



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

OSAGE INDIAN MURDERS

PART 13 OF 19

BUFILE NUMBER: 62-5033

FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT Large Indian Murders

FILE NO. 42-5033

SECTION NO. 13

SERIALS 420- 443

Pages 1-11 - 2164

1 cover page - total (11)

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Department of Justice,

Bureau of Investigation.

P. O. Box 1535,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

July 21, 1926.

Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: ATTENTION DIVISION TWO

I am herewith enclosing to you copies of abstracts made in the Henry Roan case, which are to be inserted in your abstract record.

These abstracts bring the case up to the present date and report on the additional facts obtained in this investigation.

Very truly yours,

T. B. White,
Special Agent in Charge.

TBW:B.
Encl.

Handwritten notes:
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62-5033

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUL 20 1926

62-5033-420

2052

Handwritten initials/signature

448 C

HENRY ROAN MURDER CASE

NO:

Change name of "H. W. Lake" on Index and on Page 21
to read "EUGENE PEEL".

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448d



1.
GEORGE C. CAMPBELL,
% Osage Indian Agency,
Pawhuska, Okla.

2.
This witness is a surveyor for the Osage
Indian Agency, and can testify as to the
location where body of Henry Roan was
found with bullet hole in his head.

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1. DAVEY SOLPH,
Syracuse, Kas.

2. This witness stated that while he was confined in the Guthrie City jail he was in the same cell as John Ramsey, and Ramsey told him, Solph, that he, Ramsey, had made a confession to the Government telling them all about the killing of Henry Roan; that Ernest Burkhart had "put it on him" and there was nothing for him to do but tell the truth and tell it all.

3. Page 917,
2nd par.

4. This man will make a
willing witness.

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HENRY WARD,
Fairfax, Okla.

This witness stated to Agents Parker and Davis, that some days prior to the finding of Henry Roan's body, both he, Ward, and George Bolton were standing together on the streets of Fairfax and saw John Ramsey and "K. K. Hale together driving in a new Ford Roadster; that he, Ward, remarked to Bolton, "I wonder who will be the next one", they both realizing that Hale and Ramsey were preparing to pull some kind of a bad deal; that later Henry Roan was found murdered, and on that day he, Ward, and Bolton again met and discussed the finding of Roan murdered, and recalled to each other having seen Ramsey and Hale together, and immediately concluded that they, Hale, and Ramsey were responsible for the murder of Roan.

Page 923,
last par.

This man is a reputable citizen of Fairfax, and will make a willing witness.

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GEORGE BOLTON,
Fairfax, Okla.

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This witness stated to Agents Parker and Davis, that some days prior to the finding of Henry ROAN's body, both he, Bolton, and Henry WARD were standing together on the streets of Fairfax and saw John Ramsey and W. K. Hale together driving in a new Ford roadster; that Ward remarked to Bolton, "I wonder who will be the next one" they both realizing that Hale and Ramsey were preparing to pull some kind of a bad deal; that later Henry ROAN was found murdered, and on that day Bolton and Ward again met and discussed the finding of ROAN's body, and recalled to each other having seen Ramsey and Hale together, and immediately concluded that they, Hale and Ramsey, were responsible for the murder of ROAN.

Page 923,
last par.

This man is a reputable citizen of Fairfax, and will make a willing witness.

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1.
P. W. WILSON,
Glenn L. Wilson Motor
Company,
Ponca City, Okla.

2.
This witness can testify that John Ramsey purchased a Ford roadster car on January 4, 1925, from his company, paying cash for same. The motor No. of the Ford car purchased by Ramsey is #6894153.

3.
Page 902,
last par.



7E

JIM BALLEW,
Ponca City, Okla.

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Page 349,
last par.

This witness stated to Special Agent that some time in the late Fall of 1922, John Ramsey came to his, Ballew's, ranch and was employed by him (Ballew) doing repair work around the ranch; that he, Ballew, aided and assisted Ramsey financially in a small way for his services; that Ramsey at that time was broke; that some time around the following Christmas, Ramsey came to him and stated that his family needed some money and requested of Ballew a loan of \$100; that he, Ballew, granted this favor to Ramsey; that continuing on Ramsey assisted Ballew in building a garage and making other improvements on the ranch; that some time around the middle of Jan. 1923, Ramsey disappeared from the ranch for a few days, and returned with a new Ford roadster car; that he, Ballew, became suspicious and questioned Ramsey as to where he got the car and Ramsey stated to him that he purchased the car new and paid cash for it; that following this Ramsey spent a very little of his time at the ranch, claiming to be sick and not feeling well enough to be able to work; that Ramsey would return to the ranch at late hours of the night and appeared rather restless and worried; that some time around the latter part of January or early part of February, 1923, Ramsey came to him, Ballew, and told him that he, Ramsey, expected to have a bank roll soon and wanted to borrow money from Ballew's ranch; that

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JIM BALLEW,

(Continued)

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Ballew told him, Ramsey, that he did not want to rent his ranch, but suggested that Ramsey see Kirk Ballew and rent his place; that Ramsey then left and did not draw wages due him or take his belongings with him; that two or three months later, the exact time he, Ballew, does not recall, Ballew next met Ramsey when Ramsey and his daughter drove to Ballew's ranch in this new Ford car; that Ramsey stated that he came after some things that he left there; that Ramsey on being questioned by Ballew as to where he had been and where he was then living, stated that he was down near Fairfax on a ranch, which he got thru Bill Hale or that Bill Hale had helped him get; that it was so late in the season when he got this ranch, that the only thing he could plant was food stuff, but he expected to raise a good crop of that.

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1.
LARRY K. WILLIAMS,
Denver, Colorado.

Material.

2.
On February 14, 1926, this witness made the following statement to Agents of the Bureau:

3.
Page 916,
last par.

4.
This party is a will-
ing witness, and is
being kept under sur-
veillance by Agent of
this Bureau.

"In January, 1923, W. K. (Bill) Hale met me at Ralston, Okla., and told me that he had got some insurance company from Denver, Colorado, to insure Henry Roan's life for \$25,000 in his, Hale's, favor; that the insurance company at Pawhuska had failed to write the insurance, but he, Hale, had got by with the Denver insurance company. Hale asked me what I thought about John Ramsey, if he was all right. Hale told me that he, Hale, had arranged with Ramsey to bump Roan off, and collect the \$25,000 insurance. I asked Hale how he expected to get by with that kind of stuff, and Hale said he had let Roan have some cattle, and he, Hale, would make it appear that the in-
surance was for security on the cattle deal, and would be for insurance on the cattle trade, and that he could get by with it all right. I then told Hale that I thought Ramsey would do as he agreed to do, and in a short time Roan was found dead, shot in the back of the head, near Fairfer, Okla.

Three days after Roan was found I met John RAMSEY at Mike Foley's Hotel at Fairfer, Okla., and Ramsey told me about killing Henry Roan, where he was found.

This party is also a material witness in the Anna Brown murder case.

7-34

HARRY M. WILLIAMS,

(Continued)

"shot; that he, Ramsey, had done as Hale told him to do, that he had told Roan to meet him out there alone to get some whiskey, and when Roan met him he, Ramsey, opened the side door of the car and shot Roan in the back of the head while he, Roan, was in the car, and that Hale had promised him \$5,000; that Hale had only paid him \$500 and given him a Ford car, and he, Ramsey, asked me to help him pay on Hale to pay the balance of the money. I afterwards talked to Hale about the balance of the money due Ramsey for killing Roan, and Hale told me that he had told Ramsey he would pay him the balance when he collected the insurance, and that was the agreement he, Hale, had had with Ramsey for the killing of Henry Roan.

"Hale told me several times that he had everything squared in Osage County, from the Roan Overseer to the top, and he was exempt from prosecution for the murders and the Roan insurance policy. I then told Hale that he had better be careful about pulling off jobs on restricted Indian lands, and Hale told me he had talked to his lawyers about Government jurisdiction, and Hale said his lawyers had told him that the Government had no jurisdiction, and he was in the clear so far as the Government was concerned."

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1.
EDWIN BROWN,
Special Asst't to
Attorney Gen'l,
Guthrie, Okla.

2.
After John Ramsey made confession to the
killing of Henry Roan, Ramsey told this
witness that he had told the truth re-
garding the murders, and Ramsey again
repeated the same to Mr. Brown while
Ramsey was confined in the Guthrie jail.

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Marie Sleeper,
Court Clerk,
Guthrie, Okla.

This witness can testify that she took
statement, dictated by Attorney Springer,
in which John Ramsey repudiated his con-
fession to Federal Agents, and in which
Ramsey stated that Agent Murphy forced
him to sign confession, to Roen murder,
by Murphy placing a gun against him.

9/16/4

1. BOGGS,

Shepard,
Guthrie, Okla.

This witness can testify that he was present when John Ramsey signed statement in which Ramsey repudiated his confession to the Henry Roan murder, made to Federal Agents, and in which statement Ramsey stated that he was forced to sign a confession to the Roan murder by Agent Murphy placing a gun against him.

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148

DR. W. H. AARON,
Pawhuska, Okla.

This man made physical examination of Henry Roan when W. K. Hale secured a \$25,000 insurance policy on Roan's life in Hale's favor. Dr. Aaron stated that at the time he examined Henry Roan for the insurance, W. K. Hale was in his office, and he, Dr. Aaron, asked Hale, "Now after you get this \$25,000 policy on Roan, what are you going to do", and Hale answered him and said, "I'm going to bump him off."

Page 917,
1st par.

This man is considered a reputable citizen of Pawhuska, and will make a willing witness.



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448

1.
Dr. C. W. COSS,
Pawhuska, Okla.

2.
This witness was one of the physicians
who examined Henry Roan for the \$25,000
life insurance policy which Hale obtain-
ed on Roan.

3.
2067

448
 HIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Oklahoma City, Okla.

REPORT MADE AT: Washington, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE: 7-22-26	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 7-22-26	REPORT MADE BY: P. J. Ahern
TITLE: EARNEST G. BURKHARDT			CHARACTER OF CASE: Osage Indian Matter. Murder of Government Reservation.

REOPENED CASE

File #70-23

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: The records of the Veterans' Bureau, on examination, show that subject filed claim for disability compensation on December 29, 1924, which was disallowed.

Referred back to office of origin. No further action here.

DETAILS:

Reference is made to previous report by this Agent, dated Washington, D. C., 7-12-26, and especially to the following telegram:

"OKLAHOMA CITY OKLA

JULY 21, 1926.

J.M. KEITH DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HURLEY WRIGHT BLDG WASHINGTON D C

REOPENING AHERNS REPORT EARNEST G BURKHARDT JULY TWELVE UNDERSTANT ALL SOLDIERS PHYSICALLY EXAMINED AT TIME OF DISCHARGE IN DEMOBILIZATION CAMPS EXAMINATION SHOWING ALL PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DEFECTS IN DETAIL SOME SUCH RECORD PROBABLY ALSO SHOWN ON SOLDIERS SERVICE RECORD GET IF POSSIBLE THIS RECORD BURKHARDT AND ALSO RECORD OF DISABILITY CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION.

WHITE."

Agent had the records of the Veterans' Bureau examined regarding subject, and they show that he filed claim for disability compensation on December 29, 1924, and that this claim was disallowed.

DETAILS: The physical examination of subject previous to discharge shows - No disability - no defects - no hospital record.

Referred back to office of origin. No further action here.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>		Acting SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
WASHINGTON REFERENCE: #2		COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Bureau-3 File-1 Oklahoma City-2		62-5033-421
JGD:		BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	RECORDED AND INDEXED: JUL 30 1926	
		DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	CHECKED OFF: AUG 10 1926	
		ROUTED TO: ✓ P. W.	JACKETED	

8/9/26

[Handwritten mark]

448
PW:DS

62-6033-421

RECORDED

AUG 10 1926

August 9, 1926.

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEHRING

With reference to the case of EARNEST
G. BURKHARDT, Osage Indian Matter, I am in-
closing herewith report submitted by Agent
P. J. Ahern, at Washington, D. C., dated
July 22, 1926.

Very truly yours,

Inc. 256544.

Director.

2669

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Oklahoma City, Okla.

REPORT MADE AT: <u>Indpls., Ind.</u>	DATE WHEN MADE: <u>7-27-26</u>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <u>7-23-25-26</u>	REPORT MADE BY: <u>J. E. Bayliss</u>
TITLE: <u>W. K. HALE</u>		CHARACTER OF CASE: <u>Osage Indian Murder</u>	

Indianapolis file 62-59

62-5033

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

As per telegraphic request from Oklahoma City, July 23rd, Agent at Ft. Wayne, Ind. July 25th interviewed GEO. LOWE, 3525 S. Harrison St. and was advised that Government witness Eugene E. Peele left Ft. Wayne at 6:30 A.M. July 25th via automobile for St. Louis, Mo. and was to take train from St. Louis at 6:45 P.M. July 25th for Guthrie, Okla. Wired Oklahoma Office accordingly.

REFERRED BACK TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN; NO FURTHER ACTION HERE

DETAILS:

July 23rd, 1926 Indianapolis Office received a telegram from the Oklahoma City Office stating that EUGENE E. PEELE, under subpoena to appear at Guthrie, Okla. July 26th in the W. K. Hale, Osage Indian Murder case, would arrive at Ft. Wayne, Ind. Sunday, July 25th, to visit at the home of GEO. E. LOWE, 3525 S. Harrison St., and should be notified to appear immediately at Guthrie, Okla. in answer to summons.

AT FT. WAYNE, INDIANA: July 25th Mr. GEO. LOWE advised Agent that EUGENE E. PEELE had arrived at his home at 5:30 A.M. July 25th and received a telegram from Agent in Charge F. B. White, Oklahoma City in response to which Mr. PEELE left Ft. Wayne at 6:30 A.M. July 25th via automobile for St. Louis, Mo. where he would take a train at 6:45 A.M. for Guthrie, Okla. Agent then wired this information to Agent in Charge White, after learning that Mr. Lowe was considered a very reputable citizen and without doubt told the truth regarding witness deal.
-R. U. C.-

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>J. E. Bayliss</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	62-5033-422	RECORDED AND INDEXED: JUL 30 1926
WASHINGTON REFERENCE: 12	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 2- Washington 2- Oklahoma City 2- Indpls.	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	CHECKED OFF:
		DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	JACKETED:
		ROUTED TO: ✓	FILE <i>PW</i>

2270

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Washington, D. C.

7-22-26

7-23-26

P. J. Ahern

HARVEST G. BURCHARDT

**Osage Indian, Victim, Murder on
Government Reservation.**

PROPOSED CASE

File #70-25

The records of the Veterans' Bureau, on examination, show that subject filed claim for disability compensation on December 29, 1924, which was disallowed.

Referred back to office of origin. No further action here.

DETAILS:

Reference is made to previous report by this Agent, dated Washington, D. C., 7-12-26, and especially to the following telegram:

MOKLANOHA CITY OKLA

JULY 21, 1926.

J.M. NINTH DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BUREAU WRIGHT BLDG WASHINGTON D C

REPORTING AGENCIES REPORT HARVEST G BURCHARDT JULY TWELVE REFERRED ALL SOLDIERS MEDICALLY EXAMINED AT TIME OF DISCHARGE IN DEMOBILIZATION CAMPS EXAMINATION SHOWING ALL PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DEFECTS IN DETAIL SOLE SUCH RECORD PROBABLY ALSO CROWN ON SOLDIERS SERVICE RECORD GET IF POSSIBLE THIS RECORD BURCHARDT AND ALSO RECORD OF DISABILITY CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION.

WRIGHT."

Agent had the records of the Veterans' Bureau examined regarding subject, and they show that he filed claim for disability compensation on December 29, 1924, and that this claim was disallowed.

The physical examination of subject previous to discharge shows - no disability - no defects - no hospital record.

Referred back to office of origin. No further action here.

Approved and
Forwarded:

Acting Special Agent in Charge.

Bureau-3 File-1
Oklahoma City-2

2071

TELEGRAMS
TO ALL
AMERICA

CABLEGRAMS
TO ALL
THE WORLD



CLARENCE H. MACKAY, PRESIDENT

DELIVERY NO.

STANDARD TIME
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

RECEIVED AT
This is a fast Telegram unless other
time indicated by prefix after the
number of words (Day Letter
or "N.L." (Night Letter) or "Night
(Night Telegram)

BW JR 55 GVI

GUTHRIE OKLA AUG 3 1926

HON J EDGAR HOOVER

DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DC

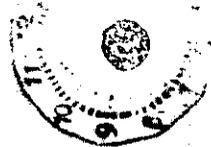
HEARING ON ADMISSIBILITY CONFESSIONS HALF RAMSEY CASE CONTINUING
PROBABLY LAST THROUGHOUT TODAY AND RESUME TRIAL TOMORROW WHICH
WILL NO DOUBT LAST FIRST OF NEXT WEEK WE ALL WANT YOU TO COME
YOU CAN COME EITHER VIA CHICAGO KANSASCITY, SANTAFE DIRECT GUTHRIE
OR BY STLOUIS TO OKLAHOMACITY PLEASE ADVISE STOP WILL KEEP YOU
INFORMED PROGRESS CASE

AUG 4 1926

RECORDED

EDWIN BROWN

62-5033-425
423/5
JWA
67 SD



AUG 11

WR

5033-424

057782

August 6, 1926.

Mr. E. B. White,
P. O. Box 1535,
Oklahoma City, Okla.

5033

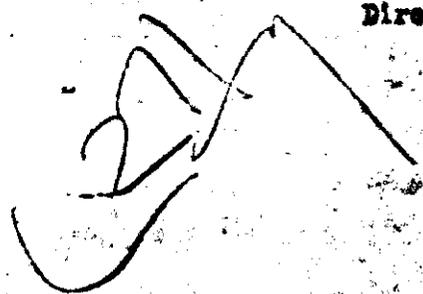
Dear Mr. White:-

I received your telegram of the 3rd instant, relative to the prosecution in the Hale Ramsey case.

I had hoped to be able to get to Oklahoma during this trial as I wanted to have the pleasure of being present, if possible, when the verdict of guilty, which certainly must be returned, is brought in. I have been unable to get away due to the fact that certain unforeseen developments have arisen at Washington. I have been required to give considerable time to the preparation of the annual report, which is being called for earlier this year than usual and had also had to set up the estimates for the next fiscal year before I could leave town. Consequently I will be unable to get to Oklahoma before the conclusion of the trial. Just as soon as I finish the matters which I have before me at the present time, I intend to leave for an inspection trip of the western and southwestern offices, during the course of which I plan to visit Oklahoma City.

Very truly yours,

Director.



62-5033-424



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TELEGRAM RECEIVED

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City, Oklahoma

August 11, 1926.

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Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Man reported here July twenty sixth under subpoena Osage case still here

Five Tinsley Acting

62-5038

RECORDED

AUG 20 1926

62-5038-425

Div. of J.
Div. Five

JL

2074

11-10

503-425

August 16, 1926.

AUG 20 1926

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Mr. F. B. White,
P. O. Box 1225,
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Dear Sir:-

Please advise why you did not report the
arrival of Agent Wrenn, on July 26th, as per Bureau
instructions.

Very truly yours,

Acting Director.

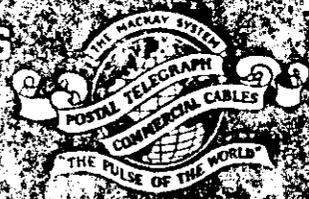
RECEIVED
DIVISION
AUG 18 1926

2075

INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES

HENRY H. MACKAY, PRESIDENT

TELEGRAMS
TO ALL
AMERICA



CABLEGRAMS
TO ALL
THE WORLD

DELIVERY NO. _____

STANDARD TIME INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE _____

is a fast Telegram unless other indicated by signal after the first word - "P" (Day Letter), "N" (Night Letter) or "Nite" (Night Telegram).

BME3'S 30 COLLECT GOVT NL

GUTHRIE OKLA 28

1925 JUL 23 PM 7:02

J EDGAR HOOVER

DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DC

WILL LIKELY GET JURY COMPLETE HALE RAMSEY CASE TONIGHT OR
 IN MORNING TRIAL PROBABLY LAST ALL NEXT WEEK MUCH INTEREST
 LOTS OF WORK SINCERELY HOPE YOU CAN BE HERE

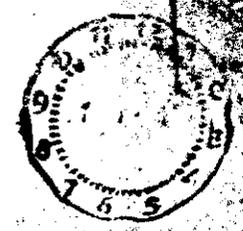
EDWIN BROWN.

AUG 10 1926

62-5833-42A

AUG 18 1926 P.M.

RECEIVED



JUL 29

2076

JEM:LMH

62-5033-426

July 29, 1926.

RECEIVED
JUL 30 1926

62-5033

Mr. Edwin Brown,
P.O. Box 513,
Guthrie, Okla.

Dear Mr. Brown:

Upon my return to the office this morning after an absence of about ten days, I received your telegram and was very glad to learn the exact status of the murder cases. When I left Washington I had intended to proceed to Oklahoma City before I returned to the office but certain matters arose in a number of the northern offices which required my attention and I, consequently, proceeded by way of Detroit, Buffalo, New York and Philadelphia, and have just returned.

I was very anxious to learn the status of the Osage Indian murder cases and note that you state the trial will probably last all of next week. I cannot leave the city for several days as I found it necessary to instruct Mr. Nathan, my Assistant Director, to proceed to New York this morning in order to attend to a very important investigation in that city, but as soon as he returns to the office I shall try to arrange it so that I can leave at once for Guthrie. In the meantime, I would certainly appreciate your keeping me advised as to the exact progress of the case so that I may guide myself accordingly.

With expression of my best regards to you and to the boys in Oklahoma, I remain

Sincerely yours,

2017

SERVICE	SYMBOL
DAY MESSAGE	BL
NIGHT MESSAGE	NITE
DAY LETTER	NL

One of these three symbols appears after the check number of a telegram. Other characters indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM



NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	
TELEGRAM	
DAY LETTER	
NIGHT MESSAGE	
NIGHT LETTER	

If none of these symbols appears after the check number, this is a telegram. Other characters indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.
 Rec'd at Commercial Nat'l Bank Bldg., 14th & G Sts., N. W. Washington, D. C. **ALWAYS OPEN AUG 10 PM**

DA171 11 COLLECT GOVT 1 EXTRA ELPASO TEX 10 42 PM
 DIRECTOR. 1697

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON
 AGENT WREN HAS NOT REPORTED HERE TO DATE FIVE.

WHITE ACTING.

AUG 90 1926 RECORDED

*Rec'd 7:10 pm
 508*

62-5733-427
 BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 AUG 18 1926 A.M.
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

White
 2078

WFOG

Washington, D.C.
August 18, 1926.

White,
Department of Justice,
Federal Building,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

RETAIN AGENTS DAVIS, WREN AND OTHER AGENTS ON OBAGE CASE AT OKLAHOMA
BACK WORK YOUR JURISDICTION IS BROUGHT UP TO-DATE

ONE HOOVER ACTING

2579