

17 Nov 70  
Note: This the 3rd time this  
letter has been sent. Returned  
"address unknown," "no such address"  
etc. What's happening?

R.V.G.

5 Sept 75

Dear Sir

Please excuse the hand written note, but my typewriter is still in the shop.

I have just finished your book Frame-up. I have had doubts about the Ray case, but had no idea the case was such an obvious frame. There is little doubt after your work.

Re: the so-called decoy theory.

A friend and I are working on an article for a local paper on the possibility that P. Hearst and Co. came through our quiet little college town on the way to Eastern Pa. I'm doing all the research/digging. As a result of this sifting through tons of clippings and going blind looking at microfilm newspapers - a queer little pattern has begun to appear. There are at least 2. Patty Hearst's - 2. Bill Harris' and 2. Emily Harris'.

Mid-Summer, here in Western Pa there was several sightings of the Harris Team (North P. Pittsburgh area). Then there is the incident's in the Chicago area (see copies). Law enforcement officials and Rolling Stone all now saying that the SHA services returned to California in late October or early November and stayed there (if not less!). I'm now trying to find out if the Chicago sightings were ever cleared up. These are not the only reports of SHA members in the 74-75 period of hiding, but it is interesting that the policeman identified them. (Why didn't he arrest them?).

All this might mean nothing - but there is so much of the case that defies logic in every way. For example, the police and the F.B.I. listed Theo Wheeler as a member of the SHA from the beginning. Now they seem to have forgotten about him. This is quite strange.

There was a man arrested in Texas some time ago. No headlines - "F.B.I. catches dangerous terrorist" etc. - Just a small notice buried in the N.Y. Times. It is unlike the F.B.I., as you know, not to crow loudly when they catch a "armed and dangerous" terrorist. Here again he was caught by accident. He got himself shot and was identified at the hospital.

This man may be "on ice" as a witness - or more likely, he's being "lost" somewhere in our criminal justice system. That's a loose end that bothers me.

After all I've read concerning possible decoys in the J.F.K., R.F.K. and King deaths I come to the decoy theory in the SHA case - perhaps a bit too quickly. It is a possibility that some glory hounds or jokesters are having fun playing SHA members (a joke that could prove fatal to them). It is possible that other members of the Radical Underground (so-called) put out decoys to create a false trail. The only problem with that idea is that the New Left has never had the sophistication to pull anything like that before. They are rather plodding and simple minded when it comes to going to ground. Thirdly, it is possible that law enforcement officials invented these sightings to give the impression that they were hot on the trail of the suspects. Then there are the other possibilities - they're the ones that bother me.....

Final item. a small clipping concerning the theft of some police radio equipment in San Mateo Calif a few days before the Fromme assassination attempt. As you may recall there was another alleged attempt on Ford's life

set for that same day (coincidence - no doubt)  
as Police radios seem to interest you a great  
deal, I thought this clipping one for your attention.

I note from Jack Anderson's column that  
there is a new book forthcoming. Please send  
me information for ordering as soon as it  
is available.

Thank you  
R.V. Gabelt

57 S. 9th St.  
INDIANA PA  
15701

propaganda.

### Patrol Car No. 22 Missing Some Electronic Equipment

SAN MATEO, Calif. (AP)—  
The sheriff's patrol car No. 22  
is missing, but parts of it  
are.

The patrol car was involved  
in an accident recently and had  
been left in the sheriff's depart-  
ment radio shack under lock  
and key to have all electronic  
gear removed.

As it was a weekend no work  
was done on the car. Monday  
came and the sheriff's office  
discovered that some one had  
gained entry to the shack and  
had stolen the radio transmit-  
ter, receiver, microphone and  
other equipment.

GIVE A HAPPY TIME VIA  
THE FRESH AIR FUND

*V. J. Timms*  
*3 SEPT*  
*75*

N.Y. Times 5 July 75

### 3 Members Are Still at Large After Arrest of a Symbionese

HOUSTON, July 4 (UPI)—The Federal Bureau of Investigation says that the arrest of Thero Wheeler means only three known members of the self-styled Symbionese Liberation Army are still at large, among them Patricia Hearst.

Mr. Wheeler, an escaped convict believed to be one of the founders of the S.L.A., was arrested yesterday without incident at the electrical company where he worked as a handyman.

The F.B.I. said that he was arrested on a charge of escaping from the California medical facility in Vacaville on Aug. 2, 1973. He had been serving a sentence for battery on a police officer. Today, he is being held under \$100,000 bond.

The F.B.I. would release little information, but credited Mr. Wheeler's capture to an alert Houston policeman who was on duty in a hospital emergency room.

The F.B.I. said that Mr. Wheeler went to the hospital with superficial shotgun wounds and gave one of his known aliases to attendants. The officer ran the alias—Bradley S. Bruce—through the National Crime Information Center's computer, the F.B.I. said.

There was no immediate explanation of the shotgun wounds, but they apparently had nothing to do with his capture.

Mr. Wheeler and Donald Defreeze, later killed in a shootout in Los Angeles, were identified as early members of the S.L.A., which has taken responsibility for the murder of the



United Press International  
Thero Wheeler

Oakland School Superintendent Marcus Foster and the kidnaping of Miss Hearst.

Twelve persons have been identified as S.L.A. members, including six killed in the Los Angeles shootout. Mr. Defreeze was one of the six. Two others were convicted in Sacramento, Calif., two weeks ago of Mr. Foster's murder.

The arrest of Mr. Wheeler leaves only Miss Hearst and William and Emily Harris, all three still at large and on the F.B.I. wanted list, as known members of the S.L.A. not dead or in jail.

Miss Hearst was abducted from her apartment in Berkeley, Calif., on Feb. 4, 1974. Later, in tape-recorded communications, she said that she had forsaken her past life and was joining the S.L.A. in its struggle against capitalism.

### Couple Gives SLA Aliases

CENTRALIA, Ill.—The FBI and police searched Thursday for a hitchhiking couple who vanished after giving names and birthdates matching aliases and birthdates of two Symbionese Liberation Army companions of Patty Hearst.

An all-points bulletin alerted law enforcement officials that the couple, who had been stopped by a policeman for a routine check Wednesday evening, questioned briefly and then allowed to go on their way, could be fugitives William and Emily Harris.

The couple gave a Centralia police officer their names as Mike Andrews and Mary Hensley. They told him they were migrant workers from Oklahoma and were en route from Tennessee to Ohio to find work. *W. Post*  
*27 June 78*  
Tennessee Vote **Women Out**

## FBI INVESTIGATION

# Did Howie Vicini Pick Up Patty Hearst And Friends?

By DAVID VENDITTA  
Indiana Correspondent

Did Patty Hearst pass through Indiana last summer?

Maybe, said the FBI in June when a Student Co-op Association employe here told police about three hitchhikers he picked up. Howie Vicini, 25, heading home to Indiana on Memorial Day after visiting friends in New Castle, had given two women and a man a ride from the Route 422 bypass around New Castle to an area near the Penn Run exit on the same route east of Indiana Borough.

Vicini told police and the FBI that the woman who sat next to him in his van carried a gun concealed under a blazer and that the trio had offered him \$300 to drive them east. He said they weren't familiar with the area and asked him about Philadelphia and New York.

The state police sergeant who interviewed Vicini shortly after the trio was dropped off suggested the hikers could have been Patty Hearst and Emily and William Harris, the fugitive Symbionese Liberation Army members. Later, a trooper said Vicini's description of one woman closely resembled the FBI bulletin on Emily Harris.

Although Vicini could not positively identify any of the three, his report seemed to carry more weight than the hundreds of other sightings reported across the nation. A highly placed FBI man in Los Angeles reportedly said the only intense investigation for the SLA members other than in California at that time was in Pennsylvania.

The FBI in Greensburg admitted it was shaken by the report. The agency was still conducting its main search in the Los Angeles area, where Miss Hearst and the Harrises were sighted only two weeks before on May 24, the day after the trio bungled a shoplifting attempt at a Los Angeles sporting goods store.

Fingerprints from Vicini's van, sought by the FBI two days after the sighting, failed to show because of the time lapse. State police had neglected to look at the van when Vicini notified them.

And despite an all-points alert in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey, police were unable to pick up the three suspicious persons. Vicini's story seemed far-fetched and unlikely.

But last month in Harrisburg, something came out into the open that made the casual observer think twice

about what happened to Howie Vicini early last June. It was revealed that a federal grand jury was investigating the possibility that Patty Hearst hid last fall on a farm in northeastern Pennsylvania.

The San Francisco Examiner, whose publisher is Miss Hearst's father, reported that her fingerprints were found in the farmhouse where she allegedly was hiding out last October. Federal officials did not confirm or deny the report.

The Philadelphia Inquirer said this was the biggest lead the FBI had on the SLA members since last June.

Interviewed last week, the FBI agents in charge of the Patty Hearst investigation at the agency's offices in Greensburg, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia doubted there was any connection between Vicini's reported sighting and the possibility Miss Hearst stayed at the farmhouse in South Canaan, about 35 miles from Scranton.

Cy Laffey, of the FBI's office in Greensburg, said, "As far as I know there was no connection." He mentioned there may have been conflicting reports that ruled out the possibility that Vicini picked up Miss Hearst, but said he didn't have that information with him.

Jesse Hagy, Pittsburgh, said "Let's put it this way. I know of no connection."

And John Culpepper, Philadelphia, when asked if there may be a connection, said, "Not to my knowledge." But, he said, it was "reasonable to assume" that Patty Hearst could have been staying at the South Canaan farmhouse. "I'd call it a big lead," he added.

In a further disclosure Mar. 21, The Scranton Times reported that police were checking out the possibility that a missing 1968 Volkswagen found in a junkyard in West Nanticoke, Pa., may have been the one in which Miss Hearst traveled east to the farmhouse in South Canaan last summer.

With the investigation of the Patty Hearst case focusing in Pennsylvania, and the apparent assumption by FBI and police that Miss Hearst did travel from the West Coast to northeastern Pennsylvania last summer, Howie Vicini's story would seem more credible.

But as one of the FBI agents explained, no sightings of the fugitive could be determined true until Miss Hearst is picked up or surrenders and admits having been any place where she was reported seen.

No one will know anything for sure until then.

*Greensburg  
Tribune Review 13-April 75*



## MISS HEARST SEARCH PRESSED IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, July 9 (UPI)—The Federal Bureau of Investigation said today that it was intensifying its search around Chicago on the chance that at least one of the fugitives in the Patricia Hearst case was hiding in this area.

Richard G. Held, special agent in charge of the Chicago office, said that William Harris, one of the principals in the Hearst case, might have fled to Chicago from Centralia, Ill., where Mr. Harris was reported hitchhiking with a female companion on June 25.

The hitchhikers were detained by Centralia policemen but released after they showed Social Security cards identifying them as Michael Andrews and Mary Hensley, names used in the past by Mr. Harris and his wife, Emily.

The F.B.I. said that the search here had been intensified "because of the sighting in Centralia."

An F.B.I. poster released yesterday contains three photographs of Mr. Harris and included information that he might be in the Chicago area.

Miss Hearst has been seen with the Harrises at least once since she was kidnapped Feb. 4, 1974, the F.B.I. said.

Mrs. Harris is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Schwartz, who live in Clarendon Hills, just west of Chicago.

*N.Y. Times*  
\* 10 July 75

sion Control center there.

## SLA Leaders Are Spotted Near Chicago

CHICAGO (AP) — The FBI has concentrated its search for Emily and William Harris of the Symbionese Liberation Army in the Chicago area, The Chicago Sun-Times says.

An FBI spokesman refused to confirm the story in today's editions of The Sun-Times, but Richard G. Held, special agent in charge of the Chicago FBI office, requested public assistance in capturing the Harrises.

Held said the couple, members of the terrorist group which kidnaped newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst last year, were believed seen June 25 by a Centralia, Ill., policeman.

The policeman, who questioned two hitchhikers near the Southern Illinois city, said the couple showed identification bearing the names of Mike Andrews and Mary Hensley.

Held said the names are aliases used by the Harrises.

The Sun-Times said the policeman positively identified a photograph of Harris as the male hitchhiker, but not that of woman.

The newspaper said police suspect that the couple may be hiding in the Chicago area. Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Schwartz, the parents of Emily Harris, live in suburban Chicago.

Miss Hearst, the daughter of Randolph A. Hearst, president and editor of the San Francisco Examiner, was kidnaped in February 1974. She later renounced her parents and said she had joined the SLA.

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