FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION # 8636
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Report

Case: Unknown Subjects; Number 7-1581-14
Joan Hannah Dempsey-victim.
Kidnaping.

Specimens: 7-1581-14 A Letter and envelope written in pencil; envelope postmarked "Minneapolis, Minn. Mar. 9, 1936 12 PM. Known.
B Letter without envelope dated 3-10-36 a[redacted] Known
C Letter without envelope dated 3-1[illegible]-36 from (Mrs. [redacted] Known. b7c
D Letter and envelope from [redacted] envelope postmarked Duquesne, Pa. Mar 10, 1936 8 AM. Known.

Examination requested by: New York

Date received: 3-18-36 (10:30AM ft)

Examination requested: Document

Result of examination: 3/18 Examination by [redacted] b7c

3/18 Qu. 2nd 36 New York Ing.
1A 2 [illegible] Exact it [illegible]
Alzvo. of you to [illegible]

14A I [illegible] of [illegible] not [illegible]

not [redacted] b7c the one I [illegible]

not [redacted] b7c [illegible] the new

not D [illegible]

[illegible] 3-14-36 [illegible]

13-17

7-2AS
Letter to Bureau - Att. Technical Laboratory
March 16, 1956

Letter and envelope from [redacted] b7c

This writer is an eight year old boy, and while corresponding with Mr. Hoover, desires an autographed photograph.

Arrangements have been made with Mr. Hoover's office to forward to the New York office such letters of similar nature as are received. Same will be forwarded to the Bureau for handwriting comparison.

Very truly yours,

R. WALSH
Special Agent in Charge

enclosures - 6

13-18

Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice

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

7-265
WBM:AGB

March 16, 1936

Attention - Technical Laboratory

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: Unknown subjects
Joan Hannah Dempsey - victim
Kidnaping

Dear Sir:

The following items are being submitted herewith for examination by the Laboratory to determine whether the handwriting may correspond with the handwriting in the letter and two postcards previously submitted in this case. These items were forwarded to the New York office by Jack Dempsey's secretary.

Letter and envelope written in pencil; envelope postmarked "Minneapolis, Minn., 3/9/36" addressed to Dempsey. The letter is signed "Joe" and bears no return address.

Letter without envelope, dated 3/10/36, at [redacted] addressed to [redacted] Dempsey, is signed by [redacted] and offers his services as bodyguard.

b7C

Letter without envelope, dated 3/10/36, [redacted] in which she offers the use of her home as a shelter for Dempsey's baby.

b7C

RECORDED
&
INDEXED
MAR 20 1936

7-1581-14
MAR 17 1936
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

[redacted]

Director.
7-265.

3-18-38.

The envelope containing the above letter was postmarked at New York, N. Y., 7, March 17, 1938 at 11:30 P.M., bore a three-cent stamp, and was addressed as follows:

"Mr. Jack Dempsey Restaurant
8th Ave. 50th St. corner
City

- - - - - - - - -

Hello, Jack.

So you squak too the papers hey.
Youv got your nerve

Well listen you punk

Slacker you come out a the

west an make a lot a jack

in the East so your coming
(you will go back west pronto) hear?

Scrost with a Hit hunk see.

or else - - - - - - - - - - - - the Kid.

You think we a crank or nuts hey?

What a joke. Call that school boy

Hoover of -- He is just a guy wot

couldag katch cold. More later.

Give this t the papers. With terms.

We no the copes.

- 2 -

Director,
7-266.

3-18-36.

The envelope containing the above letter was postmarked Times Sq. Station, N. Y., 1. March 18, 1936, 7 A.M., bore a two-cent stamp, and was addressed as follows:

"Mr. Jack Dempsey.
Restaurant
8 Ave. - 50 Street.
New York.

Personal."

The first letter, signed "Mrs. T.", calls for a meeting with Dempsey at 10 A.M., on Thursday, March 19, 1936. Dempsey has agreed to keep such appointment with agents of this Bureau in the vicinity. You will be promptly advised of the results of this meeting.

The original of these two letters will be photostated by the New York Office tomorrow. Thereafter, the original and photostatic duplex will be promptly furnished the Bureau. It is particularly desired be temporarily retain the letter signed by Mrs. T. in order to have it available for comparison with her handwriting if she should be detained tomorrow.

The second letter is, unquestionably, the activity of a crank.

Dempsey is not inclined to take this matter more seriously. He is contemplating retaining an armed bodyguard. A brief of the first letter from Mrs. T. was furnished to Mr. Edward A. Dunn of the Bureau, over the telephone this afternoon.

Very truly yours,

T. [illegible]
Special Agent in Charge.

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

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

WBM:LS
7-265

March 18, 1936.

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS.
JOAN HANNAH DEMPSEY - Victim.
KIDNAPING.

Dear Sir:

Below are copied two letters and envelopes received by Jack Dempsey today:

"New York March 17, 1936

Dear Mr. Dempsey,

I have some very important to tell you. Something happened with me last Monday March 9, which will interest you very much, because it is concerning you, or rather your baby.

Since I did not know what to do, even I do not dare to go out from my house. I do not dare to go to your resturant either and may be you do not dare to come to my house if I call you, though I am only a woman, so it is better if you will be with car at 9th Ave and 52nd, St. corner - West, Uptown corner - Thursday March 19, 10 A.M. I hope you could understand this letter because I am so nervous can not write orderly.

Yours truly
(s) Mrs. T.

RECORDED 7-1581-15

MAR 24 1936

FILE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

8559

APG:KRC

Laboratory Report
March 18, 1936

Case: Plot to kidnap Joan Hannah Dempsey. Number: 7-1581-11

Specimens: 7-1581-11:

A. One postal card addressed to L. Greenberg, Sports, Press-Union Papers, postmarked "1, Atlantic City, New Jersey, March 6, 1936, 7 P. M.".

B. One postal card addressed to Captain, Detective Bureau, City Hall, postmarked "1, Atlantic City, New Jersey, March 6, 1936, 8 P. M.".

Examination requested by: Trenton Bureau Office

Date received: 3-13-36

Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint

Result of examination: Examination by: [redacted]

The specimens designated as "A" and "B" above are both handprinted in ink on a regulation size one-cent United States postal card with standard specifications. It is the opinion of the examiner that the handprinting appearing on both specimens were printed by the same individual.

A specimen of the handprinting appearing on these postal cards has been placed in the Laboratory's anonymous letter file. A search will also be conducted through this file and in the event an identification is effected with any present specimens you will be so advised.

In accordance with your request, two photographic copies of the evidence submitted will be forwarded to the New York and Trenton Bureau offices within the next several days.

A report on the fingerprint examination will be submitted separately.

THE ORIGINAL EVIDENCE WHICH WAS SUBMITTED IS BEING RETAINED IN THE LABORATORY FOR USE IN ANY SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS WHICH MAY BE DESIRED. SHOULD YOUR OFFICE DESIRE THIS ORIGINAL EVIDENCE FOR USE IN ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDINGS WHICH MAY DEVELOP THE BUREAU SHOULD BE NOTIFIED IN AMPLE TIME TO PERMIT TRANSMITTAL.

1-Bureau
1-Trenton
1-New York
1-Laboratory

RECORDED 7-1581-16

MAR 21 1936

MAR 1936

FILE

APG:KRC

March 18, 1936

RECORDED 7-1581-[illegible] /6

Mr. E. L. Richmond,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
827 Broad Street National Bank Building,
Trenton, New Jersey.

Re: Plot to Kidnap Joan [illegible]
Dempsey.

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith the laboratory report covering the examination of specimens submitted by your office in connection with the above entitled matter and received in the Bureau March 13, 1936.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Enclosure: [illegible]
cc-New York

CONTROL [illegible]
SPECIAL DELIVERY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO.

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY N.Y. FILE NO. 7-865

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK CITY	3/19/36	3/15,19/36	[redacted] b7C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS JOAN HANNAH DEMPSEY - Victim	KIDNAPING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Dempsey received two letters postmarked at New York City March 17 and 18, 1936. Letter postmarked March 18, believed to be work of a crank. The other letter is signed "Mrs. T." and called for a meeting with Dempsey at 10 a.m. on March 19, 1936 at Ninth Avenue and 52nd Street, New York City. Dempsey kept appointment, and Bureau agents were in vicinity. No one appeared to contact Dempsey. Two original letters received by Dempsey being sent to laboratory.

-P-

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] New York City, March 11, 1936. b7C

DETAILS: Miss [redacted] secretary to DEMPSEY, during the evening of March 18, 1936, telephoned to Special Agent in Charge E. Whitley to advise of the receipt of two letters of interest. Special Agent in Charge Whitley telephoned to Mr. E. A. Tamm of the Bureau and informed of the receipt of these two letters on March 18, 1936. b7C

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature] 7-1581-17 MAR 20 1936

COPIES OF THIS REPORT FORWARDED

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MAR 21 1936

MAR 20 1936

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROUTED TO FILE

3 Bureau
2 Trenton (Incls. 2)
1 New York

7-265

Agent contacted JACK DEMPSEY at his restaurant at 6.30 p.m. on March 18, 1936, and obtained the two letters which Miss [redacted] had placed in cellophane. The two letters are copied below:

"New York March 17, 1936

Dear Mr. Dempsey,

I have some very important to tell you. Something happened with me last Monday March 9, which will interest you very much, because it is concerning you, or rather your baby.

Since I did not know what to do, even I do not dare to go out from my house. I do not dare to go to your restaurant either and may be you do not dare to come to my house if I call you, though I am only a woman, so it is better if you will be with car at 9th Ave and 52nd. St. corner - West, Eptown corner - Thursday March 19, 10 A.M. I hope you would understand this letter because I am so nervous can not write orderly.

Yours truly,

(Signed) Mrs. [illegible]"

The envelope containing the above letter was [illegible] at New York, N.Y. 7, March 17, 1936 at 11.30 p.m., [illegible] stamp, and was addressed as follows:

"Mr. Jack Dempsey Restaurant
8th Ave. 50th St. corner
City"

7-265

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

7-265

Mr. DEMPSEY expressed more concern over the rec
these several letters, and is now inclined to treat the matter
seriously. He spoke of engaging an armed bodyguard for the purp
of watching his daughter when away from their apartment. He did
specifically request the use of Bureau agents, and such subject w
avoided.

A letter was written to the Bureau on March 18, 1936,
quoting the two letters shown above.

On March 19, 1936, DEMPSEY started standing on the
northwest corner of Ninth Avenue and [illegible] Street at [illegible] a.m. Agent
had driven up in a car with DEMPSEY, and it was intended that Agent
would act as Dempsey's secretary if DEMPSEY could arrange for whoever
contacted him at the street corner. To come over to the Bureau car.
Special Agent [redacted] and Special Agent (A) [redacted] were
stationed in another Bureau car a short distance away. DEMPSEY proved
to be too well known and too popular. He was continuously being
greeted by various persons, many of whom stopped to shake hands with
him. DEMPSEY quickly manoeuvered all of these strangers away. A
uniformed police officer on the head came over to visit with Dempsey,
and a little difficulty was experienced in getting the officer from
that vicinity. Drivers of automobiles would stop, point out DEMPSEY,
and block traffic. The neighbors in the vicinity were observed peer-
ing from the upper story windows. The unknown subject could not be
blamed for not contacting DEMPSEY on this occasion. At 10:15 a sig-
nal was given to DEMPSEY to discontinue. He was trailed [illegible]
blocks back to his restaurant by Agent, but no one attempted to con-
tact him.

In a later visit, DEMPSEY could not suggest anyone of
a suspicious nature having passed during his stand on the corner.
DEMPSEY expressed the opinion that he probably would receive addi-
tional letters calling for another appointment.

The two original letters, quoted above, are being
forwarded to the Bureau under separate cover. Two photostats of
such letters are being forwarded herewith to the Trenton Office
for its information.

This case will remain inactive pending subsequent
developments.

-PENDING-