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DATE: 10/26/79

FROM: Tom McCarthy
TO: John J. Santucci, District Attorney
SUBJECT: BILLIE DAN PARKER (SON OF SAM CASE)

On Oct. 25, 1979, I spoke by phone with federal ATF agent Rocky Rothgeb (713-226-5401) in Houston. He handled arrangements for the interview of Billie Dan Parker by a Brooklyn ADA (Paul Callan) a few days after Berkowitz was arrested in August, 1977.

Present at the Callan interview of Parker was the latter's girlfriend and two attorneys, Ralph Abercia and John Abercia. Although conducted in the ATF offices, the ATF agent was excluded by agreement of the ADA and pvt. attorneys.

Agent Rothgeb was not told what Parker said during interview. The only other involvement of ATF was to secure a record of the purchase by Parker of the 44 Charter Arms gun.

ATF Agent Rothgeb said the NY authorities specifically said that was the only thing they wanted Houston feds and local PD to do -- get a record of the single transaction and bring Parker in for the interview.

The record of the transaction is called a "4473" form.

Carol Morgan, Rothgeb's secretary, read me the "4473:"

Bill Dan Parker, Male, White, 5'8", 135 lbs., DOB Nov. 28, 1952,

Place of birth, Yorktown, Texas; then current address,

5401 Libby Lane, Houston, Texas, Drivers License 8010609,

purchased a .44 calibre Charter Arms Bulldog Special Pistol serial

No. 212927 for \$125 and two boxes of Winchester 44 Specials

Shells for \$190

Total \$151.20 including tax.

The sale was recorded by William R. Wheeler, manager of the Spring Branch Jewelry and Loan pawnshop, 8705 Long Point Rd., Houston, June 12, 1976

The pawnshop number is 713-467-2913.

Questions: Was Berkowitz with Parker in store when gun was bought? Was there a third party?

ATF is checking if any other .44 sold from store around same time.

Det. W.L. Young of Houston PD informed me that:

Billie Dan Parker (DOB 11/28/52) lived with parents, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Parker, at time of Berkowitz arrest aftermath and had worked for Maxwell Construction, Houston.

Det. Young said a check of records shows no arrests for Parker and nothing about Trachtman or Carlin or Carr.

Young is trying to get unlisted number for the Parkers Libbey Lane address. He did get phone number for Ralph Maxwell, 2425 Brun (st.), 713-523-6210, the construction company.

I phoned Maxwell to see if Parker was on the job and reachable by phone.

Maxwell said he vaguely recalled a Parker who did concrete work for him a few years back and got the job through a relative or friend. But Parker no longer worked for Maxwell.

A check of payroll books showed, according to Maxwell, that Parker did work for him, last entry about Dec. 6, 1977. Parker failed to give his SS number but listed himself as single and no dependents.

Maxwell has no recollection of Parker's personality or behavior except that he was friends with the Whatley brothers

Parker got the job through them. Maxwell remembers them because he had some problems with one job they worked on, which caused him to lose money.

The brothers are:

Grover L. Whatley	Floyd Chance Whatley	Leslie Clark Whatley
313 Rose Lane	6534 Guhn Road	6534 Guhn Road
Houston, 77088	Houston, 77040	Houston, 77040
married - 3 dep.	single	single
SS# 462-44-2268	SS# 462-92-1439	SS# 465-08-8345
dated 11-'77	dated 11-'77	

Michael Farley Whatley
6500 W. 43 Street
No. 413
Houston, 77092
married
SS# 465-23-4976

Larence Whatley
6106 Peg
Houston, 77092
married, 5 depts.
SS# 466-78-8708 dated 12 - '77
Phone No. 686-2230

If Houston PD can't come up with Parker phone, we might try reaching out to Larence Whatley 713-686-2230.

I will ask Houston PD to run check on the five Whatleys before I call any of them.

TMCC:bar

since phones listed weren't correct) Billie Dan Parker called me via hot line 520-2000.

I called number (713-686-0820) which Parker had given QDA hotline officer.

Parker now works for Walker Cement Division of TWI (713-442-7677). IF YOU CALL, DON'T SAY QDA OFFICE. Just say "Tom McCarthy, From New York." To spare him problems on the job.

Parker recounts what he says he told ADA Callan of Bklyn back in August, 1977:

On June 11, 1976, he got a call at 7 am from DB, old Army buddy. They had been in Platoon Co. together and did stint in Korea.

DB said he was at a motel across town (no name) and had come from visiting his family in Miami (Dad, Nat, lives there) and thought he'd look up Old Billie from Army days. Billie gave him directions to a local park as a landmark easy to find and met him. DB was driving a light colored Ford. Billie led him back to Parker home, 5401 Libbey Lane.

DB stayed with Parkers that day, that night, the next day and night, left the third day in the morning. During this 3-day stay (June 11, 12, 13 of 76) DB was always with Parker or Parker family (mom and dad etc.). The whole family went out to dinner with DB both evenings. Billie and DB went out for beers a couple of times.

DB made and received no phone calls, did not meet anyone he introduced to Billie, did not mention the names of any friends he had seen before or in Houston or that he planned to see after leaving Houston.

DB told Billie he was doing bricklayer work. This fits with his construction work on Texaco plant phase in his life.

DB said on the morning of June 12 that he'd like to have a gun for protection as he drove alone back to New York. He said he planned to drive back leisurely, maybe stop off to visit friends along the way (no names).

Billie took DB to a pawn shop Billie had hocked things at when out of work.

DB looked at 4 or 5 different hand guns before selecting 44 calibre. Did not seem to have prior fixed idea what gun he wanted at beginning.

Next morning DB said he was moving on and he did. Never heard from DB again.

Says DB was mildest mannered guy. Came as great shock that he could be a killer.

In Korean days, Billie and DB sometimes went to village together for recreation. DB apparently not anti-woman in those days.

When quizzed by Bklyn ADA and AFT guys, he answered fully, he says. But the TV and papers kept after him, so he had phone number changed.

Promised to try to find any old photos of Army outfit.

Does not recognize Carlyn, Trachman, Carr, he sez.