

C-1

GOBRECHT, Marion

Prosecution Memorandum - Packet Copy

Page 29

The Bomb Threat at the Sentinel Motel

As indicated above, according to Lt. McCann and Commissioner Urella, the emergency call around noon on November 28, 1972, to the Commissioner

Page 30

concerned a bomb threat at the Sentinel in Downingtown. Ostensibly, the Commissioner instructed Marion Gobrecht, the proprietress of the motel, to notify the Media Barracks, and that he would be down right away.

According to a subsequent interview with Ms. Gobrecht, she stated that she received a note in her mailbox between 9:00 a. m. and noon which said, "Tell hero Urella we are going to firebomb his joint." She called him and left a message. He returned the call and told her not to worry. She stated she did not call the Media barracks.

On December 4, 1972, Sergeant M. Hunt checked the incident memos for November 27, 1972 - December 2, 1972, at Media. There were no bomb threats at the motel reported on those forms. Yet, according to an interview with Lieutenant McKenna, officer in command at Media, Ms. Gobrecht called the barracks on December 2 or 3 and informed him of the incident. He said she gave a statement as a matter of information and requested no investigation.

Corporal Curtis W. Guyette, Mrs. Eleanor Kelly, and Mary Poklemba have all refused to testify.

Additionally, two witnesses have been unavailable for questioning for alleged health difficulties. Corporal Guyette, after initially denying any wiretap involvement and refusing to make a statement, spent a week in the Phoenixville Hospital, ostensibly for a heart attack. He was admitted December 1, 1972, and was released December 10, 1972. Hospital medical records reveal he did not, in fact, suffer a heart attack. He did spend four days in the coronary section under surveillance. When attempts were made to serve Marion Gobrecht with a subpoena, Crime Commission agents were told she was in a hospital.

3. False Information Concerning Bombs

The statute concerning false information about bombs is found in the Pennsylvania Penal Code, Section 329, Act of June 24, 1939, P. L. 872, as amended, 18 P. S. §4329 (Supp. 1972), and provides:

William T. Nicholas

December 21, 1972

Page 46

Any person who furnishes any false information to a police officer or to any appointed or elected official or to any employe of any political subdivision of this Commonwealth or to any official or employe of any public, private or parochial school, railroad or railroad depot or station, theatre or other place of assembly, concerning the placement or setting of a bomb or other explosive, knowing the same to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5000) or undergo imprisonment not to exceed five years, or both.

Several references have been made to a bomb threat received and reported by the manager of the Sentinel Motel. There is no evidence that such a threat was received. However, Lieutenant McKenna of the Media Barracks stated that he received a phone call from the manager of the Sentinel Motel in which she stated that she had received a bomb threat. Investigation has shown that no incident memo was prepared by any member of the State Police stationed at the Media Barracks. If further evidence is found which shows that false information was given to a State Police officer, an indictment under this provision should be considered against the proper persons.