

Volume IX- Ottis Toole File
File 10
Letters from inmate
10/14/88 - 02/21/89

006110



Florida Department of
Law Enforcement

James T. Moore
Commissioner

Division of Criminal
Investigations
Northwest Region
Operations Bureau

P.O. Box 1489
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(904) 488-1040

October 14, 1988

Major B. W. Davis
Hollywood Police Department
3250 Hollywood Blvd.
Hollywood, Florida 33021

Dear Major Davis:

Attached is a letter from death row inmate Gerald Schaefer concerning Ottis Toole.

The letter is in error regarding FDLE pressing Toole reference the Walsh homicide. Special Agent Joe Mitchell has though, interviewed Henry Lucas and Ottis Toole extensively during the past two months regarding four homicides which occurred in North Florida during 1981 wherein they have provided details and statements reference said homicides.

Additionally, this office is awaiting a letter from Disney World Security that Toole allegedly mailed stating that he killed Adam Walsh as well as other children that he supposedly kidnapped from Disney World and subsequently murdered. Also, according to the letter, Toole would be glad to cooperate with the authorities for a specified sum of money. Upon receipt of the letter from Disney World, I will forward a copy if you so desire.

I am aware that your Department has already interviewed Toole reference the Walsh case and I am only providing you with this information for whatever action you deem appropriate.

Should you have any questions, please call me at (904) 488-1040.

Sincerely,

James T. Moore
Commissioner

Dennis A. Williamson
Assistant Special Agent In Charge
Tallahassee Regional Operations Bureau

DAW/fg

Attachment

RECEIVED

OCT 11 1988

RECEIVED

OCT 11 1988

October 8, 1988

NWROB

Dear Sirs,

OFFICE OF
GENERAL COUNSEL

My name is Gerard Schaefer. I am an inmate at the Florida State Prison at Starke. During the past several weeks I've been in a cell next to Otis Elwood Toole.

My hobby in prison is doing legal work for men who have various and sundry legal problems that they need help with. Otis Toole came to me and asked me to assist him with a legal problem he has been having with the FDLE.

It seems that the FDLE has been pressing Mr. Toole for more information concerning the 1981 murder of Adam Walsh in Hollywood Florida. I have now spent quite a few hours with Toole listening to him explain the nature of his problem and how he came to be the focus of the Walsh murder investigation.

Mr. Toole freely admits to me that he murdered the Walsh boy - and a number of other people as well - and has given me many specific details concerning the Walsh murder. These admissions arose out of my expressing a disbelief in his story. I told him that anyone could make up some yarn and tell it, so tell me some details about the murder to convince me it's not all bullshit.

Toole proceeded to tell me the story of the Walsh murder in great detail. He told me of evidence the police have already in their possession which was associated with the murder except the police don't know the connection - he told me what that evidence is. He also told me that he can produce the instrument which was used to cut up and dismember the boy. The police don't have it but it's still around and he can say where. He also told me that he had lied to the police concerning his disposal of the boy's corpse. For instance: He said to the police that he threw the head into a canal but lied about the disposal of the rest of the corpse. He didn't take it to the Jacksonville dump or bury it in the ground. He told me that he ate some of the boy's flesh and then disposed of the body. He told me the how and the where and he suspects the bones are probably still there to be found.

Without going into a great deal of additional writing here let me say that I am personally convinced that Otis Toole is telling me the truth. He also went into considerable details as to WHY he killed the boy. My question, of course, was "Why would you want to kill a little kid?" So he told me the poor guy is really TWISTED but also a very dangerous person. Finally, Toole gave me a written and signed confession to the Walsh murder which I've passed on to an appropriate person in authority.

Based on what I know of law Toole has given me more than enough information to get himself indicted for the Walsh murder. I am agreeable to cooperate with you with respect to testimony before a grand jury.

If you are interested in my testimony contact my legal counsel, N. S. JILANI, in Miami and make the necessary arrangements with her concerning my protection as a material witness in the Walsh case and discuss with her the matter of the reward for the person responsible for the arrest of Walsh's killer. A written, signed confession is no small thing and from what Toole has told me it may be sufficient to tip the balance so that he can be charged with the crime.

Please advise me you've received this letter and if you are interested in my testimony but work out the necessary details with my lawyer. Any testifying I do I prefer it be before a grand jury under oath.

Sincerely,
Gerard J. Schaefer

GERARD J. SCHAEFER
BOX 747-039506
STARKE, Fla. 32091

February 21, 1989

Mr. Gerard J. Schaefer
Florida State Prison
Box 747-039506
Starke, Florida 32091

Dear Mr. Schaefer:

This is to acknowledge your letter of February 16, 1989. Please be advised that this office has not solicited you for any information, data or intelligence concerning Otis Toole or the Adam Walsh case. Quite the contrary; you, sir, contacted this office and many other agencies offering "information and testimony" in exchange for custodial and other considerations.

In this instance, you gratuitously offer to "give a deposition" and to take a "polygraph", coupling this offer with demands for custodial transfer and reward money. Mr. Schaefer, if nothing else, you are consistent. You still fail to offer proof. Please be advised that this office will not take any measures to affect your custodial situation, nor will this office assist you or any other person in efforts to acquire any reward monies.

Further, be advised that this office is deeply interested in a successful prosecution of the person[s] responsible for the death of Adam Walsh. It is further our position that we are prepared to assist the Hollywood Police Department in the pursuit of any credible lead. I am forwarding a copy of your most recent letter to Detective Jack Hoffman of the Hollywood Police Department.

Yours very truly,

WALTER F. LaGRAVES, JR.
CHIEF INVESTIGATOR

WFL,Jr:lg
cc: Det. Jack Hoffman
Hollywood Police Dept.

FEBRUARY 16, 1989

DEAR MR. LAGRAVES,

RESPONDING TO YOUR LETTER OF FEB. 13, 1989.

I SPENT A GOOD DEAL OF TIME PUMPING OTTIS TOOLE FOR DETAILS ABOUT THE WASH MURDER. TOOLE GAVE ME A GREAT DEAL OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE MURDER OF THE BOY, INCLUDING THE LOCATION OF THE REMAINS WHICH, HE SAYS, ARE NOT BURIED AT THE DUMP.

I ALSO OBTAINED WRITTEN ADMISSIONS, SIGNED BY TOOLE: HE DICTATED, I WROTE, HE SIGNED. ALL SUCH ITEMS CONCERNING TOOLE WERE TURNED OVER TO A PRIVATE ATTORNEY. IF YOUR OFFICE WANTS MY TESTIMONY I AM WILLING TO GIVE A SWORN DEPOSITION AS TO WHAT TOOLE RELATED TO ME INCLUDING THE LOCATION OF THE BODY. I WOULD NEED A TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF THE COUNTY WHEREIN THE BOY'S HEAD WAS FOUND FOR REFERENCE. I WILL ALSO REQUIRE THE PRESENCE OF MY ATTORNEY AND WRITTEN GUARANTEES THAT ANY REWARD MONEY OFFERED WOULD BE PAID TO ME UPON RECOVERY OF ANY REMAINING PORTION OF THE CORPSE; I WILL SUBMIT TO A POLYGRAPH TEST IF YOU DOUBT THE SINCERITY OF THIS OFFER.

I WILL NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES COOPERATE IN THIS MATTER WHILE HOUSED AT F.S.P. WITH TOOLE. A TRANSFER BACK TO MARION CORRECTIONAL INST. SHALL BE A REQUIREMENT BEFORE THE DEPOSITION IS FORTHCOMING. I'LL GIVE THE DEPOSITION AT MCI.

MY EXPERIENCES WITH ~~YOUR OFFICE~~ HAS TAUGHT ME THAT YOU ARE A LYING DISHONORABLE LOT AND NEVER TO BE TRUSTED.

NOW IF YOU ARE SERIOUS ABOUT WANTING MY COOPERATION ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS PICK UP THE PHONE AND CALL INSPECTOR GENERAL VAUGHN, D.O.C. OFFICES IN TALLAHASSEE, AND ASK HIM TO HAVE ME MOVED BACK TO MCI. ONCE I'M AT MCI I'LL TELEPHONE YOU COLLECT AND WE CAN THEN PROCEED WITH ARRANGING FOR THE DEPOSITION UNDER SWORN CONDITIONS WITH MY LAWYER PRESENT.

I AM VERY MUCH IN RECOLLECTION OF OUR PAST CORRESPONDANCE PARTICULARLY I REMEMBER YOU WERE NOT IN THE LEAST CONCERNED ABOUT WALTER RHODES' BEING TARGETED BY JESSE TAFFERO. IT'S LITTLE REMINISCENCES SUCH AS THOSE THAT GO A LONG WAY WHEN YOU ASK FOR INFORMATION ABOUT MURDER THAT ANOTHER INMATE CLAIMS TO HAVE COMMITTED.

I FEEL STRONGLY ENOUGH ABOUT TOOLE'S REVELATIONS TO ME TO PAY FOR THE LAWYER TO SIT IN ON THE DEPOSITION.

PLEASE ADVISE ON WHETHER YOU WANT THE INFORMATION I HAVE OR NOT. IF YOU DO THEN ARRANGE THE NECESSARY; IF YOU DON'T I'LL ADVISE THE LAWYER TO RIP UP THE MATERIAL I SENT ABOUT TOOLE AND THE WALSH CASE. I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY TO JACKIE HOFFMAN UNTIL MY LAWYER IS PRESENT. UP TO YOU.

SINCERELY,

Edward J. Stanger

PS

WHEN YOU SEE NORMAN O'ROURKE OF YOUR PUBLIC CORRUPTION UNIT PLEASE TELL HIM THAT I'M WAITING FOR THE LETTER AND THAT HIS WORK MFL, SAINT PHILIP SIMILAR, MAY SOON BE DISBARRED FOR MANUFACTURING FALSE EVIDENCE AGAINST ME IN 1973. I TOLD O'ROURKE WHERE TO LOOK, SO HE KNOWS; BUT WHY THE DISINCLINATION TO ACT? MANUFACTURE OF SPURIOUS EVIDENCE IS A FELONY, OR ARE YOU FALLAS EXEMPT FROM THE LAW? OR IS IT JUST COVER-UP FOR OLD BUDDY, PHIL?

Dear Mr. Hancock -

I was surprised to receive your letter. The word on the prison grapevine is that you resigned to do private legal work. Guess the grapevine is not always accurate

well, to answer your request for information: I've had many, many hours of personal intense conversation with Otis Toole, and as you are aware I'm a well trained former police officer myself; so I was able to be fairly cagey with Toole. I am of the opinion that he has killed quite a few people and if he didn't kill the Walsh boy he sure is good at selling bullshit stories.

Back during Oct. 1988 he was doing a LOT of very detailed talking. He talked to me for days about his time with Henry Lucas, and his child molesting activities all around Florida. He was very explicit about the Walsh boy, he wasn't "General" in his conversation. I was horrified by his admissions and later asked another guy up here to quiz him on the Walsh matter. Toole told the same story he told me, so if he's lying at least he's a consistent liar.

You are asking me to help you solve a really awful crime simply because it is so terrible that it cries out for a resolution, and I don't disagree about that but let me tell you what has been done to me due to my public spiritedness in alerting the various police agencies as Toole chattered away to me in October.

For the past 4 MONTHS I've been locked in a grim Solitary Confinement cell at FSP; after having been read my Miranda rights by a police agent and

NAME _____

NUMBER _____

DATE _____

being accused of being Toole's partner in crime!
Hard to believe but that's the current state of this situation, which came about because I was so upset about what Toole related to me; which jibed with what he told the other fellow. Now here you come asking for my help, which I freely offered the first time in October 1988 and which has resulted in nothing but misery and unpleasantness for me ever since. Do you understand that I might be a little pissed off? No, a LOT pissed off?

Being as I have ALREADY been read my rights on the matter of Mr. Toole I should be telling you to go to hell but there is also a MORAL question involved here; so I'm willing to make a compromise.

Ottis Toole personally told me how he disposed of the hocked up remains of the Walsh child and was fairly specific about where the rest of the body can be located. Specific enough so someone could find the bones based on what he said IF what he said is true. I personally don't know if Toole's revelations are true Toole had no reason to lie to me about it, he had nothing to gain from me.

Now IF you want me to tell you what Toole told me so you can check it out for accuracy I'm willing to give you a SWORN DEPOSITION or grand jury testimony but I'm NOT about to say one WORD until all this crap about me being Toole's PARTNER is cleared up completely AND I'm not gonna talk unless I'm represented by counsel.

NAME _____

NUMBER _____

DATE _____

I talked to your two pals from BSO and ended up in the box for 4 months. I've learned my lesson about "helping" the police or the "State", and since Miranda was read to me concerning Toole, the STATE has said I have a right to Counsel and I'm not gonna talk unless I have counsel since that's the way the State wants to treat me.

In order to be helpful to you immediately I'll suggest you call lawyer DAVID B. HIGGINBOTTOM who is up to date on the events of the last 4 months wherein I've gone from Confidential informant to the accused as accessory to Toole. Mr. Higginbottom can fill you in lawyer to lawyer. Then once you get that all straightened out you can contact my retained attorney in Miami, N. Sarda Jilani, and see about setting up a deposition at no cost to me. You can tell Jilani what you want to do and I'll follow her advice. She has a Federal Court practice so check with the Clerk at the U.S. Courthouse for her current phone #.

Please advise your interest or lack of same.

Sincerely,
David J. Schayfer

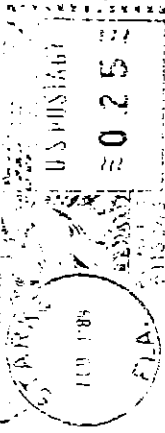
PS.

DAVID B. HIGGINBOTTOM, phone # 813-635-4894

PO. BOX 697

FROSTPROOF, FL. 33843

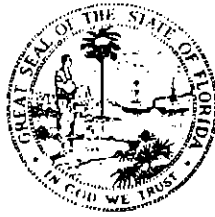
Ward J. Schaeffer
Wanda Steele Phelan
OX 747-039506
Miale, FI-32091



1 00111116
ORIGINATED AT
FLORIDA STATE PRISON

State Attorney's Office
att: K. D. HAWCOCK 201 SE 6 ST
Homicide Division
Broward Co. Courthouse
Fort Lauderdale FL

33301



**MICHAEL J. SATZ
STATE ATTORNEY**

SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

BROWARD COUNTY COURTHOUSE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33301

PHONE (305) 357-6955

February 13, 1989

Mr. Gerard J. Schaefer
Florida State Prison
Box 747-039506
Starke, Florida 32091

Dear Mr. Schaefer:

Your letter of February 1, 1989 to Assistant State Attorney Kelly Hancock has been referred to me for review and consideration. I trust that you will recall that we have corresponded in years past.

This office is of course interested in the apprehension and prosecution of the person or persons responsible for the death of Adam Walsh. It is my view that end may best be achieved by forwarding to the Hollywood Police Department, the agency which initiated and continues the investigation, all of the data, materials or information you may have. Therefore, I have contacted Detective Jackie Hoffman, lead investigator, and provided him with a copy of your letter.

Should you feel the need to communicate further, please contact Detective Hoffman at the Hollywood Police Department, 3250 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, Florida 33020, or in the alternative, you may write or call me.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. LaGraves, Jr.".

Walter F. LaGraves, Jr.
Chief Investigator

WFL, Jr: jh

Attorney
David Higginbottom

813-655-4894

Schaffer, Gerald F.S.P.

◀ **PHONE MEMO** ▶

HART BOB 7318
547-7332

To HOFFMAN
Date 2/13 Time 1100

Mr. LEGRAVES
of SIA
Phone 357-7910

- Telephoned Please call
- Called to see you Will call again
- Wanted to see you Rush

Message _____

CSI-08 Signed _____