

NA 9:00 P
12/13/70, 9PM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 13 1970

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Brennan	CD _____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NR 001 LV PLAIN

5:47 PM URGENT 12/13/70 MJH

TO DIRECTOR

FROM LAS VEGAS (62-582) 1P

HOWARD HUGHES, INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING PERSON.

RE BU TEL CALL THIS DATE.

PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF FORSYTHE AND WELGE UNKNOWN.

INQUIRIES INDICATE THEY ARE TO ARRIVE IN LAS VEGAS SOMETIME
AFTER TEN P.M. TONIGHT. INFORMATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED THAT
HUGHES NEVADA OPERATIONS PERSONNEL TENTATIVELY PLAN TO HAVE
FORSYTHE ^E BW GIVEN A LIE DETECTOR TEST BY CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF
OFFICE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HIS ARRIVAL IN LAS VEGAS.

LAS VEGAS WILL OBTAIN RESULTS OF POLYGRAPH TEST AND
THEREAFTER CONDUCT THE INTERVIEWS. EX-106

END

TRC FBI WASHINGTON DC

DEC 15 1970

61 DEC 21 1970

cc - COOKE

18-cv-01635-801

12/14/70

1 - Mr. Cooke
1 - Mr. Adams

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, Las Vegas

FROM: Director, FBI

HOWARD HUGHES;
INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING PERSON

Reurtel 12/11/70.

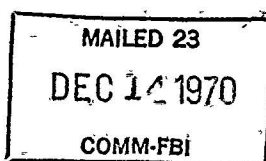
This is to confirm Butelcal 12/13/70, when you were requested to interview immediately Levane M. Forsythe and Wayne Welge and take signed statements, if possible. In event these two individuals substantially corroborate information in retel, additional interviews are desired with secretaries of Hughes, particularly Roy Crawford and Howard Eckersley noted in retel.

Sutel results and keep Bureau informed of developments.

JRA:bls
(5)

NOTE:

SA J. R. Adams called SAC Campbell, LV, 6:20 p.m., 12/13/70, re above.



Tolson _____
Sullivan _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Brennan, C.D. _____
Callahan _____
Casper _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Tavel _____
Walters _____
Soyars _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

EX-106

REC-81

10 DEC 15, 1970

18-cv-01635-802

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Sullivan

DATE: December 19, 1970

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: HOWARD HUGHES
INFORMATION CONCERNING
MISSING PERSON

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Shroder
- 1 - Mr. Rowse
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Gale

Tolson _____
Sullivan _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Brennan, C.D. _____
Callahan _____
Casper _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Tavel _____
Walters _____
Soyars _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Reference is made to memorandum from A. Rosen to Mr. Sullivan dated 12-17-70, in which former SAC Dean Elson volunteered information to our Las Vegas Office concerning a California contractor, Levane Forsythe, who was allegedly present when an individual believed to be Hughes was removed from his hotel in Las Vegas and taken to the airport. Elson also believed a California engineer named Wayne Welges to have first-hand information concerning Hughes's departure. Forsythe was allegedly hired for his assignment by Roy Crawford, a male secretary of Howard Hughes's, and a person believed to be Howard Eckersley, Hughes's personal secretary, was present at the time of Hughes's departure. Instructions were issued to interview Forsythe and Welges at once and then Crawford and Howard Eckersley. Welges was located and he advised he had no personal knowledge of the matter and received his information from Forsythe.

Forsythe advised Agents he was paid \$500 by an H. L. Crawford (possibly identical with Roy Crawford), a Hughes aide) to guard five automobiles at the exit of the Desert Inn Hotel in Las Vegas. He stated that about 1:40 a.m., 11-26-70, he saw four men exit the hotel and believes one to have been Hughes. This individual was heard to say "Will someone get Bob Maheu or Pat Hyland." (Hyland is head of Hughes Aircraft Company in California).

EX-113

REC-14

62-99801-24

Howard Eckersley was interviewed at his residence in Salt Lake City, Utah, 12-18-70, and advised that Hughes decided to remove Robert Maheu as number one man in his Nevada enterprises because of Maheu's lavish spending over the past three years but considered placing him in another position with less authority. He stated on 11-14-70, Hughes signed a proxy giving the Hughes Tool Company authority to vote his stock. He said 14 months ago Hughes talked about moving and rented rooms at the Britannia Beach Hotel, Nassau, in the Bahamas, but only decided to leave Las Vegas approximately three days before his departure. He stated on 11-25-70, Hughes decided the time had come to remove Maheu and advised Eckersley that Maheu would be irrational when he received the news and he (Hughes) did not want to be present.

54 JAN 1 1971

SENT DIRECTOR

12-19-70

CONTINUED - OVER

18-cv-01635-803

Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
RE: HOWARD HUGHES

NEV NM BA-15

CALIF, NEV, NM
BA-15

Eckersley advised that at 8:30 p. m., 11-25-70, [redacted] George/Francom, LaVar/Myler, Gordon Margolis and himself took Hughes down a stairway through an apparel shop door and into a panel truck in the west parking lot of his hotel. He stated Hughes wore dark glasses and could hardly see so he was supported by his aides. He stated the only person Hughes spoke to was to say hello to Margolis after leaving the building. He stated they departed from Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, which was arranged by Lockheed Aircraft Vice President Jack Real and that a group consisting of himself, [redacted] Francom, Myler, Carl Romm and Norman Crane accompanied Hughes to Nassau. He stated Crane is Hughes's physician and although Hughes was not ill, he wanted him present. He further advised that after arrival in the Bahamas, Hughes read Hank Greenspun article (publisher of Las Vegas Sun) alleging that he was kidnaped and advised the Hughes Tool Company director that the proxy should be executed immediately removing Maheu. He stated that Hughes is presently in the Bahamas with his aides.

b6 -5
b7C -5

Roy Edward Crawford, Encino, California, staff aide to Hughes, was interviewed by Bureau Agents in Miami, Florida, 12-18-70, and advised that he did not make the trip from Las Vegas to the Bahamas with the Hughes party and that he did not take part in the planning for the trip and did not learn of the details until he went back on duty, Sunday, 11-29-70, in Nassau. Crawford advised that he does not know Forsythe and Welges and knows of no H. L. or H. G. Crawford. He stated that Hughes's trip to the Bahamas had been planned for over a year and the general details were known by Maheu and [redacted] (another individual allegedly fired by Hughes). He stated the actual trip was changed at the last minute which was known only by the individuals taking part in the trip which did not include himself.

b6 -5
b7C -5

Former SAC Dean Elson on 12-18-70, advised it was learned that Brigadier General H. K. Hansen, Commanding General, Nellis Air Force Base, had been asked by his superiors to explain why a civilian aircraft had been cleared for take off on the evening before Thanksgiving (11-25-70). Elson said it appears a colonel from the Judge Advocate General's Office had knowledge of this and an unknown captain apparently observed a man loaded into a civilian plane on a stretcher completely immobile at Nellis Air Force Base on the evening of 11-25-70. No information as to the identities of the colonel or captain is known. Elson said General Hansen testified in closed court session, 12-18-70.

Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
RE: HOWARD HUGHES

ACTION: On the basis of information given our Agents, it appears Forsythe's allegations may not be valid; however, it is to be noted that the only way to be certain that Hughes was not kidnaped is to interview Hughes and ask him if he was, in fact, kidnaped.

If the Director wishes, this will be done.

No. Discontinue this
inquiry. &

Room

HAR

WES

RIS
g

✓ Jan
was

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Sullivan ✓
Mr. Mohr ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Mr. Brennan CD
Mr. C. Mahan
Mr. Casper
Mr. Conrad ✓
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Walters
Mr. Soyars
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

HOWARD HUGHES . INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING PERSON.

THE POWER STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL OF HUGHES' NEVADA INTERESTS
BETWEEN CHESTER DAVIS - FRANK GAY (HUGHES TOOL CO.) AND ROBERT
MAHEU (HUGHES NEVADA OPERATIONS) CONTINUES. LOCAL COURT HEARINGS
BEING CONDUCTED DAILY TO ESTABLISH AUTHENTICITY OF DOCUMENTS
PURPORTEDLY EMANATING FROM HUGHES PERSONALLY IN THIS MATTER.
PRESS COVERAGE EXTENSIVE WITH MAJOR HEADLINES IN LAS VEGAS NEWS-
PAPERS ON DAILY BASIS.

DEAN ELSON (FORMER SAC WHO IS NOW MAHEU ALIDE) FURNISHED
FOLLOWING INFORMATION TODAY:

ON DECEMBER TEN LAST HIS OFFICE RECEIVED MYSTERIOUS MESSAGE
TO CONTACT AN UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL AT A TELEPHONE NUMBER IN LOS
ANGELES. UPON MAKING CONTACT AT THIS NUMBER ELSON WAS ADVISED BY
WAYNE WELGE THAT HE WOULD PUT HIM IN TOUCH WITH ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL

END PAGE ONE

SENT DIRECTOR
12-12-70

18-cv-01635-806

PERS. REC. UNIT

PAGE TWO

WHOM HE WOULD NOT IDENTIFY WHO~~SE~~ HE FELT WAS A PARTICIPANT IN THE "ABDUCTION" OF HOWARD HUGHES. UPON MAKING TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH THE LATTER UNKNOWN MALE, WHO WOULD IDENTIFY HIMSELF AS "LMK", ELSON WAS TOLD THIS INDIVIDUAL HAD BEEN CONSULTING WITH WELGE AND HAD DECIDED THAT HE WOULD DIVULGE INFORMATION IN HIS POSSESSION IN THIS MATTER AT THIS TIME INASMUCH AS HE WAS FEARFUL FOR HIS PERSONAL SAFETY.

ELSON ARRANGED TO TRAVEL FROM LAS VEGAS TO LOS ANGELES AND MEET WELGE AND THE PREVIOUSLY UNIDENTIFIED MALE IN THE PENTHOUSE LOUNGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, LOS ANGELES, AT ABOUT EIGHT PM DECEMBER TEN LAST. THE UNKNOWN MAN AT THIS TIME IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS LEVANE M. FORSYTHE, A CONTRACTOR INVOLVED IN EXCAVATIONS. WELGE IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS A CIVIL ENGINEER AND DID NOT GIVE A PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT. FORSYTHE INDICATED THAT IN TRAVEL TO LAS VEGAS ON PERSONAL BUSINESS OVER THE YEARS HE BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WORKED IN THE CASHIERS CAGE AT THE STARDUST HOTEL, NAMED GIL (LAST NAME UNKNOWN) (POSSIBLY GILBERT COSKEY, A FORMER
NEV)

END PAGE TWO

PAGE TW

PAGE THREE

CASHIER AT THE STARDUST). THROUGH GIL, FORSYTHE MET ROY CRAWFORD,
ONE OF THE MALE SECRETARIES WHO HAS LONG BEEN EMPLOYED BY HOWARD
HUGHES AND ATTENDED HIM PERSONALLY IN HIS ISOLATED PENTHOUSE AT
THE DESERT INN. ABOUT A MONTH AGO FORSYTHE RECEIVED A CALL FROM
CRAWFORD STATING HE MIGHT HAVE A JOB FOR HIM, BUT DID NOT FURTHER
IDENTIFY THE JOB. FORSYTHE LATER RECEIVED A CALL FROM CRAWFORD
TO COME TO THE DESERT INN HOTEL IN LAS VEGAS ON NOVEMBER TWENTY-
SIX. FORSYTHE DID THIS AND AT THAT TIME ACCEPTED AN ASSIGNMENT
FROM CRAWFORD FOR FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND THE PROMISE OF FIVE
HUNDRED DOLLARS MORE AT A LATER DATE. FORSYTHE'S JOB WAS TO GUARD
APPROXIMATELY SIX CARS PARKED IN THE NORTH PARKING LOT OF THE
DESERT INN HOTEL. HE WAS TO MAKE SURE THE CARS REMAINED SECURE
AND WERE AT NO TIME BLOCKED BY OTHER VEHICLES. FORSYTHE KNEW NONE
OF SEVERAL OTHER INDIVIDUALS OBVIOUSLY INVOLVED ON THE SAME ASSIGN-
MENT, HOWEVER, ALL WORE A PECULIAR TYPE OF BUTTON IN THEIR LAPEL
TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES. THE ONLY INFORMATION ON THE ASSIGNMENT
WHICH FORSYTHE RECEIVED WAS THAT AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS ILL HAD TO
BE MOVED FROM THE HOTEL.

END PAGE THREE

18-cv-01635-808

PAGE FOUR

AT APPROXIMATELY TWO AM NOVEMBER TWENTY-SEVEN LAST TWO MEN EXITED A FIRE ESCAPE DOORWAY FROM THE HOTEL IN THE VICINITY OF THE SIX PARKED CARS. THESE TWO MEN WERE EITHER HELPING OR CARRYING A SMALLER INDIVIDUAL, WHO APPEARED EITHER TO BE ILL OR EXTREMELY WEAK AND WAS DRESSED ONLY IN PAJAMAS AND A ROBE. ONE MALE INDIVIDUAL FOLLOWED THESE TWO MEN ^{AND ALTHOUGH UNKNOWN} ~~ALSO, HE WENT~~ TO HIM, FORSYTHE, ACCORDING TO ELSON, DESCRIBED THE INDIVIDUAL IN SUCH DETAIL THAT ELSON CONCLUDED THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS HOWARD ECKERSLEY, HUGHES' PERSONAL SECRETARY. AS THE MAN WAS BEING

HELPED OR CARRIED SOME FIFTEEN TO TWENTY YARDS TO A WAITING VEHICLE, HE APPEARED TO ATTEMPT TO TURN TOWARD FORSYTHE AND OTHER PERSONS STANDING IN THE AREA AND IN A FAIRLY LOUD VOICE EXCLAIMED "GET ME BOB MAHEU OR PAT HYLAND". NO RESPONSE WAS GIVEN BY ANYONE, AND THE MAN WAS EITHER HELPED OR FORCED INTO ONE OF THE WAITING CARS. IT IS NOTED THAT PAT HYLAND IS HEAD OF HUGHES' AIRCRAFT COMPANY, CALIFORNIA, AND IS A LONG-TIME FRIEND AND ASSOCIATE OF HUGHES.

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

THE SIX CARS THEN PROCEEDED FROM THE PARKING LOT IN PROCESSION WITH ABOUT THREE OR FOUR MALE INDIVIDUALS IN EACH CAR. THE MAN WHO HAD BEEN HELPED OR CARRIED INTO THE CAR RODE IN EITHER THE FIRST OR SECOND CAR. FORSYTHE RODE IN THE FOURTH CAR. ALL CARS PROCEEDED ALONG LAS VEGAS BOULEVARD UNTIL THEY APPEARED TO BE APPROACHING AN AIRPORT (FORSYTHE STATED HE OBSERVED A FLASHING AIRPORT-TYPE LIGHT). POSSIBLY HUGHES AIRTERMINAL, LAS VEGAS. A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE AIRPORT THE THIRD CAR IN THE PROCESSION STOPPED, AS DID ALL CARS BEHIND SAME. A MAN EXITED THE THIRD CAR AND CAME BACK AND TOLD ALL OCCUPANTS OF THE CARS IN THE REAR TO RETURN TO THE STRIP AREA AND GO ABOUT THEIR OWN PURSUITS. MEANWHILE THE FIRST AND SECOND CARS IN THE PROCESSION HAD PROCEEDED IN THE DIRECTION OF THE AIRPORT. FORSYTHE STATES HE RETURNED TO HIS HOTEL AND THE FOLLOWING DAY LEFT LAS VEGAS.

IT WAS NOT UNTIL FORSYTHE READ NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS THAT HE CONCLUDED THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WHOM HE HAD OBSERVED BEING LOADED INTO A CAR IN LAS VEGAS ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER TWENTY-SEVEN

END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

LAST WAS HOWARD HUGHES. SINCE THIS DATE FORSYTHE HAS MADE SEVERAL ATTEMPTS TO GET IN TOUCH WITH CRAWFORD AND HYLAND AND UPON EACH OCCASION HE IS REFERRED TO THE HUGHES ENTERPRISES OFFICE AT SEVEN THOUSAND ROMAINE STREET, LOS ANGELES, WHICH IS THE HEADQUARTERS OFFICE OF FRANK ^{CALIF} SAY, WHO HAS ALLIED HIMSELF WITH CHESTER ^{CALIF} DAVIS IN THE FACTION OPPOSING MAHEU. FORSYTHE STATES THAT IN AT LEAST ONE OF HIS CALLS HE WAS TOLD TO BE QUIET AND SAY NOTHING FURTHER CONCERNING THE INCIDENT IN WHICH HE PARTICIPATED. HE ALSO STATES THAT ON ONE OF THESE CALLS HE BELIEVED HE TALKED WITH CHESTER DAVIS.

ELSON ARRANGED FOR FORSYTHE AND WELGE TO RETURN WITH HIM TO LAS VEGAS IN THE EARLY AM TODAY AND HAD THEM CHECK INTO THE DUNES HOTEL. THEY WERE BOTH QUESTIONED BY MAHEU AND MORTON GALANE, THE ATTORNEY REPRESENTING MAHEU IN THE LOCAL DISTRICT COURT HEARINGS. ELSON STATES THAT DESPITE CERTAIN SOMEWHAT INCREDIBLE ASPECTS OF THE STORY, BOTH FORSYTHE AND WELGE HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT. HE POINTED OUT THAT HE IS COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF THE BACKGROUNDS OF WELGE AND FORSYTHE, HOWEVER, WELGE HAS DESCRIBED FORSYTHE AS A

END PAGE SIX

PAGE SEVEN

SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR WHO IS PROBABLY WORTH A HALF A MILLION DOLLARS. ELSON FURTHER STATED THAT WELGE HAS COMMENTED THAT HE FEELS BOTH HE AND FORSYTHE SHOULD GO TO THE FBI WITH THEIR STORY, INASMUCH AS THEY FEEL THAT FORSYTHE UNDOUBTEDLY PARTICIPATED UNKNOWNINGLY IN THE REMOVAL OF HUGHES FROM THE DESERT INN HOTEL. AGAINST HIS WILL. NO SUBSTANTIATION FOR THIS CONCLUSION CAN BE GIVEN OTHER THAN FOR THE SECRETIVE NATURE UNDER WHICH THE DEPARTURE TOOK PLACE, AND THE REPORTED CALL THE INDIVIDUAL MADE IN THE PARKING LOT FOR MAHEU OR HYLAND. FORSYTHE ADMITS HE HAS NO IDEA WHAT HAPPENED FOLLOWING THE TIME THE VEHICLE IN WHICH HE WAS RIDING DEPARTED THE PROCESSION TO THE AIRPORT. IT IS ALSO TO BE NOTED THAT TWO AM ON NOVEMBER TWENTY-SEVEN IS ABOUT TWENTY-FOUR HOURS LATER THAN PREVIOUS REPORTS OF HUGHES' DEPARTURE FROM THE DESERT INN.

NO COMMENT WAS MADE TO ELSON AS TO WHAT ACTION THIS BUREAU WOULD OR WOULD NOT TAKE IN CONNECTION WITH THE INFORMATION HE FURNISHED, AND HE DID NOT MAKE ANY REQUEST TO BE ADVISED OF SAME.

END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

HE POINTED OUT THAT NO PUBLICITY HAD BEEN GIVEN THIS MATTER THUS FAR AND NONE WAS ANTICIPATED AT THIS TIME THAT HE KNEW OF. HE STATED HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER FORSYTHE AND WELGE PLANNED TO CONTACT THE FBI WITH THIS INFORMATION, BUT STATED THEY HAD CONTEMPLATED DOING THIS. HE DID NOT INDICATE THAT ANY RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE MADE BY HIM OR THE MAHEU FACTION AS TO WHETHER WELGE AND *Forsythe* SHOULD MAKE A PERSONAL REPORT TO THE FBI.

NO IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION LOS ANGELES INDICES CONCERNING EITHER WELGE OR FORSYTHE AND THEY ARE NOT LISTED IN CURRENT LOS ANGELES PHONE BOOK.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU, ALL FACETS OF THE HUGHES MATTER CONTINUE TO BE PROMINENTLY PUBLICIZED IN THE PRESS. IN VIEW OF THE NEBULOUS NATURE OF THE INFORMATION REPORTEDLY BEING FURNISHED BY FORSYTHE AND WELGE AND THE LACK OF ANY MORE SPECIFIC ^EFACTS TO INDICATE AN ACTUAL ABDUCTION, NO FURTHER INQUIRY WILL BE MADE INTO THIS MATTER AT THIS TIME BY LAS VEGAS. IT IS NOT FELT THAT THE INFORMATION PRESENTED SETS FORTH SUFFICIENT INDICATION OF

END. PAGE EIGHT

PAGE NINE

A FEDERAL VIOLATION TO WARRANT OUR SEEKING OUT FORSYTHE AND WELGE FOR INTERVIEW. IN THE EVENT THEY VOLUNTARILY APPEAR AT THIS OFFICE, LAS VEGAS WILL ACCEPT AND EVALUATE ANY AND ALL INFORMATION THEY FURNISH AND WILL MAKE FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BUREAU PRIOR TO CONDUCTING ANY INVESTIGATION IN THE HUGHES MATTER.

As I have indicated Forsythe & Welge should be interviewed at once & then Crawford & Howard & Kersley. Then we can re-evaluate the whole matter & decide what to do.

ADDENDUM: *As I know both Elson & Green, I will have*
HANK GREENSPUN, PUBLISHER, LAS VEGAS SUN, CONTACTED SAC *Las Vegas, Nev.*

LAS VEGAS LATER TODAY. INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER THIS OFFICE WAS *laid off* AWARE OF A REPORT THAT A GUARD HAD BEEN LOCATED WHO PARTICIPATED *on over* ON REMOVAL OF HUGHES IN AM, ELEVEN TWENTY-SEVEN SEVENTY FROM DESERT *doorstep* INN AGAINST HIS WILL. WHEN QUERIED AS TO WHAT INFORMATION HE POSSESSED, GREENSPUN RELATED SAME BASIC STORY AS DID ELSON, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT FURNISH, OR APPEAR TO POSSESS, OTHER THAN THE BASIC FACTS. GREENSPUN STATED HE WAS FURNISHING THESE ADDITIONAL DATA BECAUSE HE FELT THE FBI SHOULD CONDUCT INVESTIGATION IN THIS MATTER UNDER THE KIDNAPING STATUTE. NO COMMENT WAS MADE TO GREENSPUN OTHER THAN THAT THE INFORMATION HE FURNISHED WOULD BE MADE A MATTER OF RECORD AND EVALUATED IN CONNECTION WITH ANY

END PAGE NINE

PAGE TEN

FEDERAL VIOLATION WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THIS BUREAU.

END

DCW

FBI WASH DC CLR

cc: Mr. Bishop

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 17 1970

TELETYPE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Brennan	CD
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NR001 MM PLAINTEXT

1233AM IMMEDIATE 12-16-70 MAM

TO DIRECTOR

LAS VEGAS (62-582)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) Class
DATE 9/4/81

FROM MIAMI (62-)

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 BTJ/CAT
ON 5/1/84

Classified by _____
Declassify on: OADR

HOWARD HUGHES, INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING PERSON.

REFERENCE BUAIRTEL TO MIAMI AND TEL CALL, TWELVE FIVE LAST
AND MIAMI TEL CALL, INSTANT DATE.

INVESTIGATION AT NASSAU, BAHAMAS REFLECT ROY CRAWFORD OF
SALT LAKE CITY, CALIFORNIA, AND HOWARD ECKERSLEY OF SALT LAKE CITY,
UTAH, AIDES TO HUGHES, CURRENTLY AT HOME, CRAWFORD RETURNING
PRIVATE JET, INSTANT DATE. (X) 6

ECKERSLEY IN LAS VEGAS AT JUDICIAL HEARING, AND PLANS TO
STAY REST OF WEEK AT HIS RESIDENCE. (X) 6

HUGHES ALLEGED TO BE IN NINTH FLOOR SUITE AT BRITANNIA

BEACH HOTEL, PARADISE ISLAND, NASSAU, AND SPENT THE DAY DIS-
TATING TO AIDE. (X) 6

END PAGE ONE

60 JAN 19 1971
BNC: bnc

MR. SULLIVAN FOR THE DIRECTOR

EX-112
REC-23
62-99801-30
JAN 6 1971
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP8 BTJ/CAT
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 12/21/90

PERS. REC. UNIT
CONFIDENTIAL

18-cv-01635-816

PAGE TWO

HUGHES ALLEGEDLY IN GOOD HEALTH, AND IN FULL POSSESSION OF HIS FACULTIES. (S) U

SEVEN AMERICANS DEPORTED BY BAHAMIAN AUTHORITIES INSTANT DATE AFTER BEING FOUND IN ROOM DIRECTLY BELOW SUITE OF HUGHES. MEN WERE HIRED AND LED BY BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY, BA. IS. MORGAN S. RALLS, JR., THEN CAUGHT WITH ELECTRONIC ^AEVEDROPPING EQUIPMENT, CAMERAS, AND MARITIME CHARTS. RALLS' CHECKBOOK INDICATED TWO ENTRIES TO A PETER MAHEU. (S) U

OTHERS DEPORTED INCLUDED FORMER AGENT, [REDACTED] BA. IS. [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] SON OF DECEASED FORMER AGENT AND PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR FROM MIAMI, FLORIDA. OTHERS INCLUDED [REDACTED] US RETIRED JUSTICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE, WHO ADMITTED BRINGING IN ^AEVEDROPPING EQUIPMENT, INSTANT DATE, [REDACTED] US RETIRED LT. FROM THE NYCPD. (S) U NY

THREE OTHERS CHECKED OUT OF HOTEL DURING ACTIVITIES WITH BAHAMIAN OFFICIALS, AND INCLUDED [REDACTED] US EDWIN A. RICKS, NEV

END PAGE TWO (S) U

b6 -5
b7C -5

PAGE THREE

AND [REDACTED] THE LATTER TWO FROM RENO, NEVADA. ^UBA. 15.

HUGHES AIDE, [REDACTED] INTERVIEWED AND ADVISED HE PERSONALLY DEPARTED LAS VEGAS, ^{BA. 15.} NEVADA WITH HUGHES, AND HE PERSONALLY KNEW ALL PERSONS TAKING PART IN THE ENTOURAGE. DENIED KNOWING FORSYTHE, AND DISCREDITED STORY OF ABDUCTION AND DETAILS SURROUNDING DEPARTURE FROM LAS VEGAS, NEVADA. [REDACTED] STATES ECKERSLEY TOOK PART IN TRIP TO BAHAMAS, BUT CRAWFORD WAS NOT A PARTICIPANT. [REDACTED] STATES HUGHES IS AT BRITTANIA BEACH HOTEL AND REMAINS IN FULL CONTROL OF FACILITIES AND BUSINESS INTERESTS.

b6 -5
b7C -5

END

DCW

FBI WASH DC CLR

CC-MR. ROSEN

ccs - Bishop & Gale

18-cv-01635-818

GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : Mr. Sullivan

DATE: December 17, 1970

FROM : Mr. Rosen

SUBJECT: HOWARD HUGHES
INFORMATION CONCERNING -
MISSING PERSON

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. Shroder
1 - Mr. Cooke
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Gale

Tolson
Sullivan
Mohr
Bishop
Brennan, C.D.
Callahan
Casper
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Tavel
Walters
Soyars
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

In connection with the power struggle for control of Howard Hughes's Nevada interests, former SAC Dean Elson volunteered information to our Las Vegas Office concerning a California contractor, Levane Forsythe, who was allegedly present when an individual believed to be Hughes was removed from his hotel in Las Vegas and taken to the airport. Elson also believed a California engineer named Wayne Welges to have first hand information concerning Hughes's departure. Pursuant to instructions that Forsythe and Welges should be interviewed, Welges was located, and he advised he had no personal knowledge of the matter and received his information from Forsythe.

Forsythe advised Agents he was paid \$500 by an H. L. Crawford (possibly identical with Roy Crawford, a Hughes aide) to guard five automobiles at the exit of the Desert Inn Hotel in Las Vegas. He stated that about 1:40 a. m. 11/26/70, he saw four men exit the hotel and believes one to have been Hughes. This individual was heard to say "Will someone get Bob Maheu or Pat Hyland." (Hyland is head of Hughes Aircraft Company in California).

From description furnished by Forsythe, Elson believed one individual leaving hotel with Hughes was Howard Eckersley, aide to Hughes. Las Vegas believed Eckersley and Crawford to be in the Bahamas, and pursuant to instructions that Crawford and Eckersley were to be interviewed, Miami dispatched two Agents to the Bahamas 12/16/70.

Information was developed that both Crawford and Eckersley are in the U. S. now, and that Eckersley is scheduled to appear at Court proceedings in Las Vegas. another Hughes aide, was interviewed and states he departed Las Vegas at Nassau, Bahamas,

BHC:bkc

(8)

SENT DIRECTOR

12-17-70

CONTINUED - OVER

CLASS. & EXT. BY

REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2

DATE OF REVIEW

PERS. REC. UNIT

18-cv-01635-819

CONFIDENTIAL

53 JAN 7 1971

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Rosen to Sullivan
RE: HOWARD HUGHES

4 with Hughes and discredited the story of the abduction and details surrounding Hughes's departure from Las Vegas. [redacted] states Hughes is at the Britannia Beach Hotel in Nassau and that Hughes remains in full control of his faculties and his business interests.

Miami also developed the information that seven Americans were deported by Bahamian authorities on 12/17/70, after they were found in a hotel room directly below Hughes's suite. These individuals were in possession of electronic eavesdropping equipment, cameras, and maritime charts. This group led by Beverly Hills, California Attorney, Morgan S. Ralls, Jr., and included former Agent, [redacted] son of deceased former Agent, [redacted] retired Justice Department employee, [redacted] and [redacted] (retired Lieutenant from New York Police Department). (S) (U)

b6 -5
b7C -5

ACTION: Bureau indices being reviewed on the above individuals who were deported from the Bahamas. Investigation is being conducted to locate and interview Crawford and Eckersley in the United States.

WCS R- [unclear] [unclear]
ERMS
5

✓ [unclear] [unclear]

[unclear]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~