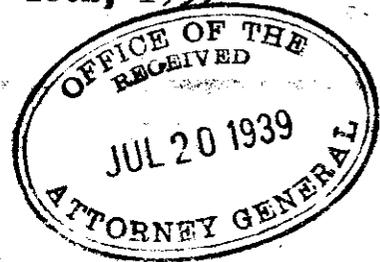


New Orleans, La.,  
July 18th, 1939



Hon. Frank Murphy,  
United States Attorney General,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Attorney General;

I am enclosing a copy of letter written you on June 12th.

RECORDED & INDEXED

At that time I deemed it not advisable to sign this letter, but developments in Louisiana to-day seems to indicate that you mean business.

62-31509-216  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 4 1939  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TAKEN FROM FILE

Now, Mr. Murphy, you as head of the Department of Justice in United States have a very difficult problem on your hand with the Louisiana Politicians.

As an American I understand that the Constitution of this Country guarantees me Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness within any state of the Union. But in Louisiana unless you are on good terms with the Politicians you are denied your Constitutional Rights.

I am the father of nine children and that is my chief reason for taking such an interest in the future of Louisiana.

Hoping that you will be guided by God's Will, I am

8/16/39  
Sel. N.O.  
ACH

Yours truly,

*L. J. Raphael, Sr.*  
224 S. Alexander St  
New Orleans  
La

ENCLOSURE  
5

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New Orleans, La.,  
June 12th, 1939

Hon. Frank Murphy,  
United States Attorney General,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Attorney General;

The writer of this letter is very amused at the publicity given on your recent visit to Louisiana.

I have been following up your records as Governor of the State of Michigan and was very much impressed with your honesty and sincerity of purpose, that is the reason that I am taking the liberty to write you on one of the most important questions in Louisiana to-day.

We, the Honest People of Louisiana, have no voice in the selections of our Candidates, they let us have a so-called election and the man of the street to-day in Louisiana knows that our so-called election is nothing more than a fake. As the present clique of Political Thieves in Louisiana cannot afford to give up their office, because if any fair investigation in Louisiana is held it will mean the complete clique (with few exceptions) into the United States Penitentiary.

I am enclosing numerous clippings from the New Orleans States (one of our most reputable papers) some of these pertaining to you, Mr. Murphy, and in fact invites your investigation of affairs in our fair State.

In one of your addresses in Louisiana you mentioned that the Federal Government will strike hard at gambling, vice and recaterring wherever same is found.

For your information, Mr. Murphy, I will site you several well known facts as they exist in Louisiana to-day. We will take first the W.P.A. for one instance that I know of in the Parish of St. Tammany one of The Governor's Henchman a (Mr. Gelbach or Helbach) an ex-bootlegger and also suspected in one of the recent murders during the prohibition era here. I understand from very reliable sources that the Negro Laborers on the W.P.A have to pay this man so much per week to hold the job, of course you will think this accusation terrible, but that is a small graft compared to the graft of Governor Leche and His political clique who forced State employees to pay for ten and fifteen subscriptions to their fake paper called the Progress, and also making every State employee pay them 5% to hold their position, they do not even exempt the employees of our Charity Hospital in New Orleans, they go so far as to include the Garbage Man who collects garbage cans early in the morning on their lists of forced contributions and subscriptions to their fake papers. No one can do business with the State unless they advertise in this fake paper.

At one of the so-called Federal Investigations in New Orleans Senator Connally of Texas presiding, Mr. Earl Long at one time one of our Champions for Good Government made the sworn testimony in Federal Court that he did not know how elections were conducted in Mexico or Russia, but he knew quite

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Mr. Earl Long is a Brother to the late Senator Huey P. Long. The late Huey P. Long being responsible for all the graft and corruption that is existing in Louisiana today.

With the exception of his brother Earl, the entire political clique in charge of Louisiana to-day are all died in the wool Huey P. Long men they lived on Graft and thrived on graft all their lives.

To give you a fair example of the wretched conditions that the people are forced to live under in this State. Some years back when Huey Long was at the zenith of his power he had men assaulted within our Legislative Hall when our Legislature was in session in Baton Rouge. A Mr. Boudreaux had his skull fractured by one of Long's Henchman and State employee. Hon. Francis Williams was assaulted in the Legislative Hall at Baton Rouge by one of Huey Longs Henchmans and Huey gave him (his hired man) hell because he did not do a better job of it. Earl Long knows this and was one of the chief causes of him opposing the policy of Huey/Long and his clique. In further relating to the attack on Francis Williams this man was tried in the District Court of Baton Rouge for assault and found guilty as charged and steps proudly forward with a pardon signed by the late Governor Allen, this pardon being written and signed before the man was even tried. United States Post Master General Farley knows Mr. Francis Williams personally and these facts can be proven upon investigations.

As for gambling and slot machines in Louisiana they are found everywhere and are controlled by the politicians of this State, no competitors are allowed to operate. The Race Track of New Orleans is owned by this political clique notwithstanding the fact that we have a Law on the Status Books prohibiting book making on Race Horses, there are at present over one thousand of them in operation in the State to-day; but this is not so bad, I have bet on Race Horses myself, but low and behold the politicians of our City and State close these shops during the racing season in New Orleans during the three months that they operate here permitting them to operate and accept bets nine months in the year while races are conducted out of this State. The reason for this is they will not have any competition and during the three months that the small bookies are closed most of them get on our un-employment list. The politicians now own and operate the Base Ball game here, and force state and city employees to purchase tickets on the Opening Day. No fooling, they actually compell them to buy or else.

As for the Federal Court the People of Louisiana are also losing faith. At one time we all had re-course to that Honorable Court. Take for instance the Trial of Abraham Shushan, this man admitted under Cross Examination to receiving over Four Hundred and Twenty-eight thousand dollars (\$428,000) graft on the excavating and foundation in the construction of the SHUSHAN AIRPORT. A picked or fixed Jury here found him not guilty. Upon investigating from the Hon. Judge W.H. Barrett United States Judge of Augusta Ga. he can enlighten you more through on this case. Just imagine a blow like this on a community of FREE BORN AMERICANS who expected to see SHUSHAN behind the Bars of Justice where he rightfully belongs, now what happens. United States Attorney here being forced to drop cases pending against SEYMOUR WEISS, JULES FISHER, JIMMY NOE and other higher ups in charge of Louisiana at that time. 81

Now you may wonder to yourself why a citizen of United States born

in the sixth congressional disteict of Louisiana was shot on his way home after one of his Political meetings. The writer of this letter listening on the radio a few nights after this had happen was amazed to hear the Governor of our State ridicule Mr. Morrison and in fact made the bold assertion that he shot himself and put a little tomato catsup to make it look good, not withstanding the fact that said Mr. Morrison was treated at the Touro Infirmary of New Orleans for this wound in the arm.

I could go on citing instances after instances of such assaults in Louisiana and nothing has been done. Conditions like this breeds disrespect of the Law and gives even good TRUE BLOODED AMERICANS Communistic ideas. Now, being raised a Catholic, and believing in the Teachings of my Church, I deem it my duty to write you about these facts as these politicians in Louisiana are so shrewd they have even decieved our Clergy. I would like to sign this letter, but of fear of reprisals against me and my family I will have to let this letter go to you unsigned, but in the event you will do your duty as Attorney General of the United States and have an open investigation into the affairs of this State, I will then make myself known to you, as the situation now stands the next election in this State no matter who wins THE PEOPLE LOOSE.

AN AMERICAN

P.S. If the Oil situation in Louisiana is investigated it will make the Tea Pot Dome scandal look like a grain of sand on the Rocky Mountains. This industry is controlled by the Politicians too. Three years back Leche was an UNKNOWN and had NO MEANS at all, TO-DAY HE IS A MILLIONAIRE

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS ENCLOSED

July-18-39  
This letter written by L.J. Raphael, Sr.  
New Orleans La  
(224. S. Alexander St.)

62-32509-215 X  
August 11, 1939

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

ACH:LL

Special Agent in Charge  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

There are inclosed herewith two photostatic copies of a letter dated at New Orleans, Louisiana, July 22, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General by an anonymous individual who signs himself "A well wisher in the interest of Justice," together with two photostatic copies of the newspaper clippings forwarded therewith, the letter and its inclosures having been referred to the bureau by the Department. It is desired that one copy be furnished by your office to United States Attorney Gene A. Viosca, New Orleans.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Inclosure

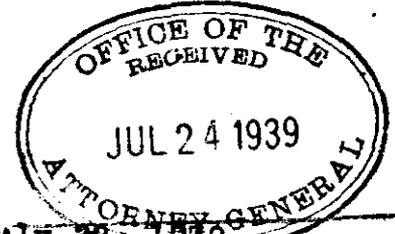
- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Crowl \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Lawler \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McIntire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. G. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tread \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 ★ AUG 11 1939 ★  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

5/11

53

40



New Orleans, La., July 23, 1939

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-215

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AUG 15 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EX-111

Honorable Frank Murphy,  
Attorney General of the United States,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

All independent Democrats, interested in honest governmental institutions and the integrity of the Judiciary and the Department of Justice, were greatly encouraged by your two recent addresses, one advocating a merit system and condemning the "spoils system", and the other emphasizing the sacredness of the Judiciary and the law enforcement machinery of the Federal Government, and the necessity for maintaining its integrity and the public respect for it, if democratic institutions are to survive. I note recently, however, that in discussing the Louisiana situation, you stated that you had every confidence in Mr. Viosca, the local District Attorney. You are a busy man and it is impossible for you to keep informed with regard to local Federal officials all over the United States. In fairness to you, and in order that you may not be deceived, I am enclosing for your information various clippings with reference to the dismissal, several years ago, by the Federal Government of the indictments against various political leaders of the Long machine, who had been indicted for income tax frauds, many of whom have been indicted in connection with the present investigation.

As a matter of history, when Senator Long and his local machine were making vicious attacks on President Roosevelt, and a pro-Roosevelt Faction was organized in Louisiana to combat the local

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62-32509-215  
 AUG 15 1939  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Honorable Frank Murphy - #2.

7/22/39.

machine, Mr. Rene Viosca was appointed by President Roosevelt as United States Attorney on the suggestion of the Anti-Long leaders (including J. Y. Sanders, his law partner), on the theory that he was opposed to what the National Administration then considered the local corruption of the Long machine, and could be relied upon to carry on the Federal investigation and prosecutions relentlessly and fearlessly. Senator Long attacked Mr. Viosca's honesty and integrity on the floor of the United States Senate, and succeeded in blocking his confirmation by the Senate. Mr. Viosca was then appointed as Acting United States Attorney by the local United States Judge, pending the filling of the vacancy by Presidential appointment. The local Federal Grand Jury returned the indictments in question during the period that Mr. Viosca was acting as United States Attorney, and while Long was living, and before the National Administration and the Long machine had arranged the now famous "peace pact." After Mr. Long's death and the defeat of the pro-Roosevelt faction in the State election, the local political leaders dined at the White House, according to Associated Press reports, with the President, Attorney General Cummings and Mr. Farley, and after a conference, a "peace pact" was announced. Shortly thereafter, the papers reported the resignation of various members of the pro-Roosevelt faction holding jobs, and these jobs were then filled by the Long machine. Mr. Viosca, evidently a party to and sympathetic with the announced "peace pact," appointed two Assistant United States Attorneys prominently connected with the Long machine, and shortly thereafter, Mr. Viosca dismissed the various cases, with the statement that the cases were "weak." Attorney

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Honorable Frank Murphy, - #3.

7/22/39.

General Cummings announced that he approved of Mr. Viosca's action. These were the same indictments which were brought by a courageous Federal Grand Jury with Mr. Viosca and several Assistant United States Attorneys General sitting in during the period when the Long machine was attacking Mr. Roosevelt. Mr. Seymour Weiss, whose indictment was dismissed, later headed the Louisiana delegation to the Democratic National Convention, with the announcement that it would support President Roosevelt.

Following the events I have outlined Mr. Roosevelt again designated Mr. Viosca as United States Attorney, and sent his name to the Senate, and although his appointment had been previously blocked by the Long machine, he was confirmed, this time with the unqualified endorsement of both Louisiana Senators, who were prominent members of the Long political machine.

The circumstances are such that it is difficult to escape the conclusion that the Department of Justice was prostituted by Mr. Viosca, for political expediency and in order to obtain his appointment, although his original appointment was obtained on the theory of his opposition to conditions existing in this State, and that he could be depended upon to vigorously investigate and prosecute all of the Long machine political wrong-doers.

Even before the instance I have related, Mr. Viosca had held lucrative local attorneyships in Louisiana under succeeding opposing factions, and had demonstrated a marvelous acuteness and ability to change his position at the proper and most expedient time.

You are to be congratulated, therefore, in sending some of your Special Assistants to Louisiana to assist in the pending investiga-

Honorable Frank Murphy - #4.

7/22/39.

tion and prosecutions.

I have only briefly summarized the situation. The enclosed clippings give more elaborate details.

Yours very truly,

*I will continue  
in the interest of  
Justice.*



Honorable Frank Murphy,  
Attorney General of the United States,  
Washington, D. C.



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62-32509-215X

ENCLOSURE

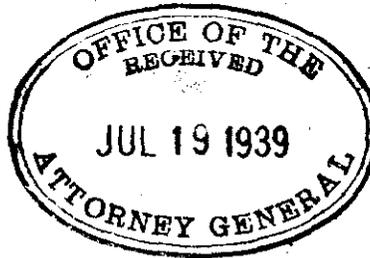
59

COPIES DESTROYED

170 SEP 17 1964

New York, July 18th, /39

U.S. Attorney General Murphy,  
Washington, D.C.



Dear Sir;

here visiting the World Fair, was glad to read in the morning paper that the Federal Grand Jury indicted Seymour Weiss, we in Louisiana have been afraid to utter one word of protest against this Gang of scoundrels for fear of being bodily injured.

The Government should also get after Geo. Dansiger, ---a Negro partner of Mayor Maestri who conducts the numbers games, also the Mayor Maestri, who was never elected by the people, who owns two hundred pieces of property, fifty per cent of which are occupied by whoars, and he pays no tax on this property.

You will have to have some clever men stay in Louisiana sometime to get th low down on this gang.

What Louisiana needs is Voting Machines, so the decent respectable people can run for office, knowing that the votes will be counted in an honest manner.

Yours truly,  
J.C. Corbin,

8/16/39  
L. P. G.  
ACH

dict.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-3257-215  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
JUL 19 1939  
60

62-32509-214

ACH:AI

August 2, 1939

**PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL**

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Re: Louisiana State Officials;  
Information Concerned

Assistant Attorney General O. John Rogge recently submitted to our New Orleans Office an anonymous communication received by him, which, because of the information contained therein, and at the suggestion of Mr. Rogge, is quoted below:

"CHRISTENBERRY, HERBERT W.

"Assistant United States Attorney  
New Orleans, La.

"His father was a letter carrier, in the employ of the N. O. Postal service; educated in public schools of N. O. (No college training) Worked as a youth for J. K. Newman and Co. New Orleans brokers, and at one time worked for them in New York. On his return (about 1922 or 1923)-he is estimated to be about 37 years of age--while working in N. O. with his brother, Earl J. Christenberry, in the public multigraphing and envelope addressing business--studied law at Loyola University, finishing his course about 1926 when he was admitted to the bar.

Mr. Tolson	"Practiced with indifferent success, and his brother, Earl J. Christenberry
Mr. Nathan	having become Secretary to Senator Long (about 1931) he was given some
Mr. E. A. Tamm	small attorneyship under the State of Louisiana. No real duties to be
Mr. Clegg	performed, just a political sinecure.
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Egan	"Took an active interest in Long's campaigns, and on the death of Long
Mr. Glavin	both Herbert and his brother continued with the Leche machine. In 1935
Mr. Crowl	he was appointed an Assistant District Attorney under Charles A. Byrne
Mr. Egan	District of Orleans Parish--Byrnes being a political underling of Long's
Mr. Lester	who was illegally appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation
Mr. Lusk	of Dist. Atty. Stanley who resigned because Long's controlled Legislature
Mr. Quinn	took from him power to appoint his Assistants and office force. The law
Mr. Nease	provided that a election should be held to fill this vacancy, but the
Mr. Tamm	law was ignored.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
AUG 3 1939  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
EJP  
ACB  
61

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

Memorandum for the  
Attorney General

August 2, 1934

"Remained under Byrnes until a little more than a year ago (about 1936) when he was appointed an Assistant U. S. Attorney when Viosca gave all patronage of his office to the State Machine, in return for the promised support by the machine of his candidacy for the new Federal Judgeship.

"He (Christenberry) has no ability whatever, and boasts of his loyalty to the State Machine, even having gone so far as to publicly endorse Viosca's candidacy for the Federal Judgeship, saying "it might embarrass me with my party, as I don't know what they will do". Had a bad reputation in the State Court, as it was rumored he was grafting. I know that he visited a man and wife in the city of New Orleans and told them that unless they gave him \$100 to nolle prosecute a case in his Section of the Criminal District Court, he would send the prisoner (a negro) to the penitentiary, although the charges in another Section had been nolle prosecuted because of insufficient evidence, but he, Christenberry, stated that the other trial assistant had been paid off, and he would get his, too. This man and wife, who are personally known to me, will not make a statement to this effect in writing, although they told it to me, personally, fearing persecution by the State machine.

"I have had no contact with him since his becoming an Assistant U. S. Atty\_ but it is believed he is pursuing the same tactics there. It is rumored in N. O. that he nightly reports the doings of the Grand Jury, and the facts obtained in his investigations outside of the jury room, to Maestri. The public has no confidence in him in this investigation, one citizen stating it was like assigning the fox to investigate the disappearance of the chickens from the hen roost, when the fox turns up with a mouth full of feathers.

"J. SKELLY WRIGHT

"Assistant United States Attorney

"Out of law school not more than six years (Loyola University). About 28 years of age, and a nephew of City Commissioner Joseph Patrick Skelly whose reputation and grafting propensities (so reputed) have been covered in the report on gambling. He is an unknown, has no particularly ability and owes his appointment to the sell out by Viosca to the State machine when they promised him a Federal Judgeship. Viosca turned out four assistants (anti State machine) when

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August 2, 1939

he switched his politics, and appointed four state machine men. It is believed he daily reports his facts to Maestri and his uncle, Joseph P. Skelly. He also refused to endorse Viosca's candidacy for Federal Judgeship, saying, like Christenberry, he would first have to find out where the Leche machine stood. His mother, who is a sister of Joseph P. Skelly, is a ward captain or leader in one of the uptown wards, and is on the payroll. All the family of the Skelly's are on the payroll.

HILARY J. GAUDIN  
Assistant United States Attorney

Out of law school about ten years. Holds a BA and LLB from Loyala University, of which college his brother, Father Gaudin, a Jesuit Priest, is President. I know nothing definite against his integrity and as far as grafting is concerned, though a local Attorney told me that since becoming an Assistant U. S. Attorney he told a prisoner, charged with a narcotic violation that if he, the prisoner, secured the services of his, Gaudin's brother (Felix J. Gaudin, Atty. in N. O.) that he would not be indicted, which the prisoner wisely did, and was not indicted. The fee paid was reported to be \$750. Whether there was a split or not, I would not say. He was one of the administration's men who went in with the Viosca sell out, and later refused to endorse Viosca for the Federal Judgeship unless it was O. K. with the Administration. Prior to his appointment, he did not actively practice law here, working for the Pan Am Oil Co., and holding down a job on the dock board at \$150 a month, merely receiving his check and cashing it, doing no work for it at all, as he was employed as a salesman by the oil company and it took up all of his time. It is believed he daily reports the progress of the investigation to Maestri. A witness recently summoned said he was afraid to tell any of the Assistants (or even Viosca) all he knew, as they would carry it, and the crowd in Baton Rouge might have him 'knocked off'.

Mr. Rogge indicated he was perturbed by the following sentence appearing in Paragraph 5: "I know that he visited a man and wife in the city of New Orleans and told them that unless they gave him \$100 to nolle prosecute a case in his Section of the Criminal District

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Memorandum for the  
Attorney General

- 4 -

August 2, 1939

Court, he would send the prisoner (a negro) to the penitentiary, although the charges in another Section had been nolle prossed because of insufficient evidence, but he, Christenberry, stated that the other trial assistant had been paid off, and he would get his, too, but was undetermined as to just what action would be taken, however believing that the communication should be passed on to you.

Mr. Rogge also indicated he intended to use Assistant United States Attorney Herbert W. Christenberry in the trials in the cases in connection with this investigation.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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Director

-2-

7-29-39

Byrnes being a political underling of Long's who was illegally appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dist. Atty\_ Stanley who resigned because Long's controlled Legislature took from him power to appoint his Assistants and office force. The law provided that an election should be held to fill this vacancy, but the law was ignored.

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I have had no contact with him since his becoming an Assistant U. S. Atty- but it is believed he is pursuing the same tactics there. It is rumored in N. O. that he nightly reports the doings of the Grand Jury, and the facts obtained in his investigations outside of the jury room, to Maestri. The public has no confidence in him in this investigation, one citizen stating it was like assigning the fox to investigate the disappearance of the chickens from the hen roost, when the fox turns up with a mouth full of feathers.

J. SKELLY WRIGHT

Assistant United States Attorney

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66

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HILLARY J. GAUDIN

Assistant United States Attorney

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Mr. ROGGE advised that with reference to Paragraph 5 of the letter, he was somewhat perturbed by the following sentence: "I know that he visited a man and wife in the city of New Orleans and told them that unless they gave him \$100 to nolle prosequi a case in his Section of the Criminal District Court,

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Director

-4-

7-29-39

he would send the prisoner ( a negro ) to the penitentiary, although the charges in another Section had been nolle prosequied because of insufficient evidence, but he, Christenberry, stated that the other trial assistant had been paid off, and he would get his, too".

Mr. ROGGE advised that he was undetermined as to just what he would do with reference to the sentence quoted, that he believed this anonymous communication should be passed on to the Attorney General. Mr. ROGGE advised that he intends using Assistant United States Attorney HERBERT W. CHRISTENBERRY in the trials in the cases in connection with this investigation which are presently pending in New Orleans.

It is requested that copies of the anonymous communication received by Mr. ROGGE be forwarded to the Attorney General, in accordance with Mr. ROGGE's request, if it is agreeable to the Bureau to do.

Very truly yours,

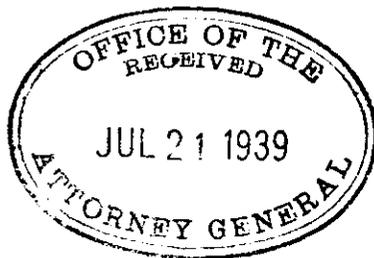
*B. E. Sackett*  
B. E. SACKETT,  
Special Agent in Charge

62-978  
CWD:EFK

68

MRS. WILLIAM A. WEST, JR.

1421 OCTAVIA STREET, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA



July 18, 1939.

Honorable Frank Murphy  
Attorney General of the United States  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

I join the thousands of residents of Louisiana who ask that you push the investigation of corruption in the state of Louisiana.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. W. A. West Jr.*

RECORDED & INDEXED

8/16/39  
L. N. O.  
ACH

2-2-507-214
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 4 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUL 18 1939  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

116-27

Dear Sir

is a puppet in the hands of marster and will do his bidding in behalf of the 75000 illegal votes marster has for years earned on the poll books in N.P. These votes have been used for years (illegally) in state and national elections.

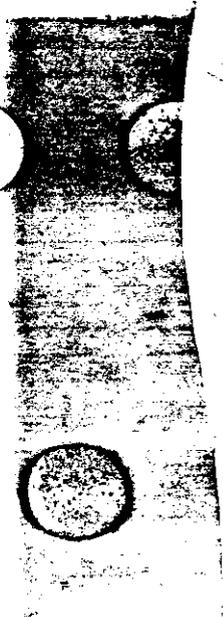
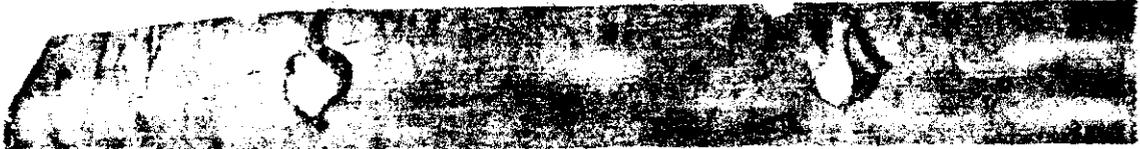
RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-213  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 4 1939  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

It is now being prepared that a state investigation of the all racket be made to possible deter you from going forward. When these took the bonds and trust box he and long used to hide Long's papers it is understood that he and elder bought in with Ralph Ritz the bill men in his company or has the money and bonds in some trust box N.Y.

8/16/39 - Let. N.Y. - ACH

The loot led, among the other things and cash \$50000 of first mortgage bonds of Robert Hales much of this is known by Allen Messron Farmer master of Huey Long, and the leader of various political racketeers under him L.P. abramathy chairman of the highway body has for years been receiving 20 cents per ft on all sand and gravel sold to the state on all state and federal aid jobs including N.P.A. The Lyppard Hill Co of Dallas Texas hold the most of it but their books may be covered Gology Hall on S.D.A. Campus earned \$200000 N.P.A. and the Standard supply & in which abramathy has a 98% interest furnished all the maps, globe plates boards and technical equipment at exorbitant price without competitors. The whole mess is rotten to the core your quarrel to Long and you alone can not crack I imagine that 100000 people are praying for you and I bid bless you -



04

9-12-39

7

Please, while you're about the business of washing Louisiana's face with eye concentrate, dont overlook the Sanderson-DeGeneres clique. Scrub the floors and walls of the Shreveport Charity Hospital. Find out why Sanderson is permitted to haul hundreds of dollars worth of food away from the hospital for the private use of his friends, openly, and without so much as a "By your leave"

Please, help clean up this end of the state as well as the southern rim.  
Yours for a real clean-up  
A Citizen

8/16/39  
L.H. N.C.  
ACH

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-33509-212

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AUG 4 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*ACH*

71

62-32509

Section

10

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EAT:JM  
RECORDED 62-22509-2457

*Handwritten initials*

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

8/12/39

Transmit the following message to:

SAC NEW ORLEANS

RE LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. YOU ARE  
AUTHORIZED CONTACT WITNESS SEGUE UPON ARRIVAL AND TAKE HIM TO  
THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS OFFICE.

HOOVER

*Handwritten signature*

CODED AND SENT

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

AUG 12 1939

TELETYPE

DE-INDEXED  
DATE: 4-1-57  
13

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 57-262-7

SENT VIA \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

*Handwritten signature*

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

AUG 11 1939

TELETYPE

DECODED COPY

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-11-39 7-45 PM EFK

DIRECTOR

RE LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. TWO MAIL-FRAUD  
INDICTMENTS EXPECTED TO BE RETURNED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY, NEW ORLEANS,  
MONDAY AGAINST GEORGE CALDWELL SUPT. CONSTRUCTION LOUISIANA STATE  
UNIVERSITY, INVOLVING KICKBACKS CALDWELL RECEIVED FROM CONTRACTS  
BETWEEN LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AND CONTRACTORS. ASSISTANT UNITED  
STATES ATTORNEYS, NEW ORLEANS, PROCEEDED TO DALLAS FOR REMOVAL HEARING  
ON FREMAN BURFORD, INDICTED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY HERE IN CONNECTION  
WITH VIOLATION OF CONNALLY ACT, AS BURFORD IS FIGHTING REMOVAL.  
RE UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ABE SHUSHAN JURY, OCTOBER 5, 1935, TAMPERING WITH  
JURY. TAYLOR SEGUE, NEGRO, ONE OF THE JURORS, CALLED THIS OFFICE FROM  
WASHINGTON DC THAT HE WAS AT 5120 WASHINGTON PLACE, CARE OF M. T.  
MALVAN, TELEPHONE ATLANTIC 0012. UNITED STATES ATTORNEY HERE WIRED  
SEGUE TO APPEAR IN NEW ORLEANS FOR SERVICE OF SUBPOENA WHICH HE REFUSED  
TO DO SO UNITED STATES MARSHAL, WASHINGTON DC, WAS REQUESTED TO SERVE  
SUPOENA ON SEGUE. O. JOHN ROGGE REQUESTED  
SEGUE LEFT WASHINGTON DC, TIME HE LEFT, THE  
OF HIS ARRIVAL HERE. ALSO REQUESTING THAT  
ORLEANS HE BE IMMEDIATELY CONTACTED AND BRO  
ATTORNEYS OFFICE. IF THE BUREAU AUTHORIZES  
ING SEGUES DEPARTURE FROM WASHINGTON IT IS

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Lawler
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

*Washington Field  
admiral 8-11-39 gfs  
Crime Conditions Louisiana*

RECORDED & INDEXED  
62-29507-200  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 15 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TAMM TW

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 57-262-7

*cc - m. sears  
wire no  
8/12/39  
2*

IMMEDIATELY HAVE THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION CONTACT THE UNITED STATES MARSHAL THERE AND CONDUCT THE INVESTIGATION REQUESTED BY ROGGE RELATIVE TO THE DEPARTURE AND THEREAFTER IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE NEW ORLEANS OFFICE OF THE RESULTS. THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THIS OFFICE IF SEGUE SHOULD BE CONTACTED UPON HIS ARRIVAL HERE AND TAKEN TO THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS OFFICE.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASHINGTON DC OEC

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

**NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA  
August 11, 1939**

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY;  
Information Concerning

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is a statement by SHIRLEY WIMBERLY entitled "Plot to Seize The State Government," which was distributed in New Orleans.

This statement is being forwarded to the Bureau for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*B. E. Sackett*  
B. E. SACKETT  
Special Agent in Charge

CWD:ALS  
Enclosure

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-245

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 14 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*W. E. S.*  
LEANN  
TWO

ENCL. C

*Crime in Louisiana*

*2*  
*hr*

*///*

*4*

OUT OF MY WAY  
POOR ONE! MY  
FATHER IS A  
MEMBER OF THE  
CITIZENS  
VOLUNTARY  
COMMITTEE!

IT'S HIGH TIME  
THE TIMES-PICAYUNE  
REGAINS CONTROL OF  
LOUISIANA! HUEY  
LONG AIN'T AROUND TO  
KEEP US OUT ANY  
LONGER!!!!

WALKER'S  
WASHES

BEAT IT!!

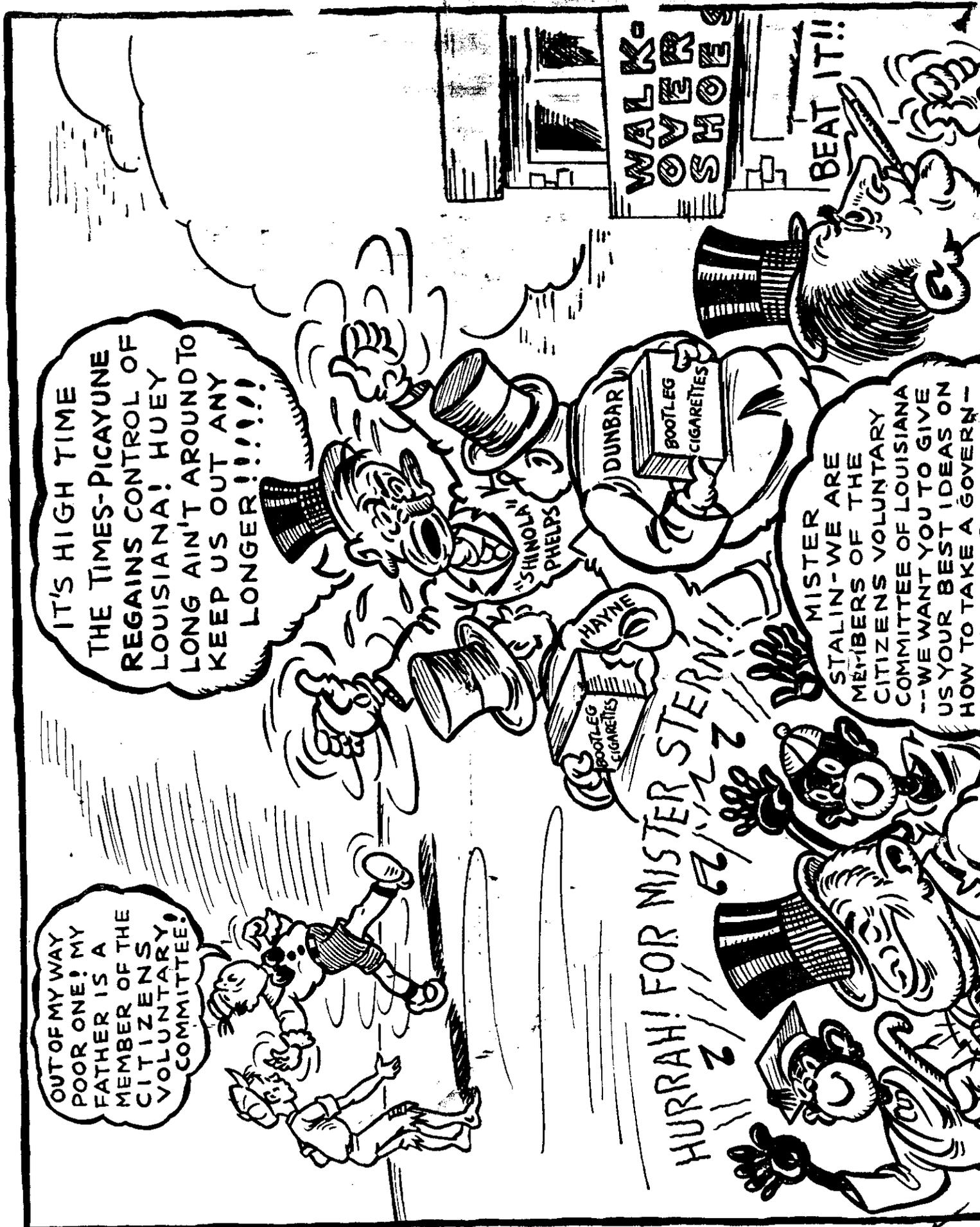
"SHINOLA"  
PHELPS

DUNBAR  
BOOT-LEG  
CIGARETTES

HAYNE  
BOOT-LEG  
CIGARETTES

MISTER  
STALIN-WE ARE  
MEMBERS OF THE  
CITIZENS VOLUNTARY  
COMMITTEE OF LOUISIANA  
--WE WANT YOU TO GIVE  
US YOUR BEST IDEAS ON  
HOW TO TAKE A GOVERN-  
MENT AWAY FROM THE

HURRAH! FOR MISTER STERN!  
2/22/22





PEOPLE AND SET-UP  
OUR OWN IN-  
STEAD!!

STALIN

AIRREY

WIDOWS  
AND  
ORPHANS

SUZARUS

STERN

# Plot To Seize The State Government!

## Lying Times-Picayune and Corporation Lawyers Itching to Regain Political Control of Louisiana Which Huey Long Snatched From Them.

### A HIT DOG YELPS!

On last Monday night I talked over Radio Station WDSU about a mis-named outfit calling itself the Citizens Voluntary Committee of Louisiana, which holds itself out as an agency to save the State of Louisiana.

The next morning the newspapers carried an item that this Committee had warned Radio Station WDSU that if its owners allow me to tell the truth again over that station that dire and terrible things will happen to it, and they further ask Governor Long to repudiate me. Why? Why pick on WDSU and Governor Long? I made the speech. Not WDSU, nor Governor Long.

This Committee of blue-bloods and corporation lawyers has put a gag on the newspapers so they can't tell the truth. Now they want to shut off the radio so the people of this State can't hear the truth spoken at all. And they want the Governor of this State to throw over his best friends, who have always had his best interests at heart and will at least give him honest and sincere advice when he needs it, and take the members of that bogus committee in as a sort of kitchen cabinet to run the State for him.

**Who asks for my repudiation?**

**Not the poor man or poor woman.**

**Who asks that my right of free speech be denied to me?**

settled and highly publicized situation in Louisiana as a springing board back into political power and control of this State. They have never been able to stomach the licking Huey Long gave them many years back when he kicked them out and gave control of this State into the hands of the people of Louisiana.

**Before the people started running this State did anyone ever dream of Free School Books in Louisiana?**

**Was anyone bold enough to believe that we would ever have such things as Homestead exemptions, where a poor man could own his little home and have the tax burden taken off his shoulders?**

While these Corporation Lawyers were running this State—the same clique that's raising so much fuss in the newspapers now—did the people enjoy such things as free poll taxes? Did we have thousands of miles of paved roads? While these out-moded aristocrats who turn up their noses at poor people were running this State their way, was this a place where a poor man could get sick without becoming a bankrupt while he was trying to get well again? Did we have a magnificent hospitalization system in Louisiana then, absolutely free to any poor man, woman or child who cannot afford to pay for necessary medical care and attention?

**You know as well as I do that we did not. This State was ten thousand miles behind in the march of progress before Huey Long came along.**

and corporate interests and they will never in this world attack or criticize one of their own.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I understand that that period of my political life during which I was opposed to Senator Huey Long, is to be used to try to show that I am insincere in the present situation.

Now these birds might as well know right now that I am not going to be put on the defensive. That's an old political trick and it won't work with me. I am merely going to state my position regarding that question and then I do not intend to ever refer to it again.

I supported Huey P. Long in 1924 when I ran for Governor and in 1928 when he ran aga. I took the stump and made many speeches for him. I was still his friend during the dark days of his impeachment. In 1930 he came to New Orleans and made one of the few mistakes he made during his political life. He was misled into joining forces with a man whose name I shall not call, because he is not presently in politics, but who was universally despised by every decent person in New Orleans. I told the Senator I would not be a political bed-mate of that man then or at any other time and I never have. Senator Long, not at that time knowing the situation in New Orleans as well as he came to know it later, insisted on aligning himself with this man and several of his friends and I decided we couldn't go along. And we didn't. And Huey Long himself, when he finally found this man out for the crook he was and kicked him out, told me he had

Basille where I can only hear the echoes of my own voice as it cries out against injustice? I'll tell you.

These are the heartless scoundrels who opposed the distribution of free school books among the children of the poor.

These decorated aristocrats who tried to keep the brains of the poor children clouded and darkened with ignorance so that they could be used as beasts of burden for the rest of their lives.

Who else? Sleek, hawk-nosed gamblers, not boys in shirt-sleeves who shoot "craps" on the corners, but fashionably dressed, high-hatted snobs who hoist the price of food on the floors of the cotton and stock exchanges.

Yes, I'll tell you who wants to send me as an exile to a newly created Siberia—I'll tell you.

A haplot press, the notorious Times-Phryama and Daily Stater. Front, middle and back sold to the Chain Stores and blatted corporations.

A rotten subsidized press, enemy of States' rights; inveterate foe of organized labor and hater of the Common Man. Who else wants me silenced?

The reactionaries who opposed a network of paved roads throughout this State. WHO ELSE? EVERY MAN WHOSE FACE WAS CREASED WITH WRINKLES OF JOY WHEN THE BLOOD OF THE MARTYRED HUEY P. LONG STAINED THE FLOOR OF THE CAPITAL AT BATON ROUGE.

Well, I don't believe those aristocratic gentlemen will succeed in scaring the owners and operators of WDSU into running for cover. But, if they do, there still remains the public platform and the circular like this one to tell the people what's going on in this State.

And there's plenty going on!

Please don't ever be mistaken about that.

There's a well-confected and concerted scheme on hand by the lying newspapers and the Corporation Lawyers to use the present un-

the big rich corporations have the iron-clad, copper-riveted gall to believe they can make the people of Louisiana forget these privileges and blessings they enjoy since the shackles fastened on them by the moneyed interests were ripped off by the late and great Huey P. Long.

Oh no, you worshippers of Mammon!

**YOU SHALL NOT PASS!** We will not let you pass. You will never succeed in your nefarious scheme to fool the good, plain, honest people of this State into accepting you as their champions and defenders.

Has any one of these fine birds of the Citizen's Voluntary Committee of Louisiana that I called by his proper name in my radio broadcast the other night, questioned the truth of what I said? Did the newspapers, which are owned and controlled body and soul by these Corporation Lawyers, say anything in defense of any individual on that Committee that I talked about?

NO! They employed quite another method. They ran to Radio Station WDSU and told its owners: "Don't you dare let that fellow talk about us any more. If you do we might sue you!" Threats, that's all. Empty, idle threats. They will never shut me up, as long as they strut around here posing as something they are not. As long as they are willing to keep on representing big corporations and banks and running brokerage shops and big businesses as private individuals and stay out of politics where they definitely don't belong, I'll have no quarrel with them. But if the Times-Picayune and the New Orleans States and the Big moneyed interests and the other Home Rulers think they are going to shut me up by threatening Radio Stations and asking the Governor of the State to repudiate me, then I say to them here and now that that isn't the way to do it. There is but one way and that is the way they stopped Huey Long.

Have you seen the Times-Picayune and the New Orleans States and the Citizen's Voluntary Committee take out after any individual or concern in this whole situation who was a banker or a broker, with the exception of one little fellow who came to Louisiana only recently and who was not himself, a blue-blood?

No, and you won't see it either. Those newspapers get their advertising from the moneyed

(OVER)

that man I resumed my friendship with him. I was his friend from then until the day he was martyred by an assassin's bullet.

Whatever differences I had with Huey Long occurred when he was alive and in good health and also at the very zenith of his power. I did not wait until after he was murdered to disagree with him, nor have I made war on his widow like the Times-Picayune and the New Orleans States did.

If Huey Long was willing to compose his differences with me and was satisfied to accept my friendship two years before his death, that's good enough for me.

The best answer I can possibly make to those who seek to brand me as an enemy of Huey Long, is that I am, in my humble way, using my every energy to defend him against the onslaughts of the enemies he left behind when he closed his eyes in death.

Now, let me get back to this Citizen's Voluntary Committee of Louisiana. Why don't they have their lawyers do a little looking at their law books and dig up some statute or constitutional provision of the law which gives them the right to displace the elected officials of this State and take over and run our State Government?

Or, do they believe that because they were born rich and aristocratic they had attached to them at birth a sort of Divine right to govern such as is claimed by Kings?

Don't they know that in this land of ours Every Man's A King?

The people of this State, down to the humblest of its citizens, reserve the right to vote for and elect to office the public officials of their choice to run this State for them.

If I know the people of Louisiana, and I think I do, they intend to keep on with that Democratic system.

Therefore, the Times-Picayune and the New Orleans States and their fellow wolves-in-sheeps-clothing, the blue-nosed members of the Citizen's Voluntary Committee would do well to take the back seat in Louisiana's politics where Huey Long sat them long ago.



SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY.

RECORDED

62-32507-244  
ACH:MK

September 9, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: SHIRLEY GERARD WIMBERLY  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

There is inclosed herewith for your information a copy of the report of Special Agent J. O. Peyronnia, New Orleans, Louisiana, dated August 7, 1939.

There is also inclosed herewith a transcription of a talk made by Shirley Gerard Wimberly on August 7, 1939, which was recorded at the New Orleans office by means of the Ediphone dictating machine.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Inclosure

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Crowl \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Lawler \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Lester \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McIntire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Sells \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. D. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_

*orig. sent  
9/14/39 - ed*

*Handwritten initials and a circled number 9.*

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **New Orleans, Louisiana**

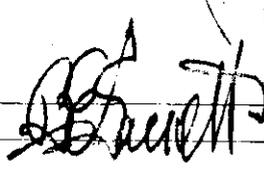
N. O. FILE NO. **62-987**

REPORT MADE AT <b>New Orleans, La.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>Aug. 7, 1939</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>July 31 &amp; Aug. 1-2, 1939</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>J. B. PYRONIN</b> <span style="float: right;">SH</span>
TITLE <b>SHIRLEY GERARD WIMBERLY</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INFORMATION CONCERNING</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

On Monday evening, July 31, 1939, subject over broadcasting station WDSU, New Orleans, Louisiana, delivered a political speech in which he attacked the Honorable Attorney General FRANK MURPHY, his aides, and Federal investigators for their activities in the investigation of certain matters in the State of Louisiana. Investigation developed subject is individual practicing attorney at New Orleans; is not outstanding lawyer; graduate of Loyola Law School; born New Orleans August 2, 1899; admitted to Louisiana Bar June 13, 1924; admitted practice United States District Court, New Orleans, December 3, 1928. Newspaper accounts mentioned subject as law associate of Governor EARL K. LONG. United States Attorney RENE VIOSCA, New Orleans, informed that Governor LONG contacted him and Mr. O. JOHN ROGGE, Assistant Attorney General, August 2, 1939, and disapproved subject's radio speech. JAMES H. MORRISON, Hammond, Louisiana, organizer for the Louisiana Farmers' Protective Union, avowed anti-Louisiana administration citizen, bitterly attacked subject for his radio speech and particularly warned subject to leave the Honorable Attorney General, FRANK MURPHY, his aides, and decent and honest citizens of Louisiana alone, or he would put him in his place. Bureau informed by teletype of these developments.

*4-2-39*  
*Chapman*  
*0 New Orleans*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 2 New Orleans		<b>62-32550-702-75</b> <b>AUG 15 1939</b> <b>AUG 11 A.M.</b> <i>TRIO</i> <i>RETO</i> <i>KX</i>
COPIES DESTROYED <b>170 SEP 17 1964</b>		<b>10</b>

N. O. #62-987

**DETAILS:**

**At New Orleans, Louisiana**

On the evening of July 31, 1939, subject, SHIRLEY GERARD WIMBERLY, delivered an address over broadcasting station WDSU, New Orleans, Louisiana, during which address he characterized Federal investigators in Louisiana, engaged in the investigation of Louisiana affairs, as "payroll boys", and criticized the Honorable Attorney General, FRANK MURPHY, for fooling around with the State's rights. WIMBERLY also criticized Mr. O. JOHN ROGGE, Assistant Attorney General, for his presence in New Orleans, in connection with investigation of Louisiana affairs, and made remarks in his speech to Mr. ROGGE that his boss, Mr. MURPHY, might want to run for President on the Democratic ticket and, if so, there might be a few of us Louisiana boys who will take the stump in other states and tell the people of the Attorney General's activities in the State of Louisiana in connection with affairs of the state.

For information, subject maintains an office in the Pere Marquette Building, New Orleans, Louisiana, Room 1012, and on the panel of the door of this room number appears the following:

**"LAW and NOTARIAL OFFICES**

EARL K. LONG  
SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY  
CLEM H. SEHRT  
NICOLE E. SIMONEAUX  
HARRY T. WILKINS"

The records of the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans, Louisiana, show that SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY was enrolled to practice in the United States District Court on December 3, 1928.

The confidential records of the Louisiana State Bar Association, Whitney Building, New Orleans, Louisiana, show that SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY, born at New Orleans, Louisiana, on August 2, 1899, was admitted to the practice of law on June 13, 1924, and is a graduate of Loyola University's Law School, New Orleans; that the subject joined the said bar association on July 3, 1924, and was dropped on April 9, 1926, on account of non-payment of dues. Mr. W. W. YOUNG, Secretary of the Louisiana State Bar Association, and associated with a very prominent law firm, stated that subject is not an outstanding lawyer; that very little is known of the subject by him.

The city directory for the City of New Orleans for the year 1938 shows SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY as a lawyer, with office at Room 1012, located at 150 Baronne Street, New Orleans, Louisiana (this is the Pere Marquette Building); resident address, 5665 Rosemary Place, New Orleans.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers' Credit Bureau, Incorporated, American Bank Building, New Orleans, contain a report dated February 19, 1937, in the name of SHIRLEY GERARD WIMBERLY, which report sets out information that this individual resides at 5665 Rosemary Place, New Orleans, is a native of New Orleans, about thirty-eight years old, married, and in business for himself in the practice of law at Room 1012 Pere Marquette Building; that the subject has been an attorney since 1924, is a graduate of Loyola University, 1924; that his character is well regarded, and his record of thrift is only fair, that his worth is little. As to real estate, the report shows that on September 9, 1936, the subject purchased a piece of property at Rosemary Place for \$5,542.72, and paid cash of \$400.00 and assumed a mortgage of \$4,777.00. The said report also shows that three suits in the amounts of \$300.00, \$124.00 and \$20.00 were filed against the subject during the years 1930 and 1935, against which judgments were rendered. This report shows that the subject seems to have succeeded in building up a fair clientele which apparently yields him a living, although no definite estimate of his income could be obtained, and that, in addition to his law practice, he also holds the position of Assistant Attorney for one of the State departments, which pays him a moderate salary.

Mr. RENE VIOSCA, United States Attorney, New Orleans, informed that during the regime of HUEY P. LONG subject SHIRLEY WIMBERLY was connected or aligned with FRANCIS WILLIAMS, candidate for mayor of the city of New Orleans, and that WILLIAMS was a bitter opponent of HUEY P. LONG; that the WILLIAMS faction used WIMBERLY considerably in the political fight against HUEY P. LONG, and that WIMBERLY was considered erratic and vicious. Mr. VIOSCA informed that he was appointed United States Attorney in New Orleans in the year of 1933, and that at that time subject WIMBERLY was a very active candidate for appointment as Assistant United States Attorney; that the FRANCIS WILLIAMS crowd got NICOLE E. SIMONEAUX, an attorney of New Orleans, to talk to him relative to WIMBERLY'S appointment for the position of Assistant United States Attorney, and that he, Mr. VIOSCA, told Mr. SIMONEAUX he would not have WIMBERLY because he was not level-headed enough, and was too erratic and abusive, and that his acts in political activities did not qualify him for the position. Mr. VIOSCA informed further that WIMBERLY'S reputation is shady from hearsay information. Further, Mr. VIOSCA informed that on Tuesday, August 1, 1939, Mr. EARL CHRISTENBERRY, Secretary to Governor EARL K. LONG, from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, telephoned to his brother, Mr. FERBERT W. CHRISTENBERRY, Assistant United States Attorney, at New Orleans, that Governor LONG disapproved of WIMBERLY'S speech the night of July 31st, and that the Governor would visit the United States Attorney in person to make known his views relative to WIMBERLY'S speech. Mr. VIOSCA stated that on Tuesday afternoon, at about five o'clock, Governor LONG personally appeared at his office and in the presence of Mr. O. JOHN ROGGE, Assistant Attorney General, disavowed or disapproved the WIMBERLY speech, and that on this occasion Governor LONG stated that

12

WIMBERLY was never a law partner of his, but that WIMBERLY only had desk space in the same office which he, Governor LONG, had occupied in the Pere Marquette Building; that WIMBERLY only shared office expenses the same as other attorneys in that office.

On Wednesday afternoon, August 2, 1939, Mr. JAMES H. MORRISON, of Hammond, Louisiana, organizer for the Louisiana Farmers' Protective Union, and bitter toward the Louisiana State Administration, delivered a radio address over Station WJBO of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and WDSU, New Orleans, Louisiana, in which he particularly criticized WIMBERLY for his radio speech of July 31st. In this speech MORRISON accused WIMBERLY of being a polliwog and worthless character, and bitterly warned him to leave the Honorable Attorney General, FRANK MURPHY, his aides, and the decent and honest citizens of the State of Louisiana alone. In plain words, Mr. MORRISON admonished WIMBERLY that if he had anybody to jump on to jump on him, as he, MORRISON, would very quickly and readily put him in his place, the same as he had done before. Mr. MORRISON in his speech spoke highly of the splendid work the Attorney General and his aides were doing in the State of Louisiana.

Mr. RENE VIOSCA informed that although he did not hear WIMBERLY'S speech and was only told of what WIMBERLY had said by some of his assistants, he would independently of any investigation conducted by this office endeavor to secure from the WDSU radio station a copy of WIMBERLY'S speech for study and for the purpose of determining whether or not WIMBERLY was in contempt of court; that is, whether his speech contained such matter as to intimidate witnesses, jurors, and so on. Mr. VIOSCA later informed that he had talked to the principals of WDSU radio station and was informed that although they had a copy of WIMBERLY'S speech nothing was contained therein to indicate a violation of any Federal law, and that usually speakers elaborate on matters which are not contained in the radio speech, as was the situation in this case.

Mr. VIOSCA informed, however, that nothing further would be done by his office in this matter in view of the information furnished him by the management of WDSU relative to WIMBERLY'S speech.

CLOSED

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **New Orleans, Louisiana**

N. O. FILE NO. **62-987**

REPORT MADE AT <b>New Orleans, La.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>Aug. 7, 1939</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>July 31 &amp; Aug. 1-2, 1939</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>J. G. VEIKOWIN</b>
TITLE <b>SHIRLEY GERARD WIMBERLY</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INFORMATION CONCERNING</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

On Monday evening, July 31, 1939, subject over broadcasting station WDSU, New Orleans, Louisiana, delivered a political speech in which he attacked the Honorable Attorney General FRANK MURPHY, his aides, and Federal investigators for their activities in the investigation of certain matters in the State of Louisiana. Investigation developed subject is individual practicing attorney at New Orleans; is not outstanding lawyer; graduate of Loyola Law School; born New Orleans August 2, 1899; admitted to Louisiana Bar June 13, 1924; admitted practice United States District Court, New Orleans, December 8, 1928. Newspaper accounts mentioned subject as law associate of Governor EARL K. LONG. United States Attorney RENE VIGSCA, New Orleans, informed that Governor LONG contacted him and Mr. G. JOHN ROGGE, Assistant Attorney General, August 2, 1939, and disapproved subject's radio speech. JAMES H. MORRISON, Hammond, Louisiana, organizer for the Louisiana Farmers' Protective Union, avowed anti-Louisiana administration citizen, bitterly attacked subject for his radio speech and particularly warned subject to leave the Honorable Attorney General, FRANK MURPHY, his aides, and decent and honest citizens of Louisiana alone, or he would put him in his place. Bureau informed by teletype of these developments.

C.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT  5 Bureau 2 New Orleans		

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RECORDED

ACH:GAJ  
62-32309-243

August 19, 1939

AIR MAIL  
SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. E. E. Sackett  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
1308 Masonic Temple Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sirs

RE: WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS

Reference is made to your letter dated August 11, 1939, wherein you advised that Assistant Attorney General O. John Rogge has requested an investigation relevant to a possible perjury violation on the part of William George Helis.

The Bureau instructs that you advise Mr. Rogge that the requested perjury investigation, having arisen from a matter not within our original investigative jurisdiction, should be referred to the agency having investigative jurisdiction over the substantive complaint.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Ladd .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Rosen .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 ★ AUG 19 1939  
 P. M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ACK 5/1/47  
 15

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

New Orleans, Louisiana  
August 11, 1939

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

Dear Sir:

RE: WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS

With a view of possible prosecution for perjury and false oath by WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS in connection with the securing of a passport or citizenship papers and in registering a yacht, Assistant United States Attorney General O. JOHN ROGGE has requested this Bureau to make investigation to specifically determine the following:

- 1 - Was WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS a voter in Kankakee, Illinois in 1916?
- 2 - When he enlisted in the National Guard in Missouri about 1918, did he make any statement as to citizenship?
- 3 - Did HELIS try to register a yacht at New Orleans in 1936 which was denied him because of his not being a citizen and did HELIS then transfer title to his son so it could be registered?
- 4 - Obtain photostatic copy of AGO Record of HELIS registration in Kansas City, Missouri, June 5, 1917, when he claimed he was not a citizen.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-243

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 12 1939  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
TAMM  
8-19-39  
WCH

The file in the office of the United States Attorney at New Orleans has been reviewed and it contains quite a bit of correspondence between the Director of Naturalization at New Orleans and the Kansas City office of the Naturalization Bureau, being the file apparently built up by the New Orleans office of the Naturalization Bureau. By letter of June 6, 1938, the New Orleans office of the Naturalization Bureau requested information from the Kansas City office of the same bureau as to whether HELIS had filed declaration of intention at Morocco, Indiana, in 1913, he having indicated that such had been the case and that thereafter he had voted at Kankakee, Illinois, and considered himself a citizen, he claiming he was told by election officials that one having filed declaration of intention papers was entitled to vote. Advice was received from the Kansas City office to the effect that up until September 13, 1921, aliens having filed declarations in Indiana did vote. A letter dated July 21, 1938, from GEORGE J. HARRIS, District Director, Kansas City, Missouri, to the District Director of Immigration and Naturalization at New Orleans, advises that records of the National Guard are kept at Jefferson City, Missouri, and that all records on draft are at Washington, D. C., and suggests that the Adjutant General's Office be requested to furnish photostatic copy of HELIS'S questionnaire. A letter under date of July 26, 1938, from

To the Director, 8/11/39

LEWIS M. MEANS, Adjutant General of the State of Missouri, Jefferson City, Missouri, to GEORGE J. HARRIS, Kansas City, Missouri, advises that the record of WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS shows that he was born at Tropea, Greece, and that nothing was said about his citizenship in joining the National Guard. A letter under date of July 13, 1938, from J. F. DELANEY, Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, New Orleans, to the District Director of Immigration and Naturalization at Kansas City, Missouri, advises that HELIS claims he was born October 17, 1886, at Tropea, Greece. He claims declaration of intention was filed at Morocco, Indiana, July 24, 1913, in the county court, and that he was told by election officials that he was to all intents and purposes a citizen; that he believed that he was a citizen until recent date when he tried to get a passport and learned that he was still a citizen of Greece. HELIS also claimed he enrolled in Company L, 7th Regiment, Missouri National Guard, at Kansas City, Missouri, within two months after the United States entered the war, and that he served in the National Guard more than a year; that he was furloughed by Captain JONES, Commander of his company, to leave the state soon after the armistice was signed. He also claimed he was registered for draft at Kansas City, Missouri, in 1917, and was exempted because he was the father of four children. A letter dated August 9, 1938, Adjutant General's Office, War Department, to the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, United States Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., indicates that the records of WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS, Order #1209, Serial #1450, registered June 5, 1917, with Local Board #1 at Kansas City, Missouri, home address - 517 West 10th Street, Kansas City, Missouri - date and place of birth: October 15, 1886, Tropea, Greece; occupation - cook. He stated he was married and was a declarent alien, a citizen or subject of Greece. He executed a questionnaire and claimed classification in Class 4A (a man whose wife and children are mainly dependent on his labor for support). Under Series 7 - "Citizenship", of the questionnaire, he stated he was <sup>not</sup> a citizen of the United States, and that he did not claim exemption because he was not a citizen. He did not fill out the remaining questions under Series 7. The local board classified him in Class 4A. The records do not show that he was inducted into or otherwise entered the Military Service of the United States during the World War.

In the file was contained a photostat of application "Master's Oath" - "License of an Enrolled Vessel" - under date of October 5, 1936, signed by WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS. A part of the oath indicated that he stated he was a citizen of the United States, born in Illinois. There was also noted in the file a copy of a bill of sale from EDWARD BUTCHER TRANSPORTATION COMPANY, 208 Broadway, Houston, Texas, selling the yacht (DOCTOR BRINKLEY) to WILLIAM GEORGE HELIS.

It was learned that a photostatic copy of the AGO Record of WILLIAM HELIS, as mentioned in this letter, had already been

To the Director, 8/11/39

requested of the Adjutant General's Office by the United States Attorney's Office.

ALFRED TETON, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, who is handling this matter, advised that the local Immigration office had apparently had so much pressure put on them to permit citizenship papers to be issued to HELIS that they would, perhaps, not make a good investigation. He did not indicate, however, that they had ever been requested to investigate this matter.

WILLIAM HELIS, according to the best information available, is presently in Greece, negotiating for some oil wells. WILLIAM HELIS owns or is connected with a number of oil companies in Louisiana and is reported to be associated with ROBERT MAESTRI, the present Mayor of New Orleans.

In view of the fact that this perjury or false oath grows out of matters not within the original investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau, it is requested that this office be advised whether to proceed with the investigation. Mr. ROGGE has requested that it be expedited.

Very truly yours,

*B. E. Sackett*  
B. E. SACKETT,  
Special Agent in Charge

JVB: sh

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

August 18, 1939

ACH:LL

~~62-32509-240, 241, and 242~~

62-32509-242

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Re: CRIME CONDITIONS - LOUISIANA

Dear Sir:

There are inclosed herewith two photostatic copies of the following described communications, which were received in the Office of the Attorney General and referred to the Bureau, and it is desired that one copy be furnished by your office to United States Attorney Rene A. Viosca, New Orleans:

Letter dated at Shreveport, Louisiana, August 2, 1939, from Mr. Donald Scott, together with its inclosure.

Anonymous letter beginning "Proceeds from Jefferson Parish....," postmarked at New Orleans, August 3, 1939.

Letter dated at Shreveport, Louisiana, August 3, 1939, from United States Attorney Harvey G. Fields, Western District of Louisiana, together with its inclosure.

The letters from Mr. Scott and Mr. Fields have not been acknowledged by the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*5 for T  
REACH*

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Crowl \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Lawler \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McIntire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Sears \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Q. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Inclosure AUG 18 1939 ★

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

OFFICE OF THE  
RECEIVED  
AUG 7 1939  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Shreveport, Louisiana,  
August 3rd, 1939.

Honorable John O. Rogge,  
Assistant Attorney General,  
U.S. Attorney's Office,  
New Orleans,  
Louisiana.

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RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED.

62-32509-24  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 12 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

My dear Mr. Rogge:-

I sent you copy of letter written this morning to Viosca.

All other matters which affect the Western District have been transmitted to Mr. Paul Hansen at Baton Rouge, in accordance with your letter of some few weeks back.

Mr. Bull, of Fort Worth, has had his engineer present in our office and taken all PWA reports.

Mr. G.C. Crawford, with the Treasury Department, who has established offices in Shreveport, had a conference with me for several hours yesterday and went over all income tax matters that had been reported to us.

The Federal Agents, representing the Department of Interior and Hot Oil Division, under Mr. Martin, of Killgore, Texas, also arranged a conference between myself and their agents at Shreveport yesterday, and we have given data, information and reports turned in up to date, but today there was added to them the Cotton-Valley operations.

I remain ready to co-operate with you and Attorney General Murphy and if you think it advisable I will come to New Orleans and confer with you any time you suggest or deem it advisable.

The public in North Louisiana are in the main and in the majority exceedingly favorable to the investigations and are openly commending the Department of Justice.

The radio talk and attack made upon

8/18/39  
J. F. Mc  
A-1

20

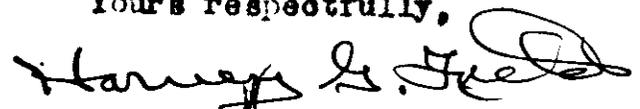
#2---JCR.

Aug. 3, 1939.

yourself and the Attorney General is very much regretted and resented in this section of the State and the general public is looking to our department for complete and efficient investigations.

possible, I am, Remaining ready to co-operate in anyway

Yours respectfully,

  
Harvey G. Fields, U.S.  
Attorney- Western District of  
Louisiana.

ngf/n.

## Uphold Their Arms!

NO LOUISIANIAN ever need hang head in shame at the record Louisiana men and women have made whenever a war began in which this state was involved. Once the shooting started, Louisianians were there. Whether the flag that waved above them was the flag of France, Spain, the United States of America or the Confederate States of America, the call to arms always found Louisiana men ready to fight, Louisiana women backing them to the utmost. Louisiana courage, endurance, stand written in the pages of history in the red of Louisiana blood.

Today the call to arms sounds for every citizen of Louisiana. It is not, thank God, the call to shoulder rifles and march into the carnage of battlefields amid the thunder of guns. Though that would be easy, with bands playing, bugles blowing, flags aflutter, new uniforms, decorations and glory ahead, compared to entry into the conflict that rages through this state today.

The call that sounds to every Louisiana citizen today is a call to fight something worse than war, if anything could be worse than war. Louisiana's enemies in any war have been open and known, easy to identify by their own uniforms and flags. These peacetime enemies of Louisiana are in our midst. We must fight their betrayal of public trust, which is treason at home. We must fight men who call themselves Louisianians, but who have debauched and besmirched, at home and abroad, the name of the state that is home to us all.

For years they have flaunted that debauchery in the faces of decent citizens. They have stolen and bragged about it. They have laughed and "wisecracked" with cheap witticisms at every protest honesty and honor have voiced. Arrogantly they have refused to answer questions; they have denied the public the sight of public records supposed to show where public money went. They have acted as if they believed this thing would last forever. But they are not laughing now.

In the United States postoffice building in New Orleans a United States grand jury sits in session today. With it sits O. John Rogge, assistant United States attorney-general in charge of criminal prosecutions. He was sent here, with an able staff, by United States Attorney-General Frank Murphy, from Washington. His orders are to probe to the bottom of such a slimy, fetid mass of corruption as Louisiana has not known since the Reconstruction days that followed the War Between the States. His orders are to spare nobody, no matter how high that person's "connections" reach, no matter how rich, how powerful.

And United States Attorney-General Frank Murphy has promised to make a clean sweep of the general forces of lawlessness, favoritism, graft, corruption, and fraud in which unspeakable crimes have already in Louisiana, with the connivance of sent or official witnesses of grove officials and political leaders. He gave his promise months ago, here in New Orleans, with J. Edgar Hoover, FBI chief, by his side. He told the national administration what he would do. Alliances that corrupted elections, courts, pardon and parole boards; looted private pockets and public treasury alike. He said that the Judge Manton case in New York, the Tom Pendergast case in Kansas City, were only the opening guns of a nationwide war. And Attorney-General Murphy has backed his words with deeds. No indication of any Third Louisiana Purchase mars his record.

Indictments by that United States grand jury sitting now in New Orleans have rocked this state. The news of them has gone around the world. More of those federal indictments are to follow. And there can be even more, if the people of Louisiana who believe yet in honesty and decency only will do their part.

This is a call to arms for every citizen of Louisiana, man or woman. Those of you who know of crookedness in public office, of prostitution of public trust; of graft, thievery, corruption; now is the time for you to impart that knowledge to the man who has the power to punish; the man who wields the full power of the United States of America, mightiest nation in the world.

If you are a plain citizen working for a living, now is your time. Whether you are a contractor or an official in a contracting firm, now is your time. Whether you are the head or an official or a subordinate in a great corporation, now is your time. Whether you are an independent oil operator or part of a great oil corporation, now is your time. The state of Louisiana has enriched many, honestly. The state of Louisiana has provided a decent living for many, honestly. The state of Louisiana has fallen into the hands of men who have prostituted their trust. You owe the state of Louisiana, your home, at least this much; if you know of crookery, put that knowledge in the hands of the men who can punish crookery.

The man fighting your fight, the man you can help, is O. John Rogge, assistant United States attorney-general. You can reach him at the United States Postoffice Building, New Orleans, Louisiana, by letter or by personal call. He will hold in strictest confidence any information you give him. He will give you the fullest protection of the United States of America. Trained, veteran federal investigators will be sent out on the trail of the clues that you can supply. They have the authority, the ability, to command answers of those who have laughed in your faces when you have asked questions; who have told you: "The fishing is good at the mouth of the Mississippi river."

Let the thanks of every decent citizen of Louisiana will be yours for the show you are giving for decency and honesty in government. This is the showdown. This is the time to hang bluffs. You have a duty that is the best privilege of a democracy, when called you can throw the rascals out without armed resolution. Uphold the arms of the men who are fighting for you, your children, and your children's children. Pick up the weapon your national government has handed you. Use it against crooks in high places.

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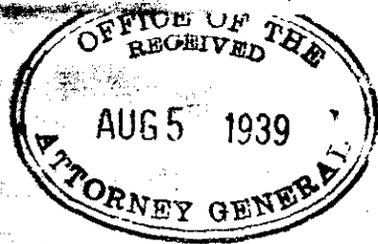
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA  
OFFICE OF  
**HARVEY G. FIELDS**  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
MONROE, LOUISIANA

Honorable Frank Murphy,  
Attorney General,  
Washington D.C.

ALEXANDRIA  
LA  
AUG 4  
1030AM  
1939

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300

23



1. Proceeds from Jefferson Parish school bonds. Land purchased from school board members and politicians far in excess of value. 1939
2. \$35,000 Jefferson Parish school pay roll released by Canal bank 1938-39
3. 10,000 left over in Jefferson parish school funds. 1937-38.
4. Materials and contracts: Kenner gymnasium, Jefferson Parish, school fuel, janitors bathrooms and other school supplies.
5. Approximately 100,000 royalty belonging to Jefferson lake oil collected by the state in a suit against Jefferson salt co.
6. Registration in St. Bernard and Orleans parishes.
7. 50 - 100 a day collections from gambling houses, Jefferson parishes and St Bernard parishes. Real owner of slot machines
8. Take offs from oil stations and jobs. Vic Petrie of Jefferson parish collects 1/2 of a teacher's salary for his daughter. She is in college, not teaching.

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION  
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

The money is said to have been deposited to a personal account., 5,000 to Jefferson Parish Review. Adds alone should have paid for it

Why does the Federal Gov. not require all states to use voting machines so that politicians ~~manipulate~~ through their spies and experts can not check upon the votes of an individual.

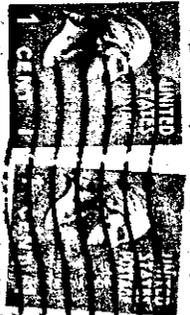
8/18/39  
J. N. C.  
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INDEXED

62-32509-241
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 11 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Attorney-General Frank Murphy

Washington D. C.



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*Show Attorney 8-4-39*

**DECODED COPY**

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Lawler
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

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

**AUG 3 - 1939**

**TELETYPE**

*add Brennan*

*Spine Condition Louisiana  
Radio Station*

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-3-39  
DIRECTOR

6-45 PM WH

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-32509-240

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
AUG 3 1939

TAMM TWO

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS INFORMATION CONCERNING GOVERNOR EARL KLONG, THROUGH NEWSPAPERS, MADE STATEMENTS DISAVOWING RADIO SPEECH OF SHIRLEY WIMBERLY. JAMES MORRISON, ORGANIZER OF LOUISIANA FARMERS PROTECTIVE UNION, HAMMOND, LOUISIANA THROUGH BROADCASTING STATION WDSU, NEW ORLEANS AND WJBO, BATON ROUGE, LAST NIGHT IN RADIO SPEECH BITTERLY DENOUNCED WIMBERLY IN HIS RADIO ADDRESS AND DEFENDED US ATTORNEY GENERAL MURPHY HIS ASSISTANTS, AND THE GOOD PEOPLE OF LOUISIANA IN INVESTIGATION INTO CORRUPTION IN LOUISIANA. NEWSPAPERS INDICATE INVESTIGATION OF WPA, CONNALLY ACT AND INCOME TAX VIOLATIONS BEING STARTED IN WESTERLY DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA. JAMES MONROE SMITH RETURNED FEDERAL JAIL NEW ORLEANS TODAY MATHEW S. BRANIFF, ATTORNEY DROPPED ATTEMPTS TO OUST CHARLES A. BYRNE, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT ATTORNEY, FROM OFFICE. USA RENE A. VIOSCA, NEW ORLEANS, INFORMED CONFIDENTIALLY THAT U S GRAND JURY PRESENTLY INVESTIGATING VIOLATIONS OF THE CONNALLY ACT IN WHICH SEYMOUR WEISS, FORMER GOVERNOR RICHARD LECHE, DOCTOR JAMES A. SHAW ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL OF LOUISIANA, JAMES OCONNOR AND POSSIBLY OTHERS ARE INVOLVED.

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-32509-240

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PAGE TWO

BRIEFLY THE FACTS ARE THAT SEYMOUR WEISS ADVISED EAST TEXAS OIL COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE HE WOULD HAVE TO PAY HIM TEN CENTS PER BARREL TO RUN OIL. WEISS AND RICHARD LECHE THEN HAD ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL OF LOUISIANA OCONNOR COME TO CONFERENCE WHERE HE WAS REQUESTED TO RENDER LEGAL OPINION, AND WAS ADVISED BY WEISS INVESTIGATION HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE. ROBERT MAESTRI WAS IN HOT SPRINGS ARKANSAS AT THE TIME RECUPERATING FROM SICKNESS BUT HE SIGNED THE ORDER THERE BASED ON THE LEGAL OPINION OF OCONNOR. MAESTRI NOW DENIES HE KNEW WEISS WAS TO GET TEN CENTS PER BARREL AND STATES HE WOULD NOT HAVE SIGNED IT HAD HE KNOWN THIS. WEISS GOT ONE HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS, GIVING REPRESENTATIVE EAST TEXAS OIL COMPANY FOURTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS, LECHE SIXTY SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND KEPT A LIKE AMOUNT. LECHE IN INCOME TAX RETURN SHOWS NINETY THOUSAND DOLLARS OF THIS CAME FROM WEISS AND INCOME TAX RETURN OF WEISS SHOWS HE PAID SIXTY SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS TO LECHE. THE FOREGOING OCCURED IN NINETEEN THIRTY SIX. SINCE RECEIPT THIS INFORMATION O. JOHN ROGGE INFORMED THAT HE HOPES TO HAVE RETURNED ON MONDAY THREE INDICTMENTS THESE MATTERS NAMELY ONE INDICTMENT AGAINST

28

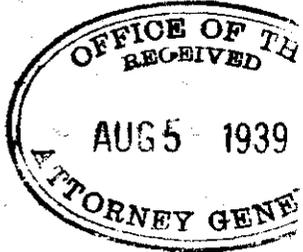
PAGE THREE

RICHARD LECHE AND SEYMOUR WEISS CONTAINING TWO COUNTS, ONE CHARGING CONSPIRACY TO VIOLATE THE █████ CONNALLY ACT AND THE SECOND COUNT CHARGING CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD THE UNITED STATES. THE SECOND INDICTMENT WILL BE AGAINST SEYMOUR WEISS FOR VIOLATION OF THE INCOME TAX LAW WHICH INDICTMENT WILL BRING OUT ■ TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS REPORTED IN THE NAME OF LOUIS LESAGE. THE THIRD INDICTMENT WILL BE AGAINST SEYMOUR WEISS AND LESAGE CHARGING CONSPIRACY TO EVADE INCOME TAX NAMELY CHARGING LESAGE WITH ASSISTING WEISS IN EVADING HIS INCOME TAX.

B. E. SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASH DC GMC



**DONALD SCOTT**

*Realtor*

RICOU-BREWSTER BLDG., SHREVEPORT, LA.

2-7718

August 2, 1939.

Hon. Frank Murphy,  
United States Attorney General,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The ~~Orlando~~ Taxpayers Association wishes to congratulate you and your associates upon the splendid work you are doing in bringing about a clean-up in Louisiana's political affairs.

Enclosed is a clipping from a Shreveport newspaper published July 28, which gives details of a suit filed here against our police jury. It is our Association's desire and request that you do not confine your investigations to New Orleans and Baton Rouge but that you enlarge them to include Shreveport and Caldo Parish.

Our Association stands ready and willing to assist you in any possible way.

RS/s

Yours very truly,

Donald Scott, Secretary, Taxpayers Association.

*Donald Scott*  
Donald Scott,  
Secretary.

8/18/39  
Set. No.  
ACH

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RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED.

62-34504-241  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 11 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TAMM TWO

*Reunion*

*D*

*242*

*30*

# Law Violations By Jurors Cited; Injunction Asked

**Shreveport Contractors, Citing Failure of Jurors to Advertise for Bids, Allege Long List of Law Violations; Charge Sales Made by DeGeneres and Williamson Firms to Parish for Equipment**

Listing numerous allegations of law violations by the Caddo parish police jury, a petition was filed in district court here yesterday by the Associated General Contractors of America, Shreveport chapter, seeking an order restraining the jury from buying equipment or doing new construction work in excess of \$500 without advertising for bids.

Described in the petition were: purchases by the police jury of equipment from Earl G. Williamson, Vivian, president of the jury; alleged purchases from DeGeneres brothers of which Harold DeGeneres, police juror, is a partner; construction of a fish pond on land belonging to L. J. Mathieu thorough partial use of parish-owned equipment; alleged improvements in Jacobs subdivision in which stockholders of the Shreveport Railway company own considerable property while J. L. Worsham, railways company employe, is chairman of the police jury road committee. Several other allegations having to do with police jury expenditures were contained in the petition.

The petition asserts that the contractors, residents of Caddo parish, "are entitled to compliance by the police jury with the laws of the state concerning new works" in order that they may bid on such construction. The injunction is asked in the name of Ashton Glassell, president of the local association of contractors.

The petition declares that the jury has never advertised for bids on new construction; has sometimes accepted bids on equipment which

(Continued On Page Eleven)

# ALLEGE JURY VIOLATES LAW ON WORK BIDS

(Continued From Page One.)

were not low bids; that jury purchases often split into sums of less than \$500 to evade the law, and that unless the jury is restrained the petitioning contractors and the general public "will suffer irreparable injury."

The filing of the petition came after L. Percy Garrot, attorney representing the contractors, had twice appeared before the police jury asking that they pass a resolution to "abide by the law in the future." The jury-men refused to do this, taking the stand that they would be admitting guilt by such a resolution and stating that they had not, to their knowledge, violated any laws.

## Review Laws on Bids

The suit cites that part of the state law which is allegedly violated. First, act 22 of 1898 of the general assembly of the state of Louisiana as amended by act 16 of 1920 which provides:

"No police juror shall be interested either directly or indirectly in any contract the payment of which comes out of his parish; nor shall they be allowed to deal in their parish papers."

It also sets out act 73 of 1926 as amended by act 190 of 1928 and by act 20 of 1935, fourth extra session, which provides:

"All public work to be done exceeding the sum of five hundred dollars, by any parochial, municipal or other public corporation or political subdivision of the state, or for the purchase of materials or supplies, to be paid for out of public funds shall be advertised and let by contract to the lowest responsible bidder...." The act further provides that the procedure herein shall not be necessary in cases of extreme public emergency or for labor necessary and used in the maintenance of public works built and completed."

## Cite \$10,000 Auto Purchase

Immediately following these citations is the allegation that Williamson, executive officer of Williamson Motors, Inc., Vivian, a stockholder in the corporation and president of the police jury sold to the jury automobiles and trucks to the extent of \$10,240.64. These were bought by the jury without advertising for bids, the suit states.

The eighth paragraph alleges that the Williamson company, Inc., sells the International Harvester company, Inc., automobiles, truck parts and mechanics' prices; that it is now, and has always been able to obtain a discount of five per cent for cash; that DeGeneres Brothers is a partnership, or firm, with its domicile at Shreveport, Louisiana; that Harold DeGeneres is one of the partners that compose the said partnership, that from January 1, 1933, to June 30, 1933, the police jury of Caddo parish purchased from DeGeneres Brothers, without advertising for bids, without the receipt of bids and, therefore, from one which was not the lowest bidder, automobile and truck parts to the extent of \$6,404.33; that some of said purchase exceeded the sum of \$500; that the parts that were sold by DeGeneres Brothers to the said police jury were purchased by DeGeneres Brothers from the International Harvester company, Inc., at dealers prices, and were sold to the said police jury at list prices; that some of said parts were sent directly from the place of business of the International Harvester company, Inc., to the police jury, the International Harvester company, Inc., sending a bill to the police jury; and that during the time that all of the above mentioned parts were purchased by the police jury, Harold DeGeneres was a member of the said police jury."

## Excavated Private Lake

The ninth paragraph alleges that the police jury recently excavated a private lake or fish pond on land belonging to L. J. Mathieu for the price of \$483.92 and that "your petitioner is informed and believes and, therefore, alleges that the said price is about one-third the price that he should have been charged...." The pond is described as being 350 feet long, 75 feet wide at the base and from 4 1/2 to 17 1/2 feet deep; that the levee or embankment is five feet wide, and further alleges that a drag line belonging to the parish

was used in the excavation of the pond. The suit also alleges that the police jury, during the year 1933, spent for this work the sum of \$3,854.88, which was for labor and equipment alone, and the state of Louisiana is said to have furnished the gravel and asphalt. The paragraph concludes with "E. G. Williamson is a resident of the said town of Vivian, Louisiana."

## Street Work in Subdivision

The petition says that the police jury gravelled and black-topped several streets in the Jacobs subdivision of Caddo parish "pursuant to an agreement between the police jury and the owners of lots that adjoin said streets... by which the owners agreed to pay for only the materials used... the police jury donating the necessary labor and use of its equipment; that the materials used amounted to \$1,145, which amount the owners are to pay the police jury."

Further, the petition said, the police jury does not yet know how much the labor and the use of its equipment amounted to in this case; and that the police jury proposes to, and has agreed to gravel and black-top under similar circumstances all the streets in Jacobs subdivision.

This allegation concludes with the statement that the chairman of the road committee of the Caddo police jury is J. L. Worsham, an employe of the Shreveport Railways company, and that the stockholders of the Shreveport Railways company own much property in the Jacobs subdivision.

## Expenses Not Itemized

It is further alleged that E. G. Williamson and J. L. Worsham and other members of the jury make trips on official business with their expenses paid by the police jury. Their expenses, the petition states, are not itemized since the jury "takes the position that it is impracticable for the above mentioned members to render itemized statements due to the fact that it is often necessary for them to entertain, and that they render accounts of total expenses."

Taking up the police jury convention this year at Baton Rouge, it is alleged that 13 jurors were elected to attend the convention but that expenses of 22 persons were paid, that the sum of \$60 was paid, as expenses, by the police jury to the 22 persons, and that the 22 persons included "highway policemen, the custodian of the courthouse, the superintendent of the parish farm, the secretary and treasurer of the police jury, and his entire office force, and the entire office force of the highway department of the parish of Caddo."

It is alleged, in citing trip expenses, that "the sum of \$1,320 was spent by the Caddo police jury in connection with the convention in Baton Rouge alone."

32

The petition asserts that the present administration of the Caddo parish police jury has never advertised for bids for the construction of any work or project whatsoever; that it has never received bids in connection with these; that it has never let or awarded a contract for the construction of any work or project to the lowest bidder.

#### Take Bids Not Lowest

It also alleges that when equipment costing more than \$500 is purchased the jury some times advertises for and receives bids . . . but that "equipment is some times purchased from a bidder who is not the lowest bidder."

In the year 1938, the petition says, the jury spent \$282,357.17 for roads and bridges; and from Jan. 1 to May 31, 1939, it spent for the same purposes \$116,380.31, neither of which sums included expenditures for tools and equipment. "During the above-mentioned periods of time," the petition says, "many purchases were made by the police jury exceeded \$500; that . . . said purchases were made without advertis-

ing for bids and without receipt of bids; that therefore no purchase was made from one who was the lowest bidder."

In these expenditures, it is alleged, materials were purchased for use in the construction of new works . . . and that exorbitant prices were paid by the police jury for materials and equipment.

In the illegal construction of new works by the police jury, the costs of which exceed the sum of \$500, "about twice as much is expended as would be expended if the police jury would comply with Act 73, of 1926, as amended." (Calling for bids).

#### \$1,320 Spent on Construction

Going further into compensation paid members of the jury for meetings and expenses of trips, the petition says that before the present administration of the police jury all such expenditures amount to amount to about \$1,200 per year. Expenses of conventions then were paid out of jury members own funds, the petition said.

Amounts spent by the present jury are far in excess of this, it is alleged, the sum of \$1,320 having been spent in connection with the Baton Rouge convention alone.

Additional new projects which allegedly have been completed which cost in excess of \$500 and for which there was no advertising of bids were the Seventieth street road, two bridges costing \$5,094.41 over streams that intersected the road; Blanchard road, \$14,186.33; Blanchard-Dixie road, \$14,443.88; Jewella road, \$6,600.04, and Midway road, \$12,610.36.

The 18th paragraph alleges that no contract was awarded the lowest bidder on the Springridge camp, a maintenance camp for the parish, which includes a residence for John Ruff, maintenance foreman. The cost of the camp is said to have been \$2,199.87.

Mr. Williamson is in Havana, Cuba, on vacation. Mr. Clawson, secretary of the jury, is in Baton Rouge attending a meeting of a State Police Jury association fact-finding committee. Mr. Worsham, when asked he had any comment to make, said he had none.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Official Indicated Below by check mark

MEMORANDUM

- Solicitor General Jackson
- Assistant to the Attorney General
- Assistant Attorney General Arnold
- Assistant Attorney General Morris
- Assistant Attorney General Whitaker
- Assistant Attorney General Littell
- Assistant Attorney General McMahon
- Assistant Solicitor General Bell
- Mr. Hoover, Dir., Fed. Bu. of Investigation
- Mr. Bennett, Director of Prisons
- Mr. Martin, Director of War Risk Bureau
- Mr. Lawrence, Dir., Bond and Spirits Division
- Mr. Quinn, Administrative Assistant
- Mr. Kemp, Special Assistant
- Mr. Holtzoff, Special Assistant
- Board of Parole
- Mr. Lyons, Pardon Attorney
- Mr. McClure, General Agent
- Mr. Donaldson, Chief Clerk
- Mr. Hill, Appointment Clerk
- Mr. Crain, Division of Records
- Mr. Holland, Division of Supplies
- Mr. McKavitt, Librarian
- Mr. Carusi
- Mr. Dean
- Miss Bumgardner
- Mr. Gates
- Mr. Hedetniemi
- Miss Lathue
- Miss Walters
- Mr. Ewver

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy



Handwritten initials or signature

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

August 2, 1939

EAT:HA

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Miss Lahue requested me to come to the Attorney General's office at once and when I arrived there the Attorney General had in his office a Mr. "Paddy" Costello, whom he introduced to me as a man who had soldiered with him during the War. The General stated that Feldman, Costello, a Mr. Moriarty who was also in the room but who evidently was not with Costello, and the Attorney General had all been soldiers together. Briefly, it appears that Costello has resided in Louisiana for a number of years and desires to furnish in extended detail the story of the corruption of two million people in Louisiana. It appears however that the individual who has most of the detailed information is a Mr. Alexis who has accounts, books and records, etc. The Attorney General has agreed to see Alexis together with Costello at eleven o'clock tomorrow morning but before that time he desires that Alexis and Costello be interviewed and a brief memorandum sent to him. The Attorney General indicated he desired somebody in the Bureau to interview these people, he emphasizing this by saying on several occasions "some persons" and a memorandum furnished him by eleven o'clock tomorrow morning. I have arranged for Mr. Sears and Supervisor Hayden to interview these people starting at once and two Stenographers have been kept in order that a proper memorandum can be prepared concerning the results of the interview.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Respectfully, 62-25541-231

E. A. Tamm

COPIES DESTROYED

173 SEP 17 1964

35

EAT:GVC

Time: 11:07 a.m.

August 1, 1938

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

The Attorney General called about some remarks made by a Mr. Winberly and I told him the Bureau would get a discreet line on him and find out just what his background is.

E. A. TAMM

*7*  
*Shirley & Mrs. Winberly*  
*Werner P. ...*

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-32509-238
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILED
TWO

ORIGINAL FILED IN 5-112-113

36

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

New Orleans, Louisiana  
August 8, 1939

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS -  
INFORMATION CONCERNING.

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto are copies of the three indictments which were returned at New Orleans, Louisiana, August 7, 1939, being described as follows:

- (1) United States of America vs. RICHARD W. ~~LECHE~~, SEYMOUR WEISS, FREEMAN W. ~~BURFORD~~ and EAST TEXAS REFINING COMPANY.
- (2) United States of America vs. SEYMOUR WEISS.
- (3) United States of America vs. SEYMOUR WEISS and LOUIS C. ~~LE~~ SAGE.

Very truly yours,

*B. E. Sackett*  
B. E. SACKETT,  
Special Agent in Charge.

CWD  
PMH  
62-978

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-32509-237

*Crime Information Louisiana*

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

EAT:DM

August 7, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I have received the following teletype message from my Special Agent in Charge at New Orleans, Louisiana, which I wanted to transmit to you immediately

"Re Louisiana State Officials, Information concerning James M. Brown, Equities, Inc., who was intermediary broker for James Monroe Smith, advised he had received information from confidential source to effect that if any attack is made by Government or by O. John Rogge on Shirley Kimberly as result of Kimberly's speech a story would be circulated to effect that Alfred E. Teton, Special Assistant to Attorney General, who is now in New Orleans, roomed with a negro while attending Columbia University and that Teton was telling the negro they will get equal rights. Newspaper stories indicated Teton was formerly connected with the Civil Liberties Division of the Department. From conversations with Teton by Agent of this office prior to receipt of this information, Teton advised he had attended University of Chicago and did not mention having attended Columbia University. It is believed that should this allegation that Teton roomed with a negro be true, and should it be circulated in this section of the country it would have a detrimental effect on cases presently pending here."

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 5-162-112

RECORDED & INDEXED

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

62-32509-2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AUG 8 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Crowl .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Lawler .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Rosen .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Mr. Quinn .....

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

★ AUG - 7 1939 ★

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

38

CARBON COPY

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

JUL 27 1939

TELETYPE

FBI NEW ORLEANS 7-27-39 9-17 PM AHS

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. E. P. TETON, SPECIAL ATTORNEY, CRIMINAL DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, IS IN NEW ORLEANS TO ASSIST O. JOHN ROGGE. HAROLD ROSENWALD, SPECIAL ASSISTANT, AND EARL CROWDER, TAX DIVISION, BOTH DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, SCHEDULED ARRIVE NEW ORLEANS SHORTLY TO ASSIST IN INCOME TAX CASES. JAMES MONROE SMITH, ~~SMITH~~ SEYMOUR WEISS, MONTE HART, J. EMORY ADAMS AND LOUIS LESAGE ARE CHARGED IN STATE COURT, NEW ORLEANS, WITH EMBEZZLEMENT AND SMITH ADDITIONALLY WITH FORGERY AND OPERATING CONFIDENCE GAME. DR. JAMES A. SHAW, HEAD OF MINERALS DIVISION OF STATE ~~CONSERVATION~~ CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT AND WILLIAM G. FRANKIN, FORMERLY LOUISIANA CONSERVATION COMMISSIONER, ADMITTED RECEIVING APPROXIMATELY THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM OIL COMPANIES, SHAW ADMITTING HE PAID NO INCOME TAX ON THIS. RICHARD W. LECHÉ CALLED BEFORE FEDERAL GRAND JURY, NEW ORLEANS, TODAY, BUT REFUSED TO WAIVE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, AND IS SCHEDULED TO AGAIN APPEAR TOMORROW. NO FEDERAL INDICTMENTS RETURNED NEW ORLEANS TODAY. STATE GRAND JURY, MONROE, LA., CONVENED IN SPECIAL SESSION YESTERDAY TO HEAR TESTIMONY OF IRREGULARITIES IN CONNECTION WITH LOUISIANA TRAINING INSTITUTE, BUSTON, LA.,

*Some conditions Louisiana*

*162-96X*

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-235

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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JUL 27 1939

FBI - NEW ORLEANS

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

AUG 2 1939

TELETYPE

DECODED COPY

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Lawler
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

*Shown to the  
Attorney General  
by*

*Miss E. C. ... New Orleans*

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-2-39 555PM WH  
DIRECTOR

RE SHIRLEY GERARD WIMBERLY, ATTORNEY. ACCORDING TO RECORDS OF 1939  
LOUISIANA BAR ASSOCIATION NEW ORLEANS, WIMBERLY BORN AUGUST SECOND  
EIGHTEEN NINETY NINE AT NEW ORLEANS, GRADUATE OF LOYOLA UNIVERSITY  
LAW SCHOOL, ADMITTED TO BAR JUNE THIRTEEN NINETEEN TWENTY FOUR, JOINED  
THE SAID ASSOCIATION JULY THIRD NINETEEN TWENTY FOUR, AND WAS DROPPED  
APRIL NINTH NINETEEN TWENTY SIX ACCOUNT NONPAYING OF DUES. SECRETARY  
SAID ASSOCIATION STATES WIMBERLY NOT KNOWN TO HIM AND IS EVIDENTLY  
NOT PROMINENT ATTORNEY. RECORDS OF US DISTRICT COURT, NEW ORLEANS,  
SHOW WIMBERLY ENROLLED TO PRACTICE IN SAID COURT DECEMBER THIRD NINE-  
TEEN TWENTY EIGHT. RECORDS NEW ORLEANS RETAIL CREDIT BUREAU INC NEW  
ORLEANS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT DATED FEBRUARY NINETEEN, NINETEEN THIRTY  
SEVEN, SHOWS WIMBERLY THIRTY EIGHT YEARS OLD, MARRIED, INDIVIDUAL  
PARCTICING ATTORNEY SINCE NINETEEN TWENTY FOUR, CHRRACTER WELL REGARDED,  
THRIFT FAIR, RESIDENCE NEW ORLEANS. THREE SMALL SUITS FILED IN YEARS  
NINETEEN THIRTY AND NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE AGAINST WIMBERLY AGAINST  
WHICH JUDGMENTS RENDERED. SAID RECORDS SHOW WIMBERLY SEEMS TO HAVE  
SUCCEEDED IN BUILDING UP FAIR CLIENTELE WHICH APPARENTLY YIELDS HIM

62-32509-23  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 3 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY  
TAMM

A LIVING. NO DEFINITE ESTIMATE OF HIS INCOME AVAILABLE. SAID RECORDS SHOW THAT HE ALSO HOLDS POSITION OF ASSISTANT ATTORNEY FOR ONE OF STATE DEPARTMENTS, WHICH PAYS HIM A MODERATE SALARY. CREDIT RATING SATISFACTORY.

USA RENE A VIOSCA, NEW ORLEANS, STATES WIMBERLY DURING REGIME OF HUEY P LONG WAS CONNECTED OR ALIGNED WITH FRANCIS WILLIAMS CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR OF NEW ORLEANS AND BITTER OPPONENT OF HUEY LONG, THAT THE WILLIAMS FACTION USED WIMBERLY CONSIDERABLY IN THE POLITICAL FIGHT AGAINST HUEY LONG AND THAT WIMBERLY WAS CONSIDERED ERATIC AND VICIOUS. MR VIOSCA INFORMED THAT WHEN HE WAS APPOINTED AS U S ATTORNEY IN NINETEEN THIRTY THREE WIMBERLY WAS A VERY ACTIVE CANDIDATE FOR APPOINTMENT AS ASSISTANT U S ATTORNEY, THAT THE FRANCIS WILLIAMS CROWD GOT ATTORNEY NICOLE E SIMONEAUX TO INTERCEDE FOR WIMBERLYS APPOINTMENT AND THAT HE, VIOSCA, TOLD SIMONEAUX HE WOULD NOT HAVE WIMBERLY BECUASE HE WAS NOT LEVEL HEADED ENOUGH, WAS ERATIC, ABUSIVE AND THAT HIS ACTS DID NOT QUALIFY HIM FOR THE OFFICE OF ASSISTANT US ATTORNEY, ALTHOUGH WIMBERLY IN HIS BELIEF HAS ABILITY AS A LAWYER. VIOSCA INFORMED THAT WIMBERLYS

REPUTATION IS SHADY. MR VIOSCA STATES GOVERNOR EARL K LONG APPEARED AT HIS OFFICE LATE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AND STATED HE WANTED MR O JOHN ROGGE AND HIMSELF TO KNOW THAT HE DISAPPROVED OF WHAT WIMBERLY SAID IN HIS RADIO TALK AND THAT HE, LONG, HAD SENT A TELEGRAM TO HONORABLE ATTORNEY GENERAL FRANK MURPHY TO THAT EFFECT, THAT GOVERNOR LONG INFORMED THAT WIMBERLY WAS NEVER A LAW PARTNER OF HIS BUT THAT WIMBERLY ONLY OCCUPIED SPACE IN THE SAME OFFICE WITH HIM AND OTHER ATTORNEYS AND SHARED OFFICE EXPENSES. MR VIOSCA STATED THAT GOVERNOR EARL LONG STATED HE DID NOT FINANCE THE RADIO EXPENSES FOR WIMBERLYS SPEECH. MR VIOSCA OF HIS OWN ACCORD STATED THAT ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT HEAR WIMBERLYS RADIO TALK THE MATTER WAS DISCUSSED WITH HIM BY SOME OF HIS ASSISTANTS, THAT AS A RESULT HE IS UNDER THE IMPRESSION OF THE POSSIBILITY OF THE EXISTENCE OF A CONTEMPT OF COURT VIOLATION BY WIMBERLY, BUT THAT IN ORDER TO PROPERLY PASS ON THAT MATTER HE PERSONALLY AND INDEPENDENT OF ANY BUREAU INVESTIGATION IN THE MATTER WAS GOING TO ENDEAVOR TO SECURE FROM W D S U RADIO STATION HERE A COPY OF WIMBERLYS SPEECH.

SACKETT

END

DECODED COPY

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

AUG 9 - 1939

TELETYPE

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Lawler
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

*Louisiana Political Situation*

FBI NEW ORLEANS

8-9-39

6-31PM

AHS

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. O. JOHN ROGGE ADVISED NO VIOLATION DEVELOPED CONCERNING TRANSACTION WITH W. C. FEAZEL AND UNITED GAS COMPANY ABOUT WHICH BUREAU WAS ADVISED YESTERDAY. TODAY ROGGE CONFERRED WITH THIS OFFICE, ADVISING THAT HE WOULD BEGIN TOMORROW HAVING WITNESSES BEFORE THE FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN NEW ORLEANS IN CONNECTION WITH INVESTIGATION OF THE PETIT JURY WHO TRIED ABE SHUSHAN IN OCTOBER NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE, ATTEMPTING TO DEVELOP A JURY TAMPERING CASE.

SACKETT.

END

RECORDED & INDEXED

OK FBI WASH DC JAR

62-32509-233X

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEP 2 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TAMM JNE

43

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
**Washington, D. C.**

EAT:COH

August 9, 1939

Time; 9:15 a.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

RE: POLITICAL CORRUPTION IN  
LOUISIANA

9  
SAC Listerman called and inquired as to whether any investigation is desired in connection with the Shushan matter in New Orleans.

1  
The Warden of the penitentiary at Atlanta called Mr. Listerman and advised he has a very deaf colored boy sent up on a forgery of a government check charge who claims to have some information about the bribe of \$100,000 paid in the Shushan case.

I instructed Mr. Listerman to get all the information the colored boy has and send the same to SAC Sackett via air mail special delivery.

E. A. TALKER

62-3287-102

44

1508 Masonic Temple Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
August 7, 1939

Honorable Rens A. Viosca  
United States Attorney  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Re: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS  
Information Concerning

Dear Sir:

There are enclosed photostatic copies of the following communications which have been received by the Department and referred to the Bureau in connection with the above-entitled case, and related matters:

Anonymous letter dated July 19, 1939, signed "American";

Anonymous letter dated July 18, 1939, enclosing newspaper clippings from the New Orleans States and the Times-Picayune;

Two letters dated July 11, 1939 from Miss Agnes E. Lewis and enclosure;

Letter dated July 11, 1939, from Miss Annie C. Lewis;

Letter signed Robert Reed and enclosure;

Letter signed Georg Harrison;

Letter from J. C. Wigginton, enclosing clipping from New York Sun;

Letter signed T. S. Weber.

Very truly yours,

Enclosures  
CWD:ALS  
cc-Bureau

INDEXED

62-32507-230  
B. E. SACKETT  
Special Agent in Charge

62-32507-230  
AUG 9 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
45

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
August 5, 1939

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

Dear Sir:

RE: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS  
Information Concerning

Attached hereto is a copy of the "Farmers' Friend" issued by the Louisiana Farmers' Protective Union, Inc., Hammond, Louisiana, JAMES H. MORRISON being the President of the Louisiana Farmers' Protective Union, Inc.

It will be noted that this paper is given as Volume 2, Number 9, Hammond, Louisiana, August issue. However, this paper was originally published as the issue of July 31, 1939. There was such a great demand for these papers, it was evidently re-issued, being identical to the July 31, 1939 edition except for the indication that the paper is the August issue.

It is reported that another issue of the Farmers' Friend will be published about August 15, 1939, at which time a copy of same will be obtained and forwarded the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

*B. E. Sackett*  
B. E. SACKETT,  
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosure  
CWD:sh  
#62-978

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-32509-232  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 8 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
MAIL ROOM

*Crime conditions Louisiana*

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

62-32509-232X

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**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**

**NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA**  
**August 5, 1939**

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

**Re: Special Agent (A) NELSON PERRY;**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER**

**Dear Sir:**

Please be advised that for the past week Special Agent (A) NELSON PERRY has been engaged in investigation in connection with the case entitled "LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS; Information Concerning" and related investigations, particularly investigation of the present petit jury panel in New Orleans.

Due to the expeditious nature of the investigation mentioned, it is anticipated that Agent PERRY will be engaged for at least another 10 days, thereon.

The Bureau will be kept advised in the premises.

Very truly yours,

*B. E. Sackett*  
B. E. SACKETT  
Special Agent in Charge

CWD:ALS

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

67-32501-232

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 8 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

48

American Progress

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

62-32509-

49

August 2, 1939

**ROUTED**

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR**

There are attached hereto several teletype messages emanating from New Orleans, New York and Detroit which have not been furnished to the Attorney General. I thought you might want to have them in the event he requests you for information upon recent developments in the several cases concerned. It will be noted in the teletype from SAC Sackett dated August 1 that Rogge has requested an investigation of a Grand Juror in the belief that there is some leak on the Grand Jury. No action has been taken upon this request.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

RECORDED

62-32509-231
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 7 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
PAID [initials]
TWO [initials]

*Handwritten initials and scribbles*

*Crime conditions Louisiana*

CARBON COPY

DECODED COPY

*shown to the Attorney General*

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

AUG 1 - 1939

TELETYPE

- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. A. Tamm .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Ladd .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Lawler .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Rosen .....
- Mr. Sears .....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

X

FBI NEW ORLEANS

8-1-39

5-55PM

WH

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS INFORMATION CONCERNING. JAMES MONROE SMITH TRANSFERRED TO STATE CUSTODY BATON ROUGE TODAY BECAUSE HIS DAUGHTER MRS OWEN W WARE IS REPORTED CRITICALLY ILL. HE IS SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO FEDERAL CUSTODY IN NEW ORLEANS THURSDAY. ELMER IREY, CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE UNIT, BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE, WASHINGTON, ARRIVED NEW ORLEANS TODAY FOR CONFERENCE WITH HIS AGENTS, JAMES ROBERTS, COUNSEL FOR WPA HOUSE SUB COMMITTEE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE NEW ORLEANS TODAY. A B PATTERSON, PRESIDENT OF THE NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY, REFUSED PRESIDENCY NEW ORLEANS DOCK BOARD, WHICH POSITION VACATED BY SEYMOUR WEISS AFTER WEISS WAS INDICTED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY.

RECORDED

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MR ROGGE, HEAD CRIMINAL DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ADVISED REPRESENTATIVES OF OIL COMPANIES TESTIFIED BEFORE FEDERAL GRAND JURY TODAY. THIS BEING DONE IN AN EFFORT TO DEVELOP A CONSPIRACY OF THE CONNELLEY ACT IN AN ATTEMPT TO INVOLVE ROBERT MAESTRI AND WILLIAM RANKIN, FORMER CONSERVATION COMMISSIONER, AND POSSIBLY OTHER OFFICIALS.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
AUG 1 1939  
FBI NEW ORLEANS

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