

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

APR 14 1955

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

FROM NEW YORK 1-36 PM

DIRECTOR

URGENT

HERBIE HOPPER, VICTIM.. EXTORTION. RE NY AIRTEL,

APRIL NINE, FIFTYFIVE. INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED APRIL THIRTEEN, FIFTYFIVE

WITH [REDACTED] WHO ARE ALL THE RESIDENTS OF [REDACTED] FORTYFOUR, BROOKLYN, NY, AND [REDACTED] TEN, CLOSE FRIEND OF [REDACTED] HOME AND [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ALL DENIED WRITING INSTANT LETTER. HANDWRITING SPECIMENS OBTAINED AND WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE LAB. ALSO SAMPLES OF STATIONERY AND ENVELOPES USED IN [REDACTED] HOME.

[REDACTED] NEIGHBORS OF [REDACTED] INTERVIEWED NEGATIVE, NO SUSPECTS DEVELOPED. HOWEVER, THE BLOCK IN WHICH [REDACTED] LIVE IS FILLED WITH BOYS AND GIRLS OF AGES NINE TO SIXTEEN. NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION WILL BE CONDUCTED BY NYC UNLESS LAB EXAMINATION OF SUBMITTED HANDWRITING SPECIMENS IDENTIFIES THE SUBJECT. LA SHOULD, IF SUBJECT NOT IDENTIFIED, OR IF PROSECUTION DECLINED, NOTIFY VICTIM SO THAT SHE MAY MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH NYCPD FOR ANY NECESSARY PROTECTION WHILE SHE IS IN NYC.

KELLY

LOS ANGELES ADVISED

RECORDED - 98

Crim. Laboratory

9-22843-6

17 APR 20 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 4/19/55

Tolson
Boardman
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

Mr. Tolson

Mr. E. A. Tamm

G.I.R.-7

b7c
GWT
Perry

B7C

HEDDA HOPPER - VICTIM
EXTORTION

Los Angeles Division on 4/5/55 was furnished with two threatening letters received by the victim. Both letters bore the postmark Brooklyn, New York, March 17, 1955. A return address on each envelope was that of [redacted] Brooklyn, New York. The victim paid no attention to the letters as she felt the author was an illiterate crackpot and did not consider them as serious until her business manager recommended that they be referred to the Bureau.

The U. S. Attorney in Los Angeles would not render an opinion until all the facts were obtained and the subject interviewed.

Investigation conducted by the New York Office at [redacted] Brooklyn, New York, reflected that [redacted] and [redacted] two daughters, [redacted] aged 16, and [redacted] aged 9, reside there. Handwriting specimens were obtained from the three, as well as from [redacted] aged 10, a close friend of [redacted]. All denied writing the letters. Handwriting specimens were obtained and forwarded to the Laboratory. The Laboratory report, which will be submitted to the New York Office by teletype on 4/19/55, indicates a good possibility that [redacted] aged 10, and [redacted] aged 9, prepared the letters, although a definite conclusion cannot be reached. New York is being requested to obtain additional handwriting and handprinting specimens.

RECORDED-35
INDEXED-35

9-27848-7

EX-112 10 APR 20 1955

9-27848-7

APRIL 19, 1955

SAC, NEW YORK - ~~SECRET~~

B7C

[REDACTED] MESSIA HOPPER, VIKER. REURLET APRIL FIFTEEN
 LAST. DUE TO LIMITED KNOWN HANDWRITING AND HAND PRINTING
 AVAILABLE FOR COMPARISON NOT POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE WRITER OF
 ENVELOPES AND LETTERS THIS CASE. SOME SIGNIFICANT HANDWRITING
 AND HAND PRINTING SIMILARITIES NOTED BETWEEN HAND PRINTING
 ON BOTH LETTERS AND ENVELOPES AND HANDWRITING ON ONE LETTER
 AND KNOWN SAMPLES OF [REDACTED] ALSO SOME HANDWRITING
 SIMILARITIES NOTED BETWEEN HANDWRITING ON SECOND LETTER AND
 KNOWN SAMPLES OF [REDACTED] REQUEST YOU OBTAIN ADDITIONAL
 KNOWN HANDWRITING AND HAND PRINTING SPECIMENS FROM THESE TWO
 CHILDREN. NOTHING OF INTEREST OR SIGNIFICANCE NOTED IN KNOWN
 SAMPLES OF [REDACTED] OR [REDACTED]
 PAPER SAMPLES, ITEMS ONE AND TWO OF RELET, NOT IDENTICAL PAPER
 USED FOR EXTORTION LETTERS AND ENVELOPES. NOTED ORIGINAL
 LETTERS WRITTEN ON SHEETS OF PAPER EIGHT AND ONE HALF BY ELEVEN
 INCHES AND CONTAIN WATERMARK QUOTE OLD TOWN NI BASH TEST B
 UNQUOTE. SUTEL RESULTS FURTHER INVESTIGATION IN CONNECTION
 WITH ABOVE.

DESTROYED

27 1966

9-270-20

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

HOOVER

RECEIVED IN NEW YORK
 APR 19 3 34 PM '55
 F. B. I.

P

APR 19 1955

APR 25 1955

9-2784-20

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 4/15/55

TO :

Director, FBI
(ATT: FBI LABORATORY)
SAC, New York (9-2147)

FROM :

SUBJECT:

[REDACTED] B7C
HEDDA HOPPER, VICTIM
EXTORTION

The extortion letter postmarked 3/17/55, Brooklyn, NY, addressed to HEDDA (HEDDA) HOPPER, Hollywood, California, and bearing return address [REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY.

Investigation revealed that [REDACTED] 9, and [REDACTED] widower, 45, and his two daughters, [REDACTED] 16, reside at [REDACTED] Brooklyn, address.

The following items, being forwarded to the Laboratory as enclosures herewith, were obtained during investigation. Each item is numbered in pencil on the front of the item.

Item 1 - Envelope obtained from the [REDACTED] home and which is the type that has been used there for a number of months.

Item 2 - Stationery obtained from the [REDACTED] home.

Items 3, 4, 5 and 6 - Handwriting and handprinting specimens of [REDACTED] written 4/13/55.

Item 7 - Handwriting specimens of [REDACTED] which were obtained 4/13/55 but which had been written by her at school a few days ago. All writing by [REDACTED] done with right hand.

Items 8, 9 and 10 - Handwriting and handprinting specimens of [REDACTED] written with right hand, 4/13/55.

Item 11 - Handwriting and handprinting specimens of [REDACTED] done with left hand.

1 - Los Angeles

Encs. (20)

RECORDED
EX-03
[Handwritten signatures and initials]

Letter to Director
NY 9-2147

b7c

Items 12 and 13 - Handwriting and handprinting specimens of [redacted] done with right hand, 4/13/55.

Item 14 - Handwriting specimens of [redacted] done with left hand.

Items 15 and 16 - Handwriting and handprinting specimens of [redacted] visitor in the [redacted] home. Specimens obtained 4/13/55.

Item 17 - Handwriting specimens of [redacted] done with left hand.

Items 18, 19 and 20 - Handwriting and handprinting specimens, all done with right hand, of [redacted] 10, a friend of [redacted]. The specimens were obtained 4/13/55.

It is requested that (1) the stationery obtained be compared with extortion letters to determine if identical, (2) envelope obtained should be compared with extortion letters envelope to determine if identical and (3) handwriting and handprinting specimens obtained should be compared with that in the extortion letters to determine if any identical.

The Bureau will notify Los Angeles and NY of the results of this examination and the Bureau may dispose of the specimens furnished herein unless an identification is made.

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

APR 23 1955
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Handwritten initials and signatures

5 FROM NEW YORK 23 8-38 AM
DIRECTOR URGENT

B7C

[REDACTED] HEDDA HOPPER-VICTIM
EXCEPTION-JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ACT. THE TITLE OF THIS CASE WAS
PREVIOUSLY CARRIED AS [REDACTED] HEDDA HOPPER-VICTIM.

[REDACTED] WHITE FEMALE, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WHITE, FEMALE, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BOTH BROOKLYN, NY, APRIL TWENTYTWO ADMITTED THE WRITING AND
SIGNING OF THE EXTORTION LETS. THIS CASE, ONE LET BY EACH CHILD
WRITTEN IN EACH OTHERS PRESENCE. BOUGHT STAMPS AT NEIGHBORHOOD
VARIETY STORE AND MAILED LETTERS TOGETHER SAME AFTERNOON AS WRITTEN
AT MAIL BOX CORNER OF [REDACTED] BROOKLYN,

[REDACTED] SAY VICTIM TO THEM MERELY A NAME HEARD ON TELEVISION, NO INTENT
TO CARRY OUT THREAT, WAS MERELY A CHILDISH PRANK FOR WHICH THEY
ARE NOW EXTREMELY SCRRY. NEITHER CHILD EVER IN TROUBLE. RETURN
ADDRESS USED ON EXTORTION LETS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN THAT OF [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BROOKLYN, NY, A
CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF [REDACTED] AND AN ACQUAINTANCE OF [REDACTED] HAND-
WRITING AND HANDPRINTING SPECIMENS OF [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] OBTAINED
FOR FORWARDING TO LAB, ALSO SAMPLES OF ENVELOPES FROM [REDACTED] HOME
AND STATIONERY FROM [REDACTED] HOME WHICH HAS BEEN TO BE THE SOURCE
OF THAT USED IN EXTORTION LETS.

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

APR 23 1955

TELETYPE

G.I.R.V.

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

FBI, LOS ANGELES 4-23-55 3-15 PM BG

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, NEW YORK URGENT

B7C

[REDACTED] HEDDA HOPPER - VICTIM.,
EXTORTION - JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ACT. USA, LA, DECLINED
PROSECUTION. HEDDA HOPPER VISITING NEW YORK CITY.
RESIDING WALDORF ASTORIA HOTEL.

DISCREETLY ADVISE HEDDA HOPPER OF FACTS OF CASE.

VALONE

RECORDED - 77

END AND ACK PLS

EX-112

6-16 PM OK FBI WA JG

16 APR 27 1955

OK FBI NY JJS

MAY 3 1955 Rosoc

27848 11

cc Rosen



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

SAC, Los Angeles

April 26, 1955

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of evidence received from your office on April 13, 1955, and from the New York office on April 19, 1955.

[REDACTED] b7C
MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
IDENTIFICATION

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
APR 28 1955
FBI - LOS ANGELES

Specimens requested by Los Angeles
Specimens letters 4/6/55 - 4/25/55
Specimens requested Locust
Specimens

Submitted with your letter dated 4/6/55

- 1 Envelope bearing hand printed address "Fred Popper, Hollywood, Calif., Postmarked "BROOKLYN, N. Y. MAR 17, 1955" No return address on reverse side.
- 2 Accompanying one-page handwritten and hand printed letters beginning "Dear Miss I will come...." and ending "....Mrs. L."
- 3 Envelope bearing hand printed address "Fred Popper, Hollywood, Calif., Postmarked "BROOKLYN, N. Y. MAR 17, 1955" No return address.
- 4 Accompanying one-page hand printed and handwritten letters beginning "Dear Miss I will come...." and ending "....Mrs. L."

Also Submitted: Photostats of 1 through 4

Submitted with New York letter dated 4/15/55

- 1 One white linen/white envelope obtained
- 2 One sheet of white linen/white writing paper

RECORDED 9-27848-12

1 One white linen/white envelope obtained

B/C

1) The sheets of thin white paper and three sheets of lined paper
2) The sheets of lined paper and three sheets of thin white paper bearing
3) The sheets of lined paper and three sheets of thin white paper bearing
4) The sheets of lined paper and three sheets of thin white paper bearing
5) The sheets of lined paper and three sheets of thin white paper bearing
6) The sheets of lined paper and three sheets of thin white paper bearing
7) The sheets of lined paper and three sheets of thin white paper bearing
8) The sheets of lined paper and three sheets of thin white paper bearing
9) The sheets of lined paper and three sheets of thin white paper bearing
10) The sheets of lined paper and three sheets of thin white paper bearing

The handwriting and hand printing appearing on specimens A1 through A4 were compared with the appropriate sections of the Anonymous letter file but no identification was effected. Photographs of this handwriting and hand printing will not be added to this file at this time.

As to the limited amount of known handwriting and hand printing contained in specimens A1 through A7 it was not possible to definitely determine the writer of the handwriting and hand printing on specimens A1 through A7. However, some significant handwriting and hand printing similarities were noted between the hand printing on C1 through C4, the handwriting on C2 and the known handwriting and hand printing of [redacted] B. Also, some handwriting similarities were noted between the handwriting on specimen A4 and the known handwriting of [redacted] B. The New York office is requested to obtain additional known handwriting and hand printing specimens from these two individuals for a further comparison in this case.

Nothing of particular interest or significance was noted as a result of the comparison of the known handwriting and hand printing specimens A1 through A7 which would suggest the desirability of obtaining any additional known writings from these individuals.

It was concluded that the paper samples, A1 and A2, were different from the paper used for the envelopes and letters, C1 through C4 in this case. In this connection it is noted that specimens C2 and C4 were written on sheets of 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper containing the watermark "Old Town El-Fort B."

This report confirms and supplements the Bureau's airtel to Los Angeles dated April 15, 1955, and the Bureau's teletype to New York dated April 15, 1955.

The Two

1-10-55

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

APR 21 1955

TELETYPE

WASH 2 FROM NEW YORK 21 2-48 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

B.L.R.S.
Bowling

B7C

[REDACTED] HEDDA HOPPER DASH VICTIM., EXTORTION. REURTEL 30
APRIL NINETEEN, FIFTYFIVE. ADDITIONAL HANDWRITING AND HANDPRINTING
SPECIMENS OF [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] OBTAINED. WILL BE
FORWARDED TO LABORATORY. BOTH CHILDREN EMPHATICALLY DENY WRITING
INSTANT LETTERS.

KELLY

END

NY R 2 WA IC

Mr. Parsons

TUDISC

Mr. Rosen

Laboratory

RECORDED 71
EX-116

9-11

67 MAY 2 1955

27848-9

Specimens Q1 through Q4 are returned to the Los Angeles office
herewith. Specimens K1, K2 and K3 through K6 are returned to New York
with their copies of this report. Photographs of the questioned
exhibits are retained. The known exhibits returned to New York have
not been photographed. Specimens K3 and K7 are retained in the
laboratory for further examinations. The photostats of Q1 through Q4
are also retained in the laboratory file.

70-36

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

APR 25 1955
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 4/25/55, NEW YORK

Re NY 100-2147. Teletype message to: BUREAU

B7C

[REDACTED]

HEIDA HOPPER VICTIM.

RE: SECTION - JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ACT. RE LOS ANGELES
 TELETYPE TO BUREAU AND NY 4/23/55. HELDA HOPPER DISCREETLY
 INFORMED THIS LATE OF FACTS THIS CASE. MISS HOPPER
 WAS PROFUSE IN HER EXPRESSION OF THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO
 THE BUREAU AND REQUESTED THAT HER GRATEFULNESS BE MADE
 KNOWN TO THE DIRECTOR.

RELLY

Mr. Rosen

9 - 27848 - 18

- MR. ROSEN
- INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
- BUREAU
- LOS ANGELES

RECORDED - 24

[REDACTED] (#5) *B7C*
 NY 100-2147

EX-112

SE *[Signature]*

L-117

APR 27 1955

Approved *[Signature]* Sent *[Signature]*
 Special Agent in Charge

[Handwritten notes]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 4/22/55

TO : Director, FBI
Att: FBI Laboratory
FROM : SAC, New York (9-2147)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

B7C
1

HEIDA HOPPER - VICTIM;
EXTORTION
OO: LOS ANGELES

Re New York letter to Bureau (copy to Los Angeles) 4/15/55 and
Airtel to New York, 4/19/55.

The following items were obtained 4/20/55 and are being forwarded
herewith to the Laboratory for examination as requested in referenced
letter.

Items A, B, and C - Handwriting and handprinting specimens of [REDACTED]

B7C

Items E, F, G, and H - Handwriting and handprinting specimens of [REDACTED]

It is noted that both children still emphatically deny having
written letters in this case.

Encs. (8)
REGISTERED MAIL
1 - Los Angeles

M

27848-14

RECORDED-45
INDEXED-45

APR 23 1955

MLD:MS

EX-103



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

SAC, New York

May 1, 1955

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of evidence received from your office on April 25, 1955, and May 2, 1955.

RE: [REDACTED]

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

HELEN HOPPER - VICTIM
EXTORTION - JUVENILE DELINQUENCY
ACT

YOUR FILE NO. 4-2047
FBI FILE NO. 4-27048
LAB. NO. D-203698 AX
D-204001 AX

Examination requested by New York
Reference Letters 4/22/55 - 4/29/55
Examination requested Document
Specimens

Submitted with letter dated 4/22/55

- K8 Three sheets of paper bearing the known handwriting and hand printing of [REDACTED]
- K9 Five sheets of paper bearing the known handwriting and hand printing of [REDACTED]

Submitted with letter dated 4/29/55 L9 - 27848 15

- K10 Two envelopes obtained from [REDACTED] (Your I & II)
- K11 Two sheets of stationery obtained from [REDACTED] (Your III & IV)
- K12 Five sheets of ruled paper bearing known handwriting and hand printing of [REDACTED] (Your V-XI)
- K13 Four sheets of ruled paper bearing known handwriting and hand printing of [REDACTED] (Your XII-XIII)

Results of Examination:

It was concluded that [REDACTED] handwriting and hand printing appearing on specimens [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in this case.

COMM - FBI

(10) MISSING FILE

The handwriting and hand printing appearing on specimens Q1 and Q2, previously submitted, is too distorted to warrant a definite opinion. However, some significant handwriting and hand printing characteristics were observed common to specimens Q1 and Q2 and the known samples of handwriting and hand printing of [REDACTED] K12. **B7C**

Nothing of particular interest or significance was noted as a result of a comparison of specimens K8 and K9 with the handwriting and hand printing on Q1 and Q2.

The paper, K11, is similar in physical characteristics to the paper used for Q2 and Q4.

The envelopes, K10, differ in length, width and cutting die from the envelopes, Q1 and Q3 in this case.

Submitted evidence returned herewith. Only specimens K12 and K13 have been photographed.

Ex. 27848 15

Page 2
B-203698 AX
B-204061 AX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Los Angeles**

B7C

REPORT MADE AT New York	DATE WHEN MADE 6/7/55	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/9, 13, 20, 22, 25, 29, 5/6, 17/55	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE HEDDA HOPPER - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION - JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ACT

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] both Brooklyn, N. Y., addresses, on 4/22/55, admitted writing instant extortion letters to victim HEDDA HOPPER.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

Investigation in this case began at New York following receipt of information from the Los Angeles Office that victim HEDDA HOPPER had received two extortion letters both having been postmarked at Brooklyn, New York, March 17, 1955, and both having the same return address, [REDACTED] Brooklyn, New York. The letters stated, "Dear Miss I will come to kill you March 21, 1955 The mans howes picture was in the payer not so long ago." One letter was signed "Mr. X" and the other letter signed "Mrs. X."

On April 9, 1955, discreet inquiry of neighbors revealed that [REDACTED] widower, and his two daughters, [REDACTED] nine, and [REDACTED] sixteen, resided at [REDACTED]

COPIES DESTROYED

9 - 27848 16

APR 27 1955

APPROVED AND FORWARDED [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau (9-27848) 1 - Los Angeles 1 - SAC, Los Angeles 1 - New York (9-2147)		11 JUN 9 1955 EX-104

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
(Attn: FBI Lab.)
FROM : SAC, New York (9-2147)

DATE: 4/29/55

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] **B7C**
MEDDA HOPPER-VICTIM
EXTORTION-JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ACT
(OO: Los Angeles)

Re NY teletype to Bureau and Los Angeles, 4/22/55.

The following items were obtained 4/22/55, and are being forwarded herewith to the Laboratory: **B7C**

Items I and II, envelopes obtained from [REDACTED]

Items III and IV, stationery obtained from [REDACTED]

Items V, VI, VII, VIII, and IX, handwriting and handprinting specimens of [REDACTED] done with right hand.

Items X, XI, XII, and XIII, handwriting and handprinting specimens of [REDACTED] done with right hand.

The Laboratory is requested to:

1. Compare the envelopes and stationery with that used in the extortion letters in this case.

2. Compare the handwriting and handprinting specimens of [REDACTED] with that in the extortion letters.

It is noted that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have admitted writing instant extortion letters.

The USA, Los Angeles, had declined prosecution.

The Laboratory should return the specimens to the New York Office unless no identification made with the extortion letters.

Encs. 13

1 - Los Angeles

RECORDED - 43 **7-1047**

10 MAY 6 1955

Street, Brooklyn, New York.

On April 13, 1955, interviews were conducted at [redacted] residence [redacted] Brooklyn, New York, with [redacted] and his two daughters, [redacted] and [redacted] the latter being all the residents of this address, and with [redacted] a visitor in the [redacted] home.

On the same date [redacted] age ten, a very close friend of [redacted] was interviewed at her home [redacted] Brooklyn, New York, in the presence of her grandmother [redacted]

All the above named persons denied the writing of instant letters. Handwriting specimens were obtained and were forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Laboratory for comparison with the handwriting and handprinting in the extortion letters. Samples of stationery and envelopes used in the [redacted] home were also forwarded to the Laboratory.

On April 19, 1955, the FBI Laboratory requested further samples of the known handwriting and handprinting of [redacted] and [redacted]. The Laboratory stated nothing of interest or significance had been noted in the known samples of [redacted] and [redacted]. The Laboratory stated that the stationery and envelopes that had been obtained from [redacted] home was not identical with that used in the extortion letters.

On April 20, 1955, the New York Office obtained further samples of the handprinting and handwriting of [redacted] and [redacted] and forwarded same to the FBI Laboratory for appropriate comparison with that in the extortion letters. Both children still emphatically denied having written instant extortion letters.

10- 27848 16

B7C

B7C

On April 22, 1955, [redacted] nine, [redacted] Brooklyn, New York, was interviewed at the residence of [redacted] Brooklyn, New York, in the presence of [redacted]. She admitted writing one of instant extortion letters to HADDA HOPPER and said that [redacted] Brooklyn, New York, wrote the other letter. She stated she was almost positive that the letters were written by them Saint Patrick's Day afternoon (March 17, 1955) at about three or four o'clock. According to [redacted] wrote one letter first in the [redacted] backyard following which she and [redacted] went to the front porch of [redacted] home where she [redacted] wrote the other letter.

[redacted] said that she did not know HADDA HOPPER; that she had merely heard the name on a television program. She stated that [redacted] furnished the address used for HOPPER.

[redacted] said that she and [redacted] mailed the letters in the mail box on [redacted] Brooklyn, New York, shortly after they wrote the letters. According to [redacted] she and [redacted] purchased the stamps at [redacted] near the corner of [redacted] Brooklyn, New York, [redacted] paying for one stamp and [redacted] for the other one.

[redacted] stated that they used [redacted] name and address as the return address and that they had no particular reason for so doing.

[redacted] declared that she had no intention of carrying out the threat in the letter and that she was very sorry that she had ever done such a thing.

[redacted] and her father declared that she has never been in any trouble.

[redacted] furnished samples of her

NY 100-147

handwriting and handprinting and also a sheet of her stationery which she stated was the source of the stationery used in the extortion letters. These samples were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory.

B7C

On April 22, 1955, [redacted] nine, was interviewed at her residence [redacted] Brooklyn, New York, in the presence of her mother, [redacted]

[redacted] said that she and [redacted] wrote instant extortion letters Saint Patrick's Day afternoon, 1955, at about 3:30 o'clock. She stated that they wrote both letters on the front porch of the [redacted] home; that they wrote the letters simultaneously following which they bought stamps at [redacted] and mailed the letters in a mail box at the corner of [redacted] Brooklyn, New York.

[redacted] said they used the return address [redacted] Brooklyn, New York, she being an acquaintance of theirs, that they had no particular reason for using her address.

[redacted] declared she had no intention of carrying out the threat contained in the letter; that to her, HEDDA NOPPEK was merely a name she had heard on television and knew that she lived in Hollywood, California.

Handwriting and handprinting samples of [redacted] were obtained and forwarded to the FBI Laboratory. An envelope of the type [redacted] thought had been used in mailing the extortion letters was also obtained and forwarded to the Laboratory.

[redacted] and her mother declared that [redacted] has never been in any trouble.

The facts concerning the admission of these two

NY 100-147-27848-18

NY 9-2147

children were furnished to the Los Angeles Office which subsequently reported that prosecution had been declined by the United States Attorney, Los Angeles.

On May 5, 1955, the FBI Laboratory reported that it had been concluded that [redacted] wrote one of the extortion letters. The Laboratory stated that the handwriting and handprinting on the other letter was too distorted to warrant a definite opinion but that some significant handwriting and handprinting characteristics were observed in [redacted] handwriting and handprinting. The Laboratory stated that nothing of interest or significance was noted as a result of the comparison of the further samples of the handwriting and handprinting of [redacted] and [redacted].

B7C

The Laboratory stated that the stationery obtained from the [redacted] name was similar in physical characteristics to the paper used in the extortion letters.

The following descriptions of subjects [redacted] and [redacted] were obtained through interview and observation:

Name
Born

Height
Weight
Eyes
Hair
Complexion

[redacted]

Name
Born
Height
Weight
Eyes

[redacted]

NO = 27848-10

NY 9-2147

Hair
Complexion

Brown
Hair

- HUC -

NY 9-211

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

MISCELLANEOUS

On 4/25/55, Miss HEDDA HOPPER, who was in New York on a visit, was discreetly advised of the general facts of this case as regards the subjects and that the United States Attorney in Los Angeles had declined prosecution.

REFERENCE

Los Angeles teletype to the Bureau, 4/6/55.
Los Angeles teletype to the Bureau and New York, 4/7/55.

9 - 27848 16

LA 9-1721

B7C
11:00 P.M., and bear the return address on the back of the envelopes of [redacted] Brooklyn, New York. One of the envelopes is postmarked on the back at Los Angeles, California, 7:30 P.M., March 30, 1955, and the other envelope is postmarked Los Angeles, California, 3:30 P.M., March 30, 1955. The envelopes and letters are written in pencil on white paper and the contents of each letter is as follows:

"Dear Miss [redacted] I will come to kill you March 21, 1955 the Mans howes Picture was in the paper not so long ago sind Mrs. X"

This message is written in poor handwriting on left side of page while similiar message in handprinting appears on right side of page. The second letter is composed in the same manner with handwriting and handprinting being used and is concluded with "Sind Mr. X" On both letters a crude drawing of a woman appears on the reverse side.

The letters were forwarded to the Bureau Laboratory for appropriate comparison. From handwriting specimens subsequently submitted by the New York Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation reported that it had been concluded that a [redacted] wrote one of the threatening letters. The handwriting and handprinting on the other letter was too distorted to warrant a definite opinion, but some significant handwriting and handprinting characteristics were observed in [redacted] handwriting and handprinting. These two children age 9, admitted writing the threatening letters in this case, as a childish prank.

[redacted] Los Angeles Police Department, was advised of the facts of this case on April 6, 1955. HEDDA HOPPER was advised the Bureau could not afford her personal protection.

This case was presented on April 7 and 23, 1955, to Assistant United States Attorney RAY H. KINNISON who declined prosecution stating the facts of the case do not constitute a violation of the extortion statute.

A description of HEDDA HOPPER is as follows:

Name

HEDDA HOPPER - nee ELDA
FURRY, Mrs. WILLIAM DE WOLF
HOPPER

LA 9-1721

Age
Born
Height
Weight
Hair
Eyes
Marital Status
Relatives

62
Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania
5'6"
140 pounds
Light brown - mixing gray
Blue
Widow

Son

Occupation

WILLIAM DE WOLF HOPPER, JR.
Hollywood
Newspaper columnist and radio
gossip commentator

Office

6331 Hollywood Boulevard,
Hollywood, California (HO-93686)

Residence

1708 Tropical Avenue, Beverly Hills,
California.

- C -

- 3 -

195 27848-17

LA 9-1721

REFERENCE

New York report of Special Agent ~~_____~~
dated June 7, 1955.

BR

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

- 4 -

19-27848-17

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: Enclosure behind file (EBF) to 9-27848-18 has been destroyed.

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
9-27848-18 EBF

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

9 - 27848 19

ATTACHED ENCLOSURE

BEING RETAINED.

ROOM 1224A

Hopper, Hedda
Bureau File 9-12805

Actual # of Pages	Released	Withheld
	7	-0-

Exemption Cited:
B7C

The enclosure behind file (EBF) to
microfilm 9-12875-2 has been destroyed.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION

SUBJECT: HEDDA HOPPER

FILE NUMBER: 9-12805

Dear Mrs

HELEN KOFFER, the name written on the envelope, was the name of the office this letter was mailed in Los Angeles, California, on 11/14/44 at 405 P. M. The name on the back of the envelope is Helen Koffer, 1111 N. 1st St. Los Angeles, California.

The letter reads as follows:

Dear Helen:

This is to tell you that you are better and that your big big mouth is not needed on radio. You will get for all you said about our greatest President and his beloved wife and entire family, who never with all her years - 80 - is passing.

You are sent on by that old wire and be thankful.

BAC

(A hand drawn by Helen and filled in with blue ink, appears at the end of the letter.)

that this letter was received the following day at police station 1111 N. 1st St. mailed by various mail checks dealing with the San mail. The letter was who all might have mailed it. There are some delay in forwarding the on to HELEN KOFFER's office, 708-708 Courtyard Building, Hollywood, Calif. On its receipt the letter itself was mailed only by HELEN KOFFER and HELEN KOFFER neither had any idea of it. The envelope is obviously addressed to HELEN KOFFER, 1111 N. 1st St., Los Angeles, California.

for fingerprinting. The letter was mailed on 11/14/44 at 4:05 P. M. The name on the back of the envelope is Helen Koffer, 1111 N. 1st St., Los Angeles, California.

Very truly yours,
Helen Koffer

Director

RE: THOMAS SUBJECT;
MIRIAM KOFFER, Victim
ATTENTION

Enclosed letter file and that appropriate communication to you in connection
the nature and type of stationery on which the letter was written, and
thereafter this office is advised of the results thereof.

If fingerprints are developed from the letter, about it
and MIRIAM KOFFER will be obtained for identification purposes.

[Redacted]

B7C

Very truly yours,

R. B. [Signature]
[Name]
[Title]

RE: [Redacted]

2-8

Enc.

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 24, 1945

SAC, Los Angeles

Here follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of the evidence received from your office on May 14, 1945.

J. Edgar Hoover
Dir. FBI Wash. D.C.

PHOTOGRAPHY
Smith-Suppert, Walter
KATZMAN

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
MAY 24 1945

Specimens received by
Los Angeles
Reference
Letter dated May 14, 1945
Character of case
Document - Photographed

- Q1 Envelope addressed in ink to "Walter Supper, L.H. Bellwood, California", postmarked "LOS ANGELES CALIF MAY 8 6 PM 1945".
- Q2 Accompanying letter, handwritten in ink, beginning "Walter Supper this is to warn you that you.....".

Result of Examination

The handwriting appearing on specimens Q1 and Q2 was searched through the appropriate sections of the Anonymous Letter File without effecting an identification. A photographic copy of this writing will be added to this file for future reference and comparison.

Specimens Q1 and Q2 were chemically treated for the development of latent fingerprints and were not developed.

MAY 22 1945 P.M.
FBI LABORATORY
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ATTEST SPECIAL DELIVERY

ATK
10-11

73

MAY 24 1945