TELEPHONE CALLS RECEIVED

At 2:00 A.M. a member of the United Press called and wanted a report confirmed that federal agents and local police were investigating the kidnap threat to Jack Dempsey's daughter. The person calling was informed that the writer knew nothing about it and that there was no one in authority who could be called at that time.

No other calls of official importance were received.

Respectfully,

G. L. Sheppard
G. L. Sheppard,
Communications Section.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lynn
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Joseph
Mr. Kerr
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Give no information to anyone re this talked with Dempsey yesterday. J. E. H.

RECORDED
INDEXED

7-1581-5

MAR 10 1950

FILE

JEH:AS

March 8, 1936

Time: 1:14 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Re: Jack Dempsey; Alleged
Kidnaping Threat.

I telephoned Mr. Jack Dempsey at Atlantic City and stated that concerning the kidnaping threat he had received the Bureau was doing everything possible and that if any further communications or threats were received to inform the Bureau immediately.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
MAR 9 1936
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED 7-1581-6

MAR 10 1936 A. M.

FILE

Joan Dempsey "Threatened"

Little Joan Dempsey shown here with her famous father and mother on a Chicago vacation last year, has been threatened with kidnaping, according to a "tip" to Atlantic City police. —A. P. Photo.

DETECTIVES GUARD DEMPSEY'S CHILD

Steps Taken by Atlantic City Police on "Tip" of Kidnaping Threat.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., March 2.—Officers investigated today an anonymous "tip" purporting to disclose a plot to kidnap Jack Dempsey's 13-month-old daughter Joan Hannah.

Whether the "tip" was accurate the officers were unprepared to say. Acting Capt. of Detectives James Farley asserted. "It is probably the work of a crank."

The child, however, was placed under guard at a hotel here where she is staying with her mother.

Farley said that rumors to the effect that Dempsey and a friend had received post cards from an anonymous writer warning of a kidnaping [illegible] against Joan were being investigated.

As soon as we heard about [illegible] said, we detailed a couple of [illegible] to the President's hotel where the little girl is staying with her mother.

As far as we've been able to find out, Farley added, "there's nothing [illegible] it is probably the work of a crank."

While Farley was reluctant to discuss the case further, he said he had heard [illegible] that Federal men

See DEMPSEY, Page 4

Dempsey

(Continued From First Page)

were investigating. From other sources it was learned that two Department of Justice agents had been sent to this city at the instance of local police and were making a searching inquiry into the origin of the alleged plot.

Left Because of Strike.

Mrs. Dempsey, the former Hannah Williams, Broadway show girl, and Joan have been at the hotel since Friday. Dempsey, it was learned, has established temporary residence here for the duration of the service employes strike in New York.

It is understood that Dempsey wanted to spare his wife the effort of walking up and down the steps at the New York Hotel where they had been residing during the present tie-up of elevator service. The former champion has been commuting to New York, where he has business interests.

The Dempseys have refused to discuss the threats and in Washington the Department of Justice declined comment. Capt. Farley indicated that police reticence in the matter was motivated largely by a desire to avoid alarming Mrs. Dempsey, who is an expectant mother.

Post Card Sent to Dempsey.

It was learned that Dempsey received the post card in New York, warning him that the writer had overheard "two Polish gentlemen" planning to kidnap Joan. A card bearing a similar warning was received by a friend of Dempsey here. The cards bore Atlantic City post marks.

Dempsey, it was learned, immediately sent a personal bodyguard from New York to be near his wife and child.

Hotel authorities would not discuss the case. The Dempseys occupy a sumptuous suite in the hostelry which is located on Albany avenue on the main highway connecting the resort with the mainland.

Kib

Mr. Kasem

R

The Evening Star

Washington

9/19/36

DEMPSEY BABY UNDER GUARD

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., March 9 (I.N.S.)—Detectives were assigned to guard Jack Dempsey's day daughter of Jack Dempsey, former world's heavyweight champion, as a result of kidnapping threats, police disclosed early today.

Two Secret Men have been assigned to investigate the threats, it was said.

Dempsey and his wife, the former Hannah Williams, and their daughter came to Atlantic City from New York on Tuesday and registered at a beachfront hotel.

On Friday, Dempsey and a local associate each received post cards which described a conversation between two men on a train bound from New York to Atlantic City. The anonymous postcard writer said the men spoke in a foreign language which he understood, and were discussing a plot to kidnap the ex-fighter's child.

Both cards were turned over to the police, who in turn notified the Federal authorities in Washington.

Mrs. Dempsey, who is expecting the arrival of another child in June, was not told of the warnings.

DEMPSEYS' BABY UNDER GUARD

Kidnaping Threat Heard

MR. AND MRS. JACK DEMPSEY and their daughter, Joan, who is being guarded in Atlantic City where the ex-champion and his wife are on vacation. Threats of kidnaping the little girl were reported to Dempsey. His wife, the former Hannah Williams, is expecting another child. International News Photo.

97—158—A

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

EAT:TAM

U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

March 9, 1936

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Richmond called from Trenton this morning to advise that the New Jersey papers are carrying stories concerning police investigation of a threat to kidnap the daughter of Jack Dempsey, which publicity is emanating from Atlantic City. Mr. Richmond stated that he contacted the Atlantic City Police and ascertained that an anonymous postal card had been received, evidently mailed on a train, in which the writer said he had heard two men speaking in Polish state that now would be a good time to kidnap Dempsey's daughter. Mr. Richmond stated that he had sent an agent over to Atlantic City to obtain the original postal card. I told Mr. Richmond that the New York Office had been working on a similar story regarding Jack Dempsey's daughter for several days and suggested that he transmit all information obtained to the New York Office for their consideration in connection with the case there.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

RECORDED

MAR 11 1936

7-1581-7
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 11 1936 A. M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

EAT:CDW

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

March 6, 1936.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Fitzworth
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. Lester
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Time -

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

During a telephonic conversation which I had with Mr. Whitley at New York City, he said that JACK DEMPSEY telephoned the office this morning to inform that he had received a rather mysterious letter in which he thought the Bureau might be interested. Mr. Whitley sent a couple of Agents over to interview Jack Dempsey, and the letter turned out to be from a person who said that he used to be a boxing buddy of Jack's, and that he had information of a plot on foot to kidnap Jack's baby girl. The letter was not a threat, it was just a warning that Jack ought to be careful, etc.

Mr. Whitley said that Jack is unable to identify the writer of the letter, and of course knows nothing of any plan on foot to kidnap his baby girl. He is not taking the matter very seriously, believing that the letter is from some "nut".

No active investigation is being conducted, but the letter and the details are available in the event there are developments.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

E. A. TAMM.

RECORDED

7-1581-8

MAR 11 1936

MAR 11 1936

TOLSON
ONE
FILE

K

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
607 U. S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, N.Y.

March 11, 1936

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
JOAN HANNAH DEMPSEY - Victim
KIDNAPING

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letters of March 9 and 10, 1936 (file #7-1581), on this matter.

Enclosed for elimination purposes, are the fingerprints of Jack Dempsey, [redacted] and [redacted] who had handled the warning letter of March 2. There are also enclosed the fingerprints of Mrs. Hannah Dempsey and of the baby, Joan Hannah Dempsey, for filing and for any subsequent use. Because of difficulty in obtaining the child's prints, two copies thereof are being forwarded.

b7c

It is respectfully requested that the New York Office be furnished with photostatic copies of the two postcards, which it is understood were received on this matter at Atlantic City, and which were probably forwarded to the Bureau by the Trenton Office. A photostatic copy of the warning letter of March 2, is being forwarded by the New York Office to the Trenton Office for the information of the latter office.

When interviewed today, Dempsey was still disinclined to treat the matter seriously.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

MAR 14 1936

7-1581-9

Very truly yours,

R. Whitley

R. WHITLEY, FMH
Special Agent in Charge

Encls. 6

cc Trenton

8-13-36

b7c

Copy and Specimens Rec'd

R7

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION # 8560
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Report

Case: RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS Number: 7-1581-9
JOAN HANNAH DEMPSEY - Victim
KIDNAPING.

Specimens:

[redacted]

Fingerprint cards of the following for purposes of elimination: Jack Dempsey, [redacted] and [redacted] b7c
Also 2 fingerprint cards of Joan Hannah Dempsey and one fingerprint card of Mrs. Hannah Williams Dempsey for our files.

Examination requested by: New York

Date received: 3-13-36 jwp 11:20 AM

Examination requested: Fingerprint

Result of examination: Examination by: [redacted] b7c

A REQUISITION FOR PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE POSTCARDS REFERRED TO IN INCOMING LETTER HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE -- AS PER REQUEST IN LETTER FROM TRENTON OFFICE DATED MARCH 11, 1936.

CC Trenton

Submits to Tech 3/12

[illegible] 3-10-36