

CORONA DEL MAR BRAN
CORONA DEL MAR CAL

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION

PERIOD ENDING
AUG. 25, 1967

ACCOUNT NO

JOHN BRADEN
MRS. JOHN BRADEN
121 MILFORD

CORONA DEL MAR CAL 92625

R

CHECKS - LISTED IN ORDER OF PAYMENT - READ ACROSS					DEPOSITS	DATE	NEW BALANCE
3602						7 26 67	289124
312	1000	6300				7 27 67	281512
3500						8 08 67	278012
					200000	8 09 67	478012
4206	4955	17622				8 10 67	451229
917	2281	6358				8 11 67	441723
1780						8 14 67	439263
2577	8070					8 16 67	429293
2500						8 18 67	426796
200	1000					8 21 67	425596
1601						8 23 67	423995
6028						8 24 67	417967

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

BALANCE FORWARD		DEBITS		CREDITS		SERVICE CHARGE		NEW BALANCE
NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT	ITEMS	AMOUNT	
1	282726	19	24759	1	200000			417967

CORONA DEL MAR BRANCH
CORONA DEL MAR CAL

Bank of America
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

PERIOD ENDING
SEP. 25, 1967

ACCOUNT NO.

JENNIFER
121 MILFORD

CORONA DEL MAR CAL 92625

R:

CHECKS - LISTED IN ORDER OF PAYMENT - READ ACROSS					DEPOSITS	DATE	NEW BALANCE
3500						8 29 67	4144.67
1885	3498					8 30 67	4091.34
1530	4451					8 31 67	4031.53
25386						9 11 67	3777.67
100000						9 12 67	2777.67
17960						9 13 67	2598.07
1736	2134					9 15 67	2559.37
225	1035	4359	7370			9 18 67	2429.48
946						9 19 67	2420.02
58825						9 20 67	1831.77
21000						9 21 67	1621.77
					100000	9 25 67	2621.77

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

BALANCE FORWARD		DEBITS		CREDITS		SERVICE CHARGE		NEW BALANCE
NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT	
417967	17	255790	1	100000				2621.77

CORONA DEL MAR BRANCH
CORONA DEL MAR CALIF

Bank of America
NATIONAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION

PERIOD ENDING
OCT. 25, 1961

ACCOUNT NO.

JEN BRADEN
200 S. BEVERLY DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS CALIF 90212

CHECKS - LISTED IN ORDER OF PAYMENT - READ ACROSS					DEPOSITS	DATE	NEW BALANCE
32779						SEP 26	229398
6058						SEP 27	223340
953						OCT 2	222387
600						OCT 4	221787
1000						OCT 6	220787
3036						OCT 13	417751
1000	8970					OCT 16	407773
15636						OCT 17	392137
2299	18425	33121				OCT 18	337292
1216	4000					OCT 19	332176
1469						OCT 20	330707
20000						OCT 24	310707
21000						OCT 25	289707

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

BALANCE FORWARD		DEBITS		CREDITS		SERVICE CHARGE		NEW BALANCE
NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT	ITEMS	AMOUNT	
202177	17	172476	1	200000				289707

ENCLOSURE

CORONA DEL MAR BRANCH
CORONA DEL MAR CALIF

Bank of America
NATIONAL SAVINGS ASSOCIATION

PERIOD ENDING
NOV. 24, 1967

ACCOUNT NO.

770 BRADEN
280 S. BEVERLY DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS CALIF 90212

CHECKS - LISTED IN ORDER OF PAYMENT - READ ACROSS					DEPOSITS	DATE	NEW BALANCE
175						OCT 26	289532
581						OCT 30	288951
17791	18500					OCT 31	252600
3000	13455	50000				NOV 1	186205
200						NOV 2	186005
1500	2000	0400				NOV 3	174105
10675						NOV 6	163630
1800	3838	27169				NOV 7	130827
3397	4500	11740				NOV 8	111190
2500						NOV 9	108690
5000						NOV 13	103690
5000						NOV 17	98690
1350						NOV 21	97340
5000						NOV 22	92340
SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY							
BALANCE FORWARD	NUMBER	DEBITS AMOUNT	NUMBER	CREDITS AMOUNT	SERVICE CHARGE ITEMS	AMOUNT	NEW BALANCE
289767	23	197367					92340

ENCLOSURES 23

LEDGER SHEET

PANA DEL MAR BRANCH
PANA DEL MAR CALIFBank of America
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

PERIOD ENDING

JAN. 18, 1968

ACCOUNT NO
[REDACTED]280 S. BEVERLY DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS CALIF 90212

CHECKS - LISTED IN ORDER OF PAYMENT - READ ACROSS				DEPOSITS	DATE	NEW BALANCE
1718	1800	2000	2218			
2397	3565	8158	19625		DEC 26	945450
2000	3060	5226	10100			
11577	17720	50000	50367			
98039					DEC 27	697261
2593	5595	19150	112433		DEC 28	561190
275	2816				DEC 29	558097
479	3000	4270	11505			
12846	28355				JAN 2	497642
2689	4430	15625			JAN 3	474898
432	4000	5000	13314			
20000	200000				JAN 4	232152
2738	11795				JAN 5	217619
1091	2500	5000	5021			
10000	12000	20000	34735			
35000					JAN 8	392272
6000	6390				JAN 9	379882
2148	3401	4234	5000		JAN 10	365099
1500	1926	2063			JAN 11	359610
1865	5107				JAN 12	352638
1600	2363				JAN 15	348675
902	46152				JAN 16	301621
2000					JAN 17	299621
6390					JAN 18	293231

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

BALANCE FORWARD		DEBITS		CREDITS		SERVICE CHARGE		NEW BALANCE
NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT	ITEMS	AMOUNT	
986931	66	993700	1	300000				293231

ENCLOSURES 66

11-07 (REV.)

WILSHIRE LA CIENEGA OFFICE
CITY *National* BANK
BEVERLY HILLS
8420 WILSHIRE BLVD.

REMITTER
John Braden

2 17835

March 28, 1963

BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF.

90-1791
1222

PAY TO THE
ORDER OF

John Braden

-----\$2,000.00-----

C.N.B. \$2000 and 00 cts

CASHIER'S CHECK

John Braden

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

[REDACTED]

WILSHIRE LA CIENEGA OFFICE
CITY *National* BANK
BEVERLY HILLS
8420 WILSHIRE BLVD.

REMITTER
John Braden

2 17834

March 28, 1963

BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF.

90-1791
1222

PAY TO THE
ORDER OF

John Braden

-----\$3,000.00-----

C.N.B. \$3000 and 00 cts

CASHIER'S CHECK

John Braden

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

[REDACTED]

107 PAY ANY BANK

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

BANK OF AMERICA

APR - 6 1968

LOS ANGELES, CALIF. 107

50-1320

by

WILSHIRE LA CIENEGA OFFICE
CITY National BANK
8420 WILSHIRE BLVD.

2 17834

REMITTER
Jim Braden

BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF. March 28, 1963 90-1791
1222

PAY TO THE
ORDER OF

Jim Braden

\$3,000.00

C.N.B. \$3000 and 00/100ths

CASHIER'S CHECK

[Signature]

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

CHECKING ACCOUNT

CITY National BANK
OF BEVERLY HILLS

DATE *May 8* 1963

DEPOSITED TO THE CREDIT OF

Jim Braden
215 So La Cienega Blvd
Beverly Hills

ACCOUNT NUMBER

	DOLLARS	CENTS
CURRENCY		
COIN		
(LIST BY BANK NUMBER)		
1		
2	3000	
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
TOTAL	3000	

WILSHIRE LA CIENEGA OFFICE

CITY *National* BANK
BEVERLY HILLS
8420 WILSHIRE BLVD.

2 17833

REMITTER

Jim Braden

BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF. March 28, 1963

90-1791
1222

PAY TO THE
ORDER OF

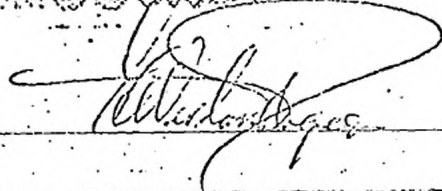
Jim Braden

-----\$5,000.00-----

C.N.B. \$5000.00cts

CASHIER'S CHECK

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE



[Redacted]

WILSHIRE LA CIENEGA OFFICE

CITY *National* BANK
BEVERLY HILLS
8420 WILSHIRE BLVD.

2 17835

REMITTER

Jim Braden

BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF. March 28, 1963

90-1791
1222

PAY TO THE
ORDER OF

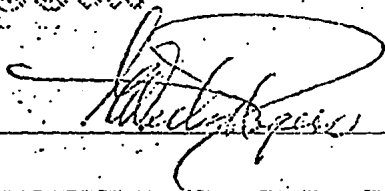
Jim Braden

-----\$2,000.00-----

C.N.B. \$2000.00cts

CASHIER'S CHECK

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE



[Redacted]

104

PAY TO THE ORDER OF ANY

CITY NATIONAL BANK

90-1687 OF BEVERLY HILLS 90-1684

WILL SPANOS, CALIFORNIA

Very cord

22x

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Mrs. Jim Braden

Found this card:

~~Check #1111~~

Dean Witter + Co.

9470 Wilshire Blvd.

Beverly Hills, Calif. 91212

CR-5-5271 (Stock Rec.)

BR-2-3281

Dean Witter Co.

Mrs. Jim Braden

Jim Braden has printed
check!

Jim Braden

on

City National Bank

Wilshire La Brea office

8420 Wilshire Blvd.

Beverly Hills, California

L.O. 1

1/32 30000

22,500

~~out~~

out
all ~~out~~ from 1/16 - 1/32 { 5000 1/16
from 1/16 - 1/32
out 1/32 2500
7500

total 22,500

Stein 1/16 1/8
~~1/16~~ 1/16 1/8
1/16 3/32
1/32 3/8
* 1/8 1/8 3/32

Check to Empire alt Payatt, Payatt
P.O. Box 51643 - oil button.
Empire Louisiana

17,500 12,500

17,500

1800 lbs Bottom

Mail Deposit Receipt

1. Please fill out one of your magnetically encoded deposit tickets which you will find in the back of your checkbook. If duplicate record of items is desired, place carbon paper between deposit slip and back of "Mail Deposit Receipt".
2. On the designated lines below, PRINT your name and the address to which the receipt is to be mailed.
3. Registered Mail should be used if currency is enclosed.
4. Endorse all Checks in this Manner - For Deposit Pay To

SECURITY NATIONAL BANK OF NEVADA

Your Signature (as check is drawn) \$

Followed By

Your Signature as it is
on file with the Bank.

DUPLICATE
SECURITY NATIONAL BANK

532189

DEC 16 1983

NAME Emmett C. Conz
ADDRESS 20 La Brea Dr.
CITY Bismarck STATE North Dakota ZIP CODE 58102

PRINT YOUR NAME AND
ADDRESS PLAINLY IN SPACE
PROVIDED SO THIS DEPOSIT
RECEIPT MAY BE MAILED TO
YOU WITH A NEW MAIL
DEPOSIT ENVELOPE.

IN. 11-122
PROSERV. INC. - RENO

THE BANK SYMBOL, TRANSACTION NUMBER, DATE AND AMOUNT OF YOUR DEPOSIT ARE SHOWN ABOVE.

The following is a telephone conversation between Sergeant M. F. Gutierrez, Los Angeles Police Department, and Jim Braden on May 6, 1969, at approximately 11:30 a.m. Prior to recording the below conversation Braden had requested to know why there were inquiries being made about him by the police department.

.
Sgt. Gutierrez: I'll tell you what I was doing.

Jim Braden: Alright, tell me.

(G) I was investigating the background on one of your friends, Mr. Victor Pereira.

(B) Is that right?

(G) Right, just a routine investigation on that and your name came up with it of course and so I decided to do some investigation on your background. As far as my investigation was concerned... So that is what it was mainly about.

(B) Well, I didn't know, that is why I was concerned, because if there is any way I can help anybody I want to know it.

(G) Alright, listen, are you staying here locally, or in town?

(B) No, I live down in Lake San Marcos.

(G) Lake San Marcos?

(B) At 942 La Fiesta Way and my telephone number is 744-9991.

(G) 744-9911.

(B) No, 9991.

(G) 9991.

(G) Alright, how long since you have seen Vic?

(B) Well, I haven't it's been quite some time.

110
587-124
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/27/84 BY SP 6011/2K
230447

(B) We had quite a problem with the government together. We served some time together, as a matter of fact, it was a Supreme Court test case. That was very poor attorney's advice. It never would have happened.

(G) Right, this was on something that Mr. Pereira got some problem with one of his ex-wives wasn't it? Whatever it was that's

(B) Yes.

(G) Yes, I did some extensive research on it, so that is how your name came up on my investigation. Of course I can't tell you any more on what the investigation is about, at this particular time. I think my investigation is almost complete so if I need a question or two could I feel free to call you?

(B) You certainly may.

(G) Just a minute (Sgt. Gutierrez addressing Officer Miller.) Is there anything we want to find out about Mr. Braden? Hold on please. (pause)

(G) I'll tell you on June the 6th or 7th you were at the Century Plaza and

(B) June the 6th or 7th? When was this?

(G) Last year.

(B) Last year, I don't know, very possibly could have been that I was there. I don't know. I stay there quite often when I am in town.

(G) I just was wondering if you saw Mr. Pereira about that time.

(B) That I can't remember I can't remember.

(G) This was well let's see that was about the time that

Senator Kennedy was shot that about the same time (addressing Officer Miller). When was the Senator shot? Senator Kennedy, 5th or 6th somewhere in there.

(G) Do you recall that particular day?

(B) My goodness, no.

(G) No? I was just trying to piece a day together to see if you could remember that particular You don't recall what you were doing on that particular day?

(B) No, you're talking about a year ago?

(G) Yes.

(B) No, there is no way that I could sit right here and recall something that happened back a year ago.

(G) How much do you recall of the time that you were in Texas when the President was shot.

(B) What do I recall about it?

(G) Yea, from what I understand you were there on business.

(B) That's right, I checked into my parole officer and I checked out, as a matter of fact, I was in this office when it happened.

(G) You were in the parole office?

(B) Parole officers office when it happened.

(G) And how far is the parole officer from the building where you were at?

(B) Well, the way this came about, I was in the parole office checking out with him, I was on my way to Houston and I was walking down one of the streets, I can't think of the name of the street right now. As I was wal , I'd seen the parade and he was in the car, you know waving and the big

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crowd and and I walked over to the Federal building to check out with my parole officer. As I walked down the street I could hear the sirens going, people running around and people running up and said "My God, the President has been shot." And I walked on down to where I saw the people running from, you know, and they had this building surrounded, and I went upstairs in another building to make a telephone call. I was going to call my parents and tell them of this great excitement and there was a colored feller running an elevator who says "I wasn't supposed to take anybody up or down on this," and the next thing I know I was mix I was walked right in. And then they checked me out and released me. This was a hell of a situation to get in.

- (G) Right, what building was that? There's two buildings on the corner, three buildings actually isn't the Federal building on one
- (B) I don't know, I don't recall, I don't know too much about those gover
- (G) And you went upstairs to make a phone call and that was when that guy stopped you?
- (B) This is when that colored guy made alot of noise and says it was blasting over the radio and all and the next thing I know I was right in the middle of it. I wasn't right in the middle of it but I was detained for a while.
- (G) And I take it you made a statement to the
- (B) I did make a statement.
- (G) Made a statement to the Sheriffs?

(B) To the Sheriff's and they released me.

(G) Then from there you came back to Los Angeles?

(B) I went on to Houston and then back to Los Angeles.

(G) Is your family from Texas?

(B) No.

(G) They're from out here aren't they?

(B) Yea

(G) When did you change your name from Brading to Braden?

(B) That is when I first came back from my incarceration back in 1960, I believe it was or 1959.

(G) Was that with the approval of your P.O. at the time.

(B) Yes.

(G) And was it a regular name change, or was that just on your drivers license, was it legal?

(B) Well, no it wasn't by a legal process, no.

(G) So it was a regular change through the Department of Motor Vehicles and you just assumed the name of Jim Braden and so

(B) This is a business name, everybody called me Braden and so this is the business name I just I said what the hell if you are gonna call me Braden I have been called Jimmy so long so I just Jim Braden that's how I ended up with Jim Braden.

(G) What do you do now Mr. Braden? Are you still in the oil business?

(B) I'm in the oil business in Louisiana, Texas, Wyoming, and Montana.

(G) How about that one in Nevada, you still got that one?

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- (B) I have a corporation there.
- (G) Is that the same corporation as the one in Louisiana, the one in LaFayette?
- (B) Nope, that's two different companies.
- (G) One is Empire Royalty and the other one is
- (B) No, Royalty Corporation and Empire Oil Corporation. Empire Oil Corporation is a Nevada Corporation. Empire Oil and Royalty is a Louisiana Corporation.
- (G) In the one that you were in with Miss DeSanders was that the Louisiana.. , . .
- (B) No, that is Empire Oil in Nevada.
- (G) Are those two defunked now?
- (B) No, no.
- (G) Their still active? Are you still pumping oil?
- (B) I've got production. . . .
- (G) Hey, you need a partner? I got alot of muscle, no money.
- (B) I can use anybody whose got money.
- (G) No money, lot of muscle. How about Vic, is he in, or was he ever in any of these oil ventures with you?
- (B) No, we were in oil ventures, I take that back, we were in oil back in let's see 1960 I believe it was. We drilled some wells in Matagorda County together in South Texas made a couple of pretty good wells.
- (G) Matagorda?
- (B) Matagorda, that is in Southern Texas.
- (G) Anywhere near Houston?
- (B) Yeah, not too far, about twenty miles, its right on the coast right out of Bay City.

- (G) That Matagon , that's no longer active is it?
- (B) Oh yes, Mrs. Bollman is getting ^a pretty good check out of it and so is Mr. Pereira's ex-wife.
- (G) How about Miss DeSanders, she doesn't have any of that does she?
- (B) No, she's not in that.
- (G) Was it Miss DeSanders who told you I was inquiring about you? Actually, I was inquiring about your friend Vic.
- (B) You excited Mrs. Bollman quite a bit. And she said I had a couple of calls and didn't sleep all night and I don't like it. So I said lets see what I can do to try and stop it.
- (G) Well, there is no problem, it was kind of a background check on your friend and your name came up and I like to know all about who I'm
- (B) Believe me, I want you to know. If there is anything you want to know I will tell you anything you want to know. I have got nothing whatsoever to hide.
- (G) If ever I have got a question or two to ask you, can I call you at 744-9991?
- (B) That's in area 714
- (G) 714.
- (B) That's in San Marcos, California.
- (G) That's near Oceanside, isn't it?
- (B) Yea, right out of Oceanside.
- (G) Just a minute, let me look at my folder on Mr. Pereira please. pause....As I take it, when the President was shot around that time you were headed for Houston, Texas, and you stopped at

...a couple of days... went to Houston and

to Oppeluss

(B) Oppelussa, that's where I have some oil production down there.

(G) Then you reported to your P.O., where at Dallas?

(B) I reported, I reported in and out to him. I reported in when I arrived and before I left that was around noon and we had all He had been up to watch the parade and I had been up to watch the parade and so had his secretary and they had arrived back at the office about the time I did and I was checking out with him and his name was Flowers and I said, well I said I just saw the President and he said, "Yea we did too" and it was right after that, it couldn't have been when I left that office. It couldn't have been another thirty minutes later when all this rubbarb came about. And believe me you never saw such scrambling and running and shouting and screaming in your life.

(G) Did you know at that time that the President had been shot?

(B) I had no idea.

(G) When did you first learn that the President had been shot?

(B) When the feller running up the street was hollering, "My God," he said, "the President has been shot."...Believe this was news worthy and something that is completely different. I went up to make a telephone call. There was a building, I don't know the name of the building. I took an old back elevator and the girl says I says, "Is there a telephone near by?" She said, "Yes there's one upstairs" And this Negro was driving this elevator. I got on the elevator and I went up

there I was and about two minutes or so back down and the radio in his elevator was blaring and he said, he was scared too, and he said, " I wasn't supposed to let anybody up in this building." I don't know, the next thing he runs out and the whole place is surrounded by officers and he has got an officer and the officer says "Well, I don't know, maybe we better check it out." Next thing I know they said, "come on with us," next thing I know I'm with them and they check my story out and then they released me.

(G) Do you recall what you were wearing? Were you wearing a business type suit that day?

(B) Oh yes, a business suit.

(G) Anybody take a picture of you.

(B) Not that I know of.

(G) You were staying where? You were staying at a friends place in Dallas? Well, that's nothing to do with ours One other thing Mr. Pereira, he had a place called the Accurate Electronics with Arthur Clark. Did you have any stock in that

(B) No, no, Arthur Clark is dead. He died a long time ago. I don't know what he did with Clark, I don't know.

(G) You didn't have any stock in that did you?

(B) No. No. None.

(G) Do you know anything about La-Cal Oil Company.

(B) La Cal Oil Company? How's it spelled.

(G) That's L-A-C-A-L Oil Company. They were also Empire Oil Corporation, but their a Delaware outfit though.

(B) It could be that I am not connected with it. Empire Oil, there are several of them, as a matter of fact there are some of them listed on . . . I had a letter from a stock broker who wanted to know if I had any stock to sell. I told him that he must be wrong because this is a closely held corporation

(G) You were working on oil deals in Dallas for a time where you wanted to make a deal with Lamar Hunt? Is that the fellow who has the football team?

(B) That is big top man.

(G) With this man up that high you're really in the oil business, huh?

(B) You're right, he is big believe me.

(G) How did you make out with him?

(B) I didn't have any direct connection with him. Mr. Morgan Brown had the connection with him seeking some oil deals of some kind.

(G) When you were in Dallas, and then you went to Houston and Oppelussa and you came back, did you ever inform your P.O. that you had been detained by the Dallas Sheriff's regarding this President Kennedy shooting?

(B) No, I did not. I figured it was^{on} the records...that they probably must have known about it. I made my statement and signed it and that was it.

(G) You didn't make a written statement...

(B) I made a written statement right there. They took a statement from me.

(G) But you didn't make a written one to your P.O. did you?

I was just going to check with them to see if

11.
(B) I didn't see any reason to personally see myself.

(G) No I was just wondering about that if you had. I know you had made one there for the Dallas people, but I didn't know if you had made one for your

(B) No, because if they knew about it, which they must have known about it they knew there was no possible way I could have been connected because I was in the office at the time his caravan had just passed by the Federal Building not by the Federal Building, two blocks past on the other side of the Federal Building when we all arrived back there at the same time.

(G) Is Mr. Gerald Chase still your accountant?

(B) Yes.

(G) He is at 280 Beverly isn't he?

(B) South Beverly.

(G) Do you know Mr. Arnoff?

(B) Who?

(G) Arnoff. He is in the same outfit with

(B) No, I don't believe I do. I know Chase Bierman and Dunn.

(G) You still have your account there?

(B) Yes.

(G) Do you know Mr. Dubrin?

(B) I don't know that name.

(G) Jim Kassab.

(B) No.

(G) So the only one you know is Mr. Vic.

(B) I know Vic Pereira, I don't deny that.

(G) Is Vic still in town?

(B) I think he's a hell of a swell fella, myself

(G) I'll probably end up talking to Vic in another week then I can close out my investigation out then I can go back to work...and if I've got a question or two

(B) Call me anytime you feel like it. I appreciate it.

(G) Alright sir, thank you very much, good by.

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The following report is a condensed summary of the Kassab investigation as outlined in the chart accompanying this report.

During the early months of 1962, Los Angeles Police Officers M.A. McCowan, D. G. Rickards and three other officers entered into a sham real estate purchasing venture with Officer Latham whereby they received from \$75.00 to \$250.00 for each transaction that they entered into with him. Latham was the go-between the officers and David Kassab, a non-licensed real estate salesman. Kassab applied for purchase of approximately 100 homes in the San Fernando Valley for a sum of \$18,200.00 each. Individual escrows were immediately opened on each house. The officers acting as "dummy" buyers applied for new loans based on an inflated price. In some cases, second trust deeds were sold to unsuspecting buyers before title was cleared through escrow. When the "non-sufficient funds" checks, submitted by the officers earlier as down payment on the property bounced, Kassab would buy back the second trust deed at a 50 per cent discount on the pretext that a foreclosure was imminent.

David Kassab was born in Bagdad, Iraq. He is the third of seven children who was forced, with his parents, to flee their homeland because of anti-Jewish feelings in that country. He and his family lived in Bagdad from 1940 to 1948. During the years of 1948 and 1949 his family lived in Urban Teheran, Iran. He came to the United States in 1949 and has been living in Los Angeles ever since. He has been in the real estate business since 1955.

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a travel agency sham with a co-defendant, George Dimitrovich. Both were doing business under the name of Europa Travel. They advertised air transportation at greatly reduced rates. The prospectus was that a plane would be leased from a Mexican Airline and flights would operate to Europe from Mexico. The round trip flight was advertised at \$545.00. Both David Kassab and Dimitrovich collected over \$30,000.00 from 80 UCLA students. They pocketed the money and did not fulfill their contract. Intelligence reports indicated that both David Kassab and Dimitrovich were probably in partnership with Joe Sica, in this travel agency. Although there were strong indications of the Sica connection, positive proof could not be established.

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Another mutual acquaintance of Braden and Pereira was a person named Arthur Clark Sr., who is now deceased. Clark was a former member of the Old Detroit Purple Gang. Pereira, when released from prison, was given employment by Earl Scheib of the car painting fame. Intelligence reports indicate that Pereira was also associated with Paul Billings who was closely associated with Mafia members such as the Battaglia Brothers. In 1962, Pereira had an active financial interest in a New York business firm named Grouth Industries. He handled new stock issues for Accurate Electronics. He sold Fred and Alfred Sica \$4500.00 worth of this stock and retained the shares in his name. Investigation indicated that this was a hoodlum operated company headed by the Colleti Brothers.

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An investigation into Gilbert's background indicated that a business card with the inscription "Michael Wayne, Promoter" was found in Gilbert's residence when the dynamite was located.

This Michael Wayne, it was speculated by this investigator, was the same young male Caucasian who was at the Ambassador Hotel June 5, 1968 when Senator Kennedy was shot. Shortly after the shooting, Michael Wayne was seen running from the kitchen area and subsequently stopped and later questioned by Los Angeles Police Detectives. During that interrogation, it was noted that he was in possession of a card bearing the name of Keith Gilbert. Due to the fact that Gilbert was an extremist in the right wing organization and Michael Wayne was seen running from the scene of the shooting, an intensive investigation was conducted to determine their association.

On April 1, 1968, Gilbert was interviewed in San Quentin prison with reference to Wayne's business card and his connection with ultra-extremist groups. Gilbert admitted his own membership in the Minutemen Society, but could not recall the persons who gave him the business card with Wayne's name. Gilbert indicated that he had acquired numerous business cards while in the firearms business in which he and another Minuteman, Robert R. Romero were partners.

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Note: Although Wayne's card was one of many found in Gilbert's residence, at the time of the dynamite discovery, the name Wayne could not be found among any of Gilbert's other papers.

Gilbert, it was noted, was anxious to be truthful with this investigator as his parole investigating officer was present during this interview. Gilbert stated he did not want to lie and hurt his chances for an early parole.

Gilbert, it was learned earlier, wrote a letter to Senator R.F. Kennedy on March 1, 1967 from San Quentin prison. In that letter, he stated that he was a member of the Minutemen Organization and had vital information connecting Lee Harvey Oswald to the Minutemen. When questioned about this letter, Gilbert stated that he had received this information from Dennis Mower and that he, Gilbert, did not have actual knowledge that Oswald was a Minuteman.

Numerous photographs were shown to Gilbert which included persons he definitely knew. Among these pictures was a photograph of Michael Wayne. Gilbert identified all the photographs that the investigator knew Gilbert was associated with. However, he failed to identify a picture of Michael Wayne. He emphatically denied having ever met Michael Wayne but added that he probably received the business card from one of many people he met at a gun show in Yuma, Arizona.

Additionally, Gilbert related that Dennis Mower had informed him that Edgar Eugene Bradley had been involved in a murder of a person known as Dallas Roquemore, whose death had been listed as suicide.

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A later investigation into this allegation revealed that Roquemore, an acquaintance of Bradley, was shot and accidentally killed by Frank A. Austin in Weaverville, California on January 4, 1964. An investigation by the Weaverville Sheriff's office and a polygraph examination proved beyond a doubt that the shooting was accidental. Edgar Eugene Bradley was in Southern California at the time of that shooting.

Michael Wayne was reinterviewed on April 1, 1969 to determine his knowledge of the "Wayne" card found at Gilbert's residence and also of Gilbert's card found in his possession on the morning of June 5, 1968.

Wayne was administered a polygraph examination by Lt. E. Hernandez in which he was asked about the business cards and about his running from the scene of the shooting at the Ambassador Hotel. Lt. Hernandez stated that in his opinion, Wayne was being truthful when he replied that he did not know Gilbert, nor had he ever given him a business card, nor had he ever had a business card bearing his own name. He could not recall how he obtained Gilbert's card, nor who had given it to him. The polygraph examination also indicated he was truthful in replying that he had never been a member of the Minutemen, nor was he associated with them.

During an investigation into the membership of the Minutemen Society in North Hollywood area, it was learned that Phillip Scheib was also a member. Phillip Scheib is the son of Earl Scheib. Phillip Scheib was also a personal friend of Officer C.E. White.

Earl Scheib was a close associate of Victor Pereira and of Paul Billings, who had Mafia connections. Earl Scheib's background indicates close ties with numerous other underworld figures such as the Sica Brothers, Jim Braden, Anthony Tuccelli, Harold Metzger, Vincent J. Meallo and numerous others.

✓ Joe Sica, a Mafia member, is known to have associated with Karl Hoogorian who is a member of the Board of Directors of the San Fernando Valley Rubbish Collectors Association. Hoogorian in turn was known to associate with David Kassab.

✓ Russel E. Parsons, the attorney for Sirhan B. Sirhan, is known to have associated with Joe Sica in the past. Besides being the Sica attorney, indications are that Parsons was a personal friend of the Sicas.

In 1966, Parsons defended Michael McCowan in the latter's criminal retrial when he was charged with "theft of U.S. mail." McCowan was convicted and received a probation sentence of three years. Shortly after Parsons was retained as the attorney for Sirhan B. Sirhan, he contacted Michael McCowan and hired him as a chief investigator for the defense in that case.

The following is a detailed report on the background investigation of Jim Braden. Jim Braden's name first came to the attention of this investigative unit from Peter Noyes, a newscaster and writer. Noyes indicated that Braden was probably the person that Jack Garrison, the District Attorney from New Orleans, was looking for instead of Edgar Eugene Bradley in connection with an alleged conspiracy to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

Braden has an extensive criminal record dating back to May 15, 1934 when he was convicted for burglary in Kansas. His last arrest was for shoplifting in Los Angeles on February 9, 1964.

In 1951, Braden and Victor Pereira joined together to commit fraud. The victim in this case was Pereira's ex-wife. Braden and Pereira were convicted of interstate fraud and conspiracy and sentenced to 12 years in a federal penitentiary. Braden was in prison from March 1954 until February 1959 at which time he was released on parole in Los Angeles, California.

After leaving prison, he began working for the Morgan Brown Oil Corporation at 9251 Wilshire Boulevard as a clerk and oil consultant. Pereira, who was also on federal parole had an office in the same building where Braden worked.

Braden worked for the Morgan Brown Corporation for several years. He frequently traveled with Mr. Morgan Brown as his consultant on trips to Louisiana and Texas. Morgan Brown knew of Braden's past prison record.

On October 10, 1960, Braden, twice divorced, married a fifty-five year old widow, Mildred A. Bollman, an heiress to the Swift Meat Company estate.

In 1962, Braden and his wife Mildred, formed the Matador Oil Corporation in Matagorda County, Texas and Opelousas, Louisiana. In 1962, Braden showed his parole officer an oil dividend

check for \$19,000.00 which he stated was from a quarter interest in the Matagorda County Texas Oil Company.

In 1962, Braden told his parole officer that he and his wife had been threatened by Arthur Clark Jr. because Clark believed Braden owed him money for "services rendered" when Braden and Robert Bollman formed a cattle venture in Chicago. In that same year, Braden and Bollman opened a \$25,000.00 bank account at the First Stockyard Bank, Chicago, Illinois in the name of the "B and B Cattle" account. Clark, according to Braden, was described as an oil promoter. Braden and Pereira's association with the Clarks began in 1953.

In 1963, according to parole reports, Braden, through the Matador Oil Corporation became associated with the Bauman Drilling Company of Dallas, Texas who were drilling a well for him in Landry-Parish, Louisiana.

Braden's association with Roger L. Bauman dates back to their association with Arthur Clark Sr. who was a member of the Old Detroit Purple Gang.

During Braden's parole, he made frequent trips to Texas, Louisiana and Florida. In the months of October, November, and December of 1963 he made trips to Dallas and Houston, Texas.

On November 18, 1963, Braden received permission from the Los Angeles parole office to leave for Dallas, Texas on November 20, 1963, and then to proceed to Houston, Texas. Braden

estimated this trip would take him approximately ten days.

Braden reported to the parole officer in Dallas, Texas on November 21, 1963 at noon stating that he was going to be in Dallas for several days working on oil deals and conferring with Lamar Hunt.

On November 26, 1963, the Houston, Texas parole office reported that Braden had left that date for Los Angeles.

A check of Braden's record indicated that he used the following aliases: Gene Hale Brading, Gene Brady, Eugene Hale Brading, Harry Eugene Bradley, James Bradley Lee and James Lee Cole. His true name is Eugene Hale Brading.

A check with the California Department of Motor Vehicles revealed that Eugene Hale Brading requested a name change on his operator's license to read Jim Braden. This request was made on September 10, 1963.

On March 11, 1963, Jim Braden opened an account with the City National Bank, Beverly Hills, by depositing two cashier's checks for \$11,500.00. One drawn on the City National Bank for \$8,000.00 and another drawn on the Crocker Citizen's National Bank for \$3,500.00.

On March 28, 1963, Braden made a checking withdrawal of \$10,000.00. This was found to be three cashier's checks all made payable to Jim Braden for amounts of \$5,000.00, \$3,000.00 and \$2,000.00.

Cashier's check #217883 for \$5,000.00 was endorsed by Jim Braden

and cashed by the City National Bank, Palm Spring Branch on April 18, 1963. Cashier's check #217834 for \$3,000.00 was deposited by Jim Braden on May 8, 1963 at the City National Bank, Beverly Hills Branch.

On April 8, 1963, cashier's check #217835 for \$2,000.00 was endorsed by Jim Braden and deposited by the Thunderbird Country Club of Palm Springs, California, at the Bank of America, Palm Springs Branch.

A further examination of Braden's other miscellaneous checks revealed that on November 6, 1963 he wrote a \$200.00 check for cash; November 19, 1963 wrote a check for \$146.61 to General Telephone Company; November 20, 1963, \$200.00 for cash-expenses which were cashed by the Courtwright Corporation, Beverly Wilshire Hotel; November 21, 1963, \$183.72 made out to the Ambassador; December 18, 1963, \$10.52 to Diners Club; November 19, 1963, \$147.31 to the May Company; December 19, 1963, \$5.93 to Harrison Hartford Company, Legal printing; December 19, 1963, \$17.86 to the Standard Oil Company.

Braden was released from the McNeil Island Federal Prison on February 13, 1959. He arrived in Los Angeles on February 14, 1959 and reported to the Federal Parole Office. The following are excerpts from Braden's parole report.

While in prison he corresponded with ANTHONY SMALLDONE (Mafia member) regarding oil well deals.

The following dates and notations are excerpts from Braden's Federal Parole office record.

9-23-59 Pereira has an office in the same building as Morgan Brown Oil Company, Braden's employer.

10-28-59 Braden admitted to the P.O. that he had a girlfriend, Mildred Bollman, a wealthy widow.

4-5-61 Approved to travel to Tampa, Florida with his new wife, Mildred.

8-2-61 Told his P.O. that he had oil well explorations in Matagorda Co., Texas with his wife Mildred and Pereira. He requested permission to visit this well site.

8-10-61 Requested permission to travel to LaFayette, Louisiana. He was to leave Los Angeles on 8-14-61 and return on 8-21-61.

9-6-61 He told the P.O. that his wife Mildred had put up the capital for an oil well drilling venture.

4-11-62 Informed P.O. he was leaving for Houston, for Lafayette, Louisiana and on his return to Dallas.

4-23-62 Reported to P.O. that he had returned from Houston, Texas.

6-4-62 Requested to travel to MCHENRY, ILLINOIS with his wife Mildred to visit their farm.

1-2-63 Braden went to Hawaii approval from P.O.

1-4-63 Departed from Hawaii.

1-17-63 Returned to Los Angeles from Houston, Texas.

11-20-63 Left L.A. for Dallas, Texas where he was to remain until November 21, 1963 then continue to Houston, Texas and remain there until November 26, 1963 before continuing to OPELOUSAS, LA. Upon arriving in Dallas on the 20th, reported to P.O.

Note: He reported to the Houston P.O. office on the 24th but did not mention his being picked up by the Sheriffs after the shooting of the president.

During his parole, Braden listed his addresses in the following order:

his P.O. of a name change with the California Department of Motor Vehicles. However, there are letters from Braden to the P.O. with this name change.

There is no mention to his P.O. about his using the name of Braden when arrested for shoplifting on April 9, 1964.

On November 22, 1963, shortly after President John Kennedy was shot, Braden was in a building across the street from the Dallas School Depository. He was interrogated by the Dallas Sheriffs Department and released

Note: See attached copy of Dallas Sheriffs report and F.B.I. interview regarding that investigation.

There is no record of Braden having informed the parole officers in Los Angeles, Dallas, or Houston that he had been interviewed by the Dallas Sheriffs regarding his being in a building in which he did not belong shortly after the President was shot.

On January 30, 1967, Braden married a wealthy Texas widow, Jean DeSanders. On June 7, 1968, Miss DeSanders filed for a divorce. During the early months of their marriage, Braden convinced Miss DeSanders that she should invest \$500,000.00 of her money into his company, The Empire Oil Corporation, a Nevada Corporation. She agreed to deposit this sum of money after stipulating that the money would not be touched. This money was to draw interest and pay off minor debts only. Braden, however, managed to manipulate \$35,000.00 into his own account. Miss DeSanders learned of this money shortage and realized that Braden was attempting to bilk her out of the entire amount.

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She hired an attorney who managed to disburse all of the money with the exception of the \$30,000.00. Braden, according to Miss DeSanders was in some type of partnership with Duane Nolan and Chester Paxton in the Empire and Royalty Corporations in LaFayette, Louisiana. Miss DeSanders brought suit against both Empire Oil Companies and mentioned Braden, Paxton and Nolan in the suit. She added that Braden had an office at the firm of Chase Bierman and Dunn accountants at 280 S. Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills. Mona Chapman, a secretary of this firm was also listed as an officer of the Empire Oil Corporation.

Note: Mona Chapman's connection with Jim Braden was investigated and it was learned from Gerald Chase that Mona Chapman had worked for his C.P.A. firm. However, when he learned that she was listed in Braden's Empire Oil Corporation, he fired her.

Braden obtained Corporate approval for the Empire Oil Corporation on May 24, 1969 from the state of Nevada. The Corporate papers indicated that the share holders in the company were Jean Braden, Mona Chapman, Martha Herndon and Jean Cox.

Among some papers that were turned over to Mr. R. M. Hale, an investigator for the State of California Division of Corporations, by Miss DeSanders, the following notations, in Braden's handwriting, were noted: "Abe Meltzer from 1/16-/32, Chester Paxton 1/8-1/8." There were also six other names with similar notations. Miss DeSanders interpreted these figures to represent dividends paid to share holders.

Note: Copies attached to this report.

In trying to locate Braden's present address, investigators were informed that he was living at the La Costa Country Club in Carlsbad, California, telephone number, 714-729-7111. A

check of the hotel records indicated he was a member only and not living at that location. He listed his home address with the club as 280 S. Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, California. He also listed his telephone number as 472-7720. A check of the latter telephone number in the Los Angeles area indicated it was registered as a non-published subscription to Bernard Denberg of 1632 Stradella Road in Bel Air. An investigation into Denberg's occupation indicated that he was possibly the Vice-president of the Philco Radio Company.

The Empire Oil and Royalty Corporation was chartered November 7, 1966 in Louisiana by Jim Braden, (President), Evelyn Droddy, (Vice-president) and Duncan M. Smith Jr. (Secretary-treasurer). The address of the corporation is listed as 201 Oil Center Drive, P. O. Box 51643, Oil Center Station, LaFayette, Louisiana. That corporation was listed as having \$25,000.00 in capital at the time of its corporation.

On May 6, 1969, Braden telephoned Sergeant M. F. Gutierrez and requested to know why he was being investigated. Braden was told that the investigation concerned Victor Pereira. Braden added that his ex-wife, Mildred Bollman, had informed him that an investigator had been inquiring about him. In this conversation Braden denied knowing Arnoff or Kassab, but admitted knowing Gerald Chase, the accountant.

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An investigation into Gilbert's background indicated that a business card with the inscription "Michael Wayne, Promoter" was found in Gilbert's residence when the dynamite was located.

This Michael Wayne, it was speculated by this investigator, was the same young male Caucasian who was at the Ambassador Hotel June 5, 1968 when Senator Kennedy was shot. Shortly after the shooting, Michael Wayne was seen running from the kitchen area and subsequently stopped and later questioned by Los Angeles Police Detectives. During that interrogation, it was noted that he was in possession of a card bearing the name of Keith Gilbert. Due to the fact that Gilbert was an extremist in the right wing organization and Michael Wayne was seen running from the scene of the shooting, an intensive investigation was conducted to determine their association.

On April 1, 1968, Gilbert was interviewed in San Quentin prison with reference to Wayne's business card and his connection with ultra-extremist groups. Gilbert admitted his own membership in the Minutemen Society, but could not recall the persons who gave him the business card with Wayne's name. Gilbert indicated that he had acquired numerous business cards while in the firearms business in which he and another Minuteman, Robert R. Romero were partners.

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