

DATE: 11-14-2017

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VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA

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DATE: 11-14-2017

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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: August 7, 1951

CEU FROM : SAC, Denver

SUBJECT: VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA
FUGITIVE; JAMES ERADLEY LEE -
FUGITIVE; Mrs. GERTRUDE J. JOYCE -
VICTIM
CONSPIRACY; INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION
OF STOLEN PROPERTY; MAIL FRAUD

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Re Oklahoma City letter dated July 23, 1951 and El Paso teletype dated August 2, 1951.

Referenced communications reflect that on July 30, 1951 authorized complaints were filed and warrants issued by the United States Commissioner, El Paso, Texas charging PEREIRA and LEE with Conspiracy, Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property and Mail Fraud. Complaints were based upon information furnished by Mrs. GERTRUDE J. JOYCE PEREIRA, Roswell, New Mexico. On April 19, 1951 GERTRUDE JOYCE, wealthy widow, age 55, and her sister, KATHRYN JOYNER, age 30, came to El Paso, Texas, stopping at the fashionable Del Norte Hotel. LEE and PEREIRA, staying at the same hotel, struck up an acquaintance and returned to Roswell, New Mexico with these two women a few days later as house guests. LEE posed as an oil lease operator and PEREIRA posed as a wealthy sportsman, who had just been divorced and had \$48,000 coming in a short time from a property settlement. A whirlwind courtship culminated in the marriage of PEREIRA and Mrs. JOYCE in Kansas City, Missouri on May 25, 1951. LEE had proposed marriage to JOYNER and between the time of the original meeting and June 21, 1951 LEE and PEREIRA defrauded Mrs. JOYCE of a total of \$47,000 and a Cadillac automobile. Subjects disappeared on about June 21, 1951 and their whereabouts is unknown.

Handwritten vertical notes

These communications further reflect that PEREIRA, FBI number 2157349, and LEE are probably associates of PAUL AUGUSTUS KING, FBI number 2594295, JOE P. DOWDING, FBI number 477053, J. P. DONAHUE, FBI number 427053, Sidney "DOC" SOLWAY, FBI number 78762 and EDWARD S. LYONS, FBI number 847381. It is reflected that LYONS might be identical with LEE and that all of these individuals are suspected of being involved in a widespread "con racket". PEREIRA was described as white, male, age 45, 6 feet, 1 1/2 inches tall, 215 pounds, dark brown, receding hair, brown complexion, black mustache, pleasant countenance, nice voice

COPIES: 1 - relative

01 JAN 4 1967
FEB 1952
87-1631
cc 33-59
2 cc 47-1176
AUG 16 1951

RECORDED 87-15374-20
EX-133
El Paso
Albuquerque
Dallas
Oklahoma City
Phoenix
Los Angeles
Miami
New York
Albany
Little Rock

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87-15374-26X 7

10993

DATE: 11-14-2017

SERIAL 2

Director

8/7/51

fine clothes, probably driving a 1951 two tone blue steel top convertible Cadillac.

LEE was described as white, male, 6 feet, 1½ inches tall, weight 185 pounds, light brown hair, blue eyes, "hale fellow, well-set", possibly driving 1950 black Cadillac.

It was further stated that subjects and possibly some of their associates mentioned above might be headquartered in Denver, Colorado and perpetrating confidence games from Denver to the West Coast. It was requested that those offices receiving copies of communications furnish information concerning LEE and PEREIRA that might result in their apprehension.

The files of the Denver Office contain no reference to VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA.

There is set out below information contained in the Denver files concerning PAUL AUGUSTUS KING, was; JAMES BRADLEY LEE, was, and other persons who have possibly associated with subjects.

By letter dated January 31, 1959 the Omaha Office furnished the following information relative to KING and his associates:

"PAUL JOSEPH ASHFORD, 3301 Jackson Street, Sioux City, Iowa, Telephone #71086, is a fairly wealthy land owner, and he stated he purchased a dude ranch near Florissant, Colorado. He advised he decided to sell the same and informed PAT FLAHERY, owner of the Famous Bar in Kansas City, of his intentions.

"ASHFORD related that subject PAUL AUGUSTUS KING, alias Gus King, wrote him at Sioux City from the Hotel New Yorker in New York City, stating he would be interested in purchasing this dude ranch, and ASHFORD is of the opinion that FLAHERY informed KING about the dude ranch. ASHFORD stated that through correspondence a meeting was arranged at Denver, Colorado, in March, 1958, and that he proceeded to Denver with an associate by the name of HUGH McCUE of Sioux City; that KING was staying at the Brown Palace in Denver and was in the company of a man by the name of BUD FRANKLE and another male individual named JUNE who operates the Silver Dollar Used Car Lot at Denver, Colorado. ASHFORD related that KING and he visited the dude ranch and then returned to the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver where KING entertained in his suite in an elaborate manner. He said that KING took the entire party to a Saddle and Hunt Club for dinner, which club

-2-

87-15374-26X-3

10994

DATE: 11-14-2017

5886 RV-2

Director

8/7/51

ASHFORD understands was the old McLAIN Estate, and that upon returning to the hotel KING's girl friends started to shoot dice and before the evening was over ASHFORD had entered the game and lost \$500.00.

"According to ASHFORD, KING was very evasive about himself, did not talk much about the dude ranch and claimed he was a former business man from Atlanta, Georgia, and New York City. KING further advised that he had been football coach at Texas Tech or some Texas college and that he had a son presently attending Southern Methodist University.

"ASHFORD related that he returned to Sioux City and had some correspondence with KING but that it has been destroyed. He said it all concerned the purchasing of the dude ranch.

"ASHFORD advised that these men had more or less passed out of his mind but on November 17, 1948, he received a long distance telephone call from KING, who was in the Phillips Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri. KING invited ASHFORD to be his guest at the Southern Methodist University-Baylor football game to be held November 20, 1948. ASHFORD told KING he was not interested in this particular game but the next morning he telephoned KING at Kansas City and told him he would be glad to attend same and would meet him at the Phillips Hotel. ASHFORD flew to Kansas City on Thursday, November 18, 1948, and went to the Phillips Hotel, had a few drinks with KING and ate dinner with him at the Famous Bar. At this time both the BRAMBLES and EARLE E. WOODWARD were with KING. KING suggested driving to Dallas but ASHFORD decided he would rather fly, which he did, and this group evidently proceeded to Dallas by automobile. He said he met this group at the Baker Hotel Friday Evening, November 19, 1948, and as he entered the hotel at approximately 9:30 P.M. KING advised that his son, who was a member of the Southern Methodist University team, had just left the hotel.

"Saturday after the football game ASHFORD went to this group's hotel room at about 5:30 P.M. and stayed until 10:00 or 11:00 P.M. ASHFORD advised that this group had some girls and once again a crap game was started. At first ASHFORD refused to get into the game and he observed WOODWARD had a roll of approximately \$10,000.00. ASHFORD stated he eventually entered the crap game and he lost \$2,000.00, the entire loss being paid by check. ASHFORD returned to Sioux City and on November 22, 1948, he stopped payment on these checks.

"The next time ASHFORD heard from these individuals was when KING telephoned him November 29, 1948, at approximately 11:00 P.M. from Kansas City. Mrs. ASHFORD answered the telephone and stated her husband was not at home.

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87-15374-26X

DATE: 11-14-2017

Director

8/7/51

"On December 7, 1948, ASHFORD received a telephone call from KING placed with Operator 205, Denver, about 2:00 P.M. and KING wanted to know what ASHFORD was going to do about these checks. KING advised in the telephone conversation that only \$500.00 of the money belonged to him but that \$1,500.00 belonged to WOODWARD and that WOODWARD might get a little rough if ASHFORD did not take care of this matter.

"ASHFORD further related that he has had other telephone calls from KING concerning these checks and that on one of these occasions KING was in Room 413 of the Metropolitan Hotel in Denver.

"ASHFORD advised that WOODWARD's background was always hazy but as he recalled WOODWARD was allegedly from Baltimore, Maryland, and his brother-in-law owns the Crystal Products Company of Kansas City.

"The facts in this case were presented to Assistant United States Attorney WILLIAM E. DANFORTH and he stated that the conversation between KING and ASHFORD via long distance telephone did not constitute a threat under the extortion act and prosecution was declined.

"The following descriptions were furnished by Mr. ASHFORD:

"GUY KING

Race	White
Age	55
Height	5' 9"
Weight	165-170 lbs.
Build	Stocky
Complexion	Light
Eyes	Blue - wears thick lens glasses
Hair	Dark blond and thin all over
Speech	Texas accent and smooth talker
Scars	None noticed
Teeth	May have some gold in front teeth
Marital Status	Possibly a widower
Dress	Flashy

-4-

87-15374-26X-4

DATE: 11-14-2017

5488 EW 2

Director

8/7/51

WALTER SPANBLE

Age	42 or 43 (looks younger)
Height	6'
Weight	170 lbs.
Race	White
Build	Wiry
Hair	Light brown
Eyes	Blue - does not wear glasses
Complexion	Light
Speech	No accent
Dress	Flashy
Occupation	Possibly a used car dealer in Kansas City, Missouri

WALTER SPANBLE

Race	White
Age	46 or 47
Height	6'
Weight	160 lbs.
Build	Wiry
Hair	Light brown and thinning
Eyes	Blue - no glasses
Complexion	Ruddy
Teeth	Normal in appearance
Scars	None noticed
Speech	Normal
Dress	Flashy

MERVIN L. WOODWARD

Race	White
Age	50-55
Height	5' 7"
Weight	110 lbs.
Build	Slight
Ears	Ears protrude like flaps
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Gray
Complexion	Medium
Dress	Flashy
Residence	Claimed to be from Baltimore, Maryland and wrote checks on a Baltimore bank

The following investigation was obtained from interrogation and observations:

-5-
87-15374-26X

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DATE: 11-14-2017

5888

8/7/51

Director

Name	PAUL JOSEPH ASHFORD
Race	White
Age	39 (born February 8, 1909, Homer, Nebraska)
Height	6' 3/4"
Weight	225 lbs.
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Dark
Build	Fat
Teeth	Normal in appearance
Scars	Appendectomy; 1/4" cut scar on left nostril
Marital Status	Married
Relatives	Wife, MARY ASHFORD, and children - all residing with victim - PAUL, Jr., age 8; DENNY, age 5; SHEPLAH, age 4; LINDA, age 18 mos.; JOSEPH, age 8 weeks. Mother, FLORA B. ASHFORD, 907 Washington Avenue, Santa Monica, California."

On September 29, 1949 GENE LOWALL, then City Editor of the "Denver Post" newspaper, who was then a confidential source of this office, reported that PAUL AUGUSTUS KING, commonly known as GUS KING, had spent the summer of 1949 at Troutdale, a mountain resort near Denver. It was reported that KING was alleged to be a highpowered gambler who had been operating in and out of Denver in private dice

Hotel in Cheyenne where they stage. It was further stated that KING had been seen in a number of establishments at the same time that CHARLIE BINAGGIO (who was subsequently murdered in Kansas City) was present, and that on a recent occasion KING had been present at Gaetano's Restaurant in Denver when BINAGGIO was present. It is noted that Gaetano's Restaurant is operated by EUGENE "CHECKERS" SMALDONE and his brother CLYDE, who for a number of years have been reported by local sources to be in control of gambling operations in the Denver area.

-6-

87-15374-26X

0660

DATE: 11-14-2017

5686 REV 2

Director

8/7/51

The Denver Crime Survey for the period ending July 15, 1950 reported that one GERALD D. ALLEN, 1501 High Street, Denver, who was then maintaining an office in the Continental Oil Building, Denver, Colorado, was reported by informant JACK GILMORE to use the office as a front for bookie operations. It was reported that several calls from this office to Kansas City, Missouri were made and all were changed to ERNIE F. WOODWARD, alias "BIG EARS" WOODWARD, who was reported to be a gambler operating in Kansas City. It was further reported by confidential sources that TEMPLE BUEHL, prominent Denver architect, had introduced ALLEN to various of his friends in the Denver area and had been successful in admitting ALLEN to membership in Cherry Hills Country Club in Denver. It was reported that ALLEN's associates were "BIG EARS" WOODWARD, JOHN and KUDY BRAMELE, and CUS KING, all of whom were described as "gambling sharks" from Kansas City, Missouri. It was reported that during 1950 ALLEN and his associates had gambled with BUEHL and over a period of time they had "taken him" for \$18,000; that BUEHL caused an investigation to be made of ALLEN and his associates but that at BUEHL's request the results of that investigation were never disclosed.

The following information was contained in a letter from the Miami Division dated March 27, 1951:

"Although the following information does not appear to indicate a violation which could be successfully prosecuted under the Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property Statute, it is being submitted to the Bureau and offices for which copies of this letter are designated for information purposes. Mrs. VIRGINIA VAN NORMAN, 3111 South Zuni, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Telephone #71967, Tulsa, appeared in the Miami Office on March 26, 1951, and requested information concerning one JAMES LEE. As a result of the ensuing interview with Mrs. VAN NORMAN the following information was obtained.

Mrs. VAN NORMAN met JAMES BRADLEY LEE, also known as J. BRADLEY LEE and JAMES LEE, at Hot Springs, Arkansas, in June of 1950 at a horse show. LEE subsequently called her on the telephone on several occasions from Dallas, Texas; Reno, Nevada; Monterey, New Mexico and Los Angeles, California. In July of 1950, LEE was reportedly staying at Grand Lake, Colorado and flew to Tulsa, Oklahoma where he stayed for one week with Mrs. VAN NORMAN and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. MATHY. He reportedly flew from Tulsa to Los Angeles after this visit and stayed at the Casa Manana in La Jolla, California. Mrs. VAN NORMAN advised that she is divorced from her former husband and had expected to marry Lee and had given him money as follows:

-7-

87-15374-26X-2

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