



OSAGE INDIAN MURDERS

PART 14 OF 19

BUFILE NUMBER: 62-5033

FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT Craig Indian Murders

FILE NO. 42-5033

SECTION NO. 14

SERIALS 444- 464

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1 cover page - Total 1107

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Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

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

October 9, 1926.

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

RECORDED
INDEXED
OCT 10 1926
ATTENTION DIVISION TWO.

62-5233-114
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 10 1926
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Dear Sir:

In Re: Oswego Indian Investigation.

In further reference to our exchange of telegrams of October 2nd in connection with the above matter, will state that on October 4th I forwarded to you by airplane mail a report made by Agent Frank B. Smith in this connection, giving the details of this investigation to date.

On October 6th, as you were advised, the Federal Grand Jury re-convened to hear evidence as to the impeding of justice and interfering with witnesses by the lawyers representing William H. Hale and John Ramsey, and other parties. Also, we made use of this Grand Jury to develop additional facts in our case against Hale and Ramsey for the killing of Henry Roan. We had wonderful success in both. We developed considerable new testimony and had sufficient information submitted before the Grand Jury that they could have indicted Springer and several others for impeding justice and perjury. We proved by the testimony of our witnesses before the Grand Jury that Springer and another one of the lawyers, J. I. Howard, and some of their detectives that they had working on the Hale and Ramsey case were guilty of interfering with the witnesses and impeding justice. We also had sufficient evidence before the Grand Jury that a witness by the name of Ratterbaugh, and Walter Ramsey, a brother of John Ramsey, had perjured themselves at the trial at Guthrie in that they testified that John Ramsey on January 13th and the week thereof was in Ripley. As a matter of fact, we proved by John Ramsey's sister-in-law - a sister of Mrs. Ramsey - a Mrs. Ward, and a Mrs. Corbett and her husband, who are also related to the Ramseys, that John Ramsey at this time was down at Fairfax drunk.

I am told by United States Attorney Roy St. Lewis that the Grand Jury would have indicted all of the attorneys for the defense, together with Ratterbaugh and Walter Ramsey, if he would have asked them, but, after a conference between Mr. St. Lewis, Mr. John Leahy, the special prosecutor, and myself it was decided at the present time that the matter be passed by the Grand Jury as it might interfere with the prosecution of the Hale-Ramsey case and would lead to further postponement of the same. As a matter of

fact, we did not have sufficient evidence to convict the attorneys S. P. Freeling, J. I. Howard, and Hamilton, but we did have enough evidence to bring about the conviction of J. M. Springer, and, of course, it would not have been advisable to indict Freeling, Howard and Hamilton. We agreed if we indicted Springer that it would lead to a motion by him of continuance of the Ramsey case until he had a hearing on what he was indicted for and thereby force us to trial with Bill Hale alone and would thus materially weaken our case if we went to trial with Bill Hale without trying jointly John Ramsey, so we decided that it was best not to indict any of them. The Grand Jury made a report to the Court recommending that the investigation be continued as there was developed before them considerable evidence as to the interference of the witnesses and the regular process of justice, and further recommended that the United States Attorney file contempt proceedings against Attorney Springer for his part in the interfering of witnesses.

During the investigation made by the Grand Jury we had a number of witnesses subpoenaed, from whom we obtained additional information. Mrs. Ward, who testified at the trial at Guthrie, makes a statement now that John Ramsey was at her home January 14th drunk and was there several days about that time in the same condition. He was seen by Mrs. Ward at the Corbett home around the pump-house there, drinking and drunk. Mr. and Mrs. Corbett make the same statement, also Frank Wooten makes the same statement that he saw him there, thus blasting the alibi of Ramsey, proved by testimony of Ratterbaugh and his brother, Walter Ramsey, that he was in Ripley January 13th and the week thereof. Frank Wooten tells us also that his father, F. G. Wooten, whose present address is P.O. Box 32, San Antonio, Chihuahua, Mexico, was around Fairfax the latter part of January and the first of February, 1923, and that he rode around with Ramsey in a new Ford car that Bill Hale had given him to kill Henry Roan; that Ramsey told F. G. Wooten that Bill Hale had given him the car and Frank stated his father further stated that Bill Hale told him that John Ramsey would take him around in this car. Frank Wooten states that his father will tell all that he knows about this transaction and will come, if he is requested by wire to do so. We expect to have him here October 20th as a witness.

We also secured information from Rube Correll, tax assessor of Osage County, to the effect that he was at Henry Grammer's ranch the latter part of 1922 when Bill Hale and Ernest Burkhart came there; that he was running for office at that time and Bill Hale gave him \$100.00 to promote his campaign; that John Ramsey was there at the same time and so was Henry Grammer; that Grammer, Hale, Burkhart, and Ramsey, had frequent consultations while there, thus in detail corroborating the testimony given by Ernest Burkhart.

We were unable to get much out of the Rowe brothers, Carl and Homie, but Homie made admissions to the Carroll brothers, who are cattlemen and employ him that the testimony that he gave at Guthrie was not altogether correct in

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Director. - Page #3.

that the dates were not as he gave them and what he testified to about the unloading of the cattle at the Henry Cornett place and the handling of it being about January 27th; that it did not happen at that time. We were unable to get Carl Rowe down to face the Grand Jury or be questioned by us. He came here to Oklahoma City but left the same night that he arrived and we could not afterwards locate him, while the Grand Jury was in session, at Ponca City where he works.

We interviewed Mrs. Myra Johnson, Curley Johnson's wife. Curley Johnson is the man whom the defense attempted to prove that killed Henry Roan at the instance of Roy Bunch. She has given us information that I believe we will be able to prove that Curley Johnson was not in and around where Cornett and the Rowe brothers claimed he was in January, 1923, but was in De Noya, Oklahoma working. This information we are following out now and I look for good results. Mrs. Johnson gave us a good deal of information with reference to one Henry Majors and another party coming to her and attempting to give her \$600.00, if she would come down to Guthrie and make them a witness, stating to her that Curley was dead and, of course, she couldn't hurt him and she had just as well make herself \$600.00. This she flatly and indignantly refused to do and chased them away from her place. She arrived in Oklahoma City too late to testify before the Grand Jury. Most of what she had to say was covered in Agent Smith's report that went to you October 4th.

The party that we had in mind that was to swear he saw Henry Roan and John Ramsey together out in Sol Smith's pasture about two weeks before Henry Roan's body was found is a man by the name of Newton, and he lives in Hominy, Oklahoma. We had him subpoenaed to appear before the Grand Jury, but he arrived too late to get in before the Grand Jury. We did not question him at that time on account of thinking it would be more productive of results if we would have this man handled by one Jim Rhodes, who is a former officer in Fairfax and a witness for the Government in the Henry Roan case, and very friendly and willing to talk to Newton. Newton, so Rhodes states, told one of his friends in confidence of seeing Ramsey and Roan together. In order to get this information out of him we want to get these three parties together and I believe that we can get the information. If we should go to him and would get him committed to a false statement, it would be a pretty difficult matter to put him straight.

A man by the name of Beree and his wife testified at the trial up at Guthrie of seeing a car come through by Sol Smith's ranch-house about a week or ten days before Henry Roan's body was found and further testified that a day or two thereafter they saw this car in the canyon that was alleged to have been the one that Henry Roan was found in. We had Beree and his wife down here before the Grand Jury and questioned them as to their testimony in this regard. They now state that they find that they were not correct as to the date this car came through Sol Smith's pasture and stopped at his ranch-house one night, that this was not ten days or two weeks before Henry Roan's body was found, but as a matter of fact was February 3, 1923, making it only two or three days be-

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7 Director. - Page #4.
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12 fore the body was found.
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14 There were other developments in the case, the details of which I
15 will not go into in this letter and I am having Agent Frank S. Smith to submit
16 you a report in detail as soon as possible of everything that transpired dur-
17 ing the recent Grand Jury session here. Agent Smith at the present time is
18 engaged in running out the Newton information, as we believe that better re-
19 sults can be had by getting at this report as soon as possible. As soon as
20 he has completed this, he will submit the report.
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23 very truly yours,
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28 *F. B. White*
29 Special Agent in Charge.
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TBW:B.

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THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

REPORT MADE AT: Oklahoma City	DATE WHEN MADE: 10-13-26	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 10-2 10-13-26	REPORT MADE BY: F.S. Smith
TITLE: W.K. Hale and John Ramsey		CHARACTER OF CASE: Murder of Henry Roan, Osage Indian.	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

O.C. #70-1

Convening of Federal Grand Jury at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 6th, 1926. Witnesses questioned and statements obtained.

Recommendation of Grand Jury to Federal Judge instructing the filing of contempt proceedings against J.M. Springer, Attorney for the defendants Hale and Ramsey.

Names and addresses of witnesses listed.

PENDING.

DETAILS:

Attention is directed to report of Agent Smith at Oklahoma City, captioned as above, dated October 1, 1926, especially to witnesses listed therein, their testimony and leads developed.

Federal Grand Jury convened at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 6th, 1926. Witnesses questioned and statements obtained as follows:

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	62-5033-445	RECORDED AND INDEXED:
WASHINGTON REFERENCE:	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	CHECKED OFF:
# 2	Washington 3	DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	OCT 26 1926
	U.S. Atty. Ok Cy 1	ROUTED TO:	JACKETED:
	Edwin Brown 1	FILE	
	O.C. Bureau 2	Dist V	

HOMIE ROWE
Written Statement.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 7th, 1926.
Statement made by Homie Rowe to Mr. John Leahy,
in the presence of Frank S. Smith.

By Mr. Leahy:

- Q. In looking into these matters with reference to your testimony before, we have an idea you were mistaken about some matters and we would like to talk to you about it. Now with reference to the time when you were over there at your uncle's, you have no particular way of fixing that date in mind, except by the branding of the cattle.
- A. No, I don't.
- Q. I believe you said Curly Johnson lived over there at your uncle's place at that time, is that right?
- A. Yes, I think he did.
- Q. Where did you live, how far away?
- A. About two miles.
- Q. You lived about two miles away?
- A. Yes, a little over two miles south, just about two miles.
- Q. Do you remember talking to John Carroll before coming to that trial about that case?
- A. No, I never talked with him except to say I did not know anything.
- Q. That is what I mean, you said you did not know anything about it. What did he say to you?
- A. He said they had a subpoena out for me. All I said was I didn't know what they wanted with me, I did not know anything about it.

By Mr. Smith:

- Q. Mr. Carroll first approached you to get you to be a witness for the defense in this case? Who approached you first?
- A. Well, no one that I know of - first sent me a subpoena.
- Q. You never talked to any man?
- A. No.

By Mr. Leahy:

- Q. You talked to no one before you went on the witness stand?
- A. To the lawyer that is all.

By Mr. Smith:

- Q. Who talked to you?
- A. Mr. Howard.

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By Mr. Leahy:

Q. Did you talk to Henry Cornett any?

A. No.

By Mr. Smith:

Q. Did you talk to Mrs. Cornett?

A. Yes, but not about the trial.

Q. The first information you got was the subpoena to come to Guthrie? No one had ever talked to you about it and you had never talked to Cornett in your life about it?

A. No.

Q. You never talked to Mrs. Cornett about it?

A. No.

Q. You told Mr. Carroll you did not know anything on God's earth about it?

A. I told him I did not know what they wanted with me, that I did not know anything. I did not think I did.

Q. Who first came to you in this matter?

A. The first I ever knew John Carroll came out there after me and said there was a subpoena out for me. I said I did not know what they wanted to subpoena me for.

By Mr. Leahy:

Q. Now Mr. Rowe, what time in the day was it that you say you saw Roy Bunch, Mary Roan and Bill Taylor, riding in a car, go past your house?

A. It was about five o'clock.

Q. That was in January of 1923?

A. I could not say what date it was.

Q. Did you know whether it was January or not?

A. Yes, I think it was.

Q. Do you know whether it was 1923 or not?

A. Yes, I believe it was in 1923.

Q. Do you know how long it was before you heard of Henry Roan being killed?

A. No, I do not. About a week though.

Q. Could it have been more than a week?

A. Yes, it could have.

Q. You say that you had been down to your uncle's, Henry Cornett, on that day, you and your brother, and helped brand some cattle?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And had you got home after branding the cattle before you saw the car pass in which Roy Bunch, Mary Roan and Bill Taylor were in?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Whose car was the first car you saw pass after you arrived at home?

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11 A. Roy Bunch.
12 Q. And who was next?
13 A. Next behind you mean?
14 Q. Yes.
15 A. Henry Roan's.
16 Q. And how far apart were they?
17 A. I don't imagine over a half mile.
18 Q. Were you paying any particular attention as to how far apart
19 they were?
20 A. No, sir.
21 Q. Do you know whether Roy Bunch was out of sight when Henry Roan
22 passed?
23 A. Well, I don't think he was.
24 Q. And what was the next car you saw come along?
25 A. Curly Johnson in a Ford.
26 Q. How far was he behind Henry Roan?
27 A. I judge about a mile or a mile and a half.
28 Q. What kind of a car was Henry Roan driving?
29 A. Driving a Buick.
30 Q. What kind of a car was Roy Bunch driving?
31 A. Buick.
32 Q. Touring car or closed car?
33 A. Touring.
34 Q. Did these parties all come down the road that led toward your
35 uncle's house?
36 A. Came down the road that come from there.
37 Q. That led from your uncle's house?
38 A. Yes, that come from there.
39 Q. It is about how far to your uncle's house?
40 A. About two miles, or two miles and a quarter.
41 Q. What was Roan's condition with reference to being drunk or
42 sober, do you know?
43 A. Well, he was not down drunk, but looked like he had been drink-
44 ing.
45 Q. Was he driving the car alright?
46 A. Yes.
47 Q. How long had you known Henry Roan?
48 A. A year I guess, or a year and a half.
49 Q. Were you well acquainted with him?
50 A. I was.
51 Q. How long had you known Roy Bunch?
52 A. About the same length of time, about a year.
53 Q. Were you well acquainted with him?
54 A. I was.
55 Q. How long had you known Bill Taylor?
56 A. I had not known him very long.
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11 Q. Were you well acquainted with him?

12 A. Not the best in the world, but I had him pictured in mind.

13 Q. Ever had any dealings with him?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Ever talked to him that you remember of?

16 A. No, sir.

17 Q. Do you know where he worked at that time?

18 A. No, I don't.

19 Q. Do you know whether he was a man of family or not?

20 A. I don't.

21 Q. Now, as I understand you, you say that the bunch of cattle
22 that you helped Henry Cornett brand was a bunch of cattle that
23 he bought in the stockyards here in Oklahoma City, shipped up
24 to Burbank, received at Burbank, took over to his place in
25 January, 1926?

26 A. I don't know whether he bought them in the stockyards or not,
27 but he bought them in Oklahoma City.

28 Q. What class of cattle were they?

29 A. Cows.

30 Q. All cows?

31 A. Yes, sir, I don't think they were mixed any.

32 Q. You have seen Bill Taylor since have you?

33 A. I think I have.

34 Q. Did you see him at Guthrie during the Hale-Ramsey trial?

35 A. Not that I remember.

36 Q. If he was there you do not remember seeing him?

37 A. No.

38 Q. Did you see anybody that was on the witness stand that was
39 pointed out to you as Bill Taylor?

40 A. No, sir.

41 Q. Did you ever know where Bill Taylor worked?

42 A. No, I didn't.

43 Q. Did you ever see him working about in a garage there?

44 A. I never.

45 Q. In any Filling Station?

46 A. No, sir.

47 Q. Do you know him now?

48 A. Not any more than I did then?

49 Q. Have you seen him recently, around Fairfax?

50 A. No, sir.

51 Q. How long since you have seen him?

52 A. I has been a year or so.

53 Q. You know where he lives now?

54 A. No, I don't.

55 Q. And where do you live?

56 A. North of Fairfax.

57 Q. How long have you been living there?

58 A. Since July.

59 Q. July, 1926?

60 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. You are here now attending Court under subpoena?

12 A. Yes, sir.

13 Q. Since coming down here you have talked with any of the attor-
14 neys for Hale and Ramsey?

15 A. I have not.

16 Q. I want to say this to you Mr. Rowe, I do not want to see you
17 testify to anything that you don't know to be true; I don't
18 want you to feel like that I am trying to get you to change
19 your testimony unless after going over it you feel that you have
20 made a mistake. If after further discussion of the matter you
21 still are of the opinion that your testimony as you gave it in
22 the trial at Guthrie is true, then I don't want you to feel or
23 get the impression that I am trying to get you to change it at
24 all. I had this in mind, that maybe after discussing it with
25 you and telling you some of the contradictions between your
26 testimony and other testimony and refreshing your mind on it
27 that you might feel that you were mistaken. If your mind is
28 still as it was when you testified at Guthrie, then understand
29 from me that you are not supposed to change that testimony be-
30 cause I requested or wanted you to change it. I am making this
31 statement to you as witnesses so often, after talking to the
32 prosecuting attorney, come away with the idea that the prosecut-
33 ing attorney tried to make them change their testimony. That
34 is not true. I would not have you do it unless you are satis-
35 fied that you were mistaken before.

36 Q. In your judgment, how many days was it after these cattle were
37 received at Burbank and taken out to your uncle's place that
38 they were branded? What is your judgment on that.

39 A. About one or two days.

40 Q. If they were received at Burbank on the 27th then would it be
41 your judgment that they were branded on either the 28th or 29th?

42 A. It would.

43
44 (Signed) Romie Rowe.

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47 See transcript of testimony given by Rowe at trial of Hale and
48 Ramsey at Guthrie. Also, Agent Smith's report dated October 1,
49 1926, page 41, concerning shipment of cattle to Cornett.
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11 RUBE (R.A.) CORRELL
12 Written Statement.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 7, 1926.
Statement made by Rube (R.A.) Correll to
Mr. John Leahy:

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15 "In the Fall of 1922, some time previous
16 to the election, I was at Henry Grammer's
17 place, and Bill Hale and Ernest Burkhardt were there. A farmer by
18 the name of Bill Hannuman, who lives near there, was there also.
19 There were some employees around but I do not recall their names.
20 While I was there Hale made me a present of \$100.00 to assist me in
21 my campaign expenses. Others were assisting me in my campaign be-
22 cause they knew I had had much sickness in my family and had been up
23 against some hard luck. Whether John Ramsey was there I cannot say.
24 He may have been there as one of the employees but I was not ac-
25 quainted with him and paid no attention to those who were about
26 there except Grammer, Hale, Burkhardt and Hannuman.

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28 There was another time I went from Fairfax to Grammers' with W.K.
29 Hale in the interest of my campaign, but Ernest Burkhardt was not
30 along at that time, and I do not recall whether I saw Ramsey at
31 that time or not."
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35 SEE transcript of Ernest Burkhardt's testimony given at trial of
36 Hale and Ramsey at Guthrie. Corroborated by Correll's statement.
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46 R.C. KISSEE
47 Written Statement.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 7, 1926.
Statement made by R.C. Kisse:

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49 "R.C. Kisse states that about January
50 21, 1923, he, in company with Ernest
51 Burkhardt, Horace Burkhardt and John Morris, went from Fairfax to John
52 Wimberley's place near Burbank. That John Morris went to see
53 Wimberley to endeavor to sell him some cattle. John Wimberley, at
54 that time, lived about four miles southwest of Burbank. After talk-
55 ing with Wimberley we all went back to Fairfax the same day.
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57
58 (Signed) R.C. Kisse"
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12 SEE transcript of Ernest Burkhart's testimony given at trial of
13 Hale and Ramsey at Guthrie concerning his visiting a ranchman in
14 company with John Morris. Burkhart now recalls that John Wimberley
15 was name of ranchman, and R.C. Kissee and Horace Burkhart accom-
16 panied he and Morris.
17

18 Mack W. Martin states that Kissee was employed on road gang near
19 Ralston, and that during Hale and Ramsey trial John Morris came
20 to the camp and called Kissee aside; that Kissee left the works
21 and was heard to tell Morris that if it was to help Bill Hale that
22 he would go and swear to anything. Hale had befriended Kissee on
23 numerous occasions.
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33 HORACE BURKHART
34 Oral Statement.

This witness corroborates statement of
Kissee and Ernest Burkhart with reference
to going with John Morris and seeing
John Wimberley about the purchase of
cattle.

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48 FRANK WOOTAN
49 Written Statement.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 7, 1926.
Statement made by Frank Wootan to Mr.
John Leahy:

By Mr. Leahy:

Q. State your name.
A. Frank Wootan.

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56 Q. You live at Fairfax, do you?

57 A. Yes, sir.

58 Q. You know John Ramsey, do you?

59 A. Yes, sir.
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12 Q. Did you know him in 1923?

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. Did you know Harry Corbett at that time?

15 A. Yes, sir.

16 Q. Do you recall the killing of Henry Roan?

17 A. I remember the time, the time his body was found.

18 Q. Do you know where the Pump House is that Harry Corbett worked at?

19
20 A. Yes, sir, the one west of town, the City Pump House.

21 Q. Were you at that Pump House on a Sunday some time previous to
22 the killing of Henry Roan?

23 A. Well now I was out there that winter, '23, and I - of course

24 I can't tell - I think it was before Henry Roan was killed, I
25 am not sure.

26 Q. Who did you go out there with?

27 A. John Ramsey.

28 Q. And what did you do after you got there?

29 A. Went down there and taken a drink of whiskey.

30 Q. Was that what you went out for?

31 A. Yes, sir.

32 Q. Did you see anyone else there?

33 A. I think I seen Ruth Allen there, if I am not mistaken.

34 Q. Do you know whether Ruth Allen was drunk or not?

35 A. Well, I would not say he was at that time, not what you would
36 call right drunk, but he was drinking.

37 Q. Do you recall whether you saw Harry Corbett there?

38 A. Yes, sir.

39 Q. Did you see Mrs. Corbett?

40 A. No, sir.

41 Q. Did you see Bill Taylor?

42 A. No, sir.

43 Q. Before going out to the Pump House, did you see any of the
44 officers anywhere?

45 A. Seen Bob Parker.

46 Q. Where did you see him?

47 A. In Fairfax.

48 Q. Did you say anything to him, or did he say anything to you or
49 to John?

50 A. He said to John, "Where are you boys going?"

51 Q. What did John say to him?

52 A. He said "We are going out to take a drink."

53 Q. What did Bob say to that?

54 A. Never said a word.

55 Q. How long did you stay out there at the Pump House?

56 A. Well, I judge about twenty or thirty minutes, not over that
57 time.

58 Q. Then where did you go?

59 A. Back to Fairfax.
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11 Q. John came back with you?

12 A. Yes, sir.

13 Q. Did you go out in his car or yours?

14 A. In his car.

15 Q. Do you remember what kind of a car it was?

16 A. Ford Roadster.

17 Q. Was it a new car?

18 A. Well, Mr. Leahy, I don't know whether you would call it a new
19 car or not, it was not an old wreck by a lot, it was a pretty
20 good car.

21
22 (Signed) Frank Wootan"
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26 Frank says his father asked Ramsey where he got the money to buy
27 the car. He answered that Hale gave it to him. Also Hale told
28 him to take Sam Wootan wherever he wanted to go because Wootan's
29 daughter worked for the Big Hill Trading Co. and might talk.
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32 NOTE -- Corroborate witness' testimony by witnesses Harry Corbett,
33 Mrs. Harry Corbett, Byron Corbett, Paul Meredith and Bob
34 Parker.
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38 Frank Wootan states that his father, F.J. Wootan, now in Mexico,
39 told him that in connection with John Ramsey in January 1923, that
40 Ramsey told him that Hale bought him a new Ford he was then driving.
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49 BOB PARKER
50 Oral Statement.

51 "On a date in January 1923, which I do not
52 now recall, I saw Frank Wootan and John
53 Ramsey in Fairfax and preparing to leave
54 in a car. I recall that I asked them if
55 they were going out to take a drink, and
56 suspecting that they would go to a plant out on the road, followed
57 them out west of Fairfax, but lost them. Sam Tulk was with me in
58 a Buick car."
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F.J. WOOTAN

NOTE -- See statement of Frank Wootan.

"Frank Wootan states that his father, F.J. Wootan, now in Mexico, told him that in connection with John Ramsey in January 1923, that Ramsey told him that Hale bought him a new Ford he was then driving."

HARRY CORBETT
Written Statement

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 7, 1926.
Harry Corbett made the following statement:

"Harry Corbett states that in addition to his testimony which he gave at Guthrie in the trial of Hale and Ramsey, in which he testified that on January 14, 1923, John Ramsey was at the pump station where he was working and there he and Ramsey and other parties took a drink together out of a jug Ramsey had brought the day before and left there. That he later on the same day went with his wife to visit his wife's uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Ward, and that there they saw John Ramsey, and that Mrs. Ward now remembers that John Ramsey was there at that time. He also states that on a number of different occasions after the body of Henry Roan was found that John Ramsey asked of him whether or not the officers were doing anything to find out who killed Henry Roan; also asked him on several different occasions what kind of a looking fellow Henry Roan was. This seemed queer to him because he had seen John Ramsey talking with Henry Roan previous to his death at a garage where he called him "roam horse". That subsequent to January 14, 1923, he saw John Ramsey and Henry Roan sitting on a bench in front of the McElroy Pool Hall in Fairfax talking. He also states that Mrs. Corbett remembers that John Ramsey was at the pump station where Harry Corbett works on January 14, 1923. Paul Meredith was also present on January 14, 1923, when they were drinking out of this jug of John Ramsey's, and Paul remembers that John Ramsey was there at the time they were doing this drinking. That Frank Wootan came to the pump house on January 14, 1923, with John Ramsey and was drinking some out of Ramsey's jug while he was here.

(Signed) Harry R. Corbett"

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12 See transcript of Harry Corbett and Bill Taylor testimony given
13 at trial of Hale and Ramsey at Guthrie concerning John Ramsey
14 being at Pump House west of Fairfax on January 14th, 1926.
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17 Additional information from Harry Corbett:
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19 That Byron Corbett, his brother, was present on January 14th at
20 Pump House and drank with John Ramsey. Was at Fairfax covering
21 period of January 1926, and was repeatedly during the time with
22 Ramsey. That Mrs. Quince Irons and her daughter, sister-in-law
23 and niece of John Ramsey stated to him that John Ramsey was at
24 the Irons' home in Fairfax repeatedly during the month of January.
25 That Mrs. Irons and daughter borrowed John Ramsey's car to drive
26 to Mrs. Jennie Ward's and saw a large automatic pistol in the
27 car. That Mrs. Jennie Ward recalls them mentioning this fact and
28 can likely place the date. That J.L. Ward, husband of Mrs.
29 Jennie Ward, will no doubt corroborate John Ramsey's visits to
30 Ward home in January.
31

32 Corbett states he testified as defense witness at Guthrie, was
33 excused and returned to Fairfax. The following day Charlie Hale,
34 half brother of W.K. Hale, came to him and stated Springer wanted
35 him at Guthrie. He went to Guthrie and met Springer, who said
36 "Do you know that God Damn Bill Taylor swore that John Ramsey was
37 at your home January 12th?", telling Corbett that date would not
38 do, and for him to have Taylor change the date to some other month,
39 but Corbett told him that it was the truth. Springer became
40 furious and said that date must be changed. Corbett then asked
41 Springer if he, Corbett, could return home, and Springer told him
42 "No", that he would stay there and left him.
43

44 Corbett states that some time in January 1926, Paul Jones, brother-
45 in-law of John Ramsey, borrowed his car and drove to Riply to
46 see Mrs. John Ramsey, his sister. That Jones told him that he was
47 told by Mrs. Ramsey that John Ramsey had been gone for more than
48 two weeks, that Mrs. Ramsey was out of provisions and had no money
49 and that he purchased her a load of groceries.
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11 MRS. HARRY CORBETT
12 Written Statement.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 7, 1926.

13 "Mrs. Harry Corbett states that she re-
14 members that John Ramsey was at the pump
15 station where her husband works at
16 Fairfax on January 14, 1923. On a
17 Sunday in January, 1923, after Sunday, January 7, 1923, that on the
18 same day John Ramsey was there, she and her husband, Harry Corbett,
19 went to visit her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Ward, and that John
20 Ramsey was at the Ward home on that afternoon. That he was in an
21 intoxicated condition while at the Ward home. Mrs. Corbett also
22 states that during the month of January, 1923, subsequent to the
23 time she saw him at the pump station, and later on the same day at
24 the Ward home, that she saw John Ramsey at the pump station on
25 several different occasions and remembers talking with him. That
26 on other occasions during the month of January, 1923, John Ramsey
27 was at her house. She states that on two different occasions dur-
28 ing the month of January other than the time John Ramsey came to
29 her place with Mrs. Ramsey, that John Ramsey had been there and
30 that both of these other times when he was at her house were sub-
31 sequent to January 7, 1923.
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34 (Signed) Mrs. Harry Corbett"
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39 NOTE corroboration by Mrs. Jennie Ward, Harry Corbett, Byron
40 Corbett, Bill Taylor, Frank Wooten, Walter Wittey, Tom Hutchinson, and
41 Paul Meredith placing John Ramsey on January 14th, 1926.
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50 WALTER WITTEY
51 Can Testify.

52 See statement of Mrs. Jennie Ward, Harry
53 Corbett, Mrs. Harry Corbett with reference
54 to Walter Wittey in company with Tom
55 Hutchinson being at Mrs. Ward's home
56 January 14, 1926, at time John Ramsey
57 was there.
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TOM HUTCHINSON
Can Testify

See statement of Mrs. Jennie Ward, Harry Corbett and Mrs. Harry Corbett with reference to Walter Wittey, in company with Tom Hutchinson, being at Mrs. Ward's home on January 14, 1926, at time John Ramsey was there.

J.L. WARD

See statement of Harry Corbett. This witness should corroborate Mrs. Ward, Harry Corbett and Mrs. Corbett, Walter Wittey and Tom Hutchinson.

MRS. JENNIE WARD
Written Statement.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 7, 1926.

"Mrs. Jennie Ward states that she remembers John Ramsey was at her house on a Sunday in January, 1923, subsequent to the 7th day of January, 1923, and that Mr. and Mrs. Corbett both came to her house in the afternoon of the same day Ramsey was there, and that Ramsey had been drinking before he came to her house and was still under the influence of liquor while there. That on the same day Mr. Walter Wittey and Tom Hutchinson were there at her place.

(Signed) Mrs. Jennie Ward"

This witness testified for the defense in the Hale and Ramsey trial at Guthrie concerning John Ramsey and wife visiting her home latter part of January, 1923.

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F.S. Smith

10-13-26

15.

PAUL MEREDITH

See statement of Harry Corbett with reference to this witness being at Pump House, where Corbett lived, January 14, 1923, and taking a drink with John Ramsey from a jug.

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HARRY RILEY

It is alleged by Mrs. Jennie Ward and Harry Corbett that this witness stated to them that after the Roan murder John Ramsey came to Riply and paid up outstanding debts.

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SOL M. SMITH
Written Statement.

Oklahoma City, Okla., October 7, 1926.
Statement made by Sol M. Smith to Mr. John Leahy, in the presence of T.S. Smith:

By Mr. Leahy:

- Q. State your name.
- A. S.M. Smith.
- Q. Where do you live?
- A. Fairfax.
- Q. You are acquainted with J.M. Springer, one of the attorneys for Ramsey and Hale?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Were you in attendance in Guthrie in July and August of this year at the trial of Ramsey and Hale for the murder of Henry Roan?
- A. I was there all the time.
- Q. Were you subpoenaed there?
- A. Yes, I was.
- Q. On behalf of the government?
- A. Yes, sir.

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12 Q. During the time that you were there did Springer have a con-
13 versation with you in which he tried to get you to say that
14 an automobile drove up to your house a short time before Henry
15 Roan's body was found, and with Curly Johnson and Roy Bunch
16 in the car and had the body of Henry Roan in the car?
17 A. Yes, sir.
18 Q. Was that true or false, that they drove up there?
19 A. It is absolutely false - there was no car there at all.
20 Q. Did you ever hear of such a thing prior to the time of his
21 suggesting it to you?
22 A. No, sir.
23 Q. State what he said with reference to trying to get you to tes-
24 tify to that?
25 A. He just asked me if I remembered it and he said "You know that
26 car was up there", and I said "I know there was not". He
27 said "You know you saw that car" and I said "I did not see that
28 car". Well, we had quite a little argument about it.
29 Q. In that conversation, did he tell you that if you could remem-
30 ber that that there would be \$2,500.00 in it for you?
31 A. Something to that effect.
32 Q. Did you, in that conversation, say to him that if there was
33 Twenty-five Thousand Dollars, or any amount of money in it,
34 that you could not remember it?
35 A. I told him there was not enough money in the world to make me
36 remember that as it was not true and that I did not want him
37 to tell me there was.
38 Q. Did he tell you, in that conversation, that Russ B. Reed and
39 his wife would testify to that?
40 A. He did not.
41 Q. Several days after that time you met him on the streets in
42 Guthrie?
43 A. Yes, sir.
44 Q. Did he stop you?
45 A. He did.
46 Q. Did he have a gun?
47 A. Well, he had what I took to be a gun.
48 Q. What caused you to take it to be a gun?
49 A. Well, I had seen them before and he made a motion that made
50 me to believe it was a gun.
51 Q. Did he have his hand in his right coat pocket?
52 A. Yes, sir.
53 Q. Did he hold his hand in his pocket and hold it toward you?
54 A. In his side pocket.
55 Q. Did he stick it out toward you?
56 A. Yes, sir.
57 Q. From the appearance of his pocket and his hand was it your
58 judgment that he had a gun?
59 A. Absolutely.
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12 Q. What did he say to you at that time?

13 A. Now listen, John McClain had went and had a conversation with
14 him and told him about this and told him that I would go on
15 the stand and swear to what he had told me down there. So when
16 I met him he was telling me about what John had told him and he
17 said "God Damn you, if you tell that I will kill you" and that
18 was when he stuck that gun toward me, or what I took to be a
19 gun.

20 Q. And what did you say?

21 A. I told him he might just as well start ~~swearing~~ as I would tell
22 it if they asked me about it.

23 Q. In that conversation on the street, did he say to you anything
24 about that he would have a gun with him in the Court Room in
25 case you went on the witness stand and testified.

26 A. He just said that he would kill me and I took it that way.

27 Q. And since that time have you had a talk with him?

28 A. Yes, I talked to him a little.

29 Q. Where was that?

30 A. Tulsa.

31 Q. Did he make an apology to you?

32 A. No, he didn't make an apology and he wouldn't stand long
33 enough to say much. He said he would see me later. I have
34 never seen him any more.

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37 (Signed) S.M. Smith".
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46 BILL SPURGEN

This witness can testify to purchase of
gas and oil by Henry Roan on January 24,
1923, and prior dates. He has record to
substantiate testimony.

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RAY SMITH
Oral statement.

Attention is directed to statement of this witness covered in report of Agent Smith, captioned as above, dated October 1, 1926, page 31.

This witness verbally stated to Agent Smith that Henry Cornett came to him and asked him if he would do him a favor, explaining that he was under sentence by the government to a term in the Leavenworth Penitentiary, and that if he would make a statement to the effect that he saw Roy Bunch and Bill Taylor in a car together, and Henry Roan in his own car, going in the direction of where Roan was found murdered a short time thereafter, and tell of things that he Smith had heard Bunch and Taylor say, that it would keep him, Cornett, out of the penitentiary. In order to help Henry Cornett Smith told him he would make a statement and then Cornett told him what to tell. Later Cornett brought Agent Smith to him and he made a statement, all of which was a lie. While making this statement to Agent Smith, Cornett called him aside and asked him to make it stronger, but Smith told Cornett he was afraid to go any stronger. He did not expect any developments in the Roan murder and only made the statement to help Henry Cornett.

Agent Smith and Ed Robertson were present when Ray Smith made the statement above referred to and recall that Cornett called Smith off and had a whispered conversation with him before he signed said statement.

Witness Smith was questioned before the Grand Jury and United States Attorney Roy St. Lewis is in possession of his testimony.

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C.D. PIERCE
Written Statement.

Oklahoma City, Okla., October 7, 1926.
Statement made by C.D. Pierce to Mr. John Leahy in the presence of Agent Frank S. Smith:

By Mr. Leahy:

Q. Mr. Pierce, we would like for you to give us as near in detail as you can the conversation between you and Special Officer by the name of Elliott with reference to Mrs. John

Mayo and with reference to what J.M. Springer, attorney, may have said or requested of you.

- A. Some time during the time I was employed by the Mayo Hotel, approximately three months ago, a man by the name of L.W. Elliott, a city detective of Tulsa, came to me in the lobby of the hotel and asked me if I would like to make some money. I said "I don't know what you've got to offer", or words to that effect. He said "There is a woman by the name of Mrs. Mayo who works in the Coffee Shop who has some letters or some information and if you can get it for this man Springer you can make yourself a piece of change" is about what he said. I asked him what information he wanted and he said that John Mayo, the husband of this woman who worked in the Coffee Shop, was in the penitentiary and that they were going to get him out of the penitentiary to testify for the State - or the United States, in this murder case in the Osage; that she had some letters, supposed to have some letters, that Springer would like to get ahold of and that if I could get ahold of these letters that it would be worth some money to me. I then asked him if Vic Ellis, his chief, knew about the case. He said he did not think Ellis knew anything about it. I told Elliott that I would first have to talk to Vic Ellis before I would have anything to do with it. I did not know how Ellis stood in the matter and I would not have anything to do with it. I never did talk to this woman about this case at any time.

By Mr. Smith:

- Q. Now, what was Mr. Elliott's reply?
A. After talking with Mr. Elliott for awhile I then told Elliott I would see Ellis about it. Mr. Elliott then said he would better not say anything about it and "I am going to let it alone myself".

By Mr. Leahy:

- Q. He said he would wash his hands of it?
A. Yes, For your information gentlemen, this man Elliott is not behind this, but it is his partner.
Q. How is that?
A. Ed Erwin. Erwin and he were partners at that time working in teams or pairs. I will tell you how I know that if you want it in that statement.
Q. This statement is only for our information.
A. After leaving the services of the Mayo Hotel and going to work for the Police Department, Detective Division, I was assigned to work with Mr. Elliott, and on one or more occasions when we visited places with view of making some investigation it seen-

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12 all that they did not remember Mr. Elliott but would recall him
13 as being the partner of Ed Erwin and repeatedly remarked "I
14 remember you at the time you and Erwin were up here talking to
15 us about the Osage case", meaning the Hale and Ramsey case.
16 Erwin was an old officer in the City of Tulsa, while Elliott
17 had not been there so long, consequently not so well acquainted
18 and from what I could grasp Erwin was the leader in whatever
19 they were doing in the matter.

20
21 By Mr. Smith:

- 22
23 Q. You had no further talk with Mr. Elliott concerning the propo-
24 sition he made to you?
25 A. No, but I did talk to Ellis about it. That was immediately
26 after.
27 Q. Did you know William McSpadden and Bob Ryan?
28 A. I believe not.

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31 (Signed) C.D. Pierce"
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35 NOTE -- See statement of L.W. Elliott and Ed Erwin.
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45 L.W. ELLIOTT
46 Written Statement.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 7, 1926.
Statement made by L.W. Elliott:

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48 "I live at 106 South Wheeling, Tulsa,
49 Oklahoma, and am a member of the Police
50 Detective Department over there. Some
51 time in the early Spring 1926 I was with Ed Erwin, who was at that
52 time a member of the Tulsa Police Department and my working part-
53 ner, and we were on East First Street about the three hundred block.
54 I had left Erwin in the car and had went over to Brownings Auction
55 to look after some personal business and was over there about some-
56 thing like between twenty and forty minutes when I returned to the
57 car and Attorney Springer of Tulsa was at the car talking with
58 Erwin. Erwin told me to get in the car that he was going to drive
59 out and show Springer where a party lived. We then drove to First
60 and Main Streets and went up into the Blossom Hotel where Erwin
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talked with a woman that roomed there, and later said that she was going to point out the place mentioned above. We then all four got in the Ford car and drove east on First Street to Admiral Boulevard and on east to Lewis, turning south on Lewis two or three streets, then turned west some four or five blocks when this woman pointed out a house stating "There is the house with that white fence". We drove past the house and Erwin took the number of the house. We then returned to First and Boulder where Springer got out of the car and we drove to the Blossom Hotel and let the lady out. I learned later that the party Erwin had reference to - her name was Emma Weaver. Springer asked us if we knew of anyone who could be had to do some private work, that there was a woman working at the Mayo Coffee Shop by the name of Mayo, that he wanted to get some information from her or some letters. I told him that I didn't know of anyone but that if I found anyone I would send them to him. I later went to the Mayo Hotel and had an interview with C.D. Pierce, who was house detective at the hotel at that time, and asked him if he knew a woman by the name of Mayo who worked in the Coffee Shop. He said that he did. I told him that Springer wanted to get someone to do some private work for him and that he could go and see Springer. He asked me why I did not do it myself and I told him that I was working for the City and that Chief of Detectives Ellis was a good friend of all of the people at Pawhuska and that I didn't think that the Chief would want me to have anything to do with it. Pierce stated "Well, Chief is a good friend of mine also and maybe I had not ought to have anything to do with it". I said "Well, perhaps you are right, maybe he would not want you to do any work on it". I told him before that I would not have anything to do with it. The conversation dropped there. That was the end of the conversation, and later I was with Ed Erwin on the street when we met Attorney Springer and there was some conversation between Erwin and him. Erwin said "Well, when are you going to get on the barrel-head with that dough". Later Erwin told me that Springer was looking for someone who would do some private work for him and he said that he knew of a lot of information that would do Springer good on the Smith murder case. I asked him what it was and he told me that he knew a man that was at that time in the Penitentiary for life that would get up and testify that he was the one that murdered Smith. I just laughed and that was all there was to it, except that Erwin said that it should be worth \$10,000.00 to the defense to get that information. Later there was a party pointed out to me, a fellow by the name of Ryan, and told me that he overheard Ryan state that he knew something about the Smith murder. I had a talk later with this fellow Ryan and he told me that he knew something about the case. I told him that if he did he should see some of the defending attorneys and suggested that he see Springer, who lived in Tulsa. He said he would if I would show him where Springer's office was. I made an appointment with him to meet him at Third and Main Streets some time later that day, and did meet him there in

company with another man that I was introduced to by the name of Anderson, but later I learned his name was McSparrren. I went up in the Bliss Building with these men and went into Springer's office and told Springer that they wanted to have a talk with him relative to the Smith murder. Springer ask them then what they knew about it and Ryan stated that he and this man that was with him formerly worked at Fairfax, and that on one occasion they were out to a ranch where there was a still or whiskey joint to get some whiskey and that they saw a man and woman in a car and that the woman was very excited and crying and cursing and going on, and that they heard her say "Well, you will do ~~what~~ you promised or I will send you to hell"; or something to that effect. Springer asked them if they knew who this man and woman were. Ryan said he was told it was a man by the name of Bill Smith, and gave some name that the woman was supposed to be. Springer asked him if he knew whether or not that was Bill Smith, the man who got murdered, or not, and he stated that he did not know but he heard it was. Springer then said that "This information would not do me any good on account of it being hearsay". These two men then left the room and I have never seen them since. There was not any mention of any money there by Springer, these men, or myself.

Later, Ed Erwin and I were at a drug store east of the Post Office at Third and Boulder when Springer came past. Erwin stopped him and they stepped over three or four feet away from me and I overheard part of the conversation. Erwin said "Well, when are you going to get on the barrel-head with some dough", and Springer said "Just what do you know and how much do you want for your information?". I heard Erwin say that he wanted \$400.00. I heard Springer tell Erwin that he did not care to buy any information as he was only one of the defending lawyers. Erwin said then "You can let it all go to hell, I will not tell you anything". Springer then left. Erwin then stated to me that Springer was too tight to let loose with any money so he was not going to give him any information. A few days later Erwin got mad at me over a difficulty we had about where we was to meet. He laid off of the Police Department about May 27th, and I have never seen him to speak to since.

(Signed) L.M. Elliott"

NOTE - Attention is directed to statements of Wm. McSpadden, Bob Ryan, set out in report of Agent Smith captioned as above, dated October 1, 1926, and statement of Ed Erwin set out in this report.

E.L. ERWIN
Written Statement.

Tulsa, Oklahoma, June 11, 1926.

"I am employed by the City of Tulsa, in the Police Dept. and am in the Detective Department and am assigned with Detective L.W. Elliott and have worked with him constantly since December 1, 1925. Some time around the middle of May 1926 - the exact date I have forgotten - Elliott and I parked our car in front of or near the Rex Drug Store, 328 E. First Street and were on the side walk and Attorney Springer came up and addressing me asked me if I knew where Emma Weaver lived and I told him I did not but knew a woman that did, and that she stayed at the Blossom Hotel on 1st and Main streets. I remarked get in the car and we will drive up there and see - Springer, Elliott and myself got in the car and drove to the Blossom Hotel. Springer, Elliott and I got out of the car and started up the stairs and met the woman whom I had referred to, a Mrs. Hightower, at the landing of the steps and introduced her to Mr. Springer and told her Mr. Springer wanted to talk to her about Emma Weaver. Springer asked Mrs. Hightower if she knew where Mrs. Emma Weaver lived, and she said she did not know the number but could show him the house. One of us, I do not recall positively, I asked her if she would go and show us the house and she said yes, but would not stop as she and Mrs. Weaver were not friendly. Mr. Springer, Mr. Elliott, Mrs. Hightower then got in the car and I drove the car and Mrs. Hightower had us drive to East 5th Place and pointed out to us a house as I recall 2513 E. 5th Place as the house that Mrs. Weaver lived in. I may be mistaken as to the exact number but do recall was in the 2500 block. We did not slip but drove back to town and Springer got out at or near Cincinnati and 1st or Burton and 1st streets. He said he was going to stop at some one office. Elliott, Mrs. Hightower and I then drove to the Blossom Hotel and Mrs. Hightower got out. Sometime as I recall when we were with Springer that day Springer remarked to us that there was a woman name Mayo that worked in some Coffee house and was laying up with some man and he wanted to get a line on her. 2 or 3 days later Elliott and I were down town and Elliott said I want to go up to Springers office and I went with him to Springers office in the Bliss Building, as I recall on the 3rd floor. We went in to a room and met Springer and he took us to another room. We sat down and Elliott asked him if he had been to Joplin and Springer said yes and had just gotten back. Elliott asked him something about if he found the woman and Springer said she was not there and had never been there and said something about talking with the Chief of Police. Elliott then said that when he was investigating the Osage cases that she was there and mentioned some-

thing about Capitol hill or some hill where he said he had talked with her. I do not recall the womans name being mentioned. Elliott then asked Springer "Can you use that evidence that we were talking about", and Springer said "I have looked up the law and I am". Springer said "how long will it take you to get them here". Elliott said "I can send them to you in 15 minutes" Springer said "don't send them come with them that there were 2 many Government men around. You come with them and I will know who they are." We started to go and I remarked to Springer what's the matter aren't you feeling well and he said no I have been up all night. Elliott and I left the office going down on the elevator. Going down Elliott remarked "I will meet you down at Bordon's in time to call in. I left Elliott in the lobby of the Bliss Building and I walked down north and stopped in front of Cresses Store and there met some one and got in a car parked in front. I sat there for a few minutes, possibly 10 or 15 minutes, and I saw 2 men enter the lobby of the Bliss Building one of whom I had previous seen and called to the attention of Elliott as being no good. Having heard Elliott tell Springer that he would have them there in 15 minutes that these 2 men were likely the parties that Elliott had refered 2, as both of them looked suspicious to me as they passed and I had realized that Springer and Elliott were figuring on something wrong. When they talked in the office and I now recall that Springer said to Elliott at the time Elliott told him he could get them in 15 minutes Springer remarked that he had to get to Pawhuska tomorrow or next day as the trial would start then. As I recall in about 30 to 40 minutes after these 2 men went in to the Bliss Building they came out. After they had passed, possibly in 5 minutes, I then went to Bordon's place in a few minutes after I got to Bordon's Elliott came in. Elliott then called the Police Station and we walked out of Bordon's. On account of my suspicion of what I had heard Elliott tell Springer and the fact of seeing these 2 men go in to the Bliss Building, I thought I would feel Elliott out and get an expression from him so I said "Elliott you are going to get yourself in trouble or in a jam fooling with that crippled hop headed son of a bitch". I was referring to one of the 2 fellows I had seen going in to the Bliss Building and coming out, and Elliott remarked "why do you know him" and I left him under the impression that I did. However I did not know him. Elliott said no more. Elliott and I frequently went in to the Southern Rooms and Elliott was very friendly with the landlady, Mrs. Grace O Donald. After I had seen these 2 men go to the Bliss bldg and heard Elliotts remarks to Springer and had cautioned him about getting in a jam I saw both of these men going in to the Southern Rooms. I then drew my conclusions that Elliott was mixed up with these 2 men and that he and Springer were going to use them in some way as witnesses in the Osage trials.

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11
12 So I conveyed my suspicions to Mr. Bueller and then ascertained
13 these 2 mens names from the Sec. of the Waiters Union and I phoned
14 their names and location to Mr. Smith at Pawhuska as he had re-
15 quested me to get this information for him if I could.
16

17 (Signed) E.L. Erwin
18 No 9 W. Xauthies
19 Tulsa, Okla.
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28 HENRY MAJORS
29 Written Statement

Oklahoma City, Okla., October 7, 1926.
Statement made by Henry Majors:

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32 "I was at Berger, Texas, and J.R.
33 Howard, Attorney of Oklahoma City, and
34 one of W.K. Hale's attorney, came there, as I understand, for the
35 purpose of seeing a woman by the name of Catherine Houser. He
36 saw me while I was there and told me they wanted me to come to
37 Pawhuska as a witness for Hale. I told him I did not know anything
38 about the case and did not see how I could be of any help to him.
39 He said for me to come I might be able to help them. He did not
40 say anything to me as to what he understood I knew or what they
41 would expect me to testify to or to do. I was in custody on a
42 false charge at Berger, Texas, and was released at the time Howard
43 was there. Whether he had anything to do with my release or not
44 I do not know. Later I went to Pawhuska and saw Mr. Howard, and
45 he wanted me to do some work for them, and I again told him I did
46 not know anything and could not help them; I did not know whether
47 Hale was guilty or not; if I thought he was guilty I would not do
48 anything for him.

49
50 Charlie Johnson, Henry Mays, Bob Strange and Charlie Loops were
51 working for Hale's attorneys at the time, or under their direc-
52 tion, and they made several trips on behalf of Hale to Kansas City
53 and Heavenworth, and other places, but who they went to see and
54 what they found out they did not disclose to me. I guess they
55 concluded that I was not in sympathy with Hale and they did not
56 seek to further employ me or get me to work for Hale.

57
58 (Signed) Henry Majors."
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2185

JIM PARKER.
Written Statement.

Statement made by Jim Parker to Special Agent Frank Smith, of the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, at Oklahoma City, October 8, 1926:

"Some time in the latter part of 1922, Bill Hale came to me and in conversation he asked how tough or how bad I was. I answered that I was not tough or bad, and he told me he had a proposition that there was being moved out of the State large sums of moneys to avoid the Income tax; that some had already been moved and they were going to move some more, and that he could get the advance information when it would move. Hale left me, and my impression was that he would come back to me. Either a few days before Hale came to me with his proposition, or a few days after, I borrowed from Hale two hundred and seventy-five dollars to get a pardon, and with this money I got a pardon. I told "Blackie" Thompson about Hale coming to me soon after it happened.

(Signed) Jim Parker".

Ernest Burkhart will testify that Hale told him that he was going to feel Jim Parker out and see if he could get him to kill Roan; that he had loaned him \$250.00 to get a pardon and and if he would do the job the money loaned him would go on paying him, and if he would not step that it would be worth the money to find out.

.....

V.M. HARRY
Written Statement.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 7, 1926. Statement made by V.M. Harry to Mr. John Leahy in the presence of Frank S. Smith.

By Mr. Leahy:

Q. State your name?

A. V.M. Harry.

Q. You are acquainted with Matt Williams?

A. I am, yes, sir.

2196

11 Q. You have known him about how long?

12 A. Possibly 10 years.

13 Q. Are you acquainted with Bob Jones?

14 A. Yes, sir.

15 Q. How long have you known him?

16 A. Since 1908.

17 Q. You know Tom Murphy of Ralston?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. How long have you known him?

20 A. About 10 years or more.

21 Q. Have you at any time since the Hale and Ramsey cases have come
22 before the public ever said to either of these men or in their
23 presence in discussing Matt William's reputation for truth and
24 veracity, you would not believe Matt on oath?

25 A. No, sir.

26 Q. You ever say that to anybody?

27 A. No, sir.

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30 (Signed) V.M. Harry."

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35 NOTE -- See transcript of testimony of Tom Murphy and Bob Jones,
36 defense witnesses in the Hale and Ramsey trial at Guthrie.
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46 DR. L.C. BARBOUR
47 Written Statement

Oklahoma City, Okla., October 7, 1926.
Statement made by Dr. L.C. Barbour to
Mr. John Leahy in presence of F.S.
Smith.

48
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51
52 By Mr. Leahy:

53
54 Q. Where do you reside?

55 A. Ralston, Okla.

56 Q. How long have you resided there?

57 A. Since 1900.

58 Q. Do you know Matt Williams?

59 A. Yes, sir.
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- 11
12 Q. Have known him ever since you lived in Ralston?
13 A. Yes, sir.
14 Q. Do you know Bob Jones?
15 A. Yes, sir.
16 Q. How long have you known him?
17 A. He was there when I came to Ralston.
18 Q. Lives there now?
19 A. Yes, sir.
20 Q. Will ask you to state whether or not at any time in the past
21 year you said to Bob Jones, or in his presence, to someone
22 else, you would not believe Matt Williams on oath?
23 A. No, sir, not to the best of my recollection.
24 Q. Did you say that to Tom Murphy, or in his presence?
25 A. Not that I recall.
26 Q. Do you recall that you ever said that to anybody that you
27 would not believe Matt Williams on oath?
28 A. No, sir.
29 Q. Do you recall you ever discussed Matt Williams reputation and
30 veracity to either Bob Jones or Tom Murphy?
31 A. No, sir.
32 Q. Did you know or had you learned that Matt Williams was a wit-
33 ness in the Osage case?
34 A. I heard it.
35 Q. Do you recall when you first learned it?
36 A. No I don't.
37 Q. Do you recall whether or not it was at a time when it was re-
38 ported Matt Williams had testified in these cases?
39 A. It might have been, I expect so.
40
41
42

43 (Signed) L.C. Barbour"
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51 W.H. BRACKETT
52 Written Statement.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October
7, 1926.

"W.H. Brackett being duly sworn
makes the following statement:

56 Several days before the commencement of the trial of John Ramsey
57 and W.M. Hale at Guthrie, Oklahoma, I met Henry Laze on the
58 streets of Pawhuska. He made a statement to me as to what he had
59 been doing; said that he had been hauling the attorneys of Hale
60
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11
12 and Ramsey around for several days, for which he was paid \$20.00
13 per day; stated that he wanted to see me before leaving Pawhuska
14 and give me all the information as to where they had been and
15 who they had talked to in the Hale-Ramsey case. Said he would
16 like to meet me somewhere out of Pawhuska where there could be no
17 one present except myself and he, but he did not before leaving
18 make the arrangements to have me meet him. He said he knew the
19 whole thing as to who were backing the defendants and how the
20 case was framed up.
21

22
23
24 (Signed) W.H. Brackett"
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33 W.T. CARROLL
34 Written Statement.

Oklahoma City, Okla., October 7, 1926.
Statement made by W.T. Carroll to Mr.
John Leahy, in presence of Frank S.
Smith.

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39 By Mr. Leahy:

- 40
41 Q. Your name is W.T. Carroll?
42 A. Yes, sir.
43 Q. You reside at Fairfax?
44 A. Yes, sir.
45 Q. You know Homie Rowe?
46 A. Yes, sir.
47 Q. How long have you known him?
48 A. About three years.
49 Q. Do you recall him being subpoenaed as a witness to attend the
50 trial of John Ramsey and W.K. Hale at Guthrie a short time
51 ago?
52 A. Yes, sir.
53 Q. Before he went down to the trial did you have a conversation
54 with him?
55 A. Yes, sir.
56 Q. In that conversation did he state to you whether or not he
57 knew anything with reference to the Hale and Ramsey case?
58 A. He said he did not know anything.
59 Q. Did you caution him against being influenced by anyone to
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testify about something he did not know anything about?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What did you say in that regard?

A. We went out to the ranch and I told him I heard he had been subpoenaed as a witness and told him not to tell anything but the truth and not to let anyone influence him in telling anything but the truth.

Q. Was that in response that he said he did not know anything?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you talked with him since he was down there as a witness?

A. Yes but not on these matters.

Q. He didn't state what he testified to?

A. No, sir.

(Signed) "W.T. Carroll"

.....

JOHN CARROLL

The testimony of this witness will corroborate that of W.T. Carroll, which statement is set out in this report.

.....

RUSSELL BEREE
Oral Statement.

See transcript of testimony of this witness in the Hale and Ramsey case, at Guthrie, for defense.

This witness stated to Attorney Leahy and Agent Smith that he saw Roan car first Sunday prior to the finding of Roan's body Tuesday, February 6th. A big car drove up to the Smith ranch a night or two prior to seeing the car, but he does not know the kind of car and heard no conversation between those in car and Smith, and saw nothing to create suspicion. It is usual thing for cars to stop at Smith ranch. Three months later, in talking with Smith about Roan killing, Smith remarked "That was them", but he does not know

2200

what Smith meant by the remark, but concluded he meant that the party who came to the ranch the night after he saw the car in the canyon put it there. Witness also made reference to Smith coming to him after the trial of Hale had started and asked him what he was going to testify to and that he told Smith about seeing car in the canyon and regarding the car driving up to the ranch the night prior. Smith told him he was wrong and that he would talk to him later and get the thing right, and he concluded from these latter remarks that Smith was trying to get him to change his testimony and knew something about the murder.

.....

ROY BUNCH
Oral Statement

That some time in latter part of 1922 Hale came to him and told him that Roan was likely to kill him at any time and that he, Hale, carried a policy on Roan's life, and should Roan be killed before a certain date that he could not collect the policy, advising Bunch to leave and stay away until after the date he mentioned, and that he Hale would give him money to go on; that he could return later if he then desired and if he then killed Roan that he Hale would get him out of it.

That after Roan's body was taken to the Hunsaker Undertakers that Bill Hale and Scott Mathews tried to get him to use his influence with Mary Roan to turn the body over to the Big Hill Undertakers, a firm in which Hale and Mathews were interested.

That Bill Hale and Chas. Askbrook were pall bearers for Roan.

.....

ERNEST BURKHART
Oral Statement.

Stated to Agent Smith that he recalls that on a date in the first part of January Bill Hale told him to go to Jim Ballew's place and see John Ramsey and tell him to go see that party. That he went to Ballew's and found Ramsey away and made a second

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13 trip and found Ramsey there working on a barn and he had his new
14 Ford with him; that he and Ramsey drove to an old road house
15 about a mile away and Ramsey picked up a man and the three of them
16 drove to Ponca City, to the north part of town and the third party
17 went into two little houses and came out and told Ernest party was
18 not there. They left the man at Ponca City and he and John Ramsey
19 drove back to Ballew's place, arriving about 11:00 P.M. That he
20 later saw John Ramsey with the party drive through Gray Horse
21 going toward the Smith home, and later John Ramsey told him, Ernest,
22 that he took the man to look over the Smith home and on the trip
23 pointed out Bill Hale to him.
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32 The Federal Grand Jury, after hearing evidence submitted of cor-
33 rupt practices of attorneys for W.K. Hale and John Ramsey in their
34 previous trial, made recommendation to the Honorable John H.
35 Cotteral, Federal Judge, that the United States Attorney, Roy St.
36 Leis, be instructed to file contempt proceedings against attorney
37 Springer for obstructing justice.
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.....

44 The following is the names and addresses of witnesses whose state-
45 ments and testimony are set out in this report:
46

- 47 Homie Rowe, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- 48 Frank Mootan, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- 49 S.M. Smith, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- 50 C.D. Pierce, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
- 51 L.W. Elliott, 106 S. Wheeling, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
- 52 E.L. Irwin, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
- 53 Dr. L.C. Barbour, Ralston, Oklahoma.
- 54 W.T. Carroll, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- 55 Roy Bunch, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- 56 Ernest Burkhardt, State Penitentiary, McAlester, Oklahoma.
- 57 W.H. Brackett, Pawhuska, Oklahoma.
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- Russell Beree, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- Harry Corbett, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- Mrs. Harry Corbett, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- Henry Majors, Pawhuska, Oklahoma.
- Jim Parker, Pawhuska, Oklahoma.
- Ray Smith, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- Mrs. Jennie Ward, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- Horace Burkhardt, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- Bob Parker, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- F.J. Wootan, Old Mexico.
- Walter Wittey, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- Tom Hutchinson, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- J.L. Ward, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- Paul Meredith, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- Harry Riley, Riply, Oklahoma.
- John Carroll, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- Bill Spurgeon, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
- V.M. Harry, Ralston, Oklahoma.
- R.C. Nissee, Ralston, Oklahoma.
- R.A. Correll, Pawhuska, Oklahoma.

.....

PENDING

2023

TFB:DSS
62-5033-445

OCT 25 1926

October 23, 1926.

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LUHRING

Further with regard to the case
of W. K. HALE and JOHN RAMSEY, Osage Indian murder.
I am attaching hereto copy of a report submitted
by Agent F. S. Smith, at Oklahoma City, dated the
13th. inst.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Ino. 252177.

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Department of Justice

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OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

OCTOBER 18, 1926.

DIRECTOR,
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

62-5033

F J CINILEP NEW AND VERY IMPORTANT WITNESS OSAGE CASE SET OCTOBER 20th
IS ON RANCH VICINITY SAN ANTONIO CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO POST OFFICE BOX THREE
TWO SUBPOENA ISSUED ATTEMPTS REACH HIM BY WIRE UNSUCCESSFUL SUGGEST AGENT
WREN EL PASO PROCEED CHIHUAHUA LOCATE WITNESS BEFORE PROCEEDING HERE UNITED
STATES ATTORNEY HERE ARRANGED NECESSARY EXPENSES FOR WITNESS BE ADVANCED BY
UNITED STATES MARSHAL EL PASO WILL DEFER FURTHER ACTION PENDING ADVISE

TWO TINSLEY ACTING

Rec'd & Decoded
5:30 p.m.
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OCT 20 1926

Wm El Paso
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62-5033-446
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 19 1926 A.M.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Div. Two

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62-5033-446

October 19, 1936.

R. H. Colvin
Department of Justice
Federal Building,
El Paso, Texas.

COMMUNICATE IMMEDIATELY OKLAHOMA CITY SECURE DETAILS RELATIVE
WITNESS ORAGE CASE SAID TO BE VICINITY SAN ANTONIO CHIHUAHUA
MEXICO STOP ASSIGN AGENT WHEN PROCEEDED CHIHUAHUA LOCATE WITNESS

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SOLS	
BLU	Day Letter
NITE	Night Message
NL	Night Letter
LCO	Deferred
CLT	Cable Letter
WLT	Week End Letter

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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KA158 52 COLLECT GOVT

1926 OCT 19 PM 4:20

LEAVENWORTH KANS 19 249P

J. Z. HOOVER

1752

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DC

AM UNDER SUBPOENAE TO APPEAR HALE CASE TOMORROW SPECIAL ASSISTANT

BROWN JUST CALLED ME OVER TELEPHONE AND ADVISED THAT ASSISTANT

ATTORNEY GENERAL LUHRING SUGGESTED I APPEAR OKLAHOMA CITY AS

CALLED ADVISE DEPUTY WARDEN ZERBST IS STILL ON DUTY HAVING HELD OCT 21 1926

THE DEPUTIES PLACE PENDING THE USE OF MYSELF IN THE HALE CASE RECORDED

T B WHITE.

62-5033-44

OCT 20 1926 P.M.

OFFICE

Div. One FILE

Rec'd 5:00 pm
[Signature]

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POSTAL TELEGRAPH

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October 20, 1926.

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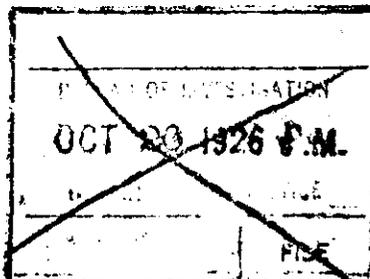
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White,
Department of Justice
Federal Building
Oklahoma City, Okla.

18 REFERENCE YOUR WIRE NINETEENTH FROM LEAVENWORTH ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LUHRING
19 HAS ALSO WIRED ASKING THAT YOU BE BELIEVED SO AS TO ATTEND THE HALE RAMSEY TRIAL HAS
20 CONFERRED WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL AND MR. WILLEBRANDT AND DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED
21 YOU SHOULD HOLD YOURSELF IN READINESS TO ATTEND TRIAL WHEN YOUR TESTIMONY IS NECESSARY
22 YOU SHOULD NOT HOWEVER PROCEED TO GERRIE AND REMAIN THERE EXCEPT FOR SUCH PERIOD
23 OF TIME AS WILL BE NECESSARY FOR YOU TO TESTIFY IN OTHER WORDS IT IS CONSIDERED THAT
24 YOUR PRESENT ASSIGNMENT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT YOUR ABSENCE FROM THE PENITENTIARY IS
25 NOT DESIRED FOR ANY PERIOD OF TIME LONGER THAN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY AM WIRING ASSISTANT
26 ATTORNEY GENERAL LUHRING RELATIVE THIS MATTER

ONE HOOVER.



2209

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Oklahoma City, Okla.

REPORT MADE AT: Oklahoma City, Okla.	DATE WHEN MADE: 10-18-26	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 10-18-26	REPORT MADE BY: J. A. Jeet	S
TITLE: W. K. HALE JOHN RAMSEY			CHARACTER OF CASE: Murder of Osage Indians Anna Brown, et al	

(O. C. File # 70/1)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Davis Hill, important witness, interviewed in presence of T. A. Hubbard.

- PENDING -

REFERENCE:- Previous file in this case.

DETAILS:-

- at Bartlesville, Oklahoma -

Davis Hill, a waiter now employed at the Right Way Cafe, Bartlesville, Oklahoma, was interviewed by this Agent and the following statement obtained:-

"That I formerly lived in Fairfax, Okla., and was employed at the Silver Moon Cafe, working there during the years of 1921, 1922 and 1923; that while working at the Silver Moon Cafe in Fairfax during the winter of 1922 and 1923, I saw John Ramsey and Henry Roan in the Silver Moon Cafe on different occasions; that during the month of January, 1923, I saw John Ramsey in that cafe and waited on him on several occasions; that in the month of January, 1923, just prior to the finding of Henry Roan's body, not remembering the day of the week, John Ramsey and Henry Roan, sat at the counter side by side, at the counter next to the coffee urn, and had their meal, which was in January, 1923, Ramsey being very nervous and could hardly hold the cup in his hand; that I called Ramsey's attention to his drinking so much and told him that he had better cut it out. It was my belief that Ramsey was working for W. K. Hale as he often came in with Hale's men and at times had his meals 'tabed' for a day or so, then would pay them.

(Signed) Davis Hill

Witness:
T. A. Hubbard

- PENDING -

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R. W. Trisley</i>	Acting SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	62-5033-448	RECORDED AND INDEXED: OCT 21 1926
WASHINGTON REFERENCE: # 2	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3-Director 1-U.S. Atty. Okla. City 3-File	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	CHECKED OFF: OCT 30 1926
		ROUTED TO: <i>Div. Two</i>	FILE <i>JH/B</i>

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TFB:DSS
62-5037-448

OCT 30 1926

October 28, 1926.

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LURRING

Further with regard to the case of W. K. HALL, murder of Osage Indians, I am attaching copy of the report submitted by Agent Street, at Oklahoma City, on the 18th. inst.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Inc. 256916.

BUREAU FILES DIVISION
MAILED
OCT 28 1926
P. M.
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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SYMBOLS	
DL	Day Letter
MT	Message
NL	Night Letter
100	Deferred
CL	Cable Letter
WT	Week End Letter

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**.
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DIRECTOR

1798

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON DC

PLEASE ARRANGE TO RELIEVE WHITE AT LEAVENWORTH SO THAT HE CAN ATTEND HALE RAMSEY TRIAL STOP UNANIMOUS OPINION OF COUNSEL HIS SERVICES CANNOT BE DISPENSED WITH HERE AND IN THIS I CONCUR STOP YOU APPRECIATE THAT IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO CONFER WITH HIM EVERY DAY STOP WILL EXCUSE HIM AS QUICKLY POSSIBLE

OCT 21 1926

62-5033-4

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
OCT 21 1926 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Div. One	FILE

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*Rec'd 5:30 pm
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October 20, 1926.

62-5033-444

RECORDED

OCT 21 1926

Laughing
c/o U S Attorney
Oklahoma City, Okla.

REFERENCE YOUR WIRE NINETEENTH HAVE CONFERRED WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL AND HE CONSIDERS
ASSIGNMENT OF WHITE AT LEAVENWORTH PENITENTIARY SO IMPORTANT THAT HE DOES NOT WANT
WHITE TO BE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE TRIAL EXCEPT FOR SUCH PERIOD OF TIME AS IS ABSOLUTELY
NECESSARY FOR HIM TO TESTIFY SITUATION AT LEAVENWORTH AS YOU CAN APPRECIATE
IS MOST ACUTE HAVE WIRED WHITE TO HOLD HIMSELF IN READINESS TO RESPOND TO A TELE-
GRAM OR PHONE CALL FROM YOU TO ATTEND TRIAL AND TESTIFY BUT TO REMAIN NO LONGER THAN
IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY FOR HIM TO BE ON WITNESS STAND

ONE HOOVER.

223

JEE:MO'B

October 20, 1926.

MEMORANDUM FOR MRS. WILLEBRANDT.

I am attaching hereto, for your information, a copy of a telegram which I am sending to Assistant Attorney General Lohring and to Special Agent T. B. White. From a reading of Mr. White's telegram to me, I assume that he has already left Leavenworth in answer to the subpoena which commanded him to appear at Guthrie today. In order to make certain that he understands our views in the matter, I have wired him both at Leavenworth and Oklahoma City.

Very truly yours,

Encl.

Director.

62-5033-402

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

OCT 21 1926 A.M.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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FILE

2811

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its character is indicated by a symbol in the check or in the address.

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

DLR	Day Letter
NITE	Night Message
NL	Night Letter
LCO	Deferred
CL	Cable Letter
W.E.L.	Week End Letter

The filing time as shown in the check line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at Commercial Nat'l Bank Bldg., 14th & G Sts., N. W. Washington, D. C. ALWAYS OPEN

1926 OCT 25 PM 4

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LEAVENWORTH KANS 25 238P

161 E HOOVER

1461

18 BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DC

20 LEAVING FOR OKLAHOMA CITY TONIGHT IN RESPONSE

21 TELEGRAM FROM LUHRING TO TESTIFY REBUTTAL IN HALE RAMSEY CASE WING

22 RETURN HERE WEDNESDAY

ONE WHITE.

OCT 27 1926 RECORDED



62-5033-451
 BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 OCT 26 1926 A.M.
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 Div. Two / Div. Five | FILE

JB

[Handwritten signature]

Recd 4:30 pm

[Handwritten initials]



2-215

CLASS OF SERVICE
 This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its character is indicated by a symbol in the check or in the address.

WESTERN UNION

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.
 ALWAYS OPEN 1926-OCT 29 PM 5:16

SYMBOL	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Day Letter	

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

Received at Commercial Nat'l Bank Bldg., 14th & G Sts., N. W. Washington, D. C.

KAR20 15 COLLECT

OKLAHOMA CITY OKLA 29 352

DIRECTOR BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DC

HALE AND RAMSEY FOUND GUILTY TODAY AS CHARGED SENTENCED LIFE IMPRISONEMENT IN LEAVENWORTH PENITENTIARY

ONE MCKEAN.

5033

12

ed 6:40 pm
 F.A.A.

RECORDED OCT 30 1926

62-5033-452

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

OCT 30 1926 A.M.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Div. One

Div. Two

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CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a full-rate
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acter is indicated by
a symbol in the check
or in the address.

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS	
BLUR	Letter
NITE	Night Message
NL	Night Letter
DCO	Deferred
CLT	Cable Letter
WLT	Week End Letter

The filing time shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all transmissions, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at Commercial Nat'l Bank Bldg., 14th & G Sts., N. W. Washington, D. C.

ALWAYS OPEN

1926 OCT 29 PM 6

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OKLAHOMACITY OKLA 29 453P

J. E. HOOVER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DC

JURY JUST RETURNED VERDICT GUILTY WITH LIFE IMPRISONMENT IN OSAGE

MURDER CASE AGAINST JOHN RAMSEY AND WILLIAM K HALE MY

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS TO YOU AND MEMBERS YOUR STAFF

EDWIN BROWN.

NOV

2 1926

62-5033-453

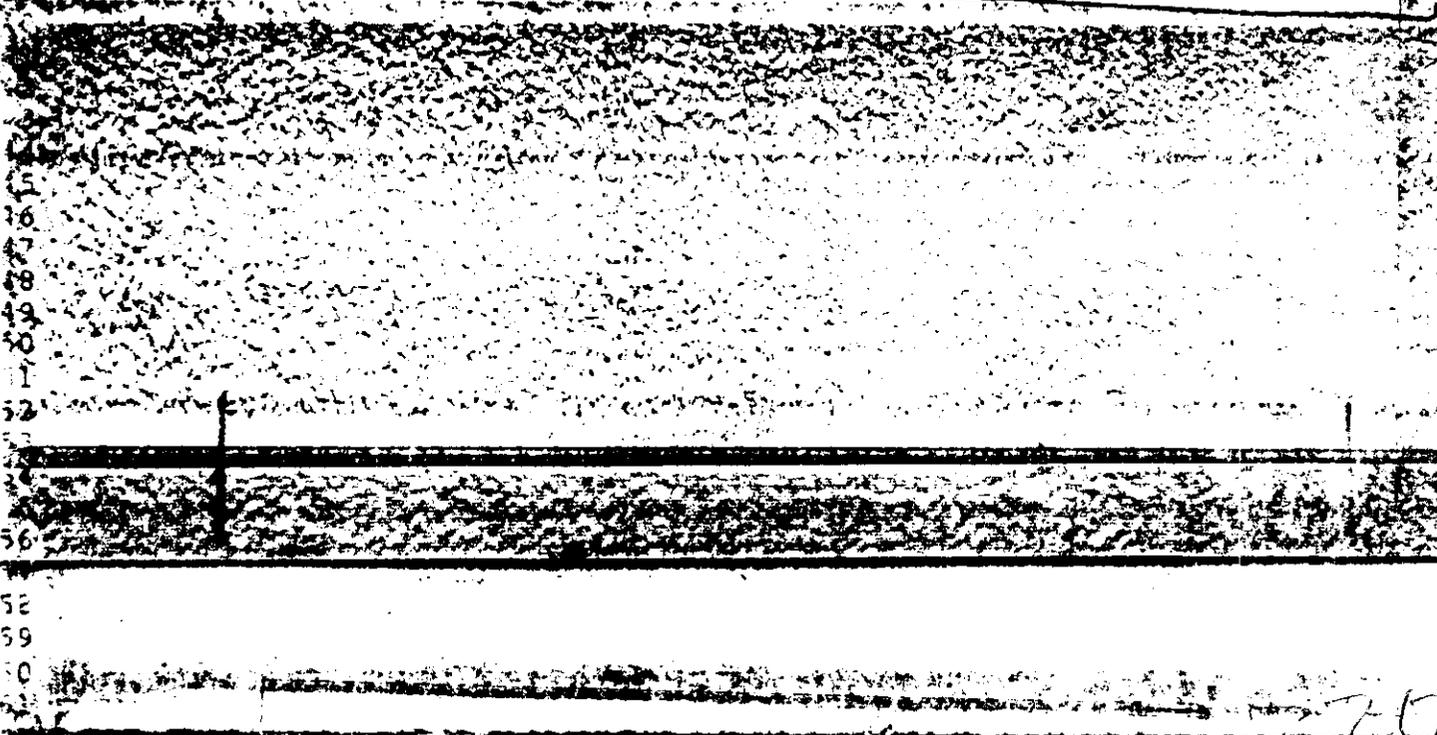
INVESTIGATION

NOV 1 1926 P.M.

OFFICE

FILE

6:45 pm
J.E.H.



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T. T. # 1107

62-5033-453

NOV 2 1926 RECORDED

WASHINGTON, D.C.
OCTOBER 29, 1926.

Edwin Brown,
Care of Mr. McKean, Department of Justice,
Federal Building,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

RECEIVED YOUR WIRE AND DELIGHTED WITH RESULT YOU ARE ENTITLED TO APPRECIATION
OF ALL LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS FOR RESULTS OBTAINED CONGRATULATIONS AND WILL
APPRECIATE YOUR EXTENDING MY CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AGENTS OF THE OKLAHOMA CITY
OFFICE

J. EDGAR HOOVER

Handwritten signature

RECORDED

62-5033-453	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
OCT 30 1926 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

218

Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation
P. O. Box 1535,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

October 30, 1926.

McK: B.

62-5035

NOV - 5 1926

62-5035-454	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
NOV 2 1926 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
DIV. ONE	FILE

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

Dear Sir: Attention Director One.

For your information, I beg to advise that Dewey Selph, Federal prisoner from Leavenworth Penitentiary, and a witness in the recent Hale-Ramsey case, escaped from William M. Fisher, his guard, at the Cadillac Hotel last evening. It appears that Selph had made the acquaintance of a chambermaid at the hotel, a more or less notorious character, and reputed a prostitute. This woman among her friends numbers a man named Kennedy, who owns a Packard automobile, and late yesterday she asked said Kennedy for permission to use his car, stating that she wanted to take some friends to the train. About 6:00 P.M. she arrived at the hotel with the car. Fisher, the guard, and Selph joined her and went for a ride about town, returning to the hotel at 7:00 P.M., at which hour Fisher had an appointment with the local Identification man.

Upon returning to the hotel, Fisher met the Identification man and the latter's wife and they, including Selph, went into the lobby of the hotel, the woman in question ostensibly driving away. Shortly after arriving in the hotel, Selph asked permission to go to the toilet, which is located on the second floor. Fisher claims that he followed Selph upstairs a few paces behind him; that when he, Fisher, arrived on the upper landing Selph had disappeared. One of the porters in the hotel advises that Fisher did not go upstairs until some five minutes after Selph had. A search of the hotel failed to disclose Selph and an examination of the windows on the second and third floors of the hotel disclosed them to be securely locked, and Selph's method of escape is unknown.

Following his escape, and a search of the hotel, the matter was reported to the local Police by Fisher, who also tele-

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237

Director. - Page #2.

phoned to the peace officials of the surrounding towns, particularly Pawhuska, where Selph's wife lives. The Leavenworth Penitentiary was likewise advised of Selph's escape. I had an agent in Pawhuska today making special effort to pick up a lead as to subject's possible whereabouts. Further, this office is making every possible effort to locate and apprehend Selph and this woman. The latter likely is guilty of aiding and assisting a Federal prisoner to escape. The usual investigative report will be forwarded in due course.

For further information, I might add that there has been certain rumors going about concerning Fisher's alleged conduct while here. It is reported that he, Selph, and others had engaged in considerable drinking. I am glad to say, however, that no agents of this office have even been remotely connected therewith.

Mr. White, while here this week attending the Osage trial, was apprised of these rumors, and made a personal investigation of same. I have not gone into the matter further than to ascertain that our agents are not involved, for the reason that I assure you would not want me to investigate the matter without specific instructions from you.

Very truly yours,

Clarence D. McKean

Clarence D. McKean,
Special Agent in Charge.

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Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

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

McK:B.
70-1.

October 29, 1926.

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

Dear Sir: Attention Director One.

Confirming telegram of even date, please be advised that W. K. Hale and John Ramsey were found guilty this afternoon, without capital punishment, of murder of Henry Roan, Osage Indian, and each immediately was sentenced to a term of life imprisonment in the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas. A stay of the issuance of the commitment was granted until November 10th, in order to give Hale opportunity to take care of some personal business before proceeding to Leavenworth. The prisoners were remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal for the interim between now and November 10th.

I am enclosing herewith for your information and files newspaper clippings relative to this matter.

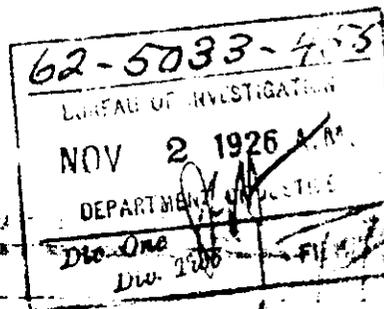
The usual investigative report will be forwarded in due course.

Very truly yours,

Clarence D. McKean
Clarence D. McKean,
Special Agent in Charge.

NOV 5 1926

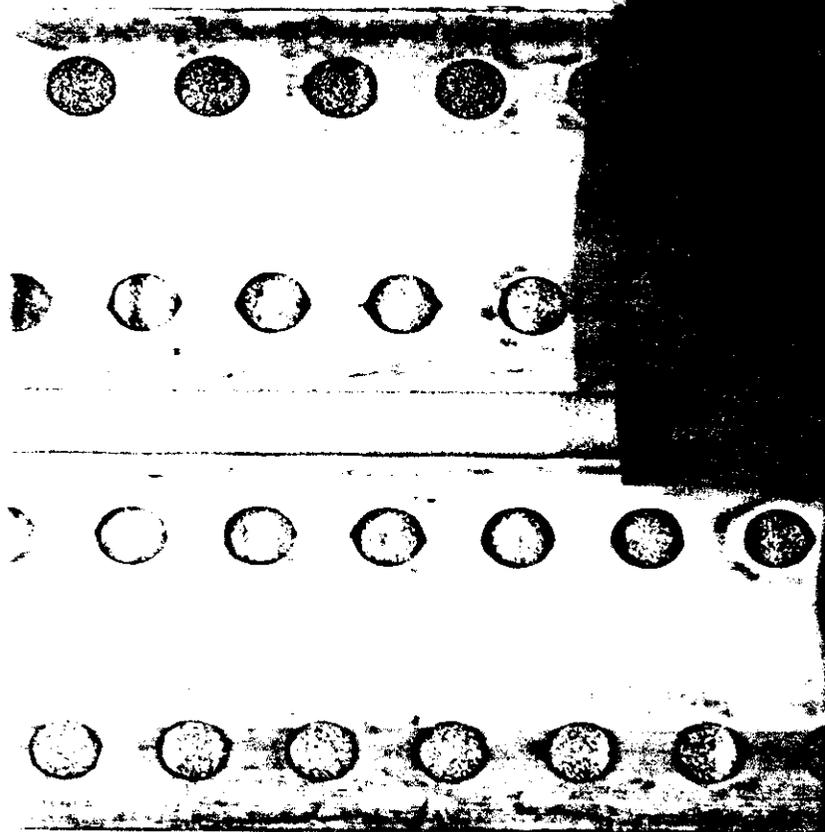
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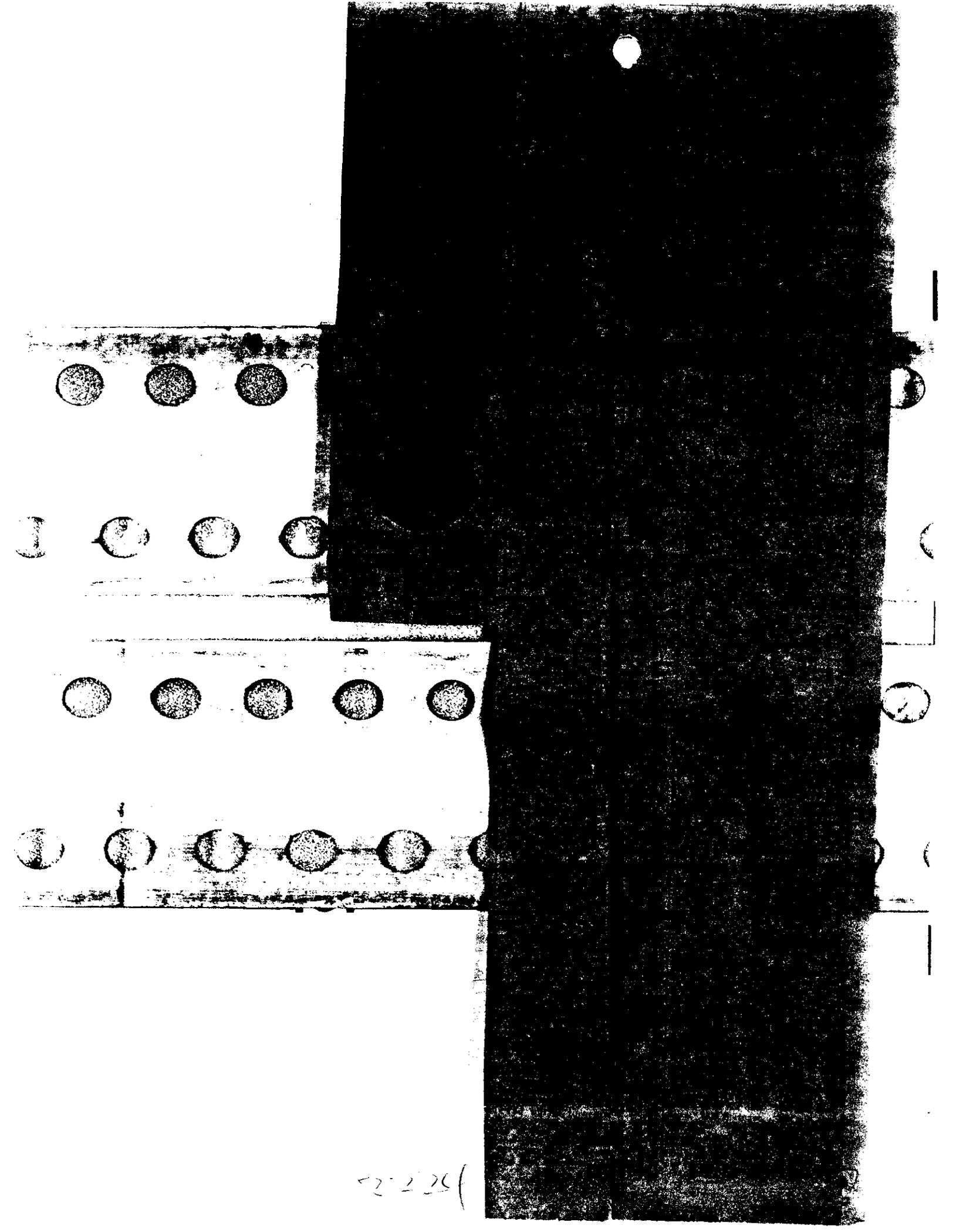


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52-2281

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Oklahoma City, Okla.

REPORT MADE AT: Oklahoma City, Okla.	DATE WHEN MADE: 10-30-26	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 10/14-29/26	REPORT MADE BY: Fran . Smith
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TITLE: W. K. HALE JOHN RAMSEY	CHARACTER OF CASE: Murder of Henry Roan, an Osage Indian.
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SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: (O. C. # 70/1)

W. K. Hale and John Ramsey were convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment. Letter from Kelsie Morrison to W. K. Hale.

TRIAL - CONVICTION - SENTENCES

- CLOSED -

REFERENCE:- Entire file, captioned as above.

DETAILS:- - At Oklahoma City, Oklahoma -

The trial of John Ramsey and W. K. Hale, charged with the murder of Henry Roan, was commenced at Oklahoma City on October 20, 1926. The case went to the jury on October 28th, and on October 29th the jury returned their verdict, finding both defendants "guilty without capital punishment". Both defendants were immediately sentenced to the U. S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth for the periods of their natural lives.

Letter received by W. K. Hale is as follows:-

DETAILS:

"Dear Old friend W.K. You dont know how good I feel because you are going to give that back to me. And old boy I wont forget you when I am called for witness. I will be there with bells on. Bill Please dont think I am taking the advantage of you in asking you for it. because I told you I would help you just the same.

"Bill you know Tillies Kidds are going to have 2 or 3 hundred thousand dollars in a few years. and I have those kidds adopted. how can I get Possession or controll of that money when I get out.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Compton</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	62-5033-2-56	RECORDED AND INDEXED:
WASHINGTON REFERENCE: # 2	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3-Bureau 1-U.S. Atty. Okla. City 3-Oklahoma City	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION NOV 17 1926 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	CHECKED OFF: NOV 17 1926 JACKETED:
		ROUTED TO: Div. Two ✓	FILE JFB

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Frank S. Smith

10-30-26

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You know I believe I can take those kidds out of the State and they cant do a dam thing. because according to law they are mine their names are Morrison and I was given all rights to them. I am going to talk to Freeling about it. You see if I take them out of the state this court in this state would not have jurisdiction and they could not get me for kidnapping for they are my own kidds according to law.

"Mrs Hale waved at me and said good by. Gee-I feel sorry for her. honest I do Bill. Ill bet she feels better towards me since I told Judge Cotteral what I did.

"I cant help but believe what I swore at Pawhuska is going to beat them yet if you win at Okla City them lies I swore at Pawhuska. will win your case over there. I will burn them down at Pawhuska if I ever get the chance

Your true friend Kelsie

"Dear Friend W.K. how are you this morning. I feel some better. Bill be sure and dont have me supobened as a witness untill right on the last. as I hate to lay around in that dirty old jail at Okla City all the time the Government is puting on their evidence I dont wont you to call me untill you start putting on your evidence then I will get to stay here untill you need me. I believe you have got them this time. I wish T. J. Leahy would quit just for the moral affect it would have. John is asleep

"Kelsie"

W. K. Hale, Kelsie Morrison and Bryon Burkhart stand charged jointly for the murder of Anna Brown, an Osage Indian, by the State of Oklahoma in Osage County.

The above letter was found in the effects of W. K. Hale at Oklahoma City by Jailor J. H. Stubblefiled and turned over to Deputy Marshal Duke Stallings and in turn by him turned over to Agent Smith on October 21st, 1926.

The following is an authentic report of the standing of the jury which convicted Hale and Ramsey:-

- FIRST BALLOT - "Unanimously for conviction".
- SECOND BALLOT - "Ten for death; two for life imprisonment".
- Finally, all agreed on "guilty without capital punishment", which was their verdict.

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16 Frank S. Smith

10-30-26

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20 This investigation will stand closed, pending the re-opening of cases
21 developed by this Department involving W. K. Hale, John Ramsey, et al, in the
22 murder of W. E. Smith, Rita Smith, Nettie Brookshire and Anna Brown, now in the
23 hands of the State of Oklahoma awaiting trial at Pawhuska, the Government having
24 no jurisdiction in these cases.

25 Parole Reports will be made and forwarded in the near future.

26 Docket Sheet attached to Bureau copies of this report.
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- CLOSED -

Subject to being re-opened

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WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

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9 UNITED STATES

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11 vs

File # 70/1.

12
13 WM. K. Hale

14 John Ramsey

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16 VIOLATION:-

Sections 273, 275 and 332 Criminal Code.
Section 2145 Revised Statutes.

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18 COMPLAINT:-

None had.

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20 CHARGE:-

That in Osage County, Oklahoma, upon a certain restricted allotment of Rose Littlestar, a full-blood Osage Indian, and within the Indian country, on or about Feb. 6th, 1923, John Ramsey unlawfully, willfully, feloniously, with malice aforethought and with premeditation, did kill and murder Henry Roan a full-blood Osage Indian, and that William K. Hale then and there did aid, abet, counsel, assist and procure the said John Ramsey to kill and murder Henry Roan.

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31 ARRESTED:-

January 4th, 1926, Pawhuska, Oklahoma.

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33 COMMISSIONER'S HEARING:-

None had.

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35 WITNESSES:-

Bob Parker, Fairfax, Oklahoma.
Ernest Smith, Drumright, Oklahoma.
Ernest Burkhardt, c/o Leavenworth Penitentiary.
T.B. White, Department of Justice,
Frank Smith, Department of Justice (and others)

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41 GRAND JURY ACTION:-

Feb. 13, 1926, Guthrie, Okla. Indictment #5728.
Mar. 1, 1926, Demurrer to Indictment sustained on ground that allotment of Rose Littlestar was not Indian Country.
June 1, 1926, Judgment of Trial Court sustaining Demurrer reversed by Supreme Court of the United States.

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49 TRIED:-

July 26 to Aug. 25, 1926, Guthrie, Okla. Hung Jury.
Oct. 20 to 29, 1926, Okla. City. Verdict "Guilty, without Capital Punishment".

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51 RETRIAL:-

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53 SENTENCED:-

Oct. 29, 1926, Oklahoma City, Okla. Imprisonment for life in Leavenworth Penitentiary, Kansas, as to both Subjects.

228

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

REPORT MADE AT: Oklahoma City	DATE WHEN MADE: 10-26-26	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: Oct. 22, 23 and 24, 1926.	REPORT MADE BY: F.S. Smith.
TITLE: P.C. HESSER		CHARACTER OF CASE: Perjury - In connection with Coage murder cases. (O. C. File #74/14/1)	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

VIOLATION: Perjury. Committed at Guthrie, Oklahoma, July 31, 1926, while testifying as defence witness in the matter of the United States of America vs. W.K. Hale and John Ramsey, murderers of Henry Ross, Coage Indian.

COMPLAINT: Filed at Guthrie, Oklahoma, July 31, 1926, before U.S. Commissioner by U.S. Attorney, Roy St. Lewis.

ARRESTED: July 31, 1926.

Commissioner's hearing waived by defendant, and he was placed under bond of \$5,000.00 for appearance before the Federal Grand Jury.

GRAND JURY ACTION: Indictment returned at Oklahoma City, September 22nd, 1926.

WITNESSES BEFORE GRAND JURY: T.B. White and Frank S. Smith, Agents Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, and Roy St. Lewis, United States Attorney, Oklahoma City, Okla. Statement given U.S. Attorney St. Lewis by Subject Hesser.

PENDING

DETAILS:

REOPENING. No previous reports made. This was erroneously overlooked on account of occurrences happening during midst of W.K. Hale and John Ramsey trial, the detail results of which were given direct attention by U.S. Attorney.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Compton</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	RECORDED AND INDEXED:
WASHINGTON REFERENCE: #2	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3 Bureau. 2 Dept. Justice, Okla City. 1 U.S. Atty, Okla. City.	CHECKED OFF:
	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	JACKETED:
	DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	ROUTED TO:	FILE

2229

General Grand Jury convened at Guthrie, Oklahoma, January 4th, 1926, to hear evidence in the matter of United States of America versus W.K. Hale, et al - Osage murders - Subject P.C. Hesser, being a member of said Grand Jury.

AT GUTHRIE:

July 31st, 1926, at the trial of W.K. Hale and John Ramsey for the murder of Henry Roan, Subject P.C. Hesser appeared as a witness for the defense and gave testimony conflicting with the facts developed before the Grand Jury, and which were conclusively false, as follows:

TESTIMONY OF P.C. HESSER,
AS GIVEN IN U.S. DIST.
COURT AT GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA:

230

P.C. HESSER, was thereupon called as a witness on behalf of the defendants, and being first duly sworn, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION.

- Q. (BY MR. HAMILTON) Your name is P.C. Hesser?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Where do you live?
- A. I live seven miles northeast of Stillwater; seven miles southwest of Glenco.
- Q. Were you a member of the grand jury that was called in this court and assembled during the month of January of this year?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Do you know Mr. Frank Smith, government employe, who sits just over to your left?
- A. I met him during the investigation, yes, sir.
- Q. I will ask you to state whether or not Mr. Smith in your presence during the time you were here as a grand juror made the statement that John Ramsey was a hard one to handle and that they couldn't get a statement or any information from him until they had confronted him with Ernest Burkhardt?

MR. MURKING: We object to that. It is not fixed in place or time, no foundation laid for the question as an impeaching question.

MR. HAMILTON: Mr. Freeling asked the question.

MR. FREELING: The question was asked in proper form.

BY THE COURT: Let him answer.

- A. I believe he made some statement. I don't know that it was in that exact words or not, but it referred to that matter in that way.
- Q. (BY MR. HAMILTON) Was it that in substance?
- A. Yes, sir, that in substance.
- Q. Was that during the time that Smith was testifying formally before the grand jury or in the grand jury room when no formal testimony was being given?

MR. MURKING: I object to that. They must lay the foundation and fix the time and place when the question was asked of the witness. They can't go and introduce a lot of direct evidence here.

BY THE COURT: Let him answer.

- A. I don't know whether I know what formal and informal testimony means. It was during the investigation when Mr. Smith was

223

giving his testimony in and talking with the grand jurors. I don't know just what you would call that exactly, whether that would be formal or informal.

- Q. Were you present in the grand jury room when a purported statement of John Ramsey was brought to the grand jury room?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. I will ask you to state if that statement was signed that was brought to the grand jury room, signed by John Ramsey when you first saw it in the grand jury room?
- A. The first statement we received was unsigned.
- Q. Was that relating to the Henry Roan death?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Did you see the statement and have it in your hand?
- A. Yes, sir, I did, the first one.
- Q. Examined it sufficiently to know it was not signed. What time of day was that when that was brought in?
- A. I really don't remember the exact time of day. We examined it just shortly after adjournment, either at noon or in the evening; I think in the evening.

MR. E. LEWIS: May I ask this witness one question.

- Q. (BY MR. E. LEWIS: How many sheets in Exhibit J, the confession?
- A. I don't know what it is.
- Q. The confession, Exhibit J.
- A. I don't know. I wouldn't be sure.
- Q. You don't know whether it was three or four do you?
- A. It was in lead pencil, a written statement.
- Q. How many of the statements did you see that day?
- A. That lead pencil --- I think only one.
- Q. One sheet?
- A. No, one statement. I don't know how many sheets it had in it.
- Q. About how many?
- A. It wouldn't be any more than a guess. I don't exactly know how many.
- Q. That is the extent of your testimony, just a guess?
- A. No, it is not.
- Q. (BY MR. HAMILTON) I hand you this instrument which has been identified as Exhibit J and ask you to look at that and examine it and tell the court whether or not that is the statement you saw unsigned before the grand jury?
- A. Yes, sir, that is the statement.
- Q. With the exception of the signature appended thereto would you say that is in the same condition or approximately the same condition it was when you first saw it?
- A. I think that was exactly the same condition with the exception of the signature. We were informed it would be typewritten and that he would sign it, when it was first presented to us.

2232

CROSS EXAMINATION

- Q. (BY MR. SP. LEIS) What is your business?
 A. I am a farmer, preacher.
 Q. An itinerant preacher. You just travel around over the country preaching?
 A. No, sir.
 Q. What do you mean by farmer-preacher?
 A. Well, I farm for a living and preach for the good I can do out of it.
 Q. Good to who, you?
 A. Yes, to myself.
 Q. Whatever you get out of your preaching you do it for yourself, is that it?
 A. Well, principally, yes, sir.
 Q. Did you vote to indict this man Ramsey?

MR. PRELIMING: To which we object as incompetent, irrelevant and immaterial.

BY THE COURT: Overruled.

MR. PRELIMING: Exception.

- A. Yes, sir, I voted to indict him.
 Q. Were you satisfied?
 A. I was or I certainly wouldn't have voted that way.
 Q. You were under oath were you?
 A. Yes, sir.
 Q. To keep whatever you heard and whatever was said in there a secret?
 A. Yes, sir.
 Q. When did you first disclose that?
 A. I didn't disclose it, to anyone excepting to Mr. Joe Casparis. I talked to him the first of the week. He came by.
 Q. He was the grand juror I called down in the grand jury room----

MR. HAMILTON: We object to that as incompetent, irrelevant and immaterial.

BY THE COURT: Ask the question and then we will have the objection.

- Q. You were present in the grand jury room when I had occasion to call down Mr. Casparis?
 A. I was.
 Q. For associating with Lew Oller, the partner of Hale, and when I told him that Lew Oller bought his shave that morning.
 A. I don't recall that part of it. I remember you calling him down.
 Q. I told him to quit associating with Hale's partner and friend didn't I?

233

F.S. Smith

A. I don't remember that part of it.

MR. HAMILTON: I object to that as incompetent, irrelevant and immaterial.

BY THE COURT: I think it is wholly immaterial.

Q. How did you happen to disclose this to him?

A. He come by and we were talking because he said he had been subpoenaed down here, and he didn't know whether he was clear on some matters or not and he came by and we were talking the matters over.

Q. He appeared here when the motion to quash the indictment was heard didn't he?

A. I don't know.

MR. HAMILTON: We object to that as incompetent, irrelevant and immaterial. We subpoenaed him here on that date.

A. I don't know whether he appeared here or not.

Q. He has been here everyday this case has been on trial hasn't he?

MR. HAMILTON: Object to that as immaterial.

BY THE COURT: That is immaterial.

A. I never saw him from the day we left until he came to my place.

Q. Who else read this unsigned statement?

A. A number of the jurymen looked at it.

Q. Name them?

A. I don't know as I could name them or not.

Q. Was it read to the jury by any of them?

A. Sir?

Q. Was it read to the rest of the grand jurors by any one of you?

A. It seems like to me Mr. Smith read most of it to us. I wouldn't be certain.

Q. To whose attention did you call the fact it wasn't signed?

A. I don't believe I called any one's attention to the fact.

Q. Was I in the grand jury room at the time you discussed that?

A. What do you mean by that?

Q. The fact it wasn't signed?

A. I don't think we discussed that at that time, no, sir.

Q. Did you discuss it at any time?

A. No, sir. We were later given a typewritten copy which was signed.

Q. What time of the day did you get that typewritten statement?

A. Well, I think it was presented to us in the morning, but I wouldn't be certain. If it was at adjournment in the evening when we first considered it, it would have been the following morning when the typewritten statement was presented.

234

- Q. Was that signed by John Ramsey?
A. Yes, sir, it was.
Q. Did that purport to be his confession in that matter?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. You live over around Stillwater do you?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Do you know Mr. Springer?
A. I do.
Q. How long have you known him?
A. About 25 years.
Q. Did he talk to you about your testimony in this case?
A. No, sir.
Q. Who did you talk to first as to what you were going to testify here today?
A. I didn't talk to any one about what I was going to testify here.
Q. Do you mean to tell his honor they called you not knowing what you were going to testify to?
A. No, sir, I never said that.
Q. Sir?
A. No, sir.
Q. Tell this court who you first told what you were going to testify to?
A. I was instructed to go to Mr. Freeling this morning.
Q. Who sent for you?
A. Mr. Ewing, one of the officers came and served me with a subpoena and served me about three twenty yesterday afternoon.
Q. Who had you talked to before the issuance of that subpoena?
A. Talked to Mr. Casparis and Mr. Hamilton.
Q. When did you talk to Mr. Hamilton?
A. Mr. Hamilton come by my place. I believe it was Tuesday or Wednesday.
Q. Lawyer Hamilton here?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Knew you had been a grand juror?
A. Yes, sir, he did.
Q. What did Mr. Hamilton say to you?
A. He asked me in regard to the fact of whether or not I would be willing to come down and testify. I told him I wouldn't unless I was properly subpoenaed.
Q. Without asking you what you would testify to?
A. He didn't ask me what I would testify to. He remarked as he went off he was trying to get all the facts of the case.
Q. As a minister of the gospel do you tell this court they subpoenaed you here and you did not tell them what you were going to testify to?
A. I did not.
Q. Until right now?
A. Yes, sir, I did not tell them at no time.

- Q. Sir?
- A. I didn't tell them no time or they didn't even ask me.
- Q. Did you tell anybody before you saw Mr. Hamilton?
- A. I talked to Mr. Casparis and we talked the testimony over.
- Q. Did you frame what story you were going to testify to then?
- A. No, sir.
- Q. What did you tell him you would testify to?
- A. I believe I remarked I would have to swear in regard to those two confessions being presented to us, one was written with a lead pencil and one on a typewriter.
- Q. How many confessions of John Ramsey did you see?
- A. Just two.
- Q. What did they relate to?
- A. I think the same thing. One was a copy of the other was it not? The way I understand it.
- Q. You saw just the one confession that was all, one was just a copy?
- A. That is my understanding. I never read the typewritten statement. My understand is it was a copy of it.
- Q. Do you remember a statement being read that John Ramsey made before the grand jury relative to the blowing up of the Smith house?

MR. SPRINGER: Object to that as not proper cross-examination.

BY THE COURT: It may be preliminary to something else. Overruled.

MR. SPRINGER: Exception.

- Q. You positively swear there was a typewritten confession read to that grand jury do you?
- A. I didn't swear it was read to them. I said it was presented to them.
- Q. A typewritten confession?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Signed by John Ramsey?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. You read it did you?
- A. No, sir.
- Q. How do you know it was a confession?
- A. I read extracts of it I think or looked at it while other were reading it.
- Q. You are sure it was a confession are you?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. It was typewritten?
- A. Yes, sir, I am sure it was a confession.
- Q. Lets go back to this conversation you had with this lawyer, Hamilton. What did he say to you when he first approached you?

2236

- A. Mr. Hamilton used to live in our country about twenty years ago, in our county, and he came by my place on his road down here I suppose. I hadn't saw him for a number of years, and I was cutting corn for my hogs near the road, and he stopped and engaged me in conversation, asked me what I was doing, and I told him. I asked him what he was doing and he told me, and I remember he asked me if it wasn't "P.C." and I told him it was; he wanted to know if I was the one that was a member of the grand jury. I told him I was, and he asked me if I would come down to Guthrie if I was called to testify in the case, and I told him I would certainly if I was properly notified, and I believe he said, "we wouldn't expect you to come unless you were subpoenaed."
- Q. What did he ask you to say he wanted you to testify to?
- A. He didn't ask me what he wanted me to testify to.
- Q. Didn't you know he knew he could come here and get service at any time and compel you to come down here?
- A. I suppose he could.
- Q. Did you think it was unusual for him to drive by in that way?
- A. Well, yes, I thought it was a little unusual.
- Q. A few days before this case was set for trial?
- A. I didn't know when it was set only what the newspapers said.
- Q. Did he tell you he knew you had been talking to Casparis?
- A. No, sir, he didn't. I believe I told him Mr. Casparis had come by. I think I did in the course of our conversation.
- Q. Did you tell him what you told Casparis?
- A. No.
- Q. What did you talk about?
- A. Well, he was not there more than --- I don't suppose more than two minutes and I was busy most of the time cutting corn for my hogs, and we talked while I worked; very little conversation passed between us.
- Q. How did you happen to mention the fact that Casparis had been by to see you?
- A. There was one other party present during our conversation.
- Q. (Question read).
- A. Well, because of his mentioning the fact that he was the attorney, one of the attorneys for Hale.
- Q. Who mentioned that?
- A. Mr. Hamilton. I rather had him mixed up with Mr. Johnson. I knew a Christian preacher who was an attorney at Pawnee and knew he was connected with the case, but I rather had him confused with Johnson of Fairfax. I hadn't met him for a number of years.
- Q. Do you believe in oaths?
- A. I certainly do.
- Q. You didn't pay any attention to the one his honor mentioned to you when he told you to keep your matters secret did you?

MR. HAMILTON: We object to that question. There is no obligation after an indictment has been returned and the prisoner is apprehended. The district attorney

2230

ney evidently knows that rule.

BY THE COURT: Objection sustained.

- Q. You didn't explain fully to me why you mentioned to Mr. Hamilton that Casparis had been by to see you?
- A. I tried to.
- Q. Just tell me again.
- A. When he mentioned the fact that he was an attorney in the case of Hale and Ramsey, why, I remarked to him that Mr. Casparis had come by the other day, and I thought it was unusual, because I had never saw Mr. Casparis after we had adjourned here from the grand jury room until he came by my home. I thought it rather unusual he should come by but very glad to see him.
- Q. To see who?
- A. Mr. Casparis when he came.
- Q. When was he at your home?
- A. I believe it was Tuesday evening.
- Q. What did he say to you?
- A. He and I talked over the proceedings in regard to the investigation of the Orange cases that we heard during our membership as jurors.
- Q. How far does he live from where you live?
- A. Well, I think it is about twenty-five miles.
- Q. And he came by just to have a social conversation with you?
- A. He certainly did. I never had met him before from that day until then.

(WITNESS EXCUSED)

Agent F.S. Smith and former Agent T.B. White, on the night of January 6th, 1926, obtained from John Ramsey a signed statement, witnessed by Edwin Brown, Special Assistant to the U.S. Attorney General, detailing the murder of Henry Roan and his participation therein.

On the following morning, January 7th, 1926, Agent F.S. Smith and former Agent T.B. White obtained a signed statement, witnessed by Agents J.V. Murphy, C.R. Parker, John Egan and John Burger, detailing the murder of W.E. (Bill) Smith, his wife and servant girl, and his participation therein.

FACTS CONCERNING TESTIMONY
GIVEN BY AGENT F.S. SMITH
BEFORE GRAND JURY CONCERNING
STATEMENTS OF JOHN RAMSEY:



B3

2238

STATEMENT OF P. C. HESSER.

By Mr. Lewis:

- Q. Mr. Hesser, I understand you want to talk to me about this matter of your having testified before the court the other day relative to the confession of John Ramsey?
- A. Yes sir, I expressed a desire to talk to you as District Attorney.
- Q. What did you have in mind, please sir?
- A. Well, I just want to show you that I made no intentional mistake whatever; if I made a mistake I did it unintentionally; I was ready to do anything I could that could be possible to assist the government in any way I could, or you as their representative.
- Q. You have been advised that Mr. Donaldson was again on the stand today and made a correction?
- A. I read that in the newspaper, and I think you mentioned it to me, and also heard a correspondent talk with him about it.
- Q. He did go back on the stand and state that he was undoubtedly wrong and his statements as made yesterday were not so. He was honestly mistaken but he was undoubtedly wrong; that is what he testified?
- A. That is what I understand by the paper.
- Q. I don't believe that Mr. Donaldson did intend to be untruthful, and he did what any good man would do, just come in and admit that he was wrong.
- A. Yes.
- Q. Now, how do you feel about your matter?
- A. Well, the Saturday when I came down here I was going to my place to preach, and I was very anxious to get away, and I made the statement believing it to be honest and truthful and thinking that I was telling just exactly as it occurred, and I still continue to think so, and Mr. Luhring, when he questioned me yesterday, he showed me that there were more than one lead pencil confession, which showed me the possibility of my being mistaken; up until then I only had remembrance of that pencil confession. I am sure I don't want to do nothing wrong in any way; I wanted to do the best and right thing to do.

By Mr. Luhring:

- Q. I tell you where you made the mistake: Yesterday on cross-examination I showed you the Smith statement, and you said that was signed and read to you; that the witness Smith had both statements with him at the time, one referring to Henry Roan had been signed but the one referring to Wm. E. Smith had not been signed. The truth of the matter is that the statement from Wm. E. Smith was the last statement that had

2240

been taken from John Ramsey, and therefore it is an easy matter to show to the jury where you don't know what you are talking about.

- A. I realize how it had been seven months and such a volume of business and so many things happening, of course I can very easily be mistaken; but I was swearing positive because I thought a positive question demanded a positive answer.
- Q. I tell you what I am more concerned in than anything else is the reason that prompted you to do it; the men that talked to you before you swore, the men to whom you first told the story; you did then know what you were going to testify to before the grand jury. That is the important thing.
- A. I would just be glad to answer any question you ask me.
- Q. But you didn't answer them very fairly to us when we were asking you there. You said the lawyer came out to see you and was not talking about this case at all. Did this lawyer talk to you about your testimony. Mr. Hamilton?
- A. No sir, he did not ask me about the testimony any further than asking me if I had talked to Mr. Kaspares; he did not ask me in regard to my testimony, no sir.
- Q. Did you get the impression or understanding that he had sent Kaspares out there to see you?
- A. Well, I hardly thought that, no sir. It was the first time I had ever met the man and really took me by surprise, and I didn't want to be a witness, and I just appeared to answer him any way to get rid of him.
- Q. The first you heard of an unsigned statement of John Ramsey's you heard from Kaspares, he informed you of it. Let's be honest with each other.
- A. Well, he and I talked it together.
- Q. He mentioned the subject to you first, didn't he?
- A. Well, I think he must have.
- Q. He says, now, you know there was an unsigned confession of John Ramsey also before the grand jury, didn't he?
- A. Well, I wouldn't -- from his words -- I just talked with him a little while, and he and I didn't entirely agree for the reason I thought there was one signed and he said there was one unsigned.
- Q. He didn't take any part in the grand jury proceeding like you did, did he?
- A. I remember he took a rather conspicuous part with one or two witnesses, especially this man Bewey Selph; he asked him some questions.
- Q. No, did he ask him questions?
- A. Yes, I think he asked him a few.
- Q. That is true; I didn't know whether he had sat by a juror.
- A. Well, I just remember it; my memory might be at fault.
- Q. I am sure that I am just attempting to do the right thing.
- Q. Well, what do you want to do?
- A. I want you men to tell me what to do.

2241