

This offense is declared: Unfounded _____ Cleared by arrest XX Not cleared _____
 Partly cleared _____ Cleared by identification _____

(If property is involved, show here, type and value of property recovered, or if the case may be, additional property reported stolen)

	STOLEN	RECOVERED
Currency and negotiables	\$ _____	\$ _____
Jewelry and precious metals	_____	_____
Furs	_____	_____
Clothing	_____	_____
Miscellaneous (Include costume jewelry)	_____	_____
TOTAL VALUE	_____	_____

(FULLY DESCRIBE STOLEN OR RECOVERED PROPERTY (Serial No., Brand, Etc.) under "Details" below.

DETAILS:

On Thursday morning August 24, 1961, Investigating officers received a phone call from Mr. Alexander Landry, who stated that juvenile Michael Crouchet had come to his residence on the night of Wednesday August 23, 1961, and told of being contacted by David Ferrie. The boy told Mr. Landry that Ferrie was trying to get him (Crouchet) to drop the charges. Investigating officers immediately contacted Michael Crouchet at his employers by phone. Crouchet stated that Ferrie came to the store where he is employed, at 5523 St. Claude Ave., at 2:15PM August 23, 1961. According to Crouchet, Ferrie was with another person, whom he introduced as a Cuban, who had jumped in the recent invasion of Cuba. Ferrie, as Crouchet stated, asked him to sign a paper stating the he (Crouchet) had made the statement to the police out of anger for Capt Ferrie. Crouchet said also, that Ferrie told him that he would have to sign the paper or be dealt with by some Cubans. Crouchet told investigating officers that he signed the paper shown him by Ferrie because he was afraid. Crouchet said also that he told his parents about Ferrie's visit to the store after he knocked off from work, and later that night, he went to see Mr. Alexander Landry about it. Crouchet stated that he asked Mr. Landry to notify investigating officers.

On August 24, 1961, investigating officers went to Puglia Super Market where Crouchet is employed, and a full typewritten statement was taken from him relative to the visit made by Ferrie. This statement will better explain the occurrence, which also describes the subject with Ferrie, and another who was sitting outside the store in Ferrie's car. Crouchet thought that one of the unknown subjects was known by the name Andrew. Crouchet stated that Ferrie stayed in the store from about 2:15PM until 3:00PM, and later when he (Crouchet) knocked off, Ferrie was waiting outside in his car.

Investigating officers spoke with Mr. George J. Puglia Jr., of 5523 St. Claude Ave., owner of the Grocery Store. Mr. Puglia stated that after lunch at approximately 2:30PM, he noticed two men speaking with Crouchet in the store. Mr. Puglia identified one of the subjects as having painted eye brows and was losing his hair, which very well fits Dave Ferrie. Mr. Puglia identified the other subject as being about 20 years old, tall.

R. Fournier 8-25-61 C. Jonau 8-25-61 Lt. August C. Lang 8-25-61
 Investigating Officer Investigating Officer Commanding Officer
 District or Bureau Juvenile District or Bureau Juvenile District or Bureau Juvenile

Investigating officers spoke with Mr. Francis Puglia of 5523 St. Claude, who stated that at approximately 2:30PM, two men came into the store and were talking with Crouchet. Mr. Puglia described one of the subjects as having spotty hair, which was falling out and was about 6' tall. This description given officers by Mr. Francis Puglia, certainly appears to be Ferrie. Mr. Francis Puglia stated also that this subject had painted eyebrows, and told of another subject who was with the subject with the painted eyebrows, but could not identify him to well.

Investigating officers returned to the Juvenile Bureau and notified Immigration authorities. Inspector Underwood came to the Bureau and was given all the information in this matter. Inspector Underwood stated that he knew Arcacha Smith and that Smith was an American Citizen, and that there was nothing his organization could do.

At 1:05PM August 24, 1961 Invest. Officers received another call from Crouchet, who stated that David Ferrie had come to see him again. Crouchet stated that Ferrie and another subject had just left him after getting him to sign another paper. Officers drove immediately to the Balter Building in an effort to catch Ferrie, but after 1 hour, he failed to show up. Officers returned to the Juvenile Bureau and call Crouchet by phone and have him explain Ferrie's second visit. Crouchet stated that he signed something that had the phrase drop all charges in it. Ferrie told Crouchet that if he signed the statement, that it would keep him (Crouchet) out of trouble. Crouchet stated that Ferrie had someone with him with dark hair and believed his name was Andrew. This unidentified subject was the same one who had come into the store with Ferrie the day before, according to Crouchet. Crouchet stated also, that it was about 12:40PM, and he was coming from lunch when he saw Ferrie parked by Cusimano's restaurant on St. Claude Ave, near the Puglia's super market, and it a parking lot near a liquor store. Ferrie told Crouchet on this second visit, that he (Ferie) wanted Crouchet to meet Arcacha Smith. According to Crouchet, Ferrie told him that he could have any thing he wanted for signing the paper. Ferrie also told Crouchet on the second visit, that if he wanted, he (Ferie) could arrange to get him (Crouchet) out of town.

At 3:00PM investigating officers received a call from Mr. Landry, who stated that he received a phone call from a subject who identified himself as Michael Mc Loy, a friend of his son, from Houston, Texas. Mr. Landry stated that Mc Loy was coming to his house. Officers called Mr. Landry on the morning of August 25, 1961, but learned that Mc Loy did not show up.

On the night of August 24, 1961 Officer Jonau, received a telephone call from Chief Warrent Officer C. R. Knowlton from Camp LeRoy Johnson, who stated that to his knowledge the charter held by Ferrie was forged. Knowlton stated that he check with the National Headquarters in Houston, Texas and found that their was no charter issued for the Metairie Falcon Squadron. Officer Knowlton stated that he has received a number of calls from parents inquiring of the Metairie Falcon Squadron. Investigating officer Jonau called Major Christian, who is the commander of the Civil Air Patrol in New Orleans. Major Christian stated that Ferrie was at one time, quietly removed from the New Orleans Cadet Squadron of the C.A.P.

Agent Stuart Sheer of the F.B.I. was notified of the current information

August 24, 1961
Item H-8107-61

Statement of Eric Michael Crouchet WM Age 16, residing 5505 Merale St.
relative to an investigation of witness intimidation.

***** Statement*****

My name is Eric Crouchet and I without threats or promises make the following statement and will answer all questions asked of me?

Q. Can you explain what occurred while you were at work yesterday?

A. It was about 2:15PM August 23, 1961, I was bringing some stock to the front of the store where I work and I saw Capt Ferrie come walking to the Cigarette counter Capt Ferrie came up to me and asked me if I could bail him out. He told me at first, "you know you got me in trouble". I told him that I didn't know, He told me that he had seen his Lawyer and that there was a way out without any body getting hurt. I answered, yea, no disappear, and he said that this could be arranged. I was working with Mr. Francis Puglia on the displays and Mr. Ferrie told me that he wanted me to meet this fellow who was with him. Ferrie introduced this man as the Cuban who was suppose to go with me to Miami. He told me the men's name, but I didn't remember it. I went to throw some trash away and when I came back, Capt Ferrie was waiting in aisle number 9 of the store. Capt Ferrie had a slip of paper, which was typed out Capt Ferrie wanted me to sign this paper, ~~xxxxxxx~~ saying that everything I had said to the Police, was made out of anger toward him. Capt Ferrie told me if I signed the slip of paper, I could name my ticket and get anything I wanted. Capt Ferrie told me that if I didn't sign the paper I was going to have a bunch of Cubans after me. I signed the paper and I remembered seeing my name typed in it. I signed it because I was afraid. Capt Ferrie and this other man were in the store about 45 minutes from about 2:15 to 3:00PM. Capt Ferrie talked to me about 15 or 20 minutes of this time. About 5 minutes after 3:00PM, I was going to the liquor store and I saw another man sitting in a green 1960 Ford parked on Caffin Ave, at the side of Grun's Drug Store. It looked like the Captains car. I didn't see Capt Ferrie anymore until after 5:00PM, when I knocked off. I went straight home and changed clothes and came back to the store to get some cigarettes. I noticed Capt Ferrie parked in his car ~~xxxxxxx~~ on the side of Grun's Drug Store and he was calling me over. Ferrie was sitting in the car, with the same person who was in the store earlier with him. There was another guy in the car, who looked like the one I saw earlier during the day. Capt Ferrie asked me what I wanted from the Cubans and I said that I didn't know. He asked me a second time and I asked him if a motor cycle was too much and he said no. He told me that he would contact me again. He told me that he would like to take me down to meet Mr. Arcacha Smith, ~~xxxx~~ on Thursday, but I told him that I had to work today. He told me that he had to go pick up some things at the Salter Building and had to rush. When he wanted me to sign the paper, he told me that I was helping up his N-1's and Bazooka's. Ferrie told me that one of the Cuban's with him was a paratrooper that jumped in the first invasion of Cuba.

Continued.....

M.C.

- Can you describe the man who was with Ferris in the store?
 He was tall, he was dark complected and he had a short hair cut.
 He had blue jeans on, and he was RUSKY.
- Q. Could you identify this man if you saw him again?
 A. Yes, I could.
- Q. Did you hear this man speak?
 A. Yes. I don't remember if he had an accent.
- Q. Did you hear the Capt talk to this man?
 A. Yes. He spoke in English to him.
- Q. Can you describe the boy in the car?
 A. He was about 20 years old, he had blond hair and was about 5'11" or 6". He had a fox fatigue cap on. He was wearing grey pants and a t-shirt, a grey vest, a long sleeve vest with 4 buttons on the bottom. He spoke with an accent, but I didn't identify the accent. He said that he had been hear about two weeks.
- Q. How do you know what time it was when the Captain came to see you at the store?
 A. I looked at the clock and it was about 2:15PM.
- Q. Did you tell anyone that Ferris came to see you?
 A. I went to Mr. Al Landry's house and told him that Ferris came to see me at the store. Mr. Landry wanted to take me to the Juvenile Bureau. I told him that I would rather wait until tomorrow. I also told my mother about it and she told me to call the police. I told Mr. Landry to call the police.
- Q. Is this statement true and correct to the best of your knowledge?
 A. Yes.

Eric Michael Crouchet
Eric Michael Crouchet

Statement taken in the presence of Patn Roland Fournier and Patn Charles Jonau, typewritten and completed at 11:45 AM. Questions by Officers Fournier and Jonau.

File

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