



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

June 22, 2021

MR. JOHN GREENEWALD JR.
SUITE 1203
27305 WEST LIVE OAK ROAD
CASTAIC, CA 91384-4520

FOIPA Request No.: 1432458-000
Subject: DUMMAR, MELVIN

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Below you will find check boxes under the appropriate statute headings which indicate the types of exemptions asserted to protect information which is exempt from disclosure. The appropriate exemptions are noted on the enclosed pages next to redacted information. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted to indicate where pages were withheld entirely and identify which exemptions were applied. The checked exemption boxes used to withhold information are further explained in the enclosed Explanation of Exemptions.

Section 552

☐ (b)(1)

☐ (b)(2)

☐ (b)(3)

☐ (b)(4)

☐ (b)(5)

☒ (b)(6)

☐ (b)(7)(A)

☐ (b)(7)(B)

☒ (b)(7)(C)

☐ (b)(7)(D)

☐ (b)(7)(E)

☐ (b)(7)(F)

☐ (b)(8)

☐ (b)(9)

Section 552a

☐ (d)(5)

☐ (j)(2)

☐ (k)(1)

☐ (k)(2)

☐ (k)(3)

☐ (k)(4)

☐ (k)(5)

☐ (k)(6)

☐ (k)(7)

11 pages were reviewed and 11 pages are being released.

Please see the paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request as well as the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

- ☐ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning, other Government Agency (ies) [OGA].
- ☐ This information has been referred to the OGA(s) for review and direct response to you.
- ☐ We are consulting with another agency. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is completed.

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. "Part 1" of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. "Part 2" includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. "Part 3" includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the www.fbi.gov/foia website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request.

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foipaquestions@fbi.gov. If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.



See additional information which follows.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Seidel
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Information Management Division

Enclosure(s)

This is the final release of information responsive to your FOIPA request. This material is being provided to you at no charge.

Enclosed are cross-references that are identifiable with the subject of your request. Cross-references are defined as mentions of the subject of your request in files to other individuals, organizations, events, or activities. In processing the cross-references, the pages considered for possible release included only those pages that mention the subject of your request and any additional pages showing the context in which the subject of your request was mentioned.

FBI FOIPA Addendum

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum provides information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes standard responses that apply to requests for records about individuals to the extent your request seeks the listed information. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records, searches, and programs.

Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIPA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c)]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIPA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the www.fbi.gov/foia website.
- (ii) **Intelligence Records.** To the extent your request seeks records of intelligence sources, methods, or activities, the FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and as applicable to requests for records about individuals, PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(i)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that any such records do or do not exist.

Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Witness Security Program Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could identify any participant in the Witness Security Program pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(3), 18 U.S.C. 3521, and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.
- (iii) **Requests for Records for Incarcerated Individuals.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any incarcerated individual pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching systems or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. A standard search normally consists of a search for main files in the Central Records System (CRS), an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled by the FBI per its law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization, comprising records of FBI Headquarters, FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attaché Offices (Legats) worldwide; Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records are included in the CRS. Unless specifically requested, a standard search does not include references, administrative records of previous FOIPA requests, or civil litigation files. For additional information about our record searches, visit www.fbi.gov/services/information-management/foipa/requesting-fbi-records.
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheet. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative “FBI file.” An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks. Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at www.edo.cjis.gov. For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.
- (iv) **National Name Check Program (NNCP).** The mission of NNCP is to analyze and report information in response to name check requests received from federal agencies, for the purpose of protecting the United States from foreign and domestic threats to national security. Please be advised that this is a service provided to other federal agencies. Private Citizens cannot request a name check.

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

This document is made available through the declassification efforts
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages
released by the U.S. Government & Military.

Discover the Truth at: **<http://www.theblackvault.com>**

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. [REDACTED]

DATE: 12-22-76

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: HOWARD HUGHES WILL
LATENT PRINT MATTER

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir.:
Adm. Serv. _____
Ext. Affairs _____
Fin. & Pers. _____
Gen. Inv. _____
Ident. VRHA AW
Inspection _____

Il. _____ b6
Laboratory _____ b7C
Legal Coun. _____
Plan. & Insp. _____
Rec. Mgnt. _____
S. & T. Serv. _____
Spec. Inv. _____
Training _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Sec'y _____

Purpose of this memorandum is to report that Investigator [REDACTED] Attorney General's Office, Carson City, Nevada, telephoned this date and requested (1) the name of the latent specialist in this case, (2) what chemical processes were used on the envelope on which Melvin Dummar's fingerprint was developed, (3) what process developed the latent print, and (4) if the latent print could be redeveloped.

You will recall that by letter dated 10-15-76, from the Attorney General's Office, Carson City, Nevada, we were requested to process certain items pertaining to the "Mormon Will" and to compare any latents found with known-fingerprints of Melvin Dummar. By report dated 11-9-76, we advised the Attorney General's Office, Carson City, Nevada, that a latent fingerprint developed on the outer envelope containing the will is identical with a fingerprint of Melvin E. Dummar, FBI #672173G.

MELVIN DUMMAR
Mr. [REDACTED] was advised (1) that the latent specialist is [REDACTED] (2) that iodine fumes, ninhydrin and silver nitrate were used in the examination of the envelope, (3) that ninhydrin developed Dummar's latent fingerprint, and (4) that the chemical stains have been removed and consequently the latent print cannot be redeveloped. According to Mr. [REDACTED] this information is necessary as the Nevada Attorney General is scheduled to appear at a probate hearing regarding the "Mormon Will" on 12-28-76.

For your additional information, the "Mormon Will" and an additional envelope were delivered to the Scientific and Technical Services Division today by an investigator for the Nevada Attorney General's Office and will subsequently be coming to the Latent Fingerprint Section for examination.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

APPROVED:

Director _____
Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Adm. Serv. _____
Ext. Affairs _____
Fin. & Pers. _____
Gen. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Intell. _____

Legal Coun. _____
Plan. & Insp. _____
Rec. Mgnt. _____
S. & T. Serv. _____
Spec. Inv. _____
Training _____



1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

GJB:rg

(5)

JAN 25 1977

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FBI/DOJ

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. [REDACTED]

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: HOWARD HUGHES WILL
PRESS MATTER

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir. _____
Adm. Serv. _____
Ext. Affairs _____
Fin. _____
Gen. Inv. _____
Ident. *RA* b6
Int. P. _____ b7C
Legal Coun. _____
Plan. & Insp. _____
Rec. Mgt. _____
S. & T. Serv. _____
Spec. Inv. _____
Training _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Sec'y _____

On 12-13-76, [REDACTED] Associated Press Reporter (AP), Los Angeles, California, #213-746-1200, contacted me and advised that today a lawyer for Howard Hughes stated in court that the FBI had identified a fingerprint of Melvin Dummar on the envelope which contained the so-called "Mormon Will" of Howard Hughes. [REDACTED] wanted confirmation indicating he was referred to me by ASAC [REDACTED] Las Vegas, Nevada.

By letter dated 10-15-76, from the Office of the Attorney General, Carson City, Nevada, we were requested to process certain items pertaining to the "Mormon Will" and to compare any latents found with known fingerprints of Melvin Dummar. By report dated 11-9-76, we advised the Attorney General's Office, Carson City, Nevada, that a latent fingerprint developed on the envelope was identical to fingerprint of Melvin E. Dummar, FBI #672-173-G.

After ascertaining the above facts, [REDACTED] Chief Investigator, Attorney General's Office, Carson City, Nevada, was contacted and he was advised of the AP inquiry. He was advised that the FBI would respond to this inquiry as follows:

"The FBI has examined some material at the request of the Attorney General's Office, Carson City, Nevada, and the results of the examination have been furnished to that office. As this matter is currently under consideration in that office, it would not be appropriate for the FBI to comment concerning the results of the examination or the material examined."

ASAC [REDACTED] Las Vegas, was advised to contact [REDACTED] AP, and furnish him with the above statement.

From press accounts it appears that Melvin Dummar is a gas station attendant who was named as a beneficiary in the "Mormon Will." Dummar claims he helped Hughes on one occasion by giving him a ride. *DE-41 REC-59 62-99801-61*

This matter was coordinated with Assistant Director Donald W. Moore, Jr., External Affairs.

RECOMMENDATION: None. For information.

22 JAN 10 1977

APPROVED:

Director _____

Assoc. Dir. _____

Dep. AD Adm. _____

Dep. AD Inv. _____

Adm. Serv. _____

Ext. Affairs _____

Fin. & Pers. _____

Gen. Inv. _____

Ident. *RA* _____

Intell. _____

Legal Coun. _____

Plan. & Insp. _____

Rec. Mgt. _____

S. & T. Serv. _____

Spec. Inv. _____

Training _____

RHA:djh

(4)

1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

JAN 25 1977





Federal Bureau of Investigation

Freedom of Information / Privacy Acts

Release

Subject: **DUMMAR, MELVIN E.**

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 21 1976

TELETYPE

Assoc. Dir.	_____
Dep. AD-Adm.	_____
Dep. AD-Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Adm. Serv.	_____
Ext. Affairs	_____
Ident.	_____
Inspection	_____
Intell.	_____
Lab.	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Eval.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Spec. Inv.	_____
Training	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director Sec'y	_____

NR 007 LV PLAIN

8:40 PM NITEL MAY 21, 1976 WRJ

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM LAS VEGAS (46-NEW) (P)

MELVIN DUMMAR, AKA; UNSUBS, AKA; ESTATE OF HOWARD R. HUGHES
(DECEASED); FAG-CONSPIRACY. 00: LAS VEGAS.

ON MAY 21, 1976, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] APPEARED AT THE LAS VEGAS OFFICE ALONG WITH [REDACTED]

AND PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

[REDACTED] HOWARD R. HUGHES
WILL LOCATED AT THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS,
LDS HEADQUARTERS, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH. [REDACTED] EXAMINED
THIS WILL ALONG WITH OTHER INDIVIDUALS' HANDWRITING AND IS
IN A POSITION TO TESTIFY AND WILL TESTIFY THAT MELVIN DUMMAR
PREPARED THE ENVELOPE AND COVER MEMO ATTACHED TO THE PURPORTED
WILL LOCATED AT LDS HEADQUARTERS. [REDACTED] TESTIMONY WILL

BE BASED UPON HANDWRITING EXAMINATION. CH 461 MCT-3 23 MAY 27 1976

[REDACTED] CAN TESTIFY THAT THE WILL IS AN EXCELLENT
FREE-HAND FORGERY, HOWEVER, HE WAS UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE

1-HM to AAG, Tax Div by 0-6 D
2-AAG, Com Div by 0-6 A
Airtel to SAC, LV (Enc 1)
5/26/76 TFFidrup

CC [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

PAGE TWO LV 46-NEW

FORGER BASED UPON HIS HANDWRITING EXAMINATION. HE SAID THERE IS SOME DOUBT IF THE FORGER WILL BE ABLE TO BE IDENTIFIED BUT FEELS THERE MAY BE A CONSPIRACY TO PREPARE THE QUESTIONED DOCUMENT.

BOTH [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THE PREPARATION OF THIS WILL WAS A VIOLATION OF THE LAW THAT WAS BEING REFERRED TO THE FBI.

b6
b7C

THE MATTER WAS DISCUSSED WITH AUSA, LAS VEGAS, WHO ADVISED IT WAS HIS OPINION THERE IS NO ITSP VIOLATION IN THE TRANSPORTATION OF THE PURPORTED WILL.

AUSA DID ADVISE HE FELT THIS TO BE A CONSPIRACY UNDER TITLE 18, SECTION 371, U. S. CODE, TO DEFRAUD THE UNITED STATES, OR ANY AGENCY THEREOF IN ANY MANNER OR FOR ANY PURPOSE. HE STATED THIS SECTION OF THE STATUTE STANDING ALONE IS FREQUENTLY USED IN CONSPIRACY INVESTIGATIONS AND A SUBSTANTIVE VIOLATION IS NOT NECESSARY FOR PROSECUTION. HE STATED HE FELT THE MATTER WAS OF SUFFICIENT CONSEQUENCE THAT IT SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED, PARTICULARLY FROM THE STANDPOINT OF AN ATTEMPT TO DEFRAUD THE UNITED STATES REGARDING TAXES ON THE ESTATE OF HUGHES.

PAGE THREE LV 46-NEW

LAS VEGAS WILL CARRY THE MATTER AS A FRAUD AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO OTHER SUBSTANTIVE VIOLATION.

THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO CONSULT THE DEPARTMENT AND DETERMINE IF THEY FEEL THE CONSPIRACY VIOLATION IS SUCH THAT SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED REGARDING THE ABOVE DESCRIBED WILL.
END.

PLS HOLD

EX-112

Airtel

REC-83

To: SAC, Las Vegas

From: Director, FBI

5/26/76

1 -

b7C

MELVIN DUMMAR, AKA;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT; ESTATE OF
HOWARD R. HUGHES (DECEASED)
FAG-CONSPIRACY
OO: LV

ReLVnitel 5/21/76.

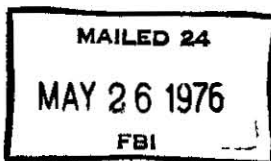
As requested by Las Vegas, this matter was discussed with the Department and, as a result of that discussion, Las Vegas should conduct no further investigation. Attached is a copy of an LHM, which will clarify the points discussed with the Department. As Las Vegas will note, this matter has been referred to the Tax Division of the Department.

Enclosure

TFJ:dmp

(4)

Assoc Dir _____
Dep AD Adm _____
Dep AD Inv _____
Asst Dir _____
Adm Serv _____
Ext Affairs _____
Fin & Pers _____
Gen Inv _____
Ident _____
Inspection _____
Intell _____
Laboratory _____
Legal Coun _____
Plan & Eval _____
Rec Mgnt _____
Spec Inv _____
Training _____
Telephone Rm _____
Director Sec'y _____



54 JUN 15 1976
F375

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FBI/DOJ

1 - [REDACTED]

May 26, 1976

MELVIN DUMMAR, ALSO KNOWN AS;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT; ESTATE OF
HOWARD R. HUGHES (DECEASED)
FRAUD AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT -
CONSPIRACY

Instant memorandum is prepared to confirm a decision made at a meeting regarding captioned matter between Special Agent [REDACTED] and Departmental Attorneys [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of the Criminal Division on May 24, 1976. The following information was discussed:

By communication dated May 21, 1976, this Bureau's Las Vegas Office advised that [REDACTED] appeared at that Office and indicated that [REDACTED] the first Howard R. Hughes will located at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) Headquarters, Salt Lake City, Utah. This will was examined along with other individuals' handwriting and [REDACTED] stated he is in a position to testify that Melvin Dumar prepared the envelope and cover memorandum attached to the purported will located at LDS Headquarters. His testimony will be based upon handwriting examination and he thought the will was an excellent freehand forgery, but he was unable to identify the forger at this particular point in time.

1 - SAC, Las Vegas (By cover airtel)

NOTE: Original and one copy forwarded to AAG, Tax Division, by 0-6D, same date. Two copies forwarded to AAG, Criminal Division, by 0-6A, same date.

TFJ:dmp

(7)

PROPERTY OF FBI MAY 28 1976

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

MAILED 24
MAY 26 1976
FBI

Assoc Dir _____
Dep AD Adm _____
Dep AD Inv _____
Asst Dir _____
Adm Serv _____
Ext Affairs _____
Fin & Pers _____
Gen Inv _____
Ident _____
Inspection _____
Intell _____
Laboratory _____
Legal Coun _____
Plan & Eval _____
Rec Mgnt _____
Spec Inv _____
Training _____
Telephone Rm _____
Director _____

57 JUN 15 1976
MAIL ROOM ☒

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FBI/DOJ

MELVIN DUMMAR, ALSO KNOWN AS:

Both Messrs. [] and [] felt that the preparation of this will was a violation of the law and stated that a conspiracy could very well have existed in its preparation.

This matter was discussed by our Las Vegas Office with an Assistant United States Attorney, Las Vegas, Nevada, who opined there was no Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property violation in the transportation of the purported will but felt that a conspiracy could exist under Title 18, Section 371, United States Code, to defraud the United States, or any agency thereof in any manner or for any purpose. He further opined this section of the statute standing alone is frequently used in conspiracy investigations and a substantive file is not necessary for prosecution. He felt, however, this matter was of sufficient consequence that it should be investigated, particularly from the standpoint of an attempt to defraud the United States regarding taxes on the Estate of Hughes.

Messrs. [] and [] opined there was no Fraud Against the Government violation at this juncture, however, a possible conspiracy to evade income taxes could exist and suggested that this matter be referred to the Tax Division of the Department.

In view of the above, this Bureau is taking no further action regarding this matter.

Assoc. Dir. _____
 Dep. AD Adm. _____
 Dep. AD Inv. _____
 Asst. Dir.:
 Adm. Serv. _____
 Ext. Affairs _____
 Fin. & Pers. _____
 Gen. Inv. _____
 Ident. _____
 Inspection _____
 Intell. _____
 Laboratory _____
 Legal Coun. _____
 Plan & Eval. _____
 Rec. Mgnt. _____
 Spec. Inv. _____
 Training _____
 Telephone Rm. _____
 Director Sec'y _____

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b7C

A053

R A

PM-HUGHES SKED 12-14

EDITORS: LAS VEGAS COURT SITS AT 1 P.M. EST

BY JACK V. FOX

LOS ANGELES (UPI) -- THE PURPORTED "MORMON WILL" OF HOWARD HUGHES, CARRYING A WINDFALL OF WEALTH FOR A DESERT "GOOD SAMARITAN," WAS ON THE VERGE OF DESTRUCTION TODAY BY A FINGERPRINT THAT MAY BRING DOWN CRIMINAL CHARGES AS ONE OF THE BIGGEST ATTEMPTED SWINDLES IN HISTORY. IF SO, HUGHES' \$2.5 BILLION FORTUNE COULD GO TO RELATIVES HE SAW LITTLE OF IN LIFE.

THE LEGAL SPONSOR OF THE DISPUTED WILL, ATTORNEY HAROLD RHODEN, PLANNED TO ASK A LAS VEGAS, NEV., JUDGE TODAY TO SUSPEND PROBATE PROCEEDINGS AND DEMAND THE NEVADA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE TURN OVER EVIDENCE THE "WILL" IS A FAKE.

HE PROMISED TO WITHDRAW THE DOCUMENT IF THE REPORTS ARE TRUE.

RHODEN, AND ATTORNEYS FOR HUGHES RELATIVES FIGHTING THE WILL, TOLD A LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE MONDAY THAT THE FBI, AT THE REQUEST OF NEVADA, IDENTIFIED A FINGERPRINT ON THE WILL'S ENVELOPE AS THAT OF MELVIN DUMMAR, A WILLARD, UTAH GAS STATION OPERATOR.

DUBBED THE "MORMON WILL" BECAUSE IT APPEARED MYSTERIOUSLY ON A DESK IN MORMON CHURCH HEADQUARTERS IN SALT LAKE CITY THREE WEEKS AFTER HUGHES DIED, IT LEFT DUMMAR ONE-SIXTEENTH OF HUGHES' FORTUNE, MORE THAN \$100 MILLION.

"THERE ARE POTENTIAL CRIMINAL CHARGES HERE," SAID NEVADA ATTORNEY GENERAL ROBERT LIST ABOUT THE FINGERPRINT. "WHAT THEY ARE AND WHO THEY MIGHT BE FILED AGAINST, I'M NOT GOING TO SAY AT THIS POINT."

HE WOULD NOT DISCUSS THE FINGERPRINT, BUT NEVADA SOURCES CONFIRMED IT HAD BEEN FOUND.

IN OGDEN, UTAH, DUMMAR'S LAWYER, ROGER DUTSON, SAID "WE SIMPLY DENY THAT DUMMAR EVER HANDLED THAT LETTER OR HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE WRITING OF HOWARD HUGHES' WILL. THAT THUMBPRINT IS NOT MELVIN DUMMAR'S ..."

DUMMAR SAID HIS ONLY CONNECTION WITH HUGHES CAME IN 1968, WHEN HE GAVE A RIDE TO LAS VEGAS TO A SHABBILY DRESSED, BLEEDING OLD MAN HE FOUND BESIDE A LONELY DESERT HIGHWAY. THE MAN SAID HE WAS HOWARD HUGHES, DUMMAR SAID.

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NOT RECORDED

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THE FIGHT OVER THE DOCUMENT'S AUTHENTICITY BECAME A BATTLE OF HANDWRITING ANALYSTS, CENTERED ON WHETHER THE WILL HAD IN FACT BEEN WRITTEN ENTIRELY IN HUGHES' HAND -- GIVING IT LEGAL STANDING EVEN WITHOUT WITNESSES.

ATTORNEY JAMES DILWORTH, REPRESENTING THREE TEXAS RELATIVES OF HUGHES, TOLD A LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE MONDAY THAT THE FBI IDENTIFIED DUMMAR'S FINGERPRINT ON THE "WILL'S" ENVELOPE, AND ON A BOOK AND MAGAZINE CONTAINING SAMPLES OF HUGHES' AUTHENTIC HANDWRITING.

HE SAID THE PRINTS WERE FOUND AT WEBER STATE COLLEGE IN OGDEN, UTAH -- WHERE DUMMAR HAD ATTENDED CLASSES -- ON A COPY OF "HOAX," ABOUT CLIFFORD IRVING'S PHONY "AUTOBIOGRAPHY" OF HUGHES, AND A 1971 LIFE MAGAZINE ARTICLE, "THE ELUSIVE HOWARD HUGHES AS REVEALED THROUGH HIS LETTERS." PAGES CONTAINING SAMPLES OF HUGHES' WRITING WERE TORN OUT, HE SAID.

"IT'S BEEN OUR BELIEF FOR MONTHS THAT MR. DUMMAR WAS, AND HAD TO BE, INVOLVED IN THE FORGERY OF THIS WILL," DILWORTH SAID.

HE AND OTHER ATTORNEYS CHALLENGING THE WILL CONVINCED THE NEVADA ATTORNEY GENERAL TO HAVE THE DOCUMENTS FINGERPRINTED AND SENT TO THE FBI, HE SAID.

RHODEN, WHO HAD PRESSED THE FIGHT TO HAVE THE WILL DECLARED AUTHENTIC, SAID HE ALSO HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION, FROM A SOURCE HE WOULD NOT NAME, THAT INDICATES THE DOCUMENT IS A FAKE. HE REPRESENTS FORMER HUGHES AIDE NOAH DIETRICH, NAMED EXECUTOR IN THE DOCUMENT.

RHODEN ASKED THE LOS ANGELES JUDGE TO SUSPEND PROCEEDINGS UNTIL HE COULD ASK THE LAS VEGAS COURT TO ISSUE AN ORDER REQUIRING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO TURN OVER THE FBI EVIDENCE, PROMISING TO WITHDRAW THE "WILL" IF THE REPORT IS TRUE.

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