After the men got up the stairs, I saw  
21 that one of them had a gun, probably in his right  
22 hand. It looked like a short barrel gun, probably  
23 a 38. It had a dark finish and was a revolver.  
24 This man was wearing a black cowboy hat, a dark  
25 mask and blue jeans. He spoke to [redacted] in his  
26 bunk, saying 'Boy, where is M. C. Parker at.'  
27 [redacted] told him Parker was over in his cell,  
28 probably asleep.  
29

30 "All of the men started over to where  
31 the bunk is located in the northeast corner of  
32 the tier. This was my bunk and I was over near  
33 [redacted] at the time. When they saw the bunk was  
34 empty they came back and asked again where Parker  
35 was. I don't remember exactly what was said, but  
36 I pointed to the cell where Parker was locked in  
37 the north west corner of the tier. The men who  
38 talked to me went to the cell door and started  
39 shaking it. He asked me, 'how do you get in this  
40 door, boy.' I showed them where the control box  
41 was in the hall.  
42

43 "The man with the keys started trying  
44 keys again and got the right one about the third  
45 time. When he got the box unlocked, he worked the  
46 lever to open Parker's cell. This was a medium  
47 size man about my size, maybe 5' 8 or 9" tall and  
48 medium weight. I don't remember what he was wearing  
49 clothes he wore.  
50

51 "The man who asked me how to get to  
52 Parker's cell was waiting at the door when the  
53 door opened. He had a stick. He was [redacted], heavy  
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13 "set man. When the door opened he was the first  
14 man in. Parker took a swing at him with a foot  
15 tub and this man jumped back out of the cell.  
16 After he jumped back, he said 'Come on in with  
17 the gun.' He kept asking the man with the gun to  
18 shoot him. A number of the men with clubs went  
19 in the cell, and I saw a few of the men pick up  
20 brooms to use as clubs.

21  
22 "Maybe about 4 or 5 of the men started  
23 beating on Parker. He yelled and tried to fight  
24 back, and broke away and ran over to where I was  
25 sitting at the south end of the tier. About the  
26 same ones came after him again and one of them  
27 picked up a garbage can and threw it and hit  
28 Parker.

29  
30 "The rest of us started moving away  
31 from the south end of the tier and when we got  
32 to the hall door, the man with gun is standing  
33 there. He said 'Stand right here and don't move.'

34  
35 "Some of the others continued to beat  
36 on Parker and he was getting weaker. Whenever he  
37 moved they would hit him again.

38  
39 "When Parker stopped fighting back, they  
40 started to drag him out of the cell block. I  
41 heard someone say 'pull him on out.' Several of the  
42 men grabbed Parker by the feet and started dragging  
43 him out. He was trying to hang on to various ob-  
44 jects and he was also calling for help. He was  
45 pulled down the steps and out the door. He wanted  
46 to get away but they kept dragging him.

47  
48 "All of the men except the one with the  
49 gun had gone out the courtroom door. The man with  
50 the gun went up the steps with the keys and locked the  
51 door. He had no trouble finding the right key to  
52 lock the door. He spoke to us and said 'Look, I  
53 don't want a word out of you all outside there are  
54 plenty more outside waiting.' He went out the court-  
55 room door and shut it.

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12 "I went to the south window because I  
13 could hear Parker yelling at the south side of the  
14 court house. I saw maybe three people standing at  
15 the west side of the court house. I saw another  
16 man come running from the south side of the court  
17 house and go past the west side. About this time  
18 I got back from the window and didn't look again.

19  
20 "I heard several cars start off with a  
21 roar but I couldn't estimate which way they went.  
22 This was about 15 or 20 minutes from the time the  
23 men entered the cell.

24 "I have read this statement of six pages  
25 and it is true to the best of my recollection.

26  
27 " /s/ C. J. Peady

28  
29 "Witness:

30 [REDACTED] Special Agent, FBI, b7c

31 [REDACTED]  
32 [REDACTED] Special Agent, F.B.I.,  
33 New Orleans, La., 4-25-59"

34  
35 Concerning the first individual seen by him  
36 carrying the jailer's keys, MONDY furnished the following  
37 physical description: white male, 28 - 29 years of age,  
38 5' 9" to 5' 10", 160 pounds, with a local accent.

39  
40 Concerning the clothing worn by this indi-  
41 vidual, MONDY stated he was wearing work clothes, color not  
42 recalled but probably blue jeans and was having a new  
43 appearance. He stated that he saw no sign of any type of  
44 watch. He stated this first man had a blind  
45 cloth over a cut up to his eyes and a hat pulled down  
46 so that only his nose showed.

47  
48 Concerning the second individual, who  
49 carried the gun, MONDY furnished the following physical  
50 description: white male in his early 30's, 5' 11", 210  
51 pounds; with stout, muscular build.

52  
53 Regarding his clothing, MONDY stated that  
54 individual wore blue jeans and had a black, wide-brim,  
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12 western style hat. He stated that neither the hat nor the  
13 other clothing appeared to be new. This individual had no  
14 holster.

15  
16 Regarding the third individual observed by  
17 him, who was the first one to enter PARKER's cell, MONDY  
18 furnished the following physical description: white male,  
19 age 30, 5' 6", 175 pounds, stout build with slight appear-  
20 ance of being fat.

21  
22 MONDY stated that this individual wore a  
23 handkerchief as a neck and was recalled to be wearing faded  
24 blue jeans. He stated he could not recall anything further  
25 regarding the clothing worn by this individual.

26  
27 MONDY furnished the following additional  
28 descriptive data concerning the individuals who came into  
29 the jail and the automobiles seen from the jail after the  
30 abduction:

31  
32 MONDY described the individual who possessed  
33 the jail keys as being 5' 9", 160 pounds, wearing a black,  
34 but possibly red, handkerchief over his nose covering the  
35 area over the face below the eyes. He stated he believes  
36 this individual was wearing either blue or khaki slacks.  
37 He advised that this is the individual who came in and  
38 started down the steps and then went back when another  
39 individual said "Up here." He stated that this individual  
40 asked [redacted] where PARKER's cell was and is also the  
41 individual who used a key to open the metal box which  
42 contains levers which released the cell doors. He advised  
43 that this individual did most of the talking for the group.

44  
45 MONDY advised that the individual who  
46 is [redacted] prior to entering the cell was  
47 taller than the [redacted] and could weigh approxi-  
48 mately 175 pounds. He advised that this individual was  
49 wearing faded blue jeans and blue jacket.

50  
51 MONDY described another individual as being  
52 a man who possessed a .38 caliber blue steel revolver, the  
53 being approximately 5' 10" to 5' 11", 160 pounds, wearing  
54 new looking blue jeans and old blue jacket. He stated this  
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12 individual had a coil of rope about 5/8" in diameter in  
13 his right pocket. He stated that this coil of rope  
14 appeared to be new and that it was light colored. He  
15 advised that he later observed this individual carried a  
16 two-foot length of rope approximately 1/2" in diameter. He  
17 stated he believes that this individual was wearing a red  
18 handkerchief or a mask.

19  
20 MONDY could furnish no complete descriptions  
21 of other individuals, but recalled one individual with a  
22 mask consisting of a stocking cap pulled over his face.  
23 This mask was light tan cloth and had eye slits. He  
24 stated that this individual was also wearing a hat and  
25 was one of the several individuals who went into PARKER's  
26 cell and scuffled with PARKER. He described this individual  
27 as being of medium build, being neither tall nor short.

28  
29 MONDY further stated that he believes nine  
30 or ten men came into the jail, all wore masks, and all  
31 wore gloves, the gloves being both white and brown cotton  
32 work gloves.

33  
34 After these individuals removed PARKER from  
35 the jail, he advised he noted two automobiles leave the  
36 area of the intersection at the southeast corner of the  
37 courthouse. He stated that a red and white 1957 Oldsmobile  
38 "88" proceeded west on Pearl Street through the intersection  
39 of Julia. He advised that he noted a 1958 Ford two-tone  
40 blue dark top and bottom with light blue sides parked in  
41 front of the law office on Julia. He advised that after  
42 the Oldsmobile passed the intersection, the Ford started  
43 off in a northerly direction on Julia Street.

44  
45 MONDY furnished the following additional  
46 signed statement:

47  
48 New Orleans, La.  
49 May 12, 1957.

50  
51 "I, Charlie James Mondy, make the  
52 following voluntary statement to [redacted]  
53 [redacted] and [redacted] when [redacted] to  
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12 "be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of  
13 Investigation. I was born November 14, 1933,  
14 in Jeff Davis County, Miss. I presently reside  
15 at 3117 Laurel Place in New Orleans.  
16

17  
18 "While I was confined in the Pearl  
19 River County Jail in Poplarville, Miss., I saw  
20 a gang of men abduct M. C. Parker early on the  
21 morning of April 25, 1959. Within about 30  
22 minutes after the gang left, Sheriff Woody and  
23 a strange man came in the jail and the Sheriff  
24 came part way up the stairs to our tier. He  
25 looked around the tier and over towards Parker's  
26 cell. He asked the group of us, 'Did they get  
27 the right one?' I answered 'Yes sir, I guess so.  
28 They got Parker.' The Sheriff asked what happened  
29 to the keys and we couldn't tell him. He tried  
30 our tier door and found it was locked. He then  
31 left the jail.

32 "The other prisoners in our tier were  
33 [redacted] and [redacted] b7c  
34 All of them heard the Sheriff say this.

35  
36 "I read this statement and it is true  
37 to the best of my knowledge.

38  
39 " /s/ C. J. Wendy

40  
41 "Witnesses:

42 [redacted] Special Agent, FBI, b7c

43 [redacted] NEW ORLEANS, LA.

44 [redacted] Special Agent, FBI,

45  
46  
47 MONDY stated that the connection with the  
48 Sheriff was white, stout build, about 40 years of age.  
49 He could not describe him further or recall what type of  
50 clothing was worn.

51  
52 MONDY stated ALFORD came to the jail on  
53 April 24, 1959, at about 7:00 PM and was alone at the jail  
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MONDY could recall. ALFORD did not return again until after PARKER's abduction. He stated positively that he never saw ALFORD or anyone else give the jail keys to anyone MONDY believed might have a connection with the abduction. He said he knew there was a rumor going around that probably the jailer gave the keys to the gang, but stated he had no information whatever to support such an allegation.

Regarding security of the jail keys as observed by him during his incarceration, MONDY stated that usually ALFORD unlocked the jail door and came in with any visitors. MONDY recalled seeing one individual who occasionally let himself in with the keys to bring meals to the prisoners. This man is a business partner of ALFORD in the operation of a body shop or garage in Poplarville. MONDY could not recall that this individual ever came in by himself while PARKER was incarcerated.

He said he has no fear of telling anything he might know, but that he cannot identify any member of the gang who came in the jail to take PARKER and knows of no action or failure of action on the part of Sheriff [redacted] or any member of his department which helped set up the abduction.

MONDY has been shown pictures of individuals possibly implicated in this case and has identified from photographs JAMES ALFORD and [redacted] the latter being [redacted] times [redacted] stated that in no way could he identify [redacted] as being among the mob which entered the jail to rescue PARKER.

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12 "the bottom floor but the man who came in first  
13 said 'it's this way' and came up the stairs to the  
14 second floor where I was. The man who was through  
15 the door first asked me 'Where is E. G. Parker?'  
16 I told him he was in the other cell - the one on the  
17 north side. He went on down to that cell and another  
18 man along with him and two or three others asked  
19 'How do you get in there?' The man who asked that I  
20 noticed had a set of jail keys in his hand. Monday,  
21 one of the prisoners told him he had to unlock the  
22 box on the outside of the cell before he could get  
23 in. The man with the keys then put a key in the box  
24 and unlocked the box the first time he tried. He  
25 then worked the lever and Parker's cell door came  
26 open. He worked the right lever the first time.  
27

28 "When the cell door came open the man  
29 who had come in the jail first, who had a stick or  
30 club in his hand, went into Parker's cell. Several  
31 more men went in right behind him. Another man  
32 handed a gun to the one with the keys and he then  
33 stood at the cell door with the gun. The one with  
34 the club ran over to Parker and started hitting him  
35 with the club. Some more of the men started hitting  
36 him with three brooms they had picked up in the jail.  
37 Parker broke loose and ran into the other cell and  
38 lay on a bunk. The men followed him in and started  
39 beating him again with the club and the brooms. He  
40 grabbed the club and got it away from the man who  
41 had it. He started hitting at the men with the club  
42 but I could not tell if he hit anyone, hard enough  
43 to hurt. During this beating Parker screamed three  
44 or four times very loud calling for help.  
45

46 "The men finally beat Parker down and  
47 caught him by the vest so they dragged him out of the  
48 cell and toward the stairs. As they were going down  
49 he went by and they beat and kicked him down and  
50 dragged him on downstairs. At the door Parker  
51 Parker ask the men to let him walk. They would not  
52 do this and dragged him through the door into the  
53 Court House. The man with the keys and gun then  
54 closed and locked the door.  
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12 "A minute or two later I heard Parker  
13 cry for help from the yard at the south side of  
14 the Court House. He called for help twice loud  
15 enough to be heard for some distance. I then  
16 heard a car start. It was a V-6 which was quiet  
17 and sounded like it was in good shape. This car  
18 took off fast and went straight west. I heard  
19 at least two other cars start then and leave but  
20 I could not tell anything about how they went.  
21 One of the other cars was a V-8 and the other a  
22 6.  
23

24 "I don't believe I can identify any of  
25 these men if I saw them again. However, I  
26 noticed some of them closely and believe there  
27 were about ten in all.  
28

29 "The man with the club who was the first  
30 one in the jail was a white man wearing a white  
31 stocking over his face with eye holes cut in it.  
32 He was about five feet eleven, weighed about 180  
33 or 190, wore a blue overalls jumper and blue jeans  
34 which were old and faded. He had on a khaki shirt  
35 and wore brown cloth gloves. His eyes were  
36 sandy colored and he was hurrying the others and  
37 used the expression 'make haste' at least once.  
38

39 "The club this man carried was round  
40 and well finished and was made of wood that had  
41 a yellow color. It was about 2 feet long and the  
42 big end was about the size of a pool cue. It  
43 tapered smaller at the other end and looked like  
44 a policeman's stick.  
45

46 "The man with the club was white and  
47 wore a piece of black cloth over his eyes from  
48 his forehead down. It did not have any holes in  
49 it and must have been thin enough to see through.  
50 It was tied at the back of his head. He was  
51 wearing an old light colored felt hat which was  
52 dirty. Had on blue overalls jumper which had  
53 been worn but was not faded. Wore a pair of  
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12 "brown cotton gloves and the skin above the gloves  
13 and at the back of neck was sunburned. His voice  
14 was deep and rough and did not sound like educated  
15 men. This man was short, about five feet six, was  
16 heavy built and looked like he weighed about 180  
17 or 185. His stomach was moderately large and from  
18 actions, voice, and appearance estimate age as 30  
19 to 40. Gun which he was handed appeared a .38  
20 blue steel snub nose with heavy frame.

21  
22 "One of the men I noticed appeared to be  
23 young. He had a white handkerchief over his face,  
24 wore a cap believed khaki, had on old khaki work  
25 clothes, appeared in early 20s, was about 5 feet 4  
26 inches, and weighed about 135 pounds.

27  
28 "Another man I noticed was the man who  
29 handed the gun to the man with keys. He was in his  
30 30s, wore a red bandana handkerchief over his face,  
31 was bareheaded and had long sandy hair combed straight  
32 back. He was about the size of the man with the milk  
33 and wore a blue jumper and khaki pants, both of these  
34 old and faded. In his right hand jumper pocket I saw  
35 a rope which appeared to be new. It was a green rope  
36 and about one half inch in diameter.

37  
38 "The other men I did not notice well  
39 enough to describe.

40  
41 "This statement of 5 handwritten pages  
42 has been read to me. It is true to the best of my  
43 knowledge.

44  
45 " /s/ [REDACTED]

46  
47 "Witnessed:

48 [REDACTED] Sp. Agent, [REDACTED]

49 New Orleans, 4-23-39

50 [REDACTED] F.B.I., New Orleans, La.

51  
52 Having furnished the foregoing of my state-  
53 ment [REDACTED] advised that in addition to the in-formation  
54 set forth in this statement he recalled that the initials  
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12 who abducted M. C. PARKER talked like farmers; that he did  
13 not notice if any of the individuals in this mob were left-  
14 handed; that he noticed no keys hanging from their belts  
15 or any other peculiarities in the type of dress or mannerism  
16 of these individuals which would assist in their identifi-  
17 cation. He stated to his knowledge these individuals left  
18 nothing in the jail other than a broken broom which the  
19 prisoners threw into a trash can on the morning of April 25,  
20 1959, when they were cleaning up the jail.

21 [redacted] stated that when M. C. PARKER was  
22 taken from the jail on the night of April 24, 1959, he was  
23 wearing a white, vest-type undershirt and a pair of dark  
24 dress pants. He pointed out that PARKER was not wearing  
25 either shoes or socks.

26  
27 [redacted] has furnished the following further  
28 description regarding the persons who entered the jail and  
29 the automobiles seen by him from the jail window:

30  
31 [redacted] described one individual as being  
32 5' 10" to 6', slim build, wearing blue-jean pants and  
33 blue-jean jumper, and relatively new brown cotton gloves.  
34 He advised this person was wearing a mask which consisted  
35 of a cotton stocking, light color, pulled over his head.  
36 He advised that this mask had eye holes cut out and this  
37 individual wore no hat. He stated that this individual was  
38 the first individual who entered the jail and started down  
39 the steps to the first tier, but turned and went up the  
40 steps when someone behind said 'up this way.'

41  
42 He advised that this is the same individual  
43 who first went to PARKER's cell door and shook the cell door  
44 [redacted] the man with the keys opened the cell door this  
45 individual entered the cell with two others and scuffled  
46 with PARKER. [redacted] stated that this individual carried a  
47 club approximately 300 feet long, 1 1/2 inches in diameter at  
48 one end and tapered down at the handle.

49  
50 He advised that this individual and two  
51 others retreated from PARKER's cell after PARKER attempted  
52 to hit them with a foot tub throwing water on the cell floor.  
53 He stated that this individual called to the man with the  
54 [redacted]

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keys to bring the gun and shoot PARKER. He said that this individual and two others after the man with the keys apparently did not want to shoot PARKER, re-entered PARKER's cell, and again scuffled with PARKER. He advised that after PARKER ran from his cell into the south cell, this individual and others again attacked PARKER in the south cell. [REDACTED] stated that PARKER took the club away from this individual.

[REDACTED] described the man with the keys as being approximately 5' 6", stocky build, fat rather than muscular, somewhat portly and weighing approximately 170 pounds. He advised that this individual wore a mask which looked like a piece of black cloth, probably obtained from a woman's slip. [REDACTED] stated that this individual was thin. He also stated he believed this individual was wearing brown cotton work gloves and blue denim jumper. He advised he is not sure as to the color of this individual's pants.

[REDACTED] stated that this individual is the one who unlocked the door at the top of the stairs which leads to the upper tier cell block. He advised that this individual is also the one who used a key to open the metal box in which were located the levers which control the cell doors. He advised that this individual is the one who, after opening the cell block door, entered where PARKER was. He advised that this individual is the one who was holding a gun when the others requested that he leave and shoot PARKER. He advised that this is the individual who asked WONDY how to operate the cell doors.

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[REDACTED] described a third individual as being approximately 5' tall, slim build, wearing blue jeans and a white shirt, and wearing a mask consisting of a bandana tied around his head in color. He stated this individual wore a hat and had short hair. He advised that this individual is the one who stood at the door leading into the upper tier cell block. He advised that this individual possessed a blue steel snub-nose revolver, which he handed to the man with the keys upon the individuals' request for the man with the keys to shoot PARKER. [REDACTED] described another individual as being approximately 5' 5" tall, 135 pounds, slim build, wearing

12 old khaki work clothes. [redacted] could furnish no further  
13 description of this individual other than that he was  
14 wearing a mask and gloves.

16 [redacted] described another individual as  
17 being similar in build to the man who possessed the keys.  
18 He advised that this individual was standing on the landing  
19 inside the jail door and he noted this individual screw out  
20 the light bulb in front of him. [redacted] advised that this  
21 light bulb is located on the ceiling of the first tier  
22 directly in front of the landing. [redacted] could furnish  
23 no further description of this individual other than his  
24 belief that this individual was wearing a black mask and  
25 gloves.

27 [redacted] stated that he recalls another  
28 individual stayed in the vicinity of the cell block door  
29 near [redacted] bunk; however, he could furnish no description  
30 of this individual.

32 [redacted] stated that he believes eight to ten  
33 unknown subjects entered the jail. He stated that all were  
34 masked and wore gloves. He advised that he observed only  
35 one gun, although some of the individuals had their hands  
36 inside their shirts giving the appearance of carrying a  
37 concealed weapon. [redacted] advised that the gun he observed  
38 was a .38 caliber [redacted] blue steel revolver.

40 [redacted] advised that after these individuals  
41 took PARKER from the jail, he went back to a window next to  
42 his bunk after he heard two screams which he believes came  
43 from the area of the south entrance of the courthouse. He  
44 and he looked out the window and observed a red car  
45 while traveling west on West Street and continu-  
46 ing through the intersection at the southeast corner of the  
47 courthouse block. [redacted] stated he believes this was a 1937  
48 Oldsmobile with a red top and [redacted] He advised he  
49 observed no other automobiles.

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8. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] years of age, is a [REDACTED] Louisiana, by occupation and resides on [REDACTED] receiving his mail at [REDACTED]. He was a prisoner in the upper tier (colored section) of the Pearl River County Jail, having been arrested April 7, 1959, on a charge of driving while drunk.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 25, 1959; by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 26, 1959; by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 28, 1959; and by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 15, 1959.

[REDACTED] furnished the following signed statement:

"Poplarville, Mississippi  
April 25, 1959

"I, [REDACTED], make 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 to induce me to make this statement. I am making it in connection with an official investigation being conducted by the FBI.

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"I am [REDACTED] years of age, having been born on [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] La. I am a [REDACTED] employed as [REDACTED]. I live on [REDACTED], and receive my mail at [REDACTED]. I was arrested on April 7, 1959 for driving while drunk and have been in the Pearl River County Jail at Poplarville since then.

"I occupy a bunk in a cell with [REDACTED]. I went to sleep last night, Friday, April 24, 1959, and was awakened shortly

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13 "after midnight by noises in the cell block. J. J.  
14 Mundy, another negro prisoner, was nudging us to  
15 try to awaken me.

16 "When I got awake I noticed about nine or  
17 ten men, with faces covered, in the cell block. One  
18 of the men was pushing on the door of W. C. Parker's  
19 cell while another man was trying to release the  
20 lock with the key in the control box. After the  
21 door was opened one of the men said to the others to go  
22 in and get him. Parker was yelling for help. I  
23 noticed a lot of water was spilled on the floor and  
24 figured it probably came from a foot tub. I heard  
25 Parker being beaten by sticks the men had with them.  
26 He got loose from them somehow and ran into our cell.  
27 His face was bloodied. The men came after him and  
28 one of them threw the garbage can at him. Parker  
29 yelled at us and asked if we were going to let them  
30 do that to him. Parker had gotten one of the pipes  
31 and was swinging it but I don't know if he hit anyone.  
32 I ran into the shower stall in our cell and stayed  
33 there.

34  
35 "I heard the men dragging Parker and  
36 looked out of the shower stall and saw them dragging  
37 him down the stairs by his heels. When about half  
38 way down the stairs I heard Parker yell he would wait  
39 if they would let him. One of the men locked the  
40 steel door at the head of the stairs and they all  
41 left. I heard Parker holler about a half hour they  
42 got outside. I heard three or four or more cars pull  
43 away from the side street of the jail.

44 "I do not think it was more than 10 or 15  
45 minutes after [redacted] when everyone was gone.

46  
47  
48 "This three page statement is true to me  
49 by Mr. [redacted] and it is true.

50  
51 " /s/ [redacted] b7c  
52 b7d

53 "Witnesses:

54 [redacted] Special Agent, FBI,  
55 [redacted] 4-25-59

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[REDACTED], Special Agent, FBI,  
New Orleans, La. 4-25-59"

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[REDACTED] additionally described the subjects  
he saw as follows:

The man with the red handkerchief over his  
face was 5' 6", between 150 to 160 pounds. He did not  
remember whether he wore a cap or hat, wore blue jean  
pants and blue denim jacket.

The man with short nose revolver had a  
woman's dark stocking over his face and wore blue denim  
pants. He is not sure whether he had a light or dark shirt  
or jacket.

Another man was dressed in a light red  
flannel shirt.

He stated he believed more than one man had  
a gun, but he could not specify who had the guns or the  
number of guns present. One man had a short piece of thin  
white rope, similar to clothesline rope. One man had a  
roll of the same type of rope (clothesline) in his jacket  
pocket. This man was dressed in blue denim pants and jacket  
also.

As to the rest of the men, [REDACTED] stated he  
saw some with white canvas gloves and he is not sure possibly  
that two or three other men may have had stockings pulled  
over their faces. All had long-sleeved shirts or jackets  
and most of them had some kind of a stick or club in their  
hands.

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[REDACTED] furnished the following further  
descriptive data concerning the individuals who entered  
the Pearl River County Jail:

[REDACTED] stated that he recalls one individual  
standing in front of FARMER's cell door and this individual  
was wearing a mask consisting of a brown stocking. [REDACTED]  
advised he observed another individual also at the  
door and this individual was wearing a red handkerchief over

his face and was wearing a hat. He advised that he observed another individual standing at the cell block door, holding a snub-nose revolver. He advised that this individual was wearing a handkerchief mask and a hat pulled down over his forehead.

He stated he recalls another individual wearing blue jeans and blue jumper who also carried a piece of rope and who also had a coil of new rope in the pocket of the jumper. [REDACTED] stated he could furnish no better description of the individuals as he retreated to the shower stall when these individuals were in the cell block.

He advised that all persons he observed were wearing masks and were wearing gloves. He stated that all gloves he observed were white cotton gloves. He advised that most of these individuals were wearing blue-jean pants and blue jumpers. He stated that he observed no extremely tall individuals or extremely short individuals and that he observed no extremely fat individuals.

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9. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Mississippi, was a prisoner in the [REDACTED]  
the Pearl River County Jail. He was in [REDACTED]  
charge of murder.

He was interviewed on April 25, 1959, by  
SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] by SA's  
[REDACTED] on April 28, 1959;  
by SA's [REDACTED] on  
April 28, 1959; and by SA's [REDACTED]  
on May 15, 1959.

[REDACTED] furnished the following signed state-  
ment:

"Poplarville, Mississippi  
April 25, 1959

"I, [REDACTED],  
following voluntary observation of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who  
identified themselves to me as Special Agents  
of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No  
threats or promises have been made to induce  
me to make this statement.

[REDACTED] years of age and [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] I am charged [REDACTED]  
and [REDACTED] in the Pearl River County Jail,  
Poplarville, Mississippi.

"On the midnight of Friday,  
April 24, 1959, I was [REDACTED] in my cell in  
the jail. I heard someone rattling [REDACTED] on  
the wooden door at the bottom of the jail stairs,  
which door separates the courtroom from the  
jail. I saw one man come up the stairs and he  
was carrying keys in his hand. He [REDACTED] several  
keys in the lock of the door at the bottom of the  
stairs. This door is made of [REDACTED] and leads to

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13 "the cell block. This man had a woman's stocking  
14 over his head. The stocking had holes cut for the  
15 eyes so the man could see. He opened the door and  
16 asked C. J. Mundy, a prisoner, where J. C. Parker  
17 was. Mundy pointed to the cell where Parker was  
18 and said he was in that cell. The man asked how  
19 to get in that cell. Mundy told him how to unlock  
20 the cell door, that is, by placing one of the keys  
21 the man had in a box that then opens the cell block  
22 door. The man then opened the door.

23  
24 "By this time there were about eight or  
25 nine more men, all masked, in the corridor outside  
26 of the cell blocks. After the man with the keys  
27 opened Parker's cell door all the men crowded in  
28 the cell or corridor.

29  
30 "The light bulb in Parker's cell had been  
31 out before the men came into the cell so I do not  
32 know if Parker was asleep or not. The men did not  
33 turn on the bulb. There was a bulb burning in the  
34 cell block I was in.

35  
36 "The men tried to drag Parker out of his  
37 cell. He fought them with his hands and picked up  
38 a foot tub and threw it at them. Parker yelled for  
39 help and called to Mundy to help him. Parker yelled  
40 to all of us and asked if we were going to leave  
41 them do that to him. The same man who opened the  
42 doors with the keys turned to us and had a gun in  
43 his hand. He said not to move.

44  
45 "Parker was struggling with the men and  
46 ran his head into the cell door. I occupied  
47 a cell with a man who ran directly across from  
48 Parker's cell. Our cell door opened at the same  
49 time. We can't leave because of the cell door  
50 being locked.

51  
52 "The men beat Parker and dragged him by  
53 the heels of his feet. He did not say a word.  
54 He had on a pair of greyish leathery pants and  
55 an undershirt. He yelled to the men that he would

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13 "walk but they did not leave go of his heels.  
14 He yelled for help all the time. The men  
15 dragged Parker by his heels down the steps.  
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17 "While the men were beating Parker  
18 I stood in my cell with my two cellmates, [redacted] b7c  
19 [redacted] and [redacted] Mundy and [redacted] b7D  
20 had bunks on the outside of the cell. [redacted] and  
21 they came into our cell, also.  
22

23 "After the masked man dragged Parker  
24 down the stairs one of them locked the steel  
25 door at the head of the stairs. I think he is  
26 the same one who had the keys in the beginning.  
27 He told us not to make any noise because there  
28 were more men outside. We stayed quiet and  
29 smoked about three cigarettes. Mr. Moody, the  
30 Sheriff, then came and asked if we were all  
31 there. We told him some men took Parker away.  
32

33 "This statement was read to me. It  
34 is four pages I have signed each page that it  
35 is truth.  
36

37 " /s/ [redacted]  
38

39 "Witnesses:  
40

41 [redacted], Special Agent, F.B.I.,  
42 [redacted], Special Agent, FBI,  
43 [redacted], 4/25/59"  
44

45 [redacted] advised additionally that the first man  
46 in the jail is [redacted] and as follows:  
47

48 He wore a lady's jacket, [redacted] gave his  
49 head, dark work clothes, possibly blue [redacted]  
50 separate jumper of the same type material, possibly denim,  
51 buttoned not zippered, was about 5' 10", 200 pounds, had  
52 a firm voice, wore a cap or hat, but could not remember  
53 which. This man had the keys to the first steel door and  
54 later on this same man had a blue snub-nose .38 caliber  
55 revolver.  
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[redacted] advised he could furnish no description relative to unknown subjects, but described the rest of the group as follows:

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He stated all wore hats or caps pulled down to their eyes, with handkerchiefs up to their eyes. All wore work clothes or dark clothes or had long-sleeved shirts or jackets on; wore soft, light-colored cotton gloves, except one man, who wore heavy work gloves. He could not further describe these gloves. He noted there were possibly some straw hats worn by the men, but he could not identify these further. No names were mentioned by any unknown subjects and they merely directed their remarks to one another without specifically naming the individual by any name or any nicknames.

[redacted] furnished the following descriptive data concerning the individuals who entered the Carl River County Jail:

[redacted] stated that he was awake in his bunk in the south cell when he heard a rattling of keys outside the jail door. He advised that the first individual who entered the jail door was wearing a woman's tan straw hat over his head with eye holes cut out. He advised [redacted] individual did most of the talking for the group. [redacted] stated that he could furnish no description of any particular individual, but estimated nine or ten individuals came into the jail. He advised that all of these individuals wore gloves and most of the individuals wore handkerchief masks.

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He advised that he saw only one gun, this being a blue steel revolver and this gun was in the possession of an individual who never entered either cell, but who stood near the door to the cell block.

He advised that most of these individuals were wearing blue work clothes and that some were wearing khaki pants. He stated he observed one individual wearing a straw hat like most farmers wear.

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12 B. OTHER WITNESSES

13  
14 1. JOHN REYER

15  
16 JOHN REYER, Route A, Poplarville, Mississippi,  
17 was interviewed on April 25, 1969, by SA [REDACTED]  
18 and [REDACTED]. He was again interviewed on April 25  
19 & 28, 1969, by SA's [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. b7c  
20 [REDACTED] REYER furnished the following information:

21  
22 At about 11:30 p.m., Friday, April 25, 1969,  
23 JOE REYER, brother of JOHN REYER, came to JOHN's home and  
24 said his wife was sick and wanted JOHN to drive them to  
25 the hospital in Poplarville, Mississippi, about three miles  
26 distant. JOHN REYER got dressed, got in his pickup truck  
27 and drove to JOE's house nearby and looked at his watch  
28 and noted it was 11:45 PM. At about that time JOE and his  
29 wife came out and he drove them straight to the hospital,  
30 arriving at about 11:55 PM.

31  
32 JOE took his wife in the front of the hos-  
33 pital and JOHN walked out in front of his car. He heard  
34 a noise up in the jail which is located across the corner  
35 from the hospital in the upper portion of the County  
36 Courthouse. At about this time two nurses came out on  
37 the front porch of the hospital and he walked up on the  
38 front porch with them. He heard a man's voice from the  
39 jail call for help several times.

40  
41 At about this time he started to walk to  
42 the Star Cafe on Main Street to get a cup of coffee. A  
43 [REDACTED] was with him. In walking, he turned around, they  
44 went to the southwest corner of the courthouse yard and  
45 went down the sidewalk, south of the courthouse,  
46 headed east and when he reached a point about twenty feet  
47 from the sidewalk leading to the jail entrance at the  
48 courthouse, he noted a group of men on the steps of the  
49 house steps. He estimated there were eight in the group  
50 in this group. About four of these men were carrying a man  
51 being, holding him by his arms and legs and carrying him  
52 head first. This person appeared to be in a dazed  
53 up and he observed that his face was covered with blood.  
54 He pointed out the moon was shining and he thought a street  
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12 light was shining on a corner nearby and the light was  
13 fairly good. He knew PARKER was in jail and was to be  
14 tried the following Monday and reached a conclusion  
15 that this person must have been PARKER. He pointed out,  
16 however, that he had never seen PARKER. He could not  
17 definitely state whether or not this person was white  
18 or Negro because he had only a brief glimpse of his  
19 face and then noted it was covered with blood. He could  
20 furnish no description of the clothing, if any, worn by  
21 the person being carried, stating this group of men  
22 fairly well surrounded the man they were carrying.

23  
24 He said this group of men were moving  
25 at a "fast trot," neither walking nor running. PARKER  
26 stopped, about twenty feet from the courthouse sidewalk,  
27 when he first saw this group of men, and did not move  
28 from this spot for at least forty-five seconds. While  
29 standing there he saw the group approach a car parked at  
30 the curb at the end of the sidewalk leading to the  
31 courthouse and he first noted the car when one of the  
32 group opened the back door of the car, which was a  
33 four-door sedan. The men tossed the man they were carry-  
34 ing into the back seat of the car, head first, and he  
35 believed two of the men got into the back seat with him.  
36 He hurriedly got into the front seat. He did not think all  
37 the group got into this car but did not know where the  
38 remainder of the group went. He could recall seeing no  
39 other car parked or leaving this area. The four-door sedan  
40 pulled away from the curb with the tires curving toward  
41 west, and crossed the street which runs between the court-  
42 house and the hospital still headed west. At that time,  
43 HEYER commenced walking in an easterly direction on the  
44 sidewalk south of the courthouse, still heading east.  
45 He did not know what happened to [REDACTED] as he has  
46 not seen him since. [REDACTED] was taken to the  
47 hospital. He recalls the lights were not on the car when  
48 when he first observed it parked at the curb. He does not  
49 remember whether or not the lights were on when the  
50 car left the scene. He could furnish no description or  
51 description of the automobile as to color, make or model,  
52 other than to say it was a four-door sedan. He was  
53 not frightened, but did not want to get involved in the  
54 matter in any manner, and just wanted to get out of there.  
55 He did not notice whether or not the car bore a license plate.

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12 REYER heard no conversation whatsoever from  
13 this group of men and did not hear a sound from the person  
14 being carried. None of the group said anything to REYER  
15 and he does not think they even noticed his standing there.  
16 He did not notice anyone else in the area during this  
17 period of time.

18  
19 REYER described the group as all wearing  
20 common work clothing, not dressed-up clothing, and thinking  
21 at least part of the men were wearing dark shoes. He  
22 could not say whether or not they wore white shoes, as they  
23 were all masked. He did not know whether or not they wore  
24 gloves. He saw no sticks or clubs or guns in possession  
25 of any of the group. He could not say whether or not  
26 any of the men were wearing hats. It was difficult for  
27 him to furnish a physical description of the men as some  
28 of them were walking humped over carrying the person and  
29 they were all moving fast. REYER is 5'6" in height. He  
30 did not think any of the men were taller. ~~There~~ were no  
31 real tall men in the group. *There*

32  
33 REYER could not recognize any of the group  
34 as someone he might know.

35  
36 REYER pointed out he has read magazines, does  
37 not wear glasses except to read, and was not wearing glasses  
38 on this occasion.

39  
40 REYER noted one man to be wearing a black  
41 mask which appeared to have been pulled over his head and  
42 which reached to his neck. He noted no eye holes in this  
43 mask. He thought one man had a blue bandana under his  
44 chin. He noted no white masks in the group.

45  
46 With the exception of the masks reportedly  
47 worn by the group of men, REYER is very positive that he never told anyone that the  
48 masks had slipped down on the faces of any of the men  
49 and that to the best of his recollection all of the men  
50 the group were still wearing their masks at the time he  
51 saw them.

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54 REYER was also very emphatic in stating

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12 he was misunderstood or misquoted if anyone quoted him as  
13 saying he had seen three or four cars south of the courthouse  
14 or leaving that area at about the time victim PARKER was  
15 abducted.

16  
17 He still claimed he was unable to furnish  
18 a description of the car parked at the curb into which  
19 PARKER was thrown, other than to say that the car was not  
20 a white car and that it was a four-door car.

21  
22 REYER was also positive that no vehicle  
23 proceeded from a point south of the courthouse in an  
24 easterly direction at about the time the car containing  
25 the victim proceeded in a westerly direction.

26  
27 REYER was very persistent in his statement  
28 that he did not recognize any of this group of men, was  
29 unable to furnish a good physical description of them  
30 because they were hurrying and because of the poor light,  
31 and was not positive but thought some of the group might  
32 have been wearing gloves. He again emphasized he did not  
33 see any of this group with their masks off or partially  
34 off their faces.

35  
36 REYER was also very positive in his statements  
37 that he did not turn around and watch the departing car  
38 which contained the victim after it had pulled away from the  
39 curb and was positive in his statement that he immediately  
40 proceeded to the Star Cafe, located several blocks away on  
41 Main Street, for a cup of coffee. He spent a short period  
42 of time drinking coffee and then returned to the courthouse  
43 and went into the Sheriff's Office with a small group of  
44 men. He was positive he went into the Sheriff's Office  
45 at [redacted] before going to the Star Cafe.

46  
47 REYER also recalled that when he first looked  
48 up at the jail after hearing a car which had the lights  
49 were on in the jail. Shortly thereafter, the lights went  
50 out.

51  
52 REYER advised he had received no threats,  
53 was in collusion with no one to withhold any information  
54 and was, in fact, doing his very best to furnish all the

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13 information in his possession as to what transpired on  
14 the night of April 24, 1959. He pointed out again that  
15 things happened so fast and so suddenly that he was just  
16 unable to note anything that happened other than what he  
17 had previously related.

18  
19 2. [REDACTED]

20  
21 [REDACTED]  
22 [REDACTED] was interviewed on April 25, 1959, by SA's  
23 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He furnished  
24 the following information:

25  
26 He advised that on Friday, April 24, 1959,  
27 he had been working in New Orleans, Louisiana, and that  
28 he caught a bus Friday evening for Poplarville, Missis-  
29 sippi, arrived at Poplarville at approximately 10:30 P. M.,  
30 April 24, 1959, after which he walked to the Pearl River  
31 County Hospital to the rear of the Pearl River County  
32 Courthouse. He explained that his father was ill at the  
33 hospital and that on his arrival his wife was there and  
34 had parked the family automobile directly in front of the  
35 hospital. He stated his father was confined to a bed in  
36 the southwest corner and in the last of [REDACTED] he  
37 stated he stayed with his father until between 8:00 and  
38 9:00 the following morning, April 25, 1959.

39  
40 [REDACTED] stated that sometime near midnight  
41 he heard some of the nurses at the hospital, [REDACTED] identify  
42 he cannot furnish, say that some Negroes were in a fight  
43 at the jail. He said he went out in front of the hospital  
44 and did to take a jacket from his car, when he did,  
45 [REDACTED] he saw not more than one or two yards  
46 from his car and that [REDACTED] he heard some [REDACTED]  
47 talking by what he could hear [REDACTED] persons  
48 along the south side of the courthouse. [REDACTED] did he  
49 could not tell if the individuals he saw [REDACTED] or  
50 white. He stated he did not go to the area [REDACTED]  
51 was afraid that he would know some of [REDACTED] with.

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14 not want to get into any argument. He said the loud  
15 talking sounded to him like an argument was in progress.  
16 [redacted] stated he walked back from his car to the front  
17 sidewalk of the hospital, at which time he heard two or  
18 three cars leave in a hurry, stating he heard the tires  
19 squealing as they left. He insisted he did not see the  
20 cars and said he could not furnish a description of them.

21  
22 [redacted] stated that from his position he  
23 did not see anyone he knew at the south end of the  
24 courthouse.

25  
26 [redacted] stated that shortly thereafter  
27 Sheriff MOODY came to a point in front of the hospital  
28 and that he accompanied the Sheriff and J. W. WILSON,  
29 PETE CARVER, B. F. ORR and [redacted] from the  
30 courthouse via the south stairs. [redacted] stated that he  
31 went up the south steps to the courthouse but did not see  
32 any keys lying around, but he did see what appeared to be  
33 a few drops of blood along the corridor of the courthouse.

34  
35 [redacted] stated he accompanied the above  
36 individuals up the stairs to the jail area, at which  
37 time the door was locked and that all returned to the  
38 first floor to look for the keys. He stated he, in fact,  
39 assisted in a search along the corridor for the keys to  
40 the jail and that during the search someone found the  
41 keys and gave them to the Sheriff.

42  
43 [redacted] was closely questioned as to  
44 whether he knew any of the individuals who were  
45 in the courthouse a few minutes earlier at the  
46 south entrance to the courthouse. He denied knowing any  
47 of the persons who were there.

48  
49 [redacted] was again interviewed on  
50 2, 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]  
51 [redacted] at which time he advised that he was employed  
52 at the Waste Glass & Mirror Company, 1115 [redacted] and  
53 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana. He then furnished  
54 the following information regarding his activities on the  
55 night of April 24, 1959:  
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[redacted] arrived in Poplarville, Mississippi, at about 10:20 PM by bus from New Orleans, Louisiana. Upon getting off of the bus he went immediately to the Pearl River County Hospital where he found his car parked in the parking area in front of the hospital at the end of the sidewalk leading from the front of the hospital to the parking area. After placing his clothes in the car, he entered the hospital and went directly to the room of his father, [redacted]

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In the room of [redacted] he saw his wife, [redacted] another patient named [redacted] and a couple who were visiting [redacted]. He went in and out of the room several times to get coffee, water and to check mail around the hospital corridor.

Sometime later, exact time not recalled, he went out to his car to obtain a jacket, at which time he saw seven or eight men standing in the street between the south corner of the courthouse and the Poplarville Furniture Company. [redacted] was unable to describe any of these men and said he had no recollection of their dress. He also could not recall whether these men were wearing masks of any kind. He did not approach these men and gave as a reason the fact he was not in a curious nature.

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After arriving at the hospital and while at the hospital, he recalled he had heard a noise which was unable to describe this noise. He recalled one of the nurses, name unknown, came to his father's room and said they must have broke that "nigger" out of there to that effect. He did not discuss this remark with anyone and did not have any conversation regarding the incident.

[redacted] recalled while he was in the hospital he saw an "old man" out on the sidewalk who was dressed in dark clothes. He said he did not know the identity of this man but felt he had come to the hospital with a sick woman during the night. He was unable to recall what time of night he saw this man standing on the sidewalk.

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11 [redacted] denied approaching the men standing  
12 in the street between the courthouse and the furniture  
13 company, but during the latter portion of this interview  
14 said the men in the street had a "nigger" and that the  
15 thought went through his mind that they were attempting  
16 to put a drunk "nigger" in jail. He said he recalled  
17 another visitor in the hospital room of his father who  
18 was visiting [redacted] and that this individual was a  
19 white male, wearing cowboy boots and a cowboy hat, but  
20 he did not personally know this individual. When asked  
21 if he saw this same man standing outside the hospital when  
22 he, [redacted] was outside and saw the men in the street,  
23 [redacted] denied seeing this individual in cowboy dress  
24 outside the hospital.

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27 When the Sheriff arrived he, [redacted]  
28 went across the street to the courthouse where he saw  
29 blood on the steps and in the courthouse. He returned  
30 to the hospital. He did not recall seeing or talking  
31 to Mr. WILLIAM STEWART, the County Prosecuting Attorney.

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33 Upon termination of this interview [redacted]  
34 [redacted] advised he did not wish to furnish a signed state-  
35 ment incorporating the information set forth above.

36  
37 C. INDIVIDUALS OVERTHEARING CONVERSATION  
38 ATTENDANT TO ABDUCTION

39  
40 1. Mrs. FOREST BURGE

41 On April 29, 1959, Mrs. [redacted]  
42 advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted]  
43 that she is also known as BEARLE and she lives at [redacted]  
44 [redacted] driver her mail c/o General Delivery,  
45 Poplarville, Mississippi. She stated she is employed as  
46 a nurse at the Pearl River County Hospital. On the night  
47 of April 24, 1959, she went to the hospital at  
48 approximately 7:00 PM and worked on private duty  
49 [redacted] until 11:00 PM, at which time  
50 she went on her general duties at the hospital. She stated  
51 her normal shift on the night of April 24, 1959, was from  
52 11:00 PM until 7:00 AM.

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11 Mrs. BURGE then furnished the following  
12 information regarding her activities from 11:00 P.M. until  
13 the following morning:  
14

15 The change of shift at 11:00 P.M. at the  
16 hospital was a little slow on the night of April 24,  
17 1959, and she obtained her papers and reported them  
18 she carried to the desk and began working with them  
19 at a little after 11:00 P.M. She had been at the front  
20 of the hospital and did not recall any unusual activity  
21 in the front of the hospital in that there were no cars  
22 moving about or unusually large numbers of people  
23 walking in front of the hospital or near the Santa River  
24 County Courthouse, which is located directly across the  
25 street from the hospital. As she was working on her  
26 reports on her desk, she heard a call, but did not recall  
27 that it would be considered a scream. She pointed out  
28 that it was not unusual for prisoners in the Santa River  
29 County Jail to call across the street to the nurses at  
30 the hospital and ask them to perform favors for them,  
31 such as telephoning friends and doing errands. Therefore,  
32 she started to walk to the front desk of the  
33 hospital as she felt someone was calling from the jail  
34 to the nurses at the hospital. As she approached the  
35 door, she overheard a call for help, which she was unable  
36 to specifically describe, but stated after hearing this  
37 call she realized that something "horrible" was happening  
38 in the jail.  
39

40 When asked to further describe the call  
41 from the jail, Mrs. BURGE said she could not recall  
42 that it was a continuous call for help. She did not  
43 immediately to the telephone and called the jail.  
44 She stated that it was 11:50 P.M. when she called the  
45 jail. This was also by the Santa River County Jail  
46 talking to her. She stated that she immediately called  
47 to the Sheriff and [redacted] at [redacted]  
48 suffering what was [redacted] to a [redacted] [redacted]  
49 then called Dr. [redacted] and [redacted] [redacted]  
50 condition. [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]  
51 [redacted] a hypodermic which contained [redacted] [redacted]  
52 at once prepared the hypodermic, which [redacted] [redacted]  
53 took approximately two or three minutes, [redacted] [redacted]  
54 to Mrs. [redacted] at which time she received the [redacted] [redacted]  
55 this [redacted] since it contained a narcotic. She stated she  
56 had examined her records and determined [redacted] [redacted]  
57 the shot at 11:45 P.M. on April 24, 1959.  
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12 She, therefore, estimated she had phoned  
13 the Sheriff at about 11:40 PM and told him it sounded  
14 like something "horrible" was going on at the jail and  
15 to come quickly. She said she could not recall the  
16 Sheriff asking her any questions or giving her any in-  
17 structions.

18  
19 While she was taking care of [REDACTED] b7c  
20 the other nurse on duty, ODELL LOVELL, telephoned the  
21 Star Cafe and asked them to notify the Night Herald.  
22 She could not recall why LOVELL telephoned the Star  
23 Cafe and could not recall she requested anything else.  
24

25 Having completed her immediate duties  
26 with [REDACTED] she went to the door of the hospital  
27 and commenced to hear the calls for help. She did not  
28 notice any unusual activity in the front of the hospital  
29 at this time; however, she stated she did see a car  
30 parked at the south entrance to the courthouse near the  
31 sidewalk which runs from the south entrance of the court-  
32 house to the street. She said this car was partially  
33 hidden behind a bush at the southwest corner of the  
34 courthouse, but she could see the left front fender of  
35 the car and a portion of the grill. She described the  
36 left front fender of the car as being a light color and  
37 that the grill was of chromium and chrome on the lights.  
38

39 She said that sometime during the night  
40 she was calling the Sheriff or attorney, [REDACTED] b7c  
41 that she went to the door of the hospital and saw an  
42 old-model car which was a dull light color, driving on  
43 South Julia Street between the hospital and the courthouse  
44 and that the car was near the intersection of South  
45 Julia Street and Willie Street. That the car moved south on  
46 Willie Street in the [REDACTED] area and was pro-  
47 ceeding slowly. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that this  
48 car was not in any way involved in the [REDACTED] and  
49 was possibly a car leaving the hospital or [REDACTED]  
50 someone driving up Julia Street.  
51

52 Mrs. [REDACTED] stated she called the Sheriff  
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12 seeing anyone come out of the courthouse and she did  
13 not see any cars driving away from the vicinity of the  
14 courthouse immediately following her phone call to the  
15 Sheriff. She pointed out she had become busy tending  
16 to [REDACTED] and other patients and it was quite possi- b7c  
17 ble she was at the rear of the hospital if any cars had  
18 driven away at a high rate of speed and she would have  
19 been unable to have heard them in the back of the hospital.

21 Mrs. BURKE stated she was unable to recall  
22 who came to the courthouse first, but she did recall that  
23 the Sheriff arrived and also B. F. ORR, the Tax Collector,  
24 and "PETE" CARNER, the Night Marshal. She said to the  
25 best of her recollection she officers went to the jail  
26 first before coming to the hospital and she only recalled  
27 talking to GEORGE MOODY, who is the son of the Sheriff  
28 and a Deputy in the Sheriff's Department.

29 Mrs. BURKE said that following the incident  
30 she had been busy with [REDACTED] and other patients and  
31 she had had no time to talk to visitors in the hospital  
32 regarding what they had observed during the period from  
33 11:45 to 12:30 AM. She said she had been unable to  
34 develop any further information regarding what had  
35 happened, but that should any information come to her  
36 attention she would immediately advise the FBI. b7c

## 38 2. Miss GIBB LOVELL

39 On April 20, 1959, Miss [REDACTED] b7c  
40 advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
41 that she received her mail at box 24, [REDACTED], dis-  
42 si- [REDACTED] that the street on which the residence was  
43 is [REDACTED] it is near the outskirts of  
44 Poplarville. She said she had been employed for the  
45 past two years as a nurse at the [REDACTED] Hospital  
46 and that for the past week, including April 24, 1959,  
47 she has been working from [REDACTED] 7:00 AM.

48 Miss LOVELL stated she [REDACTED]  
49 approximately 11:00 PM, the night of April 24, 1959, and  
50 [REDACTED]

12 she performed her regular duties until approximately 12  
13 midnight; that sometime either just before or just after  
14 midnight, a Mrs. [REDACTED] was brought to the hospital suf-  
15 fering from what was believed to be at that time, a heart  
16 attack. She stated her attention was directed to [REDACTED] b7c  
17 [REDACTED] and that apparently at the time the incident occurred  
18 in the jail she had the stethoscope in her ears and that  
19 her only recollection is that there was possibly a commotion  
20 during this time. She then stated that she continued her  
21 duties in the hospital working until approximately 7:00 AM  
22 the next morning, and that during her entire tour of duty  
23 she had no knowledge of what had transpired in the Pearl  
24 River County Courthouse until 7:00 AM the next morning, at  
25 which time she was at home eating breakfast with her mother  
26 and they heard the news on the radio.

28 Miss LOVELESS was interviewed extensively  
29 for any information regarding visitors to the hospital,  
30 conversation that she possibly could have heard and asked  
31 specifically if DIMPLE FURSE, the other nurse who was on  
32 duty with her, had not mentioned the incident to her during  
33 their tour of duty, and Miss LOVELESS continued to maintain  
34 she had no further information other than that originally  
35 furnished.

36  
37 3. [REDACTED]  
38 [REDACTED]  
39 [REDACTED]

40 [REDACTED] was interviewed on April 22, 1959, and [REDACTED]  
41 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. She advised that  
42 she is a nurse at the Pearl River County Hospital and  
43 had worked the 3:00 PM to 11:00 PM shift at the hospital  
44 on April 21, 1959. After completing her regular shift  
45 at [REDACTED] approximately 11:30 PM, she was [REDACTED]  
46 on private duty at [REDACTED] hospital with a patient [REDACTED]  
47 [REDACTED] This patient occupied a room in the [REDACTED] of  
48 the hospital. She heard a noise which [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
49 describe about an hour or more after she had [REDACTED]  
50 with the private patient. She was unable to [REDACTED] when  
51 this noise occurred. She could not describe the noise  
52 she had heard other than to say that it [REDACTED] to  
53 her some kind of emergency had occurred. She went to  
54 [REDACTED]

12 the lobby of the hospital and in the lobby she noted  
13 that nurse Mrs. DIMPLE BURGE was on the telephone and  
14 appeared to be handling the emergency that had occurred.  
15 She had heard no distinct words or sounds which she  
16 could describe, but had gained the impression that some  
17 commotion was going on in the jail. She had noted  
18 that nurse Miss ODELL LOVELESS was attending a patient  
19 in the lobby of the hospital. She had not noticed  
20 anyone else in the lobby. She did not question Mrs.  
21 BURGE as to what had occurred. She returned to attend  
22 her patient and it was not until later that she learned  
23 what had happened.

24  
25 4. [REDACTED]

26 [REDACTED]  
27 [REDACTED]  
28 regularly employed at the Head River County Hospital,  
29 and who resides over [REDACTED]  
30 across the street from the [REDACTED]  
31 [REDACTED] was interviewed on May 1, 1959,  
32 by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

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33  
34 She stated that on the night of April  
35 24, 1959, she was a patient in [REDACTED] of the Head River  
36 County Hospital, which room is located in the night ward  
37 wing of the hospital. She had taken a sedative to help  
38 her sleep and sometime during the night was awakened by  
39 cries for help coming from somewhere in the ward vicinity.  
40 In addition to the cries for help, she heard the  
41 definite sound of blows being struck, the only sound  
42 being obtained that a board or strap was being used.  
43 She arose and went from her room to the door of the Negro  
44 ward located to the rear of the hospital, as she believed  
45 the disturbance was taking place there. Observing  
46 nothing at that location, she went to the lobby of the hospital,  
47 which adjoins the lobby of the [REDACTED] and  
48 concluded at that time that someone was being held in the  
49 Negro tier of the jail located across the street. She  
50 stated she gathered the impression that it was in the Negro  
51 tier because the man's voice crying for help sounded to her  
52 to be that of a colored individual.

Further, she recalled it was not unusual for persons to be confined who were intoxicated and called out from the windows.

Upon approaching the front section of the hospital, she noted that [REDACTED] and JOHN REYER were entering the lobby. She also noted that DIMPLE BURGE was on the telephone attempting to locate members of the Sheriff's Department. She stated that she had no idea of the exact time, except that she knew it was after the 11:00 P. M. shift came on duty. From the window of the nurses' quarters, she looked out the window toward the direction of the jail and observed nothing except that there were a few cars parked in front of the hospital, headed as they are usually parked for hospital visitors. She stated there were some people on the hospital porch, but she did not go out there.

She recalled that DIMPLE BURGE was trying to call JEWEL ALFORD, the jailer, and evidently reached Sheriff W. O. MOODY. Immediately following this call to the Sheriff, DIMPLE BURGE called [REDACTED] concerning his patient, [REDACTED] who had just arrived for medication.

Upon further observation [REDACTED] noted that the jail lights appeared to be [REDACTED] except for dim illumination away from the windows. She also noted that the two REYER men went out on the front porch and that she also saw R. J. WHITE, a Sheriff's Officer, as well as two nurses, Mrs. ODELL [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

At about this time, she believes [REDACTED] said, "What did that nigger out of there." [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] Town Marshal, was out [REDACTED] the first spoke of what had happened.

She said that she did not recall [REDACTED] either ORR or CARVER closely, but recognized [REDACTED] when they approached.

She stated she was still not certain of the exact time of these occurrences, but was able to estimate minutes after DIMPLE BURGE was attempting to make her call.

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13 WILLIAM STEWART, Pearl River County Attorney, arrived  
14 at the hospital and inquired as to what she had seen  
15 and she stated that she did not want him to call anyone  
16 that she had heard anything. (It being noted that  
17 according to Miss HOWARD she saw none of the activity  
18 at the courthouse and jail).

19  
20 She then returned to her room and, upon  
21 looking out the window, she could observe the street  
22 which runs west past the hospital and the north side of  
23 the courthouse. She said there is considerable shrubbery  
24 and other obstructions between the window in Room 12  
25 and the street, but that she did take note of the passing  
26 of two cars going west at a fairly slow rate of speed.  
27 She said that beyond knowing that there were two cars  
28 which traveled quite closely together, there was no  
29 other detail of the cars or occupants known to her; that  
30 at no time during the night of April 24, 1969, did she  
31 see any car or person apparently involved in the abduction  
32 of the prisoner. She stated further that from her contacts  
33 with other members, patients, and visitors, she had learned  
34 of no information which she believes relates to the abduction.

35  
36 5. JOE REYER

37  
38 JOE REYER, Route 1, Box 12, Poplarville,  
39 Mississippi, was interviewed on April 25, 1969, at 2:00 PM, 1969,  
40 by SA's [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. b2c  
41 REYER advised that on Friday night, April 24, 1969, his  
42 wife got sick during the night at about 11:00 PM,  
43 PM, exact time not known. He walked about a quarter of  
44 a mile across the fields to the home of his brother, JOHN  
45 REYER, and JOHN came by and drove his wife to  
46 the hospital in Poplarville, Mississippi.

47  
48 He walked back across the fields to his home with his  
49 wife ready to go, and shortly thereafter JOHN REYER,  
50 arrived in JOHN's pickup truck and brought them to  
51 the hospital in Poplarville, Mississippi.

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53 As they were parking in front of the hospital  
54 in Poplarville, he heard a "racket" over the County, Mississippi.

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11 which is located upstairs in the courthouse directly  
12 across the street from the Pearl River County Hospital.  
13 When they parked in front of the hospital, he noted  
14 there were no other cars parked in front of the hospital.  
15

16 REYER was worried about his wife's condi-  
17 tion and did not recall exactly what happened but thought  
18 his brother, JOHN, went into the lobby of the hospital  
19 with them where his wife took a seat to wait for the  
20 nurse to call for a doctor. Thereafter, he did not know  
21 what had happened to his brother, JOHN.  
22

23 Before he got inside the hospital he  
24 heard someone hollering for help. The sound appeared  
25 to come from the jail, which is located on the upper  
26 floors of the courthouse. He heard this voice calling  
27 and shouting for at least what appeared to him to be  
28 seven or eight minutes. The calling continued after  
29 he got into the lobby of the hospital and he got up and  
30 closed the front doors to the hospital so his wife would  
31 not be disturbed by the noise.  
32

33 Sometime later, his brother, JOHN, came  
34 into the hospital, but he did not have time to talk JOHN  
35 much about what happened outside.  
36

37 Since bringing his wife to the hospital,  
38 he has received no further information and has had no  
39 further opportunity to talk to his brother, JOHN.  
40

41 REYER advised he is a former car dealer  
42 but is now a farmer. He has lived for most of his life  
43 in Pearl River County, has always been for law enforce-  
44 ment and has always been against mob rule. REYER  
45 advised he would cooperate fully in any way possible.  
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6. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

was interviewed on [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]  
she was at the Pearl River County Hospital in Poplarville.

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12 Mississippi, on the night of April 24, 1959, at which time  
13 she was sitting with her father-in-law, [REDACTED] who  
14 is ill. She stated she was in the room with her father-in-  
15 law and Mr. [REDACTED] who was also ill. He stated she  
16 did not recall any other individuals that were present in  
17 the hospital other than her husband [REDACTED] Mrs.  
18 [REDACTED] advised she recalled her husband went out to their  
19 car and obtained a jacket and when he returned to the hospital  
20 he said, "They got that nigger, [REDACTED] then stated  
21 she did not hear anything else regarding the incident and  
22 stated she was unable to furnish any information whatsoever.  
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24 It was pointed out to [REDACTED] that  
25 it did not appear logical that, since her husband had told  
26 her that "they got that nigger", she did not make any  
27 further inquiry among the visitors or employees of the  
28 hospital, and did not overhear or observe any activity  
29 by the individuals in the hospital. She stated she did  
30 not desire to furnish any further information in connection  
31 with this matter, and stated her husband had previously  
32 been interviewed by two agents of the FBI and that possibly  
33 her husband could furnish further information, but she did  
34 not wish to do so.  
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36 7. [REDACTED]  
37 [REDACTED]  
38 [REDACTED]  
39 [REDACTED] Mississippi, in the [REDACTED]  
40 interviewed on April 25, 1959 by SA's [REDACTED]  
41 and [REDACTED]. He was again interviewed [REDACTED]  
42 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
43 [REDACTED] advised he is a carpenter, bricklayer and general  
44 [REDACTED]  
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46 On the night of April 24, 1959, [REDACTED] and his  
47 wife drove into Poplarville to [REDACTED] at the  
48 hospital, arriving at the hospital at about 10:00 P. M.  
49 He left the hospital and came back to the [REDACTED]  
50 arriving at about 9:30 to 9:30 P. M. He left [REDACTED] for  
51 a short while and got back to the hospital at about 10:30  
52 P. M. and then stayed at the hospital [REDACTED] in  
53 the room of [REDACTED] until R. J. [REDACTED] called him and, at  
54 about 12:20 A. M., April 25, 1959, he and his wife proceeded  
55 [REDACTED]  
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11 to the north entrance of the hospital, got into their  
12 car, and drove home.

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14 He recalled that at approximately 11:35  
15 P. M., April 24, 1959, his wife left the room to get a  
16 Coca-Cola, was gone a few minutes, and returned. At  
17 this time, he left the room to go to the candy dispensing  
18 machine to get a bar of candy, and went back to the  
19 room. He was very groggy and sleepy and tired, inasmuch  
20 as he had been working hard during the day and lost  
21 quite a bit of sleep at night staying at the hospital  
22 and was anxious for F. J. WILKINS to come and see, therefore,  
23 looked up at the clock in the hall of the hospital and  
24 noted it was 12:05 A. M., April 25, 1959, at the time he  
25 got the candy bar.

26  
27 A man named [redacted] had been in the same  
28 room staying with his father just prior to midnight,  
29 April 24, 1959, and [redacted] had also been in the  
30 room at about this time. He asked some and did not  
31 recall exactly when [redacted] and FRANK WILKINS left the  
32 room, and he last remembers seeing them just before going  
33 out to get the candy bar and did not see them afterwards.  
34 Just prior to this time, [redacted] had told them "they"  
35 had said something had happened at the jail and someone  
36 was hollering.

37  
38 [redacted] wife had also been in the room;  
39 however, he did not recall when she left the room. It was  
40 his recollection that he first noticed [redacted] and  
41 [redacted] at about 11:30 P. M., April 24, 1959.

42  
43 At no time did he hear anyone calling for  
44 [redacted] or hear any cars driving past the hospital.

45  
46 He stated that his room which had  
47 the room in which [redacted] was [redacted] had  
48 opening only to the north end that [redacted] and [redacted]  
49 would not have a view of any street and [redacted] it was  
50 difficult for anyone in this room to see anything in any  
51 place outside of the hospital.

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11 He also recalled that JOE ROYER had brought  
12 his wife into the hospital at about midnight on April 24,  
13 1959, and that JOE and his wife were in the lobby at about  
14 the time he got the candy bar.

15  
16 [REDACTED] slept late the next morning, did not  
17 know what happened until the next morning, and could not  
18 state exactly how he found out it happened, but stated it  
19 was by either reading a newspaper or hearing a radio  
20 broadcast.

21  
22 To the best of his recollection, R. J.  
23 WHEAT came to relieve [REDACTED] and his wife at about 12:15  
24 A. M., April 25, 1959. He did not recall hearing R. J.  
25 WHEAT mention anything about a disturbance at the jail.  
26 He did not stay and talk to WHEAT because he was in a big  
27 hurry to get home.

28  
29 Shortly after [REDACTED] got back to the room  
30 with his candy bar, his wife got up and walked back down  
31 the hall toward the Coca-Cola machine and he left the  
32 room and walked to the main hall located around the corner  
33 and saw his wife in the hall looking into the lobby of  
34 the hospital. She came back to the room shortly there-  
35 after, but did not comment as to whether or not she had  
36 seen anything about the commotion at the jail.

37  
38 [REDACTED] promised to cooperate fully and  
39 immediately report any information which might come to his  
40 attention which would be pertinent in connection with  
41 this case.

42  
43 8. [REDACTED]  
44 [REDACTED]  
45 [REDACTED] interviewed  
46 on April 24, 1959, at [REDACTED]  
47 [REDACTED], a [REDACTED]  
48 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
49 who resides at [REDACTED] Republic, [REDACTED]  
50 father [REDACTED] had been a patient at the [REDACTED]  
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County Hospital, Poplarville, Mississippi, from April 16-29, 1959. She said that approximately 9:30 PM, April 24, 1959, her husband drove her from their home to the hospital so that she could stay with her father. She said her husband left the hospital immediately after dropping her there and returned later that night. She said her father's room in the hospital was located on the north, which is in the rear of the hospital. She said that it is not possible to see any streets from these windows. She stated that approximately 9:00 AM, April 24, 1959, her husband returned to the hospital alone. She said a short time after he came to the hospital he went for coffee and returned approximately fifteen to twenty minutes later. She did not know the exact time that he left and returned.

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[redacted] stated that she was in her father's room at approximately midnight on April 23, 1959, and left the room for a few minutes to get a Coca-Cola at the machine in the hospital. She said that this Coca-Cola machine is located approximately five feet north of the lobby entrance in the main corridor of the hospital. It was her recollection that she had gone for the Coca-Cola at approximately midnight or 12:05 AM, April 23, 1959. She said that when she obtained the Coca-Cola and had started back to her room of her father, she heard screaming. She said she learned from the sounds that the screams were coming from the jail, located in the courthouse across the street from the hospital. She could not recall if the jail doors were open. She definitely recalled hearing at least one cry for help. She could not remember the person who was white or Negro. She said that at the time she heard the screams she was one of the nurses in the corridor. She did not recall the name and recalled her only as being a nurse. She recalled that at this time there were people in the lobby of the hospital, although she could not recall their identity. It was her recollection that she was at the clock at about this time, because she was waiting for her brother, R. J. SMITH, at the hospital. She said that it was her belief it was about five minutes after midnight.

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12 She said she proceeded immediately to  
13 her father's room after hearing the screaming and after  
14 entering the room told her husband, "I heard someone  
15 hollering up in the jail. Someone must be getting  
16 beat up or something's happening." She stated she did  
17 not even think of the possibility that the person  
18 screaming was N. C. PARKER, but that from the sound  
19 of the screams it seemed like someone was being beaten  
20 or was sick and needed help. She stated she could  
21 recall only one specific call for help.

22  
23 She said as soon as she had told her  
24 husband of the above he left the room. She was of the  
25 opinion that he went to get a bar of candy and said  
26 he returned not more than five minutes later and with  
27 a candy bar.

28  
29 She stated that it was her recollection  
30 that at the time she had left the room to get her  
31 Coca-Cola ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ were at the jail  
32 with their father, ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ who was in the jail  
33 in the same room with her father. She recalled that  
34 ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ had been in and out of her father's room  
35 most of the evening, but she could not specifically  
36 recall whether or not he had been in the room at ap-  
37 proximately midnight. She said she could not recall  
38 specifically whether or not ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ was in  
39 the room when she returned and told her husband of the  
40 she had heard. She said that her husband said nothing  
41 about the screams and mentioned nothing that was con-  
42 cerning happenings at the jail when he returned with  
43 his candy bar.

44  
45 She and her husband left the  
46 hospital at approximately 11:30 p.m. on April 22, 1968,  
47 at which time they had been told by the doctor, Dr.  
48 R. J. WHEAT. She said she saw no one when they left  
49 the hospital. She pointed out their car was parked  
50 on the street directly north of the hospital at the  
51 suburb closest to the hospital and headed north on \_\_\_\_\_

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13 that they drove directly from the hospital to their  
14 home and saw nothing unusual while on the way home.  
15

16 She could not recall the names of any  
17 other persons whom she had seen in the hospital at the  
18 time of hearing the screams.  
19

20 She recalled that when R. J. WINT came  
21 into the hospital to relieve her she told him about  
22 the screams she had heard. She does not recall what  
23 he said, if anything, about the incident. It was her  
24 recollection that when he came into the hospital he  
25 was accompanied by someone whom he was talking to in  
26 the hallway, but she could not remember who the person  
27 was.  
28

29 She said the first she knew that M. G.  
30 PARKER had been abducted from the County Jail was on  
31 the morning of April 25, 1959, when she heard the  
32 story on a radio broadcast. She said that on the  
33 night of April 25, 1959, R. J. WINT contacted her  
34 that someone had taken M. G. PARKER from the jail, but  
35 he furnished her with no additional details.  
36

37 She emphasized that she had left her  
38 father's room on only one occasion at approximately  
39 midnight and that was the time she left to obtain the  
40 Coca-Cola. She recalled that when she was leaving  
41 the hospital at approximately 12:30 AM, April 25, 1959,  
42 she stopped briefly at the entrance to the lobby, down  
43 the main corridor and looked out into the lobby, but  
44 she stated that this was of no value to this investigation.  
45

46 She stated that she was suspicious of this  
47 matter and had no further information at that time.  
48 She promised to call, except for the furnishing  
49 any information which might come to her attention  
50 that would be of value in this case.  
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9. [REDACTED]

On April 27, 1969, [REDACTED],

[REDACTED] Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA'S [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that on the night of April 24, 1969, she had been visited by her sisters until about 11:00 PM, at which time she went to bed on a sofa in the living room, which is located in the front portion of her house located one block from the south entrance of the courthouse. She stated before going to sleep she had heard someone calling for help and she believed that this call came from the direction of the courthouse. She was unable to describe the call specifically but had the recollection that it was a cry for help. She stated when she heard this cry she thought passed through her mind that some of the law enforcement officers were to jailing a drunk and that she gave no further thought to the matter. [REDACTED] stated that she did not recall hearing the [REDACTED] of any vehicle or cars passing her home at a high rate of speed near the time of the cry for help. She added that she did not get out of bed when she heard the call and that she had no additional information concerning the incident.

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10. [REDACTED]

On April 27, 1969, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA'S [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he was awakened at about midnight [REDACTED] by the voice of someone who was calling out "get out of bed" or words to that effect. [REDACTED] stated that he heard this voice several times, but he does not know if it was a drunk in jail. He said that he did get out of bed, but did not go outside and, while talking to his wife, she suggested that he go back to bed, but he said he did. [REDACTED] advised that neither he nor his wife heard or saw anything other than his own voice heard the above-described voice.

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11. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], on May 12, 1959, that she had attended the dance at the Pearl River Junior College on the evening of April 24, 1959. She said that her escort was [REDACTED]. She said that she and [REDACTED] departed the dance at its termination at approximately 11:00 PM, and drove out to Pat's Drive-In Service Station for refreshments. She said that they drove one block south of the courthouse and then west toward her residence. She said that they arrived at her residence at approximately 11:20 to 11:30 PM and, upon walking to her door steps, she observed a 1955 or 1956 Chevrolet parking and with the lights out on the hospital side of West Pearl Street, about three-quarters of a block east of the intersection of West Pearl Street and Strahan. She said that she could not further observe or describe this automobile or see anyone get out of it.

She said that she did not hear any noise upon arriving home from the dance; however, the car that had stopped on West Pearl may have squeaked its tires upon stopping, which could have drawn her attention to it. She said that she did not recall hearing any other noises.

On May 15, 1959, [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that at approximately 11:00 PM, on April 24, 1959, she had observed the [REDACTED] from window a 1955 or 1956 automobile pass near the street light at the intersection of Pearl and Julia Streets. She said that this car was headed up Pearl Street toward her home. She said that the car was partially white and that she had not observed anything unusual concerning this car, other than its tail lights and its rate of speed. She said that she was able to identify this car by the type of tail lights that it had.

12. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] college student at Pearl River Junior College, and a resident of Francine, Mississippi,

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12 advised SA's [redacted], and [redacted]  
13 [redacted] on May 12, 1959, that he had attended the dance at  
14 the college on the evening of April 24, 1959, and escorted  
15 [redacted]. He said that they departed the dance  
16 at its termination at approximately 11:00 PM and then  
17 drove to Pat's Drive-In Service Station for refreshments.  
18

19 He said that they then drove back north on  
20 Route 11 to the intersection of Route 725 where he turned  
21 right and drove into Main Street where he headed south.  
22 He said that they drove one block south of the courthouse  
23 and then right toward the residence of [redacted]. He  
24 said that they arrived there at about 11:30 PM as he  
25 was walking her to her doorstep she asked him if he had  
26 heard a scream or a screech. He replied that he did not  
27 hear anything. He said that he did not hear or see anything  
28 unusual en route to his home.  
29

30 13. [redacted]  
31

32 Miss [redacted] Poplarville,  
33 Mississippi, was interviewed on April 25, 1959, by SA's  
34 [redacted] and [redacted]. [redacted] advised  
35 she is employed as a waitress at the [redacted] cafe, Poplarville,  
36 [redacted]. She stated that on  
37 April 24, 1959, she came to work at 5:00 PM and worked  
38 until 5:00 AM, April 25, 1959. It was her recollection  
39 that Mrs. [redacted] aka Mrs. [redacted] was  
40 working as a waitress until 10:00 PM, on April 24, 1959.  
41 Miss [redacted] stated it is customary that at 10:00 PM the  
42 doors to the cafe are locked and she then cleans up and  
43 begins preparation for breakfast, re-opening the cafe again  
44 at 7 AM. She stated it is customary for her to admit  
45 people to her after locking up in the event they  
46 desire coffee or tea. She said that it  
47 is customary for [redacted] Poplarville, Mississippi,  
48 to stop at the cafe shortly after 10:00 PM and order for  
49 coffee. She said he picks up mail at the [redacted] depot  
50 it to the depot for deposit on a train which leaves [redacted]  
51 at approximately 11:00 PM. She was quite certain that he had been in  
52 shortly after 10:00 on the night of April 24, 1959. She  
53 stated she was unable to recall whether anyone else had been in  
54 [redacted] had been in the store the night of April 24, 1959  
55 but definitely recalled no strangers had been in the cafe.  
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12 She stated that at an unknown time on the  
13 night of April 24, 1959, or early morning of April 25,  
14 1959, she received a phone call at the cafe from a woman.  
15 This woman did not identify herself and [redacted] did  
16 not recognize her voice. The woman said, [redacted]  
17 [redacted] said she knew the woman was referring to PETE  
18 CARVER, the Night Marshal, and she told the woman he was  
19 not there. She said she went to the door and looked out  
20 on the street and did not see any automobiles moving nor  
21 any persons on the street and did not see CARVER. She  
22 returned to the phone and advised the woman she could  
23 not see him and the woman said, "Tell him to come to the  
24 jail," and then hung up.

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25  
26 She said about fifteen to thirty minutes  
27 after receiving this phone call she went to the door of  
28 the cafe and stayed for a few minutes. She then saw a  
29 car coming down Main Street headed south. As it passed  
30 the cafe, it slowed down and she recognized PETE CARVER  
31 in the car. She said she believed someone was with him,  
32 but she could not see who it was nor how many there were.  
33 She said he stopped a short distance beyond the cafe  
34 and she called to him and told him she had received a  
35 call asking that he come to the jail. She said he then  
36 started up the car, but she did not observe which direction  
37 he drove and she went back inside the cafe immediately.

38  
39 [redacted] said no one else came to the  
40 cafe after she had spoken to CARVER until [redacted] appeared  
41 at the door. She did not know the time that  
42 REYER came to the cafe, but estimated it was less than  
43 than fifteen minutes or more than two hours after PETE  
44 CARVER left. She said she recognized REYER and noted  
45 it was [redacted] to come to the cafe at this hour.  
46 She answered REYER's question as to a [redacted] call [redacted] in.  
47 When he came into the cafe, he [redacted] a cup of  
48 coffee, which she served him. She said [redacted] some-  
49 thing to the effect that "they were having [redacted]  
50 trouble at the jail" and that the "law" was [redacted].  
51 She said she asked him what kind of trouble [redacted] and  
52 effect "it looked like they were bringing [redacted] out."  
53 She said he furnished no other information and [redacted]

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question him further concerning this matter. She said he stayed at the cafe approximately five minutes and during that time they discussed the fact that he had brought his sister-in-law, a Mrs. [REDACTED] to the hospital. She said she had not seen or talked to JOHN REYER since that time. b2c

It was her recollection that, approximately one hour after JOHN REYER left, FRED CARVER, the Night Marshal, B. F. ORR, the Day Marshal, and H. J. CHAS came to the cafe for coffee. She said that ORR said something to her to the effect that "the negro that was to be tried has gotten out or has been taken out. She said that was her first information that the victim had been abducted from the county jail. She said there was no further conversation between her and any of the other men concerning the incident and she overheard no conversation on their part regarding this matter. It was her recollection that the above three men had come to the cafe at approximately 3:00 A. M., April 25, 1959.

She said she did not recall seeing any strangers at the cafe the night of April 24 or morning of April 25, 1959. She said she heard no unusual noises and saw no unusual activities during that period. She said there were no phone calls to the cafe or from the men mentioned above. She said she had no interest in this matter, but promised her cooperation in furnishing any information of value she might receive.

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12 IV. LOCATION AND IDENTIFICATION  
13 OF MACK CHARLES PARSONS  
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15 On May 4, 1959, at 10:50 A. M., a body was  
16 located in a driftwood jam in the Pearl River one-half  
17 mile upstream from Richardson's Landing. The body was  
18 approximately fifty feet from the Mississippi bank of  
19 the Pearl River, the river being approximately 100 yards  
20 wide at that point. The body was first noticed by MISSP  
21 Trooper [REDACTED] who was in a boat with SA [REDACTED] b7c  
22 [REDACTED] of the FBI, searching Pearl River.  
23

24 The body was facing upstream and only the  
25 right arm, shoulder and head protruded from the jam of  
26 driftwood. This location is approximately two and one-  
27 half miles south of the Highway 26 Bridge over the Pearl  
28 River.  
29

30 Upon location of the body, Pearl River County  
31 Attorney WILLIAM H. STEWART was notified and, at his request,  
32 Justice of the Peace WALTER DAVIS, Gretna, Louisiana,  
33 was contacted and advised of the location of an unidentified  
34 body. DAVIS located persons to serve on the coroner's jury  
35 and proceeded to Richardson's Landing on the Pearl River.  
36 Following adjournment of the coroner's jury, the body was  
37 removed to Charity Hospital at Bogalusa, Louisiana, for the  
38 purpose of autopsy and identification.  
39

40 Attached hereto are ten photographs taken by  
41 SA [REDACTED] of the location where the body was  
42 found and the removal of the body to Richardson's Landing. b7c  
43 These photographs are described as follows:  
44

- 45 1. A view of the point where the  
46 pile of driftwood is located.  
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- 48 2. View downstream showing the  
49 where the pile of driftwood is located.  
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- 51 3. The pile of driftwood where the body  
52 was located, taken from the [REDACTED] on  
53 the Mississippi side of the river.  
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(4) A view of the pile of driftwood, taken about fifteen (15) feet upstream, showing the location of the body in the driftwood.

(5, 6 & 7) Views of the body being removed from the pile of driftwood.

(8) A view of the body hanging over the front end of the boat at Richardson's Landing showing the method by which the body was pulled back from the driftwood to the landing.

(9 & 10) Two views of the body after it was removed to the beach at the landing.

On May 4, 1959, SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], obtained ink impressions from fingers one through nine of the body at Charity Hospital, and no impression could be obtained from finger ten due to extensive decomposition. Comparison of these impressions was made with a known set of fingerprints from the Pearl River County Sheriff's Office of MACK CHARLES PARKER and they were found to be identical by SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. The Identification Division of the FBI confirmed this identification. b7c

In the presence of SA JOSEPH M. MEYERS, Jr. W. F. STRINGER, Poplarville, Mississippi, conducted an autopsy of MACK CHARLES PARKER in a small building at the rear of Charity Hospital, Bogalusa, Louisiana, from 9:00 PM to 10:55 PM on May 4, 1959, and advised of the following re

Dr. STRINGER advised there were no signs of a bullet hole or any penetrating marks in the skull and there were no visible fractures in the skull or neck. Dr. STRINGER advised that the skull was perfectly intact. The brain was completely degenerated.

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12 Dr. STRINGER advised that the neck was not  
13 broken; however, the back of the neck was completely eaten  
14 away by maggots. A bruise of about four inches by eight  
15 inches was noted on the right shoulder blade by Dr. STRINGER,  
16 which he stated could have been caused by an injury. Dr.  
17 STRINGER further stated that this injury could have also  
18 extended into the back of the neck.

19  
20 Dr. STRINGER advised further that there was  
21 a penetrating hole of one-fourth inch in diameter in the  
22 right chest, which made entrance in the lower border of  
23 the fifth rib and this hole corresponded to a one-half  
24 inch hole at the lower level of the tenth rib. A one-eighth  
25 inch hole was probed by Dr. STRINGER in the back of the body  
26 between the shoulder blades. Dr. STRINGER stated that this  
27 hole was one-fourth inch in diameter and appeared to have  
28 what looked like powder burns around the diameter outside  
29 area. This hole went through the left auricle of the heart  
30 and out through the front breast bone, although the bones  
31 were broken. At the exit this hole was approximately one-  
32 half inch in diameter.

33  
34 The tenth rib on the left side of the body  
35 had, according to Dr. STRINGER, what appeared to be a  
36 chipped place, which he believed could have been caused by  
37 a ricocheting foreign body. Part of this rib was removed  
38 from the body by Dr. STRINGER and it appeared to have a  
39 fracture.

40  
41 Dr. STRINGER stated that the lungs did not  
42 appear to have any water in them, although this would have  
43 to be definitely determined by the pathologist. Dr. STRINGER  
44 stated that the lungs appeared to have only air and he  
45 believed that the lungs would have had water in them.  
46 Dr. STRINGER also stated that, if the  
47 deceased had drowned, the lungs would have had water in them.

48 Dr. STRINGER further stated that the deceased's  
49 genitalia was intact.

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51 Dr. STRINGER stated that the following parts  
52 of the deceased body were to be examined  
53 by pathologists:  
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1. Skin from entrance and exit holes.
2. Lungs and heart.
3. Part of the tenth rib.
4. Skin from the right shoulder blade.

Dr. STRINGER stated that, in view of the one-fourth inch hole in the left auricle of the heart and the blood in the chest cavity, it was his opinion that death was caused by a penetration in the left auricle of the heart. Dr. STRINGER added that, because of decomposition, there was no way to definitely determine whether victim was beaten.

Dr. STRINGER also added that it appeared that, in view of the lack of water in the lungs, death probably took place prior to the body going into the water. Dr. STRINGER stated that he could not determine from the decomposition of the body exactly how long it had been in the water, but the body had been in the water for some time.

Dr. STRINGER stated that he had probed considerably in the body, but was unable to locate any bullets or fragments of bullets.

The records of the Department of Defense, Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, reflect that the blood type of JACK CHARLES PARKER, Serial Number RA 14499151, is "O."

On May 5, 1959, the Coroner's Jury, Southaven, Mississippi, found that the body was that of PARKER and death was caused by wounds made by two one-fourth inch diameter projectiles at the hands of person or persons unknown.

The following is copy of affidavit prepared by Dr. W. F. STANLEY regarding the body as furnished by County Attorney WILLIAM H. BRANT:

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13 "STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
14 COUNTY OF PEARL RIVER  
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16 AFFIDAVIT  
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18 "This day personally appeared before me,  
19 the undersigned authority, in and for the aforesaid juris-  
20 diction, Dr. W. F. STRINGER, M. D., personally known to me,  
21 who after having been duly sworn by me deposes and says  
22 that he is a duly licensed and practicing Doctor of Medi-  
23 cine in the State of Mississippi and that on May 4, pursuant  
24 to an order issued by Judge WALTER E. DAVIS, acting coroner,  
25 he performed an autopsy on a male body which was found on  
26 said date and that his findings were as follows:  
27

28 "General: This is the body of an adult colored  
29 male in a bad state of decomposition. Fly larvae are cover-  
30 ing the head and neck. The tissues of the neck and face  
31 in such a state of decomposition and partial digestion by the  
32 maggots that none of the facial characteristics are identi-  
33 fiable. There is a large area over the left shoulder,  
34 posteriorly, which appears to be roughed. This merges into  
35 the maggot infested area back of the neck. Possibly the  
36 superficial layers of the epidermis are missing. There are  
37 two quarter-inch circular openings in the anterior chest  
38 wall: one located in the fifth intercostal space just to  
39 the right of the sternum; the other located in the 2nd inter-  
40 costal space just to the right of the sternum. Posteriorly  
41 on the chest wall there are two circular openings approxi-  
42 mately one-quarter inch in diameter. Back of these openings  
43 are surrounded by a blackened area approximately one-half  
44 inch thick. A superior opening is found just to the  
45 left of the vertebral column, but medial to the scapula.  
46 An inferior opening is located along the posterior axillary  
47 line at the level of the 5th or 6th rib. There are no  
48 other marks of identification or of injury on the body. The  
49 body is clad in shorts and undershirt.  
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51 "Skull: The tissues covering the skull are  
52 retracted easily. There is no evidence of any fracture or  
53 other injury to the cranium.  
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12 "Neck: The soft tissues of the neck are  
13 badly disfigured by the fly larvae. The cervical verte-  
14 brae are freely moveable and there is no evidence of  
15 fracture or displacement.

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17 "Description of the course of the circular  
18 openings which resemble a wound made by quarter-inch,  
19 high-speed projectiles.

20  
21 "Anterior superior wound left a course of  
22 tissue injury from the skin through the left auricle of  
23 the heart making an exit at the level of the 4th rib  
24 posteriorly to the right of the vertebral column but  
25 medial to the scapula. The inferior wound made a pene-  
26 trating course from the 5th intercostal space to the  
27 right of the sternum to the posterior portion of the 10th  
28 rib. There is a groove in the superior border of this  
29 rib. No points of entrance or exit are established from  
30 the gross specimens of the heart and lungs along the course  
31 of the supposed inferior foreign body penetration.

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33 "As the chest cavity was opened, the heart was  
34 found to be flabby, and apparently partially infarcted. The  
35 lungs are collapsed and darkly discolored. Both sides of  
36 the chest cavity contain approximately 500 cc of dark  
37 unclotted blood. No clots are noted. No perforation of  
38 the diaphragm is detected. There are some fine granular  
39 crystals of uniform size in the fluid of the chest cavity.  
40 The specific gravity of these was greater than that of the  
41 fluid. The crystals have the appearance of sea-sand.  
42 No fragments or pieces of any other foreign body are  
43 identified.

44  
45 "Abdominal cavity: On opening of the ab-  
46 dominal cavity no fluid is detected. This cavity  
47 was explored no further.

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49 "On phone conversation with Dr. J. H. BROWN  
50 permission to release the following was obtained.  
51 Lungs showed no evidence of fluid. There was no evidence of  
52 injury in the left auricle and of the pulmonary artery. These  
53 are believed to be incompatible with life.

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12 "SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED before me this 5th  
13 day of May, A. D., 1959.  
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"My Commission Expires  
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On May 11, 1959, Dr. W. F. SMITH, Poplarville, Mississippi, provided a copy of "Report of Autopsy Examination", submitted to him by [REDACTED], Pathologist, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, which report is dated May 9, 1959: b7c

"AUTOPSY

"GROSS: Material labeled 'Small lower chest, right, anterior' consists of a fragment of skin and underlying tissue, measuring 4.5 cm. in diameter, the epithelium black with brownish thick discolored areas surrounding a 0.4 cm. defect in the central portion which leads into the underlying tissue, the edges of this defect grayish and friable. Material labeled A, and representative portions embedded.

"Material labeled 'Small face upper anterior chest' consists of a roughly rectangular fragment of black skin and some underlying tissue, specimen measuring 7.0 x 4.0 cm., the epithelial surface rather stiff and leathery, the central portion having a 0.5 cm. round defect through which [REDACTED] passed. The edges of this defect are also [REDACTED] and friable. Representative portion embedded.

"Specimen labeled 'Small lower anterior chest' consists of an oblong fragment of skin and underlying tissue, measuring approximately 7.0 cm. long, up to 4.0 cm. wide and 4.0 cm. thick, the epithelial surface rather leathery, partially discolored at one end. There is a defect in the skin on the face of a penetrating injury 0.3 cm. in diameter, the epithelium [REDACTED]

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12 "surrounding this partially denuded, the total defect so  
13 denuded approximately 1.0 cm. in diameter. Representative  
14 portion embedded, material labeled C.

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16 "Material labeled 'skin from left shoulder,  
17 posterior' consists of an irregular shaped mass of leathery,  
18 partially decomposed tissue measuring approximately 10.0  
19 x 7.0 cm., the epithelial surface not recognizable except  
20 that it contrasts with the underlying muscle and subcutaneous  
21 tissue. There is cystic change beneath the ragged surface.  
22 Representative portion embedded and material labeled D.

23  
24 "Specimen labeled 'rib from anterior chest,  
25 upper wound' consists of the cartilagenous portion of a  
26 rib, the structure being 5.0 cm. long, showing the usual  
27 architecture, cut surface showing calcification in the  
28 perichondrium, in some areas the structure surrounded by  
29 rubbery, partially decomposed muscle showing a dark area  
30 of discoloration. This area does not penetrate the  
31 cartilagenous portion of the rib. Representative portion  
32 embedded.

33  
34 "Received separately are heart and lungs,  
35 the lungs badly decomposed, containing many small cystic  
36 areas and blebs, these most probably secondary to gas  
37 forming bacilli. No gross lesions of the lungs can be  
38 made out.

39  
40 "There is a defect in the anterior portion  
41 of the pulmonary artery in the form of a penetrating injury,  
42 the hole approximately 0.4 to 0.5 cm. in diameter, the edge  
43 ragged. This passes backwards and the opposite side of the  
44 pulmonary artery has a much larger hole. The defect is  
45 on the left auricle, penetrates the auricle  
46 above the aortic ring, extends toward the posterior  
47 portion and destroying a good portion of the inter-auricular  
48 septum; enters the left ventricle just above the aortic ring  
49 and leaves the left ventricle just below the large branch of  
50 the left coronary artery. The defect here is approximately  
51 0.4 cm. in diameter.

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53 "Also received by mail 7/23/43 is a segment  
54 of bone and attached muscle labeled 'section of both ribs'

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"This is a segment of rib approximately 10.0 cm. long and of the usual architecture. In the near central portion there is a defect on the edge of the rib resulting in a slight groove and a splintering on the posterior or inner surface such as would be left by a projectile coming from the outside and 'nicking' the rib. The marrow cavity does not appear to have been entered. Only the cortical bone is involved. No sections taken.

"MICROSCOPIC: Sections of specimen A ('wound lower chest right') show a centrally located penetrating injury, the configuration of the fibers indicating that it is a wound of entrance. Cellular detail is obscured by necrosis of tissue. There are numerous foreign particles in the deeper portions of the track, some having the appearance of pollen or diatoms, some dark brown wavy fibrils and some clear crystalline fragments. There is a 'contact zone' involving the overlying skin.

"Sections of specimen B show similar findings, again a wound of entrance with less foreign material, only brownish granular amorphous material being present.

"Sections of specimen C, indicate a wound of exit on the basis of the distortion of the fibers. Preservation is poor, there is much foreign material including parts of insects.

"Sections of specimen D also show a track though it is less clear cut. Subcutaneous tissue is pushed upwards and the lesion is interpreted as a wound of exit.

"Sections of the anterior portion of the p... show a wound of entrance on the basis of the distortion of the fibers.

"SUMMARY: Material expressed from the peripheral portions of the lungs contained no organic matter. Specimens from the anterior portion of the lung (specimens) were interpreted as containing wounds of entrance, those from the posterior as containing wounds of exit. The stage of decomposition of the lungs was such that no wounds could

be identified. The character and alignment of the holes in the pulmonary artery and heart were such that it is interpreted that they were all made by the same missile and the appearance of the wounds make it unlikely that they were caused by a sharp instrument that was used to slice them. The defect in the rib, said to be approximately 1 1/2 in. rib, would indicate that the path of projectile was from below upwards and the missile most probably left the body through the defect in the left shoulder.

"Since the defects in the pulmonary artery and heart are not compatible with life for more than a few minutes and no organic matter or foreign material could be expressed from the peripheral portion of the heart, my opinion is that death resulted from the damage to the pulmonary artery and heart and that they were made by a missile that passed through the body."

On May 11, 1959 AM [REDACTED] b7c  
cussed the above report with Dr. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said the report was complete, except that the [REDACTED] did not mention one specimen sent to him, viz. [REDACTED] the exit point of the lower of the two wounds. [REDACTED] that material labeled "A" in the report [REDACTED] lying tissue taken from the front of the [REDACTED] wound in the lower chest. Portions of this [REDACTED] indicating a penetrating injury with entrance [REDACTED] front that nicked the torn rib on the [REDACTED] This wound did not go below the diaphragm and [REDACTED] at a slight angle to exit to the back. [REDACTED] numerous foreign particles in the deeper [REDACTED] track, some having the appearance of [REDACTED] (small, microscopic high having a [REDACTED] way shells and some [REDACTED] STRANDER suggested [REDACTED] residue or matter that [REDACTED] placed in the water.

He advised specimens [REDACTED] and tissue from the front of the body [REDACTED] In line with this entrance wound [REDACTED]

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12 the artery going to the lung, with a larger hole in the back  
13 side of this artery, showing that the entrance was from the  
14 front. This track then passes through the left upper  
15 chamber of the heart above the mitral valve and exits just  
16 below the large branch of the left coronary artery after  
17 destroying a good portion of the septum (section of heart  
18 dividing the left and right portions of the heart). The  
19 exit wound through the back indicated a direct path as set  
20 out above. There was less foreign matter in this wound with  
21 only brownish granular amorphous material being present.

22  
23 This upper wound could not have been made  
24 a sharp instrument that was withdrawn because the fibers of  
25 the track all showed passage of a missile from front to  
26 back. This one wound would have caused death in a very  
27 few minutes, and the finding was that death resulted from  
28 defects in the pulmonary artery and heart and that these  
29 defects were caused by a missile that passed through the  
30 body.

31  
32 Dr. STRINGER said it was his opinion that  
33 the two wounds were caused by high-speed projectiles,  
34 probably jacketed bullets, fired from a rifle or target-type  
35 pistol. These exited from the body in only slightly larger  
36 wounds than the point of entry and they would have caused  
37 very little bleeding. An ordinary lead bullet would have  
38 expanded on passing through the body and would have left  
39 large exit wounds entirely different from those in the body.

40  
41 Dr. STRINGER also said it was his opinion that  
42 both wounds ranged upward slightly. Their position in the  
43 body indicated that they were made while the victim was  
44 propped up with the person doing the shooting standing at the  
45 feet of the victim, but he said this was only an opinion and  
46 that there might be other circumstances that would have  
47 caused the same missile path.

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49 The following sketch was made from one  
50 prepared by Dr. STRINGER to show the relative positions of  
51 the entrance and exit wounds:  
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13 V. KNOWN AND SUSPECTED PARTICIPANTS  
14 IN THE ASSAULT ON MARTIN LUTHER  
15 PARKER FROM THE PEARL RIVER COUNTY  
16 JAIL, POPLARVILLE, MISSISSIPPI.  
17

18  
19 A. NAME CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER,  
20 also known as Criss Columbus  
21 Reyer, Crip.  
22  
23 RESIDENCE RFD, McNeill, Mississippi  
24  
25 OCCUPATION Farmer and part-time barber  
26  
27 AGE 43  
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29

30 HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, also known as Pete  
31 Carver, Night Marshal, Poplarville, Mississippi, advised  
32 SA's [redacted] and [redacted] on May  
33 6, 1968, that a man known to him as [redacted] owned a  
34 red Oldsmobile "60" which was used as the [redacted] by car.  
35 He advised that his reason for believing that the car of  
36 REYER was used was the fact that "Crip" REYER came to  
37 him at the Amoco Service Station north of Poplarville at  
38 approximately midnight on the night of April 24, 1968,  
39 and called to him, after which REYER talked to him for  
40 approximately five or ten minutes. CARVER said that this  
41 occurred as he, B. F. ORR, R. J. WHEAT, and [redacted]  
42 [redacted] were leaving the Amoco Service Station after  
43 they had had coffee and were en route downtown. CARVER  
44 was of the opinion that REYER had detained him in order  
45 to [redacted] not get to the vicinity of the Pearl River  
46 County Jail during the time of PARKER's abduction. He  
47 pointed out that this incident occurred at [redacted] he believed  
48 to be the exact time that PARKER was taken away from  
49 the jail. He further pointed out that [redacted] previously  
50 furnished regarding his car stalling and being  
51 starting was not true and that he had actually been delayed  
52 by "Crip" REYER.  
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13 **CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER, McNeill,**

14 Mississippi was contacted by SA's [redacted]  
15 and [redacted] on May 7, 1959. At the time of  
16 that interview, REYER claimed that on the night of April  
17 24, 1959, he went to Poplarville with [redacted] SHIPPI to  
18 see a cattle dealer known as [redacted]. Upon not  
19 finding him, he went to the [redacted] [redacted] in  
20 Poplarville for a short while and then returned to his  
21 home in McNeill about 10:30 PM. He denied having been  
22 in Poplarville about midnight on the night of April 24,  
23 1959.

24  
25 At this time, REYER admitted he is the  
26 owner of a 1957 Oldsmobile "38", bearing 1959 Mississippi  
27 license 728-358. He consented to an examination of this  
28 automobile by Agents of the FBI and without being asked  
29 said that there would possibly be blood in the car from a  
30 lasso used in the handling of cattle. Upon being further  
31 questioned regarding the car without mention of the blood,  
32 he stated that in addition there would possibly be blood  
33 in the car from game chickens which he had carried to  
34 New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 3, 1959. When asked why  
35 he was volunteering information regarding blood which  
36 would be found in his car and which had not been asked for  
37 or mentioned by the Agents, he replied that it was his  
38 understanding that Agents of the FBI were looking for  
39 automobiles in and about Poplarville with blood in them  
40 and he merely wanted to explain why there was possibly  
41 blood in the back of his car. When REYER told him it  
42 was possible to distinguish between animal blood and human  
43 blood he then said that it was possible that he had cut  
44 himself while handling cattle. He exhibited the finger  
45 nail [redacted] on his right hand and pointed to  
46 a place at the base of the [redacted] nail as being the place  
47 he had been cut.

48  
49 A preliminary examination of [redacted] was  
50 made on May 7, 1959, and the car was placed under  
51 physical surveillance until the morning of May 8, 1959.

On May 8, 1959, the 1957 Oldsmobile, bearing Mississippi tag 723-358, was inspected by SA [redacted] b7c  
[redacted], dusted for latent fingerprints and the following latents were located and lifts were made:

- (1) Two latents located and lifts prepared on rear license plate.
- (2) Numerous latents located and lifts prepared from back of rear-view mirror.

Photographs were made of the latents.

On May 14, 1959, the latent fingerprint Section of the Identification Division of the FBI advised that two latent fingerprints of value appeared on the lifts and in the film negatives described as being from the license plate of the 1957 Oldsmobile of C. C. RYER. Two latent fingerprints and one fingertip impression appeared on lifts and in negatives described as being from the rear-view mirror. The two latent fingerprints described as being from the license plate were found identical with the right index and middle fingerprints of RYER. One fingertip impression described as being from the rear-view mirror is identical with the right little fingerprint of RYER. Two latent fingerprints from the rear-view mirror remain unidentified.

On May 8, 1959, an FBI Laboratory Examiner examined the 1957 Oldsmobile of C. C. RYER by RYER's home at McNeill, Mississippi, and removed the following from the automobile:

- (1) Scrapings from right rear door
- (2) [redacted] from left rear door panel.
- (3) Scrapings from back of rear seat.
- (4) Scrapings from left portion of rear seat.
- (5) Scrapings from left middle portion of rear seat.

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12 (6) Scrapings from right middle  
13 portion of rear seat.  
14 (7) Scrapings from left side of rear  
15 seat.  
16 (8) Scrapings from right side of rear  
17 seat.  
18 (9) Pieces of matting from under left  
19 side of rear floor mat.  
20 (10) Pieces of matting from under right  
21 side of rear floor mat.  
22 (11) Rope from trunk.  
23 (12) Sweepings from right portion of  
24 rear floor mat.  
25 (13) Sweepings from left portion of  
26 rear floor mat.  
27 (14) Sweepings from front floor mat.  
28 (15) Debris from rear seat.  
29 (16) Hairs from trunk.  
30

31 On May 13, 1959, the FBI Laboratory advised  
32 that specimens 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 were found to consist  
33 of human blood. The amount of blood present in these  
34 specimens was insufficient for grouping purposes. Blood  
35 stains of bovine origin were identified on Item 11 from  
36 the trunk of the car. A black Negroid head hair was found  
37 in Item 12 but is dissimilar in microscopic characteristics  
38 to the known head hairs from PARKER. Numerous light brown  
39 Caucasian head hairs were found in Items 13 through 14 and  
40 in Item 15. Numerous beef hairs were adhering to the rope,  
41 Item 11. No human hairs were found on the rope. The hairs  
42 in Item 13 from the trunk are of beef origin.  
43

44 On May 7, 1959, LENA MAE CRISS, McComb, Mississippi,  
45 was interviewed at Picayune, Mississippi,  
46 by SA [REDACTED]. She stated that at about  
47 7:00 AM on Friday, April 24, 1959, her husband left  
48 their home, which is some four miles west of McComb,  
49 Mississippi, and was to go to the barber shop which CRISS  
50 REYER operates on a part-time basis at McComb, Mississippi.  
51 CRISS REYER did not return home until about 3:00 AM, on  
52 Friday evening, April 24, 1959, and there was no one with  
53 him when he came home. He was driving a Chevrolet pick-  
54 up truck when he arrived home. When CRISS arrived home,  
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10 [REDACTED], and Mrs.  
11 REYER were at the REYER residence and were watching tele-  
12 vision but she could not recall what television program  
13 was on. CRISS informed her that he had been to Poplarville  
14 before he came home that evening.

15  
16 LENA MAE REYER stated that her husband, CRISS  
17 REYER, did not leave home again after around eight o'clock  
18 during the entire night. She slept with her husband that  
19 night and she is positive he did not leave the house. Her  
20 husband went to bed about 11:00 or 11:15 PM, which was  
21 before she and the rest of the family went to bed. The  
22 only people who have ever had possession and driven the  
23 1957 Oldsmobile which is owned by the REYER family are  
24 [REDACTED] and CRISS REYER. There are  
25 only two sets of keys for this car and one set of the keys  
26 belongs to CRISS REYER and the other set [REDACTED]

27 [REDACTED]  
28 [REDACTED]  
29 [REDACTED]  
30 [REDACTED]  
31 [REDACTED]  
32 [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
33 on May 7, 1959, that she and her husband spent the  
34 night of April 24, 1959, with her mother and step-father at  
35 McNeill, Mississippi. She and her husband arrived at the  
36 home of "Crip" REYER sometime between 8:00 and 8:30 PM on  
37 April 24, 1959, at which time her mother and her sister  
38 were the only ones at the house. She advised that her  
39 step-father arrived home at approximately 8:30 or 9:00 PM  
40 on April 24, 1959, had supper and thereafter drove to  
41 Poplarville, Mississippi, to see about some cattle. He  
42 returned home about 10:30 PM on that night and on this  
43 occasion he was accompanied by ARTHUR CRISS who remained  
44 at the house when REYER came into the house, but  
45 that REYER, after [REDACTED] to his home, returned to his  
46 residence and did not leave again that night.

47  
48 REYER was reinterviewed on [REDACTED] by  
49 SA's [REDACTED], and [REDACTED], at  
50 which time he advised that his [REDACTED] in the  
51 abduction of FARMER. He was reinterviewed on [REDACTED], 1959,  
52 by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].  
53 [REDACTED] 12, 1959, and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
54 and on May 14, 1959, furnished the following signed statement:  
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11 "Poplarville, Mississippi  
12 "May 14, 1959  
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14 "I, Christopher Columbus Meyer, make the  
15 following statement freely and voluntarily to  
16 Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] b7c  
17 [redacted] who have identified themselves to me as  
18 Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.  
19 I have been told that I do not have to make a state-  
20 ment and any statement made by me can be used against  
21 me in a court of law. I have also been advised that  
22 I have the right to talk with an attorney but do not  
23 desire one at this time. No threats or promises have  
24 been made to me to get me to make this statement. I  
25 have been advised that any false information given by  
26 me with regard to this matter to the above Agents  
27 can be used as basis for prosecution against me  
28 under Title 18 Section 1001 US Code.  
29

30 "I was born January 10, 1914, Lamar County,  
31 Mississippi. I have a high school education.  
32

33 "On April 24, 1959 I closed my barber shop  
34 at McNeill, Mississippi at about 8:30 P. M. Arthur  
35 Smith was waiting for me and we had a cup of coffee  
36 at Pat's store in McNeill, Miss.  
37

38 "I wish to state that shortly after noon  
39 on April 24, 1959 Francis Barker came to my barber  
40 shop and I shaved him. At this time Barker told me  
41 that there was going to be a meeting on Higgins  
42 road east of Poplarville, that night somewhere  
43 Barker who was in jail at Poplarville. Barker then  
44 asked me if I wanted to go and gave me directions  
45 to the meeting place. He told me to cross  
46 Wolf creek and go out one mile and turn left on a  
47 crooked road which would be on the right hand side  
48 the first house on the right. I told Barker I didn't  
49 care 'particularly' about going. I did not see  
50 Barker and he did not tell me at this time the names  
51 of anybody who was to be at this meeting. I had no  
52 further discussion with Barker at this time regarding  
53 the meeting.  
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12 "Before I had coffee with Arthur he  
13 had come to my shop at about 7:00 PM or 7:30  
14 PM on April 24, 1959 when he asked if he could  
15 ride home with me as his car was broken down.  
16 I told him I would take him home and told him  
17 at this time that there was to be a meeting out  
18 from Poplarville concerning Parker who raped a  
19 white woman. I asked him if he wanted to go  
20 with me and he said he would go.

21  
22 "After having coffee at about 8:30 PM  
23 I asked him to try his car which started and I  
24 followed him towards his home. His car stopped on  
25 him and he left it at [redacted] store and got  
26 in with me in my pick-up truck and we drove on to  
27 my house. I told him on the way to my house that  
28 I wanted to see [redacted] at [redacted] Service  
29 Station about buying some cows. After arrival at  
30 home I parked my truck and after going in the  
31 house for a few minutes we got in my [redacted] car  
32 and drove to Poplarville. We went to [redacted]  
33 filling station and did not see [redacted]  
34 truck. We then drove on to the [redacted] cafe where  
35 I parked at the side of the cafe on the south side  
36 of the street headed toward Main Street. I sat  
37 in the car talking to Arthur Smith for a few  
38 minutes and I then got out and went in the cafe  
39 for coffee. I asked Arthur Smith to join me but  
40 he said he would stay in the car on account of  
41 his clothes being torn. While in the cafe I saw  
42 the following persons: Francis B. [redacted], J.  
43 Wheat, J. P. Walker, [redacted] and the  
44 [redacted] waitresses [redacted] and [redacted]. There  
45 was no [redacted] attention [redacted] this time by anyone at the meet-  
46 ing. I then [redacted] to my car where Smith was  
47 still waiting and while going to my car I saw  
48 'Petey' Carver who I thought was an [redacted] since  
49 he was wearing a gun. I called Carver to the car  
50 and I believe he sat down on the back seat. I  
51 asked him did he know anything about the meeting  
52 to be held that night concerning [redacted]. He said  
53 he did not. I told him I heard [redacted] was going to  
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11 be a meeting but I didn't know for sure. Carver  
12 then got out of the car and Smith and I drove to  
13 the meeting place. We did not follow anyone and  
14 were not followed by anyone at this time.  
15

16 "Upon arrival at the meeting place I  
17 saw about eight cars and one pickup truck parked  
18 on the right side of the road. There were no  
19 cars to my recollection on the left and I parked  
20 near a tree located almost in front of a house.  
21 I do not know who lives in this house. I didn't  
22 see anyone as I drove up to this place. I got  
23 out of my car and started walking back to where  
24 these cars were parked. I don't remember if Smith  
25 got out of my car or not. As I approached the  
26 cars I heard someone say 'there's Grip'. I did not  
27 recognize this person nor could I recognize his  
28 voice. I asked what this meeting was all about  
29 and someone said it concerns Parker. I talked to  
30 these men a few minutes and would estimate there  
31 were fifteen to eighteen people in this group.  
32 I did not recognize any of them, and heard some-  
33 one say that all of the crowd was not there yet.  
34 I then went back to my car saying that I was going  
35 back to town. I do not recall whether Smith was  
36 still sitting in the car or if he got in at the  
37 time. As I was walking back to my car a man follow-  
38 ed me and said he would ride back to town and come  
39 back with me. I cannot recall this man's name but  
40 I believe he is a Davis. I would describe this  
41 man as being about forty-five years old, approxi-  
42 mately six feet tall, and would weigh about one  
43 hundred and sixty five or seventy pounds. He had  
44 a flat-top type face and was slender build.  
45 I do not recall how he was dressed. The three  
46 of us returned to Sparville and parked at about  
47 the same place I had parked before. Smith and I  
48 went to the star cafe alone. Smith and I  
49 were still in the car. I went to the cafe to get  
50 coffee and stayed about twenty minutes. I recall  
51 speaking to [redacted] who was working as a  
52 waitress at the cafe.  
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11 "When I first came to the star cafe  
12 before going to the meeting place it was approxi-  
13 mately 9:15 PM. After going to the meeting and  
14 returning to the Star Cafe it was about 9:45 PM.  
15 I stayed in the Star Cafe about twenty minutes  
16 after which I returned to my car.

17  
18 "Smith and the person who rode to  
19 town with us were in the car when I returned.  
20 I got in and we drove back to the meeting place.  
21 Upon arrival at the meeting place this second  
22 time there were cars parked on both sides of the  
23 road. I parked on the left side of the road near  
24 a boat at the head of the line of cars. I would  
25 say that there were about fourteen cars and two  
26 trucks there including my car. I would say that  
27 in my opinion there were about thirty or more  
28 persons there in this group. I believe that the  
29 man that rode out to town and back with Smith and  
30 me got out of my car and I got out and we walked  
31 back to where the group was standing. I do not  
32 recall whether Smith got out of the car at this  
33 time or not. I believe this was about 10:30 or  
34 10:45 PM. As I approached the cars the men  
35 stopped me. Someone in the crowd behind these  
36 two men said 'that's Crip come back'. I did not  
37 know the identity of the two men and did not  
38 recognize the voice of the man who spoke. I  
39 passed on by these two men and stood within about  
40 five feet of the group. I saw no guns, masks,  
41 gloves or clubs. I did hear the man say that  
42 some of these people had guns and I heard one say  
43 he had a mask. I recall saying to this group that  
44 somewhere out there in that community was an old  
45 man who had asked me about my spotted horse  
46 last year while we were both in Poplarville. I  
47 told them to tell him if they knew him that if  
48 he would come to my house I would sell him the  
49 horse or trade him the horse for cattle. A man  
50 standing to my right whose voice sounded like an  
51 old man said he would see me in a few days about  
52 the horse or something similar to that. I took  
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12 this to be Mr. Lee the man I had previously  
13 talked to or some of his relations because he  
14 knew what I was talking about. I believe that  
15 while I was standing there I heard Arthur Smith  
16 say something to me during the time we were  
17 there. There was general talk about what we  
18 were going to do with Barker. I said that the  
19 river was up as I had crossed it recently. I  
20 said this because someone had just remarked or  
21 asked what we were going to do with Barker if  
22 we got him, and someone else said the river  
23 would be a good place for him.

24  
25 "I made the remark that I was going back  
26 to town and someone said 'we are going to use  
27 your car.' I objected to this but they insisted  
28 and said 'we are going to use it.' I told them  
29 my car was about out of gas and they said they  
30 would gas my car up not to worry about it. I  
31 asked where I would get my car back and they said  
32 at the cross roads. I asked what cross roads and  
33 someone said at the Pura Oil station on the  
34 Bogalusa road. I told them that Barker was a  
35 sick man and had no business being in anything  
36 like that and someone told me to take Barker and  
37 drive his car and take him back to town. When  
38 Barker and I started to get in his car, a dove  
39 colored or grey 1959 Chevrolet sedan, I heard  
40 some dogs bark. I thought the dogs were on a  
41 truck we walking by. I believe this was a 1/2 ton  
42 truck cream colored. As I started to get in  
43 Barker's car I heard someone say 'he's going home.'  
44 I believe it was [redacted] voice. I have  
45 [redacted] been [redacted] closely associated with  
46 [redacted] I believe I recognized his voice.  
47 As I pulled to the left get in Barker's car  
48 turned around I saw this same truck [redacted] going  
49 North. I believe this was an International truck.  
50 I drove Barker's car and we went to Poplarville.  
51 As I passed the group someone said I could get my  
52 car after midnight. I would estimate this was  
53 about 11:15 PM. We stopped at the [redacted] how-  
54 ever they were closing. I spoke to [redacted] who

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12 was cleaning up and then returned to Barker's  
13 car. We drove to the filling station called  
14 the 'cheap station' across from the City Hall  
15 and bought three dollars worth of gas. We then  
16 drove to the intersection of highway 26 and U.S.  
17 highway 11 where we turned north for about one  
18 quarter of a mile and parked at a filling  
19 station where we talked for about twenty minutes.  
20 We then returned to the vicinity of the hospital,  
21 by coming in on highway 26 to Julia street and  
22 turned right and proceeded to the street just  
23 north of the courthouse and hospital. We turned  
24 right where I saw a 1956 Chevrolet black in color  
25 containing four men. I did not recognize anyone  
26 in this Chevrolet. I believe this is the same  
27 car I saw at the meeting place when I was not by  
28 the two men near the group. In front of this  
29 Chevrolet I saw my Oldsmobile. I saw four men  
30 sitting in my car. I saw J. P. Walker sitting  
31 under the steering wheel in the driver's seat.  
32 I did not recognize any of the other three men.  
33 I asked the men in my car if they had gotten the  
34 keys to the jail yet and they said they had not.  
35 I then went to the other car and they said they  
36 had not gotten them. The reason I asked this  
37 question was because at the meeting I had heard  
38 someone say they were going to break into the  
39 Sheriff's office to see if they could get the keys  
40 to the jail. I got back in Barker's car with  
41 Barker and would estimate the time to be about  
42 11:40 PM. I turned left, went behind the hospital,  
43 turned left again and proceeded to Main street,  
44 turned left and proceeded north. As I went north  
45 on Main street I saw a car parked directly across  
46 the street from the Standard Oil Service Station  
47 which is located on the North West corner of the  
48 court house. I do not know the type or the  
49 color of it but do recall it contained four or  
50 five men. I went to the Amoco Service station  
51 formerly known as Kester's Truck Service and  
52 I went in and got coffee. I saw [REDACTED] b7c  
53 R. J. Wheat, E. P. Orr and 'Petey' [REDACTED]. I  
54 asked the time and someone in the group pointed

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12 the clock out to me and I saw it was 11:50 AM.  
13 Carver and the group he was with left the cafe  
14 at 12:10 AM and Barker and I left at 12:15 AM.  
15 We then went down to the Bogalusa highway and  
16 turned left and went to Julia street and turned  
17 right and drove between the hospital and the  
18 court house where we turned left and drove past  
19 the south entrance of the court house. I saw as  
20 we passed the south entrance that one of the doors  
21 of the court house was open. I then went on to  
22 Main street turned left and went out the Bogalusa  
23 road. We drove on to the cross roads and parked  
24 at the Pure Oil Station. I pulled in and parked  
25 and in a very few seconds my Oldsmobile pulled in  
26 and parked between Barker's car that I was driving  
27 and the highway. A man wearing blue denim pants  
28 got out of the passenger side of the front seat of  
29 the Oldsmobile and while running to Barker's car  
30 said 'let's get the hell out of here.' Arthur  
31 Smith got out of the right rear of the Oldsmobile,  
32 I believe, and got into the right front seat of  
33 the Oldsmobile. I got out of Barker's car and as  
34 I was going around the left rear of the Oldsmobile  
35 I ran into an individual whom I believe had gotten  
36 out of the left rear of the Oldsmobile. I do not  
37 recall seeing the driver and do not know who was  
38 driving the Oldsmobile. I got in the Oldsmobile  
39 on the driver's side and drove in front of Barker's  
40 car and then turned south on what is known as River  
41 Road. Barker stayed in his car and Arthur Smith  
42 was the only other person in the Oldsmobile with  
43 me at this time. I did not see the direction taken  
44 by Barker's car and do not know who was driving  
45 Barker's car. I drove directly to Arthur's house  
46 and let him out and then returned to my home  
47 arriving there at 12:57 AM. I immediately went to  
48 bed.  
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50 "The next morning I noticed there was a  
51 small spot of blood on the floor outside and blood  
52 smeared on the outside over the right rear door.  
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11 This was on Saturday morning. I tried to get  
12 the blood off with a wash cloth. At about ten  
13 AM on Sunday Arthur Smith and I washed the car  
14 with soap and water.

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16 "I have not been contacted by anyone  
17 regarding the abduction of Parker who to my  
18 knowledge was in any way involved in the  
19 abduction. The only person I have talked to  
20 regarding the abduction of Parker who I know  
21 to have been possibly involved is Arthur Eugene  
22 Smith who is my nephew by marriage.

23  
24 "I have read this statement of this &  
25 eight other type written pages. I have put my  
26 initials by all corrections & insertions. I  
27 have put my name on each of the other eight pages.  
28 This statement is true & correct to the best of  
29 my knowledge.

30  
31 /s/ CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER

32  
33 "Witnesses:

34 [REDACTED], Sp. Agent,  
35 F. B. I., New Orleans, La., 5-14-59  
36 [REDACTED] Special Agent,  
37 F. B. I., B'ham, Ala., 5-14-59." b7c

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40 On May 15, 1959, REYER was contacted by SA's  
41 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and shown a photograph of L. C. DAVIS. b7c  
42 He identified DAVIS as the individual who had ridden from  
43 the meeting place on the Wiggins Road, the night of April  
44 24, 1959, to Poplarville, Mississippi, in REYER's Oldsmobile  
45 and [REDACTED] with him to the meeting place. REYER  
46 then stated that when he [REDACTED] in the car of FRANCIS  
47 BARKER on the north side of the [REDACTED] Hospital  
48 about 11:30 AM on April 24, 1959, he had observed an  
49 individual whom he now identifies as L. C. DAVIS walking  
50 from behind a black 1956 Chevrolet to the courthouse front  
51 lawn. REYER stated that when he stopped [REDACTED] car on  
52 the north side of the hospital he had [REDACTED] next to his,  
53 REYER's 1957 Oldsmobile and there was a 1956 black Chevrolet  
54 parked immediately to the rear of the Oldsmobile. He  
55 followed L. C. DAVIS across the courthouse lawn to the  
56 front porch of the courthouse where DAVIS disappeared from  
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12 view behind a column. MEYER stated he then returned to  
13 the car of BARKER and proceeded to the Amoco Service  
14 Station for coffee. MEYER stated he recognized J. P.  
15 WALKER as the driver of his 1957 Oldsmobile but denied  
16 recognizing any other occupant of the Oldsmobile or the  
17 1956 black Chevrolet. MEYER stated that he had made  
18 inquiry of the occupants of both the Oldsmobile and  
19 Chevrolet as to whether or not they had obtained the  
20 keys to the jail but denied that he and BARKER had had  
21 anything to do with obtaining the keys or making arrange-  
22 ments for securing the keys. He stated that he had no  
23 knowledge of any arrangements or plans being made to  
24 obtain the keys to the jail. He steadfastly maintained  
25 that FRANCIS BARKER remained in his presence from the  
26 time he drove BARKER's car away from the meeting on the  
27 Wiggins Road at approximately 10:30 PM on April 24, 1959,  
28 until approximately 12:30 AM the morning of April 25, 1959,  
29 except for the short interval of time that he, MEYER,  
30 followed L. C. DAVIS in front of the courthouse.  
31

32 On May 14, 1959, MEYER was again contacted  
33 by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] at his  
34 home in McNeill. He stated that he now recalled following  
35 L. C. DAVIS to the front of the courthouse the night of b7c  
36 April 24, 1959, and that DAVIS attempted to open a window  
37 of the Sheriff's Office; that DAVIS commented the window  
38 was stuck and that together they walked around the south  
39 side of the courthouse and in between the courthouse and  
40 the hospital in returning to the cars. MEYER stated that  
41 he got into BARKER's car and did not notice what action  
42 was taken by L. C. DAVIS. At this time MEYER made avail-  
43 able his 1957 Oldsmobile for examination and it was noted  
44 that the tail and brake lights were in operating  
45 condition. MEYER stated that no repairs had been made to the  
46 tail and brake lights on his 1957 Oldsmobile since April  
47 23, 1959.

48  
49 On May 18, 1959, SA's [redacted]  
50 and [redacted] learned from [redacted] b7c  
51 [redacted]  
52 was in the hospital at Piquette under the care of [redacted]  
53 [redacted] and that no visitors were allowed.  
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May 8, 1959, SA's [redacted] and [redacted] contacted E. F. Carr, Town Marshal, Poplarville, Mississippi, concerning the alleged presence of "CRIP" REYER and FRANCIS BARKER at the Amoco Service Station cafe on the night of April 24, 1959. Carr advised he was not acquainted with anyone named "CRIP" REYER or CRISS REYER, unless this person was identical with a man known to him as "LEFTY" REYER whom he had not seen for several months. He further stated he had heard generally in the community that a man named BARKER from around McNeill, Mississippi, had a heart attack and died on or about April 30, 1959. He stated he was acquainted slightly with this man, whom he had not seen in some time.

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Carr stated that during the time he was in the Amoco with WHEAT, [redacted] and CARVER he did not speak with anyone other than in his own party and he did not recall having been spoken to by anybody. He stated he definitely was not touched or greeted by anyone identifiable to him as REYER or BARKER.

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On May 8, 1959, [redacted], Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that after he, Carr, WHEAT, and CARVER were seated at the Amoco cafe he noted "CRIP" REYER sitting on a counter stool beside Mr. FRANCIS BARKER. He went on to state that they remained at the cafe until about midnight, or possibly a little later, during the course of which "CRIP" REYER carried on a conversation with either Carr, CARVER, or WHEAT. He did not recall whom REYER talked to or what was said, but that REYER did not talk to him.

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About midnight, Carr, CARVER, WHEAT, and [redacted] left the cafe in CARVER's car. He did not recall if CRISS REYER attempted to talk to any of them as they were leaving. He did not recall what car REYER was driving that night and has not recalled seeing REYER since that night.

[redacted] advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] on May 11, 1959, that about 1959, on the night of April 24, 1959, he recalled having seen CARVER, "CRIP" REYER and J. P. WALKER in the Star Cafe.

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On May 8, 1959, ROBERT JAMES WHEAT, RFD, Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA [redacted] and [redacted] that he was at the [redacted] cafe on the night of April 24, 1959, with PETE CARVER, [redacted] and B. F. ORR. He observed [redacted] REYER and FRANCIS BARKER, first becoming aware of them when REYER came by their table and spoke to B. F. ORR, slapping him on the back or touching him on the shoulder as he spoke to him. He could not recall what REYER said to ORR, but thought it was just some non-committal remark, such as "Hi ya Cuz." REYER did not speak to anyone else at their table and went over to the counter where he sat down. While REYER was at the counter he carried on some general conversation with someone at their table, but WHEAT said he could not recall the conversation and did not know exactly whom he was talking to at their table. He stated that when they left the cafe at about midnight BARKER and REYER were still at the counter and he did not see REYER again that night.

HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, [redacted] Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA [redacted] and [redacted] on May 11, 1959, that on the night of April 24, 1959, he had coffee at the [redacted] located on Main Street, with R. J. WHEAT and [redacted] at approximately 9:30 PM. He advised that [redacted] ("Crip") was also in the Star Cafe at the above mentioned time. CARVER stated that after coffee had been finished and WHEAT and [redacted] had left to return to Local Liver Junior College where they are employed, he saw "Crip" REYER's Oldsmobile automobile in the street near the cafe which he recalls as being occupied by REYER, a person he believes to have been [redacted] and another individual [redacted] to him whom he would guess to be approximately 50 years of age, about five feet seven or eight inches in height, and a heavy build. CARVER stated REYER called him to the automobile which he entered and sat with these men for a short time. He stated that REYER made the comment that someone was liable to get killed because "all them nigger lawyers" being in the court case. CARVER stated he told REYER not to tell him anything and [redacted].

stated that REYER also remarked something to the effect they were thinking about taking "that nigger" out of the jail. CARVER says at this point, he left the automobile and did not converse with them further; however, he did not take REYER's remark seriously and did not believe that he was part of the plan to take a Negro prisoner from the jail.

CARVER states that he did not tell Marshal B. F. ORR of the remarks made by "Crip" REYER earlier in the evening. He stated that ORR accompanied him, WHEAT and [REDACTED] to the Amoco Cafe on U. S. Highway No. 11 in the northeast portion of the city limits of Poplarville where they had coffee. He advised that while the group was having coffee at the Amoco Cafe, a Mr. BARKER and "Crip" REYER entered the cafe and one of them, whom he believes was REYER, spoke to Marshal B. F. ORR or to the group. He states he could not recall any specific comment made by REYER and states there is a possibility that his comment was merely a greeting to ORR.

[REDACTED] Mississippi, on May 11, 1959, admitted implication in this matter to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He also admitted that he went to the meeting on the Wiggins Road with C. C. REYER, that REYER's car was to be used to transport PARKER and that he and REYER regained possession of the Oldsmobile at Crossroads, Mississippi, following the abduction. He admitted assisting REYER in washing stains off the Oldsmobile which appeared to be blood on Sunday, April 26, 1959. Details regarding [REDACTED] participation are set forth below.

On May 16, 1959, L. C. DAVIS, Route 2, Box 189, Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he knew C. C. REYER as a prize fighter or years ago who now works as a barber in McNeill, Mississippi. DAVIS denied he had been with REYER or in the car of REYER the night of April 24, 1959. He related that he had been contacted a few days after the abduction of PARKER by REYER who came to his house seeking to buy cows.

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B. NAME [REDACTED]

RESIDENCE [REDACTED], Mississippi

OCCUPATION [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

AGE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Mississippi, whose recollections concerning the part of the abduction of PARKER from the Pearl River County Jail have been set forth previously in this document. [REDACTED] originally advised of the participation of [REDACTED] in the abduction when interviewed on May 2, 1960. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] accompanied him to Bogalusa on that night, driving out to the meeting place on the Natchez Road, riding back into town with [REDACTED] and returning to the meeting place. [REDACTED] returned to Bogalusa, Mississippi, where [REDACTED] obtained his automobile which had been taken from him for the purpose of transporting PARKER.

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[REDACTED] was originally interviewed on May 7, 1960, at Bogalusa, Mississippi, at which time [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] he denied any participation in the abduction. [REDACTED] was interviewed on May 11, 1960, at which time [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] accompanied SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to Bogalusa, Louisiana, for the purpose of [REDACTED].

At this time [REDACTED] furnished the following statement concerning his activities. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] he read the statement whereupon [REDACTED] he went to him [REDACTED] in the presence of [REDACTED] at which time [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] he could think of no discrepancies in the statement and was not certain whether he should sign it without consulting an attorney inasmuch as his education was [REDACTED] and very thorough understanding of what he was doing.

"Eogalusa, La.  
"May 12, 1959

I, [redacted] make the following statement to [redacted] whom I know to be special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This is a free and voluntary statement on my part and no promises or threats of any kind have been made to me. I know I do not have to say anything at all at this time and have been told that any statement I do make can be used against me in a court of law. I have also been told of my right to talk to a lawyer before making this statement.

"I am [redacted] years of age and have finished four years of schooling. I presently reside [redacted] Miss. On Friday, April 24, 1959, I returned home from work about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. About 4:30 o'clock that day my wife came home with my 1947 Black, Chevrolet tudor sedan and I immediately left alone to go hunting East of McNeill, Miss.

"Between six and six-thirty o'clock that afternoon I returned to [redacted] and went to the [redacted] [redacted] told me to wait around, that he wanted to see me and I waited about ten minutes or more for a customer to leave. I waited outside the shop alone, and he came out and asked me if I wanted to go with him to move that nigger. I understood this to mean the Parker nigger that had raped a white girl and [redacted] had been talk that he would be turned loose [redacted] there would be no niggers on the jail that would try him. [redacted] moving [redacted] I know it was planned to take him out of jail and [redacted] of him. [redacted] said a group was to meet East of [redacted]ville, Miss., on the Williams road that night and he was going. I agreed to go along and we left McNeill, I driving my car and [redacted] driving his pickup truck. We were going to take my car home but it broke down near [redacted] tore near my home, there we left

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11 it and proceeded in the truck to [REDACTED]  
12 Here we got into the 1957 Red [REDACTED] Oldsmobile  
13 four-door sedan belonging [REDACTED] and he drove  
14 to Poplarville, Miss.

15  
16 "When we got there he drove to the  
17 Star Cafe, the Greyhound bus depot and I recall  
18 a bus arriving but don't know what time it was.  
19 [REDACTED] said he was going to get some coffee and  
20 I waited in the car and did not see him go into  
21 the cafe or talk to anyone at that time. On the  
22 way to Poplarville I asked [REDACTED] what was going  
23 to be done and he said we would just go to the  
24 meeting to be from DeSeill. Then we left the  
25 Star Cafe, he drove his car out the Higgins high-  
26 way East several miles where we were to turn left  
27 on a gravel road but he missed the turn and we  
28 had to come back. We were not following anyone  
29 and did not notice anyone following our car. We  
30 turned into the gravel road and traveled a short  
31 distance out of sight of the highway and came upon  
32 a group of cars parked on both sides of the road.  
33 Chris drove past these cars a parked in front on  
34 the left side. There were fifteen or twenty cars  
35 parked there and a group of probably thirty men  
36 or more standing on the right side of the road.  
37

38 [REDACTED] left the car, leaving his keys  
39 in the ignition and walked over to the group of  
40 men. He said nothing to me and after a half-hour  
41 or more I also left the car and went to the group  
42 to see what was going on since I could hear  
43 nothing from the car. When I arrived [REDACTED] was  
44 [REDACTED] got everyone together to [REDACTED]  
45 meeting. [REDACTED] talk about using [REDACTED]  
46 car to carry the [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
47 his car was too light color. But [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
48 to use his car. They had already [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
49 to get into the Court House and [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
50 talking about going through a window to [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
51 get the keys and open the doors. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
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12 or gloves on and I did not see or hear anything  
13 about these, nor could I identify anyone talking  
14 except [redacted]. The group was then talking about  
15 someone to go inside and several men volunteered  
16 but I don't know who was picked or how selections  
17 were made and do not know anyone who agreed to go.

18  
19 "In addition to regular passenger cars,  
20 I saw two pick-up trucks, one light blue, make  
21 unknown, with a stake body & the other a black truck  
22 with nothing on the back, make unknown. I think  
23 the blue truck was a Ford but I could not recognize  
24 either of them.

25  
26 "I was standing near [redacted] about the time  
27 the meeting was breaking up and [redacted] told me that  
28 Francis Barker was too sick to be mixed up in this,  
29 that he was going to get him out of there. He told  
30 me he was to get his car back at the cross-roads on  
31 highway 26 near the East end of the Pearl River  
32 bridge. He said nothing about who was to use the  
33 car and since I knew the nigger was to be hauled in  
34 it, I did not want to ride in it. I saw five men  
35 get into [redacted] Oldsmobile, none of whom I knew, all  
36 being rather small. The driver was about forty  
37 years old, five-foot six or seven and weighed about  
38 one hundred and sixty pounds. He appeared to be  
39 dark complexioned, was wearing regular overalls with  
40 bib and shoulder straps and a cap with a long bill.  
41 Everyone in the Oldsmobile was wearing a hat or cap  
42 but I could not recognize any of them.

43  
44 "I went to a black, 1955 or 1956 Chevrolet  
45 sedan where three men were seated and was  
46 invited to join them and did so although I did not  
47 know any of them. The driver was a young man in his  
48 twenties, black hair, five foot six, weighed one  
49 hundred fifty pounds. He said he was from a farm  
50 from Mill Creek, Miss., but did not say where he  
51 lived. The man sitting with me in the back seat was  
52 a small man, quite young and reminded me of the  
53 family around Poplarville but I cannot say for sure  
54 he was a [redacted] boy.

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"We left the scene about midnight, after being there some two hours, during which time no one left & probably three more cars arrived. We left the meeting a few cars at a time and evidently the drivers know where to park. The car I was in parked near the Standard Service Station on the north side of the Court House near the main street, headed West. We were to watch for any outside trouble on this side & if anyone came, keep them from going into the court house. We had no guns or albs in this car that I saw. While parked here [redacted] drove by in Barker's Chevrolet and stopped to talk to us about the plans. We could not see anything going on at the South door of the Court House but after a few minutes, heard the Oldsmobile leave that area, headed west. We left in our car to follow it, going one block, turning right and one block further, turning left onto highway 26 headed towards Bogalusa. When we got to the highway the Oldsmobile had already reached the highway and was headed for Bogalusa. It ran a red-light at highway 11 and continued on west and we also ran this red-light and followed some distance behind. I do not know what time this was but remember riding around Town a few minutes before parking to wait for twelve o'clock so believe it was shortly after twelve midnight when we left town.

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"The plan was to throw the nigger in the river but I know of no plan to kill him first. We never did get close enough to the Oldsmobile to see how many men were in it or whether or not the nigger was really there. We stayed within sight of the tail lights all the way to the Pearl River bridge. The plan was to throw him in from the bridge but I believe that cars headed East at that time prevented the Oldsmobile from stopping and did not let it stop on the bridge. As we crossed the bridge, the Oldsmobile had pulled off to the right and was taking a U-turn on highway 26 on the Louisiana side to return to Mississippi. We continued on past the

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12 Oldsmobile before we turned around and lost sight  
13 of it. We never did see it stop on the bridge at  
14 any time or see what happened to the nigger.

15  
16 "We continued on to the cross-road,  
17 some two miles East of the bridge in Mississippi  
18 where the Oldsmobile was waiting at a service  
19 station. I left the Chevrolet here and approached  
20 the Oldsmobile and saw that five men were in it  
21 but not the nigger. I got into the Oldsmobile on  
22 the right rear side and did not see what direction  
23 the Chevrolet took. This was the same group of men  
24 in the Oldsmobile that I had seen get in it earlier  
25 but I did not recognize any of them.

26  
27 "Since [redacted] was not at the cross-roads,  
28 we headed East on highway 26 toward Poplarville and  
29 met him driving [redacted] car, accompanied by [redacted]  
30 We turned around and followed him to the cross-roads  
31 where the five men got out and [redacted] got in. We  
32 then left for home and the next [redacted] told me  
33 he had taken these men to the tourist camp on highway  
34 11 to the right as you approach Poplarville from  
35 Bogalusa.

36  
37 "As I got into the Oldsmobile, I saw some  
38 blood on the top of the Oldsmobile on the right,  
39 rear side. I didn't look in the back seat and went  
40 to work Saturday so didn't see it. On Sunday  
41 I was returning from [redacted] and [redacted] asked me to  
42 help him wash it and at that time [redacted] saw dark stains  
43 on each back door panel, back seat and cushion and  
44 the floor. [redacted] said nothing about anything  
45 [redacted] in the Oldsmobile that had to be disposed  
46 of.

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48 [redacted] has never said anything about [redacted] or [redacted]  
49 who any of these men are and I do not know the names  
50 any of them except [redacted]. He has never said anything  
51 about where the gloves or marks came from.  
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At first when the investigation started, [redacted] said to stick to the story that we were home. Later he told me he had been questioned, that the FBI knew I was one of the men and was going to question me. He told me therefore to say I went to the meeting and some men used a gun on me and forced me to go with them.

"I state that this statement of [redacted] and seven other pages written by Special Agent [redacted] have been read to me, that I understand it and it is all true and correct to the best of my memory.

"The above statement read to [redacted] by SA [redacted], in the presence of [redacted] at which time he states it was all true & correct but refused to sign it without benefit of counsel.

"/s/ [redacted]  
"/s/ [redacted]

On May 13, 1959, [redacted] was interviewed by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] at his residence at New Orleans, Mississippi. [redacted] furnished more detailed information regarding his activities on the night of April 24, 1959.

On this Friday afternoon, April 24, 1959, [redacted] after getting home about 4:00, got into his 1957 Chevrolet and went hunting. He stayed out in the woods alone until approximately 6:00 PM, at which time he returned to [redacted] and stopped to see his [redacted] at [redacted] [redacted] told her [redacted] that he wanted to see her, after waiting [redacted] 15 minutes, and all the customers had left [redacted] [redacted] came outside and asked me if I wanted [redacted] to move that nigger." When [redacted] [redacted] understood that he meant the "nigger" that had raped the white girl, and that there had been talk that the "nigger" would be turned loose [redacted] [redacted]

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11 were no "niggers" on the jury that would try him. [REDACTED]  
12 indicated that by "moving him" he knew it was planned to  
13 take the "nigger" out of the jail and get rid of him.  
14 [REDACTED] advised him that a group was to meet East of  
15 Poplarville, Mississippi, on the Wiggins Road that night,  
16 and that he, [REDACTED] was going, at which time SMITH agreed  
17 to go along.

18  
19 They left [REDACTED] Mississippi, [REDACTED]  
20 driving his 1947 Chevrolet, and [REDACTED] got in his truck,  
21 stating that he was going to stop to see [REDACTED].  
22 He did not tell [REDACTED] the reason he was contacting [REDACTED].  
23 [REDACTED] while on his way home, had trouble with his Chevrolet  
24 and stopped at [REDACTED] store and within a short period  
25 of time, [REDACTED] came along and they left [REDACTED] car there  
26 and drove to [REDACTED] house in [REDACTED] town. Upon  
27 arriving at this house, he got into [REDACTED] 1977 red and  
28 white Oldsmobile four-door sedan and worked for [REDACTED] to  
29 feed his dog and bring in several quarts of milk. [REDACTED]  
30 came out, and they then left for Poplarville.

31  
32 When they arrived in Poplarville, [REDACTED]  
33 parked the car by the Greyhound Bus Depot, got out of the  
34 car, and headed towards the cafe, asking [REDACTED] if he would  
35 like to accompany him for some coffee. [REDACTED] declined the  
36 invitation for the reason that his trousers were split up  
37 the back.

38  
39 [REDACTED] did not see [REDACTED] go into the cafe,  
40 nor did he see him stop and talk to anyone. About 20  
41 minutes later, [REDACTED] returned to the car. However, [REDACTED]  
42 in the absence of [REDACTED], did not see or talk to anyone on  
43 the street, nor did anyone approach the car while he was  
44 present.

45  
46 [REDACTED] then drove out from the cafe out  
47 Highway 26 toward Wiggins, Mississippi. [REDACTED] while driving a  
48 short distance out of Poplarville, [REDACTED] located he  
49 missed the road he was supposed to turn on, turned around,  
50 and came back. This road they finally turned on was a  
51 gravel road which more or less curved off of Highway 26.  
52 After traveling up this gravel road a short distance, they  
53 came upon several cars parked on both sides of the road,  
54 with a group of men congregated on the right side of the

12 road between a row of cars and the fence. [redacted] drove  
13 his car completely through this row of cars and parked  
14 some distance on the left side of the road past a house.  
15 At this point, [redacted] got out of his car and [redacted]  
16 remained in the car. [redacted] does not recall whether or  
17 not [redacted] took the keys to the Oldsmobile with him.  
18 [redacted] recalls [redacted] walked over to the group of men, and  
19 he remained in the car approximately 20 to 30 minutes,  
20 after which time, becoming rather curious as to what was  
21 taking place, he got out of the car and joined the group  
22 of men.

24 [redacted] said when he approached the group of  
25 men, he only recognized two of these men, one being [redacted]  
26 [redacted] and the other [redacted]. At this time, he did  
27 not recognize anyone else, nor did he note any firearms,  
28 gloves, or any other type of equipment that may have been  
29 used in the Friday night incident.

31 After several minutes with the crowd of men,  
32 [redacted] went back to his car and [redacted] followed. On this  
33 occasion, another man came along [redacted] in the car with  
34 them. [redacted] got behind the wheel, [redacted] in the middle  
35 and the third man sat in front on the [redacted] side. He  
36 described this third individual as approximately six feet,  
37 age 30-40, weight 150-170 pounds, a thin man, wearing brown  
38 khaki pants and discolored turkey hants during the time he  
39 was in the car. [redacted] was of the opinion that this indivi-  
40 dual resided in the area where the shooting took place. He  
41 estimated that this took place between 7:00 and 10:00 PM.

43 [redacted] drove the automobile back to replar-  
44 [redacted] parked in approximately the same location  
45 [redacted] location [redacted] were a little closer to [redacted] Street.  
46 [redacted] got out of the car, but [redacted] no recollection as to why  
47 or where he was going. [redacted] [redacted] no other individual  
48 remained in the car. [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] the  
49 cafe, nor did he see him talking to anyone. About 10  
50 minutes later, [redacted] returned to the car. [redacted] [redacted]  
51 to the car, [redacted] met PATE CARVER, the [redacted] [redacted], who  
52 came to the car and got into the back of [redacted] car. At this  
53 time, [redacted] asked PATE CARVER if he knew about "getting  
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12 the nigger out of the jail tonight." To this question,  
13 PETE CARVER denied he had any knowledge that this was  
14 going to take place. [redacted] did not hear [redacted] ask  
15 CARVER to get out of town or leave the immediate area  
16 of the courthouse nor did he give him any other type of  
17 instructions. CARVER then got out of the Oldsmobile and  
18 [redacted] drove back to the meeting place just off of  
19 highway 26 toward Higgins. At this time, the car was  
20 occupied by the same three individuals who came from the  
21 meeting place-- [redacted] and the unknown individual.

22  
23 Upon arriving at the scene, [redacted] parked  
24 his car in approximately the same location, past the line  
25 of cars to the left. At this time, all three men got out  
26 of the car and joined the group of men. [redacted] walked over  
27 and more or less acted as spokesman and tried to encourage  
28 the men to get "this activity started so they could get  
29 it over." At this time, [redacted] recognized [redacted] and  
30 [redacted] among the group of men. It was [redacted]  
31 at this time that they would use [redacted] car to  
32 transport the "nigger" from the jail to the Pearl River.  
33 [redacted] sort of objected originally because of the color  
34 of the car, but finally consented to let [redacted] use his  
35 car. [redacted] indicated he heard no conversation in which as-  
36 signments were made to drive cars, to get the keys at  
37 the Sheriff's Office, or to enter the jail. He further indi-  
38 cated that he did not see any firearms, however, he did note  
39 one man carried a short billy-type club. He indicated he  
40 did not see any gloves, however, he noted two men had some  
41 type of masks. He could not state what these were the type  
42 that completely covered the head or had a string around  
43 the forehead, but stated the masks did contain slits for  
44 the eyes and came down far enough to cover the chin. He  
45 was unable to state the type of material of which these  
46 masks were made. He described one of the individuals who  
47 had a mask as a short, heavy-set individual, approximately  
48 five feet six inches tall, weighing approximately 160  
49 pounds, and whose age was 50-55. He could not recall how  
50 this individual was dressed, but did note that he was  
51 husky and had unusually large arms. He also noted the second  
52 individual who had a mask as being five feet nine inches  
53 tall, weighing 160 pounds, appearing to be approximately  
54 35 years old.

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11 [redacted] related that the group began to break  
12 up and get into the various automobiles, none of which he  
13 could specifically describe, with the exception of [redacted]  
14 car and [redacted] car, however, he believed there  
15 were two pickup trucks on the scene. One he described as  
16 a light blue or gray with a stake body and the other a  
17 black pickup truck, make unknown. He did not notice the  
18 license plates on any of the cars parked in the vicinity  
19 of the meeting and it was his recollection that possibly  
20 the license plate on the car of [redacted] had been bent  
21 upward. He did not note any particular license plate as  
22 having been covered with any type of material in an attempt  
23 to hide identity of cars and, to his knowledge, no license  
24 plates were removed from any of the cars.

25 [redacted] was advised by an individual, whose  
26 identity is unknown to him, to get into another car. At  
27 this time, he got into what he described as a 1968 or 1969  
28 Chevrolet, which was occupied by three other men. He  
29 described the dashboard to be black in color and also be-  
30 lieved the seat covers were black. He could give no fur-  
31 ther distinguishing characteristics of the inside of this  
32 car. He got into the back of the car, which he believed was  
33 black, and recognized the man in the back with him as a  
34 [redacted] but did not know his full name. He described this  
35 individual as a very young man, about the age of 20, with  
36 light colored hair. He was unable to describe the type  
37 of clothes worn by this [redacted] described  
38 the driver of this car as [redacted] 30-35 who is  
39 married to a [redacted] near [redacted]  
40 Mississippi. [redacted] was not able to describe the second  
41 man in front of this Chevrolet with the exception that he  
42 was a [redacted] man between 30-35. [redacted] was unable to  
43 state the [redacted] of either of the men in the front of  
44 the car had been wearing.

45 [redacted] further related that [redacted] as to knowledge  
46 as to the individuals who left the scene in [redacted]  
47 car, nor was he able to state the number of [redacted]  
48 who may have ridden in [redacted] car back to [redacted]  
49 He observed [redacted] enter the car [redacted]  
50 and said these two proceeded to Poplarville [redacted]  
51 driving the car. He did not observe anyone else [redacted]

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11 in the car of [redacted] at this time. He was not able to  
12 state how [redacted] returned to Poplar-  
13 ville.  
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15 [redacted] related that they left the scene about  
16 midnight and after arriving in the town of Poplarville,  
17 rode around for ten or 15 minutes, attempting to delay  
18 before actually getting to the courthouse square.  
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20 [redacted] said they finally parked alongside the  
21 Standard Service Station just off of Main Street at the  
22 courthouse square. From this particular position, he was  
23 unable to view the South side of the courthouse. He re-  
24 lated further that while they were in this position, there  
25 was no conversation being had among the men in the car.  
26 After remaining in this position for a short while, they  
27 then proceeded down this side street, heading toward  
28 Bogalusa, crossing over Julia Street, and in the middle of  
29 the next block, stopped the car to park to talk to [redacted]  
30 [redacted] who was still with [redacted] [redacted]  
31 [redacted] does not recall any specific conversation with [redacted]  
32 [redacted] but they had only momentarily stopped in this position.  
33 They then drove to the next corner and turned left, going  
34 several blocks, turning left again, and finally coming back  
35 on Julia Street and took up a position diagonally across  
36 the street from the South entrance of the courthouse. While  
37 parked in this position, he observed a group of men dragging  
38 the "nigger" out of the South entrance of the courthouse,  
39 and placing him in [redacted] automobile. He related  
40 that at this time, he was paying more attention to a man  
41 who was walking from the hospital toward the group of men  
42 putting the "nigger" in the car. For this reason, he was  
43 unable to state the exact number of men or the identity of  
44 an [redacted] man, nor was he able to state the actual  
45 number of men who were gotten into [redacted] car with  
46 the "nigger." In regard to the [redacted] man from the hospital  
47 toward the group handling the "nigger", [redacted] unable to  
48 give any type of description of this individual, giving as  
49 his reason the fact that he, [redacted] was "blacked."  
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51 [redacted] related that he did not particularly  
52 observe whether or not the corner street [redacted] was on, nor  
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12 did he observe whether or not a light was on in the  
13 furniture store.

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15 [redacted] stated after the "nigger" was placed  
16 in [redacted] car, it then took off and headed west one block,  
17 turning right, behind the hospital, proceeding on to  
18 Highway 26, turning left. Just after [redacted] car took  
19 off, the car he was in was driven straight ahead on this  
20 street to Highway 26. He related that when crossing the  
21 street on the South corner of the courthouse square, the  
22 car took a terrific jolt when it hit a bump in the road.  
23 Upon reaching Highway 26, he observed that [redacted] car  
24 was just about reaching Highway 11 and [redacted] through the  
25 red light, heading toward Bogalusa. [redacted] related that  
26 they followed [redacted] car all the way to Bogalusa and at  
27 no time did this car stop until it reached a point just  
28 over the Pearl River Bridge and was in the process of  
29 making a turn to head back to the Mississippi side in front  
30 of the Legion Club. At this point, the car which [redacted] was  
31 in passed [redacted] car and drove about three-quarters of a  
32 mile further on into Bogalusa. At this point, this  
33 Chevrolet turned around and headed back toward Ioplarville,  
34 driving on until they reached the Crossroads located at the  
35 intersection of Highway 26 and 43 and pulling into the Pure  
36 Oil Station where [redacted] car was waiting. At this  
37 point, [redacted] got out of the Chevrolet, walked over to  
38 [redacted]'s car, and entered the right back door after  
39 one of the men got out to let him in. He then slid over  
40 to the center of the back seat and this man got back into  
41 [redacted]'s car. [redacted] pointed out that this individual  
42 who got out of [redacted] car to let him in was the same  
43 individual who rode with him and [redacted] from the  
44 [redacted] place to the Star Cafe [redacted] to the meeting  
45 [redacted] in the evening. [redacted] related that the  
46 Chevrolet with the [redacted] three [redacted] in it then took off,  
47 the direction of which [redacted] does [redacted] He stated that  
48 upon getting in [redacted]'s Oldsmobile, [redacted] recognized  
49 one individual, the driver whom he identified [redacted]  
50 [redacted] He related that he did not recognize any [redacted]  
51 other men with the exception of the man who let him in as  
52 being the individual described above. [redacted] believed there  
53 were two or three men in the front seat and two other men  
54 in the back seat.

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[redacted] related that [redacted] then drove the Oldsmobile from the Pure Oil Station, headed toward Poplarville on Highway 26, and that after driving a short while, recognized [redacted] as car headed in the opposite direction, at which time [redacted] turned the Oldsmobile around and followed the car back to the crossroads of Highway 26 and 43, where they both stopped at the Pure Oil Station. At this point, [redacted] got out of the back of [redacted] car and got into the front seat. [redacted] got out of [redacted] car, came over to his car, and got under the wheel, at which time they left the area via Highway 43 heading South on what is known as the Henley Field Road. [redacted] stated that the individuals who were in [redacted] car got into [redacted] car and believes they headed toward Poplarville, Mississippi, on Highway 26. He did not notice that there was anyone else in the car when it arrived, other than [redacted] and [redacted].

[redacted] advised that information was easily furnished to the effect that he had contacted [redacted] the next day at which time [redacted] tel. him upon arriving at the Magnolia Tourist Court in Poplarville, Mississippi, he had let the men riding with him get out of his car was erroneous and that he had not actually seen [redacted] the next day. He did see [redacted] in McNeill, Mississippi, before [redacted] death, but there was no mention made of the abduction of PARKER on the night of April 24, 1959. SMITH stated that [redacted] did make the statement on this occasion that he was "scared."

[redacted] worked on Saturday, April 25, 1959, as usual, and on Saturday evening, he left [redacted] McNeill, Mississippi where he saw [redacted] at this time, [redacted] mention of the incident and did not give him any instructions as to what he was to do in the event he was interviewed by investigation office. On the next day, Sunday, April 26, 1959, he was present [redacted] home, at which time he noted [redacted] was [redacted] his 1957 red and white Oldsmobile. [redacted] presented that he had washed the car already, and [redacted] was going to wash it again. [redacted] assisted [redacted] washing the car on Sunday, April 26, 1959, and pointed out the fact that it was

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12 he who removed the back seat from the car and scrubbed  
13 it. Before washing the car, [redacted] observed there was a  
14 handprint in blood on top of the automobile of [redacted]  
15 located just to the rear of the right back door. He said  
16 the car was scrubbed with soap and water.

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18 On May 14, 1959, [redacted] was  
19 interviewed at Poplarville, Mississippi. [redacted] is case he  
20 identified from a photograph [redacted], as  
21 having been one of the men at the meeting held on the  
22 evening of April 24, 1959, just off Highway 26 towards  
23 Wiggins, Mississippi.

24 In addition to the information already fur-  
25 nished by [redacted] he related that the only information he  
26 wished to add was regarding a man who got into the 1955 or  
27 1956 Chevrolet when this car was parked in front of the  
28 lawyer's office building diagonally across the street from  
29 the courthouse. He related that after the "nigger" was  
30 put in [redacted] car he recalled that one of the men at  
31 [redacted] car came running over to the car he was in and  
32 opened the back right door and got into the back of the  
33 car. He moved to the middle of the seat to allow this man  
34 to have room; at this time he noted this man was wearing  
35 a handkerchief over the lower part of his face. He de-  
36 scribed this handkerchief as plain white, without any kind  
37 of design or figures thereon. This man took off the hand-  
38 kerchief and believed put same in his pocket. [redacted] said  
39 he did not recognize this man nor had he ever seen him  
40 before, but he may be able to recognize him if he sees him  
41 again. He does not recall whether or not this man was  
42 wearing gloves.

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44 [redacted] related that one of the individuals he  
45 recalled seeing at the meeting place of Highway 26 was  
46 [redacted]. He explained he knew this man from prior  
47 contact with him some months ago when he [redacted] sold  
48 pecans to [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]. He  
49 believed this man lives in the Lumberton area, but would  
50 give no further description of him.  
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On May 15, 1959, SA's [redacted] and [redacted], contacted [redacted] at his residence, at which time he was shown photographs of various individuals. [redacted] identified a photograph of L. C. DAVIS as the individual who rode in REYER's car from the meeting place to the Star Cafe in Poplarville and who was also present in C. C. REYER's car when Night Marshal PETE CARVER got into the car when parked near the Star Cafe on the night of April 24, 1959. He stated this individual then rode back to the meeting place.

[redacted] stated that with respect to the photograph of GEORGE RESTER, he could not be positive but is quite certain that this individual was one of the men sitting in the front seat of the black Chevrolet and rode in this car from the meeting place to Poplarville, from the jail to Pearl River Bridge and back to Crossroads.

[redacted] stated he last saw this person at Crossroads where he remained in the Chevrolet when [redacted] got into [redacted] automobile. He was not certain whether or not [redacted] is the person who talked about his wife from Mill Creek area, claiming [redacted] individuals in the front seat of the Chevrolet, in his opinion, [redacted] somewhat alike. He stated he has not seen this individual before or since, that he is not personally acquainted with him and there was no indication that he is the owner of the Chevrolet.

[redacted] observed a photograph of [redacted] and stated that this is the person he previously identified as [redacted] a person he observed at the meeting. This is the person who was wearing regular overalls, with the bib and shoulder straps, and he advised he observed this [redacted] only at the meeting and knows nothing further concerning [redacted] or activities. [redacted] stated that it is his recollection that this person [redacted] after the meeting was underway in one of the last cars to appear.

After looking at the photograph of [redacted] he stated he could not identify this person, that the general make-up of the man seemed to resemble the man in the back seat of the Chevrolet but the facial features did not seem to be identical. This is the person he previously mentioned as possibly being a member of the [redacted] family.

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On May 16, 1959, [redacted] willingly accompanied SA's [redacted] and [redacted] to [redacted], South, Poplarville. He was asked to observe the individuals present. At the scene were [redacted] and an unidentified male customer with his wife and child. These individuals were in the yard at this scene, at which time [redacted] definitely identified [redacted], as one of the two individuals sitting in the front seat of vehicle he was in the night of the abduction, which vehicle followed the Oldsmobile in which victim was transported. The observation distance was no more than sixty yards on a clear, sunny day at about 11 o'clock AM, May 16, 1959. [redacted] does not know [redacted] by name, has not associated with him in any respect in the past prior to April 24, 1959, and could furnish no information concerning his activities. On this occasion, [redacted] was wearing work clothes and no hat.

[redacted] was then driven to the residence of [redacted] who is the [redacted] Mississippi, where the personal vehicle of [redacted], was parked. This is a 1958 Ford Fairlane, four-door sedan, two-tone green, 1959 Mississippi license [redacted]. From close observation, [redacted] stated quite definitely that this was not the vehicle he had ridden in the night of April 24, 1959.

[redacted] was unable to further identify the vehicle he had ridden in that night, but stated that in his opinion there was no resemblance between this vehicle and the vehicle of [redacted]

Without prompting, [redacted] was asked to direct Agents to the scene of the meeting to which he had been taken the night of April 24, 1959. He directed Agents east on Highway 26 from Poplarville toward Wiggins, Mississippi, and approximately six miles from Poplarville, directed Agents to turn left on a gravel road. Approximately two hundred yards down this road, he pointed out the meeting place, almost directly in front of the residence at this place, the occupant he stated he does not know. He related the car he was riding in, that of [redacted] had been parked on the left side of this road and

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11 pointed out an overturned rowboat, light in color, which  
12 he stated he had observed on the occasion of the meeting.  
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15 It is to be noted that this meeting place  
16 has been identified by other witnesses as being in front  
17 of the residence of L. C. DAVIS, the place pointed out on  
18 this occasion by [REDACTED]

19 HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, Night Marshal,  
20 Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA [REDACTED]  
21 and [REDACTED] on May 14, 1959, that on the night  
22 of April 24, 1959, he had coffee at the Star Cafe located  
23 on Main Street, with R. J. WHEAT and [REDACTED] at  
24 approximately 9:30 PM. He advised that OLLIE RYAN ("Crip")  
25 was also in the Star Cafe at the above mentioned time.  
26 CARVER stated that after coffee had been finished and  
27 WHEAT and [REDACTED] had left to return to Pearl River  
28 Junior College where they are employed, he saw "Crip"  
29 REYER's Oldsmobile automobile in the street near the cafe  
30 which he recalls as being occupied by REYER, a person he  
31 believes to have been [REDACTED], and another individual  
32 unknown to him whom he would guess to be approximately 30  
33 years of age, about five feet seven or eight inches in  
34 height, and of heavy build. CARVER stated REYER called him  
35 to the automobile which he entered, and sat with these men  
36 for a short time. He stated that REYER made the comment  
37 that someone was liable to get killed Monday "with them  
38 nigger lawyers" being in the court room. CARVER states he  
39 told REYER not to tell him anything about it. He stated  
40 that REYER also remarked something to the effect they were  
41 thinking about taking "that nigger" out of jail. CARVER  
42 says at this point, he left the automobile and did not con-  
43 verse with them further; however, he did not take REYER's  
44 name and did not believe that he was part of  
45 the plan to [REDACTED] a prisoner from the jail.  
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48 On May 14, 1959, L. C. DAVIS, [REDACTED]  
49 199, Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA [REDACTED]  
50 and [REDACTED] upon observing [REDACTED]  
51 [REDACTED] that he knew [REDACTED] a [REDACTED]  
52 hunter he had seen during the last week of [REDACTED]  
53 ignorance of his name. At this time DAVIS denied any part  
54 whatsoever in the abduction or murder of [REDACTED].  
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and in a joking manner said that he had brought a doctor for [REDACTED]. According to MONDY, [REDACTED] had been requesting the services of a doctor for some ailment. MONDY said that the man with ALFORD looked around the Negro tier of the jail, without entering the tier door, and then the two of them left. b7c

MONDY said that ALFORD came to the jail at approximately 7:00 PM on April 24, 1959, and was alone as far as he could recall. He did not return to the jail again until after PARKER's abduction. MONDY stated positively that he did not see ALFORD or anyone else give the jail keys to anyone who might have a connection with the abduction. MONDY said he knew there was a rumor going around that the jailer had given the keys to the gang but he had no information whatsoever to support such an allegation.

On May 14, 1959, [REDACTED] of the Pearl River County Jail, on April 24, 1959, furnished a signed statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. In this statement [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] had told him on several occasions prior to April 24, 1959, that if anyone came to the jail for PARKER he should point PARKER out to them and make sure that they got the right Negro. [REDACTED] that about 12:25 AM, April 25, 1959, he heard keys rattling in the door leading from the cell block into the court room and upon hearing this noise, he got up from his bunk and walked over by the steps leading up to the court room door. The door opened and an unidentified man entered the jail followed by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said he was certain of his identification of [REDACTED] because he recognized a gun which he held in his right hand. b7c b7d

Further, right after [REDACTED] entered the jail, according to [REDACTED] he leaned over to [REDACTED] and said "Be quiet boy." [REDACTED] said he immediately recognized [REDACTED] voice.

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was wearing a pair of light tan, low-quarter dress shoes, which he recognized

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pr-shoes he had frequently [redacted]. He was wearing a blue chambray work shirt and [redacted]. Over his head was what appeared to be a [redacted] scarf which was completely draped over his head and down his shoulders outside of his shirt. There were small slits in this scarf for eye-holes [redacted] said he could see what appeared to be [redacted] protruding from inside this scarf. He said that [redacted] shirt sleeves were rolled down and he was wearing white cotton gloves with a blue elastic band at the wrist. [redacted] an old [redacted] hat with the [redacted] egg and the crown [redacted] [redacted] at the top.

[redacted] said that WALKER, LEE and ALFORD walked up the steps to the barred door at the head of the stairway at which time WALKER asked the Negro prisoners where PARKER was. When he was told as to the location of PARKER, WALKER unlocked the door and he, LEE and ALFORD went to the control box at the center of the second tier which operates the door to the maximum security cell where PARKER was lodged.

WALKER operated the control box and opened the door leading to PARKER's cell, whereupon he, LEE and ALFORD went toward PARKER's cell and out of sight of [redacted]

[redacted] described hearing the struggle in PARKER's cell and stated that from the sound it appeared that the struggle moved from the north cell to the south cell. He said that he saw WALKER and LEE drag PARKER out into the corridor of the upper tier, followed by JAMES ALFORD. He stated that WALKER was hitting PARKER with a [redacted] man's club, LEE was hitting him with a piece of [redacted] ALFORD was hitting him with a broom. He said [redacted] the [redacted] of the broom broke and there- after ALFORD picked up a piece of the handle and hit PARKER with it several times. WALKER said that [redacted] and LEE dragged PARKER down the stairs from the upper to the lower tier of cells, PARKER grabbed the railing alongside the steps and ALFORD kicked his hands loose. WALKER [redacted] dragged PARKER into the court room followed by [redacted] and an unidentified man.

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The complete statement furnished by [REDACTED] is set out on Pages [REDACTED]

On May 15, 1959, [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that in his opinion prisoners [REDACTED] and CHARLIE MONDY could definitely identify [REDACTED] as one of the men who went into the jail for PARKER.

[REDACTED] stated that about a week after PARKER's abduction from the jail, [REDACTED] instructed him to shine a pair of brown, low-quarter dress shoes which he, [REDACTED] thought were the shoes worn by [REDACTED] on the night of the abduction. [REDACTED] instructed him to put a gloss shine on the shoes and to use a dark Esquire polish. In the process of shining the shoes, [REDACTED] said he saw two dark stains on the right shoe each of which was about the size of a ten penny nailhead. He said he immediately concluded that the stains were blood stains and that in polishing the shoes he apparently eradicated these stains. He said that prior to shining the shoes he showed them to [REDACTED] and they discussed the possibility that the stains were PARKER's blood.

On May 21, 1959, [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he had no reason whatever for implicating [REDACTED] in the abduction other than his desire to tell the truth. He said that except for the fact that he had agreed to tell the complete truth he would take a year in the penitentiary before implicating [REDACTED]. He explained that [REDACTED] had befriended him in the jail, had frequently given him money from his own pocket and had given him extra privileges not enjoyed by the other prisoners.

On May 13, 1959, [REDACTED] furnished a signed statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] concerning her knowledge of the abduction of M. C. PARKER. In this statement [REDACTED] said in part:

"About three days later I discussed Parker being taken from the jail with [REDACTED]



"Yes you were wearing a black hood and carrying a gun."  
[redacted] then stated "That's right." [redacted]

On May 17, 1959, [redacted] Pearl River County Jail, was interviewed at the Mississippi State Penitentiary, Parchman, Mississippi, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. He was shown a group of pictures and identified one of these as a picture of [redacted]. He said he did not recognize ALFORD as being one of the men who participated in the abduction but recognized [redacted] while he was incarcerated in the Pearl River County Jail.

On May 20, 1959, CHARLIE JAMES MONDY said that he could in no way identify [redacted] as being in the mob which entered the jail to abduct PARKER. b7c b7D

On May 14, 1959, [redacted] was interviewed by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. During the course of this interview, [redacted] stated he had information indicating that a man named PARKER may have been involved in the abduction of PARKER. He said he also had information concerning the Oldsmobile automobile which had been used in connection with the abduction, but before furnishing the details of this information he wished to discuss the matter with Sheriff MOODY. Following a discussion with Sheriff MOODY, [redacted] furnished the following statement:

"Poplarville, Miss.  
"May 14, 1959

"I, [redacted], furnish the following voluntary statement to [redacted] and [redacted] who have identified themselves to me as special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been advised that I do not have to make a statement and that any statement I make can be used against me in a court of law. I have been advised that I have the right to consult an attorney. No threats or promises have been made to me to obtain this statement. I reside in [redacted] Miss. I was born on [redacted] at [redacted] Miss. I was at my home in [redacted] Miss. on the night of 4/24/59 watching television. Sometime between 11:00 and 11:30 PM on 4/24/59 I heard a knock on my door. I got up from my chair, went to the door and opened it. [redacted] was standing in my yard about [redacted] feet from the door. He said, '[redacted] come out - my wife wants to see you.' At that point I think I then reached back into the house and picked up my shirt and put it on. I then went out of the house. I noticed that [redacted] was then standing beside an automobile parked at the curb directly in front of my house. He had the left rear door of the car opened and was standing beside it. The car was facing East which meant that it was actually parked on the wrong side of the street. I walked up to this car and stuck my head in the open door. At this time [redacted] either shoved me slightly upon the rear with his hand or knee forcing me to fall forward into the rear of the car. At this time I heard a man in the car say, 'Get in.' I sat on the back seat in the middle. There was one man already seated on the right rear side and after I got down [redacted] sat alongside of me on the left rear side. [redacted] was in the front seat. I recognized the driver as [redacted] and the man in the passenger's side as [redacted]. I think I recognized the man sitting to my right as [redacted]. None of them were wearing masks. I saw no hands and saw no gloves. After we

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12 all got in the car all the doors were shut. One  
13 of the men said 'We've come after the nigger and  
14 want the keys.' Another man said [REDACTED] we  
15 don't want any trouble we just want [REDACTED] b2c  
16 One of them said 'We don't want to tear up the  
17 courthouse or destroy any of the property.' At  
18 that time I said, 'I'll get the keys for you,  
19 but I'm not going with you to get the nigger.'  
20 One of the men said 'We just want the keys.'  
21 I told them I would go get the keys at the  
22 Sheriff's Office and throw them on the Sheriff's  
23 desk in his office. One of the men said there  
24 was four or five more cars around the courthouse.  
25 I told them to tell the persons in these cars to  
26 get away from the courthouse and that I then would  
27 get the keys. They had previously mentioned jail  
28 keys so I knew that was what they were referring  
29 to. I saw no firearms of any kind. I do not know  
30 which of the men made the various statements while  
31 in the car. I could not tell which of these men  
32 was the leader. I got out of the car, went back  
33 into my house and told my wife that there was a  
34 man outside who wanted to get a man named Green  
35 out of jail. I meant by this that Green was to  
36 be released as someone had made his bond. I then  
37 came out of my house and walked to my own car which  
38 was parked in my driveway alongside the house. As  
39 I started my car I noticed the car with the four  
40 men pull off in an easterly direction. I drove  
41 directly to the courthouse and parked my car at  
42 the curb directly in front of the sidewalk which  
43 leads to the street from the south door of the  
44 courthouse. As I parked my car I observed the  
45 four men already parked on the street  
46 directly along the south side of the Public  
47 Health building. They were being easy. I then  
48 went into the courthouse through the south door,  
49 using my key to unlock the door. I went to the  
50 Sheriff's Office, took the jail keys from the  
51 filing cabinet and threw them on the Sheriff's  
52 desk. I then left the courthouse through the south  
53 door locking it behind me. I got in my car and  
54 drove to Main street where I made a left turn,  
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went down Main St. for two blocks, made another left turn onto Highway 26 and went directly to my home. I would estimate that not more than fifteen minutes had elapsed between the time [redacted] knocked on my door and when I got back home from the courthouse. I do not know the exact time I got back to my house. I know the car in which [redacted] and the others were traveling was an Oldsmobile. I think it was about a 1956 model. I am not sure of the color, but have the impression that it was two tone color. I did not enter the jail with anyone to remove M. C. PARKER and did not participate in any manner in his removal from the jail other than as I have described above. I did not see any other cars in the vicinity of my home, at the courthouse or while driving to and from my home that I can recall. I did not see anyone other than the four men I have mentioned from the time I left my home until I returned to my home. I complied with the request of these men to get the [redacted] for them because I was afraid they would harm me or my family if I refused. I have read this statement consisting of this and four other pages. It is true and correct.

"This statement was read by [redacted] in the presence of Special Agent [redacted] and [redacted] and he acknowledged that it was true and correct.

"Witnessed: [redacted] Spec. Agt., FBI, Houston, Tex.

" [redacted] Spec. Agt., FBI, Houston, Tex.

After the preparation of the statement [redacted] said he did not desire to sign it. He read the statement in the presence of SA's [redacted] and acknowledged that it was true and correct.

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12 [redacted] pointed out that while none of the  
13 men specifically threatened him in any manner should he  
14 not [redacted] he knew from their con-  
15 versation that should he refuse to furnish [redacted] they  
16 would attempt to take them by force, and [redacted] from  
17 the past reputation of [redacted] and [redacted]  
18 he knew they would not hesitate to do him or his family  
19 bodily harm in the event he disclosed their identities or  
20 the reason for their contact with him at this time.

21  
22 [redacted] pointed out that he drove from his  
23 home to the courthouse in his 1959 Nash Rambler station  
24 wagon, which is two-tone tan and brown in color.

25  
26 [redacted] stated that he did not dare mention  
27 to his wife the real reason for his going to the courthouse  
28 that night and did not dare ask her to phone the sheriff  
29 to tell him of what was taking place because she has pre-  
30 viously suffered a nervous breakdown, is currently extreme-  
31 ly nervous, and he felt that if he told her anything of the  
32 matter, "it would kill her right then."

33  
34 He said it was through fear of reprisals  
35 against him and his family that he had not furnished any-  
36 one this information previously.

37  
38 [redacted] said he has not been contacted by any  
39 of the four men who came to his home subsequent to that  
40 night.

41  
42 [redacted] stated that if it were necessary for  
43 him to testify in court concerning the above information,  
44 he would have to leave the Poplarville area  
45 permanently in order to avoid possible physical violence  
46 to himself or his family.

47  
48 On May 15, 1959, [redacted] advised  
49 SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that she worked  
50 at the Magnolia Courts until approximately 10:30 PM on  
51 April 24, 1959, when she went home, arriving there shortly  
52 after 10:30 PM. A few minutes after arriving at home,  
53 there was a knock at the door and her husband went to the  
54 front door and stepped out onto the lawn. She said she did

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11 not see the person who had knocked at the door but did  
12 hear the man call her husband by name. She said that  
13 after her husband went out to the front lawn he shut the  
14 door behind him and was gone for a few minutes. When he  
15 returned to the house he put on his shirt and told her  
16 that he was going to let a man named GREEN out of jail  
17 as his fine was being paid.  
18

19 Mrs. [redacted] said that her husband was gone  
20 from home about eight to ten minutes and upon returning  
21 home he remained there until he received a call from  
22 Sheriff MOODY advising him that PARKER had been taken from  
23 the jail.  
24

25 Mrs. [redacted] said that she was not aware of  
26 the fact that her husband had made [redacted]  
27 available to the abductors until Sheriff MOODY advised her  
28 on May 13, 1959. She said that the Sheriff told her that  
29 her husband had been forced to do this at gunpoint by some  
30 masked men and he feared reprisals against his family if  
31 he talked about it. She said that she was fairly certain  
32 that when her husband went to the jail on the night of  
33 April 24, 1959, he did not take his gun with him as she  
34 did not recall his going to the bedroom to get the gun  
35 from the closet.  
36

37 On May 16, 1959, [redacted] advised SA's  
38 [redacted] and [redacted] that he owns a .38  
39 caliber Colt snub-nose revolver, nickel-plated, with white  
40 plastic handles. He said he has owned this gun approximately  
41 a year and a half and it is the gun [redacted]  
42 [redacted]  
43 he also owns a .38 caliber Smith & Wesson revolver,  
44 nickel-plated with bone handles. He said this gun is  
45 ordinarily [redacted] who is [redacted] in an  
46 [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] gun is  
47 either maintained in an [redacted] [redacted] by him  
48 and [redacted] or at [redacted] house. He said he has not had  
49 this gun in his possession for at least six months.  
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51 [redacted] made available the above mentioned  
52 revolvers which were photographed.  
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| D. NAME    | FRANCIS M. BARKER (deceased)                           |
| RESIDENCE  | McNeill, Mississippi                                   |
| OCCUPATION | Rabies Control Officer,<br>Mississippi Board of Health |
| AGE        | 50   |

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER, McNeill, Mississippi, first implicated FRANCIS M. BARKER in this case when he was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] on May 8, 1959. In a signed statement, which is set forth on page 183, which he furnished on May 14, 1959, to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], he advised that FRANCIS BARKER came to his [REDACTED] on April 24, 1959, shortly after noon and told him there was going to be a meeting out on the Wiggins Road east of Poplarville that night concerning BARKER who was in jail at Poplarville. BARKER asked him if he wanted to go and gave him directions how to get to the meeting place. On arriving at Poplarville that night with ARTHUR EUGENE SMITH, he saw FRANCIS BARKER in the Star Cafe. At the meeting near the Wiggins Road east of Poplarville, when it was decided to use REYER's car, he told the persons present that BARKER was a sick man and someone told him to take BARKER and drive his car and take him back to town. He drove BARKER's car to Poplarville, stopped at the Star Cafe, which was closing, and then drove with him to the filling station across from City Hall, where he bought \$3.00 worth of gas. He then drove north on Highway 11 to a filling station where he and BARKER [REDACTED] for approximately twenty minutes and then returned to the [REDACTED] of the hospital, proceeding to the street just north of the courthouse and hospital. He drove up alongside of his Oldsmobile and, after asking whether anyone had obtained the keys to the jail, he drove [REDACTED] BARKER's car with BARKER to the Amoco Service Station, where he and BARKER went in and had coffee. He states he and BARKER were in the cafe until about 12:15 AM, when they drove back into town past the courthouse and, as they passed the south entrance, noted that one of the doors of the courthouse was open. They

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then drove on out the Bogalusa Road to Crossroads, Mississippi, and parked at the Pure Oil Station. In a few seconds, REYER's Oldsmobile pulled into the station and a man got out of the passenger's side of the front seat of the Oldsmobile and ran over to BARKER's car. REYER got out of BARKER's car and got into his own with ARTHUR SMITH, who had been in the back seat of the Oldsmobile and who then got into the right front seat. BARKER stayed in his car and REYER did not see the direction taken by BARKER's car after REYER turned south on what is known as the River Road.

[REDACTED], Mississippi, furnished information in a statement made May 12, 1959, given to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] which is set forth on pages [REDACTED] and more detailed information on pages [REDACTED] on May 13, 1959, to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], regarding [REDACTED] part in this case. [REDACTED] related that, when he and [REDACTED] reached the meeting east of Poplarville, [REDACTED] stayed in the car for awhile and then got out and approached the group of men, recognizing one of them as [REDACTED]. After going into town and returning to the meeting again, the persons at the meeting decided to use [REDACTED] car. As the meeting broke up, he observed [REDACTED] enter the car of [REDACTED] and did not see anyone else riding in the car or [REDACTED] at that time. He related that after going into Poplarville and after having been parked alongside the Standard Service Station, the car in which [REDACTED] was riding crossed Julia Street and in the middle of the next block stopped, at which time [REDACTED] was observed still to be with [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] car. He next observed [REDACTED] at the Pure Oil Station at Crossroads, Mississippi, when [REDACTED] got out of [REDACTED] car and came over to [REDACTED] Oldsmobile, in which [REDACTED] was then riding. He did not notice anyone else in the car of [REDACTED] when it arrived at the Pure Oil Station, other than [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

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[REDACTED] Pearl River County, in a statement furnished to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] which is set

forth in its entirety on pages [redacted] advised that, between 11:00 and 11:30 PM, on April 24, 1959, he heard a knock on his door. When he opened it, he observed [redacted] standing in his yard about twelve or fifteen feet from the door and [redacted] asked him to come out, that [redacted] wife wanted to see him. When he went out he noticed [redacted] standing beside an automobile parked at the curb directly in front of [redacted] house. The left rear door of the car was open and, as he stuck his head in the open door, [redacted] either shoved him slightly from the rear with his hand or knee, forcing him to fall forward in the rear of the car. He recognized the driver of the car as [redacted] the man in the passenger's side in the front as [redacted] and the other man as [redacted]. He was informed that they had "come after the nigger" and wanted the keys. [redacted] states that he left them, went to the courthouse, [redacted] and then left the courthouse, returning home. On May 16, 1959, [redacted] reiterated to SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that he was positive of his identification of [redacted] as the man who came to his house the night of April 24, 1959, with three other men to obtain the [redacted]. It is to be noted that this is in conflict with [redacted] statement to the effect that [redacted] was with [redacted] from the time they left the meeting east of Poplarville until [redacted] got his Oldsmobile back at Crossroads, Mississippi, about 12:35 AM, on April 25, 1959.

HOUSTON AMACKER, Route 3, Poplarville, Mississippi, a janitor at the Pearl River County Courthouse, advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] on May 2, 1959, that he saw FRANCIS BARKER at the Star Cafe on the night of April 24, 1959, and also met J. P. WALKER.

B. P. ORR, Town Marshal, Poplarville, Mississippi, was interviewed on May 8, 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] concerning the alleged presence of CRIP REYER and FRANCIS BARKER at the Amoco Service Station Cafe on the night of April 24, 1959. ORR stated he had heard generally in the community that a man named BARKER from around McNeill, Mississippi, had a heart attack and died on or about April 30, 1959. He stated he was

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12 acquainted slightly with this man, whom he had not seen in  
13 some time. He advised that, during the time he was in the  
14 Amoco cafe with WHEAT, [REDACTED] and CARVER, he did not  
15 speak with anyone other than in his own party. He stated  
16 he did not recall having been spoken to by anybody. He  
17 stated he definitely was not touched or greeted by anyone  
18 identifiable to him as REYER or BARKER.

19  
20 On May 14, 1959, HAROLD PIERRE [REDACTED]  
21 Night Marshal, Poplarville, advised SA's [REDACTED]  
22 and [REDACTED] that, when the group he was with,  
23 namely WHEAT, [REDACTED] and ORR, were having coffee at  
24 the Amoco cafe on the night of April 24, 1959, a Mr. BARKER  
25 and "CRIP" REYER entered the cafe and one of them, whom he  
26 believes was REYER, spoke to Marshal B. F. ORR or to the  
27 group. He states he could not recall any specific comment  
28 made by REYER and states there is a possibility that his  
29 comment was merely a greeting to ORR.

30  
31 [REDACTED] on May 8, 1959, advised  
32 SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that after he, CAR-  
33 VER, ORR, and WHEAT were seated in the Amoco cafe on the  
34 night of April 24, 1959, he noted "CRIP" REYER sitting on  
35 a counter stool beside Mr. FRANCIS BARKER. b7c  
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37 On May 11, 1959, [REDACTED] informed  
38 SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that, when he arrived at the Star Cafe  
39 in Poplarville at about 10:00 PM, on April 24, 1959, he sat  
40 at a table with FRANCIS BARKER. He recalled having talked  
41 with BARKER, who is now deceased, about a school pupil of  
42 McNeill, Mississippi. He stated emphatically that no men-  
43 tion was made to him by BARKER or anyone else concerning a  
44 meeting to be held that night. He advised he left the cafe  
45 [REDACTED] and returned to the school, without having ob-  
46 served the mode of transportation utilized by J. P. WALKER,  
47 who had picked up the coffee truck, BARKER, or anyone else.  
48 at the cafe.

49  
50 On May 8, 1959, ROBERT JAMES WILSON, RS,  
51 Poplarville, informed SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that, on the night  
52 of April 24, 1959, he observed "CRIP" [REDACTED] and FRANCIS  
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12 BARKER in the Amoco Cafe and he recalled REYER speaking to  
13 B. F. ORE. He recalled that REYER and BARKER were sitting  
14 together at the counter and that, while REYER was at the  
15 counter, he carried on some general conversation with some-  
16 one at their table. When he, [REDACTED] CARVER and ORR  
17 left the cafe, BARKER and REYER were still at the counter.  
18

19 ROBERT JAMES WHEAT advised SA [REDACTED] and  
20 [REDACTED] on May 11, 1959, that on the night of April 24, 1959,  
21 he arrived at the Star Cafe between 9:00 and 9:30 PM with  
22 [REDACTED]. They were joined at a table by FRANCIS BARKER  
23 with whom WHEAT discussed purchasing a horse. When he and  
24 [REDACTED] were leaving the cafe at approximately 9:45 PM,  
25 he observed J. P. WALKER and FRANCIS BARKER standing together  
26 near the cash register in the cafe.  
27

28 JOHN P. WALKER, 216 North Hwy Street, Picayune,  
29 Mississippi, when interviewed by SA [REDACTED]  
30 and [REDACTED] JR., on May 14, 1959, advised that  
31 since his daughter is married to a son of FRANCIS BARKER of  
32 McNeill, Mississippi, he visits the BARKER residence quite  
33 frequently and, on April 24, 1959, went to McNeill, Miss-  
34 issippi. He advised BARKER was home and wanted to go to  
35 Poplarville. In addition to BARKER, his nephew, [REDACTED]  
36 [REDACTED] was there. [REDACTED] had to make a trip to Mobile  
37 that night and was going to borrow a car from BARKER to make  
38 the trip, but instead [REDACTED] borrowed WALKER's new Olds-  
39 mobile. At approximately 6:00 PM that night, WALKER and  
40 BARKER proceeded to Poplarville in BARKER's 1958 light cream  
41 or tan colored Chevrolet four-door sedan. WALKER advised  
42 that he drove the car, that they went directly to Poplarville  
43 and that they visited around the Star Cafe. He stated that  
44 he [REDACTED] with BARKER constantly during the evening visiting  
45 various [REDACTED] individuals around town, that they went no where  
46 after arriving in Poplarville, except to the home of [REDACTED]  
47 [REDACTED] when they heard the house was on fire there. He  
48 stated that, when they left Poplarville, they went directly  
49 to McNeill, but on reaching there determined that BARKER had  
50 not yet returned from Mobile, so they continued on Picayune  
51 to the bus station for coffee. At approximately 12:30 AM,  
52 April 25, 1959, they returned to BARKER's residence, where  
53 WALKER obtained his personal vehicle and then returned to  
54 Picayune.  
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[REDACTED] Mississauga, advised SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 15, 1959, that at about 7:00 PM, April 24, 1959, FRANCIS M. BARKER and J. P. WALKER came to his home in WALKER's late model blue Oldsmobile. BARKER informed him that a phone call had been received from Mobile that [REDACTED] was in Mobile on route to Poplarville from Virginia, where she had been visiting her husband in the Armed Services and she wanted [REDACTED] to drive her car to Mobile and return her to Poplarville. [REDACTED] informed BARKER in the presence of WALKER that he did not believe that [REDACTED] old model Chevrolet would make the trip; whereupon, J. P. WALKER volunteered to let him use his Oldsmobile for the trip to Mobile and return. [REDACTED] stated that he, his wife and oldest son drove from the [REDACTED] residence in [REDACTED] Chevrolet to the home of FRANCIS BARKER, [REDACTED] picked up J. P. WALKER's Oldsmobile about 8:00 PM. [REDACTED] contended that he arrived at the BARKER residence in Mobile a few minutes prior to 1:00 AM, April 25, 1959. [REDACTED] stated that he did not see J. P. WALKER or BEARCE WALKER either at 8:00 PM, when he picked up WALKER's car for the trip to Mobile, or just prior to 1:00 AM, when he returned WALKER's car to BARKER's residence, at which time he, [REDACTED] his wife and son transferred to [REDACTED] car and drove to [REDACTED] home.

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[REDACTED] waitress at the Star Cafe, [REDACTED] advised SA [REDACTED] on May 14, 1959, that she knew FRANCIS M. BARKER and that on several occasions over the ten-day to two-week period prior to April 24, 1959, BARKER had been in the cafe as [REDACTED] by J. P. WALKER, whom she also knew. She was [REDACTED] whether they were in the cafe on the evening of Friday, April 24, 1959, but believed they were there about 9:00 to 9:30 PM, although [REDACTED] did not say definitely that they were in the cafe on that date.

[REDACTED] advised SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] hours at the Star Cafe are [REDACTED] 11:30 PM. [REDACTED]

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12 advised that she knew FRANCIS M. BARKER and that J. P. W.  
13 of Picayune, Mississippi, was a frequent associate of BAR  
14 She related that BARKER and WALKER had been in the Star Ca  
15 where she works as a waitress, several nights during the  
16 week of April 24, 1959, but she was unable to state which  
17 nights and at what times they were in the cafe. On those  
18 occasions, when she saw FRANCIS BARKER come into the cafe,  
19 he had never been accompanied by anyone but J. P. WALKER.  
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21 FRANCIS M. BARKER died at Picayune, Mississippi,  
22 April 30, 1959.  
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| E. NAME    | JAMES FLOREN LEE, SR.,<br>also known as Floren Lee  |
| RESIDENCE  | Route 3, Pistol Ridge<br>Community, Lumberton,<br>Mississippi   |
| OCCUPATION | Minister of Slade<br>Missionary Baptist Church,<br>Pistol Ridge Community,<br>Lumberton, Mississippi,<br>farmer |
| AGE        | 58  |

On May 6, 1959, JAMES FLOREN LEE, SR., Route  
3, Lumberton, Mississippi, advised SA [REDACTED]  
and [REDACTED] that on April 24, 1959, he was observing  
a burning on [REDACTED] property. b7c

LEE stated he has a 1957 Chevrolet, black  
with white top with a white streak from the middle to the  
rear, which he purchased from [REDACTED] Mr. LEE  
stated he has no license plate for this automobile. He  
was told that prior to his purchase of the car it had been  
sold to a [REDACTED] boy, who took the license plate off, and  
put it on a Ford. LEE, SR., stated he paid for a duplicate  
license at the Sheriff's Office in Poplarville, but he does  
not have it yet. b7c

LEE stated, upon returning to his own home  
from the [REDACTED] property, he had difficulty with his  
automobile [REDACTED] alongside the highway. He estimated  
this was about 3:00 to 4:00 PM, but it could have been  
later. His son came along and wanted to see what the  
difficulty was, but LEE, JR., did not tell him where he had  
been. LEE, SR., stated he was able to drive the automobile  
to his home and LEE, JR., came over early on the morning of  
April 25, 1959, to fix it. LEE, JR.'s wife and son came  
over with him. LEE, SR., did not know whether he sent some-  
one over to LEE, JR.'s home that morning or tell him to b7c

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12 repair the car or not. He was of the opinion he had told  
13 LEE, JR., the previous evening to come over early the  
14 following morning to fix it. LEE, SR., said the diffi-  
15 culty with this car was that the high gear was stripped.

16  
17 LEE, SR., stated LEE, JR., and his wife had  
18 been having marital difficulties for some time and the  
19 daughter-in-law would mention to them when LEE, JR., would  
20 go out with another woman. On the day following the  
21 abduction of PARKER, LEE, JR.'s wife remarked that LEE, JR.,  
22 was at home that night. LEE, SR., stated it is his opinion  
23 that his son was home on the night of the abduction of  
24 PARKER.

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26 On May 2, 1959, SA's [redacted] b7c  
27 and [redacted] requested permission of JAMES FIGURE  
28 LEE, SR., to search his automobile and same permission in  
29 writing was granted.

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31 The search of the automobile disclosed  
32 nothing of pertinence to the investigation; however, it  
33 was noted that there was kept on the floor immediately in  
34 front of the front seat a large caliber shotgun, double-  
35 barrel, which LEE advised was loaded with buckshot. In  
36 the glove compartment and in ash trays in the back seat were  
37 additional shells for this gun.

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39 On May 3, 1959, JAMES FIGURE LEE, SR., was b7c  
40 interviewed at his residence, Route 3, Lubberton, Mississippi,  
41 by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. When he was questioned concerning  
42 his actions on the day of April 24, 1959, he advised he had  
43 already furnished that information to Agents of the FBI and  
44 he did not care to discuss the matter further. He said the  
45 people of the area know him and his beliefs and maybe some  
46 of them considered him a "crank," but that he was of the  
47 definite opinion that the NAACP and the Communists were  
48 responsible for the abduction of PARKER and that they were  
49 fast bringing to a climax the racial situation which would  
50 erupt in an all-out war within this country. He continued  
51 along these lines, stating that he had been telling the  
52 people of the area of his beliefs in this matter. He  
53 commented that he had been preaching in the churches of the  
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12 area for a number of years and continued to serve wherever  
13 his services were needed.

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15 LEE said, if a hearing was held in the  
16 PARKER matter, that then he would furnish his own witnesses  
17 to establish his whereabouts on April 24, 1959, and not  
18 prior thereto.

19  
20 [REDACTED] b7c  
21 [REDACTED] advised SA [REDACTED] on  
22 on May 9, 1959, that the FBI had the right man  
23 and wanted to know why they did not close in on them and  
24 solve the case. He was asked who it was the FBI had and  
25 he said "LOREN LEE and his son, JEFF LEE." He was asked  
26 what made him think the FBI had these two men and he stated,  
27 "I just know that the FBI is interested in these men."

28  
29 On May 14, 1959, CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER,  
30 McNeill, Mississippi, furnished a signed statement to SA's [REDACTED] b7c  
31 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] which statement  
32 is set forth on page 183. In this statement, when he was  
33 speaking about the meeting being held near the Wiggins Road  
34 east of Poplarville, he said, "I recall saying to this group  
35 that somewhere out there in that community was an old man  
36 named LEE who asked me about my spotted horse last year  
37 while we were both in Poplarville. I told them to tell  
38 him, if they knew him, that, if he would come to my house,  
39 I would sell him the horse or trade him the horse for  
40 cattle. A man, standing to my right, whose voice sounded  
41 like an old man, said he would see me in a few days about  
42 the horse or something similar to that. I took this to be  
43 Mr. LEE, the man I had previously talked to or some of his  
44 relatives, because he knew what I was talking about."

45  
46 On May 14, 1959, [REDACTED]  
47 McNeill, Mississippi, was shown [REDACTED] LEE, SR., by SA's [REDACTED]  
48 [REDACTED] SMITH identified the photograph of JAMES [REDACTED] as  
49 having been one of the men at the meeting held on the  
50 evening of April 24, 1959, just off Highway 26 towards  
51 Wiggins. He was not able to name this individual.  
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On May 14, 1959, [redacted] in an unsigned statement furnished to SA's [redacted] and [redacted]

[redacted] advised that, on the evening of April 24, 1959, when he was called to a car by [redacted], he recognized as the driver of the car [redacted] and the man in the passenger's side in front as [redacted]. He also recognized [redacted]. These men informed him that they had "come after the nigger and want the keys."

On May 14, 1959, [redacted] Mississippi, advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that [redacted] was planning to use as an alibi for his whereabouts on April 24, 1959, the fact that he was confined to a hospital at Lumberton, Mississippi.

On May 14, 1959, [redacted], a [redacted] in the Pearl River County Jail, furnished a signed statement to SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. In this statement [redacted] alleges that, when the men entered the jail, the first man through was an individual whom he had seen on a number of occasions standing around in front of the Poplarville Furniture Company. This man was followed by a second man, whom he immediately recognized as [redacted], owner of [redacted] at Picayune, Mississippi, and a candidate for Sheriff of Pearl River County. [redacted] was closely followed through the door by a man, whom he recognized as [redacted] a [redacted] who resides east of Poplarville. Right behind [redacted] was [redacted] the [redacted] at the Pearl River [redacted]. The fifth man to come to the door he recognized as [redacted], who operates [redacted] in [redacted]. He stated that [redacted] and [redacted] walked up the stairs to the barred door at the head of the stairway, went out to the second tier and to the control box in the center of the second tier, which operated the door to the maximum security cell on the north end of the tier where M. C. PARKER was lodged. After the door to PARKER's cell was open, he saw [redacted] and [redacted] go toward PARKER's cell and go out [redacted]. He heard a crash and the sound of a scuffle and then heard the scuffling move

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from the north cell to the south cell. He saw [redacted] and [redacted] dragging PARKER out into the corridor of the upper tier, followed by [redacted]. They were dragging PARKER by his heels, [redacted] pulling PARKER by his right leg and [redacted] pulling PARKER by his left leg. [redacted] was, at the same time, hitting PARKER with a policeman's club, a long, smooth wooden club, and [redacted] was hitting PARKER with a piece of dressed wood about fourteen inches long. He said [redacted] appeared to be favoring his left arm as he dragged PARKER and believed that [redacted] must have been hit by PARKER on this arm.

[redacted] went on to relate that, as [redacted] and [redacted] started dragging PARKER down the stairs from the upper to the lower tier of cells, PARKER grabbed with his hands to the railing alongside the steps. [redacted] kicked his hands loose. When they reached the landing at the door leading to the courtroom, PARKER grabbed again with his hands to the railing and the curly-headed man kicked his hands loose. As they reached the door, PARKER begged the men to let him up so he could walk. When he made this statement, [redacted] said, "Hell, no, you won't walk," and at the same time reached back with his stick and struck PARKER on the head with the stick. [redacted] stepped back into the courtroom and [redacted] and [redacted] dragged PARKER out, followed by [redacted] and the curly-headed man.

[redacted] described [redacted] whom he has known practically all his life, as a white male, in his late fifties, about five feet, ten inches tall, and weighing about 155 to 160 pounds. On this occasion, [redacted] was wearing an old pair of blue dungaree pants and blue chambray work shirt. He was bareheaded, wearing high-topped work shoes and he had a red-and-white checked bandana across the lower part of his face from the bridge of his nose to his neck. [redacted] shirt sleeves were down and buttoned, and he wore a pair of white cotton work gloves with blue wristbands.

On May 14, 1959, the records of the Lumberton Citizens Hospital, Lumberton, Mississippi, were checked by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. The records reflected that [redacted] Mississippi, age [redacted] years, born [redacted] (no year listed), in Mississippi, was admitted to the hospital at 3:20 PM, on April 25, 1959, and discharged at 1:00 PM, May 1, 1959. His physician was reflected as Dr. [redacted].

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12 The medical history for this hospitalization  
13 was as follows:

14 [redacted] year old white male neuritic who  
15 has psychosomatic chest pain came  
16 into the office today, 4/23/59, with  
17 a history of being hit on the head  
18 and left hand by a falling piece of  
19 lumber while he was tearing down a  
20 small shed the day before. He  
21 complained of being weak on the left  
22 side. The weakness being confined to  
23 the left arm and leg. He also stated  
24 that the head wound bled profusely. He  
25 was not knocked unconscious but com-  
26 plained of being 'groggy' for several  
27 hours. Scratches on left hand said to  
28 have been caused by nails in the same  
29 piece of lumber that fell on head."

30  
31  
32 The hospital record reflected a physical  
33 examination was given to [redacted] and on his head was a  
34 "small bruise with slight break in skin over left mastoid  
35 bone."

36  
37 Regarding his extremities, the record reflected  
38 "weakness in left arm and leg. 3 scratches on dorsum of  
39 left hand about 1 - 2" long."

40  
41 The attending physician's impression was  
42 recorded as " ? cerebral concussion vs skull fracture."

43  
44 The hospital record also contained the results  
45 of X-rays conducted by [redacted] M. D.,  
46 which are as follows:

47  
48 "Examination of the roentgenograms of the  
49 skull made at the lateral PA and oblique positions fails  
50 to reveal any evidence of fracture or bone injury. The  
51 mastoid cells are well demonstrated and normal. The  
52 of the skull reveal a normal pattern and no evidence of any  
53 other pathology is seen.

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2 Impression. These roentgenograms of the  
3 skull are normal."

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5 The records of the Lumberton Citizens Hos-  
6 pital further reflected that [redacted] who was hospitalized  
7 from April 25, 1959 to May 1, 1959, was also hospitalized  
8 March 28, 1959, and discharged from that place April 3,  
9 1959. His diagnosis was neuralgia and arthritis.

10  
11 On May 14, 1959, Dr. [redacted]  
12 Lumberton, Mississippi, furnished the following signed  
13 statement to SA's [redacted] and [redacted]

14  
15 "Lumberton, Mississippi  
16 May 14, 1959

17  
18 "I, Dr. [redacted] hereby furnish  
19 the following voluntary statement to [redacted] and  
20 [redacted] who have identified themselves to me as  
21 Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.  
22 No threats, promises or rewards have been made to me to  
23 cause me to furnish this statement which I understand may  
24 be used in a court of law. I am willing to testify concern-  
25 ing the contents of this statement.

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26  
27 "On Thursday, April 23, 1959, at about 5:00 PM  
28 to 5:15 PM, [redacted] a [redacted] years of age,  
29 who lives in the vicinity of [redacted] Mississippi, came  
30 to my office in Lumberton. He said he was having chest pains  
31 and had been doing carpentry work that day. I suggested he  
32 might be emotionally upset and he replied that the men he  
33 was working with were discussing a negro raping a white  
34 woman and indicated this may have been bothering him. He  
35 did not mention the names of the negro, the white woman, the  
36 men who were talking about it or where he was working with  
37 these men. At this time [redacted] made some remarks about  
38 having been chased by a group of negroes in the past.

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40 "After examining [redacted] I prescribed a  
41 sleeping pill for him and suggested he go home to  
42 bed. He then left my office.

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"On Saturday, April 25, 1959, [REDACTED] accompanied by his wife, came to my office at about 3:00 PM. Just prior to this time, someone at Citizens Hospital, Lambertton, called me at my office and advised that [REDACTED] was at the hospital because of an injury. Upon determining that [REDACTED] was capable of coming to my office I instructed the hospital to have him do so. b7c

"Upon examining [REDACTED] at this time I observed a small scab surrounded by a slight blue swelling on his head back of his left ear near the mastoid area. From observing the scab it appeared that there had been a cut in the skin about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " in length.

"I also observed three scratches on the back of his left hand. The scratches were about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " apart and ran across the left hand in the direction of the little finger of his left hand. Two of the scratches were each about 2 (two) inches long and the third scratch was about one inch long and were scabbed over. The scratches appeared to have been approximately  $\frac{1}{8}$ " deep and  $\frac{1}{8}$ " across.

[REDACTED] told me he received the above-described injuries while tearing down a building or shed the day before, Friday, April 24, 1959. He said a falling piece of timber hit him on the head and the scratches were caused by nails protruding from the timber. He did not say where or with whom he might have been working when he was injured. b7c

[REDACTED] said he did not have his injuries treated by a doctor on April 24, 1959, the day he said he was injured, because he did not consider them serious enough. He said he decided to come to the hospital and consult with me on April 25, 1959, because his left arm and left leg felt weak.

"To the best of my recollection [REDACTED] was wearing a khaki trouser and dress shirt, [REDACTED] of which I do not recall, when he appeared at my office on April 25, 1959. There was no blood on his clothes so b7c

"the best of my recollection. [redacted] mentioned at this time that her husband bled considerably from the injuries and had a lot of blood on his shirt.

"After preliminary examination and consultation on April 25, 1959, with [redacted] I had him admitted to Citizens Hospital, Lumberton, for further examination such as X-Rays and general physical check-up. I did not consider [redacted] hospitalization absolutely necessary and had him admitted to the hospital because he requested it. I authorized his release from the hospital on May 1, 1959. [redacted] complaints of physical weakness were not in keeping with weakness I would expect from a brain injury and my findings were not indicative of Mr. Lee having suffered a brain injury.

"While [redacted] was a patient of mine from April 25, 1959, until his release from the hospital, he gave no indication that he had any knowledge of the abduction of the negro, Parker, from the County Jail in [redacted] Mississippi.

"I have read this statement consisting of six pages, have initialed each of the first five pages and any corrections on all pages. This statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge as evidenced by my signature below.

"/s/ [redacted] M. D.  
MISS.

"Witnesses:

"/s/ [redacted] Special Agent, F.B.I., New Orleans, La.,

May 14, 1959.  
"/s/ [redacted] Special Agent, F.B.I., Memphis, Tenn.,  
May 14, 1959."

On May 18, 1959, [redacted] Mississippi, advised SA's [redacted] that he saw [redacted] at Citizens Hospital, [redacted] on the day that he, [redacted] was discharged, April 29, 1959. He stated that he occupied [redacted] across

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He said that in his conversation with  
the latter complained about a pain in the back of his  
head and explained that he was tearing down a shed  
or house when a piece of 2x4 lumber fell and hit him on  
the head. was not certain, but had some  
recollection that said the building he was tearing  
down when he was injured belonged to a widow.

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attorneys in the courtroom and had made the statement that, if either of them attempted to drink from the water cooler located in the courtroom, he expected to knock the attorney down right in the courtroom.

[redacted] said there have been discussions among citizens of Pearl River County concerning WALKER's candidacy for Sheriff and it is obvious that, with a certain element, he was gaining strength as a candidate on the basis of his open hostility to Negroes and his sympathy with the persons responsible for the abduction of PARKER. [redacted] said that he felt WALKER was capable of participating in the abduction and felt reasonably sure he was using the tension caused by the PARKER case as a means to further himself politically on the apparent belief that a majority of the people are not in favor of any investigation to identify the abductors.

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CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER advised SA [redacted] and [redacted], on May 11, 1959, that he recalled J. P. WALKER at the Star Cafe in Poplarville on the evening of April 24, 1959, at about 9:00 or 9:30 PM. He said that this was the only time during that evening he saw J. P. WALKER and that, if WALKER was involved in the PARKER abduction, he, REYER, had no knowledge of it.

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CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER furnished a signed statement to SA's [redacted] and [redacted] on May 14, 1959. In this signed statement, REYER advised that on the night of April 24, 1959, at approximately 9:35 PM, he went to the Star Cafe in Poplarville, where he saw FRANCIS PARKER, R. J. WHEAT and J. P. WALKER. He denied that at this time there was any discussion of a meeting to plan the abduction of PARKER. REYER said that he then went south of Poplarville to a meeting place, remained for a few minutes and returned to the Star Cafe, arriving there at about 9:45 PM. He remained at the Star Cafe for approximately twenty minutes and returned to the meeting place. At this time there were approximately fourteen cars at the meeting place and approximately thirty persons present. At the meeting, it was decided that REYER's car should be used to transport PARKER from the jail. At approximately 11:15 PM, REYER

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left the meeting with FRANCIS BARKER in BARKER's car and went to Poplarville. REYER drove around Poplarville for approximately thirty minutes and then proceeded to the street north of the courthouse and hospital, where he saw a 1956 Chevrolet and his 1957 Oldsmobile parked at the curb. He saw four men sitting in his Oldsmobile and the only one he recognized was J. P. WALKER, who was sitting under the steering wheel in the driver's seat. REYER asked the men in his car if they had obtained the keys to the jail, but they said they had not. REYER then proceeded in BARKER's car to the Amoco Service Station on Highway 11, north of Poplarville, where he remained until approximately 12:15 AM, April 25, 1959. He and BARKER then drove back to Poplarville, passed the south entrance to the courthouse, and then to the Bogalusa Road. They proceeded to Crossroads, where they parked at the Pure Oil Station. A few seconds later, REYER's Oldsmobile pulled into the station, but REYER did not see the driver and does not know who was driving the Oldsmobile at that time. REYER switched from BARKER's car to his Oldsmobile at the Pure Oil Station and proceeded home.

The complete statement of REYER is set out on pages 183-190.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], on May 13, 1959. He advised that he rode to the meeting south of Poplarville on the night of April 24, 1959, with [REDACTED]. This meeting was for the purpose of planning the abduction of M. C. PARKER.

[REDACTED] stated that he and [REDACTED] remained at the meeting for just a few minutes and returned to Poplarville. They then returned to the meeting and at this time he recognized [REDACTED] as one of the group in attendance at the meeting. He stated, as the meeting began to break up, he, [REDACTED] got into a 1955 or 1956 Chevrolet, which was occupied by three other men, whose identities were unknown to him. He did not see [REDACTED] leave the meeting and was unable to state how [REDACTED] travelled from the meeting to Poplarville. He said that he left the scene of the meeting

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12 about midnight and rode around Poplarville for ten or  
13 fifteen minutes finally parking beside the Standard Service  
14 Station just off Main Street at the Courthouse Square.  
15 After remaining in this position for a short time, they  
16 proceeded down a side street, crossed Julia Street and  
17 in the middle of the next block stopped the car to talk  
18 to [REDACTED], who was with [REDACTED]  
19 in BARKER's car. They then drove to Julia Street and took  
20 up a position diagonally across the street from the south  
21 entrance to the courthouse. While parked in this position,  
22 [REDACTED] observed a group of men dragging PARKER from the  
23 south entrance of the courthouse and placing him in [REDACTED]  
24 automobile. After PARKER was placed in the car, the auto-  
25 mobile took off and headed west one block, turned right  
26 behind the hospital, proceeded to Highway 26 and turned left.

27  
28 Immediately following the departure of  
29 [REDACTED] automobile the car in which [REDACTED] was riding pro-  
30 ceeded north on Julia Street to Highway 26 at [REDACTED]  
31 observed that [REDACTED] car at that time was on High-  
32 way 11, heading in the direction of Bogalusa. [REDACTED]  
33 related that the car in which he was riding followed BARKER's  
34 car all the way to Bogalusa and at no time did [REDACTED] car  
35 stop until it reached a point just over the [REDACTED]  
36 Bridge and made a "U" turn in front of the [REDACTED] Club.  
37 At this point, the car [REDACTED] was in possession of [REDACTED] car and  
38 drove about three-fourths of a mile further on Highway 26  
39 where the driver turned around and headed back toward  
40 Poplarville. The driver then proceeded to Crossroads  
41 located at the intersection of Highways 26 and 48 and pulled  
42 into a Pure Oil Station, where [REDACTED] car was waiting.  
43 [REDACTED] said that he left the Chevrolet in which he was riding  
44 to [REDACTED] Oldsmobile. He believes that there were  
45 two men in the front seat and the other men in the  
46 back seat when he left the Oldsmobile, and the only one  
47 he recognized was the driver, who he identified as [REDACTED]  
48 [REDACTED]

49  
50 [REDACTED] related that [REDACTED] then drove the  
51 Oldsmobile from the Pure Oil Station, headed south on Poplar-  
52 ville on Highway 26 and, after driving a short distance,  
53 recognized [REDACTED] car proceeding in the opposite  
54 direction.

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12 direction. At this time [redacted] turned the Oldsmobile around  
13 and followed [redacted] car back to Crossroads, where both  
14 cars stopped at the Pure Oil Station. [redacted] got out of the  
15 back seat of [redacted] car and into the front seat and [redacted]  
16 left [redacted] car and entered the driver's seat of the  
17 Oldsmobile. The other occupants of the Oldsmobile entered  
18 [redacted] car and [redacted] believes they proceeded toward Poplar-  
19 ville on Highway 40.

20  
21 [redacted] said that he and [redacted] left the Pure  
22 Oil Station via Highway 43 in a southerly direction.

23  
24 A complete account of the information  
25 furnished by [redacted] on May 13, 1959, is set  
26 out on pages [redacted]

27  
28 On May 14, 1959, [redacted]  
29 Pearl River County Jail, advised SA's [redacted] and  
30 [redacted] that, between 11:00 and 11:30 AM, on  
31 April 24, 1959, [redacted] appeared at his home and told  
32 him that his, [redacted] were wanted to go [redacted] in a car  
33 parked in front of [redacted] home. As [redacted] walked to the  
34 car, [redacted] shoved him, forcing him to lean forward into  
35 the rear of the car. There were two men in the front of  
36 the car, one of whom was [redacted] who was the driver,  
37 and the other was [redacted] the person sitting to the  
38 right of [redacted] in the back seat of the car. [redacted] thought  
39 was [redacted] One of the men said, "We [redacted] after the  
40 nigger and want the keys." Another man said, [redacted] We  
41 don't want any trouble, we just want the keys. [redacted]  
42 said he agreed to get the keys for them.

43  
44 [redacted] then left the car and returned to his  
45 home. His wife he was going [redacted] and pro-  
46 ceeded to [redacted] court [redacted] in his own car. [redacted] parked his car  
47 at the curb in front [redacted] the sidewalk leading to the south  
48 door of the courthouse and, as he worked, [redacted] [redacted] the  
49 car containing the above-mentioned four men [redacted] on the  
50 street alongside the south side of the Public Health  
51 Building facing east. [redacted] said he entered the courthouse,  
52 went to the [redacted] took the [redacted] [redacted] the [redacted]

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filing cabinet, threw them on the [REDACTED] and left the courthouse through the south entrance locking it behind him. He entered his car and went directly home. He described the car in which [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were riding as a two-tone Oldsmobile, which he believed was a 1956 model. He stated that he did not participate in any manner in the removal of PARKER from the jail.

[REDACTED] pointed out that, while none of the men specifically threatened him in any manner should he refuse the keys to the jail, he knew from their conversation that, if he refused, they would attempt to take them by force and, further, from the past reputation of [REDACTED], he knew they would not hesitate to do bodily harm to him and members of his family in the event he disclosed their identities.

The complete statement furnished by [REDACTED] on May 14, 1959, is set out on pages [REDACTED]

On May 14, 1959, [REDACTED] furnished a signed statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] concerning his observation of the abduction of M. C. PARKER from the Pearl River County Jail on the morning of April 25, 1959. At the time of the abduction, [REDACTED] was a [REDACTED] in the Pearl River County Jail.

In this statement, [REDACTED] identified [REDACTED] as one of five men who entered the Pearl River County Jail to forcibly take PARKER from the jail. He described [REDACTED] as the [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Mississippi, and a [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] of Pearl River County. He stated that [REDACTED] had the [REDACTED] and inquired of one of the Negro prisoners as to where M. C. PARKER was located. Upon being told of the location of PARKER, [REDACTED] unlocked the door at the head of the stairway, went to the second tier and proceeded to the control box which operates the door to the maximum security cell where PARKER was lodged. He then opened the door leading to PARKER's cell and entered the cell with [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].

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[redacted] described hearing a scuffle in PARKER's cell and subsequently saw [redacted] and [redacted] drag PARKER out into the corridor of the upper tier. [redacted] was pulling PARKER by the right leg and [redacted] was pulling him by the left leg. [redacted] was hitting PARKER with a policeman's club, which [redacted] described as a long, smooth wooden club. [redacted] and [redacted] dragged PARKER down the stairs from the upper to the lower tier of cells and, when they reached the landing at the door leading to the courtroom, PARKER grabbed the railing. As they reached the door PARKER begged the men to let him up so he could walk; whereupon, [redacted] said, "Hell, no, you won't walk," and at the same time struck PARKER on the head with his stick. [redacted] and [redacted] then dragged PARKER out into the courtroom and out of sight of [redacted]

[redacted] stated he has known [redacted] and described him as being six feet one or two inches tall, weighing about 200 pounds, with red hair and a red face. He said that on the night of April 24, 1959, [redacted] was wearing khaki work pants and shirt, white cotton gloves with a blue elastic wristband and a red bandana across the lower part of his face. He was bareheaded and was wearing brown shoes. He described [redacted] as being forty-five to fifty years of age.

The complete statement furnished by [redacted] is set forth on pages [redacted]

[redacted] was interviewed by SA's [redacted] and [redacted], at [redacted] Louisiana, on May 14, 1959. He advised that he had no objection

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12 to discussing the abduction of M. C. PARKER, but would not  
13 go to Poplarville, Mississippi, for an interview since he  
14 feared that he would be observed by newspapermen and the  
15 resulting publicity might adversely affect his current  
16 campaign for the office of Sheriff in Pearl River County.  
17 At the outset of the interview, WALKER was advised that  
18 he did not have to make a statement, that any statement  
19 he made could be used against him in a court of law and  
20 that he had the right to obtain the services of an  
21 attorney.  
22

23  
24 WALKER advised that he had a general  
25 recollection of his activities on the night of April 24,  
26 1959, stating at the outset that he had nothing to do  
27 with the PARKER incident and knew nothing about it until  
28 the following morning in Picayune. He stated that, in the  
29 course of his campaigning for Sheriff, he had been out in  
30 the country during the afternoon of April 24, 1959,  
31 specifically along the Crossroads section between Picayune  
32 and Crossroads, Mississippi. He stated that since his  
33 daughter is married to a son of FRANCIS BARKER of McNeill,  
34 Mississippi, he visits the BARKER residence quite fre-  
35 quently and, on this date, April 24, 1959, went to McNeill,  
36 Mississippi. He advised BARKER was home and wished to go  
37 to Poplarville and, in addition to BARKER, [REDACTED]  
38 [REDACTED], was there and [REDACTED] had to make a trip to  
39 Mobile that night for some unknown reason and was going to  
40 borrow a car from BARKER to make this trip. WALKER stated  
41 that, instead of using one of the two cars BARKER owns,  
42 [REDACTED] borrowed WALKER's new Oldsmobile, but could not  
43 explain why he would loan his car to a person who was no  
44 relative of his or why [REDACTED] could not have used the 1958  
45 model [REDACTED] of BARKER. WALKER continued that approxi-  
46 mately 8:00 p.m., that night, he and BARKER proceeded to  
47 Poplarville in the light green or tan-colored Chevrolet,  
48 four-door sedan, of BARKER. WALKER stated he drove the car;  
49 that they went directly to Poplarville and visited around  
50 the Star Cafe, parking the vehicle on the side street on the  
51 south side of the cafe. He advised he was with BARKER  
52 constantly during the evening visiting various individuals  
53 around town, none of whom he could name at this time and  
54 stated that he could recall no incident that would identify  
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12 anyone he may have contacted that night. He advised they  
13 went no where after arriving in Poplarville, except to  
14 the home of [redacted] when they heard that the house  
15 was on fire there. He stated BARKER accompanied him on  
16 this trip, that they returned to town shortly thereafter  
17 and remained in and near the Star Cafe until about mid-  
18 night or shortly thereafter when they departed for  
19 McNeill to get his car. He stated that at all times he  
20 had the keys to BARKER's car, that he could recall loan-  
21 ing them to no one and is certain that BARKER did not  
22 use the car himself that night since naturally he would  
23 have accompanied him since they had come to town together.  
24 He advised that he is certain that BARKER did not attend  
25 any meeting outside of Poplarville and definitely he did  
26 not, nor did he ride with BARKER or anyone else in any  
27 other car down Highway 26 toward Bogalusa.

28  
29 WALKER continued that, when they left  
30 Poplarville, they went straight to McNeill down Highway  
31 11, but determined that [redacted] had not yet returned from  
32 Mobile so both of them continued on to Picayune to the  
33 bus station where they had a cup of coffee. He stated  
34 that it was approximately 12:30 AM, Saturday morning,  
35 April 25, 1959, when he returned to BARKER's residence in  
36 McNeill and obtained his personal vehicle and again  
37 returned to Picayune, where he remained the remainder of  
38 the night, seeing no one. He stated, since that time, he  
39 has heard numerous rumors about the PARKER incident, has  
40 no information whatsoever as to who may have been involved,  
41 but definitely had nothing to do with it himself.

42  
43 It was then pointed out to WALKER that  
44 of individuals had been observed in the BARKER Cadve-  
45 1. [redacted] ing, that the car had evidently been else-  
46 where other than Poplarville, but he insisted that such  
47 could not have been the fact, that he and the car were in  
48 and around Poplarville, but not outside the city limits  
49 except for the one trip. When an effort was made to pin  
50 down his movements and contacts more specifically, WALKER  
51 became extremely agitated and accused Agents of accusing  
52 him of lying. It was pointed out that the only purpose  
53 of the questions was to determine where the confusion lay  
54 with respect to the use of this particular vehicle and  
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12 WALKER stated he had nothing more to say, that evidently  
13 his story was not to be believed in any event. He refused  
14 to alter his story in any way, could furnish no one who  
15 could substantiate his story and terminated the interview  
16 with the statement that no further purpose could be served  
17 by continuing it. He refused to furnish any background  
18 information, stating he could not see where this would  
19 assist in the investigation, that the FBI already had his  
20 fingerprints from Army service, furnishing only a birthdate  
21 of June 24, 1918, at Picayune, Mississippi, and his Army  
22 Serial Number 6384416.

23  
24 In connection with information furnished by  
25 J. P. WALKER, it is noted that on May 15, 1959, CHRISTOPHER  
26 COLUMBUS REYER steadfastly maintained that FRANCIS BARKER  
27 remained in his presence from the time he, REYER, drove  
28 BARKER's car away from the meeting on the Higgins Road at  
29 approximately 11:30 PM, April 24, 1959, until approximately  
30 12:30 AM, April 25, 1959, except for the short interval of  
31 time that he, REYER, followed L. C. DAVIS to the front of  
32 the courthouse.

33  
34 On May 15, 1959, [REDACTED]  
35 [REDACTED] that he is [REDACTED]  
36 [REDACTED] he was acquainted with  
37 J. P. WALKER, candidate for Sheriff, Pearl River County,  
38 and that J. P. WALKER's stepdaughter was married to BARRY  
39 BARKER, FRANCIS M. BARKER's son. He also advised that BARRY  
40 BARKER was employed by J. P. WALKER in the latter's body  
41 shop at Picayune, Mississippi. He stated he last saw J. P.  
42 WALKER at the funeral of FRANCIS M. BARKER April 30, 1959,  
43 and that since that date has had no contact with J. P.  
44 [REDACTED] telephonically or in person.

45  
46 [REDACTED] stated that at about dark or approxi-  
47 mately 7:00 PM, Friday, April 24, 1959, FRANCIS M. BARKER  
48 and J. P. WALKER, in the latter's late model, blue Cadillac  
49 mobile, came to his home at [REDACTED]  
50 Mississippi. He said BARKER told him that a telephone call  
51 had been received [REDACTED] who  
52 [REDACTED]

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12 was married to a sister of BARKER. [REDACTED] said that  
13 BARKER told him [REDACTED] was in Mobile en route to Poplar-  
14 ville from Virginia, where she had been visiting her  
15 husband in the Armed Services, and that she requested him,  
16 [REDACTED] to drive her car to Mobile and return her to Pop-  
17 larville. [REDACTED] said he told BARKER in the presence of  
18 WALKER he did not believe [REDACTED] old model Chevrolet  
19 would make the trip; whereupon, J. P. WALKER volunteered  
20 to let him use his new Oldsmobile for the trip to Mobile  
21 and return, and it was arranged that [REDACTED] would pick  
22 up the Oldsmobile at BARKER's residence as soon as he  
23 had had his dinner and was prepared to go.

24  
25 [REDACTED] stated he, his wife and eldest son  
26 drove from the [REDACTED] residence in [REDACTED]  
27 Chevrolet to the home of FRANCIS LUMPKIN and there left  
28 [REDACTED]s car and picked up J. P. WALKER's Oldsmobile.  
29 he said Mrs. BARKER came to the BARKER residence porch at  
30 the time they transferred cars and it was about 8:00 PM  
31 when they set underway from Poplarville to make the trip  
32 to Mobile. [REDACTED] stated he traveled north from McNeill  
33 to the intersection of Highway 11 South at Poplarville and  
34 old Highway 11 which joins with Highway 26 and which route  
35 caused him to circumvent Poplarville proper. He said he  
36 continued eastward on Highway 26 to Niggina, Durdale and  
37 Mobile and returned by the same route.

38  
39 [REDACTED] contended that he arrived at the  
40 BARKER residence after returning from Mobile a few minutes  
41 prior to 1:00 AM, Saturday, April 25, 1959. [REDACTED] was  
42 questioned as to what automobiles he had observed in front  
43 of the BARKER residence at McNeill when he went to pick up  
44 J. P. WALKER's car and when he left it there sometime later.  
45 [REDACTED] stated he did not recall whether or not any cars  
46 were parked in front of BARKER's residence. He stated he  
47 could not even remember whether BARKER's own automobiles,  
48 of which he has two, were parked in front of the residence.  
49 [REDACTED] stated he did not see J. P. WALKER or FRANCIS BARKER  
50 either at about 8:00 PM when he picked up WALKER's car for  
51 the trip to Mobile, or just prior to 1:00 AM, or the  
52 next morning when he returned WALKER's car to the BARKER  
53 residence. He established this time by a statement made by  
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his wife, who said, "It's one o'clock," at which time she set the clock before retiring.

██████████ was questioned as to whether or not he had seen any meeting of persons or collection of automobiles at any particular place along his trip on Highway 11 or Route 26 to Mobile on the evening of April 24, 1959. ██████████ contended he had no information that the abduction of M. C. PARKER was to take place and said he did not learn of it until late Saturday afternoon, April 25, 1959.

██████████ did not offer any reason why WALKER made available his late model Oldsmobile, but said that WALKER was close to the PARKERS by marriage and he had heard him say that ██████████ car would not make the trip to Mobile.

██████████ said that ██████████ his wife and son and he transferred ██████████ car at WALKER's residence and he drove ██████████ to the home of her aunt across the road from his own home of ██████████ and that on arrival at home it was noted by his wife that it was 1:00 AM.

On May 2, 1959, ROBERTSON AMACKER advised SA's ██████████ and ██████████ that on Friday, April 24, 1959, he worked at his regular duties leaving the Pearl River County Courthouse at about 6:00 PM. He had dinner and then went to the Star Cafe, Poplarville, where he met FRANCIS BARKER and J. P. WALKER. At about 8:00 PM, the fire whistle sounded and AMACKER went with WALKER in WALKER's car to follow the fire engine. They traveled out the Calusa Road to the White Sands Community and proceeded to the house of ██████████ which was on fire. He stated he and WALKER returned to Poplarville at about 9:00 PM, going to the Star Cafe, where AMACKER remained until about 9:30 PM, at which time he went home.

On May 11, 1959, R. J. WHEAT advised SA's ██████████ and ██████████ that, while teaching his night class at Pearl River Junior College on the night of April 24, 1959, he heard the Poplarville fire whistle at about 8:30 PM.

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12 Immediately thereafter he was contacted by [REDACTED]  
13 who stated that the fire appeared to be in [REDACTED]  
14 neighborhood. WHEAT said that he and [REDACTED] went in  
15 WHEAT's car to the residence of [REDACTED] which house  
16 was virtually destroyed by fire when they arrived. WHEAT  
17 recalled seeing a number of people at the fire, one of whom  
18 was J. P. WALKER. WHEAT stated he and [REDACTED] then  
19 proceeded to the Star Cafe, where he saw a number of  
20 individuals, including "FLAT" AMACKER and J. P. WALKER.  
21 He was of the impression that AMACKER was with WALKER and  
22 WHEAT recalls having no conversation with WALKER, but  
23 seemed to recall that WALKER had picked up the coffee check  
24 at his table. WHEAT stated that, as he and [REDACTED]  
25 left the Star Cafe at approximately 9:45 PM, he observed  
26 J. P. WALKER and FRANCIS BARKER standing together near  
27 the cash register at the cafe.

28  
29 [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and  
30 [REDACTED] on May 11, 1959, that he and R. J. WHEAT went to the  
31 Star Cafe in Poplarville at about 10:00 PM and sat at a  
32 table with FRANCIS BARKER. After they were seated, [REDACTED] b7c  
33 noted that PETE CARVER, "BOB" RAY and J. P. b7D  
34 WALKER were in the cafe. [REDACTED] recalled that J. P.  
35 WALKER came over to their table and picked up the coffee  
36 check which he paid. He stated that he and WHEAT left the  
37 cafe together at about 10:15 PM, and did not have any  
38 information as to the type of car being used by WALKER and  
39 BARKER. He could recall having no conversation with J. P.  
40 WALKER, other than to thank him for paying his check.

41  
42 [REDACTED] waitress at the Star  
43 Cafe, Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
44 on [REDACTED] 24, 1959, that she was acquainted with FRANCIS B. BARKER  
45 on several occasions over a one-day to two-week  
46 period prior to April 21, 1959, he was in the cafe accompanied  
47 by J. P. WALKER. She was unable to state definitely whether  
48 BARKER or WALKER was in the cafe on the evening of April 21,  
49 1959, but believed they were there at around 8:00 or 9:00 PM.

50  
51 SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
52 contacted J. P. WALKER at his request [REDACTED] in [REDACTED]  
53 Mississippi, on May 10, 1959. WALKER apologized for having  
54 [REDACTED]

lost his temper on the previous interview, but refused to discuss the abduction of PARKER with the Agents. He said that he would recontact them if he desired to make any type of statement.

The service record on file at the Department of Defense, Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, for [REDACTED] Army Serial Number [REDACTED] reflects the following:

[REDACTED] entered the United States Army on June 26, 1936, and deserted on February 1, 1938, at Fort Benning, Georgia. He was discharged not honorably as a Private on April 10, 1941, from this enlistment due to desertion.

It was subsequently determined that he had re-enlisted in the United States Army on October 2, 1940, at New Orleans, Louisiana, under the name [REDACTED] Army Serial Number [REDACTED] (this number subsequently changed to [REDACTED]). He was honorably discharged from this enlistment as a Private on June 22, 1943, on a Certificate of Disability for Discharge due to fistula, oro-antral, acute. This disability was secondary to removal of dentigerous cyst of maxilla. The above disability was shown to incapacitate him for military service due to the progressive nature of the disease which would require frequent and prolonged hospitalization. b7c

Also, at the time of his discharge, he was diagnosed as constitutional psychopathic state, inadequate personality. No details for this diagnosis were shown.

On July 24, 1950, he enlisted in the Mississippi State National Guard, Serial Number [REDACTED] under the name [REDACTED] and entered on active duty in the United States Army on [REDACTED]. He was honorably discharged as a Sergeant on [REDACTED] due to hardship.

He was convicted by a summary court-martial on August 2, 1937, for neglecting to take proper prophylactic

after illicit sexual intercourse; sentenced to confinement at hard labor for one month and forfeiture of \$12.00 of his pay. He was also convicted by a summary court-martial on September 1, 1942, for being drunk and disorderly under such circumstances as to bring discredit on the military service. He was sentenced to forfeit \$20.00 of his pay. He was also convicted by summary court-martial on December 31, 1942, for being drunk and disorderly and was again sentenced to forfeit \$20.00 of his pay.

On May 15, 1959, the FBI Latent Fingerprint Section advised that the unidentified latent fingerprints found on the rear-view mirror of the 1957 Oldsmobile owned by C. C. REYER are not identical with the fingerprints of [REDACTED], Army Serial Number [REDACTED]

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12 G. NAME [REDACTED]

13 RESIDENCE [REDACTED]

14 Mississippi

15 OCCUPATION [REDACTED]

16 AGE [REDACTED]

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19  
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21  
22 HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, JR., Night Watchman,  
23 Poplarville, advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
24 on May 6, 1959, that he had heard [REDACTED]  
25 individuals whom he refused to identify, that a [REDACTED]  
26 boy and [REDACTED] both of Gum Pond area of Pearl  
27 River County were possibly members of the mob which entered  
28 the jail on the night of April 24, 1959, and abducted JACK  
29 C. PARKER.

30  
31 On April 27, 1959, W. [REDACTED] Sheriff  
32 of Pearl River County, advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
33 that he recalled that a [REDACTED] and a stranger  
34 were in the Pearl River County Courthouse on  
35 April 14, 1959, the day after M. C. PARKER was brought to  
36 the Pearl River County Jail. MOODY advised that they made  
37 no inquiry of him as to PARKER but asked Pearl River County  
38 Attorney WILLIAM STEWART if PARKER was in jail and if he  
39 had a photograph of PARKER as they had not seen him.

40  
41 On April 27, 1959, WILLIAM STEWART advised  
42 SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he recalled [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
43 being in the Pearl River County Courthouse on  
44 April 14, 1959. He said they asked him if PARKER was in  
45 jail. When he was talking to them, he showed them a photo-  
46 graph of PARKER he had taken with a Polaroid camera. STEWART  
47 said that their actions did not make him suspicious as they  
48 showed no more interest than "a thousand others."

49  
50 On May 7, 1959, [REDACTED] advised  
51 SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that [REDACTED]  
52 husband went to New Orleans on May 6, 1959, and back employ-  
53 ment. She stated she did not have an address for him in [REDACTED]

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13 New Orleans and did not know when he would return to  
14 Poplarville. She stated that [redacted] owns no  
15 automobile, but that he went to New Orleans in their  
16 1959 3/4 ton Chevrolet Pick-up Truck. She stated that  
17 on the night of April 24, 1959, her husband was home  
18 until about 7:00 PM, when he went to the home of a  
19 neighbor, [redacted] returning home at approximately  
20 11:00 PM. She stated that the first she knew of the  
21 abduction of PARKER was when it was announced over the  
22 radio on the morning of April 25, 1959.

23  
24 On May 9, 1959, [redacted] was inter-  
25 viewed by SA's [redacted] at the  
26 residence of his father-in-law, [redacted]  
27 [redacted] He stated that his permanent address  
28 is [redacted] Mississippi.

29  
30 [redacted] advised that he recalled an occasion  
31 when he was in the courthouse at Poplarville, Mississippi,  
32 talking to [redacted] about M. C. PARKER. He was  
33 unable to recall the date of this contact, but said it was  
34 a few weeks prior to the abduction of PARKER and that he  
35 did not know at the time whether PARKER was in the Pearl  
36 River County Jail. He said that he and [redacted] discussed  
37 the forthcoming rape trial of PARKER.

38  
39 [redacted] said he did not speak to WILLIAM  
40 STEWART, Sheriff MOODY, or any member of MOODY's department  
41 concerning PARKER and never asked anyone to see a photo-  
42 graph of PARKER. He said that, if STEWART or MOODY claimed  
43 that he did this, he would like to confront them and do  
44 it. [redacted] said that the only person he contacted in the court-  
45 house was [redacted] in the Sheriff's Office and that  
46 he had a short conversation with her, which conversa-  
47 tion did not concern PARKER. [redacted] said that he did not know  
48 to whom [redacted] may have talked while not in his presence  
49 but [redacted] did not talk to STEWART or MOODY while he was  
50 with [redacted].

51  
52 [redacted] stated that on the night of April 24,  
53 1959, he visited in the home of [redacted] and watched the  
54 fight on television. He said he stayed until 10:00 PM at [redacted]

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12 later and then returned home where he remained the rest of  
13 the night. He said that sometime during the morning of  
14 April 25, 1959, he heard about the abduction of PARKER,  
15 possibly on a radio news program.

16 [redacted] said that he knows nothing about the  
17 abduction of PARKER and has heard no pertinent comment on  
18 the matter since it happened. He said he had no personal  
19 interest in whether the persons responsible for the abduction  
20 are ever found.

21 [redacted]  
22 [redacted]  
23 On May 8, 1959, [redacted]  
24 [redacted], advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that,  
25 on the night of April 24, 1959, at approximately 7:30 p.m.,  
26 [redacted] came to his home. He and [redacted] watched  
27 the fights on television and, after the fights, they talked  
28 for a few minutes and [redacted] left his home between 10:00  
29 and 10:30 p.m. He stated that M. C. PARKER was not mentioned  
30 that evening at any time nor was the rape case discussed.

31 [redacted] advised SA's [redacted]  
32 [redacted] and [redacted] on May 13, 1959, that  
33 he recognized J. P. WALKER and [redacted] among the group  
34 of men attending a meeting near [redacted] and south of  
35 Poplarville on the night of April 24, 1959. This meeting  
36 was for the purpose of laying plans for the abduction of  
37 M. C. PARKER. [redacted] was unable to state how [redacted]  
38 left the meeting or where he went subsequent to the meet-  
39 ing. Complete details concerning the information furnished  
40 by [redacted] relative to this meeting are set out on pages [redacted]

41 [redacted]  
42 [redacted]  
43 On May 15, 1959, [redacted]  
44 [redacted] photograph of [redacted] and stated that this  
45 is the person he probably saw [redacted] whom  
46 he saw at the meeting. He said that [redacted] was wearing  
47 overalls with bib and shoulder straps, [redacted] observed him  
48 only at the meeting and knows nothing further concerning his  
49 identity or activities. [redacted] recalled that [redacted] arrived  
50 after the meeting had commenced in one of the rear cars to  
51 appear at the meeting.

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13 On May 13, 1959, [redacted] was recontacted  
14 at [redacted] by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]  
15 [redacted] Upon approaching the house at approximately 8:00 PM,  
16 the Agents noted that there were no lights burning. [redacted]  
17 answered the door dressed in his underwear and invited the  
18 Agents in. He left the front room grumbling about being  
19 bothered by the FBI and returned in a short while, after  
20 putting on his trousers.  
21

22 Upon being advised of the need to obtain  
23 photograph and fingerprint identification to eliminate him  
24 as a suspect in attendance at a meeting near the Higgins  
25 Highway on the night of April 24, 1959, [redacted] denied he was  
26 at such a meeting on that night or any other night and  
27 repeated that he was at [redacted] house during the  
28 evening of April 24, 1959, where he remained until about  
29 10:00 PM and returned home.  
30

31 At this point in the interview, [redacted]  
32 became antagonistic and stated he intended to see his  
33 attorney before he would discuss anything further with  
34 the FBI. He also stated he was tired of having the FBI  
35 bother his family at Lumberton, Mississippi, and that he  
36 intended to go to Lumberton in a few days and look after  
37 his interests. He stated that he was in a private home  
38 and that the Agents were no longer welcome, whereupon,  
39 the interview was terminated.  
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| <b>H. NAME</b>    | L. C. DAVIS, also known as<br>Lewis C. Davis, Louis C.<br>Davis, "Colonel" |
| <b>RESIDENCE</b>  | Route 2, Poplarville, Miss-<br>issippi                                     |
| <b>OCCUPATION</b> | Farmer and carpenter   |
| <b>AGE</b>        | 45   |

On May 8, 1959, L. C. DAVIS furnished the following signed statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] b7c

"E.F.D. Poplarville, Miss.  
May 8, 1959

"I, L. C. Davis, hereby make the following free and voluntary statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], who have advised me that they are Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice. I have been told that I do not have to make a statement and that any statement that I do make can be used against me in a court of law. I have been told it is a violation of Federal law to make a false statement in connection with this investigation. b7c

"I was born 9/19/13 at Poplarville, Miss. I was married to Lois Davis and we have one child. We reside at Route 2, Box 189, Poplarville, Miss. I have had eight years in school.

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13 "I was at home in bed on April 24, 1959,  
14 the night that the negro was taken from the  
15 Poplarville jail. I was suffering from a tooth  
16 that was aching. I attended no meetings that  
17 night and had no visitors at my house. I did not  
18 go to the Poplarville jail, and did not help remove  
19 D. C. Parker from this jail.

20 "I was advised that I am entitled to  
21 have a lawyer advise me.

22  
23 " /s/ L. C. Davis

24  
25 "Witness:

26 [REDACTED], Special Agent, FBI,  
27 [REDACTED], 5/5/59

28 [REDACTED] Special Agent, FBI,  
29 New Orleans, 5/5/59"

30  
31 DAVIS stated that when in the Army he used  
32 the name of LOUIS C. DAVIS. He said that he did not know  
33 how "LOUIS" was spelled on the military records and believed  
34 it could be either "LOUIS" or "LEWIS." He advised he has  
35 always been known as L. C. DAVIS.

36  
37 He identified [REDACTED] of Poplarville, as  
38 the dentist who pulled his tooth on Friday, May 1, 1959.  
39 He advised that he waited from April 24, 1959, to May 1,  
40 1959, for the almanac to "show the signs in the teeth." He  
41 stated that when the signs are right, there is very little  
42 bleeding.

43  
44 [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED]  
45 [REDACTED] on May 9, 1959, that when  
46 he finished work [REDACTED] approximately 2:00 PM, April 25, 1959,  
47 he went to the home of L. C. DAVIS. It was his recollection  
48 that DAVIS was suffering from a toothache when he arrived  
49 and that he had the toothache the following day. He stated  
50 that L. C. DAVIS made no comment to him at any time indicat-  
51 ing any personal knowledge of the abduction of D. C.  
52 PARKER.

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13 On May 18, 1959, L. C. DAVIS was inter-  
14 viewed by SA's [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] b7c  
15 At the outset of the interview he was advised as to the  
16 official capacity of the Agents; that he would not have  
17 to make a statement; that if he did it could be used against  
18 him in a court of law; and that he had the right to consult  
19 an attorney.  
20

21 DAVIS maintained that he knew nothing of  
22 the abduction of M. C. PARKER, that he went to bed between  
23 8:00 and 8:30 PM, April 24, 1959, and knew nothing of any  
24 meeting being held near his residence. He denied knowledge  
25 of or participation in any activities other than his usual  
26 day to day activities. He said that he knew of no one  
27 other than his wife and daughter who were in the vicinity  
28 of his home on the night of April 24, 1959.  
29

30 On May 9, 1959, SA's [REDACTED] b7c  
31 [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]  
32 searched a gravel road and the property to the west line  
33 of Highway 26. This fence line borders the property of  
34 L. C. DAVIS. The road is located to the left of Highway 26  
35 running east from Mississippi Highway 66. DAVIS' house is  
36 located approximately two-tenths of a mile north of High-  
37 way 26 and approximately 5 1/2 miles from Poplarville.  
38

39 The following items were located during the  
40 search:

- 41
- 42 (1) A portion of a cellophane wrapper
  - 43 from "Day's Work Chewing Tobacco".
  - 44
  - 45 (2) A label and price tag bearing the
  - 46 words "Buy Top Jersey Glove".
  - 47
  - 48 (3) A Tampa Nuggett Cigar . . .
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12 (4) A slip of paper with the hand-  
13 written name "L. C. DAVIS" with a line drawn  
14 under this name and the initial "4" under-  
15 neath the line.

16  
17 (5) A cellophane wrapper bearing  
18 the words "Red Bird Handkerchief."

19  
20 (6) A slip of paper with the name  
21 [REDACTED] with a line drawn beneath  
22 this name and an illegible initial or mark  
23 below the line. b7c

24  
25 (7) A small bottle of Dr. Wischner's  
26 Antiseptic.

27  
28 On May 11, 1959, a search was made along the  
29 entire length of the gravel road which parallels the south  
30 line of the L. C. DAVIS property. The following items  
31 were located:

32 (1) A number of sheets of what  
33 appeared to be pencil tablet paper.

34  
35 (2) A slip of paper with the hand-  
36 written name "L. C. DAVIS" with a line drawn  
37 beneath this name and an illegible initial  
38 or mark below the line.

39  
40 (3) A Bar-B-Q bag.

41  
42 (4) An empty half-pint bottle with  
43 the label "Old Taylor."

44  
45 (5) A Bag Bee Tobacco Bag and cigar-  
46 ette papers.

47  
48 In addition to the above items, numerous  
49 cigarette butts, gum wrappers, cellophane wrappers, a  
50 cigarette package, and other miscellaneous items were  
51 located. All of the above items were furnished to the  
52 FBI Laboratory for examination.  
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The Laboratory reported that no indented writing was found on the various slips of paper located in the search. It was not possible to definitely determine whether the writing on the slips of paper containing the names "L. C. DAVIS" and [REDACTED] were written by one person. Examination revealed that the initials below the name [REDACTED] and the initials beneath the name "L. C. DAVIS" may be the initials "S. N."

There were insufficient significant details to permit determination of the source of the tablet paper. The pieces of paper containing the names "L. C. DAVIS" and [REDACTED] are similar in size and thickness to the sheets of tablet paper but there were insufficient significant details to permit a definite opinion as to whether these papers came from the same source.

Due to their contaminated condition, the cigarette butts were not suitable for conclusive saliva grouping purposes.

No latent fingerprints were developed on any of the items submitted.

On May 13, 1959, [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he attended the meeting south of Poplarville near the residence of L. C. DAVIS on the night of April 24, 1959, with [REDACTED]. He stated at this meeting plans were made to lynch M. C. PARKER.

He stated that they drove from McNeill, Mississippi, to Poplarville on the night of April 24, 1959, in a 1957 red and white Oldsmobile sedan owned by [REDACTED]. They went to a cafe for coffee and then drove east out Highway 26 toward Wiggins, Mississippi, and proceeded to a location which he subsequently identified as the area near the residence of L. C. DAVIS.

Upon arrival they saw a group of men congregated on the right side of the road. [REDACTED] got out of his car and walked over to the group of men. [REDACTED] remained in the car for approximately thirty minutes, when he got out.

of the car and joined the group. [redacted] stated that the only man he recognized in the group, was [redacted] and [redacted]

After standing with the group for several minutes, [redacted] and [redacted] went back to [redacted] car and another man, whose identity was unknown to [redacted], got in the car with them. [redacted] was of the opinion that this unidentified individual resided in the area where the meeting was taking place.

[redacted] drove the car back to Poplarville, parked near the Greyhound Bus Depot, and left the car. [redacted] and the unidentified individual remained in the car. About twenty minutes later [redacted] returned to the car with [redacted]. [redacted] got into the car and sat in the back seat.

At this time [redacted] asked [redacted] if he knew about "getting the nigger out of the jail tonight." [redacted] denied that he had any knowledge this was going to take place. [redacted] then left the car and [redacted] drove back to the meeting place. At this time the car was occupied by [redacted] and the unidentified individual. [redacted] was not sure as to the time but believed that they returned back at the meeting at approximately 10:30 PM.

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When they returned to the meeting, [redacted] rejoined the group and more or less acted as spokesman and it was decided that they would use [redacted] car to transport PARKER from the jail. At this time [redacted] recognized [redacted] and [redacted] in the group of men. He subsequently identified [redacted] as [redacted].

At the conclusion of the meeting, the group began to break up and get into various automobiles. [redacted] was advised by an individual who appeared to ask to get into a car which he, [redacted], described as a 1955 or 1956 Chevrolet which was occupied by three other men, none of whom were known to [redacted].

[redacted] stated that he had no knowledge as to the identity of the individuals who had been seen at the meeting in [redacted] car nor was he able to describe the

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12 number of persons who rode in the car. He observed that  
13 [redacted] and [redacted] left the meeting in [redacted] car.  
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16 The car in which [redacted] was riding proceeded  
17 to Poplarville and took up a position diagonally across  
18 the street from the south entrance of the courthouse. While  
19 parked in this position, [redacted] observed a group of men dragging  
20 the victim from the south entrance of the courthouse and  
21 placing him in [redacted]'s automobile. He was unable to  
22 state the exact number of men who got into the car with the  
23 victim.  
24

25 After the victim was placed in [redacted] car,  
26 the car proceeded from Poplarville on Highway 26 and west  
27 to the Pearl River Bridge near Bogalusa. [redacted] stated that  
28 the car in which he was riding followed [redacted]'s car  
29 all the way to Bogalusa to a point just west of the Pearl  
30 River Bridge where the driver of [redacted] car made a "U" turn  
31 and proceeded east back onto the bridge.  
32

33 At this point the car in which [redacted] was  
34 riding passed [redacted] car and proceeded about three-fourths  
35 of a mile further on into Bogalusa where the driver turned  
36 around and headed back toward Poplarville. This car pro-  
37 ceeded to Crossroads, located at the intersection of High-  
38 ways 26 and 43 and pulled into a Pure Oil station where  
39 [redacted] car was waiting.  
40

41 At this point [redacted] got out of the Chevrolet,  
42 walked over to [redacted] car and got into the back seat  
43 after one of the men got out to let him in. [redacted] then slid  
44 over to the center of the back seat and the [redacted] back  
45 [redacted] stated that the individual who  
46 got [redacted] let him in was the same individual  
47 who rode with him [redacted] from the meeting place to  
48 the cafe in Poplarville and back to the meeting place  
49 earlier in the evening.  
50

51 [redacted] stated that upon getting [redacted]  
52 Oldsmobile, he recognized only one individual [redacted]  
53 that being [redacted] who was driving [redacted] above  
54 from the Pure Oil station to Poplarville and [redacted] driving  
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13 a short distance, recognized [redacted] car proceeding in  
14 the opposite direction. He turned the Oldsmobile around  
15 and followed [redacted] car back to the Pure Oil Station  
16 where both cars stopped.

17  
18 At this point [redacted] got out of the back  
19 seat of [redacted] car and into the front seat. [redacted]  
20 got out of [redacted] car and entered his own car, sitting  
21 in the driver's seat. [redacted] and [redacted] then proceeded to  
22 [redacted] home.

23  
24 [redacted] stated that prior to the time he  
25 left the Pure Oil station, he saw the individuals who were  
26 previously in [redacted] car get into [redacted] car and he  
27 believes that they headed toward Poplarville on Highway 26.

28 A complete account of the information  
29 furnished by [redacted] is set out on pages [redacted]

30  
31 On May 15, 1959, [redacted] was  
32 interviewed by SA's [redacted] and [redacted].  
33 [redacted] identified a photograph of L. C. Davis as the individ-  
34 ual who rode in [redacted] car from the meeting place to  
35 the Star Cafe in Poplarville and who was present in [redacted]  
36 car when [redacted] entered the car near the Star Cafe on  
37 the night of April 24, 1959.

38  
39 On May 14, 1959, CRIST [redacted] furnished  
40 a signed statement to SA's [redacted] and [redacted]  
41 concerning his activities on the  
42 night of April 24, 1959, and the morning of April 25, 1959.  
43 The following portions of this statement were pertinent to  
44 the activities of L. C. DAVIS:

45  
46 "Upon arrival at the meeting place I  
47 saw about eight cars and [redacted] pickup trucks parked  
48 on the right side of the road. There were no  
49 cars to my recollection on the left and I parked  
50 near a tree located almost in front of a house.  
51 I do not know who lives in this house. I didn't  
52 see anyone as I drove up to this place. I got  
53 out of my car and started walking back to where  
54 these cars were parked. I don't remember [redacted]

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12 "Smith got out of my car or not. As I approached  
13 the cars I heard someone say 'there's a Crip'. I  
14 did not recognize this person nor could I recognize  
15 his voice. I asked what this meeting was all about  
16 and someone said it concerns Parker. I talked to  
17 these men a few minutes and would estimate there  
18 were fifteen to eighteen people in this group. I  
19 did not recognize any of them, and heard someone  
20 say that all of the crowd was not there yet. I  
21 then went back to my car saying that I was going  
22 back to town. I do not recall whether Smith was  
23 still sitting in the car or if he got in at the  
24 time. As I was walking back to my car a man followed  
25 me and said he would ride back to town and come back  
26 with me. I cannot recall this man's name but I  
27 believe he is a Davis. I would describe this man  
28 as being about forty-five years old, approximately  
29 six feet tall, and would weigh about one hundred and  
30 sixty five or seventy pounds. He had a thin, hatched  
31 type face and was slender build. I do not recall  
32 just how he was dressed. The three of us returned  
33 to Poplarville and parked at about the same place  
34 I had parked before. I got out and went to the  
35 star cafe alone. Smith and this man were still in  
36 the car. I went to the cafe to get coffee and  
37 stayed about twenty minutes. I recall speaking to  
38 Mrs. Carroll who was working as a waitress at the  
39 cafe.

40  
41 "When I first came to the star cafe before  
42 going to the meeting place it was approximately  
43 9:15 PM. After going to the meeting and returning  
44 to the Starcafe it was about 9:45 PM. I stayed in  
45 the Cafe about twenty minutes after which I  
46 returned to . . .

47  
48 "Smith and the person who rode to town  
49 with us were in the car when I returned. I got in  
50 and we drove back to the meeting place. Upon  
51 arrival at the meeting place this second time there  
52 were cars parked on both sides of the road. I  
53 parked on the left side of the road near a boat at  
54 the head of the line of cars. I would say that  
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12 He denied seeing L. C. DAVIS anytime later that night or  
13 in the early morning of April 25, 1959.  
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16 HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, 14th Marshal, Pop-  
17 larville, advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted]  
18 [redacted] on May 14, 1959, that he had coffee at the Star  
19 Cafe, Main Street, Poplarville, at approximately 9:30 p.m.  
20 on the night of April 24, 1959. He stated that "CRIP" REYER  
21 was also in the Star Cafe and that after having coffee he  
22 saw REYER's Oldsmobile in the street near the cafe and  
23 this car was occupied by "CRIP" REYER, a person CARVER believed  
24 to be [redacted] and another individual who was unknown  
25 to CARVER.

26  
27 CARVER stated that REYER called him to the  
28 automobile which he entered and sat with there men for a  
29 short time. REYER stated that someone was liable to get  
30 killed Monday "with them nigger lawyers in the court room."  
31 CARVER said he told REYER not to tell him anything about  
32 it.

33  
34 CARVER stated that REYER also remarked  
35 something to the effect that they were thinking about taking  
36 "that nigger" out of the jail. CARVER at this point left  
37 this automobile and did not converse with them further. He  
38 stated he did not take REYER's statement seriously and did  
39 not believe that he was part of the plan to take PARSON  
40 from the jail. b7c  
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42 On May 16, 1959, CARVER was interviewed  
43 viewed by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]  
44 [redacted] photographs of L. C. DAVIS at that time of one of  
45 the [redacted] who was in the Oldsmobile owned by "CRIP"  
46 REYER parked near the Star Cafe between 9:30 and 10:30 p.m.  
47 on the night of April 24, 1959.

48  
49 On May 14, 1959, [redacted]  
50 Pearl River County Courthouse, [redacted]  
51 to SA's [redacted] and [redacted]  
52 his activities as an agent of [redacted]  
53 stated in part as follows: [redacted]  
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"...Sometime between 11:00 and 11:30 PM on 4/24/59 I heard a knock on my door. I got up from my chair, went to the door and opened it. [redacted] was standing in my yard about twelve or thirteen feet from the door. He said, 'Come out - my wife wants to see you.' At that point I think I then reached back into the house and picked up my shirt and put it on. I then went out of the house. I noticed that [redacted] was then standing beside an automobile parked at the curb directly in front of my house. He had the left rear door of the car opened and was standing beside it. The car was facing East which meant that it was actually parked on the wrong side of the street. I walked up to this car and stuck my head in the open door. At this time [redacted] either shoved me slightly from the rear with his hand or knee forcing me to fall forward into the rear of the car. At this time I heard a man in the car say, 'Get in.' I sat on the back seat in the middle. There was one man already seated on the right rear side and after I sat down [redacted] sat alongside of me on the left rear side. I saw two men in the front seat. I recognized the driver as [redacted] and the man in the passenger's side in front as [redacted]. I think I recognized the man sitting to my right as [redacted]. None of these men wore masks. I saw no guns and no gloves. After we all got in the car all the doors were shut. One of the men said 'We've come after the nigger and want the keys.' Another man said [redacted] 'we don't want any trouble, we just want the keys.' One of them said 'We don't want to tear up the courthouse or destroy any of the property.' At that time I said, 'I'll get the keys for you, but I'm not going to let you to get the nigger.' One of the men said 'We just want the keys.' I told them I would go get the keys at the Sheriff's Office and throw them on the Sheriff's desk in that office. One of the men said there was four or five cars parked around the courthouse. I told them to tell the persons in these cars to get away from the courthouse and that I then would get the keys...."

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"I drove directly to the courthouse and parked my car at the curb directly in front of the sidewalk which leads to the street from the south door of the courthouse. As I parked my car I observed the car with the four men already parked on the street directly alongside the south side of the Public Health building. They were facing east...."

"I know the car in which [redacted] and the others were traveling was an Oldsmobile. I think it was about a 1956 model. I am not sure of the color, but have the impression that it was two tone color...."

The complete statement furnished by [redacted] is set out on pages [redacted]

[redacted] pointed out that while none of the men specifically threatened him should he not furnish the [redacted] he knew from their conversation that if he refused they would attempt to take them by force and from the past reputation of [redacted] he knew they would not hesitate to do bodily harm to himself and his family.

On May 15, 1959, SA's [redacted] and [redacted] exhibited a photograph of [redacted] to [redacted] identified this photograph as a photograph of one of the four individuals who had come to his home to obtain the keys to the Pearl River County Jail.

SA's [redacted], and [redacted] contacted [redacted] at his residence on May 14, 1959. [redacted] advised that he was too ill to be interviewed whereupon arrangements were made to interview him the following day.

On May 15, 1959, when contacted for interview by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] requested permission to visit his physician, Dr. W. J. STRINGER. He was taken to the physician's office at Poplarville.

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12 Upon completion of treatment, [redacted] accom- b7c  
13 panied the Agents to the office where he consented to be  
14 fingerprinted. After photographs were taken, he complained  
15 of feeling ill and stated that Dr. SIREBER had performed  
16 a minor operation on him that morning. He was immediately  
17 taken to his home and no attempt was made to interview him.  
18

19 On May 16, 1959, DAVIS was interviewed at b7c  
20 his residence by SA's [redacted], and [redacted].  
21 He was advised of his right to consult an attorney,  
22 that he did not have to make a statement, and that if he  
23 did make a statement, it could be used against him in a  
24 court of law.  
25

26 DAVIS stated he knew C. C. BEYER as a prize-  
27 fighter a number of years ago and knows that he now works  
28 as a barber in McMill, Mississippi. He identified a photo- b7c  
29 graph of [redacted] as a turkey hunter he had seen during  
30 the last hunting season but stated he did not know his name.  
31 DAVIS advised he is acquainted with J. P. SAMPSON, FRANCIS  
32 BARKER, J. P. LEE, JR., J. P. LEE, SR., and JESSE ALFORD.  
33

34 DAVIS stated he had not attended any meeting  
35 on the night of April 24, 1959; that he did not know in  
36 advance that M. C. BARKER was to be taken from the jail;  
37 that he was not in Poplarville on the night of April 24,  
38 1959; that he had not been with C. C. BEYER in his car  
39 on the night of April 24, 1959; [redacted] b7c  
40 [redacted] but gone to the home of [redacted]. He  
41 emphatically denied that he had any part in BEYER's murder  
42 or his abduction from the jail.  
43

44 DAVIS stated that he had indirectly received  
45 [redacted] on his house and shoot him. He declined to  
46 furnish information as to the possible source of the  
47 threats other than to state he did not believe that they  
48 came from local people. He advised that he had been con-  
49 tacted several days after the abduction of C. BEYER and  
50 stated that REYER came to his house seeking [redacted].  
51

52 DAVIS was asked whether he desired to furnish  
53 a statement. He stated "Take my knife, you can just  
54 well cut my throat." He further indicated, with references  
55 [redacted]  
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13 to giving a statement, that a person could be electrocuted  
14 for taking part in a murder.

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16 DAVIS said that he did not desire to make a  
17 statement at his home and did not feel well enough to go  
18 to Poplarville but told the Agents that if he felt well  
19 enough at 8:00 PM on May 18, 1959, he would go to Poplarville  
20 for the purpose of making a statement.

21 On May 18, 1959, SA's [redacted]  
22 and [redacted] went to the residence of L. C. DAVIS  
23 and were met on the front porch by Mrs. DAVIS who stated  
24 L. C. DAVIS had "a fierce day and just took some case pills  
25 at 7:30 PM." She stated he was then asleep and in no  
26 condition to be interviewed.

27  
28 On May 19, 1959, SA's [redacted]  
29 and [redacted] went to the home of L. C. DAVIS and  
30 were admitted to the house by Mrs. DAVIS who took them to  
31 the bedroom of L. C. DAVIS. When asked if he still desired  
32 to go to Poplarville for an interview, DAVIS stated he  
33 knew nothing concerning the abduction of PARKER and could  
34 see no purpose in talking to the FBI. He added that he  
35 had not been feeling well and that talking to Agents might  
36 bring on a nervous breakdown.

37  
38 [redacted] advised SA's [redacted]  
39 [redacted] and [redacted] on May 12, 1959, that  
40 when being driven home by [redacted] on April 24, 1959,  
41 she vaguely recalls seeing two cars parked on the road in  
42 front of L. C. DAVIS' residence but could not furnish a  
43 description of the cars.

44  
45 [redacted] on May 12, 1959, ad-  
46 vised SA's [redacted] that  
47 on the night of April 24, 1959, [redacted] included in  
48 Bogalusa with his sister [redacted] they passed  
49 the L. C. DAVIS residence and he noticed [redacted] of two cars  
50 parked in the vicinity. He stated he saw no one [redacted]  
51 of or around the residence.

52  
53 On May 19, 1959, [redacted]  
54 and [redacted] advised SA [redacted] that [redacted]

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13 [redacted] to their residence on the night of April 24,  
14 1959, at approximately 11:15 PM. He stated he did not  
15 observe any cars on the road on which the DAVIS home is  
16 located. It is noted that [redacted] was  
17 on the same road as L. C. DAVIS.

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18  
19 On May 12, 1959, [redacted]  
20 Poplarville, advised SA's [redacted], and [redacted]  
21 [redacted] that on the night of April 24, 1959, she returned  
22 early and knew nothing of any meeting taking place on the  
23 gravel road on which she lives. She stated she is the  
24 sister of L. C. DAVIS, who lives down the road from her  
25 residence. She said that she has no information concerning  
26 the abduction of M. C. PARKER and that L. C. DAVIS has not  
27 mentioned anything concerning this abduction to her.  
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13 I. NAME

[REDACTED]  
also known as:  
[REDACTED]

16 RESIDENCE

[REDACTED] Mississippi

19 OCCUPATION

[REDACTED]  
Poplarville, Mississippi

22 AGE

32

24  
25  
26 On May 4, 1959, [REDACTED]

27 [REDACTED]  
28 [REDACTED] Mississippi, furnished the following statement to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

31 "Hattiesburg, Miss.

32 "May 4, 1959

33  
34 "I, [REDACTED], hereby make the  
35 following free and voluntary statement to [REDACTED]  
36 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who have been  
37 me that they are Special Agents of the Federal Bureau  
38 of Investigation. I have been told that I do not  
39 have to make a statement and that any statement I do  
40 make can be used against me in a court of law. I  
41 have been told that I am entitled to have an attorney  
42 advise me. I have been advised that it is a viola-  
43 tion of Federal law to furnish a false statement,  
under Title 18, Section 1001.

45  
46 "I, [REDACTED], born [REDACTED]  
47 [REDACTED] at [REDACTED], Miss., born [REDACTED] April 24,  
48 1959, while at work at the Kemp [REDACTED] Co., Hatties-  
49 burg, Miss., shortly before 11:00 A.M. was contacted  
50 by [REDACTED] is employed by [REDACTED]  
51 [REDACTED] Miss., and I had [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
52 being employed by [REDACTED] Co. [REDACTED] did not  
53 buy anything from me. He asked me to [REDACTED] side.  
54 He took me to a parked car. The car was parked in [REDACTED]

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back of the [redacted] Co. between the [redacted]  
building and the [redacted] building. There were two  
men in this automobile. I remember the automobile  
as a light blue or green 57 Chevrolet two door. I  
was not introduced by name to these men. I had never  
seen them before and have not seen them since that time.  
The first man, who was sitting on the right side of the  
car did the talking. The first thing he said was, 'We  
have something to talk to you about.' I asked him,  
'What is it.' He said, 'Was driving by to see if you  
wanted to get in on something.' I asked him what it  
was. He said, 'We are going down there and drag that  
nigger out of jail.' He did not mention M. C. Parker  
by name, but I knew what he was talking about. I told  
this man that I would not go, and that I did not believe  
in violence. I also told him that, 'You guys ought not  
go down and do that either.' I told the man that my  
wife was not sure and had not identified Parker as the  
man that raped her. He told me that he knew in his own  
mind that they had the right nigger. Then he said, 'We  
are going down there to get him, and we were just pass-  
ing by and wanted to see if you wanted to get in on it.'  
I told them that I did not want any part of it. He said,  
'OK, we will see you later.' I turned and walked off,  
and as I left I heard [redacted] say something to the effect  
that he would see him [redacted] that night. I went to lunch  
shortly after this contact, so I fix the time as being  
between 10:30 and 11:00 A. M. The day of this contact  
was the same day that M. C. Parker was taken from the  
jail. I did not accompany these men and have had no  
further contact with them.

"These men were seated in the automobile and  
I talked to them through the automobile window. The  
first man, the one that did the talking, stepped out  
of the car for just a moment. The following is the best  
description that I can furnish of the man: Hair-slightly  
curly, gray at the temples and brown. He was about 40  
years of age, or slightly younger. He was wearing a  
dark green shirt and pants, uniform type. The shirt  
and pants were the same color. The man was a big man.  
I would estimate he was about 5'10" or 5'11" and weighed  
about 180 pounds. I would describe the man as a [redacted]

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looking person. He appeared to have worked out of doors. This is the man who did all of the talking.

"The second man who was driving the car and who did not do any talking was a little smaller. He was wearing a cap something like a bus drivers cap, but not exactly the same. The cap reminded me of an Army type cap, but it was not an Army hat or cap. He was wearing a dark green uniform with shirt and pants to match. The cap was the same color as the uniform.

"I have read this statement of two and one half pages. This statement is true and correct to the best of my memory.

[REDACTED]  
(12) P.m.

[REDACTED] Special Agent May 4th, 1959  
FBI, New Orleans, La.

[REDACTED], Special Agent  
FBI, Memphis, Tenn."

On May 5, 1959, [REDACTED]  
Mississippi, furnished the following  
signed statement to SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

"Hattiesburg, Miss.  
"May 5, 1959

"I, [REDACTED], hereby make the following free and voluntary statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that they are Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice. I have been advised that I do not have to make a statement and that any statement I do make can be used against me in a court of law. I have been advised that I am entitled to have an attorney advise me. X

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12 have also been advised that it is a violation of  
13 Federal law to tell an untruth in connection with  
14 this official investigation, and violates Title 18,  
15 Section 1001.  
16

17 "I was born [redacted] at [redacted] Miss.  
18 I am married and have two children. I reside at [redacted]  
19 [redacted] Miss., and am employed by the [redacted]  
20 [redacted] Miss.  
21

22 "On a Friday, the exact date of which I  
23 cannot recall, but I know that it is the day before  
24 the day I heard that the Negro was taken from the  
25 jail at Pontcharville, Miss., I contacted [redacted]  
26 at the [redacted] I recall the time of day  
27 as about 1:00 P.M., as I was on my lunch hour, which  
28 is from Noon to 1:00 P.M. I had been home for lunch,  
29 and drove the company truck to my home. I stopped at  
30 [redacted] Miss. to buy some fishing worms.  
31 When I returned to the truck, and as I was getting into  
32 the truck, an automobile with two men in it drove up.  
33 They asked me if I knew where [redacted] lived,  
34 and I told them that I did not. [redacted] they asked if I  
35 knew where [redacted] worked, and I said that he worked  
36 at the [redacted] I told the two men that I  
37 was on my way down there, and one of the men said that  
38 they would follow me. I drove off in the [redacted]  
39 truck and the two men followed me. I parked [redacted]  
40 the [redacted] and they parked near [redacted]  
41 [redacted] the man who was not driving the automobile  
42 asked me to ask [redacted] to come out. This man  
43 did all of the talking and I don't remember the driver  
44 saying any talking. I went into the store and told [redacted]  
45 [redacted] a couple men wanted to see him and [redacted] and  
46 I walked outside [redacted] together. He walked over to the two  
47 men who remained seated in the car, and [redacted] [redacted]  
48 [redacted] to them by stating, 'This is [redacted]  
49 but I do not know your names, so I can't [redacted]  
50 you to him.' I do not know whether or not [redacted] gave  
51 their names to [redacted] but if they did I don't hear  
52 them. [redacted] [redacted] his head inside [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]  
53 window and I stood by the back door on the right side.  
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12 I could not hear all of the conversation. I did hear  
13 the man on the right side of the front seat say some-  
14 thing to the effect that, they were going to have a  
15 meeting 'tonight' east of Poplarville on the Wiggins  
16 road, and that the meeting would be three or four miles  
17 east of Poplarville. I could not hear all of the con-  
18 versation because part of it was in too low a tone,  
19 and I left before they were finished talking. I told  
20 the men that I had to go back to work, and as I started  
21 to leave the man who did all the talking, the one on  
22 the right side of the car, said, 'If you want to at-  
23 tend the meeting, come down.' I said that I did not  
24 imagine I could come, but that if I could come I would  
25 be there about dark. At this point I walked away and  
26 [redacted] was still talking with the men. The  
27 next day when I heard the news on the radio that the  
28 Negro had been taken from the Poplarville Jail, I as-  
29 sumed that this meeting between these two people and  
30 [redacted] was about the taking of the Negro from  
31 the jail.

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32  
33 "I do not know the identity of either of the  
34 two men that were in the automobile. The driver of  
35 the automobile, I had never seen before in my life.  
36 I would guess the driver was about 30 years of age,  
37 medium build, and I cannot estimate his height because  
38 he was sitting down. He was wearing work clothes, al-  
39 though I do not remember the color. I believe the  
40 driver was wearing a cap of some type, but I do not  
41 recall the color. I seem to remember that this cap  
42 had some type of a badge or button on the front, such  
43 as is frequently worn by truck drivers. The second  
44 man in the car was about 40, medium build and of medium  
45 height. He was wearing work clothes, but I cannot de-  
46 scribe them. I do not remember the man's name, and do  
47 not believe I have ever known it. I have seen him  
48 around Hattiesburg, but the only place I can remember  
49 seeing him was at the Methodist Hospital, Hattiesburg.  
50 He was a patient in a room near the room occupied by  
51 [redacted] after she was burned on Dec. 30, 1955.  
52 I talked to this man in the hospital, and he told me  
53 that he had pneumonia and had been in the hospital over  
54 Christmas.

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"I wish to state that I did not go to Poplarville, and I took no part in removing any prisoner from the Poplarville jail. From the radio, I have learned that this Negro is named J. C. Parker, or something like that. I did not go to Poplarville or near Poplarville to any meeting. To the best of my recollection, I was at home all that night after work. I went fishing at about 4:00 P.M. when I got off from work. I got home from fishing at about dark, possibly at about 6:30 P.M.

"I have read this statement 3 pages and is all true

██████████  
"Witness:

"/s/ ██████████ F.B.I., New Orleans La 5/5/59  
"/s/ ██████████ Jr., F.B.I., Memphis 5/5/59"

On May 5, 1959, ██████████  
Methodist Hospital, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, made available to SA's ██████████ and ██████████ the record of patients in the hospital on December 20, 1958, beginning with Room 210 through 227. A review of these records reflects that the only person diagnosed as having pneumonia was Mr. ██████████ who was located in Room 214. ██████████ was admitted to the hospital December 23, 1958, and dismissed January 21, 1959. It was noted that ██████████ was located in the room next door to ██████████, who was in Room 212 and who had been admitted to the hospital for severe burns. b7c b7d

The records reflect that ██████████ resided at ██████████ and was unemployed upon admission. The records failed to reflect any descriptive information concerning DUNN.

On May 5, 1959, ██████████  
██████████ Street, ██████████ Mississippi, furnished a signed statement to SA's ██████████ and ██████████.

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13 which is set forth on [redacted] in which he claimed that he  
14 was at home on April 24, 1959, all day with the exception of  
15 the time when he went to look for a job and that he was not  
16 visited by an member of his family or his wife's family on  
17 that day.

18  
19 On May 5, 1959, [redacted] furnished the  
20 following signed statement to SA's [redacted] and [redacted]  
21 [redacted]

22  
23 "Hattiesburg, Miss.  
24 May 5, 1959

25  
26 "I [redacted] make the following volunt-  
27 ary statement to [redacted] and [redacted]  
28 whom I know to be Special Agents of the F.B.I. I have  
29 been told I do not have to make any statement, and no  
30 threats, force, or promises have been used in order  
31 to induce me to make any statement.

32  
33 "My husband is [redacted] We  
34 reside at [redacted] Street in Hattiesburg, Missis-  
35 sippi. [redacted]

36  
37 "I wish to state I have heard numerous  
38 comments made about a Negro named Parker having been  
39 abducted from the jail at Poplarville, Mississippi.  
40 I first heard of this abduction on the day after it  
41 happened or about that time. I don't remember how  
42 or from whom I heard it, but I do not have a radio  
43 & it is possible a neighbor or possibly my husband  
44 told me. I recall my husband mentioned to me one  
45 or two days before it happened that he was afraid some-  
46 thing bad was going to happen & as best I recall he  
47 made the statement just before [redacted]  
48 [redacted] had visited him at his [redacted]

49  
50 "I wish to state my husband was [redacted] with  
51 me on the night it happened, and was with me every  
52 night for at least five days before it happened. I  
53 heard him make the remark on the day after it happened  
54 or two days after it happened that he was glad he was  
55 [redacted]

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12 not involved. I do not know why my husband was afraid  
13 something had was going to happen, and I did not ques-  
14 tion him why he said it.

15  
16 "I fully realize any false information I  
17 furnish to the F. B. I. is a violation of title 18,  
18 Section 1001, U. S. Code.

19  
20 "I have read the above statement. It is  
21 true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

22  
23 "/s/ [REDACTED]

24  
25 "/s/ [REDACTED], Special Agent, F.B.I., B'ham,  
26 Ala., 5/5/59. b7c  
b7D

27  
28 "/s/ [REDACTED], Special Agent, F.B.I., Lit-  
29 tie Rock, Ark., 5/5/59"

30  
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32  
33 [REDACTED] was questioned regarding the clothing b7c  
34 worn by [REDACTED] during the last visit with her husband which b7D  
35 she recalled to have been on the day before or perhaps two days  
36 before the abduction of PARKER and she stated she recalled that  
37 on that date or on a previous visit to their home he had worn  
38 a cap with a bill similar to a type worn by truck drivers and  
39 on this cap was a badge with the inscription "Trucking Service"  
40 or something similar. She could not elaborate further in this  
41 regard.

42  
43 "Poplarville, Mississippi  
44 "May 5, 1959

45  
46 "I, Floren Lee, Jr., make the fol-  
47 lowing: voluntary statement [REDACTED] b7c  
48 and [REDACTED] who has [REDACTED]  
49 to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of In-  
50 vestigation. No threats or promises have been made  
51 to induce me to make this statement. I have been ad-  
52 vised that I do not have to make any statement and any  
53 statement I do make can be used against me in a court  
54 of law. I have also been advised of my right to an [REDACTED]

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12 attorney. I have also been advised it is a viola-  
13 tion of Federal Law to wilfully make a false state-  
14 ment to a Federal officer.

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16 "I am 32 years of age, having been born  
17 March 29, 1927 at Poplarville, Mississippi. I re-  
18 side on Highway 26, Route 3 Lumberton, Mississippi.

19  
20 "I wish to state that on Friday, April 24,  
21 1959 I drove my two door Chevrolet, 1955 year to Hat-  
22 tiesburg, Mississippi about 9 or 10 A.M. I picked up  
23 [redacted] at his house on [redacted] b7c  
24 [redacted] at about noon. We stopped  
25 at the Site Service Station to get a 'Coke' drink but  
26 didn't get one. I asked the fellow at the station if  
27 he knew anyone that needed a truck driver. He said  
28 he didn't know of anyone but to stop at the truck stop  
29 alongside the station. I did not say anything to anyone  
30 about the negro in jail in Poplarville or anything about  
31 there going to be any fun in Poplarville that night,  
32 either at the Site Station or to anyone else.

33  
34 "We went to the truck stop called Two Acre  
35 and had a cup of coffee. I asked a fellow at the truck  
36 stop if he knew of anyone who needed a truck driver.  
37 He said he didn't but to go around to the back to the  
38 broker's office and they might know somebody who needed  
39 a driver. We didn't go around there because I figured  
40 there would be a crowd there and I never did like to  
41 get around a crowd. I do not recall if we then went  
42 to Tullie's house or if we went to a cement company to  
43 inquire about a job. The brother of the man who did  
44 the hiring was there. He said his brother had gone to  
45 the pen and we would have to see him if we wanted a  
46 job. We didn't wait for the boss because we didn't  
47 know when he was going to come back. We stopped at a  
48 little cafe on the left hand side of the county in Hat-  
49 tiesburg. I had a hot dog and [redacted] had a cup of coffee  
50 or a coke. There were two police officers from Hat-  
51 tiesburg in the cafe. We then stopped at a [redacted] trailer  
52 to see a man who was the foreman of a [redacted] was b7c  
53 working at. I believe [redacted] was driving a dump truck.  
54 I don't know the name of the company [redacted] worked for.

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13 That man was not home. Some lady was there. [redacted] b7c  
14 told me the lady said the man went fishing.

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16 "We then went back to [redacted] house. This  
17 was about 2:15 or 2:30 P.M. I left there about 2:30  
18 or 3:00 and started for home.

19  
20 "I do not know W. L. Mooney and I do not  
21 know James Harrell Walters. I know nothing about the  
22 Kump Equipment Co., Hattiesburg and do not know where  
23 it is located in Hattiesburg.

24  
25 "When I was up in Hattiesburg on April 2, 1959  
26 I wore a truck driver's cap, [redacted] in a school  
27 with a trucker's emblem with the words 'Hattiesburg  
28 vice.' There were four or five safety glasses on the  
29 cap, a pair of [redacted] and a General  
30 Driver and Holston [redacted] [redacted] I wore a  
31 Gray Knicker's [redacted] green shirt and pants. [redacted]

32  
33 "I have used this statement consisting of this  
34 page and one other page and it is true and correct to  
35 the best of my knowledge.

36  
37 "/s/ J. F. LEE, JR.

38 "Witnesses:

39 "/s/ [redacted] Special Agent, F.B.I., New  
40 Orleans, La. 5/2/59

41 "/s/ [redacted] Special Agent, F.B.I. 5-3-59" b7c

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43  
44 The following is information furnished by LEE in  
45 addition to that set forth in the signed statement:

46 LEE stated he spoke to [redacted] LEE before [redacted] b7c  
47 got home about noon. [redacted] wife had told LEE [redacted] had gone  
48 to a job. LEE estimated that when he stopped at the [redacted] Service Station it was approximately 2:30 P.M. He stated he  
49 did not tell anyone he had just quit his job. LEE stated that  
50 while he was driving back to his home from Hattiesburg a [redacted]

in a Plymouth automobile was riding in a wobbling manner. The Mississippi Highway Patrol stopped this individual. LEE stated he stopped at the Capitol Truck Lines in Purvis, Mississippi, and left his name and address with the dispatcher in the event of a job opening as a truck driver. LEE stated he talked to a driver named [REDACTED] a driver for Capitol. He estimated he got back to Poplarville between 4:00 and 4:15 PM. He stopped at the Texaco Service Station located approximately a quarter mile north of the intersection of highways 26 and 11 and changed a tire there. [REDACTED] helped him change the tire. He left there close to 5:00 PM.

Near his home he noticed his father standing alongside the highway with the hood of his automobile up. LEE stopped to inquire what the trouble was and was told by his father there was something wrong with the gear. He brought his father to town and returned to where the car was parked and got there at approximately 6:00 PM. LEE stated he had his supper and then went over to see a neighbor, [REDACTED], to return a turkey call. He returned to his house at approximately 7:30 or 7:45 PM. He went to bed about 8:00 PM and did not leave the house the rest of the night. He arose about 6:00 AM. His brother, BOEBY, came to the house early and told him his father wanted him to fix the car.

LEE stated he does not know the name of the rape victim and in his opinion the case should have been tried in court. LEE stated he had bought his car from the McArthur Agency in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. LEE stated he has a shotgun but does not have a revolver.

[REDACTED]

On May 5, 1959, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] observed the automobile [REDACTED] at LEE's home and noted that it is a Chevrolet 1955 model Chevrolet sedan, white over grey in color.

On May 5, 1959, Mrs. JAMES BEGAN LEE, Jr. (ROEBIE), Route 3, Lumberton, Mississippi, advised that on April 24, 1959, her husband went to Hattiesburg for a job.

He came home about 7:00 PM and stayed at home the remainder of the night. No one came to visit them. She stated he went to bed early and she stayed up and watched the championship fights on television that night.

On May 5, 1959, [redacted] in a signed statement to SA's [redacted] and [redacted] which is set forth on Page [redacted] identified [redacted] as the individual other than the driver who approached him on April 24, 1959.

On May 6, 1959, [redacted] furnished the following signed statement to SA's [redacted] and [redacted]

"Hattiesburg, Miss.  
"May 6, 1959

"I, [redacted], make 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 get me to make this statement and I have been told that any statement made by me can be used against me in a court of law. I have also been advised that any false statement given by me to Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] in this matter may be used as a basis for prosecution against me.

"I have viewed a man at the American Legion Hall in Poplarville, Mississippi at about 10:45 P.M. on May 5, 1959. I wish to state that he is the man who was driving a 1957 light colored Chevrolet automobile on April 24, 1959, who was accompanied by another white man who I have identified and whose name I have now learned is [redacted]. I saw this man at Hattiesburg, Miss. April 24, 1959, shortly before eleven AM, and he was present when [redacted] asked me if I wanted to go to Poplarville, Miss. and 'get that "Nigger" out of jail.' I have been advised by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] that this man's name is [redacted]

"I have read this statement and it is true.

"/s/ [REDACTED]

"Witness: [REDACTED] Special Agent, F. B. I.  
New Orleans, La.

" [REDACTED] Special Agent, F. B. I.  
B'ham, Ala. 5/6/59"

On May 5, 1959, [REDACTED] on observ-  
ing [REDACTED] in the old post office building in Hatties-  
burg, Mississippi, identified [REDACTED] as the man other than the  
driver who followed him to the [REDACTED] on April  
24, 1959, to see [REDACTED]

On May 4, 1959, Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Mississippi, who is employed at the Site Service  
Station, [REDACTED] advised that two men  
drove up to the Site Service Station on April 24, 1959, in  
a 1956 Chevrolet, grey over white. He stated that the driver  
of this automobile bought a pack of cigarettes and engaged in  
conversation with him, asking him what he thought about the  
Negro in Poplarville Jail. He stated he asked, "What Negro?"  
since he did not know at the time that PARKER had been returned  
to the jail in Poplarville, whereupon the man explained to him  
that he referred to the Negro who was charged with rape of the  
white woman. [REDACTED] stated that in talking further about this  
case, the unknown man asked him if he could keep a secret and  
then the man told him they were going to have some fun at the  
Poplarville Jail that night (April 24, 1959) and that they  
had been assured that the keys to the jail would not be hard  
to find. He stated that the man remarked that the Negro had  
been brought to Poplarville for trial, but he was not going  
to trial.

[REDACTED] stated that the man who accompanied the  
driver of the 1956 Chevrolet referred to above was present

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13 during all of the conversation regarding the Negro in the jail  
14 at Poplarville, although he had very little to say.

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16 [redacted] stated that the two men drove away in  
17 the Chevrolet in a northerly direction, turning in behind  
18 Two-Acre Truck Stop in the area where Southern Shippers, Inc.  
19 is located, and he understood from their conversation with  
20 them that they would probably inquire at Southern Shippers,  
21 Inc. regarding possible employment. He stated that the driver  
22 of the Chevrolet had remarked that he had been previously  
23 employed at Poplarville as a truck driver, but he had quit  
24 his job and was looking for employment.

25  
26 [redacted] advised that he recalled specifically  
27 that the driver of this automobile was wearing a grey top,  
28 black-bibbed cap of the type usually worn by truck drivers,  
29 and that it had a badge with the inscription "Trucking Ser-  
30 vice" or similar inscription. He stated there was possibly  
31 other writing on the badge which he could not recall.

32  
33 [redacted] advised that although he felt fairly  
34 certain that the car referred to above was a 1956 grey over  
35 white Chevrolet, he realized that it might be a 1955 Chev-  
36 relet, since there was so little difference in the two models.  
37 He stated further that he was not sure whether the car was  
38 white over grey, or grey over white.

39  
40 [redacted] Southern Shippers,  
41 Inc., Highway 11 North, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, advised SA's [redacted]  
42 [redacted] of this company, advised SA's [redacted]  
43 [redacted] on May 4, 1959, that they had been unable to recall  
44 [redacted] making inquiry for employment around the period April  
45 24, 1959. [redacted] do not employ drivers, but [redacted] said that  
46 it is not uncommon for passing truck drivers to open the of-  
47 fice door and inquire as to any need for drivers they may  
48 have. [redacted] said that he seldom answered such and usually  
49 hollered "NO" to anyone making such inquiries.

50  
51 [redacted] on May 5, 1959, was given an  
52 opportunity to see [redacted] at [redacted] Mississippi,  
53 Mississippi, and he stated he observed him to be the same man whom  
54 he saw at [redacted] on April 24, 1959, and [redacted]

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1  
2 that this person was the one other than the driver of the  
3 Chevrolet.  
4

5 On May 5, 1959, [redacted] was given an op-  
6 portunity to see JAMES FLOREN, III, Sr. and at this time he  
7 furnished the following signed statement to SA's [redacted] and  
8 [redacted]  
9

10  
11 "May 5, 1959  
12 "Hattiesburg, Miss.

13 "I, [redacted] make the following  
14 voluntary signed statement to Special Agents [redacted]  
15 and [redacted] who have identified  
16 themselves to me as Special Agents of the F.B.I.  
17 I know that this statement is in connection with  
18 an official investigation of the FBI, and that it  
19 might at some future date be used in court. This  
20 statement is true.  
21

22  
23 "On Friday morning, the day that the Negro  
24 was abducted from the jail at Poplarville, Miss., that  
25 night, there were two men who drove up [redacted]  
26 Highway 14 North, Hattiesburg, Miss.,  
27 where I am employed, in a car that I recall as white  
28 over gray, or possibly gray over white; this car was  
29 a 1950 Chevrolet, as best I recall, although it might  
30 have been a 1955 model. I did not know these two men.  
31 The driver of this car bought a pack of cigarettes,  
32 and he asked me what I thought about the Negro in  
33 jail at Poplarville, Miss., charged with rape of the  
34 white woman. During the discussion he asked me if  
35 I were going down to Poplarville that night to see  
36 [redacted] I asked him what kind of [redacted] he was talking  
37 about, and he said the Negro was going to be taken  
38 out of the jail that night.  
39

40  
41 "I observed a number of men tonight in a  
42 room at Poplarville, and I have positively identified  
43 one of the men as the driver of the car mentioned to  
44 above and the man who remarked to [redacted] the Negro  
45 was going to be taken out of the jail on the night of [redacted]  
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April 24, 1959. This man whom I identified was [redacted] according to the name furnished to me by [redacted] FBI, at the time, that is immediately after my identification of him.

"I have Read the above Statement of this and one other Page. I Put my initials By all corrections. I Put my name at the bottom of the first page. This Statement is true to the Best of my Knowledge.

"/s/ [redacted]

"Witnesses:

"/s/ [redacted] Sp. Agent F.B.I., New Orleans, La. 5-5-59.

"/s/ [redacted] Special Agent F.B.I., New Orleans La. 5/5/59."

On May 9, 1959, [redacted] Mississippi, advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that the FBI "had the right man" and wanted to know why they did not close in on them and solve the case. He was asked who it was the FBI had and he said [redacted] and his son [redacted]. He was asked what made him think the FBI had these two men, and he stated "I just knew that the FBI is interested in these men."

On May 17, 1959, [redacted] an inmate in the Mississippi State Penitentiary, Parchman, Mississippi, who was formerly an inmate at the Pearl River County Jail, was shown a group of pictures by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. This group of photographs included one of [redacted] [redacted] placed a 3 x 5 card over the lower part of [redacted] face and stated his eyes and hair looked exactly like the man who had stood in the courtroom doorway during the abduction of PARKER. He stated he could not make a positive identification because he could not see enough of the man's face. However, he reiterated that the eyes and hair of [redacted] looked

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13 exactly like the eyes and hair seen above the mask of the  
14 man who had stood in the courtroom doorway.  
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12 J. NAME GEORGE W. RESTER, JR.  
13 also known as:  
14 "JUNIOR RESTER"  
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16 RESIDENCE Route 3  
17 Lumberton, Mississippi  
18  
19 OCCUPATION Farmer; Mechanic;  
20 Truck Driver  
21  
22 AGE 28  
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25  
26 [redacted] a prisoner in the [redacted]  
27 (white) of the Pearl River County Jail, advised SA's [redacted] b7c  
28 and [redacted] that after PARKER was removed b7D  
29 from the Pearl River County Jail, he got a glimpse of a red and  
30 white car traveling in a westerly direction on Pearl Street  
31 across the intersection of Julia Street. He advised that this  
32 car was accelerating rapidly and he believed it to be a 1937  
33 Dodge. After the red and white car passed a 1958 two-toned  
34 green Ford Fairlane with gold stripe on the sides, which had  
35 been parked on Julia Street in front of the lawyer's office,  
36 started off in a northerly direction. He heard a metallic  
37 bang as the Ford proceeded over dips in the intersection, in-  
38 dicating that the bumper of the Ford may have struck the pave-  
39 ment at the dips. He further advised that he is of the opinion  
40 that a county or city emblem or tag was attached to the front  
41 bumper of the Ford in the place used for licenses, but that he  
42 did not observe what county or city this tag represented.

43 [redacted] a prisoner in the [redacted] b7c  
44 of the Pearl River County Jail, advised SA's [redacted] b7D  
45 [redacted] on April 23, 1959, that after  
46 the abduction of [redacted] he noted three individuals believed  
47 wearing khaki clothes leaving the area of the jail toward  
48 a 1938 Ford Fairlane, dark blue top, light blue bottom. It  
49 was parked on Julia Street directly in front of Morse & Morse  
50 Lawyers' Office. He advised that as these individuals passed  
51 the Ford, he noted a red and white or possibly orange and white  
52 automobile traveling in a westerly direction on Pearl Street  
53 across the intersection. He stated he believes the model of  
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this car would be between 1955 and 1958, but he could not recognize the make. He stated that after the red and white car passed through the intersection, the Ford started off in a northerly direction on Julia Street crossing the intersection of Pearl.

CHARLIE JAMES MONDY, a prisoner in the upper tier (Negro) was interviewed on April 28, 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. He advised that after PARKER was removed from the jail, he noted two automobiles leave the area of the intersection at the southwest corner of the courthouse. He stated that a red and white 1957 Oldsmobile "88" proceeded west on Pearl Street through the intersection of Julia. He advised that he noted a 1958 Ford two-tone blue, dark top and bottom with light blue sides, parked in front of the law office on Julia. He advised that after the Oldsmobile passed the intersection, the Ford started off in a northerly direction on Julia Street.

On May 6, 1959, SA's [redacted] and [redacted] asked HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, Sr., Night Watchman of Poplarville, if he knew of anyone owning a 1958 grey or green Ford Sedan with a gold trim strip on the rear door, and he stated the only such car in Poplarville to his knowledge belonged to JUNIOR RESTER. CARVER stated that he did not believe that JUNIOR RESTER was involved in the abduction of JACK CHARLES PARKER, but that this was the only automobile to his knowledge fitting the description of a 1958 Ford with a gold trim strip.

On May 9, 1959, GEORGE M. [redacted], Route 3, [redacted], Mississippi, advised SA's [redacted] and [redacted] that he owns and drives a 1958 Ford Fairlane two-tone, two-tone green with [redacted] to dark green bottom and lighter green top, bearing 1958 Mississippi License Number 723-261.

He advised that on the night of April 24, 1959, he and his wife and 18-month-old child left their home about 8:00 PM to visit Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] who live in the Progress Community about five miles south of [redacted]. He explained that shortly after arriving at the [redacted] a little after 8:00 PM, April 24, 1959, they heard [redacted]

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siren in Poplarville and GEORGE and his family and [REDACTED] drove into Poplarville where they stopped at the Gulf Coast Station and inquired of the operator, believed by GEORGE RESTER, JR. to have been [REDACTED] as to where the fire was located. He said that upon learning that the fire was near the White Sands Community, west of Poplarville, the two families did not drive out there and, instead, went to Mary's Drive-In located between Main Street and Highway 11, west of Poplarville City Hall, where they had refreshments and danced. GEORGE RESTER, JR. said that it was about 9:00 PM when they arrived at Mary's Drive-In and that they stayed there approximately 30 to 45 minutes at the most.

b7c

He said that upon leaving Mary's Drive-In, they drove directly to [REDACTED] home, arriving about 10:00 PM and after visiting for approximately 20 minutes with the [REDACTED], GEORGE, his wife and child returned to their home at approximately 10:30 PM and immediately went to bed.

b7c

GEORGE RESTER, JR. said he got up about 3:15 AM April 25, 1959, and drove his father's milk route and after milk pick-ups, arrived in Poplarville at the milk receiving station at about 8:00 AM, April 25, 1959, where he first learned that M. C. PARKER had been taken from the Pearl River County Jail. He said this was all the information he had and knew nothing of pertinence concerning PARKER's abduction.

Mrs. GEORGE W. RESTER, JR. was interviewed immediately after her husband by SA's [REDACTED] and furnished the following information:

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Mrs. RESTER advised that at about 7:30 PM on April 24, 1959, she and her husband drove to [REDACTED] home south of Poplarville, where they visited for 15 to 30 minutes and upon hearing the siren in Poplarville, they, along with their small child, [REDACTED] drove to Poplarville, stopped at the Gulf Coast gasoline station and inquired about the location of the fire. Mrs. RESTER said that upon learning the location of the fire in the White Sands Community, they drove to Mary's Drive-In in Poplarville, arriving about 8:30 PM and after having refreshments there, drove back to [REDACTED] home.

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stated that after visiting a few minutes, she, her husband and small child drove directly home, arriving there sometime between 10:00 PM and 11:00 PM and went to bed immediately thereafter.

[REDACTED], Mississippi, has advised that when the meeting broke up on the road east of Poplarville on the night of April 24, 1959, he got into what he described as a 1955 or 1956 Chevrolet, which was occupied by three other men. He got into the back of the car, which he believed was black, and recognized the man in back with him as a [REDACTED] but did not know his full name. [REDACTED] described the driver of this car as a middle-aged man, 30-31, who is married to a girl from Mill Creek Community near McNeill, Mississippi. He was not able to describe the man in the front of this Chevrolet who sat beside the driver with the exception that he was a middle-aged man, between 30-35.

On May 15, 1959, [REDACTED] upon being shown a photograph of [REDACTED] said he could not be positive, but is quite certain that this individual was one of the men sitting in the front seat of the black Chevrolet and rode in this car from the meeting place to Poplarville, from the jail to Pearl River Bridge and back to Crossroads. [REDACTED] stated he last saw this person at the crossroad; that he remained in the Chevrolet when [REDACTED] got out to get into [REDACTED] Oldsmobile. He was not certain whether or not this is the person who talked about his wife being from the Mill Creek area, claiming that both individuals sitting in the front seat of the Chevrolet in his opinion looked somewhat alike. b7c b7d

On May 16, 1959, [REDACTED] was located at his place of residence, [REDACTED] Mississippi, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and willingly accompanied agents to observe pertinent witnesses and scenes.

He was taken to [REDACTED] Poplarville, Mississippi, and asked to observe individuals present. At the scene were [REDACTED], and an unknown apparent male customer with his wife and child. These individuals were in the yard at this scene, at which time [REDACTED] definitely identified [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] as one of the two individuals sitting in the front seat of the vehicle he was in the night of the abduction, which vehicle followed the Oldsmobile in which victim was transported. The observation distance was no more than sixty yards on a clear, sunny day at about 11 o'clock AM, May 16, 1959. [REDACTED] does not know [REDACTED] by name, has not associated with him in any respect in the past prior to April 24, 1959, and could furnish no information concerning his activities. On this occasion, [REDACTED] was wearing work clothes and no hat.

[REDACTED] was then driven to the residence of [REDACTED] who is the father of [REDACTED] Mississippi, where the personal vehicle of [REDACTED] was parked. This is a 1958 Ford Fairlane, Four-door sedan, two-tone green, 1959 Mississippi License 723-261. From close observation, [REDACTED] stated quite definitely that this was not the vehicle he had ridden in the night of April 24, 1959.

[REDACTED] was unable to further identify the vehicle he had ridden in that night, but stated that in his opinion there was no resemblance between this vehicle and the vehicle of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 15, 1959, at which time RESTER furnished the following quoted signed statement.

"Poplarville, Mississippi  
"May 15, 1959

"I, [REDACTED], make the following voluntary signed statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats, promises or rewards have been made to me to cause me to furnish this statement which I understand may be used against me in a court of law. I also understand and have been advised of my rights to have an attorney.

"I am 28 years of age, have lived in [REDACTED]

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13 vicinity of Poplarville, Miss. all my life except  
14 for the period from September 9, 1946, to May 22,  
15 1952, when I served in the U. S. Army. I was hon-  
16 orably discharged from the Army. I am married to  
17 Laura Nan Rester whose maiden name is Howard. She  
18 was born and raised in Poplarville. I own and drive  
19 a 1958 Fairlane Ford 500 Fordor, light green and dark  
20 green color which I have had in my possession for ap-  
21 proximately one year.

22  
23 "At about 7:30 p.m., to 8:00 p.m., Friday  
24 April 24, 1959, I, my wife and 17 months old son,  
25 George Michael, went from my house to [REDACTED]  
26 house located about four miles South of [REDACTED]  
27 ville, Miss., where we visited with [REDACTED]  
28 his wife, [REDACTED] and his wife live with his mother.  
29 [REDACTED] b7c

30  
31 "At about 8:30 p.m., we heard a dog barking  
32 and went outside at which time we heard the fire siren  
33 in Poplarville. I, my wife and little boy and Mr. &  
34 Mrs. [REDACTED] then drove immediately to Poplar-  
35 ville to inquire about the fire. We were in my car  
36 since [REDACTED] does not have a car. We stopped  
37 at the Gulf Coast Service Station, on Main Street,  
38 across from the City Hall. The attendant there, name  
39 unknown, said the fire was at the White Sand Community  
40 West of Poplarville. I bought gasoline at the station.  
41 We did not drive out to the fire and instead drove  
42 directly to Mary's Drive-Inn located a few blocks West  
43 of the stop light on the street leading out to Hwy. 11  
44 (South). We arrived at the Drive-Inn about 9:00 p.m.,  
45 and we stayed there approximately 30 minutes and there-  
46 after drove to [REDACTED] home where we visited about  
47 15 minutes. I saw my family then drove home, arriving  
48 about 10:30 p.m. We left the [REDACTED] at their home.  
49 b7c

50 "My wife, boy and myself then went directly  
51 to bed. I did not get up or go outside until about  
52 4:30 a.m., April 25, 1959, when I had to drive my fa-  
53 ther's milk route. Upon returning to my home the night  
54 of April 24, 1959, I parked my 1958 Ford in my yard, [REDACTED]  
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12 not lock the car but did take the ignition keys in  
13 the house. My Ford was located where I parked it  
14 when I left my house the morning of April 25, 1959,  
15 to go on the milk route. At no time while I was in  
16 my house the late evening of April 24, 1959, and  
17 early morning of April 25, 1959, did I hear my car  
18 being started or driven away.

19  
20 "I have no knowledge of who planned and was  
21 responsible for the taking of M. C. Parker, a negro,  
22 from the Pearl River County, Mississippi, Jail on the  
23 night of April 24, 1959, and had no part in it myself.

24  
25 "The foregoing consisting of this and the  
26 other pages has been read to me by Special Agent [redacted]  
27 [redacted] and is true and correct to the best of  
28 my knowledge. I have initialed the first three pages  
29 and any corrections on all pages of this statement.  
30 My signature appears below.

31  
32 "/s/ George W. Roster, Jr.

33  
34 "Witnesses:

35 [redacted] Special Agent, FBI, New Orleans, La.,  
36 5/15/59

37 [redacted] Special Agent, F.B.I., New Orleans,  
38 5/15/59"

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43 The [redacted] referred to above in the quo-  
44 ted [redacted] statements [redacted] been determined to be identical with  
45 [redacted] also [redacted] [redacted] b7c

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48 On May 15, 1959, GEORGE W. ROSTER, JR. autho-  
49 rized a search of his automobile.

50 This automobile was examined by SA [redacted]  
51 [redacted] and [redacted] b7c

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11 The automobile of GEORGE W. RESTER, JR., a  
12 1958 four-door, two-tone green Ford, 1959 Mississippi  
13 License 723-261, and specifically the underside thereof,  
14 was examined on May 15, 1959. This examination reflected  
15 no visible damage to the underside except that the gasoline  
16 tank was bent and scratched and the rear bumper was bent.

17  
18 Rough sketches were made by the above mentioned  
19 Agents in an effort to graphically portray the scratched and  
20 damaged area of the gas tank.

21  
22 Scrapings were taken from the scratched and  
23 bent area of the gas tank. An examination of the rear  
24 bumper of this automobile reflects that it has been bent  
25 in an upward direction. Diagrams were made of the bent  
26 area of the center portion of the bumper.

27  
28 Subsequent to examination of the above auto-  
29 mobile, samples of street construction material were obtained  
30 from the intersections of Pearl and Julia Streets and Pearl  
31 and Willie Streets, Poplarville, Mississippi.

32  
33 On May 20, 1959, these samples together with  
34 the scrapings taken from the gas tank were submitted to the  
35 FBI Laboratory for examination.

36  
37 On May 28, 1959, the FBI Laboratory reported  
38 that the scrapings from the gas tank consisted essentially  
39 of sand and silt with flakes of a tar undercoating material.  
40 The samples of street construction material were not similar  
41 to the scrapings from the gas tank.

42  
43 On May 15, 1959, SA [REDACTED] b7c  
44 photographs of the 1958 Ford automobile owned by GEORGE W.  
45 RESTER, JR.

46  
47 On May 12, 1959, [REDACTED] b7c  
48 Poplarville, Mississippi, advised that [REDACTED] b7D  
49 and [REDACTED] that Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE W. RESTER, JR.  
50 visited the [REDACTED] on the night of April 24, 1959, and that  
51 the RESTERS returned to their home between 10:15 and 10:30  
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[REDACTED] upon interview on the same date confirmed the above information.

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On May 20, 1959, the Latent Fingerprint Section of the Identification Division of the FBI advised that the fingerprints of GEORGE W. REISER were not identical with the unidentified latent fingerprints from the automobile belonging to CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REISER.

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K. NAME [REDACTED]

also known as: [REDACTED]

RESIDENCE [REDACTED]

Mississippi

OCCUPATION [REDACTED]

AGE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Mississippi, has advised that when the meeting broke up on the road east of Poplarville on the night of April 24, 1959, he got into what he described as a 1955 or 1956 Chevrolet, which was occupied by three other men. He got into the back of the car, which he believed was black, and recognized the man in back with him as a LEE, but did not know his full name. [REDACTED] described the driver of this car as a middle-aged man, 30-31, who is married to a girl from Mill Creek Community near McNeill, Mississippi. He was not able to describe the man in the front of this Chevrolet who sat beside the driver with the exception that he was a middle-aged man, between 30-35.

On May 15, 1959, [REDACTED] was shown photographs of various individuals possibly involved in this case. After looking at the photograph of [REDACTED], he stated he could not identify this person; that the general makeup of the man seemed to resemble the man in the back seat, but the facial features did not seem to be identical. This is the person he previously mentioned as possibly being a member of the [REDACTED] family.

On May 12, 1959, [REDACTED], Mississippi, advised that he recalled the night of April 24, 1959, when Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE RESTER, JR., and their young child visited the [REDACTED]. He said that while in his house, located about four or five miles southeast of Poplarville, they heard the fire siren and at about 8:00 p.m., drove into Poplarville. He said they stopped at the Gulf Coast Station and after purchasing gasoline, went

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13 directly to Mary's Drive-In, but did not go to the location  
14 of the fire. [redacted] advised that they returned to his home  
15 about 10:00 PM. He said Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE RESTER, JR., and  
16 their small child stayed approximately fifteen to thirty minu-  
17 tes and drove away with the intention of returning to their  
18 home. [redacted] stated that he and his family went to bed im-  
19 mediately after the RESTERS departed and he said he heard no-  
20 thing about the abduction of M. C. PARKER until the next morn-  
21 ing.

22  
23 He said that the information furnished was true  
24 and correct; however, he said he would not sign a statement  
25 of any kind. He denied any knowledge of the abduction of PAR-  
26 KER and claimed he had heard nothing of pertinence regarding  
27 the matter.

28  
29 The above information was furnished to SA's  
30 [redacted] and [redacted]

31  
32 On May 12, 1959, [redacted]  
33 Poplarville, Mississippi, advised SA [redacted]  
34 [redacted] that she is married to [redacted]  
35 and that her maiden name was [redacted]  
36 [redacted] of age and is the daughter of [redacted]

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38  
39 [redacted] advised that on the evening of  
40 April 24, 1959, she was at her residence with her husband  
41 and GEORGE RESTER, JR., and his wife, LAURA ANN RESTER. At  
42 about 7:30 PM, they heard the fire whistle and went to Pop-  
43 larville to the Gulf Coast Service Station to determine the  
44 location of the fire. They did not go to the fire and drove  
45 to [redacted] Drive-In Restaurant where they parked and had re-  
46 freshments.

47  
48 Mrs. [redacted] stated that they left Mary's Drive-  
49 In about 9:00 PM and returned to her home where the RESTERS  
50 stayed until 10:15 or 10:30 PM. [redacted] advised she had  
51 no knowledge about the abduction of PARKER and advised she did  
52 not hear about it until she went to work at Gray's Variety  
53 Store, Poplarville, the next day.

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55 [redacted] advised she formerly lived at  
56 [redacted]

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3 Mill Creek, which is near McNeill, Mississippi. She advised  
4 the only other girl she knew in Poplarville who came from Mill  
5 Creek is married to [REDACTED] and her name is [REDACTED]  
6 [REDACTED] nee [REDACTED] and is a cousin of [REDACTED]

7  
8 On May 13, 1959, [REDACTED]  
9 [REDACTED] Poplarville, Mississippi, advised that [REDACTED]  
0 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that she and [REDACTED] wife are  
1 the only girls she knows of who are from the Mill Creek Com-  
2 munity who are living in the Poplarville area.

3  
4 On May 15, 1959, GEORGE W. RESTER, JR., in a  
5 signed statement to SA [REDACTED] and SA [REDACTED]  
6 which is set forth on Page 298, advised that he, his wife,  
7 and boy visited the [REDACTED] on the night of April 24, 1959,  
8 and left for home about 10:30 PM. The same information about  
9 their whereabouts that night was furnished by Mrs. GEORGE W.  
0 RESTER, JR., on May 9, 1959, to SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

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3 [REDACTED] was recontacted on May 15, 1959,  
4 by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and on May 17, 1959,  
5 by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and on both occasions  
6 refused to be re-interviewed or answer any questions concern-  
7 ing the abduction of MACK CHARLES PARKER.  
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L. NAME [REDACTED]

RESIDENCE [REDACTED]

OCCUPATION [REDACTED]

AGE [REDACTED]

On May 9, 1959, [REDACTED] interviewed by SA's [REDACTED] and denied that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had contacted him on April 24, 1959. He stated that he was at home that night with his wife and son and denied that anyone had mentioned anything to him about a lynching. He subsequently admitted that several days before PARKER's abduction, [REDACTED] stopped at his home at approximately 9:00 PM and told him that some people were going to get "that nigger out of jail." [REDACTED] refused to give a signed statement.

[REDACTED] at first denied that [REDACTED] had been at his home within a period of several weeks prior to the abduction and later stated he would not say whether [REDACTED] had been there. He specifically denied that anyone had asked him to become involved in the abduction of PARKER.

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[redacted] was contacted on May 11, 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. He declined to furnish a signed statement but stated that on the night of April 24, 1958, after eating dinner, he went to the home of [redacted] Mississippi, where he met [redacted]. He remained at the home of [redacted] with [redacted] about 8:00 PM working on a corn planter. He stated that he returned to his home alone and stayed there the rest of the night with his mother, father, and wife. He stated he had no visitors during the evening and retired about 9:15 PM. He stated he first heard of the PARKER abduction on a radio broadcast on the morning of April 25, 1958.

[redacted], who stated he is known as [redacted] denied that he had seen [redacted] on April 24, 1958. He added that he had not seen him for the past six or eight weeks. He also stated positively that he did not go to the home of [redacted] and ask him or anyone else to join a group to abduct PARKER. [redacted] said he has no idea as to the identity of the participants in the abduction but he felt it was entirely wrong to lynch PARKER as he thought he should have been given a fair trial.

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On May 11, 1959, [redacted] wife [redacted] of [redacted] father [redacted] and [redacted] SA's [redacted] and [redacted] as to the activities of [redacted] on the night of April 24, 1958. Their accounts concurred with the account given by [redacted].

Upon re-interview on May 13, 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] stated that after completing [redacted] approximately 8:00 PM on April [redacted] 1958, [redacted] left [redacted] area in [redacted] [redacted].

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[redacted] suggested that they get a drink  
of whiskey somewhere and they went to the [redacted]  
[redacted] stated that [redacted]  
[redacted] and their son, [redacted] was [redacted]  
He said they were unable to obtain any whiskey [redacted]  
did not want to go out to the still since there were too  
many Revenue men around.

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[redacted] said that they stayed about ten  
minutes at the [redacted] place and left after some mention  
was made that a heavyweight championship fight was on  
television. [redacted] said that after leaving [redacted] home,  
he drove to [redacted] place about six miles [redacted]  
[redacted] farm. He then went to his own home about three  
fourths of a mile away and upon arriving home found that  
the fights were already on television.

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He again stated that he had no visitors  
and received no telephone calls subsequent to his return  
home on the night of April 24, 1939, and did not leave his  
house again until approximately 4:00 AM on April 25, 1939,  
when he started his day's work.

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12 M. NAME [REDACTED]

13 RESIDENCE [REDACTED]

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17 OCCUPATION [REDACTED]

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19 AGE [REDACTED]

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21  
22 On May 9, 1959, SA's [REDACTED] and  
23 [REDACTED] conducted a search of a gravel road and  
24 property adjacent to the road in the vicinity of the resi-  
25 dence of L. C. DAVIS. This location is approximately  
26 five and one-half miles from Poplarville, Mississippi,  
27 and is the place where a meeting was reportedly held on  
28 the night of April 24, 1959, at which plans were made for  
29 the abduction of M. C. PARKER.  
30

31 In connection with this [REDACTED] a  
32 paper was located containing the name [REDACTED] with  
33 a line drawn beneath this name and an [REDACTED] or mark below this line. b7c  
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34  
35 The FBI Laboratory examination reflected  
36 that the writing below the line on this piece of paper  
37 may be the initials "S. N."

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39  
40 interviewed [REDACTED] on May 11, 1959. [REDACTED]  
41 he could furnish no information whatsoever concerning the  
42 abduction of M. C. PARKER. He stated that he was in the  
43 logging timber on April 24, 1959, until approximately  
44 4:00 PM when he returned home and at about 5:30 AM went to  
45 Poplarville, Mississippi, to pick up his wife, [REDACTED]  
46 [REDACTED]. He then returned to [REDACTED]  
47 L. C. DAVIS where they picked up their [REDACTED] child  
48 who stayed with the DAVIS family during [REDACTED].  
49  
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51 He arrived home at approximately 5:30 PM  
52 and stated he did not leave the house until approxi-  
53 mately 5:30 AM on April 25, 1959, when [REDACTED] his wife [REDACTED].  
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3 to Gulfport, Mississippi, to complete arrangements for the  
4 adoption of their little girl.  
5

6 LEE denied any knowledge of a meeting prior  
7 to PARKER's abduction or any knowledge of person or persons  
8 who participated in the abduction. He refused to furnish a  
9 signed statement.  
10

11 On May 12, 1959, he was recontacted for  
12 further interview at which time he stated he did not have  
13 time for an interview but agreed to meet the Agents on  
14 May 13, 1959, at 2:00 PM.  
15

16 On May 13, 1959, [REDACTED] was recontacted at  
17 2:00 PM. He said he did not want to discuss the matter any  
18 further, adding that he had initially furnished all the  
19 information in his possession. When asked for his reason,  
20 [REDACTED] stated that his attorney had told him he did not have  
21 to discuss the matter with Agents.  
22

23 On May 11, 1959, [REDACTED] COLUSIUS REMER  
24 was shown a photograph of [REDACTED]. He stated that he  
25 did not recognize the photograph as being anyone he had  
26 ever seen before.  
27

28 On May 12, 1959, [REDACTED] upon  
29 viewing a photograph of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] him.  
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13 let out his hound to exercise or run awhile. He said the  
14 dog trailed and ran some animal for a period of several  
15 hours, and he was of the opinion it was between 11:15 and  
16 11:45 p.m. that he called his dog in and went home.

17  
18 [redacted] stated he learned of the abduction  
19 of PARKER the following day after he had gone to his work.  
20 He said he was working with [redacted] Leaberton, Missis-  
21 sippi, and that they were hauling gravel for Tatum Lumber  
22 Company in and around Hattiesburg. He said they were haul-  
23 ing gravel and putting it on fire breaks around Tatum's  
24 timber.

25  
26 [redacted] said that he was not prejudiced against  
27 Negroes, and felt that a number of Negroes that he knew  
28 would speak well of him in that connection and he knew [redacted]  
29 [redacted] employed at Savannah Service Sta-  
30 tion, and [redacted] Poplarville, and a Negro attendant  
31 at J. Hall Service Station.

32  
33 He said he had been associated with [redacted] of the  
34 week prior to the abduction of PARKER with [redacted]  
35 in Poplarville, and [redacted] in purchasing [redacted]  
36 the cattle above referred to. He also knows [redacted]  
37 who he believes is working now with [redacted]  
38 the week he had visited a girl he [redacted]  
39 who lives near Decaise Crossing. [redacted] said he has never  
40 married, although he has lived with a woman for about 20  
41 years. He said he had not lived with this woman for over  
42 seven years.

43  
44 [redacted] drives a 1959 International pickup  
45 [redacted] model 100, and has license [redacted]  
46 for [redacted] This truck is of the  
47 type that the metal pickup body is held in place by placing  
48 stake-type rack in the prepared slots. [redacted] said he had  
49 stake sides for the truck and these sides had been on the  
50 truck on April 24, 1959, inasmuch as he had been hauling  
51 cattle. He also owns a 1958 Model 170 1958 [redacted] truck  
52 he uses in hauling work. [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]  
53 two-door, light green in color, [redacted] [redacted] Missis-  
54 sippi license [redacted]

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previously furnished was correct, that he had no information concerning a meeting and that he did not appear at a meeting of any kind at any place with any other person on the night of April 24, 1959. He said that anyone commenting to the contrary was wrong and that he could add nothing to the information he had previously furnished as to his knowledge concerning the abduction of the Negro.

On May 8, 1959, CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON, [redacted] McNeill, Mississippi, advised Special Agent [redacted] and [redacted] that upon leaving the meeting place one road east of Poplarville, and in the process of turning BARKER's car around, he believes he recognized a light colored pickup truck belonging to [redacted]. He stated he is well acquainted with [redacted] he has hunted with him in the past and [redacted] lives in the Gum Pond area. In this regard, he stated that he recalled hearing [redacted] mention that he was going home. He is not sure whether [redacted] was talking to him personally or just making a general statement.

Regarding [redacted] truck, [redacted] describes it as a late model pickup truck which had a stake body attached, and he is positive [redacted] had one or two dogs in his truck at that time. He stated that in turning around and heading back towards the highway, he noted that [redacted] did not turn around but continued on up the road [redacted] from the highway.

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On May 12, 1959, [redacted] advised Special Agent [redacted] that he last met [redacted] during the [redacted] deer season. He stated that he has known [redacted] for many years and further recalled that [redacted] has a white stallion horse on his place. [redacted] stated that [redacted] could not specifically recall [redacted] pickup truck parked at the meeting place and [redacted] did hear a dog bark, he would be unable to state [redacted] that the sound came from any particular truck in the area. He stated that he only observed the truck [redacted] as it passed his car while turning around, [redacted] it was a light colored truck with a stake truck [redacted].



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12 [redacted] that [redacted]  
13 [redacted] on May 9, 1959, at which time [redacted] said he had  
14 been questioned by the FBI regarding the case, but stated  
15 he told them he knew nothing of it.

16  
17 On May 18, 1959, HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, JR.,  
18 also known as PETE CARVER, Night Marshal, [redacted]  
19 Mississippi, was contacted by Special Agent [redacted]  
20 for more specific information on the [redacted] information  
21 truck previously mentioned by him, along with the name  
22 [redacted] CARVER advised that he was not going to  
23 furnish further information in this case.  
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0. NAME [REDACTED]  
RESIDENCE [REDACTED] Mississippi  
OCCUPATION [REDACTED]  
AGE [REDACTED]

On May 13, 1959, [REDACTED],  
also known as [REDACTED] a prisoner in the  
Pearl River County Jail at the time of the abduction of  
PARKER, furnished to Special Agents [REDACTED]  
and [REDACTED] at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, a signed  
statement, which is set forth in full on page [REDACTED]. In this  
statement, she stated that sometime during the night of  
April 24-25, 1959, she was awakened by some loud noise in  
the Pearl River County Jail. She looked up and saw a man  
standing in the doorway next to her cell. This man was  
known to her as [REDACTED] (LAST NAME UNKNOWN), but believed to  
be [REDACTED] or someone similar. She stated this man runs  
a [REDACTED] Mississippi, near the Pearl River  
County Court House. He was wearing blue clothing with a  
blue and white handkerchief across his face below his eyes,  
and white cotton work gloves. She has seen this man on  
at least one dozen occasions with [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and she is positive in identifying  
this man.

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When [REDACTED] was interviewed by  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May  
19, 1959 at [REDACTED] Mississippi, where she was temporarily  
residing with Mrs. [REDACTED] she stated that  
she could positively identify [REDACTED] as one of the  
men who came into the cell block for [REDACTED] and  
having seen or being able to identify any of the participants  
in the abduction. She stated she has seen [REDACTED] in Poplar  
ville, and in the cell block with [REDACTED] on a number  
of occasions and was positive in her identification.

She stated that [REDACTED] did not have on glasses  
in the jail, to the best of her recollection, nor could

she recall having seen a weapon in [redacted] possession. She recalled he was wearing blue dungaree pants, a dark shirt with long sleeves and white cotton work gloves. She thought he was bareheaded, but could not recall noticing that one of his fingers was in a splint.

On May 14, 1959, [redacted] who was a trusty in the Pearl River County Jail at the time of the abduction of M. C. PARKER, furnished a signed statement to Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] which statement is set forth on page [redacted]. In this statement, he advised that at the time of the abduction, the fifth man to come to the door leading to the courtroom was recognized by him as [redacted], who [redacted] in Poplarville. He said he is personally acquainted with [redacted] that he has been in his [redacted] on a number of occasions and [redacted] frequently accompanied [redacted] into the [redacted] [redacted] He knew the [redacted] had broken his [redacted] which [redacted] was [redacted] when he saw [redacted] in the door of the cell block where he stopped, he was wearing gray work pants and the same colored cotton shirt with the sleeves buttoned. He was wearing white cotton gloves with a blue elastic wristband and he saw that the [redacted] in the gloves was [redacted] which indicated to him that it was [redacted]. He said that [redacted] had a blue bandana across the lower part of his face from the bridge of his nose down to the mouth. He was bare-headed and he recognized him from his general appearance, from his size and his partially bald head.

While the other persons entered the cell block to [redacted] PARKER, [redacted] was standing in the doorway leading to the [redacted] holding in his left hand a .38 nickel-plated snub-nose revolver. After PARKER had been removed from his cell in the cell block [redacted] moved back into the courtroom and PARKER was dragged out by the other men.

On May 16, 1959, [redacted], who was then [redacted] in the Hancock County Jail, [redacted] advised Special Agents [redacted] that he was certain [redacted] had a [redacted], which was in a splint, by virtue of the fact that [redacted] broke his [redacted] in a fight with [redacted] at Poplarville, on the night of April 23, 1959.

explained that as a trusty at Poplarville, he was allowed to go downtown and stated that on the night of April 23, 1959, he and [redacted] were drinking together and wound up in a fight, during the course of which [redacted] hurt his [redacted]. [redacted] stated he was not positive that [redacted]'s broken [redacted] was his [redacted]. He stated, however, the broken [redacted] was definitely on [redacted] and that he was of the opinion that it was an [redacted].

On May 16, 1959, [redacted] Poplarville, Mississippi, advised Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] that he owns a .38 caliber Smith and Wesson revolver, nickel-plated with bone handles. He said this gun is ordinarily kept in the possession of [redacted], who is [redacted] in an [redacted] in Poplarville. This gun is either maintained in a Mercury automobile owned jointly by him and [redacted] or at [redacted] house. He said he, [redacted] has not had this gun in his possession for at least six months.

On May 15, 1959, [redacted] Mississippi, was interviewed by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] JR., at which time he furnished the following signed statement:

"Poplarville, Mississippi  
"May 15, 1959

"I, [redacted] make the following voluntary statement to [redacted], and [redacted] who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been told that I do not have to make any statement and that any statement I make can be used against me in a court of law. I have also been told that I have a right to talk to a lawyer before making any statement.

"I was born [redacted] at [redacted] Louisiana. I live about [redacted] miles out of [redacted] Mississippi. My mailing address is [redacted] Mississippi. I attended school through the fourth grade.

"On the 24th day of April, 1959, I worked at [redacted] at Poplarville all day to the best of my memory. I may have left the shop at times during the day on business connected with my shop. I may also have [redacted]

"I quit work at the shop about 5:30 PM or 6:00 PM and went home where I remained with my wife and grandmother for the rest of the evening and night.

"I did not know anything about Parker being taken out of the jail at Poplarville until the next morning.

"I do not know anything about who may have taken Parker out of the jail.

"No one has ever talked to me about taking Parker out of the jail.

"I did not know that Parker was in jail at Poplarville. I thought he was still in jail at Jackson, Mississippi.

"I do not remember the exact time that I went home but believe it was about 5:30 PM or 6:00 PM because that is the time I usually close the shop.

"I am sure that I did not leave home that night, the night of April 24, 1959.

"This statement has been read to me by [redacted] at my request. It is true to the best of my memory.

"WITNESSES:

[redacted] Special Agent, FBI, Houston, Texas  
[redacted] Special Agent FBI, New Orleans, La."



whom have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the FBI. No threats, promises or other inducements have been used to get me to make this statement.

"On April 23, 1959 I was at the Pearl River Co. Hospital, in my capacity as a practicing medical doctor in Poplarville, Miss. A man that I know as [redacted] came to me in the hallway. I have treated [redacted] before and know him personally.

[redacted] complained of pain in his right [redacted] and a preliminary examination reflected he probably had a fracture of the carpal joint of the ring [redacted] on the right [redacted]. I had him go to my office for treatment and I put a splint on his [redacted] that same night, April 23rd. I told him to return later for X-rays but he has never been back for X-ray or further treatment. I have seen him on the street once or twice and reminded him that he should come in for X-ray but he has not been in as yet.

"I have read the above statements and they are true

"/s/ [redacted] M.D.

"Witness:

"/s/ [redacted] Special Agent, F.B.I., Memphis, Tenn.  
"/s/ [redacted] Special Agent, F.B.I., Memphis, Tenn.  
5-15-59"

On May 16, 1959, [redacted] advised Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] that he had purchased a .38 caliber snub-nose, chrome plated Colt revolver at the Western Auto Store, Poplarville, some time ago. He said that he had sold the gun to [redacted] of Poplarville some two or three months ago. He said that [redacted] gave him a postdated check for the gun. He said that the gun had a brownish bone handle.

[redacted] said that he presently owns a .38 caliber Smith and Wesson, chrome plated, five-inch barrel revolver. He said that he usually keeps this gun in his automobile, but had been leaving it at home since the abduction of PARKER at Poplarville.

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11 On May 15, 1959, [redacted] wife of  
12 [redacted] advised  
13 Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted]  
14 that, as she recalled, [redacted] came home between 7:00 and  
15 7:30 PM on April 24, 1959. She said that he sometimes  
16 works late, but she recalled that he came home on regular  
17 schedule that evening. She said that he stayed home all  
18 night, had no company, and went to work the next day. She  
19 said that she had no knowledge of the PARKER abduction.  
20

21 On May 15, 1959, [redacted]  
22 [redacted] advised Special Agent [redacted]  
23 [redacted] that she is the grand-  
24 mother of [redacted] and lives with him and his family.  
25 She said that on the night of April 24, 1959, [redacted]  
26 came home about 7:00 to 7:30 PM, his usual time for coming  
27 home. She said that he stayed in the house that night, had  
28 no company and went to bed as usual. She said that she had  
29 never heard any comment concerning anyone abducting BOCK  
30 PARKER from the Pearl River County Jail at Poplarville.  
31

32 On May 16, 1959, [redacted]  
33 Poplarville, advised Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted]  
34 [redacted] that he had purchased a .38 Smith and Wesson  
35 [redacted] chrome plated Smith and Wesson revolver from  
36 [redacted] four or five weeks ago. He said that he had  
37 paid for this gun by check to [redacted]. He advised that he  
38 had registered the gun in the State of Mississippi, and  
39 showed a Firearms Registration dated April 21, 1959, for a  
40 Smith and Wesson .38 Special, Serial Number 320291, pur-  
41 chased from [redacted] of Poplarville. He said that the  
42 gun has been in his possession since buying it.  
43

44 On May 20, 1959, the Latent Fingerprint Sec-  
45 tion of the Identification Division of the FBI advised that  
46 the fingerprints of [redacted] were not identical to  
47 the unidentified latent fingerprints found on the auto-  
48 mobile of CHRISTOPHER COLLETTUS KEHR.  
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12 P. NAME [REDACTED]

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15 RESIDENCE [REDACTED]

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18 OCCUPATION [REDACTED]

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21 AGE [REDACTED]

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24 On April 25, 1959, Deputy Sheriff GEORGE  
25 MOODY, Pearl River County, Poplarville advised Special  
26 Agents [REDACTED] that he did  
27 not treat one [REDACTED], also known as [REDACTED]  
28 [REDACTED]. He described [REDACTED] as an individual who  
29 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
30 [REDACTED] He stated [REDACTED] hangs around the  
31 courthouse and gives the impression of trying to be helpful  
32 to the Sheriff's Office, although he, MOODY, feels that  
33 [REDACTED] is constantly searching for an opportunity to dis-  
34 [REDACTED] his father. He advised he has no leads for consider-  
35 ing [REDACTED] a suspect in this matter.

36  
37 On April 25, 1959, [REDACTED]  
38 Poplarville advised Special Agent [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
39 [REDACTED] that he was among those  
40 picked for a special venire to hear the case of  
41 PARKER, but that he was not called. He stated that he and  
42 all the people in Pearl River County were concerned over  
43 PARKER's abduction, explaining it was common knowledge that  
44 the State had a good case, that PARKER would undoubtedly  
45 be returned and that there was no need for violence.  
46 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had no information concerning  
47 possible suspects and stated he [REDACTED] did not believe  
48 they were from Pearl River County.

49  
50 On April 25, 1959, Sheriff [REDACTED]  
51 Poplarville described to Special Agents [REDACTED]  
52 and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
53 a detective [REDACTED] who consistently [REDACTED] the  
54 Sheriff's Office and courtroom in an attempt to get jury  
55 duty. He advised that [REDACTED] was picked as one of the  
56 [REDACTED]  
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special venire to hear the PARKER case, but that he had not been called. He stated [redacted] has given him no reason to believe that he may have any information or was involved in this matter.

On May 2, 1959, Deputy Sheriff GEORGE MOODY advised Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] that after the abduction, he had checked [redacted] house while searching from 1:00 to 3:00 AM. He approximated that he had checked [redacted] house at 2:45 AM and observed [redacted] pickup truck parked near the house at that time. He said that as far as he knows [redacted] has only one vehicle, which is this pickup. MOODY was unable to specifically explain why he considered [redacted] suspect, other than that [redacted] is the type of individual who is constantly seeking information as to the activities of the Sheriff's Office and is an individual who spends a great deal of time hanging around the Sheriff's Office. MOODY stated he is just generally suspicious of him and has thought [redacted] in the past has possibly "pumped" him for information which he might have later passed on to bootleggers. He stated [redacted] has contacted him almost daily since the incident of PARKER's removal, seeking information in a general way as to the progress of the investigation. He said [redacted] had also told him since that time that he had been out with a woman, not identified, the night that PARKER had been taken from the jail.

On May 5, 1959, Mrs. [redacted] Ponlarville, advised Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] that she was married to [redacted] January 29, 1946 at Purvis, Mississippi.

Mrs. [redacted] stated that since a date on or about April 17, 1959, she has noticed a difference in the attitude of her husband, [redacted] and that they have had some domestic difficulties over the past several weeks. She stated that beginning April 17, 1959, her husband had been staying out very late at night and that she had been unsuccessful in getting an explanation from him as to the reasons for his absences from home late at night. Mrs. [redacted] stated Monday through Wednesday, April 20 - 22, 1959.

[redacted] came to the family home at approximately 9:00 PM, but that on Thursday, April 23, 1959, he did not come in until 2:30 AM (April 24, 1959). She stated that on Friday night, April 24, 1959, she had retired at approximately 9:30 PM and that at the time her husband, [redacted] was not at home. She said she recalled hearing him come to the house and got up and let him in, but she did not turn on a light and, therefore, did not know what time he came in. She said she believed it was very late as she could hear roosters crowing on a nearby farm. She stated she asked her husband, [redacted] what time it was and that he told her he did not know what time it was; that his watch was broken. Mrs. [redacted] stated that was the first she ever knew that [redacted] watch was broken and she did not believe that his watch actually was broken.

Mrs. [redacted] said that since April 17, 1959, her husband has been very mysterious and she described him as one acting like "a worm in hot ashes."

Mrs. [redacted] advised that her husband has told her nothing which would indicate he may have knowledge of who was responsible for the abduction of PARKER or that he, himself, was involved. She stated there was the possibility he might have information because he has a wide acquaintanceship among persons in Pearl River County. She also advised that the attitude of her husband toward her in the past few weeks might be the result of his association with other women. She explained that she has received information that her husband was friendly with a widow named [redacted] and that he also had a girl friend believed to be employed at a truck stop cafe on Highway 11 at Lumberton, Mississippi. She stated that on May 1, 1959, her husband, [redacted], after a series of arguments with her about his staying out late at night, moved out of the family residence and that [redacted] currently resides with his parents on [redacted] Poplarville.

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Mrs. [redacted] stated as to female associates of her husband she believed that [redacted] and her brother, [redacted] of Poplarville, might be able to furnish information as to the identity of [redacted] friends in Lumberton, Mississippi.



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[redacted] advised that on Saturday, April 25, 1959, [redacted] had left her nine-year-old child with her overnight and that it was her intention that [redacted] together with [redacted] on [redacted] went to Bay St. Louis, where they spent the night in a motel, returning Sunday afternoon, April 26, 1959.

She also said that when [redacted] was making arrangements with her to take care of the child on April 25, 1959, she commented that she had been out with [redacted] the previous evening, that is, April 24, 1959.

On May 6, 1959, [redacted] and [redacted] resides in an apartment in the [redacted] across the street from [redacted] advised Special Agents [redacted] that she had been seeing [redacted] every night for several weeks and she [redacted] him on Friday night, April 24, 1959. [redacted] picked her up at her apartment between 7:00 and 8:00 p.m., Friday, April 24, 1959, and she spent the entire evening with him until he returned her to her home sometime between 11:00 and 12:00 a.m. She said she was not positive of the hour when [redacted] left her at her apartment in Lumberton, but she believed it was at least between 11:00 and 12:00 midnight.

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[redacted] stated she had in fact [redacted] together with [redacted] to Bay St. Louis on April 25, 1959, where she and [redacted] stayed in cabins 5 and 6 at the Flamingo Motel. She stated during this trip she did not receive any information or indication that [redacted] could have been involved in the abduction of [redacted]. She said she has no recollection regarding the published information concerning [redacted]. She stated on Friday night, April 24, 1959, [redacted] left her in Lumberton, he did not appear to [redacted] to have a subsequent appointment pending; [redacted] April 24, 1959, she has had dates with [redacted] on a regular basis, and that during the [redacted] of [redacted] no indication to her that [redacted] was involved in the abduction of PARKER.

On May 6, 1959, [redacted] who resides in an apartment to [redacted] of the residence of [redacted] across the street [redacted] advised Special Agents [redacted] that although she first [redacted] on April 24, 1959, she was the recipient [redacted] and that [redacted] had had a date with [redacted] the previous evening, April 24, 1959. She said she did not know what time [redacted] left [redacted] at the apartment Friday night, April 24, 1959, but knew that it was late. She would not even make a guess on the time, stating she was asleep and did not hear him depart or hear [redacted] retire.

[redacted] advised Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] that she had read in local papers that one Percy W. PARKER when found gave indication of having been penetrated by high-speed projectiles. She stated that on April 24, 1959, her husband, [redacted] whom she had never seen, came in the house [redacted] and he gave her no explanation as to why he was going to borrow the rifle but that he left and subsequently returned with a 30-30 caliber rifle and then inquired of her as to where the bullets for the 30-30 rifle and for his .38 pistol were to be found. She stated [redacted] formerly had a rifle he had borrowed from an uncle which had been returned and that a case for that rifle was still around the house and that [redacted] then loaded both the .30 caliber rifle and the .38 pistol and took them to his pickup truck. She said he usually maintains the .30 caliber revolver in the glove compartment of his truck. She stated the following morning, Saturday, April 25, 1959, she went to the bank to use it to visit a relative and to borrow a vacuum cleaner, and that at the time she used the bank on [redacted] morning, she noticed the end of the rifle case sticking out of the front seat of the truck and presumed that the rifle was in the case.

[redacted] moved [redacted] of the case and [redacted] [redacted] commented to her that he was not going to be answering any more questions; that he was going to invoke the Fifth Amendment. She was unable to say whether [redacted]

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intended he would invoke this amendment when questioned by representatives of the FBI, or when questioned by herself.

On May 9, 1959, [REDACTED] was interviewed by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] at which time he furnished the following information concerning his whereabouts on April 24 and 25, 1959:

[REDACTED] stated that on Friday, April 24, 1959, at approximately 2:00 PM he started serving process papers for a special venire for the trial of M. C. PARKER, which was scheduled to open in Circuit Court at Poplarville, Mississippi, at 8:45 AM, April 27, 1959. He said that he served process papers to the following individuals in order on the afternoon of April 24, 1959:

[REDACTED] residing near Stewart School, Poplarville;

[REDACTED] Poplarville;

[REDACTED] Poplar-

ville;

[REDACTED] near Poplarville;

[REDACTED] Poplarville.

[REDACTED] then advised that by the time the above individuals had been served process it was near dinner-time and that he then served a paper on [REDACTED], a member of the Pearl River County Board of Supervisors, who resides in the Gum Pond area near Poplarville.

[REDACTED] stated the Negro attorneys of M. C. PARKER had insisted that process be served on all members of the Pearl River County Board of Supervisors.

Another on whom [REDACTED] advised he also served process was [REDACTED] Thomas School and Gum Pond area.

[REDACTED] stated he then went to Lumberton, Mississippi, where he picked up his girl friend, [REDACTED] and that she thereafter accompanied him on his continuing job of serving process papers; that he went to

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12 Q. NAME [REDACTED]

13 RESIDENCE [REDACTED]

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17 OCCUPATION [REDACTED] b7c

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20 AGE [REDACTED]

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23 On April 27, 1959, WILLIAM H. STEWART, Pearl  
24 River County Attorney, advised SA's [REDACTED] and  
25 [REDACTED] that he recalled seeing [REDACTED] and  
26 [REDACTED] at the Pearl River County Courthouse on April  
27 14, 1959. He said on that occasion they asked him if PARKER b7c  
28 was in jail and as he was talking to them, he showed them a  
29 photograph of PARKER he had taken with a Polaroid camera.  
30 He said that they looked at this photograph but did not make  
31 him suspicious of their motives as they showed no more  
32 interest than "a thousand others."

33  
34 STEWART said that he knew [REDACTED]  
35 and knows that he does not have an automobile but drives an  
36 old truck. He added that [REDACTED] resides in the Sun Pond  
37 Community in the northeast part of Pearl River County. b7c

38  
39 On May 2, 1959, GEORGE VANCOUVER MOODY, Deputy  
40 Sheriff, Pearl River County, advised SA's [REDACTED]  
41 and [REDACTED] that on approximately April 15,  
42 1959, he had gone to the county jail with County Attorney  
43 WILLIAM H. STEWART to fingerprint and photograph M. C.  
44 PARKER. He said that after he and STEWART finished photo-  
45 graphing and fingerprinting PARKER, they went downstairs  
46 and he noticed an individual who walked up to STEWART and  
47 said "I want to see you."  
48

49  
50 MOODY said that STEWART stopped to talk to  
51 this man while he, MOODY, went into the Sheriff's Office.  
52 He stated he did not know at the time who this individual  
53 was but a few minutes later STEWART entered the Sheriff's  
54 Office and told him that this person was either [REDACTED] b7c  
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13 or in some manner related to the [REDACTED] STEWART told  
14 him that this individual asked "if the nigger was down  
15 here" and STEWART told him that he was.

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17 On May 6, 1959, HAROLD PIERRE GARDNER,  
18 Poplarville Night Marshal, advised SA's [REDACTED]  
19 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he had learned from  
20 individuals that [REDACTED] boy and [REDACTED] both  
21 of the Gum Pond area, were possibly members of the mob  
22 which took PARKER from the jail on April 24, 1959.

23  
24 [REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's  
25 [REDACTED] on May 7, 1959.  
26 [REDACTED] stated that he did not know the rape victim or  
27 any of her relatives and while he knew of the rape case,  
28 he had no particular feeling concerning it and although  
29 he did not know H. C. PARKER, he felt that he should have  
30 received a fair trial.

31  
32 [REDACTED] stated that he was in the court-  
33 house at Poplarville to file a Homestead Exemption on  
34 March 26 or 27, 1959, and has not been in the courthouse  
35 since that date. He denied emphatically that he was in  
36 the courthouse during the period immediately preceding  
37 April 24, 1959, and stated positively that he did not  
38 ask Deputy Sheriff BOODY or anyone else if "that nigger  
39 was upstairs" nor did he ask to see a photograph of PARKER.

40  
41 [REDACTED] advised that on April 24, 1959, he  
42 worked at his sawmill all day with a hired hand named  
43 [REDACTED]. He and [REDACTED] left the sawmill about 6:00 PM  
44 and went to [REDACTED] home for supper. They returned to  
45 the sawmill about 7:00 or 7:30 PM and worked there repair-  
46 ing machinery until approximately 11:00 PM. Because of  
47 the lateness of the hour [REDACTED] said they  
48 spent the night at his [REDACTED] home.

49  
50 [REDACTED] stated that he knew nothing of  
51 the abduction of PARKER until the following morning when  
52 he heard a news broadcast on the radio. He emphatically  
53 denied that he had participated in the abduction or in  
54 the planning of the abduction or that he had any knowledge  
55 of the identity of the participants.

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On May 7, 1959, [redacted] was contacted by SA [redacted] and [redacted]. His account of activities on April 24, 1959, coincided with the account given by [redacted] set forth above.

[redacted] advised SA [redacted] on May 7, 1959, that her husband was at his sawmill doing repair work until approximately 10:30 or 11:00 PM on April 24, 1959, when he and [redacted] returned to the [redacted] home. She stated that [redacted] and [redacted] remained at home the rest of the night and returned to the sawmill on the following morning.

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On May 11, 1959, [redacted] upon viewing a photograph of [redacted] advised that he was unknown to him, and that to the best of his knowledge, [redacted] was not at the meeting held on the evening of April 24, 1959.

[redacted] was not interviewed on May 11, 1959, by SA [redacted] and [redacted]. He furnished the same account of his activities as furnished on a previous interview and denied any knowledge of or connection with the abduction of PERALL.

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R. NAME

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RESIDENCE

[REDACTED], Mississippi

OCCUPATION

[REDACTED]

AGE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] of the name victim  
JUNE VIRGINIA TOLLOS WALKERS, [REDACTED] Highway [REDACTED], Miss-  
issippi, furnished the following signed statement to SA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 4, 1959:

"Hattiesburg, Miss.  
"May 4, 1959

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"I, [REDACTED] hereby make the  
following free and voluntary statement to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Jr., who have shown  
me that they are Special Agents of the Federal Bureau  
of Investigation. I have been told that I do not  
have to make a statement and that any statement I do  
make can be used against me in a court of law. I  
have been told that I am entitled to have an attorney  
advise me. I have been advised that it is a viola-  
tion of Federal law to furnish a false statement,  
under Title 18, Section 1001.

"I, [REDACTED]  
at [REDACTED] La., state that [REDACTED]  
while at work at the [REDACTED], [REDACTED]  
Miss., shortly before 11:00 AM, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] M. [REDACTED] is employed by [REDACTED] Co.  
[REDACTED], Miss., and I have [REDACTED]  
employed by [REDACTED] Co. [REDACTED] did not buy

10  
11  
12 anything from me. He asked me to step out side.  
13 He took me to a party car. The car was parked in  
14 the back of the [redacted] Co. between the [redacted] b7c  
15 building and the Ferrell building. There were two  
16 men in this automobile. I remember the automobile  
17 as a light blue or green 57 Chevrolet two door. I  
18 was not introduced by name to these men. I had never  
19 seen them before and have not seen them since that  
20 time. The first man, who was sitting on the right  
21 side of the car, did the talking. The first thing  
22 he said was, 'We have something to talk to you about.'  
23 I asked him, 'What is it.' He said, 'I was driving by  
24 to see if you wanted to get in on something.' I  
25 asked him what it was. He said, 'We are going down  
26 there and drag that nigger out of jail.' He did not  
27 mention M. C. Parker by name, but I know what he was  
28 talking about. I told this man that I would not go,  
29 and that I did not believe in violence. I also told  
30 him that, 'You guys can't get no damn nigger do with  
31 either [redacted] b7c  
32 [redacted]

33 He told me that he knew in his own mind that  
34 they had the right nigger. Then he said, 'We are  
35 going down there to get him, and we are passing by  
36 and wanted to see if you wanted to get in on it.'  
37 I told them that I did not want any part of it. He  
38 said, 'OK, we will see you later.' I turned and  
39 walked off, and as I left I heard [redacted] say something b7c  
40 to the effect that he would see him [redacted] that night.  
41 I went to lunch shortly after this contact, so I fix  
42 the time as being between 10:30 am and 1:00 AM. The day  
43 of this contact was the same day that M. C. Parker was  
44 taken from the jail. I did not accept any these man  
45 and have had no further contact with them.

46  
47 These men were seated in the automobile and  
48 I talked to them through the automobile window. The  
49 first man, the one that did the talking, stepped out  
50 of the car for just a moment. The following is the  
51 best description that I can furnish of this man:  
52 Hair-Slightly curly, gray at the temples and crown;  
53 he was about 40 years of age, or slightly younger.  
54 He was wearing a dark green shirt and pants, uniform  
55 type. The shirt and pants were the same color, the  
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13 man was a big man. I would estimate he was about 5'10"  
14 or 5'11" and weighed about 180 pounds. I would describe  
15 the man as a rough looking person. He appeared to have  
16 worked out of doors. This is the man who did all of  
17 the talking.

18  
19 "The second man who was driving the car and  
20 who did not do any talking was a little smaller. He  
21 was wearing a cap something like a bus drivers cap,  
22 but not exactly the same. The cap reminded me of an  
23 Army type cap, but it was not an Army hat or cap. He  
24 was wearing a dark green uniform with shirt and pants  
25 to match. The cap was the same color as the uniform.

26  
27 "I have read this statement of two and one  
28 half pages. This statement is true and correct to the  
29 best of my memory.

30  
31 [REDACTED]

32  
33  
34 [REDACTED] Special Agent May 4th, 1959  
35 FBI, New Orleans La.

36  
37 [REDACTED], Special Agent  
38 FBI, Memphis, Tenn.

39  
40  
41 On May 5, 1959 [REDACTED] Street,  
42 Mississippi, furnished the following statement to  
43 SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

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46 "Hattiesburg, Miss.  
47 "May 5, 1959

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49 "I, [REDACTED] hereby make the  
50 following free and voluntary statement to [REDACTED]  
51 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], who have  
52 viewed me that they are special agents of the Federal  
53 Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice.  
54 I have been advised that I do not have to make a  
55 statement and that any statement I do make can be

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12 used against me in a court of law. I have been  
13 advised that I am entitled to have an attorney advise  
14 me. I have also been advised that it is a violation  
15 of Federal law to tell an untruth in connection with  
16 this official investigation, and violates Title 18,  
17 Section 1001.

18  
19 "I was born [redacted] Miss.  
20 I am married and have two children. I reside at [redacted]  
21 [redacted] Miss., and am employed by the [redacted]  
22 [redacted], Miss.

23  
24 "On a Friday, the exact date of which I can-  
25 not recall, but I know that it is the day before the  
26 day I heard that the Negro was taken from the jail at  
27 Poplarville, Miss., I contacted [redacted] at the  
28 [redacted]. I recall the time of day as about  
29 1:00 P.M., as I was on my lunch hour, which is from  
30 Noon to 1:00 P.M. I had been home for lunch, and  
31 drove the company truck to my home. I stopped at  
32 Lee's Store, Petal, Miss. to buy some washing boxes.  
33 When I returned to the truck, and as I was getting  
34 into the truck, an automobile with two men in it drove  
35 up. They asked me if I knew where [redacted]  
36 lived, and I told them that I did not. Then they  
37 asked if I knew where [redacted] worked, and I said that  
38 he worked at the [redacted] Co. I told the two  
39 men that I was on my way home, and one of the  
40 men said that they would follow me. I drove off in  
41 the [redacted] truck and the two men followed me.  
42 I parked behind the [redacted] Co. and they parked  
43 near the [redacted] Co. [redacted] was not driving  
44 the automobile when he to ask [redacted] to come  
45 out. This man did all of the talking. I don't  
46 remember the driver doing any talking. I went into  
47 the store and told [redacted] that a couple of men wanted  
48 to see him and [redacted] and I walked out with them.  
49 We walked over to the two men who were seated in  
50 the car, and I introduced [redacted] to them. [redacted] stating,  
51 'This is [redacted] but I do not know their names.  
52 so I cannot introduce you to him.' I [redacted] now.  
53 whether or not they gave their names. [redacted] the  
54 if they did I did not hear them. [redacted] his  
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1 head inside the right front window and I stood by  
2 the back door on the right side. I could not hear  
3 all of the conversation. I did hear the man on the  
4 right side of the front seat say something to the  
5 effect that they were going to have a meeting 'tonight'  
6 east of Poplarville on the Wiggins Road, and that the  
7 meeting would be three or four miles east of Poplar-  
8 ville. I could not hear all of the conversation be-  
9 cause part of it was in too low a tone, and I left  
0 before they were finished talking. I told the men  
1 that I had to go back to work, and as I started to  
2 leave the man who did all the talking, the one on  
3 the right side of the car, said, 'If you want to  
4 attend the meeting, come down.' I said that I did  
5 not imagine I could come, but that if I could come  
6 I would be there about dark. At this point I walked  
7 away and [redacted] was still talking with the  
8 men. The next day when I heard the news on the radio  
9 that the Negro had been taken from the Poplarville  
0 jail, I assumed that this meeting between those two  
1 people and [redacted] was about the taking of the  
2 Negro from the jail.

3  
4 "I do not know the identity of either of the  
5 two men that were in the automobile. The driver of  
6 the automobile, I had never seen before in my life.  
7 I would guess the driver was about 35 years of age,  
8 medium build, and I cannot estimate his height because  
9 he was sitting down. He was wearing work clothes,  
0 although I do not remember the color. I believe the  
1 driver was wearing a cap of some type, but I do not  
2 recall the color. I seem to remember that this cap  
3 had some type of a badge or button on the front, such  
4 as is frequently worn by truck drivers. The second  
5 man in the car was about 40, medium build and of medium  
6 height. He was wearing work clothes, and I cannot  
7 describe them. I do not remember the man's name, and  
8 do not believe I have ever known it. I have seen him  
9 around Hattiesburg, but the only place I can remember  
0 seeing him was at the Methodist Hospital, Hattiesburg.  
1 He was a patient in a room near the room occupied by  
2 [redacted] after she was burned in 1936.  
3 [redacted] talked to this man in the hospital, and he told me  
4 that he had pneumonia and had been in the hospital  
5 ever since Christmas.

"I wish to state that I did not go to Poplarville, and I took no part in removing any prisoner from the Poplarville jail. From the radio, I have learned that this Negro is named J. C. Parker, or something like that. I did not go to Poplarville or near Poplarville to any meeting. To the best of my recollection, I was at home all that night after work. I went fishing at about 4:00 P.M. when I got off from work. I got home from fishing at about dark, possibly at about 6:30 P.M.

"I have read this statement 3 pages and is all true

"/s/ [REDACTED]

"Witness:

"/s/ [REDACTED] F.B.I. New Orleans La 5/5/59  
"/s/ [REDACTED] F.B.I., Memphis 5/5/59"

On May 5, 1959, Mr. [REDACTED] Hattiesburg, Mississippi, made available to SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] the record of patients in the hospital on December 20, 1958, beginning with Room 210 through 227. A review of these records reflects the only person diagnosed as having pneumonia was Mr. [REDACTED] who was located in Room 211. [REDACTED] was admitted to the hospital December 23, 1958, and dismissed January 21, 1959. It was noted that [REDACTED] was located in the room next door to [REDACTED] who was in Room 212, and who had been admitted to the hospital for severe burns.

The records reflect that [REDACTED] resided at [REDACTED] and was unemployed upon admission. The records failed to reflect any descriptive information concerning [REDACTED]

On May 5, 1959, [REDACTED] furnished the following signed statement to SA' [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

"Hattiesburg, Miss.  
"May 5, 1959

"I, [REDACTED] hereby make the following free and voluntary statement to [REDACTED] nedy and [REDACTED], who have advised me that they are Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice. I have been advised that I do not have to make a statement and that any statement I do make may be used against me in a court of law. I have been advised that I am entitled to have a lawyer advise me. I have also been advised of the provisions of Title 18, Section 1001 of the United States Code which provides that it is against the law to tell an untruth in connection with this investigation.

"I was born on [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Miss. I attended school off and on until the third grade. I married [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Miss., and we have two children. I presently reside with my wife and children at [REDACTED] Hattiesburg, Miss. I am employed by the [REDACTED] Co. as a [REDACTED] and have been working for this company regularly since April 28, 1959. I cannot read or write, although I can sign my name. Do to my inability to write, people frequently get my name wrong and I have had it spelled [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I understand my correct name to be [REDACTED].

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"I was actually employed by [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] two weeks ago this past Thursday which would have been April 16, 1959. I worked the following day April 17, a Friday, but only hauled two loads of dirt before I was laid off as the truck I was driving was not needed on the project. Throughout the following days until April 28, I reported at the job site each morning, but due to wet ground could not work.



living brothers; [redacted], Miss.;  
[redacted] eight miles northwest of Poplarville;  
[redacted]; and [redacted] of New  
Orleans. [redacted] of New Orleans resides on Gen-  
tilly Road, and his family resides with her people,  
[redacted]. My mother resides with [redacted] at Pop-  
larville. I have two sisters; [redacted], wife of  
[redacted] who resides eight miles from Poplarville  
on Highway 26, the road to [redacted], Miss.; and [redacted]  
[redacted] of Gulfport, Miss., wife of [redacted]

[redacted] is the son of [redacted]. I  
do not know the name of the mother of [redacted] but  
she is living and resides with her husband, [redacted]  
about ten miles east of Poplarville on Highway 26.  
The home of [redacted] is about one-half to one mile  
off Highway 26. He, that is [redacted] has the fol-  
lowing brothers; [redacted]  
and [redacted] he has one sister whose name I do  
not know. I do not know any member of the Lee family  
by the name of [redacted] or [redacted]

"On Friday, April 24, 1959, the day that M.  
C. Parker, the Negro, was taken from the Poplarville  
jail, I did not see any member of my family or my  
wife's family other than my wife and children. I did  
not ride any of them around in my car, nor did I ride  
in any one else's car that day. I did not ride in  
any of my relatives cars.

"This statement of this and two other type-  
written pages has been read to me by [redacted]  
[redacted] I have initialed the corrections. I do not read,  
although I can sign my name. This statement is true  
and correct, and I have again been advised of the pen-  
alty for making a false statement.

"/s/ [redacted]

"Witness: [redacted] P.B.I. New Orleans, La. 5/5/59  
[redacted], Special Agent, P.B.I.,  
Memphis, Tenn 5/5/59

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11 On May 5, 1959, [redacted] wife [redacted]  
12 furnished the following signed statement to SA's  
13 [redacted] and [redacted]  
14

15  
16 "Hattiesburg, Miss.  
17 "May 5, 1959

18 "I [redacted] make the following  
19 voluntary statement to [redacted] an [redacted]  
20 [redacted] whom I know to be Special Agents of the F.B.I.  
21 I have been told I do not have to make any statement,  
22 and no threats, force, or promises have been used in  
23 order to induce me to make any statement.  
24

25  
26 side at [redacted] street in [redacted] Mississippi  
27

28 "I wish to state I have heard numerous com-  
29 ments made about a Negro named Parker having been ab-  
30 ducted from the jail at Poplarville, Mississippi. I  
31 first heard of this abduction on the day after it hap-  
32 pened or about that time. I don't remember how or  
33 from whom I heard it, but I do not have a radio & it  
34 is possible a neighbor or possibly my husband told me.  
35 I recall my husband mentioned to me on one or two days  
36 before it happened that he was afraid something bad  
37 was going to happen & as best I recall he made the state-  
38 ment just after [redacted] had visited  
39 him at his home.  
40

41  
42 "I wish to state my husband was home with me  
43 on the night it happened, and was with me every night  
44 for at least five days before it happened. I heard  
45 [redacted] remark on the day after it happened or  
46 the day after it happened that he was glad he was not  
47 involved. I do not know why [redacted] husband was afraid  
48 something bad was going to happen, and I did not ques-  
49 tion him why he said it.  
50

51 I fully realize any false information I  
52 furnish to the F.B.I. is a violation of Title 18, Sec-  
53 tion 1001, U. S. Code.  
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"I have read the above statement. It is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"/s/ [REDACTED]

"/s/ [REDACTED], Special Agent, F.B.I., B'ham, Ala., 5/5/59.

"/s/ [REDACTED], Special Agent, F.B.I., Little Rock, Ark. 5/5/59"

[REDACTED] was questioned regarding the clothing worn by [REDACTED] during the last visit with her husband which she recalled to have been on the day before or perhaps two days before the abduction of PARKER, and she stated she recalled that on that date or on a previous visit to their home he had worn a cap with a bill similar to a type worn by truck drivers and on this cap was a badge with the inscription "Trucking Service" or something similar. She could not elaborate further in this regard.

On May 7, 1959, [REDACTED] furnished the following signed statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

"Hattiesburg, Mississippi  
"May 7, 1959

"[REDACTED], also known as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], made the following statement and voluntarily [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 to get me to make a statement and I have been told that any statement made by me can be used against me in a court of law. I have been advised that I have the right to talk with a lawyer. I have also been told that furnishing false information to these Agents in this matter can be the basis for prosecution against me.

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14 "I wish to state that I have only a limited  
15 education going only to the third grade and can read  
16 and write only my name.

17  
18 "I wish to state that the statement that I  
19 made to Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] is true  
20 and correct except for the following:

21  
22 "I now admit that on a Friday of the same  
23 night that the 'Nigger' was taken from the Poplarville,  
24 Miss. [redacted] came to my house at  
25 [redacted] sometime before  
26 10:30 A.M. because he was there on my porch when I got  
27 home from working at Brown Construction Company. I  
28 hauled two loads of dirt on that day and quit when they  
29 pulled my truck as they had too many.

30  
31 "About noon [redacted] came to my house in  
32 his truck which was a [redacted] truck. He asked  
33 me about my work, and said he was going fishing. I  
34 gave him a bucket of worms that my boy had dug out  
35 and picked up and he gave me a quarter to give him.  
36 He left saying that he had to go to work. I had no  
37 other conversation with him about anything. [redacted]  
38 and I left in his car a 1955 two toned white and grey  
39 Chevrolet and went to the Pittman Concrete Co. No. Main  
40 street Hattiesburg to see about getting a job driving  
41 a truck. I talked to a man in the office who said  
42 we would have to wait and see the boss but we did not  
43 wait. [redacted] and I returned to my house around 1:00  
44 P.M. or 1:30 P.M. We did not stop anywhere else  
45 except the Pittman Concrete Co. from the time and  
46 neither of us talked to anyone else. My wife left  
47 the house with [redacted] and [redacted]  
48 car to go after [redacted] the day [redacted] and  
49 I went to [redacted] when my wife returned [redacted] and  
50 already left my house saying he was going home.

51  
52 [redacted] did not mention anything to me about  
53 going to any meeting or going along with anyone to  
54 get the 'Nigger' out of jail.

55  
56 "I wish to state that I did not attend any  
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meeting concerning the getting of the 'Nigger' out of jail and I did not go to Poplarville and took no part in taking this 'Nigger' out and know no one who did.

"I did not tell Agents [redacted] and [redacted] about [redacted] being at my house because 'he lives down there and I thought he might have been in on it.' The reason I did not tell them about [redacted] coming to my house was because I just didn't think about him coming by.

"The above statement consisting of this and one other typewritten page has been read to me by Special Agent [redacted] and it is true and correct.

"Signed [redacted]"

"Witnessed:

[redacted] Special Agent FBI, New Orleans, La.

5/7/59

[redacted] Special Agent F.B.I. B'ham, Ala.

5/7/59"

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On May 7, 1959, [redacted]

Hattiesburg, Mississippi, furnished the following

additional information to SA's [redacted] and [redacted]

Mrs. [redacted] stated the information she had previously furnished to SA's [redacted] and [redacted] was true. She said that after her husband returned home from being interviewed by FBI Agents on May 5, 1959, she had questioned him concerning what he had told them, and that he asked her if she told the Agents who interviewed her about [redacted] coming to their house on the day that PARKER was taken from the Poplarville Jail. She said he knew she would tell them the truth and that her husband then stated he did not tell the Agents who interviewed him this and that she knew they could get him for lying.

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[redacted] recalled that after the incident at Poplarville, she remembered asking her husband, "Reckon where those men were from that did that?" and he said, "I think mostly from around Purvis."

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Mrs. [redacted] tried to recall just what happened on April 24, 1959, at her home, stating that she remembered that her husband had left early in the morning to look for work and that about 10:00 AM, [redacted] came to their home. She said [redacted] waited at the house for her husband and that she prepared lunch for her children, who would be home from school around noon. She said that about 11:00 or 12:00 her husband came home and she believed shortly after he arrived, a man whose name is unknown to her, but who was driving a truck and who she recalled had a wide smile, came to the house and talked with her husband and [redacted]. She said her husband gave him a bucket of worms which a little boy had dug for him, and that the man gave him a quarter. She stated she does not know this man, although she believes she has seen him before. She recalled that the man stayed only a short while and left. She stated [redacted] and [redacted] her husband, left in [redacted] car, which is a 1955 two-tone gray and white Chevrolet, stating that they were going over to a certain place to look for a job. She stated she believed they left around 12:30 PM and that about an hour later, she was preparing to leave with a neighbor, [redacted], to pick mayhalls, when they observed her husband [redacted] returning home in [redacted] car. She stated she was gone about 45 minutes and when he returned home, [redacted] was gone and there was no one there but her husband.

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She stated she did not believe that her husband would actually participate in the abduction of the Negro from the Poplarville Jail, but she believed he was trying to protect [redacted] since he believed [redacted] might be involved. She said she had asked him what he knew about this matter and who might be involved, and that he had told her to "shut up--I don't want to talk about it any more."

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On May 6, 1959, [redacted] Brown Construction Company, [redacted] Mississippi, advised SA's [redacted] that his records reflect that a [redacted] was employed by him on April 28, 1959. He stated he has been working

every day since, putting in a full ten-hour shift when possible. He stated he had no record of [redacted] having worked on April 16 or 17 or on April 24, 1959. Mr. [redacted] stated, however, that he began employment at this company himself on April 20, 1959. He said he had never seen [redacted] until a few days before the 28th of April, 1959, when he came out to where he was working and talked to him about a job. He said he stayed around for a good while that morning, stating that he had hauled two loads of dirt previously for the company, but that they had pulled his truck off, telling him they had too many trucks. [redacted] said he told [redacted] to report the next day and see if they had any work.

Mr. [redacted] stated he believed [redacted] arrived at the place where he was working at about 6:00 or 6:30 AM. He stated that during his talk with [redacted], he told him he wanted to go up to the pit and watch the drag line. He stated he told him he had his permission and that sometime later that morning, about 9:00 or 10:00 AM, he observed [redacted] at the pit where they were loading. Mr. [redacted] stated he had never seen [redacted] before and that he was of the opinion that the date he contacted him may have been April 24, 1959--he was not positive of this. He stated he knew nothing concerning him and could furnish no information concerning his friends or associates.

On May 5, 1959, [redacted] furnished the following signed statement to SA's [redacted] and [redacted]

"Hattiesburg, Miss.  
"May 5, 1959

"I [redacted] make 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 get me to make this statement and I have been told that any statement made by me can be used against me in a court of law. I have also been advised of my right to talk to an attorney. I have also been advised that any false statement given by me to Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in

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14 "this matter may be used as basis for prosecution  
15 against me.

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17 "I have viewed a man at the Federal Building,  
18 United States Court house Nattiesburg, Mississippi at  
19 approximately nine o'clock P.M. on May 5, 1959 and  
20 I state that he is the man other than the driver of a  
21 1957 light colored Chevrolet who approached me on  
22 April 24, 1959 and stated 'Do you want to get in on  
23 something.' I asked him what it was and he said,  
24 'We are going down there and get that Nigger out of  
25 jail.' I told him no that I didn't believe in that  
26 kind of crap. I told him that in the first place  
27 [redacted] had no [redacted] him as [redacted] that  
28 [redacted]. After we discussed this [redacted] no  
29 next after saying that 'We thought that you might  
30 like to get in on it.' I told him I wanted no part  
31 of it. The man that I have seen and identified was  
32 unknown to me by name until tonight however I have  
33 now been advised by Special Agent [redacted] and [redacted]  
34 that this man's name is [redacted]

35 "I have read the above statement and it is  
36 true.

37  
38 " /s/ [redacted]

39  
40 "Witness: [redacted] Special Agent S.A. [redacted]  
41 [redacted] [redacted] [redacted], Ala.  
42 [redacted] Special Agent F.B.I.  
43 [redacted] [redacted], Ala. 5/1/59."

44  
45 On May 8, 1959, [redacted] furnished  
46 a signed statement of [redacted] [redacted]  
47 [redacted] which states as set forth on page [redacted] which  
48 no identified [redacted] as the driver of a light colored  
49 Chevrolet automobile.

50  
51 On May 1, 1959, Mr. [redacted]  
52 Mississippi [redacted] at [redacted]  
53 [redacted] Nattiesburg, Mississippi, [redacted]  
54 [redacted]

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13 and [redacted] that two men came to the [redacted] Ser-  
vice Station on April 24, 1959, in a 1955 Chevrolet, gray over  
14 white. He stated that the driver of this automobile bought a  
15 pack of cigarettes and engaged in conversation with him, asking  
16 him what he thought about the Negro in Poplarville Jail. He  
17 stated he asked, "What Negro?" since he did not know at the  
18 time that PARKER had been returned to the jail in Poplarville,  
19 whereupon the man explained to him that he referred to the  
20 Negro who was charged with rape of the white woman. [redacted]  
21 stated that in talking further about this case, the unknown  
22 man asked him if he could keep a secret and then the man  
23 told him they were going to have some fun at the Poplarville  
24 Jail that night (April 24, 1959) and that they had been as-  
25 sured that the keys to the jail would not be hard to find.  
26 He stated that the man remarked that the Negro had been  
27 brought to Poplarville for trial, but he was not going to  
28 trial.  
29

30  
31 [redacted] stated that the man who accompanied the  
32 driver of the 1955 Chevrolet referred to above was present  
33 during all of the conversation regarding the Negro in the jail  
34 at Poplarville, although he had very little to say.  
35

36 [redacted] stated that the two men drove away in  
37 the Chevrolet in a northerly direction, turning in behind  
38 Two-Acre Truck Stop in the area where Southern Shippers, Inc.  
39 is located, and he understood from their conversation with  
40 them that they would probably inquire at Southern Shippers,  
41 Inc. regarding possible employment. He stated that the dri-  
42 ver of the Chevrolet had remarked that he had been previously  
43 employed at Poplarville as a truck driver, but he had quit his  
44 job and was looking for employment.  
45

46 [redacted] advised that he recalled specifically  
47 that the driver of this automobile was wearing a gray top,  
48 black-bibbed cap of the type usually worn by truck drivers,  
49 and that it had a badge with the inscription "Trucking Ser-  
50 vice" or similar inscription. He stated there was possibly  
51 other writing on the badge which he could not recall.  
52

53 [redacted] advised that although he is fairly  
54 certain that the car referred to above was a 1955 gray over  
55 white Chevrolet, he realized that it might be a 1956 Chevrolet  
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13 since there was so little difference in the two models. He  
14 stated further that he was not sure whether the car was white  
15 over gray or gray over white.

16  
17 On May 5, 1959, Mr. [REDACTED] was given an  
18 opportunity to observe [REDACTED] in the old post office  
19 building in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and he then furnished  
20 the following signed statement.

21  
22 "Hattiesburg, Miss.  
23 "May 5, 1959

24  
25 "I, [REDACTED], make the following  
26 voluntary signed statement to Special Agents [REDACTED]  
27 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], who have identified  
28 themselves to me as Special Agents of the F.B.I.  
29 I know that this statement is in connection with an  
30 official investigation of the F.B.I., and that it  
31 might be used in a Court at some future date.

32  
33 "On Friday morning of the day that the  
34 Negro was abducted from the jail at Poplarville,  
35 Miss., that night, there were two men who drove up  
36 to the [REDACTED] Service Station, [REDACTED], Hat-  
37 tiesburg, Miss., where I am employed. This car was  
38 either white over gray or gray over white, and it  
39 was a 1956 or 1955 Chevrolet. The driver of that  
40 car asked me if I were going to Poplarville that  
41 night to see the fun -- that the Negro was going to  
42 be taken out of jail that night. He was talking  
43 about the Negro who was charged with rape of the  
44 white woman. The man who accompanied the driver  
45 of this car did not say much, but he overheard  
46 everything that was said, and he appeared to know  
47 as much about the fact that the Negro was to be  
48 taken out of the jail as the man who did the talking.

49  
50 "I observed three men in a room of the  
51 Courthouse at Hattiesburg tonight, and I believe  
52 that one of them is the older of the two men in the  
53 Chevrolet referred to above -- that is the one who  
54 accompanied the driver and did not do much talking.

Although I think he is identical with this man, I can not make a positive statement that he is identical, but he bore a very close resemblance to this man. The man whom I observed tonight and whom I believe to be the same man whom I saw at [redacted] Service Station on the occasion referred to above is named [redacted] according to the name furnished to me by Special Agent [redacted] of the F.B.I.

"I have Read the Above Statement of this and one other Page I put my initials By All Correction

"I put my name at the Bottom of the fist page this statement is true to the Best of My Knowledge.

"/s/ [redacted]

"Witnesses:

"/s/ [redacted] Special Agent, FBI, New Orleans La  
5/5/59

"/s/ [redacted], Sp. Agent, FBI, New Orleans,  
La. 5-5-59."

On May 5, 1959, he was given an opportunity to observe [redacted] at Poplarville, Mississippi, and identified him as the driver of the Chevrolet who was with [redacted] when they came to the Site Service Station on April 24, 1959. This statement is being set forth on Page 291.

On May 5, 1959, JAMES FLOREN LEE, JR., Route 3, Lumberton, Mississippi, furnished a signed statement to SA's [redacted] and [redacted] which statement is set forth on Page 284. In which he admitted going to Hattiesburg and contacting [redacted] on April 24, 1959, but denied saying anything to anyone about the Negro in jail at Poplarville, and denied knowing [redacted] and [redacted].

On May 12, 1959, the Latent Fingerprint Section of the Identification Division of the FBI advised that the latent fingerprints from the automobile of CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER, which are unidentified, are not identical with the fingerprints of [redacted].

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S. NAME

(BEST NAME KNOWN) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Mississippi, advised Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 12, 1959 that at the meeting with [REDACTED] on April 24, 1959, east of Poplarville, he got into what he described as a 1955 or 1956 Chevrolet which was occupied by three other men. He got into the back of the car and recognized the man in back with him as [REDACTED] but did not know his full name. He described this individual as a very young man about the age of 16, with light colored hair. He was unable to describe the type of clothes worn by [REDACTED].

On May 5, 1959, when [REDACTED] who resides at [REDACTED] Lumberton, Mississippi, was interviewed by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] he stated that the following were his relatives other than his wife and son:

Father: [REDACTED]  
Lumberton, Mississippi;

Mother: [REDACTED]  
Mississippi;

Sister: [REDACTED]  
Lumberton, Mississippi;

Brother: [REDACTED]  
Lumberton, Mississippi;

Brother: [REDACTED]  
Lumberton, Mississippi;

Brother: [REDACTED]  
Mississippi;

Brother: [REDACTED]  
Lumberton, Mississippi;

Brother: [REDACTED]  
Lumberton, Mississippi;

Brother: [REDACTED]  
Lumberton, Mississippi;

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Brother.  
Lumberton, Mississippi.

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T. NAME [REDACTED]

RESIDENCE [REDACTED]

OCCUPATION [REDACTED]

AGE [REDACTED]

On May 7, 1959, [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that on the night of April 24, 1959, he was working at his [REDACTED] sawmill until approximately 11:00 PM and that [REDACTED] stayed at his home on the night of April 24, 1959.

On the same date, [REDACTED] corroborated the story as furnished by [REDACTED]

On May 7, 1959, [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he worked at [REDACTED] sawmill until 11:00 PM and spent the night at [REDACTED] home. He stated he knew nothing concerning the abduction of PARKER until the morning of April 25, 1959, when he heard an announcement on the radio and that he was surprised to hear that PARKER had been abducted, stating "I thought the days of those kind of things were over."

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14 On May 12, 1959, [redacted] advised  
15 SA's [redacted] [redacted] the  
16 best of his knowledge, [redacted] had  
17 worked at a sawmill until 10:00 or 11:00 PM on the night of  
18 April 24, 1959. b7c  
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12 having worked in the yard of Jailer JEWEL ALFORD on Thursday,  
13 April 23, 1959. He arrived home at approximately 4:00 PM  
14 and was there the balance of the day and night and the  
15 following day. He stated that on Saturday AM, April 25, 1959  
16 his niece, [redacted] who is visiting in his home,  
17 went to the residence of [redacted] land-  
18 lord, to pay the rent. [redacted] [redacted]  
19 that he heard on the radio that someone had taken a Negro  
20 from the jail at Poplarville and [redacted] thereafter relayed  
21 the information to [redacted]  
22

23 [redacted] who professed to be unable to read  
24 or write, stated he has neither a radio nor television, and  
25 that the information relayed by his niece was the first he  
26 received concerning an abduction from the jail.  
27

28 [redacted], who appeared to have been drinking,  
29 prior to the interview, stated he was not even certain of  
30 the identity of the Negro who had been taken from the jail,  
31 explaining he thought W. C. PARKER was in jail at Jackson,  
32 Mississippi.  
33

34 [redacted] denied having any information what-  
35 ever concerning this matter.  
36

37 Nothing unusual about [redacted] niece was  
38 noted by the interviewing agents.  
39

40 On May 15, 1959, [redacted] Poplar-  
41 ville, Mississippi, advised Spec [redacted]  
42 and [redacted] that her son, [redacted] on the [redacted]  
43 recommendation, arrived about 4:00 PM, April 24, 1959, and  
44 did not leave the house for the balance of the day or night  
45 of [redacted] on, April 25, 1959.  
46

47 On May 15, 1959, [redacted] Poplar-  
48 ville, Mississippi, advised Spec [redacted]  
49 and [redacted] that she is the niece of [redacted]  
50 who she has been visiting. She stated that she was at [redacted]  
51 between 3:30 and 5:00 AM, April 24, 1959, and was there the  
52 balance of the night and Saturday / Sunday, April 25, 1959.  
53 She advised she had no information whatsoever concerning this  
54 case and stated her uncle had not received any visitors or  
55 been contacted by anyone on the night of April 24, 1959, to  
56 the best of her knowledge.  
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On May 13, 1959, Sheriff [redacted] of  
Peachtree County advised Special Agent [redacted] and  
that [redacted] is one of the  
[redacted] He stated [redacted] has never been  
fingerprinted by his department and has never been in any  
serious trouble.

Sheriff [redacted] advised he would not enter any  
direct statements concerning [redacted] a likely suspect in the  
abduction of H. C. [redacted], pointing out that [redacted] is  
generally considered to be harmless and is usually either  
drunk or seeking a drink.

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V. NAME [REDACTED]

RESIDENCE [REDACTED]

OCCUPATION [REDACTED]

AGE [REDACTED]

On May 2, 1959, [REDACTED] Lumberton Manufacturing Company, advised that he had heard no talk in his department concerning the abduction of PARKER and had heard nothing which would indicate that anyone in the plant was involved in it. He added he had no reason to suspect [REDACTED] of taking part in the abduction.

On May 11, 1959, CHRISTOPHER COLLETT BROWN, upon viewing a photograph of [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were unknown to him and he had no information suggesting he had participated in any way in the abduction of PARKER.

On May 12, 1959, after viewing a photograph of [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] was not known to him and he had no information suggesting he was involved in any way in the abduction of PARKER.

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15 was interviewed by SA's [redacted] of [redacted]  
16 [redacted] on May 5, 1959. She stated that [redacted] [redacted]  
17 [redacted] Virginia [redacted] 1958.  
18 moved to Lumberton, and has lived there since on [redacted] Street  
19 since that time. [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]  
20 from his wife on May 1, 1959, asking [redacted] [redacted]  
21 [redacted] children [redacted] [redacted]  
22 conversation. [redacted] stated that [redacted] left  
23 Lumberton on May 1, 1959, and was not expected to return  
24 until May 7 or 8, 1959.  
25

26 [redacted] stated that on April 24, 1959,  
27 [redacted] got home from work about 4:45 PM and did  
28 not leave the house during the evening of April 24, 1959,  
29 or early morning of April 25, 1959.  
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1959, by SA's [redacted] interviewed on [redacted] [redacted] statements, [redacted] stated that he arrived home from work at approximately 4:30 PM, on April 24, 1959, where he remained until after dinner, and at about 6:00 PM he went to see [redacted] who resides about six miles from Lumberton. [redacted] said he did not recall exactly what he and the girl did, but they probably returned to Lumberton for a cold drink. He stated he left the [redacted] home at approximately 8:00 PM, returned to his home in Lumberton and went to bed. He stated definitely that he did not leave his home after 9:00 PM on April 24, 1959, and he had no visitors. He added he knew nothing of the abduction of PARKER until sometime during the day of April 25, 1959.

[redacted] advised he is acquainted with [redacted] working hours, but that he had never dealt with [redacted] in the past two weeks he had discussed with [redacted] the possibility of their going to the Coast to [redacted] the possibility of their plans did not materialize and they did not go.

[redacted] stated that after he read accounts in the newspapers to the effect that PARKER had been identified by the rape victim as [redacted] made the statement openly while working at [redacted] Manufacturing Company that he thought PARKER should never be brought to trial and that, in his opinion, a Negro who would rape a woman should be taken out of jail and "done away with." He stated further that after the conviction of PARKER he stated at the Lumberton Manufacturing Company that he thought PARKER did exactly what he deserved. He insisted, however, that he had no information as to who might have participated in the abduction, stating he would like to have been in on it, but was not invited to participate.

On May 11, 1959, [redacted] was interviewed by SA's [redacted] and advised that [redacted] about 6:00 PM the night of [redacted] and visited with her until approximately 9:00 or 9:30 PM. She stated [redacted]

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14 that during this time he took her and her parents to  
15 Lumberton to get a cold drink. She stated that [REDACTED]  
16 returned to her home about 7:30 AM, April 25, [REDACTED], and  
17 they went to New Orleans accompanied by [REDACTED] parents  
18 for the purpose of visiting [REDACTED] relative, who was  
19 ill.

20  
21 [REDACTED] advised that at no time did  
22 [REDACTED] discuss with her the PARKER case nor did he  
23 express any opinion concerning the abduction of PARKER.  
24

25 On May 20, 1959, the FBI Latent Fingerprint  
26 Section reported that the fingerprints [REDACTED]  
27 [REDACTED] were not identical with the unidentified latent  
28 fingerprints found on the automobile of CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS  
29 RAYER.  
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W. NAME [REDACTED]

RESIDENCE [REDACTED]

OCCUPATION [REDACTED]

AGE [REDACTED]

On May 2, 1969, [REDACTED] Lumberton Manufacturing Company, advised that he had heard no talk in his department concerning the abduction of PARKER and had heard nothing which would indicate that anyone in the plant was involved in it. He added he had no reason to suspect [REDACTED] of taking part in the abduction.

On May 11, 1969, CHRISTOPHER COLLETT REVEREND upon viewing a photo rack of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was shown to him and he had no knowledge indicating he had participated in any way in the abduction of PARKER.

On May 12, 1969, after viewing a photograph of [REDACTED] stated the [REDACTED] was not known to him and he had no information indicating he was involved in any way in the abduction of PARKER.

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16 On May 4, 1959, [REDACTED] wife of  
17 [REDACTED] was interviewed by SA [REDACTED]  
18 and [REDACTED] in the offices of the Movie Star  
19 Company, where she is employed. When advised as to the  
20 purpose of the interview, [REDACTED] stated, "I don't know  
21 anything about that. I don't want to talk about it if  
22 that is what you want to see me about. I don't have  
23 anything to say."  
24

25 She was asked if she had attended the  
26 dance at the Pearl River Junior College on the night of  
27 April 24, 1959, and replied that she had not, adding  
28 that she and her husband were at home during the entire  
29 evening. She stated that they retired early and knew  
30 nothing of the abduction of PARKER, until they read it  
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11 in the newspapers the following morning. She also  
12 stated they had no visitors on the night of April  
13 24, 1959.

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15 When she first appeared for interview,  
16 [redacted] seemed to be calm, however, when she learned  
17 the identity of the agents, she became very upset,  
18 started to perspire freely and paled noticeably. She  
19 sat in a chair only long enough to learn the purpose  
20 of the inquiry and from that point on stood with her  
21 hand on the door knob. When she stated that she and  
22 her husband had no visitors on the night of April 24,  
23 1959, she abruptly terminated the interview by leaving  
24 the room.

25  
26 On May 4, 1959, [redacted] advised  
27 SA's [redacted] and [redacted], that  
28 on April 24, 1959, he left the [redacted] Manufacturing  
29 Company at 4:30 PM and drove alone to his home. He  
30 stated he remained at home throughout the evening,  
31 did not leave his premises, and had no visitors. He  
32 stated he knew nothing concerning the abduction of PARKER  
33 until he heard an announcement on the radio on the  
34 morning of April 25, 1959, and he emphatically denied  
35 that he planned or participated in any way in the ab-  
36 duction or that he had any idea as to who might be in-  
37 volved.

38  
39 While talking to [redacted] the agents observed  
40 that he owns a 1953 black GMC, [redacted]-ton pickup, bearing  
41 Mississippi license F/360901. [redacted] stated this is the  
42 only motor vehicle he owns.

43  
44 On May 5, 1959, [redacted] was interviewed  
45 [redacted] and [redacted]. He  
46 apologized for his uncooperativeness during the previous  
47 interview, stating that in January, 1959, he hurt his  
48 back while working and since that time he has been ex-  
49 tremely nervous and the least bit of such sort causes  
50 pains in his back and causes his nervousness to increase.  
51 He again emphatically denied that he had any knowledge  
52 of the abduction of PARKER.  
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14 He also stated that, while he works with  
15 [redacted] he has never associated with him after  
16 working hours.

17  
18 SA's [redacted] and [redacted]  
19 [redacted] contacted the following individuals on May  
20 5, 1959:

21 [redacted]  
22 [redacted]  
23 [redacted]  
24 [redacted]  
25 [redacted]  
26 [redacted]  
27 [redacted]  
28 [redacted]

29 All of these individuals are [redacted] neighbors  
30 and advised that, as far as they knew, [redacted] was not home  
31 on the evening of April 24, 1959, and early morning of  
32 April 25, 1959.

33 [redacted] was contacted by SA [redacted]  
34 [redacted], and [redacted] on May 24, 1959, and was  
35 requested to accompany the agents to Indianapolis. He  
36 stated he was not physically able to submit to a further  
37 interview and it would be useless to interview him any  
38 further because he had told the agents all he knew during  
39 previous interviews. He stated that being interviewed  
40 by agents was so upsetting to him that he would appreciate  
41 it if he were not contacted again.