

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

TD:CKS:CS

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

May 2, 1936.

Time; 5:25 A.M.

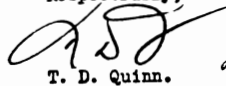
The Director said that the raid worked out perfectly; that they found subjects in the house, in the ground floor apartment, about noon on May 1st; that subjects left immediately thereafter, driving two autos and later returned with only one car. There were two men and one woman in the party. The raiding party went to the place about 5:15 P.M. which was the busiest time of the day, at the corner of Canal Street and Jeff Davis Boulevard. The raid was carefully planned. A group consisting of Connelley, Brantley, Hurt, Buchanan and Mr. Hoover were to go in the front door, where any firing was likely to take place. The other squads were deployed in the rear and on both sides of the place. Just as the agents were ready to move the car down into that block, a policeman came along the Boulevard on a horse, and the raid had to be delayed until he had passed. As the agents were about to pass the house (having planned to park the cars in the next block and come back with the guns, on foot) the two men came out and entered their car. Just at that time a little boy on a bicycle came between Karpis' car and the Director's car. Mr. Hoover became alarmed inasmuch as the child would be caught in the cross fire if any shooting started. The agents, led by Mr. Hoover, jumped out of their car and demanded their surrender just as Karpis, Hunter and the woman were about to enter their auto. This they did without protest. Two rifles were in Karpis' car. Karpis was badly frightened, saying to Mr. Hoover that he, Karpis, never thought the Bureau would take him alive. Hunter was scared to death. The Director stated that Hunter would be left in New Orleans; that he would be turned over to the Post Office, since they want him for the Garrettsville, Ohio, train robbery; that the Bureau will, of course, charge Hunter with harboring but that he will have to be tried on that charge in New Orleans.

Agent Hurt, Mr. Hoover, the girl and Karpis got in the Bureau car and started back to the office. It all happened within three minutes and approximately a thousand people gathered. The other agents searched the house, and found one of the windows barricaded for firing purposes. If the Agents had arrived one minute sooner or later, there would have been gun-play.

The Director stated that Karpis is a very dangerous, nasty sort of individual, but is acting all right now. He mentioned that Karpis is freezing to death in Kansas City as he only wore a pair of palm beach trousers and no coat when apprehended. The temperature in New Orleans was about 87 degrees but had dropped to 40 degrees in Kansas City. Mr. Hoover stated that Karpis was handcuffed and shackled and was being kept in the plane.

In conclusion the Director advised that he would leave Kansas City enroute to St. Paul about 7:00 A.M., EST.

Respectfully,

  
T. D. Quinn.

7-576-11099