

#16A Florida Turnpike Crime Scene
DIVE TEAM REPORT
(Adam Walsh)

June 5, 1997

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT #16A

TO: RALPH J. RAY, JR.
Chief Assistant State Attorney

FROM: PHILIP J. MUNDY
Investigator

SUBJ: Florida Turnpike Crime Scene

ENCL: 1) Broward Sheriff's Office Dive Rescue Team Mission Report 97-2-6765

During an interview on October 20, 1983 (See Inv. Report #4) Ottis TOOLE told Inv. Paul RUIZ and Det. TERRY that the police should find blood on the dock and the rest of the body should be found where the head was. Det. Sgt. Don COLEMAN, Indian River county Sheriff's Office, was consulted as he was the lead detective at the scene when Adam WALSH's partial remains were discovered. Det. Coleman advised that no forensic examination of the footbridge had been done and primarily because of a large and active alligator population an underwater search was not done. Further, for unexplainable reasons TOOLE's statements to RUIZ were not immediately communicated to Hollywood Police detectives. Examination of the footbridge is the subject of investigative memo #16 dated October 16, 1996.

After consultations with several authorities on the subject it was decided that an underwater search of the area was feasible and despite the passage of many years might still prove productive.

On Wednesday, February 12, 1997 an underwater search was conducted by the B.S.O. Dive Rescue Team. Some material, suspected to be bones, was recovered which required examination by the Broward County Medical Examiner. B.S.O. Deputy FERGUSON reports that he transported the bones to the Broward County Medical examiner's Office and was informed that the bones were of animal origin. FERGUSON further reports that this opinion was confirmed by a bone specialist.

Details of the dive mission are reported in enclosure 1.

Philip J. Mundy
INV. PHILIP J. MUNDY
cc: Det. John KERNS, Hollywood P.D.

**ENCLOSURE
ONE**

DIVE RESCUE TEAM MISSION REPORT

BSO CASE# 97-2-6765 OTHER AGENCY CASE# _____
 LOCATION #174 Marker @ FI Turnpike St. Johns County DAY Wed DATE 2/12/97
 JURISDICTION St. Johns County S.O. PER. REQUESTING SERV. P Mundy, State Atty Ofc. Inv.
 SCENE O.I.C. Ferguson MODE: CALLOUT, X PLANNED, ON VEIW
 CRIME/INCIDENT AOA State's Atty Office OBJECTIVE Human Remains/evidence
 SHOULD THIS MISSION BE CRITIQUED IN TRAINING? YES ___, NO X, WHY _____

PERSONEL SUMMARY

NAME	ON	OFF	TOT HRS	REG DUTY HRS	OFF DUTY HRS	OTHER HRS	DIVE	AIR FILLS	REMARKS
Whitford	0900	1700	8	8				0	DMDD
Baker	0900	1700	8	8			√	1	DD
Fahy	0900	1700	8	8			√	1	DD
Rall	0900	1700	8	8			√	1	DD
Gannon	0900	1700	8	8			√	1	DD
Berchielli	0900	1700	8	8			√	1	DD
TOTALS			48	48				5	

PROPERTY/ EVIDENCE SUMMARY

OBJECT	FOUND BY	TIME	MARKED	DELIVERED TO	TIME	REMARKS
Bones	Hagen		N/A	Dep. Ferguson	1400	for transport to ME in Broward
			N/A			
			N/A			

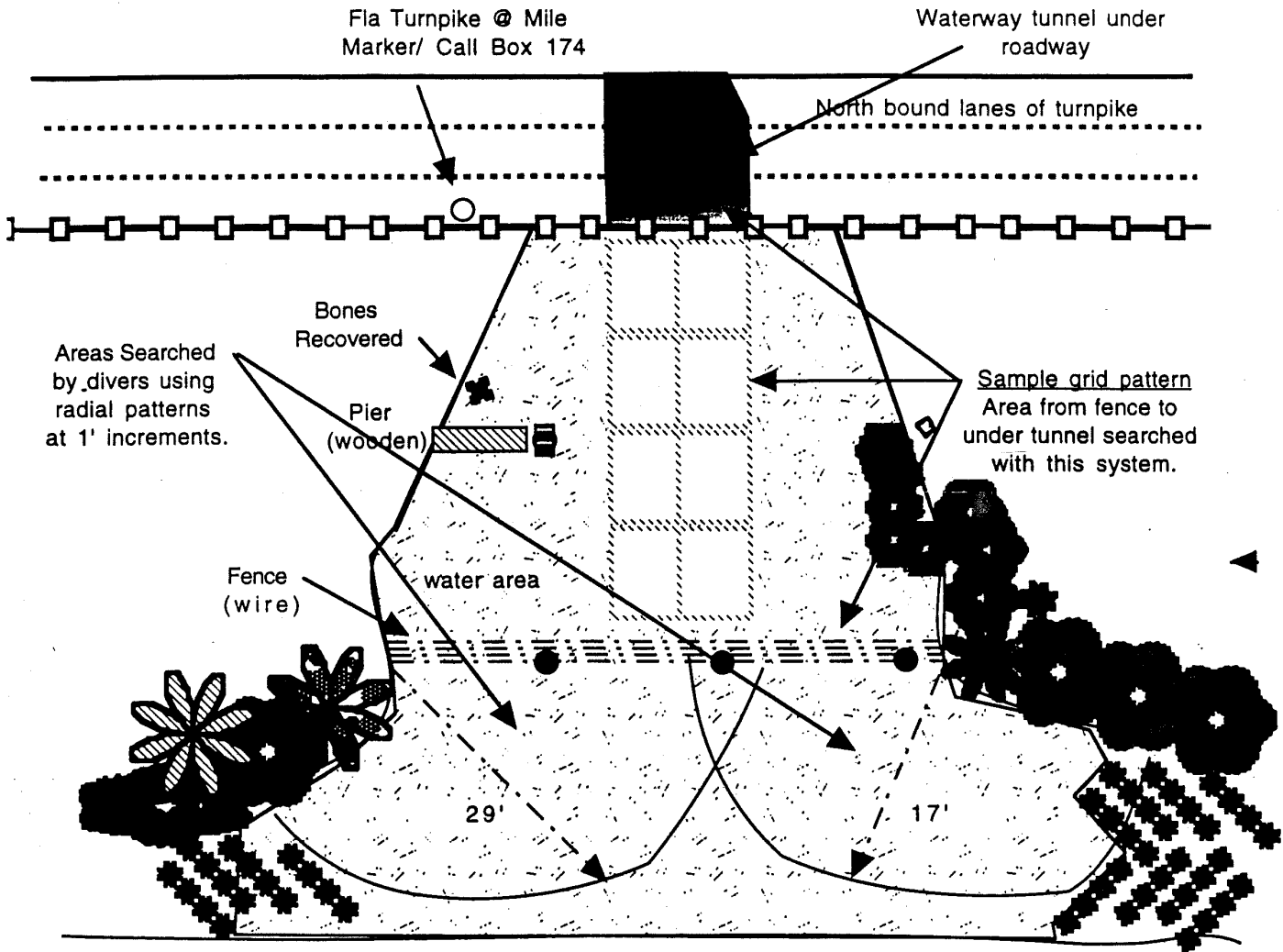
NARRATIVE:

The area in the tunnel leading to the south side of the roadway was also searched for approx 100'. This team had the only place where bones were recovered, a point where the wooden pier attached to the land (see diagram). Upon arrival of the second team the area was expanded to the area north of the fence line into the larger canal opening. This area was first examined by using radial sweep patterns with divers on scuba. This was later finished with divers using the grid pattern along the area of the fence. The collected bones were located by Dep. Hagen and transported by Dep. Ferguson to the Broward County Medical Examiner. Upon initial examination the M.E.'s Staff was not ready to rule the bones animal and requested experts from West Palm ME's office to make the final determination.

ATTACHMENTS: MISSION LOG, POLICE RPT, TRAINING RPT, ADMIN. RPT.

DIVE MASTER: Ferguson CCN# 1353

APPROVED: [Signature] DATE: 2/13/97 BSO DRT *011 REV 8/90



DIVE SCENE DIAGRAM:

- X= TENDER POSITION
- - - = VECTOR LINES
- * = SPECIAL OBJECTS OF INTEREST (LABEL)

DIAGRAM KEY CONTENTS:

- TENDER POSITION FIX
- FOUND OBJECTS FIX (ONE VECTOR & DISTANCE)
- PERTINENT OBJECTS ON LAND (FIX & LABEL)
- NOTE RADIUS OF SEARCH AREA
- NOTE AREA OF SEARCH AROUND FOUND OBJECTS
- MEASUREMENT OF SEARCH PATTERN (SIZE, ARCHS, ETC)
- SURFACE WEATHER CONDITIONS



CURRENT(DIRECTION & VELOCITY)

- WATER & AIR TEMPS
- DEPTHS (AVG, DEEPEST & POINT WHERE OBJECT FOUND)
- WATER QUALITY AND VISIBILITY (SURFACE , AT DEPTH)

DETAILS OF OBJECTS WHEN FOUND

- NOTES ON RECOVERY TECHNIQUES USED
- NOTE DAMAGE DONE DURING RECOVERY
- SAMPLES OF BOTTOM SOIL, WATER, CONTAMINATES
- EVIDENCE ON SHORE IF NOT HANDLED BY CRIME SCENE
- WITNESS NAMES AND STATEMENTS NOT TAKEN BY DETECTIVES
- OTHER PERTINENT FACTS, OBSERVATIONS, ACTIVITIES, OR OPINIONS OF NOTE TO INVESTIGATORS.

Investigative Report Supplement

Case # 97-2-6765

Date: 2/12/97

Location: #174 Marker @ Fl. Turnpike

AOA to Broward SA Office

Requested by: P Mundy State Atty. Ofc.

This deputy after receiving suspect bones from Dep. Hagen of the Dive Team, took the bones to the Broward County ME's Office for further examination. Upon conferring with a ME the bones were deemed to be animal not human in nature. This evaluation was later confirmed by a second evaluation by a specialist in animal bone recognition.

No further investigative action is required.

FAX

DATE: Tuesday, June 3, 1997
TO: Phil Mundy, State Attorney's Office
FAX: 831-8484
FROM: Ferguson Computing
PAGES: 2

MEMO

Please page me upon receipt of this fax.

FIVE RESCUE TEAM MISSION FURT

DO CASE# 97-2-6765 OTHER AGENCY CASE# _____
 LOCATION #174 Marker @ Fl Turnpike St. Johns County DAY Wed DATE 2/12/97
 JURISDICTION St. Johns County S.O. PER. REQUESTING SERV. P Mundy, State Atty Ofc. Inv.
 SCENE O.I.C. Ferguson MODE: CALLOUT, X PLANNED, ON VEIW
 CRIME/INCIDENT AOA State's Atty Office OBJECTIVE Human Remains/evidence
 SHOULD THIS MISSION BE CRITIQUED IN TRAINING? YES ___, NO X, WHY _____

PERSONEL SUMMARY

NAME	ON	OFF	TOT HRS	REG DUTY HRS	OFF DUTY HRS	OTHER HRS	DIVE	AIR FILLS	REMARKS
Whitford	LARRY		SGT					0	DMDD
Baker	FLOYD		Dep				✓	1	DD
Fahy	JAMES		Dep				✓	1	DD
Rall	John		Dep				✓	1	DD
Gannon	DEE						✓	1	DD
Berchielli	DIANA						✓	1	DD
TOTALS								5	

PROPERTY/ EVID

OBJECT	FOUND BY	TIME	MARKED	DELIVERED TO	TIME	REMARKS
Bones	Hagen		N/A	Dep. Ferguson	1400	for transport to ME in Broward
			N/A			
			N/A			

NARRATIVE:

The area in the tunnel leading to the south side of the roadway was also searched for approx 100'. This team had the only place where bones were recovered, a point where the wooden pier attached to the land (see diagram).
 Upon arrival of the second team the area was expanded to the area north of the fence line into the larger canal opening. This area was first examined by using radial sweep patterns with divers on scuba. This was later finished with divers using the grid pattern along the area of the fence.
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DIVE MASTER: Ferguson CCN# 1353
 APPROVED: [Signature] DATE: 2/13/97 BSO DRT *011 REV 8/90

DIVE RESCUE TEAM MISSION REPORT

BSO CASE# 97-2-6765 OTHER AGENCY CASE# HIWd
 LOCATION #174 Marker @ Fl. Turnpike St. Johns County DAY Wed DATE 2/12/97
 JURISDICTION St. Johns County S.O. PER. REQUESTING SERV. P Mundy, State Atty Ofc. Inv.
 SCENE O.I.C. Ferguson MODE: CALLOUT, X PLANNED, ON VEIW
 CRIME/INCIDENT Suspicious Incident/AOA HIWd OBJECTIVE Human Remains/evidence
 SHOULD THIS MISSION BE CRITIQUED IN TRAINING? YES , NO X, WHY

PERSONEL SUMMARY

NAME	ON	OFF	TOT HRS	REG DUTY HRS	OFF DUTY HRS	OTHER HRS	DIVE	AIR FILLS	REMARKS
Ferguson	GEORGE			Dep.				0	DMDD
Hodges	CLARK			Dep.					DD
Bushong	GARY			SGT.					DD
Sweeney	Michael			Dep.					DD
Dunning	JAY			Dep.					DD
McDermott	MIKE			Dep.					DD
Sanderson	JACK			Dep.					DD
Hagen	Rich			Dep.					DD
TOTALS								0	

PROPERTY/ E

OBJECT	FOUND BY	TIME	QUANTITY	DELIVERED TO	TIME	REMARKS
Bones	Hagen		N/A	Dep. Ferguson	1400	for transport to ME in Broward
			N/A			
			N/A			

NARRATIVE:

Investigator Mundy from the Broward County State Attorney's Office contacted the Dive Rescue Team to request an underwater search be performed. The search was to be performed in the canal located at the 174 mile marker on the Fla. Turnpike. This Deputy was taken to the scene by Inv. Mundy and upon evaluating the scene determined it to be a large search area and some excavating of the scene would be necessary. Based on this it was decided to take the team up in two groups and cover the entire area in one day. The early team (shown above) started at the high probability area and worked out from there. This entailed the grid search method, using small hand tools and rakes to sift through the hard packed bottom. Using this method the team covered the area north of the roadway to the fenced area to the north (diagram attached). *Con't*

ATTACHMENTS: MISSION LOG, POLICE RPT, TRAINING RPT, ADMIN. RPT.

DIVE MASTER: [Signature] CCN# 1353

APPROVED: [Signature] DATE: 2/12/97

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