

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

EXEMPTED FROM AUTOMATIC
DECLASSIFICATION
AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
EXEMPTION CODE 25X(1)
DATE 08-20-2010

~~FBI~~
~~SECRET~~
Date: 12/31/74

www
h

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR FBI
FROM: SAC SAN FRANCISCO (105-36396) (P)
SUBJECT: UNSUB;

Cub

bb

(S)

[Redacted]

b1

IS - R
OO: San Francisco

(S)

[Redacted]

b1

(S)

[Redacted]

b1

(S)

[Redacted]

b1

MCT-29
CH 42

~~SECRET~~
Classified by 2340
Exempt from GDS, Categories 2&3
Date of Declassification: Indefinite

105-276328

2 - Bureau (RM)
2 - San Francisco
(1 - 105-16284 Sub I)
JPM:smg (S-8)
(4)

[Redacted]

b1

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

325

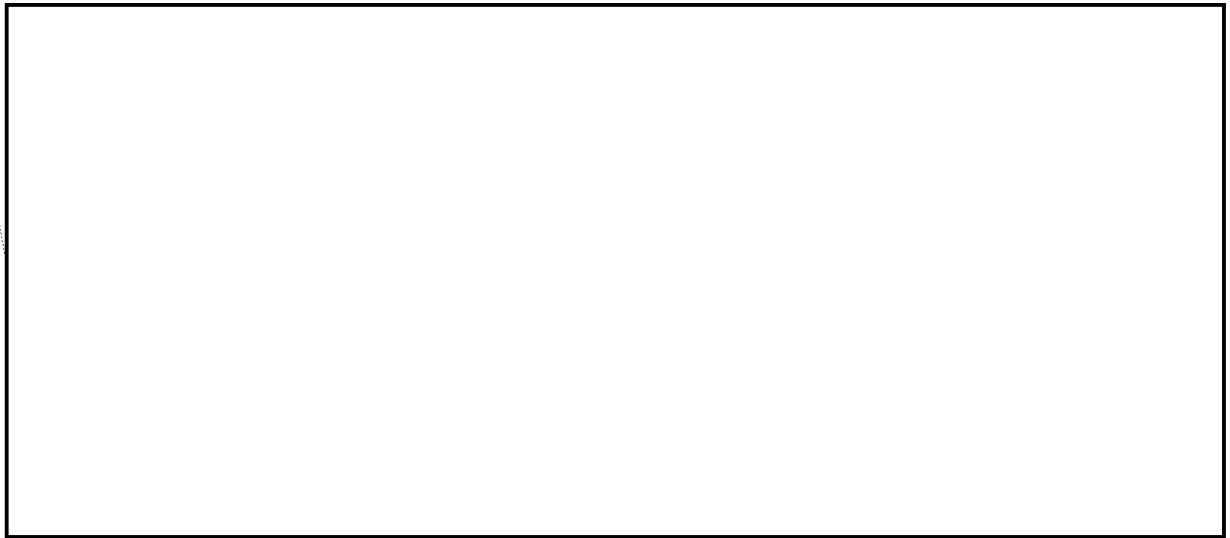
B
JW

MJA

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~~SECRET~~

SF 105-36396
JPM:smg




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It is noted that the current San Francisco Telephone Directory lists one EARL BEST as residing at 1735 46th Avenue, however, it is not known if this individual is identical to captioned Subject.

The files of the San Francisco Office contain no information identifiable with EARL BEST or EARL VAN BEST.

(S)

Investigation of instant matter has been initiated in accordance with instructions set forth in SAC letter 66-20D and 

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~~SECRET~~

EXEMPTED FROM AUTOMATIC
DECLASSIFICATION
AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
EXEMPTION CODE 25X(1)
DATE 08-05-2010

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

F B I

Date: 2/12/75

~~SECRET~~

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-276328)
FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (105-36396) (P)

SUBJECT: CHANGED
EARL VAN BEST
IS - R

(S)

OO:SF

Title is marked "Changed" to reflect true name of
Subject, previously carried as "UNSUB; TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED
AS [redacted]

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[redacted] IS-R."

On 12/31/74, Subject telephonically contacted the
San Francisco FBI Office and advised that he resided at 160
Eddy Street, San Francisco, and had telephone number 885-9791.

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[redacted] advised that 885-9791 is listed to the
Hotel William Penn, 160 Eddy Street, San Francisco.

b7D

~~SECRET~~
Classified by 2340
Exempt from GDS, Categories 2 and 3
Date of Declassification: Indefinite

REC-59

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
- 2 - San Francisco

JLW/cmp

(4)44

Approved: [Signature]

Sent _____ M Per _____

~~SECRET~~

Special Agent in Charge

17 FEB 15 1975

3 4 1975; 0-7-75 "Upgraded classification from 'C' to 'Secret'; in view of sensitive source involved/mj/A

~~SECRET~~

SF 105-36396
JLW/cmp

On 1/10/75, records of the Department of Motor Vehicles, Sacramento, California, revealed that EARL VAN BEST was issued California Drivers License F2455 at 160 Eddy Street, #215, effective 11/13/74. He had a previous address of 1639 1/2 Kirkwood Avenue, San Francisco, effective 7/12/68.

On 1/21/75, records of the San Francisco Registrar of Voters failed to reveal a record for Subject.

Records of the San Francisco Police Department (#175639); the FBI Identification Division (FBI 110 241 E), and San Francisco indices under SF File 88-5766 (Bufile 37-70970) contain the following arrest record for Subject:

EARL VAN BEST was arrested on 2/22/62 in San Francisco for rape - contributing where female is under 18 years of age, which was dismissed on 3/9/62.

He was again arrested in San Francisco on 7/30/62 for child stealing, which was dismissed on 8/14/62.

He was arrested by the New Orleans Police Department on 4/19/63 as a fugitive from San Francisco for 8/9/62 charges of (1) criminal conspiracy, (2) enticing a minor from a home, and (3) rape - contributing where female is under 18 years of age. On 6/25/73, the first two charges were dismissed, however, on 8/13/63, BEST was sentenced to State Prison - suspended sentence and placed on 4 years probation.

As a result of BEST's New Orleans arrest, at the same time he was charged with fraud by wire in a scheme in which he made false representation to obtain documents and subsequently selling them.

BEST pled guilty in San Francisco under Rule Twenty, to a two count information filed in U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans Division, charging violation of Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 1343 - Fraud by Wire.

On 10/23/63, he was sentenced in U.S. District Court, San Francisco, to 3 years and paroled on 7/12/65.

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SF 105-36396
JLW/cmp

LEAD

SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA:

Will contact Subject at residence to follow up on his telephone call on 12/31/74.

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~~SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

FBI

Date: 3/29/76

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____ AIR MAIL _____
(Precedence)

EXEMPTED FROM AUTOMATIC
DECLASSIFICATION
AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
EXEMPTION CODE 25X(1)
DATE 08-20-2010

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (175-89) (C)
SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
Yugoslav National.
THREAT AGAINST THE PRESIDENT
OO: SF

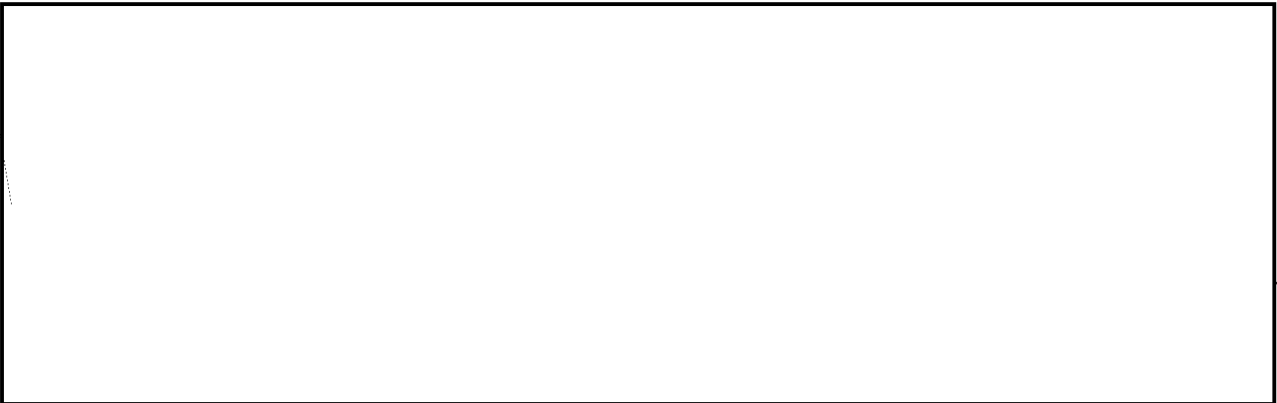
(S)

Re San Francisco teletype to the Bureau dated 3/17/76.

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Classified by 2551
Exempt from GDS, Categories 2&3
Date of Declassification: Indefinite

ENCLOSURE

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 6) (RM)
- (1 - 105-276328)
- 3 - San Francisco
- (1 - 105-36396)

105-276328-

RV:ddb
(6)

NOT RECORDED

38 APR 6 1976

CARBON COPY

Approved: [Signature] Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

55 APR 15 1976

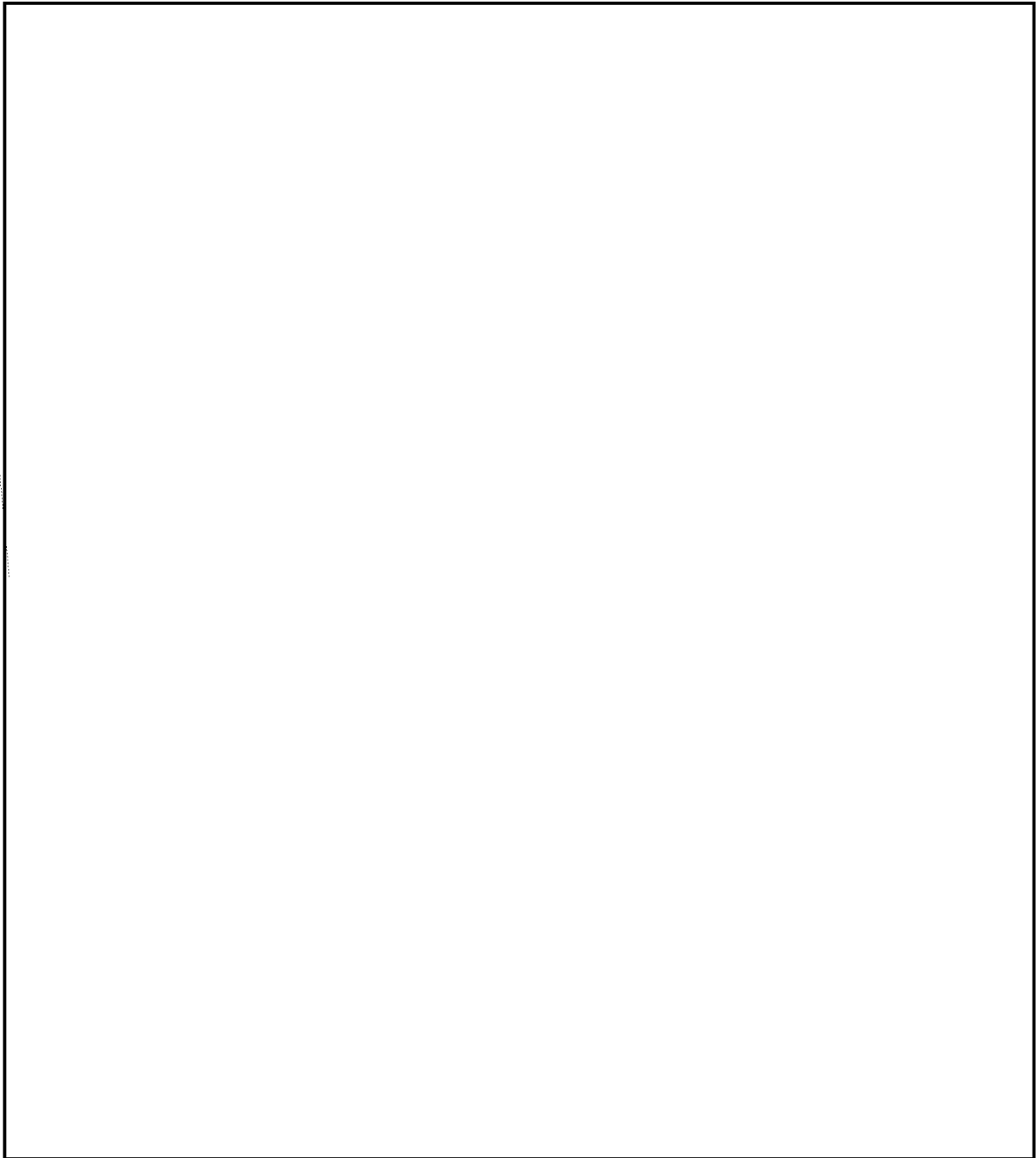
ORIGINAL FILED IN 175-349-151

(S)

~~SECRET~~

SF 175-89
RV:ddb

b1



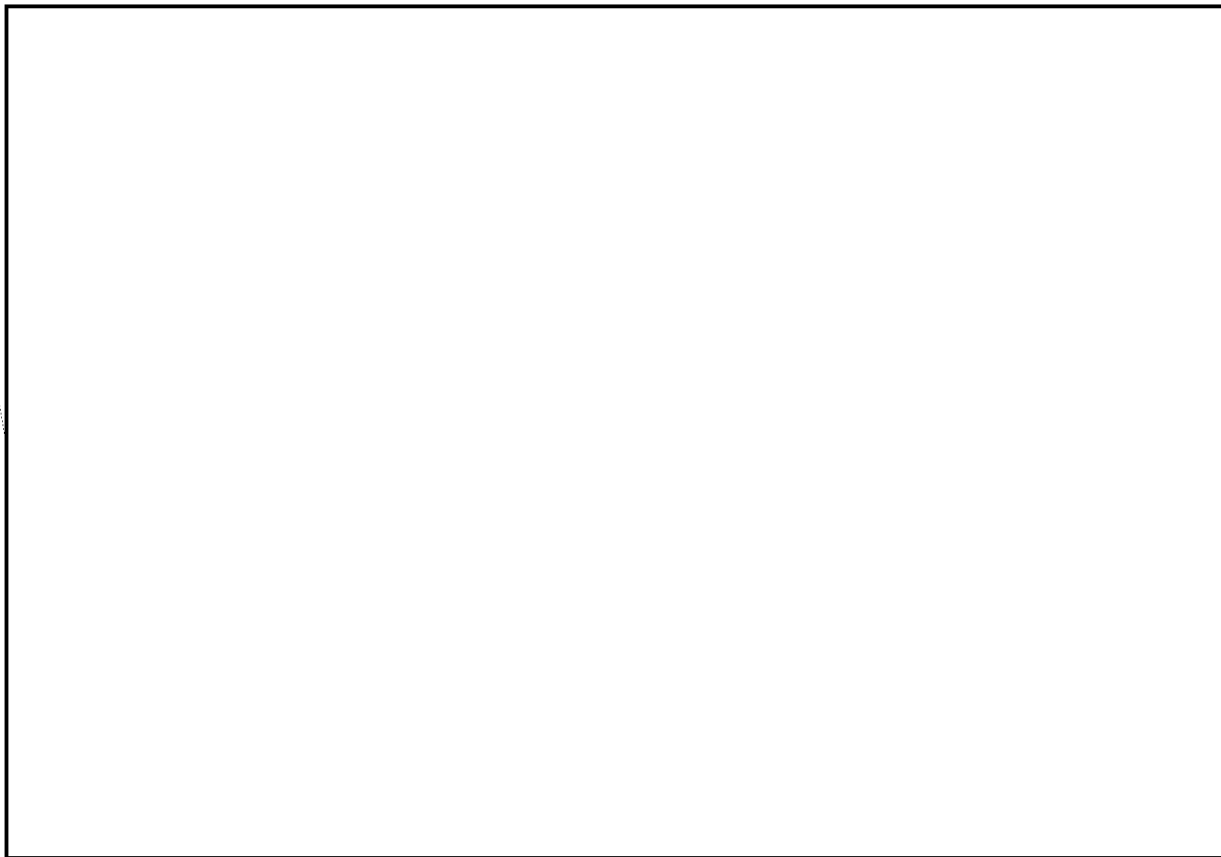
~~SECRET~~

(S)

~~SECRET~~

SF 175-89
RV:ddb

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~~SECRET~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

San Francisco, California

March 26, 1976

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNKNOWN SUBJECT
YUGOSLAV NATIONAL
THREAT AGAINST THE PRESIDENT

At approximately 8:27 p.m., March 17, 1976, a male adult telephonically contacted the San Francisco Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and stated that he had information regarding a possible plot to assassinate President Gerald R. Ford.

This individual identified himself as Earl Van Best, date of birth July 14, 1934. Best stated that he was an importer and had many intimate contacts among diplomatic circles in the San Francisco area. He said that two days prior to this telephone call he learned of a plot by a Yugoslav National whom Best declined to further identify.

Best stated that this Yugoslav National had first contacted Best in 1974 in Austria in an attempt to get Best to obtain false identity documents. Best said that two days ago he understood that this same Yugoslav, whom he describes as 5'9", brown eyes, brown hair, with a husky build, was going to assassinate the President of the United States during a public appearance by the President on March 18, 1976.

Best continued that he knew about several plots against the President which had been set up by a group of "radical fanatics" led by this same unnamed Yugoslav National.

The San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) was notified at approximately 8:45 p.m. concerning the above telephone call and additionally that this individual was at that time located at a pay phone at 100 Embarcadero Street in a restaurant known as Reardons.

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.

105-276328 -

ENCLOSURE

UNKNOWN SUBJECT
YUGOSLAV NATIONAL
THREAT AGAINST THE PRESIDENT

SA [REDACTED], Unites States Secret Service, San Francisco, was also advised of the details of the above telephone conversation and indicated that he would interview this individual regarding the threat to the President's life.

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While the telephone conversation with Earl Van Best was continued, and at approximately 9:15 p.m., Officer [REDACTED], SFPD, came onto the telephone line and advised that Best was being taken into custody by the SFPD inasmuch as he appeared to be in an intoxicated condition. Officer [REDACTED] said he would transport Best to the San Francisco City Jail where he would be lodged on a drunk charge.

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SA [REDACTED], U. S. Secret Service, San Francisco, was furnished the information that Best had been placed under arrest on a drunk charge and Agent [REDACTED] advised that he would immediately respond to the City Jail where Best would be interviewed.

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b7C

FBI

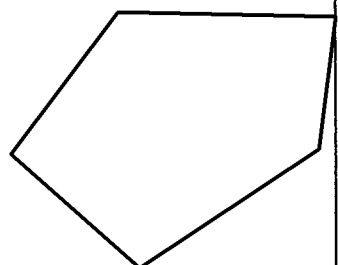
Date: 4/16/75

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via A I R T E L A I R M A I L
(Priority)

WRW/pw

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-276328)
FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (105-36396)(C)
SUBJECT: EARL VAN BEST
IS - R
OO: San Francisco



b6
b7C

Re San Francisco airtel to Bureau, 2/12/75.

On 2/24/75, records of the Credit Bureau Metro, Inc., San Jose, California, were searched with negative results for a record for subject.

On 3/19/75, [redacted] Hotel William Penn, 160 Eddy Street, San Francisco, advised that BEST had moved out in approximately mid February, 1975. He said that BEST had resided there for approximately six to eight months prior to moving out but that he still receives some mail for BEST. [redacted] was unfamiliar with BEST's employment but thought that he worked for an outfit that installed sprinkler systems.

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b7C

On 3/27/75 and 4/2/75, [redacted] was recontacted and he advised that he had not seen EARL VAN BEST but thought that he had picked up some of his mail. A message was left with [redacted] for VAN BEST to call the FBI on each occasion but thus far VAN BEST has not made contact.

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In view of the fact that no apparent security risk exists and since subject has been identified, this case is being considered closed.

44-101 REC-71 105-276328-3

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - San Francisco
JLW/vsk
(3)

APR 19 1975

[Handwritten signature]

70 MAY 16 1975

Approved: *[Signature]* Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

SF 105-36396
JLW/vsk

However, should subject again come to the attention of the San Francisco Division, efforts towards his interview will be made.