

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE  
**NEW ORLEANS**

OFFICE OF ORIGIN  
**NEW ORLEANS**

DATE  
**12/20/67**

INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD  
**11/20/67 - 12/15/67**

TYPED BY  
**jdh**

TITLE OF CASE  
**UNSUBS; JOSEPH EDWARDS, aka  
Joe Edwards - VICTIM 3)**

REPORT MADE BY  
**SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN**

CHARACTER OF CASE  
**CR**

*Lucy*

REFERENCE:

Report of SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN 12/7/67 at New Orleans  
- P -

LEADS:

JACKSON

AT NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

RECEIVED  
DEC 19 1967

DEC 19 1967

*a*  
**EXHIBIT PROC 35**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED				NONE		ACQUIT-TALS
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES	

Case has been: Pending over one year  Yes  No; Pending prosecution over six months  Yes  No

APPROVED

COPIES MADE:

- 2 - Bureau (44-26064)
- 1 - USA, Shreveport
- 3 - Jackson (44-65)  
(1 - 44-2044)
- 2 - New Orleans (44-2293)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

**44-26064-27** REC 5

DEC 29 1967

DEC 29

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	CRD		
Request Recd.			
Date Fwd.	12/27/67		
How Fwd.	604-B		
By	5 SAAN - 1968		

Notations  
CIA RIGHTS

*mc*

SIX STATE SECT.



NO 44-2293

1. Coordinate instant investigation with WHARBOM.
2. Continue contacts with logical informants.

NEW ORLEANS

AT DEER PARK, LOUISIANA

Continue appropriate inquiries to determine when water reaches low level for further consideration of underwater exploration for skeletal remains of victim.

AT FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA

1. Will interview JESSE ANDERSON, close friend of JOE EDWARDS for any information concerning identities of white girls with whom victim reportedly involved.
2. Contact logical informants for any indication of Deputy Sheriff WILLIAM OGDEN'S involvement in disappearance of victim.

AT NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA

Contact JOHN MITCHELL, JR., Post Office Box 322, Weeks Island, La., with business address 1305 Center Street, New Iberia, La, and examine his 1964 white Oldsmobile which was formerly a Vidalia police car and possibly the car which stopped victim's car at site where it was abandoned. Examine vehicle to determine former locations of two whip antennas on trunk area and top of vehicle for possible evidence of emergency light tower installation.

Photograph rear and left side of car to exhibit to witness of incident.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

All persons contacted during the course of this investigation were advised that the inquiry was being made at the specific request of the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.

B  
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NO 44-2293

This investigation is being coordinated with Bureau Special WHARBOM at Natchez, Miss.

The investigative period of this report overlaps the period of the referenced report in that some of the FD-302's were not available at the Natchez Resident Agency at the time of the preparation of the referenced report.

Only one Agent conducted some of the interviews because another Agent was not available for expeditious handling.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

INFORMANTS:

[redacted] advised SA DIVEN on 12/6/67 that he had developed no information concerning the disappearance of JOSEPH EDWARDS.

On 11/20/67 [redacted] advised SA THOMPSON BERRY WEBB that E. D. MORACE, a member of the Silver Dollar Group said that "they" were working hard for candidate NOAH CROSS for Sheriff in Concordia Parish. MORACE said that there have been about 5 Negroes who disappeared in the parish, and thanks to CROSS, nothing had been heard about the Negroes.

C\*  
(COVER PAGE)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: USA, SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

Office: NEW ORLEANS

Report of: SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN  
Date: December 21, 1967

Bureau File #: 44-26064

Field Office File #: NO 44-2293

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
JOSEPH EDWARDS - VICTIM

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis: CLYDE HUBERT RUSHING advised that he made arrangements with Negro porter at Shamrock Motel to obtain prostitution dates for Mrs. RUSHING, during 1964. FRANK DAVIS advised that victim told of two white girls whom victim believed would be receptive to him. Commercial fisherman described scene where he found flesh during October, 1964. KENNETH NORMAN HEAD, Deputy Sheriff WILLIAM HOWARD OGDEN, and RALEIGH JACKSON GLOVER denied any participation in disappearance of victim.

- P -

DETAILS:



NO 44-2293  
JN 44-65

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NO 44-2293  
JN 44-65

I. INVESTIGATION CONCERNING JOSEPH  
EDWARDS' ACTIVITIES.



Date 12/19/67

Mrs. MARSHALL MARTIN, who admittedly uses her maiden name, MAMIE THAMES, when working at motels and restaurants, was contacted at her residence, 515 Penick Street, Pineville, Louisiana.

After being apprised of the official nature of the contact, she advised as follows:

She was employed at the Shamrock Motel, Vidalia, Louisiana, for a short time ending just before school was out in the Spring of 1963. At that time, there was an elderly Negro porter, name unrecalled, employed there. She advised that the only registration clerks she could recall were VERA POWELL, CLARA DUNLAP, and a male night clerk, name unknown, who had portions of fingers on one hand missing.

She further stated that JOSEPH EDWARDS, as well as KENNETH NORMAN HEAD, HOMER "BUCK" HORTON, and RALEIGH J. "RED" GLOVER were unknown to her. She advised after viewing a photograph of JAMES GOSS, that he was unknown to her. Neither was she acquainted with any registration clerk by the name of IONA PERRY, who wore braces on her legs.

Mrs. MARTIN admitted having a personal dislike for a female registration clerk who claimed not to be part Negro. MARTIN said she requested a trustworthy deputy sheriff for Adams County, Mississippi, to ascertain whether her suspicions about this registration clerk were correct. When it was verified that this clerk had about ten children, half of whom were Negroes, she informed MIKE MC DONOUGH, the motel owner, of this fact. MARTIN said she quit her position when MC DONOUGH accused her of fabricating this allegation.

On 12/7/67 at ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA File # New Orleans 44-2293  
 SA HENRY B. BRITTON, III and Jackson 44-65  
 by SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN MDD/jdh Date dictated 12/13/67

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NO 44-2293  
JN 44-65

She stated that she did not compromise JOSEPH EDWARDS and she was unable to suggest anyone at the Shamrock who was capable of setting up EDWARDS for a date in order to trap him for punishment at the hands of racists. She stated that she knew of no members of a Klan-type organization.



Natchez. She has since remarried. Her former husband, CHARLES POWELL, works for the Holsum bread company in Natchez and he lives in a trailer (location unknown).

DORIS (last name unknown) - She was a waitress, had red hair, and her husband was in the service. She had three children. On one occasion, she disappeared for a month and it was later learned that she had gone to Lafayette, Louisiana, with some other man. Her sister works at the C & G Grocery in Vidalia, Louisiana.

DIANNE (last name unknown) - She worked at the switchboard in the coffee shop and helped out at the bar. She was formerly of Jonesville, Louisiana, and presently works as a telephone operator in Natchez, Mississippi.

JOANN CROSS - She worked as a bookkeeper. Her husband is J. B. CROSS, 908 Corridor Street, Vidalia, Louisiana, telephone 336-5779.

WILEY BROWNE - He worked as a bookkeeper. He lives at 503 North Pearl Street, Natchez, Mississippi.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/17/67

Mr. EDDIE B. KIMBLE, 715 Smith Lane, Natchez Mississippi, advised that he was formerly a porter at the Shamrock Motor Motel in Vidalia, Louisiana, but was not working at the motel at the time of the disappearance of JOSEPH EDWARDS, a colored porter who disappeared from the Shamrock Motor Motel during the Summer of 1965.

He said to the best of his knowledge, JOSEPH EDWARDS prior to his employment with the Shamrock Motor Motel, worked as a porter for the Albert Pick Motel in Natchez, Mississippi, and resided on Homochitto Street in Natchez.

KIMBLE stated he heard of EDWARDS' disappearance, but later heard EDWARDS had been located in jail in Vidalia, Louisiana. He stated he could not recall the source from whom he received his information.

On 8/14/67 at Natchez, Mississippi File # New Orleans 44-2293  
Jackson 44-2044  
Jackson 44-65  
 by SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN /jls Date dictated 8/15/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/23/67

FRED L. SCHIELE, Partner, Murray, Nichols, and Schiele, 309 Texas Street, advised that his firm is the insurance agency carrying public liability coverage for the Shamrock Motel, Vidalia, Louisiana. During 1964, this coverage for the Shamrock Motel was placed with the South Carolina Insurance Company through the Agency Management Corporation, Florida Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

On June 27, 1964, a child, DAVID ANTHONY DODD, was drowned in a swimming pool at the Shamrock Motel. The parents of the child were L. B. DODD, Jr. and LAURA PHILLIPS DODD. At the time of the claim, the child's mother was married to HUBERT RUSHING, Route 1, Box 593, Yuma, Arizona.

Mr. SCHIELE stated that his files contained no other record of this matter other than the settlement check paid to the Laird Funeral Home, Natchez, Mississippi. He stated that the settlement was handled by the General Adjustment Bureau, now located in the Lewis Shopping Center, Natchez, Mississippi.

On 8/22/67 at Vidalia, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293 Jackson 44-65  
 by SAs MERRIMAN D. DIVEN and GEORGE F. BENZ /MDD:jls Date dictated 8/23/67

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NO 44-2293

C. MEDICAL RECORDS CONCERNING EDWARDS



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/22/67

ROBERT WESLEY EASLEY, Administrator, Jefferson Davis Hospital, made a search of the In Patient Records of that hospital without locating any record for JOSEPH EDWARDS.

EASLEY advised that the Emergency Room Records of the Jefferson Davis Hospital contained the following information:

Record Number 10057 shows that JOE EDWARDS, Box 53, Clayton, Louisiana, then 23 years of age, was treated by Dr. BENOIST on May 16, 1963 at 6:45 PM. This record shows that the patient was discharged.

Record Number 13092 shows that one JOE EDWARD, Clayton, Louisiana, was examined by a Dr. BENOIST at 2:30 AM on February 17, 1964. The diagnosis was shown as apparent Psychoneurosis. He was referred to Charity Hospital and discharged from Jefferson Davis Hospital.

Record shows that patient number 905396 is one JOE EDWARDS, 52 Oak Street, Natchez, Mississippi, then age 23 years, with telephone number 9448, and worked for the Albert Pick Motel. He was given medication, N A Luminal G R.  $\frac{11}{11} + M$ .

He was treated by Dr. HENDERSON and advised to go to Dr. AMIS' office on April 18, 1964. EDWARDS card also had the notations: 98.2, 80, 20, and 140  
80.

Mr. EASLEY advised that he had no other information identifiable with JOE EDWARDS.

On 8/16/67 at Natchez, Mississippi File # New Orleans 44-2293  
Jackson 44-65  
by SA GEORGE F. BENZ and  
SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN /MDD:jls Date dictated 8/22/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 23, 1967

Doctor E. L. MC AMIS, 103 Main Street, Natchez, Mississippi, advised that he has made a thorough search of the files of his office without finding any record pertaining to JOSEPH or JOE EDWARDS.

With regard to the emergency room treatment at the Jefferson Davis Hospital on April 16, 1964, by Doctor HENDERSON indicating that the patient was furnished sodium luminal and advised to go to Doctor MC AMIS on April 18, 1964, Doctor MC AMIS stated as follows.

Sodium luminal is given to patients for nausea or tension. It is not a pain killer and would not be given to the patient for any bone fractures. Apparently, the patient felt better and decided not to follow Doctor HENDERSON's advice to see Doctor MC AMIS on April 18, 1967, as there is no record of such a visit.

On 8/21/67 at Natchez, Mississippi File # New Orleans 44-2293  
Jackson 44-65  
 by SA GEORGE F. BENZ  
SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN MDD/blw Date dictated 8/22/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 23, 1967

ELIZABETH SCARBOROUGH, Credit Manager, Busch Kredit Jewelers, 526 Franklin Street, was contacted and advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents. She provided the following information.

SCARBOROUGH advised that Account No. 11342 is under the name JOE EDWARDS, JR., Social Security Number 433-58-3217, Box 53, Clayton, Louisiana; sister - AUDREY LEE; aunt - LAURA THOMAS; grandmother - FANNIE MARTIN; parent - BERNICE CONNER, 52 East Oak Street, Natchez. It indicates that EDWARDS purchased a yellow gold men's Sanford wristwatch (an item sold exclusively in Busch stores) for \$45.49 on May 2, 1959. It also indicates that EDWARDS purchased a Polaroid Land camera on June 8, 1959.

On June 13, 1961, the account was turned over to Judge LUSCOMBE for collection. As of this date, \$103 plus interest is yet unpaid.

On 8/21/67 at Natchez, Mississippi File # New Orleans 44-2293  
Jackson 44-65  
by SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN  
SA GEORGE F. BENZ GFB/blw Date dictated 8/21/67

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E. PURCHASE AND ABANDONMENT OF  
EDWARDS' AUTOMOBILE

55

NW#: 9008

DocId: 59168578



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/29/67

BARBARA WILCOXSON, Bookkeeper, Purvis Pontiac-Buick-Rambler, Inc., Ferriday, Louisiana, advised that the records of her office show that JOE EDWARDS, Box 53, Clayton, Louisiana, purchased a 1958 Buick, Serial Number 5E6018081, from that company on July 6, 1964. This vehicle was further described as a used car, four-door Sedan, eight cylinder Buick. The amount of the sale was \$495, and was financed through the General Motors Acceptance Corporation, Alexandria, Louisiana.

This vehicle was sold to EDWARDS by their former salesman, FRED GRADES who is currently operating White's Appliance Store, Ferriday, Louisiana.

Mrs. WILCOXSON advised that her records show that this vehicle was again sold by their company on January 20, 1965, for \$150 cash to Mrs. JOHN LEWIS, Ferriday, Louisiana.

On 8/23/67 at Ferriday, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293  
Jackson 44-65  
 by SAs GEORGE F. BENZ and  
MERRIMAN D. DIVEN /MDD:jls Date dictated 8/26/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/29/67

FLOYD BUFORD, 720 6th Street, Ferriday, Louisiana, Tow Truck Driver and Mechanic for Purvis Pontiac-Buick-Rambler, Inc., stated that he recalls towing a 1958 Buick which had been abandoned on the Vidalia--Ferriday Highway sometime during 1964. He stated that he recalled this vehicle because it was one sold by his company a short time prior, and recalls that it was later sold to JOHN LEWIS of Ferriday.

BUFORD stated that at the time he hooked his tow truck to the abandoned Buick, the highway had not been enlarged, and it was a single lane in each direction. He is of the opinion that the car was headed toward Ferriday, but he could not be absolutely certain of this fact. The car was not on the bowling alley parking lot, but was merely pulled off the side of the road. He does not recall the exact location of the car, nor whether it was in fact near the bowling alley.

He advised that to the best of his recollection, there were no broken windows on the car, all the tires were inflated, and he observed no blood in or on the vehicle. He made no attempt to determine whether the vehicle was in a running condition.

In order to prevent damage to the transmission, he towed the vehicle backwards. In order to prevent the front wheels from turning, the steering wheel was tied in the center with a rope.

BUFORD stated that JOSEPH EDWARDS is unknown to him and he has no information indicating the circumstances for the car being abandoned.

On 8/23/67 at Ferriday, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293  
Jackson 44-65  
 by SAs GEORGE F. BENZ and  
MERRIMAN D. DIVEN /MDD:jls Date dictated 8/26/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/29/67

DAVID HAMMETT, Route 1, Box 26, Ferriday, Louisiana, advised that his residence is the only one in the vicinity of Dixie Lanes, a bowling alley located on the Vidalia--Ferriday Highway.

He advised that JOSEPH EDWARDS is unknown to him. The only employee of the bowling alley known to him is PETE MORALES. He does not know who owns or operates the bowling alley. HAMMETT stated that MORALES is half Mexican and half Negro and resides across the railroad tracks a short distance from the bowling alley. He has no recollection of having observed any unusual activity in the bowling alley or on the parking lot, nor any abandoned white over green 1958 Buick towed away from the area during July, 1964.

On 8/23/67 at Ferriday, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293  
Jackson 44-65  
by SAs GEORGE F. BENZ and  
MERRIMAN D. DIVEN /MDD:jls Date dictated 8/26/67

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NO 44-2293

II. INVESTIGATION CONCERNING FLESH-LIKE  
MATTER FOUND IN WATER AT DEER PARK,  
LOUISIANA



NO 44-2293

A. INTERVIEWS OF LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/11/67

Sheriff RICHARD C. (J. Y.) MC GUFFEE, Catahoula Parish, Louisiana, advised that he had a vague recollection that soon after he took office as the sheriff in May, 1964, that someone brought some substance to the sheriff's office that this person had found while fishing.

Sheriff MC GUFFEE advised that there was no reason to believe that this suspect substance was anything but an animal carcass.

Sheriff MC GUFFEE said he was unable to locate any records pertaining to the incident and he had no recollection of the final disposition of the matter although he believes he referred the material or information to the Sheriff of Concordia Parish, which agency had jurisdiction over the area where the material was found.

Sheriff MC GUFFEE made available Deputy Sheriff SHELBY BEASLEY whom the sheriff indicated had personally handled the matter.

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On 8/10/67 at Harrisonburg, Louisiana File # Jackson 44-2044  
by SAs MERRIMAN D. DIVEN and  
GEORGE F. BENZ /MDD:jls Date dictated 8/11/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/22/67

A. J. GUYON advised that he was the former Chief Deputy, Catahoula Parish Sheriff's Office, from May 1, 1964, to January 31, 1967. He advised that he is currently a candidate for a parish elective office.

GUYON stated that he vaguely recalls information that someone brought something to the Sheriff's Office in Harrisonburg, Louisiana, which they suspected may be part of a body; however, he had no personal knowledge of this report. He stated he did not see the material, neither did he investigate the matter nor forward the material to the Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office.

GUYON suggested that the night Deputy Sheriff, SHELBY BEASLEY, may be the deputy who received the complaint.

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On 8/16/67 at Enterprise, Mississippi File # New Orleans 44-2293  
Jackson 44-65  
by SAs GEORGE F. BENZ and  
MERRIMAN D. DIVEN /MDD:jls Date dictated 8/21/67

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JN 44-2044

MDD/jls

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN on August 11, 1967, in Vidalia, Louisiana:

Deputy Sheriff WAYNETTA COCKRAN advised that the Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office had no record pertaining to any report from the Catahoula Parish Sheriff's Office sending matter suspected of being fleshlike to the Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office. Neither was she able to locate any record of this material being found by MILTON "ODIE" BOOTH nor an arrest of BOOTH on a charge of trespassing based on a complaint by "JUGHEAD" JONES.

Deputy Sheriff D. W. CLARK, Jailor of the Concordia Parish Jail, stated that he had no record pertaining to the arrest of MILTON "ODIE" BOOTH, but he recalled that about two or three years ago the sheriff and some deputies acted on a report of BOOTH's finding of this material, but apparently the investigation was concluded with negative results.

Deputy Clerk PATSY FUGLER, Clerk of Court, Concordia Parish, advised that she could find no record of the arrest of MILTON "ODIE" BOOTH either during 1962 or 1964. Miss FUGLER advised that while records were maintained by the former Clerk of the Court, no indexing of these records had been made prior to 1966.

WILLIAM L. KOERBER, Attorney, 309 Texas Street, advised that he has represented MILTON "ODIE" BOOTH in connection with numerous minor legal difficulties. KOERBER stated that there is a record showing a letter to "JUGHEAD" JONES making reference to an arrest of BOOTH on a charge of trespassing on October 5, 1962.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/11/67

MILTON BOOTH, generally known as "ODIE" BOOTH, was contacted at his place of business, a commercial fish store located under the bridge in Harrisonburg.

After being apprised of the identities of the Special Agents and the official nature of the contact, BOOTH advised as follows:

He, his brother (OTIS "TUCKER" BOOTH), JAMES WEEKS, and JESSIE WEEKS were dragging a fish seine across a body of water at Deer Park, Louisiana, which he refers to as Deer Park Lake, when the net became snagged on some large object. He was beginning to dive down and untangle the net when one of the other men gave the net a great tug. The object, believed by him to be a refrigerator or steel drum, apparently turned over and a large air bubble about four feet in diameter broke the surface. Large balls of material which appeared to be "dingy" or dark brown flesh surfaced with this bubble. Immediately a terrible sickening stench came from the area. He estimated that collectively this material would have weighed approximately eight pounds.

Since the net was free and the stench was so sickening, they moved from the area, but not before they took a sample of the "dingy" material. He later furnished this material to the sheriff's office located in his home town. BOOTH stated that he took this action because in his opinion the material was human flesh. He has not heard the results of the investigation, if any, of the material.

BOOTH stated that he would point out the spot where this incident took place as soon as he could deliver some fish to FRANK DE LAUGHTER's Chicken Shack Restaurant in Clayton, Louisiana.

On 8/10/67 at Harrisonburg and Deer Park, Louisiana File # Jackson 44-2044  
by SAs MERRIMAN D. DIVEN and GEORGE F. BENZ /MDD:jls Date dictated 8/11/67

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En route to Deer Park, Louisiana, BOOTH stated that he recalled that he discovered the material about one month after he was arrested for cutting a fence which blocked his usual path to the body of water in Deer Park. He advised that he was arrested on the complaint of "JUGHEAD" JONES a few days before the squirrel season of 1964, which he believed started on October 2. After his arrest he called the district attorney of the parish, who talked with Sheriff NOAH CROSS. CROSS became angry and refused to let him call his wife. BOOTH obtained the services of WILLIAM L. CORBIN (phonetic) of Vidalia, Louisiana, and the charge was withdrawn.

At Deer Park, BOOTH pointed out a spot north of "JUGHEAD" JONES' boat landing. He estimated that the object on which his net became entangled was about 140 feet from the shore line at low water from a point on the shore presently located between a float mounted on drums and a tree leaning in the water. BOOTH explained that the incident occurred when the water was very low and at the present time, when the water was high, this object would be about 175 to 180 feet from the water's edge instead of 140 feet as it was at the time of the discovery. Furthermore, the water was about 14 feet deep at that time and now it would be approximately 26 feet deep at the point where the object is located.

BOOTH stated that he could go within two feet of the object if he had a boat as he had a reference point on the shore. He further advised that he has Johnson air pumps for diving and would assist the FBI in an attempt to investigate the object.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 11, 1967

JAMES WEEKS was contacted at the fish market of his brother-in-law, MILTON "ODIE" BOOTH, located near the bridge in Harrisonburg, Louisiana.

WEEKS stated that a few summers ago, he had been seining with his brother-in-law, ODIE BOOTH, and a few other men in the waters adjacent to Jughead's Place in Deer Park, Louisiana.

The seine had been placed near the west boundary of the channel. The seine became entangled and efforts to free the seine resulted in turning over a heavy object in the water. A water bubble then appeared on the surface. An odious putrifying stench was then detected. Bits and balls of matter which appeared to be black in color then appeared on the surface of the water.

A sample of this matter was taken out of the water by ODIE BOOTH who later turned it over to R. C. MC GUFFEE, Sheriff, Catahoula Parish, Harrisonburg, Louisiana.

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On 8/10/67 at Harrisonburg, Louisiana File # Jackson 44-2044

by SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN  
SA GEORGE F. BENZ GFB/blw Date dictated 8/11/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 16, 1967

MILTON "ODIE" BOOTH telephonically contacted the Natchez Resident Agency from his fish market in Harrisonburg, Louisiana (telephone number 744-5230).

BOOTH advised that he recalled some information which was relevant in order to determine the date on which he discovered some flesh matter while seining with some men in Deer Park, Louisiana, in 1964.

BOOTH stated that he had brought the fleshy matter from Deer Park, Louisiana, to Harrisonburg, Louisiana, in order to turn it over to the Catahoula Parish authorities. BOOTH stated that he recalled that the fleshy matter was transported in a car which he purchased about two weeks before the discovery of the flesh. BOOTH advised that his records reflect that he purchased the car on October 14, 1964. BOOTH advised that it is his wife's opinion that BOOTH discovered the flesh between October 14 and 25, 1964.

On 8/15/67 at Natchez, Mississippi File # New Orleans 44-2293 Jackson 44-65  
 by SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN  
SA GEORGE F. BENZ GFB/blw Date dictated 8/16/67

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NO 44-2293

B. SCUBA DIVING OPERATIONS IN VICINITY OF  
DEER PARK, LOUISIANA

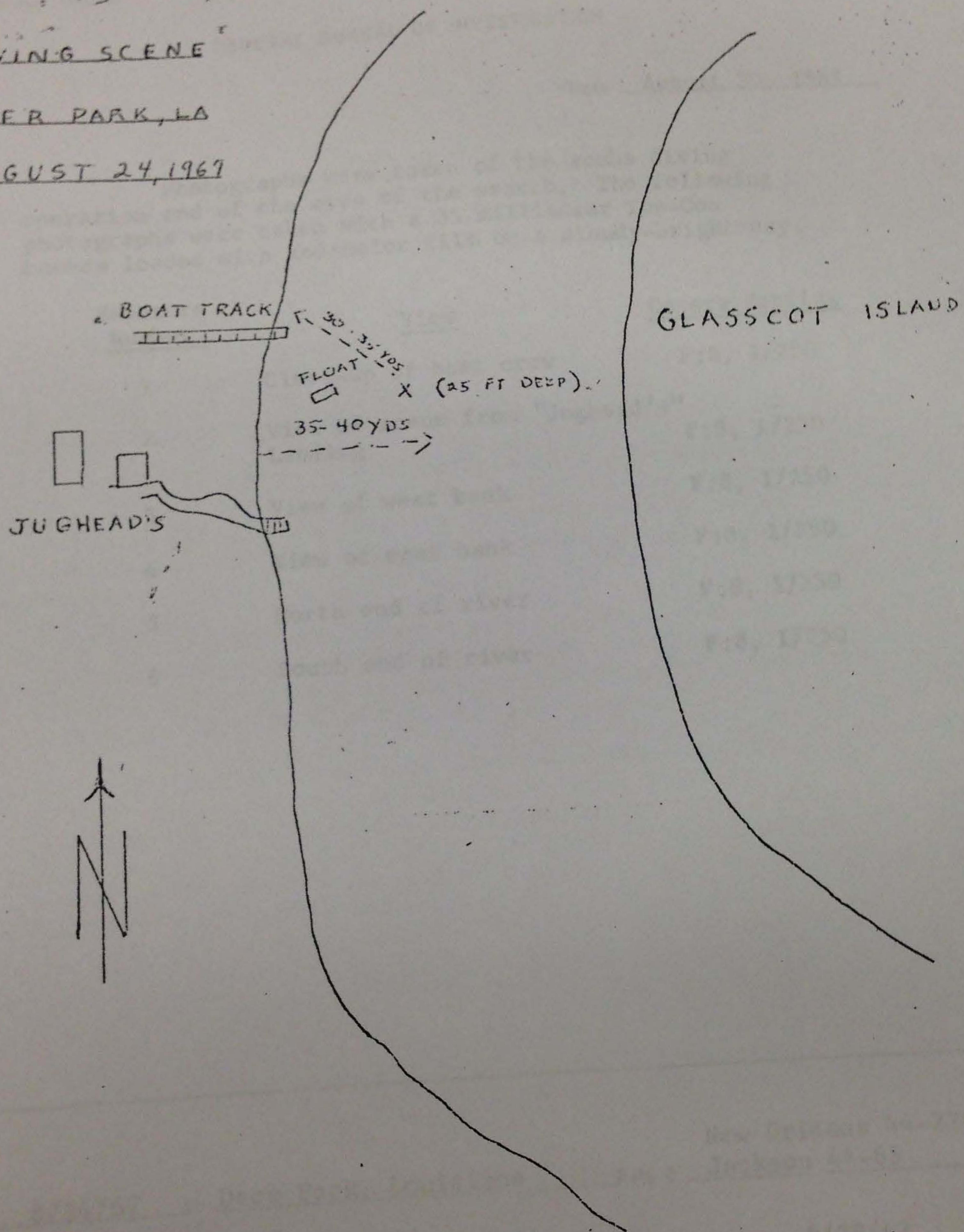


NW 39061

Reference Copy

RS 03. 11 110

DIVING SCENE  
DEER PARK, LA  
AUGUST 24, 1967



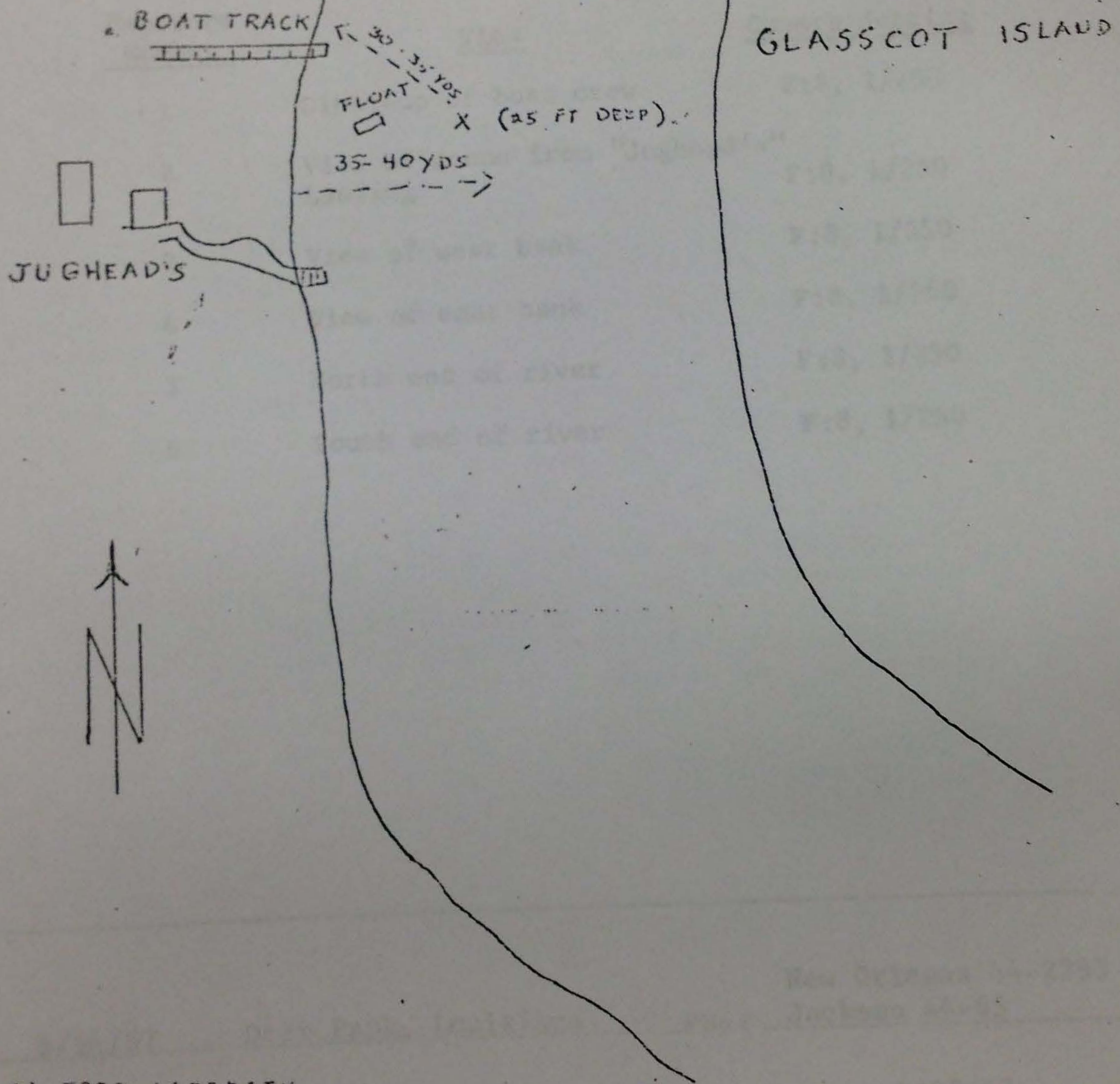
BY SA FRED LAFFERTY  
NOT TO SCALE  
NC 44-2293 - JN 44-65



DIVING SCENE

DEER PARK, LA

AUGUST 24, 1967



BY SA FRED LAFFERTY

NOT TO SCALE

NC 44-2293 - JN 44-65



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 30, 1967

Photographs were taken of the scuba diving operation and of the area of the search. The following photographs were taken with a .35 millimeter Top-Con camera loaded with Kodacolor film on a cloudy-bright day:

<u>Exposure Number</u>	<u>View</u>	<u>Camera Setting</u>
1	Close-up of boat crew	F:8, 1/250
2	View of scene from "Jughead's" Landing	F:8, 1/250
3	View of west bank	F:8, 1/250
4	View of east bank	F:8, 1/250
5	North end of river	F:8, 1/250
6	South end of river	F:8, 1/250

On 8/24/67 at Deer Park, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293  
Jackson 44-65  
 by SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN /blw Date dictated 8/28/67

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.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 30, 1967

MILTON "ODIE" BOOTH, commercial fisherman, who found the flesh-like matter during the latter part of 1964, advised that the depth of the river where the diving operations were made on the preceeding day had receded about one foot during the night. He expects that the water will continue to fall and after two or three weeks, the depth at the spot where his net tangled with a submerged object will be approximately the depth it was at that time, about fourteen feet.

BOOTH advised that the river was part of the old Mississippi River but the northern end was blocked off when the river was straightened. Water enters the old part of the river from its southern connection with the Mississippi River and, therefore, the old river has little current capable of sweeping a heavy object like a refrigerator cabinet along the bottom. Furthermore, with the water lower, boat traffic will stir the bottom with the result of a reduction in silt.

On 8/25/67 at Harrisonburg, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293 Jackson 44-65  
 by SA GEORGE F. BENZ  
SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN MDD/blw Date dictated 8/29/67

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.

NW 39001  
 Reference Copy  
 44-2293-20064  
 Section 1 (2 of 2)  
 Serials  
 1-12



JN 44-65

Natchez, Miss., policeman, about the insult. This unknown police officer reported the information to the Chief of Police, BUD SPINKS, and recommended that SPINKS take some action in connection with this Negro. The source further advised that SPINKS contacted SDG leader RALEIGH JACKSON GLOVER and requested GLOVER to take care of the Negro. GLOVER, HEAD, and another SDG member by the name of HOMER THOMAS HORTON killed a Negro. HEAD subsequently made the statement that, "The nigger won't be popping up".

Investigation in the WHARBOM case has determined that the subject was employed at the Shamrock Motel, Vidalia, La., and resided in Clayton, La., at the time of the disappearance. His abandoned automobile was found in Ferriday, La.

Since the principal suspects in this case are SDG members under investigation in the WHARBOM matter already, this case will be coordinated with WHARBOM. New Orleans is origin. An initial report will be submitted promptly.



8/23/67

1 - Mr. McDonough

Airtel

REC-21

To: SAC, Jackson

44-26064-4

From: Director, FBI

EX 104

UNSUBS;  
JOSEPH EDWARDS - VICTIM  
CIVIL RIGHTS

Reurairtel 8/19/67.

MB

This is to confirm authorization telephonically given in response to your request that you be authorized to arrange for scuba divers to search lake bottom area in Deer Park Lake, Louisiana, for skeletal remains or other evidence in connection with captioned case, expenses not to exceed \$200. It is to be noted that if law enforcement officer involved, as previously alleged, a possible Civil Rights violation could exist and you should, therefore, afford this appropriate investigative attention.

Keep Bureau advised of developments.

EJM:sjk  
(4)

MAILED 12  
AUG 23 1967  
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Inspector Joseph Sullivan was telephonically authorized in line with the above in view of the time element involved. Sullivan has advised that scuba diving team would be available Thursday, 8/24/67, the first date they would be free from their normal business responsibilities and could assist us in this project.

By way of background, Jackson requested authority to spend approximately \$200 to hire scuba divers to search bottom of Deer Park Lake, La., in area where fishermen discovered what appeared to be particles of human flesh in Fall of 1964. Based on information furnished by informant, above flesh may have been from body of Joseph Edwards, Negro, missing since 7/12/64, reportedly murdered by Klansmen at the instigation of a police officer. Since CR violation could exist if police officer involved, Jackson authorized to proceed with project.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED

*JRM* *Chu* *Epw*

56 SEP 13 1967  
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT



F B I

Date: 8/19/67

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via Airtel Airmail  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
ATTENTION: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ALEX ROSEN

FROM: INSPECTOR JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN

~~UNSUBS~~ Unknown Subjects

JOSEPH EDWARDS - VICTIM

~~CR~~

Civil Rights

*Bob 3*

WHARBOM summaries beginning on 8/11/67, called to your attention the JOSEPH EDWARDS case. The WHARBOM summary teletype on 8/14/67, reported the discovery of a catch of which appeared to be human flesh by MILTON BOOTH, a commercial fisherman, in Deer Park Lake, Concordia Parish, Louisiana.

The interview with BOOTH by Bureau Agents strongly indicated that BOOTH did encounter a sealed container of some type which apparently contained human remains. BOOTH is convinced that he can show us precisely the area where this incident occurred even though this was probably in October, 1964. We feel that there is considerable merit in examining the lake in the vicinity where the action occurred for the purpose of determining if there are any skeletal remains.

- 3 - Bureau
  - 2 - New Orleans (44-2293)
  - 2 - Jackson (44-65)
- JAS/jls  
(7)

*1 Terrot CK Unit  
Airtel = SAC, JR  
8/23/67  
EJM/ejk*

*44-26064-4*

18 AUG 21 1967

EX 104 REC-2T

*cc Bishop  
cc Caser*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge



JN 44-65

Local authorities have never investigated this situation. Concordia Parish authorities only attempted to churn up the floating material so that it would not attract undue attention. This is about all that could be expected of the Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office. Time wise, if JOSEPH EDWARDS' body had been placed in an old refrigerator or barrel as we suspect and submerged in Deer Park Lake, it would have attained a state of decay BOOTH described by the time the incident occurred in Deer Park Lake.

We have made a survey to determine what expenses would be entailed in arranging for scuba divers to work the lake bottom. We have located a diving team and have been assured of MILTON BOOTH's cooperation and assistance for relatively nominal expenses. We feel that the operation would probably require less than one day's diving and entail an expenditure of less than \$200, probably considerably less. If the Bureau agrees and will authorize this expenditure of up to \$200 to make a survey of the lake bottom in Deer Park Lake, Louisiana, it could be done on Thursday, August 24, 1967. This is the first date the divers will be free from their normal business responsibilities and able to assist us.

In view of the importance of establishing the corpus delicti in the EDWARDS case, we feel that this diving should be done. It could be handled very inconspicuously, but if we do effect a recovery, the activity could be a matter of considerable public interest.

It is recommended that the Bureau authorize us to proceed with the diving program outlined above and to incur up to \$200 expenses for this purpose.



Optional Form No. 10  
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
M E M O R A N D U M

To: DIRECTOR, FBI  
From: SAC, NEW ORLEANS

Date: 8/10/64

Subject: UNSUBS; JOSEPH EDWARDS -  
VICTIM  
CR.

3  
7.4

BUFILE NO.:  
NEW ORLEANS FILE NO.: 44-2293  
JACKSON FILE NO.: 44-65

Due to the opening of the Jackson Office, the following changes in the above case have been made:

A. LOCATION OF FILE

- 1. (X) Entire file sent to Jackson Office herewith.
- 2. ( ) File sent to Jackson, except one copy of following serials retained New Orleans:

- 3. ( ) File retained New Orleans, but one copy of following serials sent to Jackson:

44-26064

NOT RECORDED

16 AUG 17 1964

B. OFFICE OF ORIGIN

- ( ) NEW ORLEANS
- (X) JACKSON
- ( )

C. STATUS

- ( ) PENDING
- (X) RUC
- ( ) CLOSED

- ① - Bureau
- 1 - Jackson
- 1 - New Orleans

(3) bap

88 SEP 3 1964

1 cc of CR Unit

SIX



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

JUL 23 1964

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI-NEW

ORLS

752 PM URGENT 7-23-64 OLP

TO DIRECTOR

FROM NEW ORLEANS (444-2293)

UNSUBS; JOSEPH EDWARDS DASH VICTIM, CR.

RE BUREAU TELETYPE TO NEW ORLEANS, JULY TWENTY THREE INSTANT.

NATCHEZ, MISS. POLICE DEPT. ITEM NUMBER TWO EIGHT TWO

SEVEN DASH C DATED JULY TWENTY ONE LAST SHOWS JOE EDWARDS,

C/M, FIFTY TWO EAST OAK ST., NATCHEZ, REPORTED MISSING.

COMPLAINANT IS SHOWN AS QUOTE MOTHER OF ABOVE UNQUOTE.

COMPLAINT RECEIVED BY OFFICER W. MARTIN, TEN THIRTY AM.

DETAILS OF COMPLAINT SHOW QUOTE THE ABOVE REPORTED THAT HER

SON JOE EDWARDS, C/M, AGE TWENTY ONE, HT. FIVE FEET SIX

INCHES, WEIGHT ONE HUNDRED SIXTY DASH SIXTY FIVE, HAS BEEN

MISSING SINCE JULY TWELVE. NO ONE HAS SEEN OR HEARD OF HIM

SINCE, UNQUOTE.

ON JULY TWENTY THREE INSTANT DESK SERGEANT ERNEST BROWN

OF THE NATCHEZ POLICE DEPT. ADVISED BUREAU AGENTS CAR OF

END PAGE ONE

*Door CRW advised  
105 am 7/24/64  
July*

*44-26064-3*

JUL 27 1964

60 AUG 4 1964

*cc - M = Ravough*

*3-1*

*H*

*6-1000*



PAGE TWO

EDWARDS RECOVERED SHAMROCK MOTEL AND MATTER REFERRED TO CONCORDIA PARISH, LOUISIANA SO.

ON JULY TWENTY THREE INSTANT, BERNICE CONNER, FIFTY TWO EAST OAK ST., NATCHEZ, ADVISED BUREAU AGENTS THAT JOSEPH EDWARDS IS HER SON; THAT HE HAD WORKED AT SHAMROCK MOTEL, VIDALIA, LOUISIANA, FOR PAST SIX WEEKS PRIOR TO DISAPPEARANCE JULY TWELVE LAST; THAT HE WAS LAST SEEN BY GIRL EMPLOYEE SHAMROCK MOTEL NIGHT JULY TWELVE LAST AFTER ELEVEN PM AT CANAL AND FRANKLIN ST., NATCHEZ WHEN EDWARDS WAS IN HIS CAR. MOTHER STATED SHE REPORTED MATTER TO VIDALIA, LOUISIANA POLICE DEPT., JULY NINETEEN LAST; THAT CAR OF EDWARDS LOCATED AT GULF STATION, FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA, WHERE ATTENDANT ADVISED CAR HAD BEEN PULLED IN ON ORDERS OF POLICE; THAT CAR HAD BEEN FOUND ABANDONED NEAR BOWLING ALLEY BETWEEN VIDALIA AND FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA.

MOTHER OF EDWARDS STATED SHE CONTACTED HER SISTER, DORA DE FRANCE, ONE TWO TWO THREE SOUTH GAYOSO ST., NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, JULY EIGHTEEN LAST, AND WAS ADVISED EDWARDS NOT AT

END PAGE TWO



PPAGE THREE

DE FRANCE/S HOME AND HAD NOT BEEN SEEN. MOTHER STATES SHE HAS NO OTHER RELATIVES KNOWN TO EDWARDS OTHER THAN HIS GRANDPARENTS, JONAS AND MARY KING, CLAYTON, LOUISIANA.

MOTHER OF EDWARDS STATED EDWARDS NOT REGISTERED VOTER, HAS MADE NO ATTEMPT TO REGISTER TO VOTE, IS NOT MEMBER NAACP, CORE OR SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS, AND HAS NEVER ENGAGED IN ANY VOTER DEMONSTRATION.

ON JULY TWENTY THREE INSTANT, BUREAU AGENT CONTACTED FOLLOWING AGENCIES AND DETERMINED EDWARDS NOT INCARCERATED, NATCHEZ POLICE DEPT., ADAMS COUNTY SHERIFF/S OFFICE, NATCHEZ, VIDALIA, LOUISIANA POLICE DEPT., CONCORDIA PARISH SHERIFF/S OFFICE, VIDALIA, LOUISIANA, FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA POLICE DEPT.

CAR OF EDWARDS EXAMINED BEATTY GULF STATION, FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA, AND DETERMINED TO BE FIFTY EIGHT BUICK, FOUR DOOR, HARDTOP, WHITE OVER LIGHT GREEN, BEARING SIXTYFOUR LOUISIANA LICENSE THREE THREE X EIGHT EIGHT ONE. CAR HAD FLAT TIRE LEFT REAR WHICH ATTENDANT STATED WAS ON CAR WHEN RECOVERED.  
END OF PAGE THREE



PAGE FOUR

NO KEYS IN CAR.

GRANDPARENTS OF EDWARDS, JONAS AND MARY KING, CLAYTON, LOUISIANA, ADVISE HAVE NOT SEEN EDWARDS SINCE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO JULY TWELVE LAST.

AUGRITA PAREN PHONETIC PAREN TAYLOR, CLAYTON, LOUISIANA, WHO IS DEAF AND DUMB, ADVISED THROUGH HER MOTHER, BERNICE SMITH, CLAYTON, LOUISIANA, THAT SHE HAS TWO CHILDREN BY EDWARDS AND IN ANSWER TO A LETTER FROM EDWARDS POSTMARKED JULY TWO LAST, VIDALIA, LOUISIANA, SHE WAS RETURNING HOME FROM JACKSON, MISS. TO MARRY EDWARDS. UPON ARRIVING HOME SHE DETERMINED EDWARDS WAS MISSING. TAYLOR STATED SHE HAS NO IDEA AS TO WHEREABOUTS OF EDWARDS.

WALLY BROWN, BOOKKEEPER, SHAMROCK MOTEL, VIDALIA, LOUISIANA, ADVISED EDWARDS LAST DAY OF WORK WAS NIGHT JULY ELEVEN LAST; THAT HE RECEIVED NO MONEY AS HE HAD ALREADY OVERDRAWN HIS WAGES. BROWN STATED IT APPEARED EDWARDS HAD SKIPPED TO AVOID HIS DEBTORS AS SEVERAL PEOPLE HAD BEEN TO MOTEL ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT FROM EDWARDS.

END OF PAGE FOUR



PAGE FIVE

AGENCIES CONTACTED ADVISE THAT NO ACTIVE INVESTIGATION  
BEING CONDUCTED IN ATTEMPTS TO LOCATE EDWARDS AS HE IS MERELY  
CONSIDERED TO BE MISSING PERSON.

END AND ACK PLS

WA FOR FOUR MESSGS

WA OMS

FBI WASH DC

TU CLR



PLAIN TEXT

7/23/64

TELETYPE

URGENT

1 - Mr. McDonough

TO SAC NEW ORLEANS

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI

UNSUBS; JOSEPH EDWARDS DASH VICTIM. CR.

REBUTEL INSTANT.

BY RETURN TEL, ADVISE STATUS OF THIS MATTER AND WHAT FURTHER ACTION IS BEING TAKEN.

*Handwritten initials and scribbles on the left margin.*

*Handwritten "3-1" with a scribble.*

*Handwritten "6" on the right side.*

EJM/cac  
(3) *cac*

REC-95

*44-26064-2*

19 JUL 24 1964

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*B31*  
JUL 31 1964

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

JUL 23 1964

TELETYPE

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*Handwritten "1-12" on the far right edge.*



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

JUL 23 1964

FBI NEW ORLS

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

737PM URGENT 7-23-64 LLD

TO NEW ORLEANS

FROM DIRECTOR 1 P

UNSUBS; JOSEPH EDWARDS DASH VICTIM. CR.

REBUTEL INSTANT.

BY RETURN TEL, ADVISE STATUS OF THIS MATTER AND WHAT  
FURTHER ACTION IS BEING TAKEN.

END

~~NO~~

HOLD FOR FIVE TELS

Z

HOLD FOR THREE MORE



*Q*

JULY 23, 1964

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

DEFERRED

TO SAC, NEW ORLEANS

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI

UNSUBS; JOSEPH EDWARDS - VICTIM. CIVIL RIGHTS.

*He* *3*

DEPARTMENT HAS ADVISED THAT JOSEPH EDWARDS, NEGRO MALE, A RESIDENT OF NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI, HAS NOW BEEN MISSING FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN DAYS. WHEN LAST SEEN, HE WAS DRIVING HIS NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT BUICK WHICH HE REGARDED VERY HIGHLY. TWO NIGHTS AGO THIS CAR WAS FOUND ABANDONED IN A WHITE NEIGHBORHOOD IN NATCHEZ. IN THE CAR WAS A BELT WHICH APPARENTLY DID NOT BELONG TO EDWARDS.

*5-0-10-004*

EDWARDS REPORTEDLY EMPLOYED AT SHAMROCK MOTEL, VIADALIA, LOUISIANA, HAS AN AUNT RESIDING ONE ONE ZERO NORTH PINE STREET AND MOTHER RESIDING OAK STREET, BOTH NATCHEZ. EDWARDS' AUNT, ACCORDING TO DEPARTMENT, CALLED EDWARDS' MOTHER ON JULY TWENTYTWO, LAST, SAYING THAT SHE HEARD HE WAS PRESENTLY INCARCERATED IN THE LOCAL JAIL AT FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA. WHEN RELATIVES INQUIRED AS TO HIS PRESENCE IN JAIL, AUTHORITIES WOULD

FURNISH THEM WITH NO INFORMATION.

*REC-95* *44-26064-1*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*LAG:hw*  
*131*

*74* AUG 3 1964 *215*

REC-95

NOTE: Above per John Doar, CRD, 11:45 p. m., 7-22-64.

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

JUL 23 1964

TELETYPE

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*Am*  
*1/2*

*Q*



TELETYPE TO SAC, NEW ORLEANS  
RE: UNSUBS; JOSEPH EDWARDS - VICTIM. CR.

DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED IMMEDIATE  
INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE IF EDWARDS IS IN FACT  
INCARCERATED IN FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA, JAIL AND IF SO,  
NATURE OF CHARGES. IF HE IS NOT IN JAIL, ATTEMPT TO  
DETERMINE IF HE IS MISSING, IF REPORT MADE TO LOCAL  
POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND WHETHER INVESTIGATION BEING  
CONDUCTED BY POLICE DEPARTMENT. EXPEDITE INVESTIGATION  
AND S U T E L RESULTS JULY TWENTYTHREE, INSTANT.

- 2 -

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

JUL 23 1964

TELETYPE

Serials



Screened By:  
Mary Kay Schmidt  
Date: 04-11-2014  
FOIA Case: NW 39061

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>NEW ORLEANS</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>NEW ORLEANS</b>	DATE <b>11/24/67</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>10/18/67 - 11/21/67</b>
TITLE OF CASE  <b>UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; JOSEPH EDWARDS, Aka Joe Edwards - VICTIM</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN</b>	TYPED BY <b>blw</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>CIVIL RIGHTS</b>	

REFERENCES:

Report of SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN dated 11/10/67.

- P -

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						NONE	ACQUIT- TALS
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		

**EX-101**  
30

Case has been: Pending over one year  Yes  No; Pending prosecution over six months  Yes  No

APPROVED: *[Signature]* SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

- COPIES MADE:
- 2 - Bureau (44-26064)
  - 1 - USA, Shreveport, La.
  - 3 - Jackson (2 - 44-65)  
(1 - 44-2044)
  - 2 - New Orleans (44-2293)

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

44-26064-25

REC 30

EX 101

NOV 30 1967

NOTATIONS

*[Handwritten signatures and stamps]*

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	<b>CRD</b>		
Request Recd.	<b>DEC 7 1967</b>		
Date Fwd.	<b>NOV 30 1967</b>		
How Fwd.	<b>694 B</b>		
By	<b>RCJ/eam</b>		



NO 44-2293

LEADS:

JACKSON

AT NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

-1- Will interview RALEIGH JACKSON GLOVER concerning his possible involvement in the disappearance of JOSEPH EDWARDS, noting that an informant advised that Chief BUD SPINKS, Vidalia, Louisiana, Police Department, contacted GLOVER to take care of EDWARDS. The same source advised that GLOVER, KENNETH NORMAN HEAD, and HOMER T. HORTON killed EDWARDS and disposed of his body.

-2- Continue contacts with logical informants.

-3- Continue efforts to locate HUBERT RUSHING through former friends and associates at Natchez, Mississippi.

NEW ORLEANS

AT DEER PARK, LOUISIANA

Continue efforts to contact GEORGE FENTON of Jackson, Mississippi, at his Deer Park camp relative to alleged disposal of refrigerators and exact location of same.

AT FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA

Upon return of KENNETH NORMAN HEAD from new off-shore employment, will interview him with regard to victim's disappearance.

COVER PAGE

B



AT SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

Will re-interview JAMES GOSS, Louisiana Probation Officer, who made statements to IONA PERRY SEWARD of his intentions to kill EDWARDS because of his insult to her.

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

INFORMANTS:

[redacted] advised on October 20, 1967, that ROBERT FULLER was head of the Klan Bureau of Investigation (KBI) of the Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (OKKKK) in Louisiana during the period around July, 1964. FULLER had previously been head of the KBI of the OKKKK when ROYAL YOUNG of the Shreveport, Louisiana, area was the head of the OKKKK in the Fall of 1963, and when ROYAL YOUNG was deposed from his position of leadership around January, 1964, FULLER continued on as head of the KBI of the OKKKK through 1964, during which period MURRAY MARTIN, Winnsboro, Louisiana; GRADY WILDER, Jena, Louisiana; HENRY IRVING BAYLES, West Monroe, Louisiana; and ROBERT FULLER, were leaders of the OKKKK.

[redacted] stated that although ROBERT FULLER was head of the KBI, acts of violence by klansmen were frequently done without his having any knowledge of the details. According to this source, FULLER is known to have disclaimed any information regarding the disappearance of JOSEPH EDWARDS; however, FULLER is quoted as saying that the men who would have had knowledge of the incident would have been "RED" GLOVER, who was head of the KBI of the Ferriday area at that time; FRANK DE LAUGHTER, another klansman whose name is unknown but who is a white male, age about 40, weight 260 pounds or more, who was employed some time back as a mechanic at the Ford place in Ferriday, Louisiana; and also LEVI MAHONEY, who held a position in 1964 of head of the KBI in the Winnsboro, Louisiana, area, including Concordia Parish, and who may have obtained information from RED GLOVER regarding it.

COVER PAGE



NO 44-2293

ADMINISTRATIVE:

All of the leads previously set forth will be coordinated with Bureau special WHARBOM which is currently in progress in Natchez, Mississippi.

All persons contacted during the course of this investigation were advised that the inquiry was being made at the specific request of JOHN DOAR, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, U. S. Department of Justice.

The investigative period of this report overlaps the period of referenced report in that some of the FD-302's were not prepared at the time of referenced report.

The following investigation was conducted by SA ARNOLD C. MERROW at Monroeville, Alabama:

On November 2, 1967, Mr. JOHN LEE BETTS, Postmaster, Monroeville, Alabama, advised that his records show that PAULINE BROWN formerly resided at 206 Winston Avenue, Monroeville, Alabama, but had moved recently and was presently receiving her mail at 202 West Pine Street, Monroeville, Alabama. He advised that this was the address of ALBERT BROWN, who, he believed, is the brother-in-law of PAULINE BROWN, but stated he had not seen PAULINE BROWN nor ALBERT BROWN in the Monroeville area for several days.

The following investigation was conducted by SA GEORGE F. BENZ and SA WILLIAM B. WOOD on October 25, 1967:

Reverend J. N. SCANLON, 503 Texas Avenue, Vidalia, Louisiana, advised that the last address he had for PAULINE BROWN was 5B-Z Johngasee, 2613 Vienna, Austria.

COVER PAGE

D



NO 44-2293

Mrs. LANE L. NUNNERY, 1211 Peach Street, Vidalia, Louisiana, advised that PAULINE BROWN is married to her brother, CHARLES BROWN, and that PAULINE BROWN is back in the United States and living with CHARLES BROWN again. She provided the following address:

PAULINE BROWN  
206 Winston Avenue  
Monroeville, Alabama  
Phone 205-743-7106

JULIUS KNOTTS, 723 Morgan Avenue, Morgantown, advised that he did not know the present whereabouts of HUBERT RUSHING. KNOTTS stated that the FBI should contact his first cousin, Mrs. SHELBY WHITE, Brookhaven, Mississippi. KNOTTS stated that WHITE knows the address of HUBERT's sister, MONET (LNU), and that MONET (LNU) should have the present address of HUBERT RUSHING.

COVER PAGE

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/21/67

SIDNEY MURRAY, Mayor of Vidalia, Louisiana, was apprised of the identities of the Special Agents and the nature of the contact.

Mayor MURRAY stated he had no knowledge concerning JOSEPH EDWARDS until he was recently contacted by TATE POOLE for information concerning POOLE's date of termination with the Police Department. POOLE told him that he needed the information in connection with an inquiry by the FBI into the disappearance of EDWARDS.

MURRAY stated he considered the incident of EDWARDS' disappearance very strange in that no information concerning the matter came to his attention until three years later. JOHNNIE "BUD" SPINKS, the Marshal of the Town of Vidalia, did not report on the matter at any time until one day last week when SPINKS told him of his recent interview by Special Agents of the FBI. MURRAY stated that SPINKS seemed very concerned over the inquiry. The Mayor stated that SPINKS was currently hospitalized and it was the Mayor's opinion that his illness, to a large degree, was a result of SPINKS' concern regarding the FBI's investigation in the EDWARDS case.

MURRAY was unable to give any specific basis for this belief except that SPINKS' attitude at that time was very different from his usual demeanor.

The Mayor was unable to furnish any information about the specific manner in which the Vidalia patrol cars were equipped with regard to the emergency lights. He advised that the town has been leasing vehicles from McPhail Motors, Natchez, since 1962 or 1963. He advised that he would order the City Clerk to make available to the FBI all records concerning the patrol cars and the personnel of the Police Department.

On 11/14/67 at Vidalia, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293  
SAs MERRIMAN D. DIVEN and  
HENRY B. BRITTON, III/MDD/clm Date dictated 11/17/67  
 by \_\_\_\_\_

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/15/67

JOHN LEWIS, 408 North Fifth Street, Ferriday, Louisiana, was contacted at that address and advised of the identities of the Special Agents and the nature of the contact.

He advised that he purchased a 1958 white over green Buick, four-door sedan, from Purvis Motors, Ferriday, about January or February, 1965.

He noticed nothing unusual about the car, nor had he heard anything about the prior owner of the vehicle. He noticed no bloodstains in or on the car at the time he purchased it.

All the windows were in good condition until a storm broke off a limb from a tree over his driveway which smashed the windshield of the car.

During December, 1966, he sold the Buick for \$100 to a young white man by the name of SMITH from Columbia, Louisiana. He was unable to furnish any additional information about the vehicle or the successive owner.

On 11/8/67 at Ferriday, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293  
SAs MERRIMAN D. DIVEN and  
HENRY B. BRITTON, III/MDD/clm 11 Jackson 44-65  
 by \_\_\_\_\_ Date dictated 11/13/67

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III. INVESTIGATION OF 1964 WHITE OLDSMOBILE  
OBSERVED AT SCENE OF VICTIM'S DISAPPEARANCE

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

EX 64-2293

Date October 27, 1967

E. H. ADAMS, Assistant Director, Motor Vehicles Division, Department of Revenue, State of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, made available certified copies of documents maintained in the files of the State of Louisiana Motor Vehicles Department, for a 1964 Oldsmobile, VIN 844M139590, which was titled under State of Louisiana Title Number M3696800.

Copies of the following documents regarding a 1964 Oldsmobile, VIN 844M139590, model Eighty-Eight, four-door sedan, were obtained:

The manufacturer's statement of origin showing that the vehicle was transferred to McPhail Oldsmobile, Incorporated, Natchez, Mississippi, on February 11, 1964.

The first assignment on the manufacturer's statement of origin shows that on September 17, 1965, this vehicle was transferred to the possession of Capitol Auto Auction, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, from McPhail Oldsmobile, Incorporated.

A bill of sale dated September 17, 1965, showing the sale of this vehicle from McPhail Oldsmobile, Incorporated, Natchez, Mississippi, to McPhail Oldsmobile, Incorporated, Vidalia, Louisiana, for the sum of \$10.

A car invoice dated September 17, 1965, showing that this vehicle was sold by Byars-McPhail Oldsmobile, Vidalia, Louisiana, to Capitol Auto Auction, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

A bill of sale showing the sale of this vehicle by Capitol Auto Auction, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to Thurston Holt Used Cars, for the sum of \$1630.

A bill of sale dated November 8, 1965, showing the sale of this vehicle by THURSTON HOLT to Tom's Auto Sales, Incorporated, for the sum of \$1650.

A bill of sale from Tom's Auto Sales dated January 8, 1966, showing the sale of this vehicle to JOHN MITCHELL, JR. for the sum of \$1950.

On 10/18/67 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana File # NO 44-2293

by SA LONDON M. HOWARD-cmt 15 Date dictated 10/23/67

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A Louisiana sale and chattel mortgage dated January 8, 1966, showing a time balance to \$2206.20 owed by JOHN MITCHELL, JR. on this vehicle.

A letter from the Louisiana Department of Revenue to Commercial Securities Company, New Iberia, Louisiana, dated March 2, 1966.

An application for certificate of title and passenger car registration to the Louisiana Department of Revenue by JOHN MITCHELL, JR.

A tax statement from the Louisiana Department of Revenue showing \$39 paid in taxes for this vehicle by JOHN MITCHELL, JR. on February 7, 1966.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/8/67

Mrs. BARBARA WEST, barmaid, Holiday Inn, Natchez, Mississippi, after being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents, furnished the following information:

WEST advised that she was familiar with many of the klan members in the Roxie, Mississippi, area. When queried regarding any of these individuals having ownership of a white Oldsmobile with two whip antennae mounted on the rear fenders, WEST advised that the car previously owned by JAMES SEALE was a white Oldsmobile which had whip antennae mounted on the trunk deck. She stated that SEALE owned this Oldsmobile prior to his current car which she believes is a blue Ford. WEST advised that JAMES SEALE's wife currently drives a white Oldsmobile with a Citizens Band radio antennae mounted on the roof.

On 11/7/67 at Natchez, Mississippi File # New Orleans 44-2293  
Jackson 44-65  
 by SAs HENRY B. BRITTON, III and  
MERRIMAN D. DIVEN/HBB/clm Date dictated 11/8/67

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NO 44-2293

IV. INTERVIEW OF PERSONS  
KNOWLEDGEABLE OF  
KLAN ACTIVITY



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/14/67

Mr. HOMER THOMAS HORTON, also known as "Buck", 713 Lynn Street, Vidalia, Louisiana, after being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents, was furnished a "Your Rights" waiver form which was read and understood by HORTON. HORTON advised that he understood his rights but did not care to sign the waiver form; however, he would be willing to discuss matters of interest to interviewing Agents, at which time he volunteered the following information:

HORTON advised he considered joining the Ku Klux Klan in either December of 1964 or 1965, exact year unrecalled, because he thought it would be a money-making proposition. HORTON stated he attended only two or three meetings acting in the capacity as a guard, however, never actually attended any of the meetings. HORTON stated he never took the oath of the klan and shortly thereafter, realizing no money could be made, he discontinued attending any meetings and has not attended any type of klan activity since.

When queried as to more specifics with regard to membership and attendance of any individuals meeting, HORTON stated he did not desire to discuss this particular matter any further.

HORTON, after being asked if he was knowledgeable of any incident of violence or foul play directed toward JOSEPH EDWARDS, stated he had never heard of this nor was he acquainted with JAMES GOSS. HORTON stated that the only inter-racial incident of which he was knowledgeable involved a Negro male who was apparently caught in the room of a white female at the Maple Courts Motel in Vidalia, however, did not know anything about what happened to either of the individuals involved.

On 11/10/67 at Vidalia, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293;  
SAs HENRY B. BRITTON, III and 157-4700; 157-6542;  
MERRIMAN D. DIVEN/HBB/clm Jackson 44-65;  
Jackson 157-5206; 44-2044  
 by \_\_\_\_\_ Date dictated 11/13/67

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When queried as to the bombing of WHARLEST JACKSON, HORTON stated he was aware of an intensive investigation being conducted by the FBI but was not cognizant as to who may have been responsible for the bombing. HORTON, when asked if he was acquainted with RALEIGH JACKSON GLOVER, advised he had ridden to work at the Armstrong plant with GLOVER for two years in GLOVER's pickup truck and was a very close friend of GLOVER, as well as KENNETH HEAD. HORTON advised he knew both men well, and for a long time, however, was not able to furnish any information pertaining to their personal interests or activities. HORTON advised that in his estimation, both individuals were fine people and could not believe that they would act or engage in any form of violence. HORTON advised he was not aware of any clubs or organizations such as the Ku Klux Klan to which these individuals may belong.

When queried as to his knowledge of the Silver Dollar Group or its membership, HORTON stated he had never heard of the Silver Dollar Group or the Silver Dollar Club or any individuals who may be members. When asked if he carried a silver dollar, HORTON stated that the only silver dollar he knows of is one that his wife had several years ago.

When asked about attending a fish fry at the residence of FRED LEE in Wildsville, Louisiana, during June of 1965, HORTON advised he did attend this fish fry as well as many other fish fries. He advised that he and his family were at the LEE fish fry for a period of two to three hours, at which time they left, which, to the best of his recollection, was in the mid-afternoon.

HORTON denied any participation in an alleged attempt to manufacture and detonate any explosives.

HORTON, when asked if he had ever heard of an organization called the Minutemen, stated that the only time he had come across information regarding the Minutemen was through a newspaper



NO 44-2293

article he had read about a year ago in New Orleans. He advised he knows of no efforts to establish a Minutemen group in the Vidalia area.

The following description of HORTON was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	HOMER THOMAS HORTON
Sex	Male
Race	White
Date and place of birth	August 30, 1935, Brookhaven, Mississippi
Height	5 feet 9 - 5 feet 10 inches
Weight	202
Build	Heavy
Hair	Light brown
Eyes	Blue
Scars and marks	None
Education	10th grade, Hikes Retreat Vocational, Brookhaven
Military service	U.S. Marines, November 19, 1953- November 19, 1955; honorable discharge
Military service number	1435018
Present employment	Armstrong Rubber Company, Natchez, Mississippi Also: part-time salesman, Clawson Air Service, Winnsboro, Louisiana
Driver's license	1599002, issued September 1, 1966, picture number 05 - Examining office 15
Marital status	Married - Wife, HELEN MARIE
Children	TIMMY HORTON, 8 years LORIE HORTON, 6 years CINDY HORTON, 3 months



NO 44-2293

Parents	CARL T. HORTON (deceased) MARY S. HORTON
Organizations	Aircraft Owners and Pilot Association; Local 303, United Rubber Workers of America
Automobiles	1963 green, four-door Oldsmobile, Model 98, license plate 1966-67 Louisiana 25X796; 1962 white, four-door Chevy sedan, 1966-67 Louisiana plate 71E775
Residence	413 Lynn Street, Vidalia, Louisiana
Telephone number	336-4993
Arrests	About 1954, speeding Saluta, South Carolina
Miscellaneous	Commercial Pilot Certificate Number 1724852



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/20/67

Mr. HEZZIE RYLES, Barber, Ferriday Barber Shop, Louisiana Avenue, Ferriday, Louisiana, after being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the investigation being conducted, furnished the following information:

RYLES, when queried as to any knowledge he may have concerning JOSEPH EDWARDS, advised that he was unfamiliar with EDWARDS or anything about the person or the incident involving the disappearance of EDWARDS. RYLES stated he had never heard of EDWARDS nor does he recall ever seeing the Buick driven by EDWARDS at the time of his disappearance abandoned on the Vidalia - Ferriday highway.

RYLES advised that he is not presently a member of the Ku Klux Klan and when asked if he ever was, RYLES stated only that he is not a present member.

RYLES advised that any information he may have pertaining to the klan would be of the past and of no use to the FBI.

RYLES, when asked if he had ever heard of the Minute-men organization, stated he had only gained information regarding its activities through newspaper articles. He was not aware of any pistol and rifle club being recently chartered in the Ferriday - Vidalia area, adding that he has little cause for rifle and shotgun use because of a shoulder injury.

On 11/14/67 at Ferriday, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293  
Jackson 44-65  
 by SAs HENRY B. BRITTON, III and  
MERRIMAN D. DIVEN/HBB/clm Date dictated 11/17/67

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/21/67

Special Agents, en route from Ferriday, Louisiana, to Natchez, Mississippi, recognized the 1959 blue and white Ford station wagon belonging to KENNETH NORMAN HEAD disabled along Highway 68, outside of Vidalia, Louisiana. After stopping to make inquiry as to whether the owner was HEAD, KENNY SCAROBOROUGH identified himself as the owner, advising that he had purchased the automobile approximately one week ago from HEAD for \$50.00.

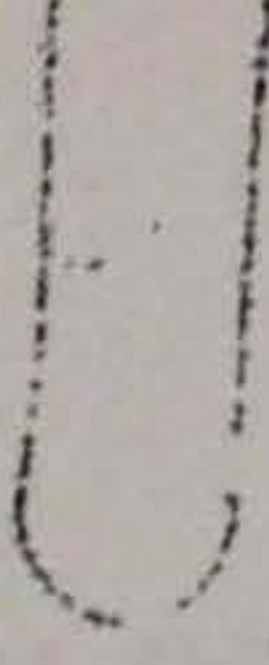
SCAROBOROUGH advised he was the son of JAMES SCAROBOROUGH and stated that KENNETH NORMAN HEAD had been laid off from his job at International Paper Company and was presently working offshore. SCAROBOROUGH stated he did not know where HEAD is presently employed.

SCAROBOROUGH advised he was aware of the FBI's interest directed toward his father and HEAD, and expressed a vehement dislike for the FBI and its investigative purposes. He refused to furnish any information in addition to the above.

On 11/18/67 at Vidalia, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293;  
Jackson 44-65; 157-7479;  
157-6266  
 by SAs MERRIMAN D. DIVEN and  
HENRY B. BRITTON, III/MDD/clm Date dictated 11/20/67

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11/23/67

Mrs. ANN CURRIE, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Revenue, was contacted at her place of employment, advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the investigation being conducted, at which time she furnished the following information:

V. INTERVIEW OF PRESENT AND FORMER LAW OFFICERS

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She advised that she and her husband were employed by the State Department of Revenue, and that while employed at the State Department, she was the only female employed there and was in the capacity of a public dispatcher.

She stated that during her tenure, she recalls receiving a report for vehicle # 1958A (registered for an abandoned vehicle located at the location of the Yellow and Peridot, and was to have been sold to party's name advised. CURRIE advised that she could not recall the car being registered as a 1958A (registered to the name of her husband), believing the car was registered to (first name) (last name) (address).

CURRIE advised that since she stated, she had had the license and other details which she believed were retained by the Sheriff's Department. However, she was unable to locate the report.

CURRIE stated that various Deputies, namely, BILL (name), (name) and (name) were friendly with members of the (name) and they would often imply through conversation that they were involved in racial activities. CURRIE stated that she was unable to recall any specific names of particular incidents or individuals involved.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/20/67

Mrs. ANN CURLEE, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Revenue, was recontacted at her place of employment, advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the investigation being conducted, at which time she furnished the following information:

CURLEE stated that she was formerly employed at the Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office and terminated her employment to obtain a Civil Service job with the State Department of Revenue. CURLEE advised that while employed at the Sheriff's Department, she was the only female employed there and acted in the capacity of a radio dispatcher.

She stated that during her tenure, she recalls receiving a 10-28 (Request for Vehicle Owner Registration) for an abandoned vehicle located at the bowling alley between Vidalia and Ferriday, and was to have the car towed to Beatty's Gulf Service. CURLEE advised that she could not recall the car being registered to a JOSEPH EDWARDS but to the best of her recollection, believes the car was registered to (First Name Unknown) GRAVENBURG.

CURLEE advised that since last contacted, she had gone over to the Sheriff's Office and searched for her radio logs and further details which she believed were retained by the Sheriff's Department. However, she was unable to locate the records.

CURLEE advised that various Deputies, namely, BILL OGDEN, FRANK DeLAUGHTER and IKE COWEN were friendly with members of the Ku Klux Klan and they would often imply through conversations overheard by CURLEE that they were involved in racial matters. CURLEE stated that she was unable to recall anything specific in terms of particular incidents or individuals involved.

On 11/14/67 at Vidalia, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293  
SAs HENRY B. BRITTON, III and Jackson 44-65  
 by MERRIMAN D. DIVEN/HBB/clm 26 Date dictated 11/17/67

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CURLEE, when queried as to any conversations overheard pertaining to the JOSEPH EDWARDS case, was unable to recall anything in particular but vaguely remembers general talk regarding the disposition of EDWARDS. CURLEE reiterated that if anyone had something to say, it would probably include OGDEN, COWEN or DeLAUGHTER.

When asked about any white 1964 unmarked vehicles utilized by the Sheriff's Office, CURLEE advised that the only automobiles she could recall that were white and unmarked were a Dodge sedan driven by RAYMOND KEATHLEY and a personally owned automobile driven by JUNIOR HAYS, described as a late model white Oldsmobile. CURLEE stated that when HAYS commenced employment with the Sheriff's Office, he sold the car to the department and it was equipped with a police radio. CURLEE was unable to recall whether the car had one or two whip antennae, but it did not have a light mounted on the roof of the car. She stated that she believed the Sheriff's Office would furnish dashboard-mounted beacon lights for emergency use.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/21/67

Deputy Sheriff BILL OGDEN, Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office, advised that he had not recalled any additional information since he was last interviewed by Special Agents of the FBI concerning the disappearance of JOSEPH EDWARDS.

He stated that he believes that his only contact with EDWARDS was at the side of the Shamrock Motel swimming pool when a Negro believed by him to be EDWARDS was involved in recovering the body of an infant who drowned in the pool.

OGDEN stated that to his knowledge, he has had no other contact with EDWARDS.

With regard to EDWARDS' vehicle, which was abandoned near the bowling alley on the Vidalia - Ferriday highway, OGDEN stated he radioed for a 10-28 (a radio request for a license records check for the identification of the owner) and was advised that the owner was listed as (First Name Unrecalled) GRAVENBURG. He stated he makes numerous requests for 10-28's but the only reason he recalls this particular one was because GRAVENBURG was a former Louisiana State police officer whom he disliked. OGDEN stated he did not inspect the car. He is of the opinion that the car had a flat tire at the time and was parked in a bend in the road between the Plaza Club and the bowling alley.

He directed that Beatty's Gulf Station tow the vehicle in. Subsequently, Purvis Motors, Ferriday, claimed the vehicle.

OGDEN denied any knowledge of an incident where he chased a Negro over the levee in the vicinity of the bowling alley or anywhere else.

On 11/15/67 at Vidalia, Louisiana File # New Orleans 44-2293  
Jackson 44-65  
 by SAs MERRIMAN D. DIVEN and  
HENRY B. BRITTON, III/MDD/clm Date dictated 11/17/67

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