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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1
 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT EL PASO

FILE NO. 87-15374

REPORT MADE AT DENVER	DATE WHEN MADE 9/12/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/6, 11, 27; 9/5/51	REPORT MADE BY PAUL E. BUSH
TITLE VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA, wa. Victor Perry; EUGENE E. BRADING, wa. James Bradley Lee; UNKNOWN SUBJECT, wa. E. J. Wilson; UNKNOWN SUBJECT, wa. "Slincy"; Mrs. GERTRUDE J. JOYCE - VICTIM		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY; CONSPIRACY; MAIL FRAUD	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

No record divorce proceedings, Denver, Colorado involving VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA. Telegram sent from Denver April 24, 1951 to VICTOR E. PEREIRA in care of GERTRUDE JOYCE, ROSWELL, New Mexico, signed "CURTIS". Message stated PEREIRA'S divorce final April 28, 1951 and that PEREIRA was to receive \$48,895 as his part of property settlement. "CURTIS" may be identical with CURTIS R. WAGNER, President Wagner Machine and Mill Supply Company, Denver, Colorado. D. M. CAREY, Denver gambler and associate of PEREIRA and SAMUEL SIDNEY SOLOWAY, was reported to furnish financial banking to WAGNER. Informant states PEREIRA, in telephone contact with CURTIS R. WAGNER in April, 1951. Unsub., wa. "SIDNEY" probably identical with SOLOWAY, who is now reported visiting his brother, a Chicago physician. Informant reports EDWARD J. WILSON, who may be identical with Unknown Subject E. J. WILSON is old-time "con man" now residing in Hemet, California. WILSON reported to be associate of EUGENE BRADING, wa.; JOCK DOWDING, wa.; and SAMUEL SIDNEY SOLOWAY. No record of BRADING, PEREIRA or SOLOWAY at Shirley Savoy Hotel, Denver. SOLOWAY was registered at Brown Palace Hotel, Denver, July 19 and 20, 1951 and was at Cosmopolitan Hotel, Denver, January 7 to 22, 1951 and from August 1 to 17, 1951. PEREIRA registered at Cosmopolitan Hotel during April of 1950.

EXPEDITED PROCESSING

SEP 21 1951

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>C. E. Weeks</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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DETAILS: AT DENVER, COLORADO

Investigation in this matter was conducted at Denver, Colorado by SA FRED G. McGEARY and the reporting agent.

Mrs. PEARL WOODWARD, Clerk's Office, District Court, city and county of Denver informed that the records of her office from January 1, 1948 to September 5, 1951 contained no record of a divorce proceeding involving VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA.

Mr. PAUL POMPHIO, Clerk's Office, County Court, city and county of Denver informed that the records of his office from January 1, 1948 to September 5, 1951 contain no record of a divorce proceeding involving VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA.

Confidential Informant, Denver, T-1 of known reliability exhibited to the writer original telegram dated April 24, 1951, and received for transmittal at Denver, Colorado, at 11:26 A. M. on April 24, 1951. This telegram is addressed to VICTOR E. PEREIRA, 401 West 11th Street, Roswell, New Mexico, in care of GERTRUDE BOYCE and reads as follows:

"Your net figure in property settlement, \$48,635. Distribution will be made May 25. Final divorce effective April 29. Best personal regards. Hope to see you soon." Signed, "CURTIS"

It was noted that this message was hand printed by the sender in pencil and according to Informant, it was sent from the headquarters office of the Western Union in Denver, Colorado. Informant had no information as to the identity of "CURTIS".

Confidential Informant, Denver, T-2, an associate of gamblers and "con men", who has in the past furnished reliable information to this office, and who is well acquainted with VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA, was EUGENE H. BRADING, wa., and SAMUEL SIDNEY SOLOWAY, informed that he was in Phoenix, Arizona from January, 1951 to April 14, 1951, and during that period was in contact with PEREIRA, BRADING and SOLOWAY from time to time. He recalled that shortly after he returned to Denver, around the middle of April, 1951 he was informed that PEREIRA had been in telephonic communication with CURTIS R. WAGNER, President of the Wagner Machine and Mill Supply Company, 4444 York Street, Denver, Colorado. Informant related that to his knowledge CURTIS R. WAGNER is the only person in Denver

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who has a first or last name of "CURTIS" with whom VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA is acquainted.

Informant stated that CURTIS R. WAGNER is a former Kansas City, Missouri Police Officer; that while he was in Kansas City WAGNER was a friend of D. M. CAREY, formerly in Kansas City, now residing in Denver, Colorado. He stated that CAREY is a big-time gambler and has furnished financial backing to WAGNER in connection with Warner Machine and Mill Supply Company. He stated that both WAGNER and CAREY have in the past been friendly with VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA, and that CAREY is well acquainted with SAMUEL SIDNEY SOLOWAY and JAMES BRADLEY LEE. He pointed out that to his personal knowledge CAREY sponsored PEREIRA'S membership in the Elks Club in Denver, a year or so ago.

Informant stated that he has no personal knowledge of the deals or arrangements made by the subjects in the present case but he knows, from associations with them that PEREIRA and BRADING are "lover boys" and "con men" who make a business of preying upon gullible, wealthy women, extending offers of marriage and then shaking them down for large sums of money. He further stated that he knows SAMUEL SIDNEY SOLOWAY as "DOC" SOLOWAY, that SOLOWAY has for many years been a big-time "con man" and would be interested in any deal where there was a possibility of picking up a substantial sum of money. He further stated that between January and April of 1951 PEREIRA, SOLOWAY and BRADING, together with JACK DOWDING, described by the Informant as an old time "con man" spent considerable time at the Adams Hotel and the Westward Ho Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona.

Informant was questioned as to the identity of Unknown Subject, wa., E. J. WILSON. He promptly stated that the only E. J. WILSON he knows who might be acquainted with PEREIRA, BRADING and SOLOWAY is EDWARD J. WILSON of Menet, California. He stated that EDWARD J. WILSON appears to be a man of considerable wealth, that he is an old time "con man" now generally considered to be "retired"; that he is possibly 75 years of age, and resides with his relatively young wife in an atmosphere of luxury. He stated that WILSON, a number of years ago operated as a big time "con man" around Miami, Florida. He recalled that several years ago WILSON became involved in an altercation with one ARTHUR CLARK, a gambler and "con man" in Miami, Florida over a gambling proposition and WILSON, as a result, shot CLARK and seriously wounded him. Thereafter, according to Informant, WILSON made an extended trip to Europe to "cool off".

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Informant stated that he personally met EDWARD J. WILSON in Colorado Springs, Colorado at the Broadmoor Hotel in the summer of 1950 and at that time WILSON was accompanied by EUGENE H. BRADING (using the name JAMES BRADLEY LEE) and JOCK DOUDING. He stated that WILSON presented a very nice appearance, appeared to be in good health and played golf frequently at the Broadmoor golf course. He believes that at that time WILSON was residing at the Broadmoor Hotel, which is a very fashionable resort hotel in Colorado Springs. He stated that it is his understanding from conversations with WILSON at that time, and from subsequent conversations with persons who are acquainted with WILSON, that the latter, although residing in Hemet, California, frequently travels to resort areas around the country. He had no personal knowledge as to whether WILSON was in Phoenix, Arizona between January and April, 1951 or whether he was in the state of Texas during that period. He pointed out however, that since WILSON is apparently a good friend of JAMES BRADLEY LEE, he is also undoubtedly acquainted with "Doc" SOLOWAY and VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA.

Informant also pointed out that to his knowledge, the only associate of PEREIRA and BRADING (wa., LEE) who has ever used the name of "SIDNEY" is SAMUEL SIDNEY SOLOWAY, wa., "Doc" SOLOWAY, and he has no doubt that if PEREIRA and BRADING were perpetrating a scheme to defraud anybody out of a substantial sum of money, SOLOWAY would not hesitate to assist them if he could personally derive any money from the scheme.

With further reference to PEREIRA, T-2 stated that Mrs. ADA PEREIRA, about three years ago obtained a divorce from VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA at Reno, Nevada. He stated that for a period of two or three years, up until about six months ago Mrs. PEREIRA operated the St. Francis Hotel in Denver, and that VICTOR PEREIRA frequently made the statement that he was financially interested in this hotel but actually had no interest therein. He stated that Mrs. PEREIRA sold the St. Francis Hotel about four years ago to ART BAZARI, Manager of the Cosmopolitan Hotel in Denver and she presently resides somewhere in Kansas City Missouri.

Informant stated that after being divorced by ADA PEREIRA, VICTOR PEREIRA married a girl in Reno, Nevada and that they had a small child; that PEREIRA subsequently abandoned his wife and child and "ran off" with a Reno waitress, whose name Informant could not recall.

In regard to EDWARD J. WILSON, it is noted that he was interviewed by Agents of the Seattle Office in July, 1951 in connection with Denver case entitled "JAMES HENRY DOLAN, wa. Et Al; IMPERSONATION; CONSPIRACY" at which time WILSON was visiting his nephew at 3520 Burke Avenue, Seattle, Washington. At that time, he was accompanied by his wife ELSIE E. WILSON. He gave his

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permanent address as 800 East Florida Street, Hemet, California.

Preliminary inquiry concerning WILSON at Hemet, California, conducted by the San Diego Office reflected that he was supposed to be a retired businessman, and was mentioned to have formerly resided in Miami, Florida, where he had extensive property holdings. It further appeared that WILSON and his wife enjoyed a favorable reputation in Hemet, California, and that they frequently traveled to various resort areas around the country. In connection with this case, it appeared that in May, 1951 JAMES HENRY DOLAN had deposited in a Denver bank a check in the amount of \$2,063, drawn on the Citizen's National Trust and Savings Bank of Hemet, California and signed by ELSIE E. WILSON. DOLAN is a crooked gambler and "con man" and is presently at liberty under \$5,000 bond in Denver, Colorado on a Federal charge of impersonating an agent of the United States Bureau of Internal Revenue.

When EDWARD J. WILSON was interviewed concerning his association with DOLAN he appeared to be somewhat evasive; claimed that he was in poor health and that his memory was faulty. He stated, however, that he had met DOLAN in Las Vegas, Nevada in January, 1951 and held a casual conversation with him at that time. He again met DOLAN when the latter was traveling through Hemet, California in April of 1951. On the second meeting, WILSON claimed that he became involved in a poker game with DOLAN and several businessmen in Hemet, California, and at that time DOLAN won \$2,063 from him, which amount WILSON paid to DOLAN by check. He stated that his wife ELSIE E. WILSON signed the check. He explained to her that the same represented payment to DOLAN for the purchase of some stock.

It is pointed out that Confidential Informant T-2 mentioned above, has reported that while DOLAN was in Phoenix, Arizona during January and February, 1951 he frequently associated with "DOC" SOLOWAY, JAMES BRADLEY LEE and "JOCK" DOWDING.

Mr. KARL WEHNER, Assistant Manager, Brown Palace Hotel, Denver, advised that hotel records contained no information reflecting that WEHNER or BRADING had been registered there during the last two years. He produced records reflecting that "S. SOLOWAY", 2219 Fort Worth Avenue, Dallas, Texas was registered at the hotel on July 19, 1951 in Room 415 and checked out on July 20, 1951.

Mr. AL CONGER, Credit Manager, Cosmopolitan Hotel advised that their records reflected that "S. SOLOWAY", 735 Fort Worth Avenue, Dallas, Texas was registered at the Cosmopolitan Hotel from January 7, 1951 to

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January 22, 1951, occupying Room 441. The records further indicated that SOLOWAY was a guest at the Cosmopolitan Hotel from August 1, 1951 to August 17, 1951. While at the Cosmopolitan Hotel on August 3, 1951 SOLOWAY placed two long distance telephone calls to Chicago, Illinois, telephone number Long Beach 1-8500, which phone is listed to a "DOCTOR SOLOWAY," a Chicago physician.

Records of the Cosmopolitan Hotel contain no information reflecting that EUGENE H. BRADING, wa., JAMES BRADLEY LEE has been registered there. However, the records indicate that Mr. and Mrs. VICTOR PEREIRA, 1517 O. Street, Sacramento, California, were registered there from April 21, 1950 to April 23, 1950.

Confidential Informant T-2 informed that during August, 1951 while SOLOWAY was registered at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, he was drinking heavily and appeared to be in need of money. Informant stated that at the time SOLOWAY left the Cosmopolitan Hotel on August 17, 1951 he stated that he was going to Chicago, Illinois to visit his brother, whom he described as a practicing physician in Chicago.

STEPHEN STANLEY SAMBOR, 1519 Laurel, Hollywood, California, a gambler, presently residing at the Cosmopolitan Hotel in Denver and who states that he is in Denver to attend the Racing Meet at Centennial Race Track, informed that he is acquainted with "DOC" SOLOWAY, and during August, 1951 saw him frequently in Denver. He stated that SOLOWAY has been drinking heavily in recent months and left Denver around the middle of August to go to Chicago, Illinois, where, according to SAMBOR, SOLOWAY has a brother who is a physician. He was unable to furnish the full name of SOLOWAY'S brother.

Mr. MORGAN HAIGHT, Assistant Manager, Shirley Savoy Hotel informed that hotel records since January 1, 1950 contained no reference to PEREIRA, BRADING or SOLOWAY.

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Two copies of this report are being designated for Chicago, Seattle, and San Diego in the event additional investigation is requested of these offices by the office of origin.

One copy of this report is being designated for Dallas, Kansas City, Miami, New York and Phoenix for information purposes in the event additional investigation should be requested in the future.

LEADSTHE EL PASO DIVISIONAt El Paso, Texas

Will interview subjects PEREIRA and BRADING, and attempt to determine whether person who sent telegram to PEREIRA, named herein is identical with CURTIS R. WAGNER, President, Wagner Machine and Mill Supply Company, 4444 York Street, Denver. After this interview, will inform Denver Office of results of this interview and indicate whether it is desired that CURTIS R. WAGNER be interviewed at this time as a possible conspirator in this case.

Will furnish the Denver Office with up-to-date photographs of PEREIRA and BRADING, to be used in covering additional leads in this territory.

Will inform the Seattle and San Diego Offices as to whether it is desired that EDWARD J. WILSON mentioned herein be interviewed concerning his possible participation with PEREIRA and BRADING in the scheme to defraud Mrs. GERTRUDE J. JOYCE.

Will inform the Chicago Office whether it is desired that SAMUEL SIDNER be interviewed in view of his possibly being identical with Unknown Subject, "SIDNER".

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

T-1 is Mr. E. B. THOMPSON, Manager, Western Union Headquarters Office, Railway Exchange Building, Denver, Colorado, who made available original telegram mentioned herein, with the understanding that his name would not be mentioned in connection with this investigation.

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PAUL AUGUSTUS KING

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T-2 is [redacted] was., FBI Number [redacted] presently residing in Room 1018 Cosmopolitan Hotel in Denver, Colorado. [redacted] is a known gambler and an admitted associate of gamblers, race track touts and "con men". He furnished information in connection with this matter to SA FRED G. McGRARY and the reporting agent on September 5, 1961, with the understanding that his name be kept in strict confidence.

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KING

[redacted] concerning the telephone call made by VICTOR PEREIRA to CURTIS R. WAGNER during the month of April, 1961, it is noted that [redacted] explained that he received information concerning this call from ROBERT B. GIBSON, 825 Newport, Denver, Colorado, a friend of CURTIS R. WAGNER and a former employee of the Wagner Machine and Mill Supply Company of Denver. He stated that at that time [redacted] was in contact with JAMES BRADLEY LEE with GIBSON and was wondering where LEE was located at that time, and GIBSON told him that VICTOR PEREIRA, a friend of LEE'S, had, within the last few days made a long distance phone call to CURTIS R. WAGNER in Denver, Colorado, and had apparently stated at that time that he was located somewhere in New Mexico or Arizona. According to [redacted] GIBSON did not know the exact purpose of the call but stated that he understood that PEREIRA held some type of patent on a fishing rod and had possibly discussed this patent with WAGNER during the phone call.

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Reference is made to El Paso letter to Phoenix dated August 21, 1961 describing an attempted scheme to defraud Mrs. RUTH THOMAS and Mrs. FRANCES PECK, Phoenix, Arizona, out of \$25,000 in January, 1961 wherein SAMUEL SHIMKEY SOLOWAY, PAUL AUGUSTUS KING and JAMES BRADLEY LEE were named as perpetrators of the scheme. In connection with this matter [redacted] stated that in January, 1961 SOLOWAY came to Denver with one FRITZ BROWN from Dallas, Texas and both of them resided at the Cosmopolitan Hotel for a period of two or three weeks. He described BROWN as a gambler and carnival concessionaire who operates out of Dallas, Texas. He stated that shortly after BROWN and SOLOWAY arrived in Denver, they were joined by JAMES BRADLEY LEE, and that LEE, BROWN and SOLOWAY on several occasions visited in [redacted] suite, Number 922 at the Cosmopolitan Hotel and engaged in various crap games and card games in hotels in Denver.

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He stated that about January 20, 1951, BROWN and SOLOWAY returned to Dallas, Texas, and that LEE went to Phoenix, Arizona. KING stated that on January 24, 1951 he drove to Phoenix in his automobile alone and registered at the San Marcus Hotel. Shortly after, he was contacted by telephone by JAMES BRADLEY LEE, who requested him to come out to an apartment at 4105 North 32nd Street in Phoenix, Arizona. KING stated that he went out to this apartment and observed that LEE and SOLOWAY were both present, together with two women who LEE introduced to KING as Mrs. RUTH THOMAS and her mother, Mrs. FRANCES PECK of Missoula, Montana. KING stated that during the subsequent conversation it was obvious that SOLOWAY and LEE were building up a swindle to be perpetrated on Mrs. THOMAS and Mrs. PECK. LEE, according to KING, claimed that he intended to marry Mrs. THOMAS and continually discussed an oil lease deal which he claimed that he and SOLOWAY were working on with KING, and for which they needed \$25,000.

According to KING, LEE and SOLOWAY kept building him up as a big oil man with plenty of money, and claimed that KING was willing to sell them a block of oil leases for \$25,000 if they could raise the money by January 29, 1951. KING admitted that he immediately recognized the situation as being a build-up for a swindle, but that he did not give Mrs. THOMAS or Mrs. PECK any warning, and did not deny that he was an oil man inasmuch as he actually owns a substantial block of oil leases in Jack County, Texas. He stated, however, that after this incident occurred he told SOLOWAY and LEE that he wanted no part of it and did not desire to have anything further to do with it. He stated that thereafter he observed that SOLOWAY and LEE, who were staying at the Adams Hotel in Phoenix were joined by VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA, and he was convinced that PEREIRA, LEE and SOLOWAY were then cooking up some scheme to perpetrate a fraud although none of them ever discussed their plans with him.

He pointed out that two or three days after the conversation mentioned above at the apartment on 32nd Street in Phoenix, he was told by LEE and SOLOWAY that the deal with Mrs. THOMAS and Mrs. PECK had "fallen through".

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REFERENCE: Report of SA HUGH J. PHARIES, dated August 15, 1951 at
El Paso, Texas.

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