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Memo from Allen Gore to Don Lowers regarding AMSEC special assignment

Allen Gore
AMSEC (professional investigative firm)

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CONFIDENTIAL
MEMO
AMSEC SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

TO: DON LOWERS
FROM: ALLEN E. GORE
SUBJECT: SHEPPARD CASE

On December 6, 1993 I attended a meeting in New York City at which time we discussed, among other things, the need to interview in person, one Edward William Wilbert of 285 Bahai Via, Fort Myers Beach, Florida. Another subject to be fully identified is James Monroe Jr., aka 'The Monsignor,' allegedly an ex Burns International Detective Agency employee (to be discussed in another report).

On December 10, 1993 this writer was able to interview Edward Wilbert, along with his long time associate Joe Mallick, at their home in Fort Myers Beach, FLA. As a result of the interview the following information is supplied.

The initial information that Wilbert was in some manner related to Richard Eberling is incorrect. There is no familial relationship blood or otherwise. Edward Wilbert and Joe Mallick have lived together for the last forty years. Mallick has an extensive knowledge of Eberling's life and his lifestyle. He describes him as a 'con-artist, con-man, liar and vicious if 'pushed'. " He is as familiar with Eberling as Wilbert due to their (Mallick and Wilbert's) lengthy and intimate relationship.

Ed Wilbert stated he worked on and off for Richard Eberling from 1953 to 1956 or 57. He was paid in cash and sometimes by check for his duties as a window washer. He remembers being sent to the Sam Sheppard home on various occasions to clean windows and remove or replace storm windows. He further stated oftentimes no one would be at home and the door was left unlocked so he could gain entrance. He found this unnecessary as the basement door was always unlocked. Although there was a dog, the animal provided no protection. It never barked at strangers, e.g. Wilbert.

Wilbert remembers a conversation after the murder of Marilyn Sheppard in which Eberling said to him: "I guess they'll want to speak to me. I cut my hand storing storm
windows in the basement the day before the killing and dropped blood on the basement stairs." Wilbert does not remember any conversation subsequent to that which would indicate the police interviewed Eberling. No law enforcement person officially interviewed Wilbert.

Wilbert also provided that Eberling was a social climber who inveigled his way into membership at the prestigious Cleveland Yacht Club. At one time, he recalls, Eberling attempted to bar the Sheppards (Marilyn and Sam) from the club because they appeared in "dirty attire." According to Wilbert, most of the people in the elite community (Bay Village) in which the Sheppards lived knew of Eberling's ongoing thefts from their homes but tolerated these activities for some unknown reason.

Ed Wilbert also stated his cousin, Harold Wilbert, was (at the time of the murder) a Captain of Detectives in the West Lake, Ohio Police Department. In a conversation during the investigation, Harold told Wilbert: "You'll never know the real story. What went on in that village was something else. No one will give it up; we know but we can't prove it." Wilbert told this writer his cousin is still alive and living in West Lake, Ohio.

Toward the end of the interview, Wilbert said, "You know, Marilyn was going to blast him, and told him so. She didn't like him (reference is to Eberling). When I asked what this was about, he explained it was the thiaviesty.

My interview ended on very friendly terms with both Mallick and Wilbert. So much so, they are amenable to further inquiry (by myself or anyone I recommend) should that be required.

Further investigation awaits your instructions.

Allen E. Gore
Investigator

Enc: Five photos documenting visit and identifying Wilbert (seated photo #3).
Sam:

Here's one story for today --

I talked to Don, just after you talked to him, I guess. I called him because I had spoken with Dave Doughton -- Eberling's attorney.

Doughton said that a lie detector test is definitely going to be set up for Eberling in the next three weeks. He got a continuance from the judge to keep Eberling in Cleveland to do this. Doughton claims that he is not being paid and he wants nothing from this (dubious.) He says he has arranged for a pro bono lie detector test and all that. I think I probably sounded a bit alarmed -- like who was going to do the test and what questions were they going to ask. He wouldn't tell me who the polygraph operator would be, except in general terms; and as to the questions, he basically said, if you've got 'em let me know what they are. He said he was open to suggestions; he would take them from anyone; etc etc. But he said the results will be made public to all the media and he was going to get into a pissing match (his words) between us and James Neff. Neff, he said, told him that there were bad feelings between us and him. [Neff = money;] I tried to explain our position. He also said that the session was going to be videotaped -- when I asked who was going to do that, he said he didn't know yet or he wasn't sure, something to that effect. I fished around asking about different alternatives, and then, ultimately, said I would get back to him. Said I was concerned that if this was the one time Eberling was going to do this, that he should be asked critical questions, and I didn't think that Neff had a handle on them. Doughton also said that he has heard Eberling's story and what he says the weapon is (pasta maker -- Eberling; or phone -- Msg?) and that he has talked to the forensic analyst that the Sheppards had (I don't know who this is -- also don't get his interest.) I also told him Terry might be in touch, and I think I will fax Terry tonight or tomorrow, or maybe call him at home. At any rate, I left it with Doughton with getting back to him.

When I talked to Don, he said he would talk to the investigators, see what they have to say, and get back to me no later than Mon.

He asked if they (Amsec) could provide an outside polygrapher because he didn't trust anyone in Cleveland.

Jim Chapman called not long after, and I asked what he thought. He was very leery of doing a polygraph and said all the reasons why it wouldn't work under those circumstances. Then later he suggested some things to ask if it is done.

I really trust Don's guys, so we'll see what they have to say. In addition to having good investigative ideas, they are sensible.
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After you told me about the Bailey memo being circulated, I'm now concerned/upset that Msg. has distributed my notes about Eberling from my interviews, and other private/confidential materials from your files.

Had some other interesting calls -- my contact in the coroner's office in particular.

I think I got all worked up about this lie detector thing this afternoon, but now that I've written this, I'm more calm. Part of me is -- let 'em do what they wanna do ... on the other hand ...

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Monsignor -- b date 9-25-18
160 lbs; gray hair; blue eyes