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Volume VIII- Ottis Toole File
File 36
STATEMENT- Robert Hammond
11/21/83

**SUPPLEMENT REPORT
HOLLYWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT**

1. VICTIM WALSH, ADAM	2. ARREST NO.	3. COMPLAINT NO. 81-56073
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8. OFFENSE OR CHARGE STATEMENT OF: HAMMOND, ROBERT LONNIE			12. FURTHER POLICE ACTION & REPORT REQUIRED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		13. VALUE OF PROPERTY RECOVERED \$
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The following will be a voluntary sworn statement reference to an Abduction/Homicide that occurred on or about 7/27/81 occurring at 300 Hollywood Mall Hollywood, County of Broward, State of Florida. This statement is being taken by Det. J. Hoffman #0038 and is being taken from a Witness being identified as HAMMOND, ROBERT LONNIE N/M dob 3/18/41 who resides at 665 Day Ave., Jacksonville Fl. Phone 904-389-9825. This statement is commencing on Monday 11/21/83 @ approx. 0926 Hours.

Q. Prior to taking your statement Mr Hammond, are you aware that under FSS it is a cr-me to knowingly furnish false information while under oath?

A. Yes

Q. I am going to place you under oath at this time by virtue of my commission as a Notary Public of the State of Florida. Please raise your right hand. ROBERT HAMMOND, do you solemnly swear to tell the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?

A. I do

ROBERT LONNIE HAMMOND, HAVING APPEARED BEFORE ME A NOTARY PUBLIC FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA, BROWARD COUNTY, HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN, DEPOSES AND STATES:

Q. For the record, state your complete name, date of birth and home address.

A. ROBERT LONNIE HAMMOND, 665 Day Ave., dob 3/18/41

Q. What is your place of business sir?

A. Hammond Grocery

Q. How long have you been here at Hammond Grovery?

A. Since 1977

Q. Your business, is that located next door to a residence that used to be at 708 Day Ave.?

A. That is correct

Q. And that would be Mrs. Harley's residence?

A. Yes

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Q. At this time I would like to recall your attention to June 23, 1981, it would have been the date that there was a residential fire at Mrs Harley's residence..do you recall that date?

A. Yes I do

Q. OK, can you tell me in your own words just what activities you witnessed at that residence since the fire.

A. OK. since the fire there was OTTIS and LUCAS

Q. OTTIS, you are referring to OTTIS TOOLE?

A. Right

Q. For the record, I just want to show you a photograph to see if we are talking about the same individual...would this be OTTIS TOOLE?

A. Correct

FOR THE RECORD, MR HAMMOND HAS IDENTIFIED THE PHOTOGRAPH OF ONE OTTIS TOOLE.

Q. OK, you can go on from there.

A. OK. Ottis and Lucas would come over and even after the house got burned down and they would stay in the house and they was in the process of moving stuff out at the time and as a matter of fact at that time I let them stay in an apartment that belonged to me. Prior to that time the house ..they used the house quite a bit for bringing trash and stuff, you know, they had like all junk and as a matter of fact the whole back part of the yard at one time was dug up and they buried trash back in the yard.

Q. You're talking about trash and junk back there; what type of items did you see back in that area?

A. OK. old refrigerators, they would break them down and take the aluminum o

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of them and bury the trash. Basically they did all kinds of clothes and junk they would haul back there.

Q. Where would they set these fires?

A. In the back yard. Like they would burn copper and stuff..in the backyard

Q. On the ground or in any type of containers?

A. On the ground and in containers..both ways.

Q. Did you ever see them use the refrigerators as a pit to burn in?

A. More or less barrels and stuff back there.

Q. You are indicating that after the fire you have seen OTTIS come back here and sleep in the burned out residence?

A. Yes, right.. as a matter of fact at one time they had it boarded up and they even made an opening to go in and out of the place.

Q. When they broke down the copper and the other precious metals that they tried to salvage, did you ever see any type of tools that they used?

A. From time to time crowbars and stuff like that ..also broke up cars and made cars into trucks so they had lots of sledge hammer and crowbars and stuff

Q. OK. Anything else?

A. Basically they were the kind of tools they would use.

Q. You talk of vehicles; do you know any type of vehicles that OTTIS either owned or drove that you ever witnessed him in .

A. Well, mainly cars belonged to the mother and they would from time to time get other old cars and be driving them for a length of time..

Q. Do you recall some of those vehicles that you've seen them use?

A. The Cadillac, red and white..it really belonged to the old lady..and they

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had a couple of old cars..they made, like tore them down and made a truck out of them

Q. I want to recall back to you the summer of 1981..did you ever see OTTIS operating another Cadillac, other than his mother's Cadillac.

A. No,I sure didn't.

Q. How long have you known Mr Toole?

A. For about a year. See, when I met them they were living down on another part of the avenue, they moved down on this part

Q. How would you describe Mr Toole as an individual?

A. He was outspoken, acted a little kind of on the funny side.. but basically he was a real nice person. I got along real well with him cause they gave me respect and I just figured ..

Q. Had you ever known them to be violent?

A. Not to the point where he would get into things but the kids..cause the boy Frankie, they could always be in and out with kids all the time..Ottis would get up and be threatening the kids but it was more or less that nobody to him seriously. He was good about calling the police; he would call the police on people in the neighborhood for messin up the kids and stuff like that.

Q. Did you ever recall him to have in his possession any type of knife or other instruments?

A. A gun, cause he did shoot a gun a few times..

Q. No, I mean any type of knife?

A. No no knives.

Q. Now, the mother's fire was in June 23, 1981.. do you know how many times

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you saw him throughout that summer right after the fire or the periods of time he might not have been around?

A Uh, it was quite a bit, maybe after the fire 5 or 6 times at least.

Q. Was it like on a daily basis or spread out, these 5 or 6 times?

A. Spread out, in between times cause somebody said they moved over to Market St.

Q. Are you familiar with the time that Ottis and HENRY LUCAS and Frieda and Frankie went up to Delaware?

A. Yes, this is the time I lent them the money cause..

Q. Lent who money?

A. Henry and Ottis, money to get the truck out of hock..it belonged to his brother Howell.. right, and this was the time they got the truck out of hock and they went to Delaware and I heard after that that the truck had broke down and they came back here and lost the truck in Delaware..

Q. Do you recall after they left for Delaware, when OTTIS got back to Jacksonville?

A. Well, after they got back from Delaware it must have been two weeks later they cameback here

Q. Who is 'they'?

A. Ottis and Lucas..

Q. Here's the thing. HENRY LUCAS was arrested in July of 1981 up in Delaware he never returned with OTTIS, he never got back to Jacksonville until October of 1981..

A. OK, well, that is probably correct because OTTIS hung around..he came back

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with another guy, uh, from time to time he had different guys he'd bring over and at that time they came and got into the house and stayed in there a few day

Q. You don't know who that other individual would be?

A. Uh, no, from time to time it would be different guys..

Q. You indicated you had seen him digging in the back yard..did he have a shovel?

A. Right

Q. You don't know what they were burying?

A. Sure don't.

Q. OK, I have no other questions to ask you at this time Mr Hammond..is there anything you would like to add to your statement at this time concerning this?

A. No, there wouldn't be anything

Q. Is everything you said in your statement been the complete truth as you know it to be?

A. Yes sir, as far as I can remember back to that time..

Q. One more thing.. did you ever see OTTIS operating a black over white Cadillac, 4/dr?

A. No

STATEMENT IS CONCLUDED ON MONDAY 11/21/83 @ 0937 HOURS.

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