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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORT OF SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

TO: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (44-1585)

FROM: SAC, SHREVEPORT (44-20164)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

Report of SA GEORGE A. WINTER, 8/7/62, New Orleans.

EXP. PROC.

K

APPROVED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE: 2 - Bureau (44-20164) 1 - USA, Shreveport 1 - New Orleans (44-1585)		44-20164-4 30 9-6 REC-116
DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT AGENCY: AAG Civil Rights Division REQUEST REC'D: Form 6-94 8/9-5-62 F.T.M. DATE FWD: 50 SEP 11 1962 BY FWD: 330		NOTATIONS M. J. [Signature] 7080 25 STRICKLAND

DECLASSIFIED
Authority (E.O. 12958)

Copy to: 1 - USA, Shreveport

Report of: SA GEORGE A. GUNTER
Date: August 29, 1962

Office: NEW ORLEANS

Field Office File No.: NO 44-1585

Bureau File No.: 44-20164

Title: ROY GEORGE BARLOW, ET AL;
CURTIS LEE HARRIS; ET AL - VICTIMS

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis: AUSA, Shreveport, La., desires no additional investigation and feels case has no prosecutive merits.

- C -

DETAILS

The following investigation was conducted by SA THURMAN P. KELLEY:

At Shreveport, Louisiana

On August 22, 1962, E. V. BOAGNI, Assistant U. S. Attorney, advised SA THURMAN P. KELLEY that captioned matter, in his opinion, does not warrant further investigation and has no prosecutive merits. He said he is furnishing his opinion in writing to the New Orleans FBI Office.

Aug - 23/62

Wm. Sheriff, Sheriff, Louisiana

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 48 CFR 1.101

MO 44-1503/jee

By communication dated August 23, 1962, from Honorable EDWARD L. SHAMSEN, U. S. Attorney, Shreveport, Louisiana, the opinion was set forth that this case is without prosecutive merit and no further investigation was desired. The following observations were contained in this communication:

"The complainant, Curtis Lee Harris, together with Wilbur Lee Henderson and Jack Davis, were convicted of burglary on their pleas of guilty in the State District Court, Concordia Parish, on April 6, 1962, Harris and Henderson having been sentenced to seven years imprisonment, Davis to only three years due to the fact he had no prior criminal record. Of the three defendants, only Harris made a complaint alleging police brutality while in custody of state authorities, the said complaint being evidenced by his letter dated July 18, 1962 addressed to "United States Justice Department, Federal Building, New Orleans, Louisiana." Whereas Henderson, when recently interviewed by Bureau agents, also contended he was brutally treated while in the custody of state authorities, he made no such complaint prior to that time. The third defendant, Jack Davis, states he was in nowise improperly treated while in custody of the state authorities and that insofar as he knows neither Harris nor Henderson were improperly treated. Harris further contends that not only was he severely and brutally beaten while in custody of state authorities but that he was forced to admit participation in the burglary under threat of death.

"It should be particularly noted that despite the fact complainant Harris was sentenced on April 6, 1962 as aforesaid, complaint was not made by him until July 18, 1962. The facts rather clearly indicate, in our opinion, that the complaint was not made by Harris as an afterthought. Harris has a long criminal record with prior Dyer Act and burglary convictions and has been brought into different courts on criminal charges on prior occasions. It is inconceivable to us that this defendant came into Court

NO. 44-1583-240

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

and entered a guilty plea to the burglary charge without protesting his innocence or informing the sentencing judge that he had been forced under pain of death to admit his guilt. It should be noted that Roy S. Malcolm, Assistant District Attorney, 7th Judicial District, when interviewed, stated he had talked privately with Harris, Henderson and Davis before they were taken into court and that neither made any complaint to him about being beaten or showed any visible signs of a beating. He further stated that each of the defendants told him he desired to plead guilty to the charge. The court records indicate no irregularities in the handling of the three defendants and in the final disposition of the case. Based on the facts submitted, we are forced to conclude that the statements of both Harris and Henderson are untrue and that the statements of complainant Harris are not entitled to credence or belief.

AT MONTECARY, LOUISIANA

Follow USA's office concerning writs of habe and other critical investigation.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Thru
ECS, Bureauport, Louisiana
New Orleans (44-1583)

44-1583-240 3

APR 26 1964

DISSEMINATION RECORD BY ATTACHED REPORT

1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division

STAT. FILED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

IKE
COWAN

ALSO

OGDEN

HARP

DELAUGHTER

HOWELL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

44-1585-1
 44-1585-1

OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW ORLEANS	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW ORLEANS	DATE 6/7/62	PERIODICITY 7/27 - 8/2/62
TITLE OF CASE CHANGED RTY GEORGE BARLOW; ISAAC CUMEN, JR., aka. Ike Cumen; WILLIAM HOWARD CUDEN, aka. Bill Cuden; WILLIAM HOWELL HARP, aka. Junior Harp; FRANK EDWARD DE- LAUNTER CURTIS LEE HARRIS - VICTIM; WILBUR LEE HENDERSON - VICTIM		REPORT MADE BY SA GEORGE A. GUNTER	CLASS. BY SA/UV/ Jed/Wal /BOM
		CHARACTER OF CASE CR	

Title in this case is changed to carry names of subjects and victims replacing previous title "UNKNOWN SUBJECTS, OFFICERS, FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA, POLICE DEPARTMENT; C. L. HARRIS - VICTIM, CR."

REFERENCES:

New Orleans airtels to Bureau, 7/27/62 and 8/2/62.
 - P -

LEAD:

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION
AT SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

Follow USA's office concerning merits of case and any additional investigation.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

APPROVED *Agne* SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:
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 1 - USA, Shreveport, Louisiana
 2 - New Orleans (44-1585)

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44-20164-3

AUG 10 1962

MCT REC-80

DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT

AGENCY.....	
REQUEST RECD.	Icc: AAG Civil Rights Division
DATE FWD.	Form 6-94 (R) 7/16/62 Gm
HOW FWD.	48
BY.....	50 AUG 22 1962

NOTATIONS

STAT. SECT.

EXP. PROC.

your agency, and this case file is loaned to your agency; it and

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DECLASSIFIED
DATE 11-11-81

TO: SAC, SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

FROM: SA GEORGE A. GUYTON
DATE: AUGUST 7, 1962

OFFICE: NEW ORLEANS

FILE NUMBER: MO 44-1585

REPORT FILE NO.

RE: ROY GEORGE BARLOW; ISAAC COWEN, JR.;
WILLIAM HOWARD OGDEN; WILLIAM HOWELL HARP;
FRANK EDWARD DELAUGHTER; -
CURTIS LEE HARRIS - VICTIM;
WILBUR LEE HENDERSON - VICTIM

CHARACTER: CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis: CURTIS LEE HARRIS, inmate of Louisiana State Penitentiary, sent letter to USA, Shreveport, La., dated 7/18/62, alleging that he was beaten by police officers at Vidalia, La., on night 3/30/62. Same allegation made by HARRIS in signed statement. WILBUR LEE HENDERSON, also inmate LSP, who was sentenced on same Burglary charge as HARRIS, alleges in signed statement he was also beaten. JAKE DAVIS, Ferriday, La., sentenced with HARRIS and HENDERSON on same charges, states he was not beaten but was told by HARRIS and HENDERSON that they were and observed HENDERSON to have swollen wrist. Cellmates of HARRIS at Concordia Parish Jail observed spots of blood on his shorts and that his clothes were torn. One observed HARRIS to have swollen buttocks. ALBERTA HENDERSON, wife of victim HENDERSON, Ferriday, who visited HENDERSON in jail at Vidalia, was not told of beating and saw no signs of mistreatment. NELLIE HARRIS, Clayton, La., sister of victim HARRIS was told by HARRIS of beating and advised shorts contained blood spots. HENDERSON and DAVIS admit participation in burglary for which sentenced and implicate HARRIS. HARRIS claims innocent. Records, District Court, Vidalia, reflect HARRIS and HENDERSON, on 4/6/62, sentenced seven years for Simple Burglary on guilty pleas. DAVIS, on same date, received sentence of 3 years on guilty plea. Officers involved identified as ROY GEORGE BARLOW, WILLIAM HOWARD OGDEN, and ISSAAC COWEN, JR., Deputies of Concordia Parish Sheriff's Department, and WILLIAM HOWELL HARP and FRANK EDWARD DELAUGHTER, Ferriday, La., Police Dept. All officers deny beating or mistreatment of victims. AUSA, Shreveport, La., desires submission of report before suggesting additional investigation or deciding on merits of case. Descriptions subjects and victims set forth.

- P -

CONFIDENTIAL
EXEMPT FROM GDS

NO. 44-1507-1000

DETAILS:

The following preliminary investigation is presented upon letter from Honorable EDWARD E. SHARREN, U. S. Attorney, Shreveport, Louisiana, dated July 27, 1962, which enclosed a letter from C. L. HARRIS, dated July 18, 1962, alleging mistreatment by officers at Vidalia, Louisiana. The letter was sent to the U. S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Louisiana and subsequently sent to Mr. SHARREN.

Letter from C. L. HARRIS is as follows:

"July 18, 1962

"United States Justice Department
Federal Building
New Orleans, Louisiana

"Dear Sir:

"I am writing this letter to you to consider my case. I was living in Ferriday, Louisiana in 1962. I had been there six weeks with a clean mind and heart, mining my own business. On March the twenty-ninth I was invited to a birthday party by a friend; while I was at the party waiting until the other guest arrive - the police walked in and asked me what is my name. I told them Curtis Hariss and they replied were looking for me. They told me to come with them and so I did. The officer searched me but he did not show me a warrant for my arrest. I was taken to the car; the officer asked me questions about a place that broken in.

"I did not know anything of what they were talking about. The officer asked me where did live? I told him I was residing with grandmother in Ferriday, Louisiana. They took me to my grandmother's home - they parked the car just a little before they got to the house. I was locked to the cross-bars inside the car. They entered the house and came back to the car with my overnight bag. My grandmother wanted to know where was the warrant to come into her home searching & discomfoting her. They gave her no explanation. They carried me over to Concordia Parish Jail. All of this happened on March 29, 1962. I was then locked in jail. The next morning they brought me down stairs and asked was I ready to tell them the truth.

McLennan
Angola (10-10)

I told them again I am not familiar with any of their questions. Eleven thirty Friday night they called me out of my cell and asked me how I going to tell them about this place before I get my --- beat. Again I told I told them I am not familiar with their questions. They told me to pull my pants down and get on the table, so I did. They beat me almost lifeless. The first two beat me simultaneously they got tired and two more beat me till they gave out. They took coffee breaks. The jailer Mr. Clark brought the coffee down to them and when they got through drinking their coffee two more came and one asked the other do you think you can make him do the twist? I don't no but I'm going to try. When they finished on me I had a severe fever. They told me if I do not plead guilty they would kill me. So I thought it would be better for me to live longer by pleading guilty.

"I did not get a lawyer, they did not set any bond for me. Now I am serving a term of seven years in Angola Prison for simple burglar charge. I was sentence before Judge McGee in Vidalia, Louisiana. On March the 30th the original bandits were apprehended.

"Thanking you in advance for your kind consideration.

"Respectfully Yours,

C. L. Harris"

NOAH W. CROSS, Sheriff, Concordia Parish, Louisiana, and R. W. WARREN, Chief of Police, Ferriday, Louisiana, were advised at the outset of this investigation that the investigation was being made.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

July 31, 1962

Re: JOHN RAY, Custodian of Records, Louisiana State Penitentiary (LSP), made available the prison records for CURTIS LEE HARRIS, LSP Number 3082; WILSON HENDERSON, LSP Number 3083; and JACK DAVIS, LSP Number 3081, who are all Negro males from Ferriday, Louisiana. The following information was obtained from the prison records:

All three were implicated in and were codefendants in the burglary of the John Davis Store, Wildsville, Louisiana, near Jonesville, Louisiana, in Concordia Parish on or about March 9, 1962. They all appeared in State Court, Seventh Judicial District, Vidalia, Louisiana, on April 6, 1962, entered guilty pleas and waived delay of sentence. On the same date HARRIS and HENDERSON were each sentenced to seven years in the LSP and DAVIS was sentenced to serve three years in the LSP. DAVIS was given a lesser sentence since he had no record of previous arrests or convictions.

In CURTIS HARRIS' statement to prison officials as to his version of the burglary, he indicated involvement in the above-mentioned burglary with DAVIS and HENDERSON. There was no indication that HARRIS mentioned to prison officials that he was forced into a confession as a result of brutality by law enforcement officers.

JACK DAVIS in his version of the burglary as given to prison officials, implicated himself, HENDERSON and HARRIS with no indication in the record that he was mistreated by any law enforcement officers.

WILSON HENDERSON's version of the burglary implicated himself along with HARRIS and DAVIS with one box of undershirts being stolen from the store that was burglarized about three weeks before he plead guilty and was sentenced. There was nothing recorded in his version of the matter to indicate that he or the other two participants had admitted guilt because of police brutality.

CURTIS LEE HARRIS has been in custody at Charity Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana, since June 1, 1962, where he is being treated for a compound fracture of his leg resulting from an accident while working on the prison farm. He will be returned

7/30/62

Angola, Louisiana

NO 44-1585

SAS CARLYLE N. REED and
CONRAD J. JANISH

/dmm

File #

Date dictated

7/30/62

SA 44-1587-200

to Angola upon release from the hospital.

The following identification record, FBI Number 995 393 C. for CURTIS LEE HARRIS was obtained from his prison file:

CORRECTIONAL OR FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
FD Grand Rapids Mich.	Curtis Lee Harris #24030	10/20/53	disc	
SO Natchez, Miss.	Curtis Lee Harris #1329	9/16/58	inv of auto T & imp lic	Rel. to US Marshal 9-23- 58
USM Jackson, Miss	Curtis Lee Harris #58-162	9/23/58	vic Dyer Act	12 mos custody AG 9-30-58 on chg of Dyer Act
Fed Corr Inst Texarkana, Texas	Curtis Lee Harris #1094-TT	10/10/	ITSMV	1 yr. parole 3/12/59
FD Natchez, Miss	Curtis Lee Harris #1329	2/17/60	inv. for B&E	reled
SO Alexandria, La.	Curtis Lee Harris #35,424	7/5/60	B&E US Post Office	
USM Shreveport, La.	Curtis Lee Harris #USM-5741	7/5/60	viol Title 18 18 mos. See 2115 B&E PO Rinchart, La. took away safe	
Fed Corr Inst Texarkana, Texas	Curtis Lee Harris #12099-TT	12/15/60	P.O. burg & theft of gov't prop	18 mos. exp GT 2/1/62
SPen Angola, La.	Curtis Harris #56324	4/9/62	simple burg	7 yrs

According to advice from the District Attorney's Office, Concordia Parish, Louisiana, WILBUR HENDERSON was previously convicted and served time on a theft charge.

... INVESTIGATION ...

... 1934 ...

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NO 44-1587/688

JACK DAVIS is under the supervision of State Parole Officer HENRY O. WILLIAMS, 206 South Walnut, Tallulah, Louisiana, and when paroled he was to go to work for LEO J. DE JONG, 206 Mississippi Avenue, Ferriday, Louisiana. His ex-wife, MARY ALICE DAVIS resides at 905 South 5th Street, Ferriday, which was also listed as the home address of JACK DAVIS.

... and I drove out to the store of Harris ...
Davis and Marie when the lock of the door ...
was inside and came out ...
outside of the locked ...
the store and they ...
As far as I know ...

"On the day after Charles Davis was arrested for this burglary I was arrested by deputies Frank DeLong and Bill ...
of the Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office, Vidalia, La. They ...
case and arrested me at my home at 700 ...
La., and took me to the City Jail in Ferriday, La., where I ...
held for about six hours and then taken to the Concordia Parish ...
Jail at Vidalia, La., by the two ...
told me I was under arrest for the above-mentioned store burglary ...
while at the City Jail in Ferriday, La., these two deputies said ...
they were going to whip me because I wouldn't admit the burglary ...
They did not whip me or mistreat me then because the City Jail ...
Mr. Shark said the City Mayor would not stand for any mistreatment of prisoners.

Louisiana State Penitentiary
DORLAND STRACK and
... /888 Date dictated 5/1/34

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 1, 1962

WILSON LEE HENDERSON, Louisiana State Penitentiary, Angola, Louisiana, furnished the following voluntary statement:

"Angola, La.
July 30, 1962

"I, William Lee Henderson, make the following voluntary statement to Carlyle N. Reed and Charles Donald Byron who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I am thirty six (36) years of age, have had two years of grade school education and my home is Ferriday, Louisiana. On April 6, 1962, in State District Court, Concordia Parish, Vidalia, Louisiana, I pleaded guilty to a charge of burglary of the John Davis store at Wildsville, near Jonesville, La. which burglary took place in early March, 1962. It may have been about March 9, 1962.

"Regarding the burglary, Curtis Harris, "Jake" Davis, and I drove out to the store in Davis's 1960 Ford pick-up truck. Davis and Harris broke the lock on the back door of the store, went inside and came out about ten minutes later while I waited outside as the lookout. They had stolen one box of undershirts in the store and this was all they took to the best of my knowledge. As far as I know Curtis Harris kept the undershirts. After the burglary, we drove back to Ferriday, La., to our homes.

"On the day after Curtis Harris was arrested for this burglary I was arrested by Deputies Frank Delaney and Bill August of the Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office, Vidalia, La. They came and arrested me at my home at 705 Alabama Ave., Ferriday, La., and took me to the City Jail in Ferriday, La., where I was held for about six hours and then taken to the Concordia Parish Jail at Vidalia, La., by the same two deputies. The deputies told me I was under arrest for the above-mentioned store burglary. While at the City Jail in Ferriday, La., these two deputies said they were going to whip me because I wouldn't admit the burglary. They did not whip me or mistreat me then because the City Jailer, Mr. Clark said the City Mayor would not stand for any mistreatment of prisoners.

7/30/62 at Louisiana State Penitentiary file # NO 44-1585

SAS CHARLES DONALD BYRON and
CARLYLE N. REED

/dmm

Date dictated 7/31/62

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"On the same day I was arrested and after being lodged in the Comberia Parish Jail, at about 10:30 that night, deputies Frank Delaney, Bill August, and Ike, Jr., lost some unknown, came and took me from my cell down to the first floor and into an office just to the right of the elevator door. Deputy Barlow came into the room with the other three deputies and myself.

Deputies August and Delaney then told me if I would confess to the burglary and tell them who else was in on the burglary, I would get a suspended sentence. I told them I didn't know anything about it.

"They then made me get on a table and lay on my stomach with my clothes on. Ike, Jr., Barlow and a Fifth man in the room, Mr. Horts (phonetic), a white man, age about 22, about 6'1", heavy build, carrying a revolver in his belt holster, held me down. Then Frank Delaney started whipping me with a leather strap about 18" to 24" long, 3" wide and about 1/2" thick. This strap was fastened to a wooden handle about 1 1/2" in diameter and about 9" long. When Delaney got tired of whipping me, Ike, Jr. whipped me then Bill August and then Barlow whipped me in that order. In all, they whipped me for about one half-hour. They whipped me on my seat, the backs of my legs and the back of my hands, wrists and lower arms. The whipping caused me to bleed and there was blood on my undershirt and shorts. There was swelling and I couldn't set down for two days. I know of no scars or marks left on my body from this whipping.

"Ike, Jr. and Bill August then took me to an adjoining room to talk to me some more. They told me to tell the truth and they would let me off with a suspended sentence. Then Jr. Horts (phonetic) came in and asked the other two men if I had admitted the burglary. They said "No." Then Jr. Horts told me if I didn't tell the truth he was going to shoot me and at the same time had his gun in his hand. I was scared and admitted to them that I was along when the store was burglarized but didn't break into or go into the store myself. I also admitted that Curtis Harris and "Jake" Davis, both of Ferriday, La., broke into the Davis Store. I didn't tell the officers about the undershirts that were taken from the store.

Curtis Harris, "Jake" Davis and I were taken to court together, Harris and I both told Davis about having been whipped by the officers. Davis asked us about the swelling

"They then took me back to my cell in the Parish Jail. Before locking me back in the cell, Ico, Jr. unlocked the cell door where Curtis Harris was being held and Doc Jr., Frank Delaney, Bill August, Deputy Barlow and J. Harts took Curtis Harris downstairs. This was a little after 11:00 P.M. About a half hour later, Ico, Jr., and Frank Delaney brought Curtis Harris back up to his cell which was four cells down from where I was locked up. I could only see Curtis Harris through the glass window in my cell door. I never heard his cry out from the time they took Harris out of his cell through the time when they brought him back up to his cell. When they brought Harris back up to the cell his suit coat and trousers were badly torn but I had no way of knowing whether they whipped him.

"I didn't see Curtis Harris again until we were taken to court and pleaded guilty to the burglary. At that time Harris told me he was whipped into a confession by Frank Delaney, Bill August and Mr. Barlow on the same night that I was whipped.

"About three days after I was whipped, the jail authorities let my wife, Alberta Henderson, 705 Alabama Avenue, Ferriday, La., come to visit me. She told me that Curtis Harris' sister, Nellie Harris, Clayton, La., had visited Curtis and brought him clean clothes. I don't know if Nellie Curtis picked up Curtis' soiled clothes.

"Since being committed to the Angola State Penitentiary, Curtis Harris and I have discussed our whippings by The Concordia Parish Sheriff's Officers.

"On the Saturday after I was arrested, "Jake" Davis was arrested at Memphis, Tennessee, and on the next day, Sunday, was brought to the Concordia Parish Jail and was put in the same cell with me. To my knowledge, the officers never whipped or mistreated him. Davis told me that while being transported from Memphis, Tenn., to Vidalia, La., by Sheriff Nola Cross and Deputy Badgett, he, "Jake" Davis freely and voluntarily admitted to them his participation in the store burglary for which he was arrested. When Curtis Harris, "Jake" Davis and I were taken to court together, Harris and I both told Davis about having been whipped by the officers. Davis asked me about the swelling

FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA
(Near Ferriday, La.)

on my arms before I mentioned to him that the officers
whipped me. Davis said the officers did not whip him.

"Since I cannot read or write, this statement con-
sisting of ten pages in the handwriting of Agent Reed
has been read to me by Mr. Reed. I have initialed each
page and any corrections. This statement is true and
correct to the best of my knowledge as evidenced by my
handprinted name below.

"/s/ WILBUR LEE HENDERSON

Witnesses:

Carlisle N. Reed, Sp. Agent, FBI, Baton Rouge, La., 7/30/62.
Charles Donald Hyman, Special Agent, FBI, New Orleans, La.,
7/30/62.

The following description and background information
was obtained by observation and interview:

Name	WILBUR LEE HENDERSON (aka. Wilbert)
Race	Negro
Sex	Male
Date of birth	August 3, 1926
Height	5'5"
Weight	143
Build	Medium
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Black
Scars and Marks	Scar left forearm and calf of right leg
Complexion	Dark
Marital status	Married
Military Service	None
Arrest Record	Previous arrest for burglary, Vidalia, Louisiana, 1950, 3 years at Angola
Relatives:	Wife: ALBERTA HENDERSON 705 Alabama Avenue Ferriday, Louisiana
	Mother: MARY HARRIS Rayville, La.
	Brother: CLARENCE HENDERSON Pittfield Plantation (Near Ferriday, La.)

2
NO 44-1505

Sister: **VERA WILSON**
Santa Maria, California

MEDDERSON further furnished the following descriptions of the five police officers involved:

Deputy Sheriff Frank Delaney - white male, age - in 30's, 6'6", 250 lbs., heavy build, dark hair (brown or black), wearing gray uniform, white shirt, black or dark brown necktie, emblem - round patch on sleeve.

Deputy Sheriff Bill August - white male, age about 40, 5'10"-11", 160 lbs., slender build, light color hair, dress - same as Delaney.

Deputy (FNU) Barlow - white male, age in 40's, 5'6", 200 lbs., heavy build, light hair, light complexion, dress - same.

McC, Jr. (LNU) - white male, mid 30's, 5'6", 190 - 200 lbs., dark hair, uniform - same as Delaney.

Jr., Horts (Phonetic) - white male, age - about 22, 6'1", 180 lbs., medium to heavy build, brown hair, uniform - same as above.

Incident Date: 7/14/49

Incident Location: Santa Maria, California

NO 44-1505

SA [Name] & SA [Name]
SAC [Name]

Date dictated: 7/14/49

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, La. 7/31/62

CURTIS LEE HARRIS, Room 6704, Charity Hospital, was interviewed on July 31, 1962, at which time he furnished the following signed statement:

"New Orleans, La.
July 31, 1962

"I, Curtis Lee Harris, do make the following voluntary statement to Ray E. Rockhold and L. M. Shearer, Jr., whom I know to be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No promises or threats have been made to me to induce me to make this statement.

"I was born on 7-31-32 at Aungville, Miss. I was released from the Federal Correctional Institution at Texarkana, Tex., on 2-7-62 and went to Ferriday, La., to live with my grandmother, Missie Harris, and my aunts, Lucy, and Mrs. Alberta Henderson, and her husband, Wilbert Henderson, at 705 Alabama Ave.

"On March 29, 1962, about 7:30 PM, Bill Ogden, assistant chief, Ferriday Police Department, and an officer known to me as Frank, last name unknown, Ferriday police department, came to a tavern operated by a man named Robert and asked my name. I told them I was Curtis Harris. They said I was the one they wanted. They took me to my grandmother's house, left me locked to the crossbar in the car, and they went into the house and brought out my overnight bag. They also picked up my uncle, Wilbert Henderson. They searched Wilbert's 1956 Ford and took a crowbar, a long screwdriver, a tire tool and a .22 rifle from the trunk.

"They then took Wilbert to the city jail and me to the Vidalia Parish Jail.

"The next day, 3-30-62, Bill Ogden, Chief Deputy Sheriff Barlow, Vidalia Parish, and a Ferriday police officer known to me as Ike, Jr., questioned me and asked why I had the screwdriver and a small bar in my bag. These articles had been in the trunk of the car, and I told them the tools had not been in my bag. They said

7/31/62 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 44-1585

SAs L. M. SHEARER, JR. &
RAY E. ROCKHOLD

/jao Date dictated 7/31/62

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Wilbert had said they were in the bag. Wilbert had been moved over to the parish jail.

"That same night about 11:30 PM, it was stormy and raining, the jailer, Mr. Clark, and Ike, Jr., and a policeman named Frank came to the cell block and took me downstairs to a small room about 10 by 15 feet on the first floor. I noticed a safe in this room.

"They asked me if I was going to tell them the truth about Guy's Chevrolet place (this place is about one mile from Ferriday on Highway #84) before I got my ass whipped. I told them I didn't know anything about the place.

"There were about 8 or 9 officers in the room and jailer Clark.

"They told me to take my shoes off and pull down my pants and get on the table, which I did, stomach down.

"The officers named Frank and Ike, Jr., one on each side of the table, started hitting me alternately with large black holster belts. They would hit me and then ask me if I was going to tell the truth. This continued for about 10 minutes. They were hitting me on the back side of my body. I yelled and Bill Ogden put his hand over my mouth. I was hit once on the side of the head and I fell off the table onto the floor. They told me to get up, and when I did not, they hit me while I was on the floor.

"Bill Ogden and an officer who I believe is named Ike Harden, started hitting me. When they started, another officer asked if they were going to make me do the twist and Ike Harden said he didn't know, but he was going to try. They hit me intermittently for a period of about four minutes. They stopped and Jailer Clark brought coffee for the officers. I got off the table and sat on a chair, and I told them they were wasting their time. Ike, Jr.,

NO 44-1985/joo

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said I would plead guilty or they would kill me. They said I would go to Angola and if I came back I would leave in a pine box the next time. Chief Deputy Sheriff Barlow and an unknown officer in civilian clothes then hit me with the same belts.

"They had been questioning me about two burglaries on Hwy 84, a store and the Chevrolet place, and about 9 places in Ferriday.

"I told them to put the whole thing on me.

"The next day they picked up Robert Hibler who admitted the nine burglaries in Ferriday. Hibler told me he did the burglaries in Ferriday and none on Hwy 84.

"Jake Davis was also arrested for burglary of the store on Hwy 84.

"On April 6, 1962, Wilbert Henderson, Jake Davis and I went before Judge McGee and entered pleas of guilty to simple burglary of the store on Hwy. 84. I did not tell the judge I had been beaten and that I was pleading guilty because of the beating and threats.

"After I was beaten on the night of 3-30-62 I showed the following described cellmates where I was beaten:

"Willie Conner, resident of Ferriday, in jail for non-support.

"Emmett (LNU), in for non-support.

"Dave Milton, former patient, state hospital, Jackson, La., now in Angola.

"Joe (LNU) in for non-support, known by Willie Conner.

NO 44-1585/jes

"I furnish the following description of officers who hit me on 3-30-62:

"Bill Ogden, assistant chief of police, white male, about 48, 6', 150, slender gray hair, finger amputated on right hand.

"Mr. Frank," last name unknown, white male, about 30-35 years, 7', large build and fat, brown hair.

"Ike, Jr., last name unknown, a white male about 30 years, 5'7", 200 lbs., well-built, stocky, brown hair.

"Unknown white male, believed to be Ike Harden, 30, 6', 180, blonde hair, formerly a policeman at Hatches, Miss.

"Chief Deputy Sheriff Barlow of Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office, 50 yrs., short, fat.

"Unknown white male in civilian clothes, about 40 years, 6', 180, graying hair.

"/s/ i Curtis L. Harris Have Read this Statement and it is true

"/s/ Curtis L. Harris

"Witnessed by:

"/s/ L. M. Shearer, Jr., Special Agent, FBI, New Orleans, La.

"/s/ Ray E. Rockhold, Special Agent, FBI, New Orleans, La.

HARRIS advised that he is receiving treatment for compound fracture of a leg, injury received when he fell off a vehicle at Louisiana State Penitentiary. He expects to be hospitalized about five months from this date.

HARRIS: The following is a description of CURTIS LEE

Investigation at Vidalia, Ferriday, and Clarks,
Louisiana, was by Special Agents GEORGE A. WARRIS and CHARLES
DONALD STINE.

EMMETT CLARK, Jailer, Calcasieu Parish Jail, advised
on August 1, 1962, that others in the cell with CURTIS HARRIS,
during March and early April, 1962, were THOMAS ALLEN, address
unknown, EMMETT MARTIN, Ferriday, Louisiana, and WILLIE CONNER,
Ferriday, Louisiana. He said that ALLEN was from another sec-
tion of the state or either from somewhere in Mississippi, and
he was handled for a Welfare Office and returned to the juris-
diction of that office. He said that the State Probation Officer,
Tallulah, Louisiana, might have information relative to ALLEN's
residence. ALLEN, CONNER, and MARTIN were all held for "Non
Support."

CLARK advised that there was no JOE (BNU) in the cell
with HARRIS.

Mrs. DONNA THOMPSON, Welfare Department, advised on
August 1, 1962, that she could locate no record for THOMAS ALLEN
ever being handled as a "Non Support" case by her department.

H. C. RODGERS, State Probation Officer, whose head-
quarters is Tallulah, Louisiana, advised on August 1, 1962, at
Ferriday, Louisiana, that he recalls the name THOMAS ALLEN as
being in jail at Vidalia, Louisiana, for Non Support, but that
ALLEN was handled by local officers for a Welfare Department
somewhere in South Louisiana, and he did not know where he could
be located. He said ALLEN was returned to his residence from
Vidalia.

The following, each widely acquainted in the area, ad-
vised on August 1, 1962, that THOMAS ALLEN is unknown to them:

N. A. MOULLE, Fire Chief
JUNIOR HARP, Police Department
R. W. WARREN, Chief of Police

WILLIE CONNER, Ferriday, who was in the cell with ALLEN,
did not know address.

EMMETT MARTIN, Ferriday, who was in the cell with ALLEN,
did not know address.

7-1-62
7-1-62

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

August 1, 1962

JACK DAVIS, 545 South 5th Street, Ferriday, Louisiana, furnished the following voluntary information after being advised that he need not make any statement and that any information he furnished might be used in court.

He stated that it was his truck that was used in the burglary of JOHN DAVIS' store at Wilderville, Louisiana, in March, 1962, and that he was a passenger in the truck which was driven by CURTIS HARRIS. He stated that only HARRIS entered the store and that only HARRIS retained any of the merchandise, consisting of T shirts and that he, DAVIS, then went home.

He stated that he departed for Memphis, Tennessee, two days after the burglary as he had a job there and that he worked in Memphis for three or four weeks before he was arrested. After staying in the jail in Memphis for two days, he was picked up by Mr. NOAH CROSS, HERSCHEL DABBY and BILL OGDEN of the Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office and transported to the parish jail at Vidalia, Louisiana. He was then placed in a cell with WILBUR HENDERSON and HENDERSON told him that he, HENDERSON, had been whipped. He stated that he noticed HENDERSON's wrist being swollen but that he never saw any other parts of HENDERSON's body which showed signs of injury. He did not see any clothes belonging to HENDERSON which were either torn or bloody. He stated that HENDERSON had been in the cell two or three days before he joined him and that he did not believe HENDERSON had any visitors before he joined him.

DAVIS stated that he remained in the cell with HENDERSON for five days and that he, DAVIS, was never mistreated by any of the police officers either at the jail or on the trip back from Memphis. He advised that he did not see HARRIS at the jail as he was kept in a cell several cells away.

He stated that all three men, DAVIS, HENDERSON and HARRIS, went to court five days after his return from Memphis and that all three pleaded guilty. HARRIS and HENDERSON each received a seven year sentence and he received a three year sentence because he had no previous record.

Two days after the sentencing, Mr. NOAH CROSS and Mr. BAGBY took HENDERSON and DAVIS to Angola and BILL OGDEN and IKE took HARRIS. When they all arrived at Angola, HARRIS told DAVIS that he was whipped

On 7/31/62 at Ferriday, Louisiana File # NO 44-1585
by SAS CHARLES DONALD BYRON and
GEORGE A. GUNTER /dmm Date dictated 7/31/62

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NO. 44-1587-200

NO 44-1587-200

and that he, HARRIS, was going to report the mistreatment that he received. DAVIS stated that he saw no signs of injury on HARRIS but that he did notice some of his clothes had been soiled in a crude manner.

DAVIS stated that he remained at Angola from April 9, 1962, to June 19, 1962, and that he has had no contact with HARRIS or HENDERSON since that time.

DAVIS declined to furnish a signed statement.

- 3. December 21, 1955, Fighting and Disturbing the Peace. Sentenced to fine of \$10 and 30 days in jail.
- 4. April 10, 1961, Fighting and Disturbing the Peace. Sentenced to pay fine of \$40 and 30 days in jail.

HARRIS advised that he had no other record for JAKE DAVIS.

He advised that the arrest of CHARLES HARRIS was made by FRANK DELAUNTER of his department at the request of the Concordia Parish Sheriff's Department, and he had no records of the case or the arrest.

7/21/62 Shreveport, Louisiana File # NO 44-1587

SAT-GEORGE E. CHARLES HARRIS Case closed 8/1/62

Date 8/1/62

N. F. WARREN, Chief of Police, advised that his department has had dealings with CURTIS HARRIS and WILBUR HENDERSON in the past. He advised that he recalled that HARRIS was involved during 1960 in the burglary of the Rhinehart Store and Post Office, Rhinehart, Louisiana, for which he served a term in the Federal Penitentiary.

From Police Department records, WARREN advised that WILBUR HENDERSON had the following arrests with his department:

1. March 8, 1939, Withholding Evidence from Officers. (No disposition shown)
2. October 27, 1959, Assault with a Knife; Fighting and Disturbing the Peace. Sentenced to fine of \$300 and 15 days in jail.
3. December 21, 1959, Fighting and Disturbing the Peace. Sentenced to fine of \$50 and 30 days in jail.
4. April 10, 1961, Fighting and Disturbing the Peace. Sentenced to pay fine of \$40 and 30 days in jail.

WARREN advised that he had no arrest record for JAKE DAVIS.

He advised that the arrest of CURTIS HARRIS was made by FRANK DeLAUGHTER of his department at the request of the Concordia Parish Sheriff's Department, and he had no records of the case or the arrest.

7/31/62 at Ferriday, Louisiana File # NO 44-1585

SAS GEORGE A. GUNTER & CHARLES DONALD Date dictated 8/1/62
BYRON /scw

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority: 28 CFR 1.55

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 8/6/62

ALBERTA HENDERSON, 705 Alabama Avenue, advised that she went to the Parish Jail at Vidalia, Louisiana, sometime during the spring of 1962 to see her husband, WILBUR HENDERSON, who was charged with burglary. She said at that time that HENDERSON did not mention to her anything about being beaten by any officers and that she saw no signs of a beating on HENDERSON. She said she took some dirty clothes of HENDERSON's to wash, consisting of pants and shirt. She stated that neither of these garments had any stains on them resembling blood stains, and that she had no previous information that HENDERSON or either of the other persons involved in the burglary with him was beaten until she was questioned about it on this date.

WILBUR HENDERSON stated that she was married by Thelma, wife the wife of WILBUR HENDERSON, and was in the Parish Jail, and did not know if HENDERSON had been hit and how serious the wound he told his wife.

8/31/62 at Ferriday, Louisiana File # NO 44-1585

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

FD-302 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 8/6/62

NELLIE HARRIS, P. O. Box 365, advised that she is a sister of CURTIS HARRIS, who was arrested and placed in the Concordia Parish Jail at Vidalia, Louisiana, some time in March, 1962. She advised that she visited CURTIS HARRIS at the Vidalia jail on the Saturday before the Monday when CURTIS was sentenced. She said that CURTIS was charged with Burglary, along with two other persons. She advised that she talked to CURTIS during her visit through the bars of his cell and that CURTIS told her at that time that the "Laws" had beaten him and kicked him earlier that week, and that they had hurt his back. She said that he did not tell her who had beaten him; and she could see no signs of any beating, but did not see him without his clothes. She stated that she took dirty clothes of CURTIS, consisting of a shirt, undershirt, and shorts to wash for him. She advised that the shorts had spots on them in the seat which she was sure was blood, but the other garments were not spotted. She said that she took the shorts and washed them and soaked them in Clorox to get the stains out.

NELLIE HARRIS stated that she visited at Vidalia with the wife of WILBUR HENDERSON, who was in another cell, and did not know if HENDERSON had sent out any clothes or what he told his wife.

7/31/62 at Clayton, Louisiana File # NO 44-158

W. L. ...
Authority: 17 CFR 1.101

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 8/6/62

WILLIE CONNER, 215 Alabama Avenue, Ferriday, Louisiana, furnished the following voluntary information after being advised that he need not make any statement and that information furnished might be used in court.

He was in the Concordia Parish Jail about one month before **CURTIS HARRIS** was arrested and placed in the same cell with him. He remained in the cell with **HARRIS** for four or five days. The same night **HARRIS** was put in the cell, **HARRIS** was taken from the cell by jailer **CLARK** and Deputy **IKE**. After about 30 minutes, **HARRIS** was brought back to the cell at which time **HARRIS** stated to him that he was beaten by **IKE**, **FRANK DeLAUGHTER** and **BILL OGDEN**, who had used a leather belt on him in an effort to make him confess to breaking into a store. **HARRIS'** trousers were torn on his return to the cell, and the next day, **HARRIS** showed him his shorts which had about five spots that looked like dried blood. He saw no marks on **HARRIS**, but did not look at his bare skin.

Two other prisoners in the same cell with **HARRIS** and **CONNER** were **EMMETT MARTIN** of Ferriday, Louisiana, and **THOMAS ALLEN**, who is not known to reside in or around Concordia Parish

CONNER declined to furnish a signed statement.

near the end of ...
Mr. MARTIN, was moved to another cell and placed in the cell with JAMES DAVID and ...

MARTIN declined to furnish a signed statement.

Date 4/8/68

HENRY MARTIN, 700 South Sixth Street, Ferriday, Louisiana, furnished the following voluntary information after being advised that he need not make any statement and that information furnished might be used in court.

He was arrested for non-support about three or four days before the arrest of **CURTIS HARRIS** and was in the Concordia Parish Jail when **HARRIS** was brought in. **HARRIS** was taken out of the cell in which he was placed with **MARTIN** and taken downstairs for questioning. **HARRIS** remained out of the cell for forty or fifty minutes and then returned to the cell limping. **HARRIS** stated that he had been whipped and **MARTIN** observed **HARRIS**' skin on his backside from his waist to his knees and noticed that the skin was drawn tight and was swollen. No signs of bleeding were present except for several spots of blood on **HARRIS**' shorts. **MARTIN** stated that when **HARRIS** was returned to the cell, his, **HARRIS**' trousers were torn in several places and that these torn places were not in the trousers when **HARRIS** was taken from the cell. He stated that **HARRIS** told him that the officers took turns whipping him.

He stated that the above incident took place near the end of March, 1962, and that several days later, he, **MARTIN**, was moved to another cell and placed in this cell with **JAKE DAVIS** and **WILBUR HENDERSON**.

MARTIN declined to furnish a signed statement.

62 at Ferriday, Louisiana

File # 44-1585

A's CHARLES DONALD BYRON
GEORGE A. GUNTER/cv

Date dictated 8/1/68

Date 8/6/62

DAVE MILTON, Negro male, was interviewed at the Louisiana State Penitentiary where he is an inmate, and he furnished the following quoted signed statement, the original of which is being maintained in the files of the New Orleans Division of the FBI.

"Angola, La.
August 3, 1962

"I, Dave Milton, make the following voluntary statement to Carlyle N. Reed and Conrad J. Janish who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I am 50 years of age, have had a third grade education and my permanent residence is Vidalia, Louisiana. I am presently serving a five year sentence in Angola, Louisiana State Penitentiary, on a charge of manslaughter for shooting and killing a man in 1931. For 23 years immediately prior to being sentenced to the Penitentiary I was a mental patient at the East Louisiana State Hospital, Jackson, Louisiana, except for about three months that I was held at the Concordia Parish Jail until being sentenced on April 6, 1962, to the Penitentiary. I don't know the exact diagnosis for my mental condition except to say that I was given electric shock treatments.

"I was sentenced and was in court at Vidalia, Louisiana, the same day that Curtis Harris was sentenced. I remember that Harris was arrested on a Friday nite, one week before he was sentenced on April 6, 1962, and we shared the same cell all the time that Harris was in the Concordia Parish Jail waiting to appear in court.

"On Saturday night, one day after Harris was put in my cell, the jailer, Mr. Clark came and

8/3/62 at Angola, Louisiana File # 44-1585
by 's CARLYLE N. REED
CONRAD J. JANISH/cv Date dictated 8/3/62

got Harris out of the cell and brought him back about 30 minutes later. I don't personally know where the jailer took Harris and saw no one with the jailer other than Harris.

"When Curtis Harris returned to the cell that night he said "they whipped me" and then walked the floor until I went to sleep. The next morning Harris told me, Joe, whose last name I do not know, and Willie Coner, who were also assigned to this same cell, that "they" made him lay on a table on his stomach, held his body down and beat him with something. Harris didn't say how many officers beat him or helped beat him. Harris mentioned the names of three or four officers who beat him and of the names mentioned I can only recall the name "Mr. Bill" as one of them. Harris did not mention the jailer, Mr. Clark, as one of them.

"That same morning Harris showed us the scars and marks on the back of the upper portion of his legs. There were possibly as many as 75 such scars, marks or bruises. There had been bleeding which had scabbed over. His neck was swollen and Harris said this was caused from being choked by the officers. There was blood on his undershorts and pants and his pants were torn. Harris still felt sore from the beating when he was sentenced on April 6, 1962. To my knowledge a doctor did not visit him in the Concordia Parish Jail.

"Harris said he was beaten to try to get him to confess to a breaking and entering and claimed that although he was present at this particular breaking and entering, he did not do either and had stayed on the outside.

"This statement in the handwriting of Agent Reed and consisting of five pages has been read to me by Agent Reed and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have initialed the first four pages and any corrections.

"/s/Dave Milton

Date 8/4/62

A review of the records, Clerk of Court's Office, Concordia Parish Judicial District, Louisiana, revealed the following information:

M. S. BERRY appeared before IMA METCALFE, Justice of the Peace, Concordia Parish, Louisiana, on March 30, 1962 and charged JAKE DAVIS with breaking and entering on March 9, 1962. This information appeared on an affidavit and writ of arrest, Docket Number 9330.

M. L. KEATLEY appeared before IMA METCALFE, Justice of the Peace, Concordia Parish, Louisiana, on March 30, 1962 and charged CURTIS HARRIS and WILBUR HENDERSON with breaking and entering on March 9, 1962. This information appeared on affidavits and writs of arrest, numbered 9333 and 9334, respectively.

ROY S. HALCOMB, Assistant District Attorney, Seventh Judicial District, Concordia Parish, Louisiana, informed in court on April 6, 1962, that JAKE DAVIS, CURTIS HARRIS, and WILBUR HENDERSON did on or about the ninth of March, 1962, unlawfully commit simple burglary of a store building belonging to one JOHN DAVIS. This information was filed on April 6, 1962.

The Criminal Docket of the Clerk of Court's Office dated April 6, 1962, reflected that CURTIS HARRIS, Number 9333, WILBUR HENDERSON, Number 9334, and JAKE DAVIS, Number 9335, entered pleas of guilty to the charge of simple burglary and that HENDERSON and HARRIS received a sentence of seven years each and that DAVIS received a sentence of three years.

7/31/62 at Vidalia, Louisiana

File # 44-1585

SA's CHARLES DONALD BYRON
GEORGE A. GUNTER/cv

Date dictated 7/31/62

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/5/58

ERNEST CLARK, Jailer, Concordia Parish Jail, Vidalia, Louisiana, furnished the following information:

A short time after CURTIS HARRIS was put in jail, both HARRIS and WILBUR HENDERSON were taken one at a time down to the Sheriff's Office for questioning. Each prisoner stayed downstairs for about thirty or forty minutes when they were brought back up to their cells. HENDERSON was the first man questioned and HARRIS was taken down after HENDERSON was returned to his cell.

He was not present during the questioning but merely took the prisoners out of their cells and returned them to the cells after the questioning.

Neither HARRIS or HENDERSON made any complaint to him about being whipped nor did either man ask for a doctor or for attention. Neither man showed any signs of being mistreated during the time that they were downstairs for questioning nor did he have any knowledge that they were whipped as alleged.

CLARK declined to furnish a signed statement.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/6/62

ROY MALCOMB, Assistant District Attorney, advised that he had no information that either CURTIS HARRIS or WILBUR HENDERSON was beaten by officers at the Concordia Parish Jail, Vidalia, Louisiana, prior to the time they were sentenced for Simple Burglary in early April, 1962. He said that he had talked privately with each of these men before they were taken into court and that neither made any complaint to him about being beaten nor showed any visible signs of a beating. He stated that each one told him he desired to plead guilty to the charges, which they did later on the same day he had conferred with them, and they were sentenced to the Louisiana State Penitentiary.

Mr. MALCOMB advised that he had no file on the burglary in his office, and the only records he knew to exist were in the office of the Clerk of Court, Vidalia, Louisiana.

ROY GEORGE BARLOW, Chief Deputy Sheriff, Concordia Parish, Louisiana, was interviewed and was advised he was not obligated to answer questions, that any information he furnished might be used in court against him, and that he had the right to an attorney before answering any questions.

BARLOW advised that his department, during the spring of 1962, was investigating the burglary of a store at Wildsville, Louisiana. He advised he had made some plaster casts of footprints found at the scene of this burglary which he was keeping until suspects were developed. He said that some of the officers interested in this burglary got a tip that CURTIS HARRIS, known to be a burglar who had been released from the Federal Prison for Post Office Burglary in early 1962, and WILBUR HENDERSON, a relative of HARRIS', had not been working and had possession of burglar's tools. He stated that both HARRIS and HENDERSON were arrested in Ferriday, Louisiana, by some of the officers working on the case and were brought to the Parish Jail in Vidalia, Louisiana. He said he was notified and participated in the questioning of HARRIS and HENDERSON in connection with the Wildsville burglary.

BARLOW advised that he, IKE COWEN, and BILL OGDEN, other members of his department, had requested that Jailer ERNEST CLARK bring HENDERSON down to the Sheriff's Office on the first floor of the court house. He said he believed that FRANK DELAUGHTER and JUNIOR HARP, members of the Ferriday, Louisiana Police Department were also present but took no part in the interrogation. He advised that HENDERSON, when confronted with the plaster cast which had been obtained at Wildsville, admitted his participation in the Wildsville burglary and had implicated CURTIS HARRIS and JAKE DAVIS. He estimated that HENDERSON was questioned for only about thirty to thirty-five minutes, and was then taken back upstairs to the jail and HARRIS was brought

at Vidalia, Louisiana File # NO 44-1585

IRGE A. GUNTER & CHARLES DONALD Date dictated 8/2/62
BYRON /bal

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down. He said HARRIS was questioned for about the same length of time and would not admit being involved in the burglary and was then placed back in jail.

BARLOW advised that neither HENDERSON or HARRIS was beaten, kicked, or otherwise abused by him or any of the other officers present when they were interviewed.

BARLOW's description, obtained during interview, is:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	56
Born	10/23/05, L'Abadieville, Louisiana
Height	5'11"
Weight	245
Hair	Black (graying), curly
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy
Build	Heavy
Residence	Vidalia, Louisiana

BARLOW declined to furnish a signed statement.

Date 8/6/62

WILLIAM HOWARD OGDEN, Deputy Sheriff, Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office, Vidalia, Louisiana, furnished the following voluntary information after being advised that he was speaking to Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, that he need not make any statement, that any statement that he did make could be used against him in a court of law and that he had the right to an attorney. No threats or promises were made to induce him to make a statement:

He and FRANK DELAUGHTER arrested CURTIS HARRIS and WILBUR HENDERSON one evening in March, 1962 after receiving a tip from an informant that HARRIS was bragging that he could show other men how to get money without working for it. HARRIS was arrested at a bar and taken to a house where HARRIS and HENDERSON were living. HENDERSON gave the officers permission to search the house and car, which they did. A complete set of burglary tools were found in the car as was a .22 caliber rifle. HENDERSON stated that the rifle was his but that the tools belonged to HARRIS. HENDERSON was also arrested and both men were taken to the Ferriday Police Department jail where they were later transferred to the Concordia Parish Jail at Vidalia, Louisiana. The two men were put in separate cells. He believed that the next day, HENDERSON was brought downstairs to the Sheriff's Office where he was questioned. HENDERSON was confronted with a cast of a shoe print made at the scene of the burglary which matched the shoe that HENDERSON was still wearing when arrested. HENDERSON then admitted his part in the burglary and said that HARRIS and JAKE DAVIS also participated in the burglary. HENDERSON was questioned for about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour. When HENDERSON was returned to his cell, HARRIS was brought down for questioning. HARRIS was interviewed for about 30 - 45 minutes and would not admit his part in the burglary

at Vidalia, Louisiana File # NO 44-1585

LES DONALD BYRON & GEORGE A. GUNTER /dal Date dictated 8/2/62

HARRIS was then taken back to his cell. Neither HARRIS nor HENDERSON were whipped or mistreated in any way during the questioning.

He believed that he helped in the questioning along with ROY BARLOW and IKE COWEN, JR., JUNIOR HARP and FRANK DELAUGHTER who were the only others present at the questioning.

OGDEN declined to furnish a signed statement.

The following description was obtained by observation and interview:

Name	WILLIAM HOWARD OGDEN
Address	Doty Road, Ferriday,
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	48
Date of birth	10/18/13, Franklin Parish, Louisiana
Height	5'9"
Weight	152 lbs.
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Sandy
Complexion	Ruddy
	Missing right index finger
Marital status	Married, one daughter

8/2/62

ISAAC COWEN, JR., better known as **THE COWAN**, was interviewed and advised that he was not compelled to answer questions, that any information he furnished might be used in court against him, and that he had the right to an attorney before furnishing information.

COWEN stated that after the burglary of a store at Wildsville, Louisiana, sometime in the spring 1962, he received a tip from an informant who operates a bar in Ferriday, Louisiana, that **CURTIS HARRIS** and **WILBUR HENDERSON** were not working and were running around together and always had money to spend. He said this source told him that **HARRIS** had remarked that he did not have to work and was able to make a living without working. The source also told him that **HENDERSON** and **HARRIS** had burglar's tools in the car they were using. He said on the basis of this information, all officers in the Ferriday, Louisiana, area were requested to be on the alert to locate **HARRIS** and **HENDERSON** as burglary suspects. He said that Deputy Sheriff **BILL OGDEN** and Ferriday Police Officer, **FRANK DELAUGHTER** checked the car being used by **HENDERSON**, with **HENDERSON's** consent, and found burglar's tools which he claimed belonged to **HARRIS**.

COWEN advised that both **HARRIS** and **HENDERSON** were arrested at Ferriday during the latter part of March 1962 and were brought to the Parish Jail at Vidalia, Louisiana. He said the night they were put in jail, he, along with other interested officers, came to Vidalia and Jailer **ERNEST CLARK** brought **HENDERSON** from the jail on the fourth floor of the Parish Court House to the Sheriff's Office on the first floor. He advised that **HENDERSON** was questioned by him, Deputy Sheriff **BILL OGDEN**, and Chief Deputy Sheriff **ROY BARLOW**. He advised that after **HENDERSON's** shoes were compared with a plaster cast of a footprint obtained at the scene of the burglary at Wildsville, Louisiana,

8/62 at Vidalia, Louisiana File # NO 44-1585

ERGE A. GUNTER & SA CHARLES DONALD BYRON Date dictated 8/2/62
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by Deputy BARLOW, he admitted his part in this burglary and implicated JAKE DAVIS and CURTIS HARRIS. He said that after about thirty minutes, HENDERSON was taken back to the jail and HARRIS was brought down and questioned for about thirty minutes by the same officers who had questioned HENDERSON. He said that HARRIS never did admit any participation in the Wildsville burglary and was then taken back to the jail.

COWEN advised that also present during at least part of the questioning but not taking part in the interrogation, were Ferriday Police Officers JUNIOR HARP and FRANK DELAUGHTER but that no one else was present. He advised that both HARRIS and HENDERSON were questioned briefly later just prior to court by Assistant District Attorney ROY MALCOMB, who is tall, graying, and appears about forty years of age.

COWEN advised that he did not strike either HARRIS or HENDERSON and that no one else struck them, pointed a gun at them, or otherwise abused them when they were interviewed. He said he felt that a strong case had been built against both HARRIS and HENDERSON without any type of forced confession, and stated that both had pled guilty in open court when brought before Judge JESSE MC GEE in District Court.

Description of COWEN, obtained during interview, is:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	35
Date of birth	10/4/26, Concordia, Parish, Louisiana

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Height	5'7½"
Weight	200
Build	Heavy
Hair	Dark brown
Eyes	Gray
Complexion	Ruddy
Occupation	Deputy Sheriff, Concordia Parish, Louisiana
Marital status	Married, four children
Residence	115 Cowen Street, Cowen Sub-Division, Ferriday, Louisiana

COWEN declined to furnish a signed statement.

SHP said upon arriving in Niballa, he went to the Sheriff's Office on the first floor of the court house, and found that other officers were there questioning witnesses and others. He said he saw three officers, including one wearing NIBALLA and WOODRUFF'S name on their uniforms. He said that he did not recognize the names registered to either NIBALLA or WOODRUFF. He said that NIBALLA, when questioned with a witness, said that they were in the woods of the Bogalusa area, Louisiana, unaffiliated with the institution.

Date 8/6/62

WILLIAM HOWELL HARP, who is more commonly known as "JUNIOR" HARP, was interviewed on August 1, 1962. He was informed that he did not have to furnish information, that any information he furnished might be used in court against him, and that he had the right to an attorney before answering any questions.

HARP stated that he knows CURTIS HARRIS, JAKE DAVIS and WILBUR HENDERSON, all residents of Ferriday, Louisiana. He said that he recalled arresting HARRIS for Federal Authorities in 1960, and that HARRIS was later convicted for the Burglary of the Rhinehart, Louisiana Post Office, and served time in a Federal Prison. He said he knew from contacts with members of the Concordia Parish Sheriff's Department in the spring of 1962 that HARRIS was a suspect in the Burglary of a store at Wildsville, Louisiana, along with DAVIS and HENDERSON. He said he could not recall whether he participated in the arrest of HARRIS at Ferriday in March, 1962, or whether it was made by other officers. He said he did recall going to Vidalia, Louisiana, on the night after HARRIS was put in jail, he thought with Officer FRANK DELAUGHTER. He said he was interested in the solution of the burglary at Wildsville, Louisiana, and thought possibly the persons responsible for this might have committed some burglaries in Ferriday.

HARP said upon arriving in Vidalia, he went to the Sheriff's Office on the first floor of the court house, and found that other officers were there questioning HENDERSON and HARRIS. He said he saw these officers, identity not recalled, showing HARRIS and HENDERSON some plaster casts. He said that he did not participate in the interrogation of either HENDERSON or HARRIS. He said that HENDERSON, when confronted with a plaster cast said taken from the scene of the burglary at Wildsville, Louisiana, confessed that he was implicated

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GEORGE A. GUNTER & CHARLES DONALD BYRON /Bar dictated 8/1 /62

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in it. He said that HARRIS never did admit any implication in this burglary.

HARP advised that he stayed at the Sheriff's Office about 30 minutes before both HENDERSON and HARRIS were taken back upstairs to the jail. He stated that while he was present at the Sheriff's Office, no one struck either HARRIS or HENDERSON. He said he did not talk to HARRIS at all, did not point a gun at him and threaten him, and stated that he was not wearing a gun at all that night.

HARP's description, obtained during interview, is:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	31
Date & Place of birth	Born 11/13/30, LaSalle Parish, Louisiana
Height	5'11"
Weight	210
Hair	Medium brown
Eyes	Brown
Build	Stocky
Complexion	Ruddy
Residence	Above City Fire Station, Ferriday, Louisiana
Occupation	Police Patrolman, Ferriday, Louisiana, Police Department
Marital status	Married, 1 child
Military	U.S. Navy, 2/12/51 - 1/13/55

HARP declined to furnish a signed statement.

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Authority (E.O. 13526)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/6/62

FRANK EDWARD DELAUGHTER, Patrolman, Ferriday Police Department, Ferriday, Louisiana, furnished the following voluntary information after being advised that he was speaking to Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, that he need not make any statement, that any statement that he did make could be used against him in a court of law and that he had the right to an attorney. No threats or promises were made to induce him to make a statement.

He and **BILL OGDEN** received a tip about **CURTIS HARRIS** making the statement that he could show others how to get money without working and that they arrested **HARRIS** at a bar and then drove over to **WILBUR HENDERSON**'s house where both **HARRIS** and **HENDERSON** were living. He did not remember if they had a warrant for **HARRIS** and **HENDERSON** or not but stated that they both were suspects in the burglary of a store at Wildsville, Louisiana. A search of the car found at **HENDERSON**'s house disclosed a complete set of burglary tools in the trunk, which **HENDERSON** stated were **HARRIS**'s. A .22 caliber rifle belonging to **HENDERSON** was also found in the trunk. These tools were the type believed used on the burglary for which the men were arrested. **HENDERSON** stated that the officers could look through the house and car, which they did. Both men were arrested in late March, 1962 about 8:00 or 9:00 PM and taken to the Ferriday City Jail. That same night, the men were taken to the Concordia Parish Jail at Vidalia, Louisiana where they were placed in separate cells. **HENDERSON** was brought downstairs and questioned first and admitted his part in the burglary when confronted with a cast of a shoe print made at the scene of the burglary which matched the shoe **HENDERSON** was wearing when questioned. **HENDERSON** also stated that **CURTIS HARRIS** and **JAKE DAVIS** were in on the job. **HENDERSON** was questioned about 20 minutes and **HARRIS** was then brought down and questioned for 30 - 45 minutes. **HARRIS** would

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LES DONALD BYRON & GEORGE A. Date dictated 8/2/62

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not admit any part in the burglary and was returned to his cell. ERNEST CLARK took the men to and from their cells but was not present during the questioning. BOY BARLOW, IKE COWEN, JR. and BILL OGDEN did the questioning in his presence. JUNIOR HARP may also have been present. Neither HARRIS nor HENDERSON were whipped or mistreated in any way and DELAUGHTER stated that he could not remember anyone having a gun with them during the questioning.

DELAUGHTER declined to furnish a signed statement.

The following description was obtained by observation and interview:

Name	FRANK EDWARD DELAUGHTER
Address	711 Texas, Ferriday, La.
Sex	Male
Race	White
Age	35
Date & Place of birth	7/4/27, Brookhaven, Miss.
Height	6'4"
Weight	265
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Occupation	Police officer and deputy sheriff

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July 12, 1962

United States Justice Department
Federal Building
New Orleans, Louisiana



Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter to you to consider my case. I was arrested on Tuesday, Louisiana in 1962. It had been three six weeks with a clean mind and heart, winning my own business. On March the twenty-ninth I was invited to a birthday party by a friend; while I was at the party waiting until the other guest arrive - the police walked in and asked me what is my name I told them Curtis Harris and they replied were looking for me. They told me to come with them and so I did. The officer searched me but he did not show me a warrant for my arrest. I was taken to the car; the officer asked me questions about a place that happens in

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I did not know anything of what
they were talking about. The
officer asked me where did I live?
I told him I was residing with
grandmother in Ferriday Louisiana.
They took me to my grandmother's
home - they searched the yard &
tells before they got to the
house. I was locked to the
cross-bar inside the car. They
entered the house and came
back to the car with my over-
night bag. My grandmother
wanted to know where was
the warrant to come into her
home searching & discomfiting
her. They gave her no explana-
tion. They carried me over to
Concordia Parish Jail. All of
this happened on March 29, 1962.
I was then locked in jail.
The next morning they brought
me down stairs and asked was
I ready to tell them the truth.
I told them again I am not
familiar with any of their questions.
Clementine, Friday night

They called me by my cell
and he was sitting
all them about the fire
before I got my heat
I said I had some questions
similar with these questions.
They told me to pull my
pants down and get off the
table, so I did. They beat me
almost lifeless. The first
two beat me simultaneously
they got tired and two more
beat me till they gave out.
They took coffee breaks. The
jailer Mr. Clark brought the
coffee down to them, and
when they got through drinking
their coffee two more came
and one asked the other do you
think you can make him do
the twist? I dont no but
I'm garr to try. When they
finished on me I had a severe
fever. They told me if I do
not plead guilty they would kill
me. So I thought it would be better
for me to live longer by pleading guilty.

I had not yet a lawyer
they did not get any kind of money
I saw I am serving a term
of seven years in Arizona
prison for simple burglary
charges. I was sentenced
before Judge "M." Lee in
Wickenburg Arizona. On March
the 30th the original warrants
were apprehended.

Thanking you in advance
for your kind consideration.

Respectfully yours,
C. L. Harris



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana
July 27, 1962

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS, OFFICERS,
FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA, POLICE DEPARTMENT;
C. L. HARRIS - VICTIM

Attached hereto is a Photostat of a letter from
C. L. Harris in which he alleged he was beaten by officers
of the Ferriday Police Department, Ferriday, Louisiana.

Enclosure

This document contains neither re-
commendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of the FBI
and is loaned to your agency; it and
its contents are not to be distribut-
ed outside your agency.

ENCLOSURE

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