

LONDON

ATTORNEY GENERAL FILE NO. _____

DATE	DISPOSITION	JUDGE	DIV. NO.

DEFENDANT _____

CHARGE _____

INDICTED _____ NO. _____

STATE'S ATTORNEY _____

DEFENSE ATTORNEY _____

REMARKS: _____

Chief Insp. Ron Burrows

SCOTLAND YARD REPORT

pages 1211-1274

Application birth certificate RAMON GEORGE SNEYD

Birth Date August 8, 1932

DET. CHIEF INSP. KENNETH THOMPSON verified London from Toronto May 6-7; London to Lisbon May 7; Returned to London May 17; Circulated all parts warning June 6; Statements from Sneyd Pages *1239-40-41*

DET. SGT. PHILIP BIRCH, Statement Page *1233* - detained Ray at London Airport - examined passport - found pistol

DET. CHIEF SUPT. T. BUTLER & THOMPSON - interviewed Statement Pages *1237-38*

CHIEF INSP. ARTHUR BRINE - determined Sneyd identical with Ray by fingerprints - Statement Page *1236*

DET. SGT. PETER ELLIOTT - checked out crews and passengers of Rays' flights and found ROBERT KEITH JOHNSTONE, a steward, 57 Boothfields, Knutsford, Cheshire, said Ray sat alone didn't talk Statement Pages *1246* also picked up Ray's luggage, Ray said it was his Pages *1243-44*

MISS MONICA BAKER, 7 Winslow Way, Walton on Thames, Surrey, BOAC booking agency, Regent St., London W. 1, Statement Page *1247* ; Sneyd surrendered return ticket to Toronto for single to Lisbon - Enquiries in Lisbon by FBI AGENT

CONSTABLE WHITHAM - C 1 Branch - along with SGT. ELLIOTT picked up Ray's luggage ** Searched & found jacket bearing name Eric Galt
Statement p. 1245

MRS. DORIS CATHERINE WESTWOOD, 25 Fitzroy Square W. 1; 18 1/3 Cromwell Road, London S.W. 5 - says Sneyd stayed at Heathfield House Hotel from May 17-28 Pages *1246-49*

MISS JANET ELIZABETH NASSAU, Flat 9, 29 Earls Court Square S.W. 5; 36 Penywern Rd., Earls Court S.W. 5 - from the 28th May to June 5 - Sneyd resided at New Earls Court Hotel Statement Page *1250-51*

MRS. ANNA ELIZABETH THOMAS, 126 Warwick Way, London, S.W. 1 - Sneyd stayed at Pax Hotel from June 5 to June 8 - two phone calls, one from woman with American accent, one from man Statement Page *1252-53-54*

IAN CALVIN, 51 Cadogan Place S.W.1, Chief Foreign Lead Write for the DAILY TELEGRAPH newspaper - Sneyd contacted on June 4 - interested in mercenary volunteers - LATER HAD TELEPHONE CONVERSATION
Statement p. 1255-60

SCOTLAND YARD REPORT

-2-

KENNETH LEONARD HUMAN, Immigration officer, 4 London Airport, Heathrow
Terminal 2 - Statement Page 1234-35

ENGLAND

CHIEF SUP. BUTLER, NEW SCOTLAND YARD, BROADWAY VICTORIA S.W. 1

CITIZEN ENGLAND

"LIFE LONG"

PROFESSION

34 YRS

RANK OR RATING

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1968

AROUND 1:05 P.M.

RECEIVED INFO

"WENT OUT THERE"

ARRIVAL

WHAT FIND

IDENTIFY DEFENDANT

WHAT DID YOU

"TWO PASSPORTS"

EX # PASSPORTS

#

PISTOL

STATEMENT

CAUTIONED HIM

CONFERRED WITH "BRINE"
"GALT"

WAS FINGERPRINTED
INSTRUCTED

LATER 4:45 P.M.
AT STATION

NOT SNEYD, RAY
I AM RAY

"OH GOD, I FEEL SO TRAPPED"

CAUTIONED HIM AGAIN

"I CAN'T THINK RIGHT"

CHARGE PASS GUNS
PASS PASSPORTS

TRAIN ROBBERS 2 1/2 MILLION 1963

WITNESS CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT T. BUTLER, Scotland Yard

EVIDENCE:

Two Passports

One .38 calibre pistol

PETER ENGLAND

RICHARD ARTHUR ELLIOTT, 72 WHORNCLIFFE RD. SOUTH NORWOOD,
LONDON S.E. 25

CITIZEN OF ENGLAND

RESIDE IN LIFE LONG

WHAT DO FOR LIVING LONDON
C.I.D. OFFICER

NEW SCOTLAND YARD "STATIONED"

WITH FORCE

12 1/2 YRS

DET. SGT.

JUNE 4th ASSIGNMENT

"CHIEF THOMPSON"

NEXT 3 or 4 DAYS

"INTERVIEWING CREWS FROM TORONTO"

ALL PORT WARNING

"GEORGE RAMON SNEYD"

CONTINUED SEARCH

"FOUND FLIGHT INTO COUNTRY MAY 6 EARLY 7th
MORNING"
LEAVE DATE MAY 21st

CONTINUED

"B.O.A. TICKET OFFICE
INTERVIEWED MRS. MONICA BAKER, REGENT ST."
MAY 7th SNEYD IN THERE TO LISBON
RETURNED MAY 17th

CONTINUED

JUNE 6th

CONTINUED

CHECK LISBON FLIGHTS

CONTINUED

SATURDAY SNEYD DETAINED BY SG. BIRCH
INTERVIEWED BY

CONTINUED

"SUITCASE TO BRUSSELS
WAITED FOR HIS SUITCASE
RAY UNDER ARREST"

"LOCKED"

BROUGHT TO STATION
SNEYD OPENED SUITCASE

IN "GALT NAME" JULY 21, 1967

PAGE 2 RICHARD ARTHUR ELLIOTT ENGLAND

LAYER IN CELL

"DON'T KNOW SO GOOD FOR CAB BOYS"

EX # CLOTHES

CONTENTS OF SUITCASE

EX #

#'s LETTER SNEYD TORONTO

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

EX # RECEIPT

CONTINUED

CHECKED WITH MRS. NASSAU
CHECKED WITH MRS. THOMAS
CHECKED ALL HOTELS
CHECKED WITH MRS. WESTWOOD

THAT IS

WITNESS

DETECTIVE SERGEANT PETER ELLIOTT, Scotland Yard

EVIDENCE:

Two passports

Ray's Luggage

Jacket with Name Galt

Claim Check

London

Arthur William Thomas Brine
365 A. St. Marvets Rd. Tring
Middlesex, London

Fingerprint Dept. New Scotland Yard
English citizen -

Fingerprint Expert -
Commission of Police - New Scotland Yard

exp. over 21 yrs -
examined & compared millions
hundreds of testimony in Court
qualified as expert

June 8, 1968 -

On Duty

Call to London Airport

Took fingerprints of man detained.

EHB Fingerprints card.

Chief Butler told take prints

no objection

Then I made comparison with
fingerprints from file (fugitive)
from records of

Case. - Found made by one and
same person - to exclusion of everyone
else -

charts being prepared -

✓ Philip Frederick Birch
20 - Dux Donald - Kinsal Rise
London N. W. 10
New Scotland Yard - in charge detail
at B'ham Airport
citizen of England -
Com. of Police of Metro London
Special Branch
10 1/2 yrs.

June 68
Det. Sgt -
Assigned Heathrow Airport, London
Duties

Look at Passports to see if anyone
we might be interested in

June 8, 1968
Around 11³⁰ A.M.

- sitting beside immigration officer -
man presented 2 passports to desk

X Identify

Officer opened up

I noticed fore name of Ramon
Geo Sneyd -

- I recognized name -

I took both passports from immigration officer & told him I wanted to question

I asked Ray would accompany so
senior officer might interview about
entry in passport

said no objection - didn't seem
surprised - ^{if miss plane get on another} very grateful

accompanied to Spec Serv. off

- made phone call -

- as result of call -

I searched & found pistol

- Detained until Butler
asked why carrying revolver
"I'm going to Africa & I thought
I might need it you know
how things are out there"
Had knowledge only with reference
to possible passport irregularities
Safety search made after phone
call -

- Searched -
black & brown checked sports jacket
- Gray slacks -
- raincoat -
leaflet about silence

heard caution "not obliged to
say anything unless wish to but
what you say may be given in
evidence against you" -

Items recovered from person
* He refused to sign receipt for
it -
comresp includes silence info,
List on P 1272

Peter Elliott

77 - Khamcliffe So. Norwood
London SE 25

- Citizen of England -
Police Officer

with force 12 1/2 yrs -
Det. Sgt.

- June 4, 1968 -

Assigned to Chief Insp Thompson
to

Interviewing airlines about BOAC
flights from Toronto -

At port warning to look for
Ramon Geo Swift bearing passport
Canadian No. -

Had records searched -
Came in May 7, 1968 -

Checked records for May 21 -
no records of leaving -

Searched for other half of ticket
As result went to BOAC &

Check with Miss Monica Baker -
she said

on May 7 - man with
checked flights no America accent booked
to see if correct -
one way to Lisbon -
All ports warned June 6

After arrest learned came back
on May 8

On Sat ^{June 8} morning while investigating
stewardesses he was detained
at Heathrow -

Supt. Thompson & I went
to airport

- Mr Butler there -
sent case to Brussels -

I was present during interview
custody for serial officers
to interview

I waited for luggage -

Had baggage check -

Identify suitcase

It was locked

- I took to Cannon -

told snuff suitcase taken from
airline - Is it yours -

yes -

(could be other weapons)

X Opened with key from his
person -

Brown jacket

Eric Galt

7/21

order #

Scotch Woollen Co. Montreal

- trousers -

I've been directed to take
possession of clothes you're
wearing

I don't know what you
are doing for - it would be

good for lab boys

took clothes - put in

cellophane bag

Came to yard

Made complete list of
clothing -

XX

checked for
narcotics
negative

Kennedy letter
Receipt New Earle Court -

Sunday I started on hotels

Saw people at Hotels
checked flight list (over)

Checked with Pay Hotel
statements taken

all hotels checked to cover 11 days
gap

I went over to West End

Checked again

Heathwood

Mrs. Westwood - covered 11 days -

New Earl & Heathwood -

As result of inquiries I
now believe you are Ray
& are Amer not Canadian
- He agreed -
I believe wanted for serious
offense in states

Sat down rather suddenly
put head in hands -
said Oh God I feel so
trapped

Continued again

He said Oh yes I shouldn't
say anything further - I
can't think straight

Very cool up to then - shook
up considerably

Chief Supt. T. B.

- Thomas Butler -

Broadway Victoria St 1

New Scotland Yard

- Citizen of England -

Prof - Police officer

34 yrs.

- Det. Chief Supt -

Sat June 8, 1968 -

around 1:30 p.m.

Assigned off to page because of
type card (asked page to bring
prints)

Identified self to them -

asked if I understand have 2 p' parts
had objection one snuff
to if 1 prints one snuff
taken

What is your name -

I don't understand why I am

here - my name is snuff -

Are they correct

- He said yes -

I then asked him about gun

they were found on you

when first started

said going to Brussels

Do you have certificate

- no -

I then cautioned

taken to Cannon Rd.

- Chief Insp Thompson -

- Insp Price -

Inquiries made of American Auth

no result sat again

at 4:45

4 ³⁰ Paris - Air France 8-1
5 ³⁰

Miss ~~Monica~~ Baker with notice

7 Kingslow Way

Waltham on Thames

B-75 Regent St. London W. 1

B.O.A.C.

Citizen of England

shown

7.8.9

7 refer

ticket receipt on counter

May 7, 1968

Late afternoon had male customer

- Identified -

asked if could exchange 21 day
excursion from Toronto for one
way to Lisbon -

- only all one way under certain circ -
exchanged ticket & gave refund -

very pleasant - seemed to be a tourist
made him booking on flight to
Lisbon -

Hilda Anna Elizabeth Thomas
126 Warwick Way Viet 7112

Hotel Proprietor
Citizen of England -

Station Hotel
formerly Pax Hotel

Came on June 5

Around 4 P.M. (heavy rain)

Rung door bell -

Another fellow with him - who
stayed in street - (told by neighbor
Mrs. Coates)

* *
make
note on
Mrs. Coates
reg. of
y.m.c.a.

man at door

Canadian or American by accent
asked for 3 or 4 nights lodging
single room

30 shillings per night
or take for 3 nights

just air travel (flight bag) over
shoulder - in arms newspaper
& books

long dark blue raincoat

I will do
my own
room

I'm from Canada and

my way is Sneyd
I started asking about Canada

He said

lullwa bad place

I'm from Toronto - no jobs
there -

said very tired

I about 2 hours phone call for him -
thought sleeping door locked

from British European Army -

Put note get message about ticket (had 4 changes
under door for ticket - 5 shillings)

next morning brought up tray

Couldnt open door

Breakfast -

Put it down -

he took tray -

sat empty out -

phone call that morning from woman

knocked on door

he didnt answer

my key wouldnt work

Came back

asked if any message -

that evening came in

feel very bad

headache

asked for aspirin

appeared strange

weak

- swayed a bit -

- had feeling he was watching me -

- I worried about him -

- thought probably bringing girl -

- knocked on door -

had to move you

picked up books & moved to 3

phone call from B.A.

message something about flight

- tried key again -

- wouldnt work -

- I wrote message down

some girl asked if I had reminded him

he had washed some clothes &

hung around.

Phone call from man early evening -

still couldnt get in

told man - no message

last morning
said leaving at 11
would sleep until
saw jumping into taxi

left newspaper - 2 books behind

- plastic syringe & needle -

New York Times

- several other papers -

- journalist -

ONE WEEK

ENGLAND

MISS MONICA BAKER, 7 Winslow Way, Walton on Thames
BUS 75 Regent St., London W 1, & B.O.A.C.

CITIZEN OF ENGLAND

LIFE LONG

WHAT DO FOR LIVING

TICKET RECEPTIONIST, 75 REGENT ST.

LOCATED

75 REGENT ST.

MAY 7, 1968

LATE IN THE AFTERNOON

MALE CUSTOMER

IDENTIFY

DEFENDANT

RELATE

ASK YOU TO EXCHANGE TICKET, ONE TO PORTUGAL
HOW GET BACK
"WORRY ABOUT THAT WHEN I GET BACK"

ISSUED TICKET

BOOK ON FLIGHT
RETURNED \$14.89

EX # TICKET

PLEASANT PERSON
ORDINARY

GLASSES

WITNESS MONICA BAKER, 7 Winslow Way, London

EVIDENCE:

Airline Ticket Exchange, Toronto to Lisbon

WITNESS DORIS C. WESTWOOD, 25 Fitzroy Square, London

EVIDENCE:

Registration Book, Heathfield House Hotel
(In custody of Scotland Yard Police)

ONE WEEK

ENGLAND

HELENA ANNA ELIZABETH, 126 WARWICK WAY S.W. 1

CITIZEN OF ENGLAND

HOME VIC 7-112
LONDON

WOMEN

SWEDEN

HOTEL PROPRIETOR

ENGLAND

NAME OF HOTEL

(STATION)
BEFORE PAX

LOCATED

JUNE 5, 1968

AROUND 4 O'CLOCK

HEARD DOORBELL

(RAINING HEAVILY)

RELATED

STOOD MAN THERE

IDENTIFY

DEPENDANT

HASN'T
SEEN HIM
SINCE

CONVERSATION
ASKED IF HAVE 3 OR 4 LODGINGS
CAME INTO ROOM
THREE NITES
PAID WITH 5 POUND NOTE

DRESS

DARK BLUE RAINCOAT
FLIGHT BAG, NEWSPAPER, BOOKS

GLASSES

SUN GLASSES

"I'M FROM CANADA
HIS NAME SNEYD
HELLEVA BAD PLACE
NO JOBS FROM TORONTO
VERY TIRED
HAVING LETTERS AND PHONE CALLS SHOULD RETIRE

TWO HOURS LATER

PHONE CALL FROM B.E.A.

KNOCK ON DOOR

NO ANSWER
LOCKED IN, HE WAS IN ROOM

NEXT MORNING

BROUGHT TRAY, COULDN'T OPEN DOOR
WROTE NOTE, LEAVE FOOD OUTSIDE DOOR
YES HAD COTTEN LETTER
TOOK IN TRAY

HAD PHONE CALL FROM WOMAN

KNOCKED ON DOOR
NO ANSWER
HE WAS IN ROOM

THAT EVENING

SAW HIM, ASKED HER FOR ASPIRIN, TOOK OFF
GLASSES, EYES VERY STARING, "THOUGHT HE
WAS DRUG ADDICT"
THOUGH HE WAS WANTING TO BRING IN GIRL
FRIEND

PAGE 2 HILDA ANNA ELIZABETH ENGLAND

KNOCKED ON DOOR

"GOING TO MOVE" ALRIGHT" MOVED HIM

PHONE CALL

FROM B. E. A.
FLIGHT COULDN'T GET IN ROOM
WROTE NOTE PUT UNDER DOOR

YOU GO INTO ROOM

"WASHED CLOTHES"
"LOOK AFTER OWN ROOM"
SLEPT IN HIS CLOTHES
LOOKED OUT WINDOW

HAD PHONE CALL THAT EVENING

"LOCKED FROM DOOR
MAN SAID NO
ENGLISH ACCENT

SATURDAY MORNING EARLY

"GOING AROUND 11 O'CLOCK
STAYED IN ROOM.
RAN OUT OF PASSAGE IN GREAT HURRY"
IN TAXI
FLIGHT BAG
LEFT PAPERS AND TWO BOOKS

SYRINGE

BOOKS

NEW YORK TIMES

ENGLAND

PHILIP FREDERICK BIRCH, 20 DUMDONALD RD. KEMSOL RISE, LONDON N.W.10
NEW SCOTLAND YARD

ENGLAND

LIFE LONG

WHAT DO FOR LIVING

EMPLOYED METRO POLICE OFFICER

EMPLOYED NEW SCOTLAND YARD
SPECIAL BRANCH
10 1/2 YRS

RANK OR RATING DET. SGT.

STATIONED

HEATHROW LONDON AIRPORT

FOR 5 MONTHS

DUTIES

EXAMINE PASSPORTS OF PEOPLE COMING INTO COUNTRY

DUTIES JUNE 8, 1968

AROUND 11:30 A.M.

SITTING BESIDE IMMIGRATION OFFICER
MAN RAY"

IDENTIFY DEFENDANT

PRESENTED 2 PASSPORTS

EM PASSPORTS

WHAT DID YOU DO

"TOOK BOTH PASSPORTS
WANTED TO QUESTION MAN"
WOULD MIND ACCOMPANY, QUIETLY
NO OBJECTION
TOOK HIM TO S BRANCH OFFICE
MADE CALL TO C 1
"MADE SEARCH OF SNEYD"

EM PISTOL

DETAINED HIM FOR BUTLER
DIDN'T ASK SNEYD
"GOING TO AFRICA, FELT MIGHT NEED IT,
YOU KNOW HOW THINGS ARE OUT THERE.
REASON TO BELIEVE COMMITTED ARRESTABLE
OFFENSE "PASSPORT OFFENSES"

RESULTS OF SEARCH

"AIRLINE TICKETS

EM CHECK

LIST

TICKETS

EM INDOAT

BIRTH CERTIFICATE"

EM BANK CRAY

"LEAFLETS ABOUT SILENCERS"

PAGE 2 PHILIP FREDERICK BIRCH ENGLAND

THOMPSON ON ARRIVAL

"OBLIGED NOT TO SAY

REQUIRED TAKE IT DOWN

REFUSE TO SIGN FOR IT

WITNESS DETECTIVE SERGEANT, PHILLIP BIRCH, Scotland Yard

EVIDENCE:

Property On Ray At Time Of Arrest:

One .38 calibre Revolver...fully loaded;
5 rounds of .38 ammunition

One Canadian Passport for Ramon George Sneyd

One Canadian Passport (cancelled) in name of
Ramon George Sneya

One Birth Certificate, name of Ramon George Sneyd

One Black Billfold

One Comb

One Pencil

One Airline Ticket, BEA London to Brussels

One Airline Ticket, BOAC London to Toronto

One Key on Ring

One Yellow Metal Tie Clip

One Wrist Watch

Quantity of Correspondence (including Rifle
Silencer Information)

Airline Claim Ticket, Flight BE 466

Money Exchange Receipt

ENGLAND

ARTHUR WM. THOMAS BRINE, 365 A St. MARGARET RD., TWICKENHAM,
MIDDLE-SEX, LONDON
FINGERPRINT DEFENDANT, NEW SCOTLAND YARD

ENGLAND

"LIFE LONG"

WHAT FOR A LIVING

"FINGERPRINT EXPERT"

NEW SCOTLAND YARD

WHAT KIND OF TRAINING

"OVER 21 YRS"

HOW LONG

21, 3 MONTHS

HOW MANY FINGERPRINT

EXAMINE MADE MILLIONS"

IN COUNT

"BRITISH ISLE

AS EXPERT

JUNE 8, 1968

AROUND 1:30 p.m.

WHERE

"LONDON AIRPORT"

WHAT DID YOU DO

EX # FINGERPRINTS FORM

NO STATEMENT

WHAT DID YOU DO

"MADE COMPARISON"

EX # FINGERPRINT "FROM WASHINGTON"

WHAT DID YOU DO?

COME TO ANY CONCLUSION

CHARTS FOR COMPARISON

EXCLUDES EVERYBODY IN WORLD

WITNESS

CHIEF INSPECTOR ARTHUR BRINE, Scotland Yard

EVIDENCE:

Fingerprints of Ray

WITNESSES

ENGLAND

✓ HILDA ANNA ELIZABETH THOMAS, 126 Warwick Way Victoria 7112

✓ MISS MONICA BAKER, 7 Winslow Way, Walton on Thames, 75 Regent St.
London W 1, 1 B.O.A.C.

CHIEF SUPT. BUTLER, New Scotland Yard, Broadway Victoria SW 1

DET. SGT. PETER ELLIOT, 72 Whornecliffe Road, South Norwood, London SE 25

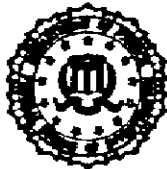
DET. SGT. PHILLIP FREDERICK BIRCH, 20 Dumdonald Road, Kemsol Rise,
London NW 10, New Scotland Yard

ARTHUR WILLIAM THOMAS BRINE, 365 A Street, Margaret Twichingham,
Middlesex, London, New Scotland Yard

DET. CHIEF INSP. KENNETH THOMPSON, New Scotland Yard

DORIS CATHARINE WESTWOOD, 25 Fitzroy Square W 1, London
Bus. 181 Cromwell Road, SW 5

Janet Elizabeth Nossan



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

841 Federal Office Building
167 North Main Street
Memphis, Tennessee 38103
February 25, 1969

Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr.
District Attorney General
Shelby County Office Building
Memphis, Tennessee

Dear General Canale:

We have been informed by our Agent in London that Chief Inspector Ken Thompson, New Scotland Yard, London, has informed him as follows:

"Ian Colvin was telephonically contacted by Thompson on 2-9-69. Colvin advised he was due to leave for a two-week trip to the Persian Gulf and could not spare time for a personal interview. He said the only additional piece of evidence he might possess is either a card or letter Ray wrote to him from prison. Colvin had written to Ray in prison offering to visit him. Ray's response was in effect nothing to add to his previous statement.

"Colvin is most willing to travel to Memphis and testify. He asks because of his work commitments that he be advised as soon as possible as to what dates he would be expected to appear. On his return to England, on or about 2-24-69, he will see if he can find the communication Ray sent to him. He will advise Thompson if he finds it."

Very truly yours,

ROBERT G. JENSEN
Special Agent in Charge

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO
OFFICE OF
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U. S.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MR. JIM BEASLEY
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
329 SHELBY COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
157 POPLAR AVENUE
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38103

Copied by Select
Committee 11/23/76
Ralph Locke

United States Department of Justice

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
1055 FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38103

HLK/mal

February 28, 1969

Mr. Jim Beasley
Assistant Attorney General
329 Shelby County Office Building
157 Poplar Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee 38103

*Copy of this letter given
to House Select Committee
on 11/20/76
John Curran*

Dear Jim:

In connection with the matter that we discussed the other day, the following is an outline of the procedure used by Judge Brown in the United States District Court for the acceptance of a guilty plea:

THE COURT: Your name is John Doe and you are the defendant in Cause No. _____.

DEFENDANT: Yes, I am John Doe.

THE COURT: It is my understanding that you want to change your plea from not guilty to guilty.

DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Have you read the indictment in its entirety and do you understand its contents and the charges against you?

DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: Do you make this plea freely and voluntarily?

DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

-2-

THE COURT: Has anyone promised you anything to get you to plead guilty?

DEFENDANT: No, sir.

THE COURT: Has anyone threatened you in any way to get you to plead guilty?

DEFENDANT: No, sir.

THE COURT: Are you under the influence of alcohol at this time?

DEFENDANT: No, sir.

THE COURT: Are you under the influence of any drugs or narcotics at this time?

DEFENDANT: No, sir.

THE COURT: Do you understand that the maximum penalty which you could receive under Count One of this indictment is not more than \$5,000 fine and not more than 5 years imprisonment or both, and under Count Two not more than \$1,000 fine or not more than 10 years imprisonment or both?

DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Knowing that, you want to plead guilty because you are guilty of the charges contained in the indictment.

DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Do you have any complaints about your lawyer, Mr. Joe Doakes?

DEFENDANT: No, sir.

THE COURT: Do you feel that Mr. Doakes has done everything that he should have done in your behalf?

DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: Mr. Doakes, as his attorney, do you think that the answers the defendant has given to the questions put to him are true?

MR. DOAKES: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Now we will proceed with the sentencing of this defendant.

THE COURT: Mr. United States Attorney will you give us a statement of the facts relative to the charges in the indictment?

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY: The facts are as follows

THE COURT: Mr. Doe, you have heard the statement of the facts by the United States Attorney. Did he accurately state the facts and if not, do you wish to make any corrections at this time?

DEFENDANT: The United States Attorney has stated the facts correctly.

THE COURT: Let the record reflect that there is a basis in fact for the entry of a guilty plea to the charges in the indictment.

THE COURT: Alright, Mr. Doakes, as his attorney, do you have anything to say in his behalf?

MR. DOAKES: Yes, sir

THE COURT: Under our rules Mr. Doe, you are entitled to make a statement in your own behalf. Do you wish to make such a statement?

-4-

DEFENDANT: No, sir.

THE COURT: Mr. Doakes, are there any other witnesses which you care to offer in behalf of your client?

MR. DOAKES: No, sir.

THE COURT: Upon a plea of guilty to both counts of this Two-Count Indictment, it is the Judgment of this Court that the defendant is guilty and it is the further Judgment of this Court that he be sentenced to the custody of the Attorney General for a period of three (3) years under Count One and for a period of three (3) years under Count Two. The sentence under Count Two is to run concurrently with the sentence under Count One, making a total term of imprisonment of three (3) years.

I hope this hypothetical outline will be of some help to you. If there are any further questions about our procedure, please do not hesitate to call me.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS L. ROBINSON
United States Attorney

By: 

Henry L. Klein
Assistant United States Attorney