

FBI-II

Indian Held as Material Witness In the Slaying of 2 F. B. I. Agents

NYTimes

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Special to The New York Times

PINE RIDGE, S. D., July 1—The Federal authorities were holding an unidentified Indian as a material witness today in the slaying of two Federal Bureau of Investigation agents in a gun battle on this Sioux reservation last Thursday.

A trained tracker dog identified the witness as having been at the scene of the shooting, according to an affidavit filed in Federal District Court in Rapid City by the United States Attorney's office.

The witness gave his name as David Sky, David Ski and David Scott. An F.B.I. spokesman, Thomas Coll, said here that the bureau was uncertain of the witness's identity.

The witness was being held on a \$50,000 bond.

The affidavit also produced some new details in the F.B.I.'s reconstruction of the gun battle in which an Indian youth, Joseph Stuntz, also was killed.

According to the affidavit, the two slain agents, Jack R. Collier and Ronald A. Williams, both 28 years old, were pursuing a vehicle a vehicle thought to be driven by Jimmy Eagle, an Indian youth they were seeking in connection with an alleged kidnapping case.

The witness had been arrested for vagrancy on the reservation by the Bureau of Indian Affairs police, according to the affidavit. The affidavit added that he had said at one point that he had been there to do a sociology term paper for a class at the University of California at Los Angeles and, at another point, that he had only an eighth-grade education.

The affidavit said that an F.B.I. agent had interviewed a Bernard Ice in the town of Wounded Knee who told him that a David Sky had informed him that he had walked cross country from the Jumping Bull family's house, the site of the shooting, and had added: "You should have been there—we had fun."

The affidavit did not say how the dog had identified the witness and Mr. Coll was unable to provide a further explanation.

The witness was one of about 10 Indians picked up on various charges by the Indian police in the past several days and questioned about the shooting. The arrests have been primarily among Indians in districts hostile to the official tribal government.