

**NEWS ARTICLES**  
**Walsh, Adam**

# WHO KILLED ADAM WALSH?

Six months later:  
anguish, bitterness,  
suspicion...  
and no answer.

By **DOUG J. SWANSON**  
and **JANET FIX**

In her dreams, Reve Walsh tries to hold her only child.

"I see Adam. I talk to him. He says, 'Mommy, I'm here.' " She reaches for him, but cannot touch him.

Morning brings the truth: 6-year-old Adam was murdered.

In the middle of a summer day, in a crowded department store, across the street from the Hollywood Police Department, not 75 feet from his mother, the boy vanished.

Two weeks later and 120 miles away, after the Walshes had spent their \$13,000 life savings searching for their child, his severed head

was found in an isolated canal.

For John and Reve Walsh, the torment was just beginning.

Now, six months later, the agony of their swift and brutal loss abates only slowly. The pain is compounded in bitterness toward those who should have been their allies, homicide detectives for the Hollywood Police Department.

The Walshes think the police went after the wrong man, hounding a friend of the family for months instead of pursuing a thousand other possibilities.

One thing is clear. Whoever abducted Adam left nothing behind: no incriminating evidence, no credible witnesses, no hint of motive. No answers.

Hollywood, Fla., July 27, 1981. The day that destroyed their lives started like any other.

At 8 a.m., John Walsh kissed his wife, Reve, and son, Adam, goodbye and left for his office in a Bal Harbour condominium, where he works as a vice president for marketing and sales for a new Bahamas hotel. Despite the impressive title, Walsh was a salesman; he booked conventions.

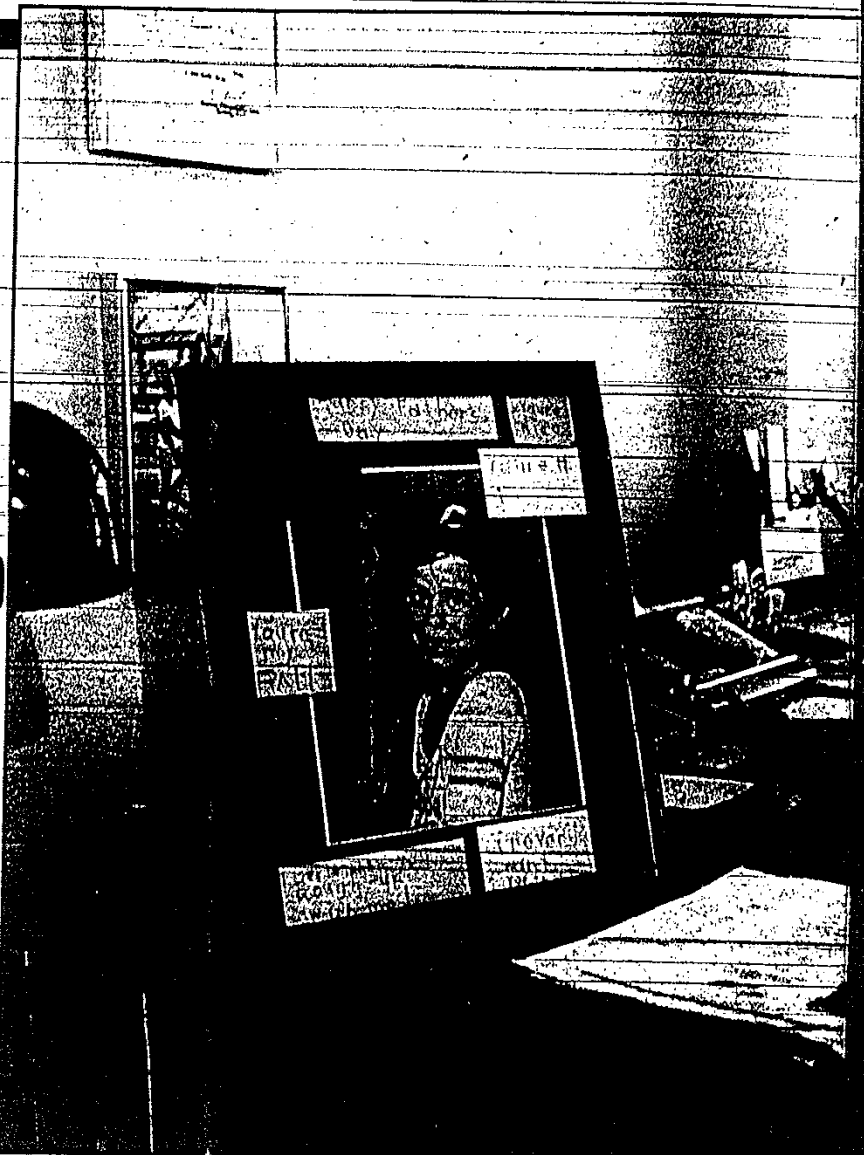
Walsh, 34, came to Florida from New York in 1970, got a job as a busboy and lifeguard at the Diplomat Hotel, and began a career in the travel and tourism business. By 1981, "John was just getting it together," his sister said, "starting to climb and make money."

Just as important, he finally was able to put

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TROPIC SECTION

1-24-82





Photograph by Battle Vaughan

*John Walsh at his Bal Harbour office.*

His family taught him snorkeling on the reefs. At the age of 3 he had been island-hopping through the Bahamas with his father. But at 6 he still wasn't allowed to cross the street alone.

Adam was intelligent, quiet and polite. "You couldn't help but love him," Monahan said. "He'd walk into the room, you'd see those big eyes and gravitate to him."

He cemented the marriage of Reve and John. "There's no question about it, the common denominator was Adam," Monahan said. "Everybody was hanging on to Adam."

Said John: "He was the light of my life."

A few hours before Adam disappeared that humid Monday, family friend Jim Campbell, a 25-year-old boat rental operator, stopped by to see Adam and chat with Reve. Just before he left, Reve told him something: she and Adam would be at Sears sometime before her 1 p.m. exercise class.

Just before noon, Reve drove her big gray car, a 1979 Checker, to the Hollywood Mall, and parked, as usual, near Sears' north door.

Holding hands, she and Adam walked across the parking lot, past the catalog counter, and into the toy department. A clerk at the counter remembers seeing them sometime between 11:30 a.m. and noon.

"Adam, I'm going to the lamp department," Reve told him.

"OK, Mommy," Adam answered. "I know where that is."

She left Adam there to play with the Star Wars video games while she shopped — something Reve had done dozens of times.

Looking for a brass-urn lamp she had seen advertised in Good Housekeeping, Reve strolled down an aisle no more than 75 feet away. She was away long enough to find out the lamp was not in stock. "I can't imagine it was longer than 10 minutes," she says.

She returned to the toy department to get Adam and take him for an ice-cream cone.

He was gone.

Like any other mother who briefly loses sight of her child, Reve was not alarmed at first. She looked through the toy department. She returned to the lamps. She searched the toys again.

"You try to tell yourself, be calm. He's here," she said later. "He's just behind an aisle, or something. But in the back of my mind, I knew Adam isn't here."

She asked a clerk to have Adam paged, and was angered with the way it was worded: "Adam Walsh, please call the operator." The page came at 12:20 p.m., according to the store, meaning from 20 to 60 minutes had elapsed since Reve and Adam arrived.

Now frantic, she searched the store in desperation, again returning to the toys. At 12:40 p.m., another page: "Adam Walsh, please meet your mother in the toy department."

Reve waited in tears. Adam didn't come. Shortly after 1 p.m., a store clerk called the

down on travel and spend more time with his family. Adam once asked him, "Dad, what can I do so you don't have to work so hard?"

Walsh had been a soccer player at the University of Buffalo, and still had the athlete's bounce in his step. Small, trim, dark-haired and a sharp dresser who stopped just short of flashy, he had a way of catching women's eyes.

After John drove off in his black Chevrolet, Reve began making beds and tidying the house at 2801 McKinley St. It's a small, uncluttered home with a toney look that shows her interest in decorating: wicker, bamboo, ferns and an antique writing desk in the living room.

Reve, 31, whose name is accented on the second "e," also was born and raised in upstate New York, where she met John. Eleven years

ago, she gave up college to join him in Florida, an act that set the pattern for their 10-year marriage. "One of her good points is, she sort of lays back and pushes John up front," said John Monahan, a longtime Walsh friend.

Around strangers, and even some friends, Reve was guarded and reserved. It was a trait that later, in the glare of television lights, turned against the public against her.

As Reve finished her housework, Adam sat in the den watching Sesame Street and sucking on a frozen orange pop. His mother handed him his clothes for the day — green shorts and a striped Izod shirt.

Adam was small and blond with his mother's big hazel eyes. An only child, he was perhaps a little spoiled and certainly sheltered,

TROPIC — January 24, 1982

## ADAM WALSH

Hollywood police.

Thus began what has been called the largest manhunt in the history of South Florida.

That afternoon and night, an army of police officers and hundreds of volunteers scoured the mall, neighborhoods, nearby woods, canals and the interstate. They found no trace of Adam.

Through a sleepless night, Reve and John waited at the police station.

"All I could think of was Adam wearing his slaps (sandals)," Reve said. "His feet would be tired and scratched. He was bound to be cold in his T-shirt and shorts. I pictured him crawling under a bush somewhere to wait for morning."

Tuesday, the search intensified. Reve returned to the mall, looking in every corner and behind every counter. She took the stairs to the mall roof and called for Adam down the ventilation ducts.

On her bicycle, she rode the streets between her house and the mall, calling his name.

With John's background in sales promotion, he began to work the media, appearing on the television news. In tears, he begged for Adam's return. Hundreds of thousands of posters were printed, bearing the now-familiar photograph of Adam in his baseball cap, smiling a smile that showed his missing two front teeth. Business associates pledged reward money. It reached \$100,000.

The Walshes on TV were not only heart-rending, but articulate in their grief. Public sentiment mounted rapid-



John, Adam and Reve, June 1980.

# Beauty.

LE  
RIVAGE

Key Biscayne, Florida



# ADAM WALSH



Adam at four months.

ly. This was not lost on the Hollywood police.

"We could see early on that this thing was building, and the department could end up with a lot of egg on its face," said Lt. Richard Hynds, chief of the 30-man detective bureau.

Hynds and Capt. Robert Mowers spent hours at the Walsh house, not a normal practice in a missing child case.

Explained the lieutenant later, "It was C.Y.A. (cover your ass)."

By midweek, it was clear that Adam had not just wandered off; he had been kidnaped. When there was no ransom note, the police looked to Walsh for explanation.

The captain and the lieutenant investigated the Walshes' background themselves. They had heard nebulous rumors

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of dealings with Bahamian casinos, of Mafia connections, of narcotics smuggling. One tale had Walsh refusing to be a drug courier, with Adam's abduction as retaliation.

"We checked all of them out," Lt. Hynds said. Police questioned the Walshes extensively, and interviewed friends and business associates. They checked state and federal crime files. They talked to businessmen in the Bahamas.

The conclusion, according to the lieutenant: "This is a family with no skeletons in its closet."

Because there was no hard evidence that Adam had been taken to another state, and no ransom demand, the FBI did not enter the case. Neither did Broward and Dade County sheriffs' offices. They were not asked.

Sightings of Adam were reported throughout Florida. Callers also placed him in Alaska, Canada, and on a ranch in Texas. The police checked the ones they could.

Things would have been easier had Adam been a stolen car. Missing children have no serial numbers to run through a computer.

The police did get some help in tracing Adam — useless help. Few psychics could resist such publicity. On they came: psychics with dreams, psychics with visions, even men with divining rods that would point the way to Adam.

Like macabre groupies, they flocked to the Walshes by the dozens. "It was," said Walsh's secretary, "like going to

Chappaquiddick and taking a piece of the bridge."

Almost all of the seers saw Adam near water — a safe enough vision in South Florida. Almost all said Adam was alive.

The notable exception was Gerald Schermerhorn, a Fort Lauderdale retiree who claims to see a black aura around photographs of those who have died. Schermerhorn walked into homicide, took one look at Adam's picture, and told detectives: "That boy's dead."

A deserted stretch of Florida's Turnpike, slicing through the scrublands north of Lake Okeechobee, crosses a canal at Mile Marker 130.

On Aug. 10, two weeks after the abduction, two fishermen noticed something floating against the concrete bank beneath the short turnpike bridge. In the evening twilight, they thought it was just a doll.

The men got in a rowboat and paddled over for a better look. Up close, they knew it was no doll.

About 10 a.m. the next day, a haggard John Monahan walked into a Vero Beach funeral parlor.

Monahan had met John Walsh in 1970 under unusual circumstances. While a lifeguard at the Diplomat Hotel, Walsh saved Monahan's 10-year-old son from drowning.

Monahan knew Adam well.

An undertaker opened a door. Someone brought it out. "It was on a small table with wheels on it," Monahan re-

members painfully. "It was surrounded by a small sheet—it was just a head."

Monahan had to be sure.

"Adam was in our house just a couple of days before, and I had noticed his little teeth coming in. He had smiled at me. So I asked them to open his lips a little bit so I could see the teeth."

There was no doubt. It was Adam Walsh.

John and Reve were in New York, where that very morning they appeared on "Good Morning America," pleading for their son's return.

That night they returned to Fort Lauderdale and held an airport press conference that was broadcast live.

John was sobbing. Reve stood beside him, icy and stonelaced. As John finished speaking, she almost spat into the microphones: "I don't know what is happening in this world... Adam didn't deserve to live in this world. He's too good."

Within minutes, the calls were pouring into the Hollywood Police Department. The callers knew who the killer was — it was Reve.

That suspicion had been shared, at one time or another, by more than a few Hollywood detectives who thought Reve's apparent coolness didn't add up. They eventually came to realize she was blameless, that her behavior had betrayed shock and anger, nothing more.

Still, police went so far as to request polygraph tests of Reve — and John, too. Both passed conclusively, examiners declared. But Reve was more than a

little resentful.

A detective explained that everyone had to be checked, the mother included. Returning from the examination, Reve confronted the two Hollywood detectives who had escorted her: "And how do I know you didn't do it?"

Despite an extensive search, the rest of the body has never been recovered.

An autopsy of the head revealed this much: there were no narcotics in Adam's bloodstream at the time of death. He was dead before his head was severed with a heavy-bladed instrument.

The killer hacked more than once, which could be evidence of a sexual frenzy — or of plain difficulty, said Broward Medical Examiner Ronald Wright.

What the autopsy could not determine was sexual assault, if any, and the precise time of death. Adam could have been killed immediately after his abduction or days later.

Though the head poses more questions than it answers, it is the single fragment of evidence.

"I'm not by nature a religious man, but we were supposed to find this head," said D.P. Hughes, chief investigator for the medical examiner's office. "Bodies are dumped all the time in Florida and are never found. For some reason we found this."

The medical examiner, with the Walshes' permission, kept the head for

# Serenity.



Key Biscayne, Florida

TROPIC — January 24, 1982

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## ADAM WALSH

evidence. At Adam's funeral, the Walshs placed a casket at the front of the church. It was small, white, and empty.

**I**t was during the second week of Adam's disappearance that the police started raining on Jim Campbell.

Campbell was 25 and he called himself Adam's "best friend." He had been living in the Walsh home more than two years. Two weeks before the abduction, he moved out. Right off, all of this looked a little strange to the cops.

Campbell had met Walsh on the beach 12 years ago, when Walsh was still a lifeguard. He idolized Walsh, and Walsh took him under his wing — a relationship that endures even now.

The Walshs warmed to Campbell and chose him as godfather when Adam was born Nov. 14, 1974. He began showing up at the Walsh house more and more, playing with Adam and doing odd jobs for the family. His nickname became "Dud," short for "Dudley Doornight."

John was away a lot. He felt safer knowing that Adam and I weren't alone," Reve said. Soon Campbell moved in. "We had an extra room. So we just said, 'Hey, you can stay here.'"

The 6-year-old boy and the 25-year-old man were constant companions. Campbell was Adam's baseball coach. They went sailing together, floating out in the early morning to watch the Haitian refugees coming in. "Adam would wave at them," Campbell said.

Sometimes Campbell would get Adam ready for school and drive him there. At nights, they would sit and watch TV together. "I was his father, his brother, his uncle, his best friend — all of them," Campbell said in an interview. "I didn't go out with my friends much or go out on dates. I would rather stay home and do something with Adam."

To the homicide cops on Adam's case, it made no sense.

Why, they asked, would someone like John Walsh allow someone like Campbell under his roof?

Walsh was well-dressed, suave and schooled in the social graces. Campbell was a scruffy introvert who was uncomfortable around strangers.

Walsh was a corner who chased success hard. Campbell, a college dropout, was content to run a sailboat rental on a beach in Sunny Isles.

"This was the All-American family," said Lt. Hynds, "and here comes the oddball."

Police also wondered about other things: Campbell's departure from the Walsh home two weeks before the abduction, and his knowledge that Adam would be at Sears that day.

So they asked Campbell to come in for questioning. He agreed to take a polygraph test and was sent to Fort Lauderdale polygrapher Joe Matthews. Matthews turned Campbell into a bona fide suspect.

"I was set up," a rueful Campbell said later. "I was so naive. I just walked in there and gave them everything they wanted."

Matthews' technique is to seduce his subjects with a false empathy — a procedure that some examiners find ethically dubious.

With Jews, for instance, he'll say he's half Jewish himself. With blacks, he'll

claim to be half black. He is, in fact, neither.

Matthews won Campbell's confidence by telling him he knew what it was like to be the unhappy and forgotten child of another ruse. "Actually, I come from a beautiful family," Matthews said later.

He spoke with Campbell about sports, about ambition, about sex, about everything. They talked for five hours. He learned Campbell's "most intimate personal feelings," Matthews said.

Matthews won't say what those intimate personal feelings were. Nor will police. Whatever they were, they galvanized the investigation.

"We put him through the ringer," Lt. Hynds said. "We did everything short of giving him a beating."

"We used some techniques that bordered on violating his civil rights. Well, they didn't border. They flat out violated his civil rights."

"We called him a loser, we called him a live-in dildo, we called him the family pet, we called him everything."

For more than three hours they interrogated Campbell. "We pushed harder than we've ever pushed anybody," said Detective Jack Hoffman.

Never, Campbell said, was he advised of his right to remain silent or his right to legal counsel.

Police accused him of being a homosexual, of loving Reve and hating John, of loving John and hating Reve. They accused him of resenting Adam because he was a little John. They told him his mother "hates his guts."

Through it all, Campbell remained docile and compliant. "He was like putty," Hynds said.

"If you said stuff like that to me, I'd have jumped up and punched your lights out," Hoffman said. "But not him."

Campbell later explained that he was simply cooperating with the investigation.

"I could have said, 'Hey, you want to charge me with something? See my lawyer.'" He didn't have one. "But I wanted them to get me out of the way so they could get on with the investigation."

"The cops just didn't understand the intricacies of the situation," Campbell said. "We were just like a family."

**T**he Walshs were astonished and angered at the accusations police were making against Campbell.

"It's bullshit," John says. Says Reve: "There's no way Jimmy did it. He loved Adam. It's almost like they're trying to frame him."

She calls him a member of the family. He moved in while trying to get his boat business going. He moved out, Reve says, when she and John started talking about having more children and needing more space. "I think Jimmy just got the message," she says.

Matthews had given Campbell a polygraph test after his initial interview. The examiner said the results were inconclusive, which he attributed to Campbell's stress and fatigue. According to Matthews, he passed a second polygraph test conclusively.

Nevertheless, detectives didn't let up. They questioned him 20 times in four months, Campbell said. "They're frustrated. They don't have anything, and I'm convenient. So they start asking me

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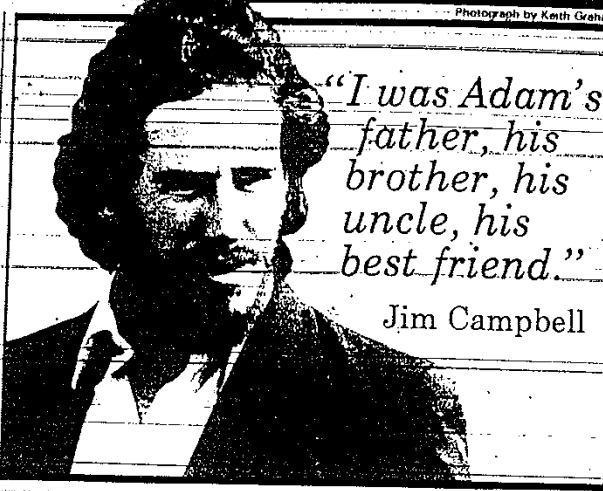
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Photograph by Keith Graham



*"I was Adam's  
father, his  
brother, his  
uncle, his  
best friend."*

Jim Campbell

questions like, "What do you do in the shower?"

The detectives kept after Campbell for a reason: he could not prove his whereabouts the hour of the abduction, Hoffman said.

Campbell told them he was at his sailboat rental at the Golden Strand Hotel on Sunny Isles, setting up sailing equipment and doing paperwork. Also, "He said he was in his cabana asleep," Hoffman said. That Campbell would

sleep in an enclosed, unair-conditioned cabana in the middle of a summer day looked suspicious. So Hoffman went to the hotel to check the alibi.

He found no one who could place Campbell there between 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Adam disappeared between 11:30 a.m. and 12:20 p.m.

"That's why we're coming down on Campbell," Hoffman said. "And he knows that's why we're coming down on him."

In their zeal to wrest some admission out of Campbell, the homicide detectives did not follow some obvious leads.

They never talked to Beth and Ben Altwerger. The Altwegers are a retired couple from Toronto who rent a pool-side cabana directly below the cabana Campbell uses as an office.

They know Campbell. Often they saw him with Adam at the pool and on the beach. For six years they have been going to their cabana, arriving every day at 11:30 a.m., they said.

The Altwegers said they remember distinctly July 27, the day of Adam's abduction. That was the day, they said, they watched Campbell setting up sailing equipment for a television commercial to be made at the Golden Strand's beach. They recall watching Campbell windsurfing for the cameras.

Late that afternoon, they said, a young man with dark hair and a gray suit raced to the beach and began whispering for Campbell.

"I told him, 'Jimmy can't be bothered; he's making a movie,'" Mrs. Altwerger said. "He told me, 'It's an emergency.'"

Campbell came ashore. "They ran out of here like a bat out of hell," Altwerger said.

The young man was Joe Walsh, John's younger brother, who had come to tell Campbell that Adam had disappeared.

The Altwegers insist that Campbell was at the Golden Strand constantly from their 11:30 a.m. arrival until Joe Walsh ran up.

"Jimmy was here, no doubt about it," Mrs. Altwerger told Herald reporters, emphatic that he was never out of her sight for more than a few minutes.

The Altwegers said they would have been glad to tell what they knew to the police — if they had been asked. Campbell never spoke to them about the afternoon, either, they said.

There is a problem with the Altwegers' story.

The director of the commercial said his crew was not on the beach July 27. Production logs show that the filming did not start until the next day, according to Pat Shafer, producer-director for Spectrum Associates in New York, and two of his co-workers.

The crew didn't even arrive in Miami that day until 11:48 a.m., their travel records state. Detectives never talked to the crew.

But they were still grilling Campbell, four months later. "I told him point blank, 'you murdered the child,'" said Hoffman.

Campbell's father and John Walsh urged Campbell to hire a lawyer. He retained one of South Florida's more savvy criminal defense attorneys, Joe Varon.

Varon wrote detectives Hoffman and Hickman a letter Dec. 2, accusing them of harrasing Campbell. His client would grant no more interviews, Varon told the detectives, unless they had a warrant.

Several days later, Hoffman told a re-

# Security.

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Walnut Hill Co., 1981

## ADAM WALSH

porter that Campbell was no longer a suspect.

Hollywood Police Chief Sam Martin finds no fault with his investigators. "I think they've done a fantastic job," he said.

But the Walshes think the police were overwhelmed. "There were thousands of leads that they never followed up," John Walsh said. "And I saw detectives write them down on matchbook covers, scraps of paper."

The Walshes' defense of Campbell is unyielding. "The detectives are getting pressure from the top to solve this case, so they've decided Jimmy is the one," Reve said. "The cops are running in circles. They're spending all of their time investigating our friend."

"I'm afraid that in their ineptitude

*"There were thousands of leads they never followed up," John Walsh said of the police. "I'm afraid that in their ineptitude they've let the real killer get away. That's the horror of this thing."*

they've let the real killer get away," John Walsh lamented.

"That's the horror of this thing."

The investigation now has dwindled to two detectives, Hoffman and Ron Hickman.

Hoffman, 35, dark and laconic, used to be a cop in Harlem. Hickman, 42, is balding and compact, with a thin gray mustache and a fondness for ice cream and Bible reading. A hell-and-damnation Baptist Sunday School teacher, he says, "I believe we're in the last generation before the Lord comes."

The detectives say they have done everything they can. Among the things they neglected, though, was testing Campbell's car for human blood and tissue. Also, they never examined the motorcycle Campbell borrowed the day after Adam's abduction. He said he needed the motorcycle because he wanted to search for the boy in the woods.

Until he hired a lawyer, Campbell told detectives to go right ahead and search the car. Now the detectives have to get a warrant.

"We just didn't have time," Hoffman explained.

The most famous lead, the mysterious blue van, appears to have never been a lead at all.

Under hypnosis, a 10-year-old boy told police he saw a dark, husky man, wearing a ski mask, roar off with a boy resembling Adam in a blue Ford van.

When police released the blue van story, refusing to mention the mask because they thought it an embellishment, more than 3,000 callers reported van sightings. Hundreds of man-hours were spent checking thousands of blue Ford vans, police said.

But now, Hoffman and Hickman doubt the van was involved in Adam's abduction. The reason is the timing.

The young witness' grandmother, who also saw the boy resembling Adam leaving the store, said it occurred just after she heard the second Sears page about 12:40 p.m. At that point, Adam had been missed by his mother for at least 30 minutes.

And to exit through the toy department door, he would have walked right past the catalog counter where Reve was waiting.

Detectives were never able to establish a motive for the decapitation. It could have been simply an attempt to hide the body, they reasoned.

They could not find a similar case anywhere. "I sent out a nationwide Telex asking about other cases resembling this," Hickman said. "You know what I got back? Zero."

Some suspects looked good — for a while:

Danny Lee Doyle, 21, charged in Miramar in September with killing two teenaged girls; Philip Atkins, 26, charged in Lakeland with the beating murder of a 6-year-old boy after telling police he had sex with 48 other children; and Ernie Borgers, 57, of Pompano Beach, jailed for spanking children and recording their screams. None could be connected with Adam.

And then there was Ada Wolff.

Ada was a fundraiser, who claimed to have collected \$21,000 and raffle prizes for an Adam Walsh benefit for missing children. It was all a lie. The Walshes discovered her deception just minutes before the drawing. John had to rush out himself and buy two bikes as prizes.

Afterwards, the police decided to pay Ada Wolff a visit.

"Why'd you do it, Ada?" Hickman asked the pale, brittle, nervous woman in her late 40s.

"My heart just went out to them," she answered with a small sob, knotting her hands in her lap and trembling in her frumpy housecoat.

"Where did you think it would all end?"

"I don't know," she said. "In a mental institution, maybe."

Meanwhile, Hoffman tossed her bedroom, poking through closets and rifling drawers, looking for a small bundle of child's clothes and noting the pile of National Enquirers next to her bed.

Hoffman, finding nothing incriminating in his search, sank on the couch beside her. He asked Ada where she had been the day Adam disappeared. Her answer raised eyebrows: she had been at the Sears in Hollywood, she said, buying lingerie.

But the clincher came when Hoffman

Continued on page 27.

# ADAM WALSH

Continued from page 14

asked her what happened to her first husband. "He died in an accident," she said. "He was decapitated."

Ada, they decided, needed a little more scrutiny.

They did some checking, but came up with nothing. Ada was clean.

"A wacko," Hickman said.

Some tips were too absurd to check. One letter writer blamed Adam's death on a plot by the Oneida Indians to recapture lost-tribal land in upstate New York.

Some were checked despite their absurdity. One Fort Pierce man, dubbed "Deep Throat" by the police, saw the murder as a cog in the Watergate conspiracy — as were the deaths of actors Gig Young and Bob Crane.

Another Fort Pierce tipster claimed his girlfriend had sacrificed Adam in a voodoo "Black Sabbath Mass," and ate the body.

"He was just mad at her because she wouldn't go to bed with him," Hoffman said.

John Walsh was dozing fitfully in the first-class cabin of a jet bound for Chicago. It was Oct. 20, nearly three months after Adam disappeared. He and Reve were taking their cause — the Missing Children Act — on nationwide television once again.

The act, if passed by Congress, would establish a federal computer file for tracing missing children. In the months after Adam's death, its passage had become for the Walshes an obsession.

Passage would prove, both said repeatedly, that "Adam did not die in vain."

John awoke and began scratching through his briefcase, reading clips and making notes as he prepared himself for the next day's taping of "Donahue." Losing his voice and catching a cold, he fell asleep again.

It had been an exhausting month. Several days earlier, the Walshes had organized the benefit at Hollywood Mall for the congressional bill. That same weekend they were wired for sound and followed by the cameras of NBC's "Real People." Two weeks earlier, they had flown to Washington to testify before a Senate subcommittee. They also had made a second appearance on "Good Morning America" to push the act.

Constantly working for it, they gathered signatures, made phone calls, wrote politicians. Each night they would map strategy for the next day.

Throughout, others clamored for their attention. "P.M. Magazine" wanted them. So did a West Coast talk show. Reporters were always calling them, as were parents with lost children.

After the hour-long Donahue show, John waited outside the studio for a ride. "I've never been so frazzled," he sighed.

But there was no time for rest. He still had to make a living. That afternoon he worked a tourism-travel show at McCormick Place, smiling, shaking hands and selling the Bahamas.

The next day John sat in an O'Hare departure lounge with Reve, waiting for the flight back to Fort Lauderdale. His eyes were red, his face drawn and deeply lined. He put his head in his hands and quietly wept.

Through the end of the year, the Walshes maintained their public profile, driven — or chased — by ravenous grief. The pain is constant. At night, Reve's dreams of Adam keep coming. By day, life is one-dimensional, dominated by the past: "My son is dead," Reve said.

"Some lunatic chopped off his head."

"John and I made Adam. He was our son. We're the only ones who know how bad it really hurts... the grief is unbearable, so heavy."

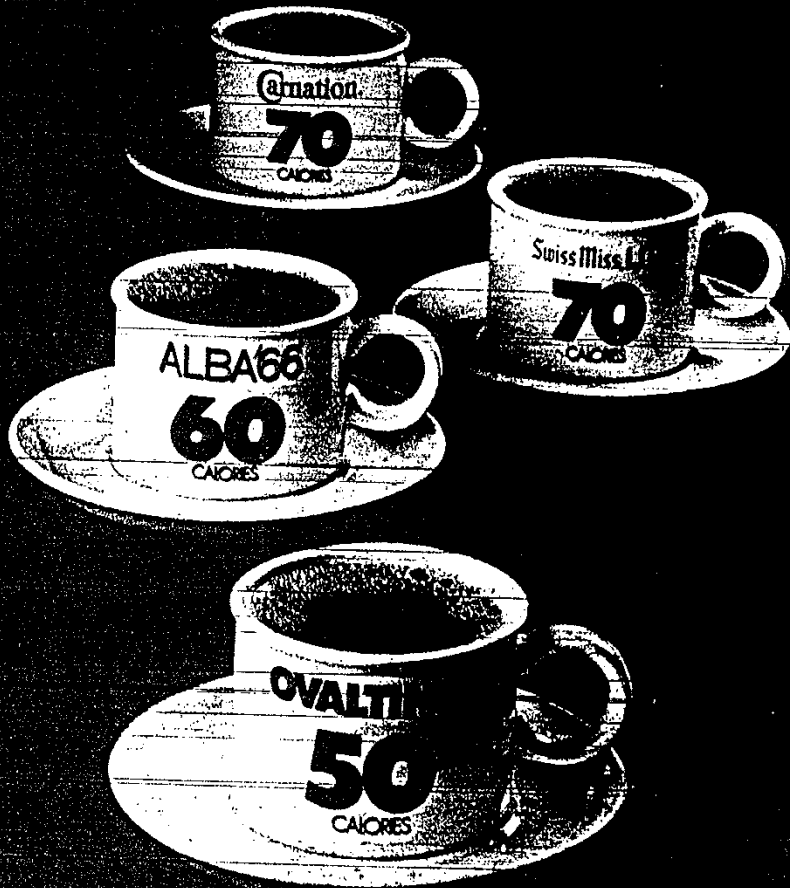
They take a measure of comfort in knowing Adam's fate. "At least we know he is dead," Reve said. "All I have to do

is think of other parents still searching, to know what that means."

Other things have helped. John has seen a psychoanalyst. Reve is turning to religion. Their marriage is surviving.

And Reve is expecting a baby in August.

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TROPIC — January 24, 1982

From: **Phil Mundy**  
Investigator  
State Attorney's Office  
Phone 305-831-6368  
Pager 305-879-5288  
Mobile 305-249-6619

To: *Ralph Ray*

*These are articles I  
found which you may  
not have had. They  
are from 10-10-83 on.*

201 S.E. 6th Street • Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

of the trip, Burmese and Korean officials said. He arrived in Seoul early today and immediately entered a series of emergency meetings, officials said. He was shown by the Korean government a grim scene of the bombing at Gimpo International Airport as the crews of state-run airlines and radio were permitted to land at the airport, which was sealed off by security police.

Chun's return, South Korean President Chun said, was a sign that the bombing was the result of a well-premeditated sinister plot on his part, reportedly said "no one doubts" North Korea was behind the attack, adding: "We will continue to pinpoint the Korean Communists as the culprits of this criminal act of brutality."

Chun's return, South Korean Prime Minister Kim Sang-deok said, led to the formation of a two emergency cabinet, the decree of a national alert, the deployment of armed forces, and the dispatch of an emergency medical team to Rangoon to care for the Korean wounded.

Chun's limousine was damaged during the minutes away from the meeting.

Use turn to KOREANS / 12A



Watt reads resignation letter as his wife Leilani stands by his side.

Associated Press

first choice for Manuel Lujan, Sen. James H. Eastland, and Energy Secretary Hodel. In this state, Reagan made a major effort to bring the state's energy production back to a black...

# Borman makes plea for speedy la

## Flight attendant talks 3 days from deadline.

By MARTIN MERZER  
Herald Business Writer

Eastern Airlines Chairman Frank Borman, displeased with the slow pace of contract negotiations between the airline and its flight attendants, issued a personal appeal Sunday for a speedy settlement.

"The reason I'm so anxious to get this over with is that everything else is in place to try to save this airline," Borman told negotiators for both sides during his 10-minute stay in the meeting room.

Only three days remain before a strike

deadline imposed by the Transport Workers Union, which represents Eastern's 5,800 flight attendants.

After breaking through a roadblock on a complicated side issue, mediators said Sunday night that "hard bargaining" was about to begin on major issues — presumably including wages. They said they were confident that an agreement would be reached before the strike deadline of 12:01 a.m. Thursday.

But the mediators and Borman said they were hoping for a settlement well before the deadline.

Company officials have said that strained labor relations and the enduring financial crisis were costing Eastern millions of dollars in lost ticket sales.

Eastern has lost \$287 million in earnings in 1980 and could lose a million next year unless its employees get some financial relief, the company said.

Before Borman's visit, representatives of both sides indicated that progress would be slow and difficult. But after his visit on Saturday afternoon, the pace appeared to quicken.

"Now, we're getting down to business," said Patricia Fink, the flight attendants' union's lead negotiator. In a related development, the Eastern's powerful machinists yesterday ruled out the possibility that workers once again would be asked to accept a wage cut or any other mandatory concession. "I think the word mandatory is not acceptable," said Charles...

## Day Sampler

la investors get sophisticated

stands out as a premier state and experts predicted the growing nation of Florida / Business / Monday.

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News Section D

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- 5B Horoscope
- 13D Landers
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- 2A

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## y's Chuckle

successful politician how to keep running ce without jogging peomeries.

## 'Adam' movie has ending, but story is far from over

Help for young victims' parents / 1C

By BILL LUENING  
Herald Staff Writer

Tonight on national television, South Florida will share with America one of its most anguished and painful moments.

At 9 p.m., Daniel J. Travanti and JoBeth Williams will portray John and Reve Walsh of Hollywood in "Adam," the horrifying story of the July 1981 kidnap-murder of the Walshes' six-year-old son.

It is, in part, a film to haunt the parental soul. And it is, in part, a film that provides a forum for the 45-pound, sandy-haired, hazel-eyed, diffident and ingenuous Adam and the 5,000 other children murdered each year in this country, children who never have a chance to say goodbye.

The Alan Landsburg Production is not, then, just a story of murder and empty grief. It tries, in its own television fashion, to assemble the events after Adam's death and fold them into a tidy package. Reality is not tidy.

The show, for example, ends with the signing of the Missing Children's Act by President Reagan in October 1982. But much else has happened in the Walsh file since then.

The police investigation goes on, but there are no leads. The Walshes have filed a civil suit seeking



Daniel J. Travanti, JoBeth Williams and John Boston portray the Walshes.

damages from Sears Roebuck and Co., where Adam was last seen by his mother, and the Hollywood Mall, where the Sears store is located.

But most of all, the NBC show tonight barely measures the most important part of Adam Walsh's legacy. His death, the lobbying of his parents and the subsequent publicity have created a new awareness at local, state and national levels about the country's 1.8 million missing children, 50,000 of whom have been kidnaped.

In the beginning. In the summer of 1981, there

Please turn to WALSH / 8A

## 'Kill towa

By DON BOHN  
Herald Staff Writer

PANAMA "bees," shrugging ers, geography ticide, are st northward to ing further tu ca's myriad tro

The "killer cause of their turbed, crossed in March 1982 100 miles into, (There, paid) ing nests in a r halt the advan the "bees" sho Grande by the perhaps as earl

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Miami Herald, Mon, 10-10-83

# Adam Walsh mystery still haunts

WALSH / From 1A

were hundreds of leads. Thousands. A blue van, a man in Palm Beach, a confession by an escaped mental patient in Pompano, a husky man, a woman at a truck stop, an ex-con. Leads came from everywhere and everyone: neighbors, well-wishers, psychics, hypnotists, weirdos. They came from all over Florida, and when the Walsh story became national news, they came from as far away as Alaska. Nothing.

"We have no new leads. We have nothing cooking," Hollywood police spokesman Tony Alderson said last week. "We're not prepared to make an arrest."

But neither will they close the file, Alderson said. Two of the original investigating detectives, Ron Hickman and Jack Hoffman, are still in charge.

Something missing from tonight's program is mention of what Hickman and Hoffman first thought was their best lead: John and Reve's friend James Campbell, now 27.



Adam

For two years, Campbell lived with the Walshes. Two weeks before Adam's disappearance, he moved out. For a time, police focused their attention on Campbell, but later, according to press accounts, they dropped him as a suspect.

If he has been dropped, Campbell doesn't know it. Joe Varon, Campbell's attorney, said last week his client still considered himself a "hot suspect." Through Varon, Campbell declined an interview.

"He's paranoid," Varon said. "He won't talk to anyone." Court documents filed in Broward Circuit Court show that Campbell has moved to Oakland Park.

John Walsh, in an interview from Cincinnati, Ohio, a stop on his promotional tour for the movie, said the producers of tonight's film did not think Campbell "was an integral part of the story."

## The lawsuit

Something else that won't air on "Adam" is the Walshes' role in what promises to be a sensational lawsuit.

On July 22, the Walshes' Miami attorney, W. Sam Holland, filed a civil suit against Sears and the Hollywood Mall blaming them for Adam's disappearance and death.



Reagan greets Walshes after signing Missing Children's Act on Oct. 12, 1982.

The Walshes asked for damages "exceeding \$5,000."

The suit alleges that Sears established a video-game display in the toy department to attract children, "aware of the fact that potential child molesters, perverts and other sick, demented people" were frequenting that department and other mall stores.

In addition, the complaint says that on the day Adam was abducted, a 17-year-old Sears security guard chased a group of quarreling boys from the toy department. One of the boys, the complaint says, may have been Adam.

Lawyers for Sears and the mall deny all the charges and, in a harshly worded response, blamed Reve Walsh.

"But for the negligence of his mother," Sears lawyer Eugene Heinrich wrote, "the alleged abduction and death of Adam J. Walsh would not have occurred."

Given the Walshes' high public profile, some of their friends were startled by the suit and feared that a protracted legal fight with a company as large as Sears might damage their effectiveness as advocates for children.

Walsh disagrees.

"I have every right to pursue a

course of civil litigation," he said angrily. "I have rights. I'm not the least bit afraid."

"They [Sears] have a 17-year-old, untrained security guard who's admitted she thinks she ordered Adam out of the store. They put him at risk. I thought the purpose of security guards was to reunite children with their parents, not separate them."

The conventional wisdom among Broward's personal-injury attorneys is that it will be a fight worth watching. Representing Sears, the mall and their insurance companies is Heinrich, a member of the prestigious Fort Lauderdale firm of McCune Hlaasen. In a two-week trial ending last Friday, Heinrich successfully defended Southern Bell against a \$4-million lawsuit blaming the phone company for failing to quickly trace a 911 emergency call from a 19-year-old man who had shot himself and eventually died.

Heinrich is joined by a firm representing Hollywood Mall. The lawyer for the mall is Rex Conrad, considered one of the county's most experienced and successful defense specialists.

But the Walshes are toting their own artillery.

"It's not an off-the-wall suit as far as I can see," said one Broward personal-injury attorney familiar with the case. "And Sam Holland [Walsh's attorney] is a very competent man."

The Walshes have asked for damages "exceeding \$5,000," court records show. But if successful, that might only be for starters.

"When you're up against an insurance company, the magnitude of the claim will determine the magnitude of the defense," another attorney said. "But in this case, the dam-

## MARBERT



# Machinists union leader rules out

# unts parents, police

ages are the parents' pain and suffering. Not only is the child deceased, but murdered. In my mind the child's death will have a greater impact on a jury."

Curiously, Holland and Heinrich have joined in trying to force the Hollywood police to release the investigation file in the Walsh killing. Broward Circuit Judge J. Cail Lee ordered the release of certain portions of the file last month, but Hollywood police, claiming opening it will jeopardize their investigation, endanger informants and suspects, and cause embarrassment to innocent people, have appealed.

## Adam's legacy

Although the second half of "Adam" recounts the Walshes' almost messianic effort to pass the Missing Children's Act, their lobbying for children's rights, hardly stopped there.

When Adam died, John Walsh vowed to campaign to help other parents avoid the anguish he and Reve had endured. He has made good that pledge. In fact, in an astonishingly short time, his tireless, nationwide campaign has accomplished not just one legislative coup, as is portrayed in "Adam," but several, at the national, state and local levels.

The first was the federal Missing Children's Act, the focus of the second half of tonight's film. It allows local law enforcement jurisdictions to file the names, addresses and physical characteristics of missing juveniles for the first time in the FBI's National Crime Information Center computer. In addition, the NCIC now contains descriptions of more than 1,000 unidentified and unclaimed bodies of children in morgues throughout the country.

Aides to Senate sponsor Paula Hawkins (R., Fla.) say the use of the computer in listing missing children is up 25 per cent in the last two months alone.

"The bill has had a dramatic impact," aide Henry Hicks said.

In Florida, state Rep. Fred Lippman (D., Hollywood) said the Adam Walsh incident and unrelenting lobbying of John and Reve Walsh helped create the Florida Missing Children's Information Clearinghouse, a special unit under the Florida Department of Law Enforcement that collects, stores and disseminates information on missing children. The MCIC is unique in the country, Lippman said, and is directly linked to the Florida Crime Information Computer. It has, in less than a year, listed the names of more than 2,800 missing juveniles.

The MCIC has a toll-free, 24-hour number (1-800-342-0821) so parents can list their missing children in the state computer.

"The whole Adam Walsh story brought about the fingerprinting programs in local schools, the computer systems and the networks for communication between jurisdictions of this nation," Lippman said.

In Broward County, more than 34,000 children have been fingerprinted under a program instigated and supervised by the Adam Walsh Child Resource Foundation in Plantation, foundation assistant director Sharon McMorris said. Other programs, including monitoring of the judiciary in child abuse cases and educating children to avoid abduction, are already under way, she said.

John Walsh, meanwhile, says he will donate the \$150,000 consulting fee NBC paid for his part in the film to the Adam Walsh center. But as long as his "small amount of savings" lasts, he said, the crusade goes on.

"I'm going to keep going. Keep going," he said. "I'm going to change the system... there are 50,000 parents who will never see their children again. Somebody ought to get off their ass and do something about it. Don't you think?"



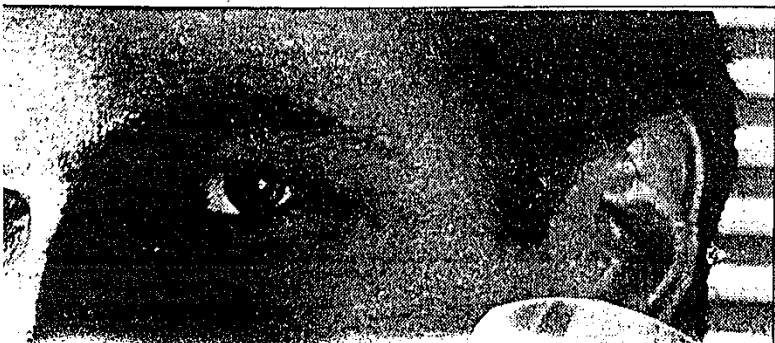
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MICHEL dUCILLE / Miami Herald Staff

hered at the Miami Beach syna-  
gical director Shmuel Fershko, left,  
guitar organist Julius Davis on a gos-  
Page 3D.

## the cap

a market manager, "It  
s obvious that Hun-Co  
s in the wrong."  
but Suter defended his  
of towing as the only  
ation to a plague of  
loading noncustom-  
occupying parking  
ce reserved for Bojan-  
customers.



Garcia-Pedrosa

We're not intentionally towing anybody  
take a profit. We just want our customers  
e able to use the lot," he said.  
riday, Suter said, Bojangles put up signs  
ng parkers would face towing if they  
ed longer than 45 minutes.

## s 101

## mi Christian y for credits

ited, interdenominational Bible col-  
The school's avowed mission is to ed-  
e South Florida's future Christian min-  
s, teachers and church workers. Ad-  
strators feel the best way to do that is  
quire community involvement — an  
nship at some type of community  
k.  
Administrators claim that Miami Chris-  
with about 200 students during the  
and another 200 at night probably has  
e people involved weekly in communi-  
ervice than any private social service

Please turn to BIBLE / 3D

original demand of 30 per cent.

The School Board's negotiator,  
explaining that "this is not meant to  
be an insult," refrained from offer-  
ing an across-the-board raise in  
pay.

Rather, said negotiator Tom  
Cerra, the board's first offer is to  
grant teachers the 2.7 per cent "in-  
cremental" raise given for an added  
year of seniority — retroactive to  
last July.

The School Board also is propos-  
ing to make those seniority-based  
raises dependent upon the evalua-  
tion of a teacher's work. Those  
whose work was not rated accept-  
able last year — Cerra says that in-  
volves 110 of Dade's 13,000 teach-  
ers — would not be eligible for the  
raises.

The School Board this year has  
adopted that approach with admin-  
istrators, awarding incremental pay  
raises only to those who receive  
good evaluations. Some call this  
plan "negative merit pay."

"This is by no means my last,  
best and final offer," Cerra told  
Tornillo at Monday's talks, "but an  
offer to show good faith."

Tornillo later called it "no offer  
at all," explaining that teachers ex-  
pect the incremental raises granted

Please turn to TALKS / 2D

## 'Adam' film elicits clues, donations

Adam, the made-for-television  
movie about the well-publicized  
July 1981 kidnaping and murder of  
a six-year-old Hollywood boy  
sparked hundreds of telephone calls  
and donations from emotional  
viewers late Monday night.

At least two persons called to say  
they had recognized two missing  
children whose photographs were  
shown after the film about Adam  
Walsh, said Denny Abbott, execu-  
tive director of the Plantation-based  
Adam Walsh Child Resource Cen-  
ter.

The tipsters' calls were referred  
to Child Find, a New York agency  
that investigates missing children  
cases.

At midnight (EDT), just one hour  
after the film was over, Abbott re-  
ported about \$20,000 in pledges  
from callers.

"We have been absolutely flood-  
ed with calls. We have about 35 to  
45 volunteers here and that isn't  
even enough to answer all the  
calls," said Abbott.

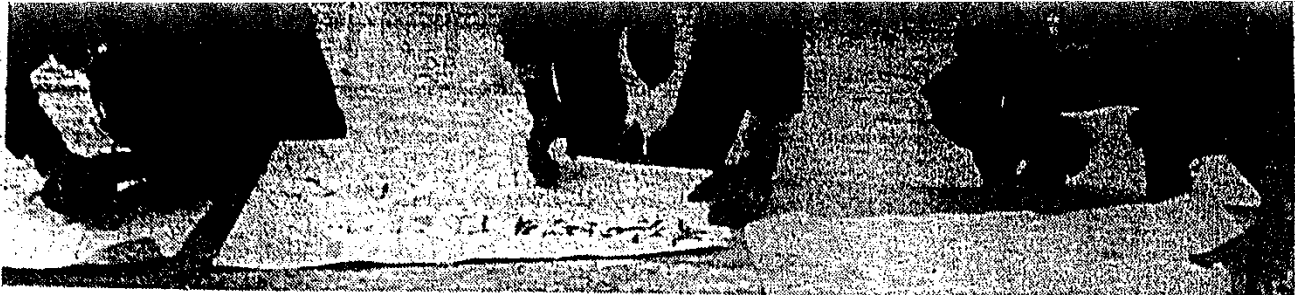
In Monday night's film, stars  
Daniel J. Travanti and JoBeth Wil-  
liams portrayed John and Reve  
Walsh, the bereaved parents who  
launched their own campaign for  
increased government help in the  
cases of disappeared children.

The real-life parents of Adam  
Walsh watched the movie at their  
Hollywood home with relatives.

Meanwhile, a special, 12-line  
telephone bank at the Plantation  
child center rang incessantly.

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Three South Korean veterans — among about 300 who rallied in Seoul Tuesday — use their own blood to write anti-Communist slogans on posters, after slashing their fingers. The rally protested the terrorist bombing that killed 16 South Korean officials Sunday in Rangoon, Burma. Demonstrators blamed Communist North Korea for the attack. Story, Page 10A.

Associated Press

Miami HERALD, Wed 10/12/83

# \$40,000 pledged in Adam's memory



By JOHN MACCORMACK  
Herald Staff Writer

Two years after his death, the tragedy of Adam Walsh touched America. A television movie about the Hollywood boy's kidnaping and murder brought more than \$40,000 in pledges to the center that works to protect other children in his memory. Thousands phoned with tips about missing children across the nation. And even before its broadcast Monday night, the movie brought at least one child home. "We all tend to turn our eyes from the unpleasant things in life, but we can't,"

accountant Bob Mauger said while adding up the pledges Tuesday at the Adam Walsh Child Resource Center in Plantation. "When the public is made aware, the public acts." By Tuesday afternoon, more than 5,000 persons had reacted with promises of donations. "We had hoped for \$100,000 and it's entirely possible we will hit that the way the pledges are coming in," Mauger said. "It was not a telethon. The movie was not a fund-raising event." At the show's close, photographs of 55 missing children registered with Child

Find Inc. were displayed, as Adam's father read their names. In response, thousands of viewers phoned Child Find, of New Paltz, N.Y. "We have good leads on maybe five kids. We have to make sure the child we've been called about is the same child we are looking for," said Kristin Brown, information director for Child Find, a national organization that maintains a registry of 2,000 missing children. Child Find is forwarding tips to police and to some families. According to Brown, one teenage girl

Please turn to ADAM/8A

Adam Walsh

## Wednesday Sampler

### \$16 million embezzled from brokerage house

Four men were have been arrested in a government investigation of embezzlement schemes at Prudential-Bache and two other securities firms / 5D.

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## Today's Chuckle

Life is like a game of cards: By the time you learn how to play, you're already lost in the shuffle.

# After final day of suspense, Jaffe leaves jail

By ANDERS GYLLENHAAL  
Herald Staff Writer

AVON PARK — Canadian developer Sidney Jaffe walked grinning out of a Florida prison and flew home to Canada Tuesday, paroled after 19 stormy months and one last suspenseful day fighting for his release.

Thus ended a remarkable international dispute that swept top government officials from Secretary of State George Shultz to Canadian Parliament members into the murky case that began with Jaffe's abduction in Toronto two years ago by a pair of bounty hunters.

Gripping an unlit cigar in his teeth, the lean, grayling 59-year-old lawyer — described by Putnam County prosecutors as North Florida's worst land swindler — secured his release with his signature on a letter of credit promising to show up for a final set of charges against him.

His blue prison fatigues turned in for a gray business suit, Jaffe stepped out of the twin barbed-wire fences of Avon Park Correctional Institute at 5:01 p.m. and made one last acidic attack on the prosecutors who put him behind bars.

"There is some rot in the judicial system of this state," Jaffe said. "I don't think the people of Florida are happy about it."

Despite the case still pending, Jaffe had clearly won his battle — largely through his own tireless campaign that gradually built up interest until top U.S. diplomats

Please turn to JAFFE/3A



Sidney Jaffe: Leaves prison after long struggle.

Associated Press

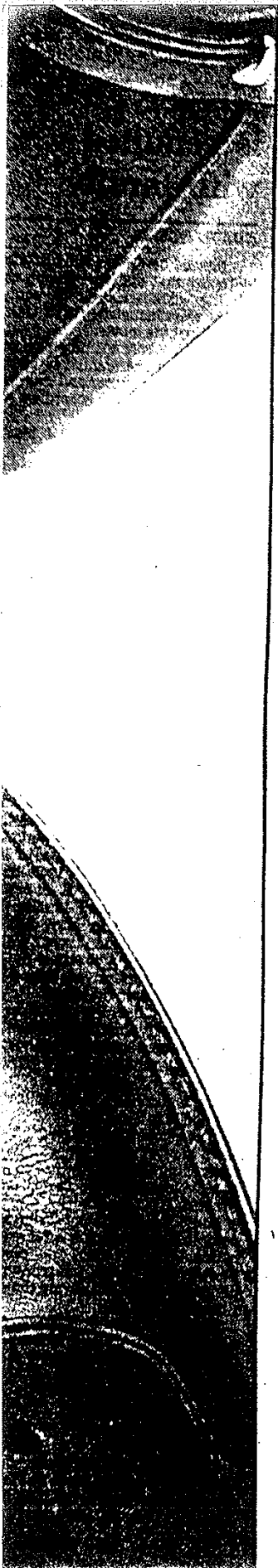
# U.S. expect White H threat as

From Herald Staff and American official spect the Soviet nuclear arr United States can missiles in Europe. In Washington, ministration down nario: It dismissed talks on limiting in Europe as "pro

## Bishop

Author Jim nationally syn appears in The said Tuesday t up writing his sons of health. Bishop, aut books, has wr three days a years.





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"This is unfair," said attorney Robert Glass. "We have always felt

## Missing girl is reunited with family

ADAM / From 1A

phoned before the show started to report that she was among the missing children whose photographs were included in a TV Guide story about the movie.

The girl, whose identity was not released, said she wanted to be reunited with her father and soon rejoined her family, according to Brown.

Still, the movie did not please everyone.

The FBI, which was portrayed as insensitive for not joining the search for Adam, issued a statement Tuesday noting that an agent was assigned to assist the Hollywood Police Department and stayed on the case until Walsh's remains were discovered.

A spokesman for the FBI said federal law forbade it from active involvement. Prior to the legislation enacted in the wake of the Walsh case, the FBI's role in kidnappings was limited to cases where victims were taken across state lines.

The law now allows the FBI to immediately join kidnaping investigations.

The Adam Walsh center, which was successful last year in its drive for legislation to have missing children recorded on FBI computers, is now seeking passage of similar legislation identifying child molesters.

The pledges came at a crucial time, because federal funding for the center ended in May. Adam's parents, John and Reve Walsh, made a separate donation of the \$150,000 they received from NBC for their work on the show.

"The continued life of the center is dependent upon the donations we get, both corporate and individual. We're not funded by any government agency," said Mauger.

The center has a monthly budget of \$16,000 to \$18,000.

"The phones are ringing off the hook here at the agency. They're also calling Gould so we had to send some volunteers over there," Mauger said.

Gould Inc. SEL, a computer company in Plantation, provided use its national WATS line to receive pledges after 6 p.m., but many people continued to call during the daytime, Mauger said.

In addition, the firm has donated a computer to compile information on child molestation, Mauger said.

With the federal grant cutback, the center has reduced its programs. It's current concentration is on fingerprinting young school children.

The Adam Walsh Center is at 1876 N. University Drive in Plantation. Pledges can be phoned in to 475-4847. They are tax deductible.

This report was supplemented with information from Herald wire services.

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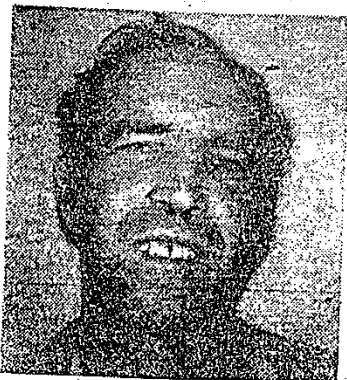
Details on 2A

# The Miami H

70 pages

Saturday, October 22, 1983

## Mass murder suspect held in death of Adam Walsh



Ottis Elwood Toole: Admitted kidnaping child.

By ELIZABETH WILLSON  
And JONATHAN SACKS  
*Herald Staff Writers*

A suspected mass murderer was arrested Friday for the 1981 slaying of six-year-old Adam Walsh, the child whose disappearance inspired a federal law and a television movie.

Ottis Elwood Toole, a 36-year-old pyromaniac already imprisoned for arson, admitted abducting the boy outside the Sears store at the Hollywood Mall, police said.

Toole told Hollywood police he lured the child to his car with promises of candy and toys.

But although police said he led them to, an undisclosed location

where he claimed to have buried Adam, a search turned up nothing. Police will continue the search today.

"Toole killed Adam Walsh by himself," Assistant Hollywood Police Chief Leroy Hessler said at a 10:30 p.m. press conference Friday.

"We feel quite confident that Toole is the individual who killed Adam Walsh. We do have a confession and certain things we're looking at. We do have to back them up with further investigation," Hessler said.

"Toole had Adam outside the city before Mrs. Walsh knew he was missing," Hessler said. "It's a fluke we found out about this, there was

no way we could have solved the case."

Toole is also a suspect — a one-eyed lover Henry Lee Lucas in 35 to 50 random slayings committed across the nation during the last six years.

The two confessed to kill over Florida, including two maybe four, in Miami, Jacksonville, and Tampa, said Detective Bud Terry said.

"The details he went into these homicides would make Charles Manson look like a baby," Hessler said of Toole.

Lucas had told Texas police in addition to other murders

Please turn to WALSH.

## Marine Convoy Heads



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# Miami Herald

Final Edition

Friday, October 22, 1983

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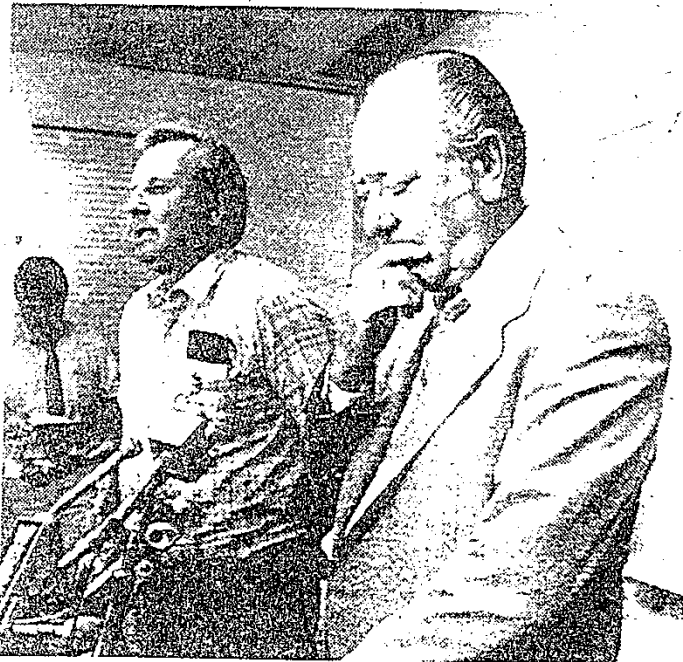
Toole is also a suspect — with his one-eyed lover Henry Lee Lucas — in 35 to 50 random slayings committed across the nation during the last six years.

The two confessed to killings all over Florida, including two, and maybe four, in Miami, Jacksonville Detective Bud Terry said.

"The details he went into on these homicides would make Charles Manson look like Huckleberry Finn," Hessler said of Toole.

Lucas had told Texas police that in addition to other murders, Toole

Please turn to WALSH/14A



Assistant Chief Leroy Hessler, left, and Chief Sam Martin at news conference.

WALTER MICHOT/Miami Herald Staff

# Heads for Grenada

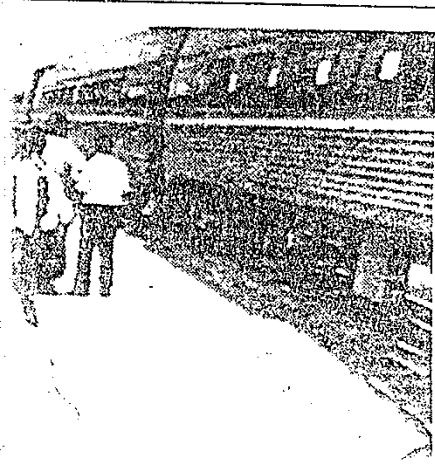
## Ships sent to protect Americans on island

BY DON BOHNING  
Miami Herald Staff Writer

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados — The U.S. Navy sent 1,800 Marines and 20 ships — including the aircraft carrier Independence — toward Grenada Friday as leaders of Caribbean nations met to coordinate their reaction to the slaying of Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop in a violent coup.

The U.S. moves are designed to protect the lives of an estimated 1,800 Americans living on Grenada by providing a means of rapid evacuation if it becomes necessary. Pen-

## Cuba terms ally's slaying



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# Police hear a confession in

WALSH / From 1A

had killed a child he abducted outside a Florida Sears store.

Texas officials relayed that information to Jacksonville police, and the break in the case came when Terry read a story about Adam Walsh in The Miami Herald on Oct. 10. Terry said he then realized that Toole, whom he had interviewed about several other murders, could be Adam's killer.

Terry contacted Hollywood police. Two Hollywood detectives flew to Jacksonville on Wednesday to interview Toole.

"He knew details that only we knew and no one else knew," Hessler said. "He can discuss other homicides in detail, but not Adam Walsh. He breaks down and cries."

The Broward state attorney's office will formally charge Toole next week with the murder.

Toole had been taken from Raiford to Jacksonville for questioning after Lucas, in jail in Texas and a suspect in five Jacksonville murders, implicated him. He will be returned to Raiford today.

The arrest brought a stunning end to the two-year mystery that had stymied police and haunted parents across the nation.

Adam vanished July 27, 1981, from the video game department of the Sears store.

On that humid Monday, 31-year-old Reve Walsh left her son to play games while she shopped.

"Adam, I'm going to the lamp department," she said.

"OK, Mommy," he answered. "I know where that is."

She never saw him again.

His disappearance gripped the conscience of South Florida and triggered the largest manhunt in the state's history. Rewards were offered, ultimately totaling \$100,000.

The hunt focused on a mysterious blue van, reportedly seen racing from the Sears parking lot.

Despite a flood of tips and three false confessions, there were no good leads.

John and Reve Walsh, desperate and despondent, went on national television and begged for the return of their boy.

Two weeks after Adam disappeared, as John Walsh prepared to tell his story on "Good Morning America," the frightened father learned that two fishermen had found a child's head floating in a Vero Beach canal. After Walsh left the set, he learned the remains had been identified as Adam's.

The saga of the parents' suffering and the community's terror brought the child's death — and the anguish felt by all parents of missing and murdered children — to national attention.

Toole had Adam outside the city before Mrs. Walsh knew he was missing. It's a fluke we found out about this, there was no way we could have solved this case."

Leroy Hessler  
Assistant Hollywood police chief

the subject of a made-for-television movie. After the movie was aired, more than \$40,000 was pledged to the Adam Walsh Child Resource Center in Plantation. The center was founded in Adam's memory to help track missing children.

Toole did not see the movie, police said.

John Walsh became a strong voice for legislation to help track missing children. His efforts resulted in the Missing Children's Act, signed into law by President Reagan in October 1982.

As other parents had shared the Walshes' grief, they shared their joy on July 15, 1982, when Reve gave birth to their second child, Me-

ghan Jane.

On July 22 of this year, the Walshes sued Sears, charging that the company was negligent in not protecting Adam while he was inside the store.

Fighting to prevent their files from being opened as a result of the suit, Hollywood police informed the court that an arrest was possible "in the foreseeable future." They later denied that an arrest was imminent.

Before the tragedy, the Walshes were a comfortable Hollywood family. Walsh worked as vice president for marketing and sales for a new Bahamas hotel.

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## Terror was result when

By DAN RAY  
Herald Staff Writer

Something horrid clicked when Ottis Elwood Toole, a beefy, dull-witted pyromaniac from Jacksonville, hooked up with his one-eyed lover, Henry Lee Lucas.

Police believe their vicious tally may include scores of victims.

One of those, they said Friday, was Adam Walsh.

Toole, 36, confessed to murdering the six-year-old Hollywood boy abducted from a department store in 1981, police said.

He had already compiled a long criminal history when he met Lucas waiting for a meal in front of Jacksonville's City Rescue, Mission for transients in 1976.

Toole's list of convictions begins in 1964 in Duval County, when he was found guilty of loitering in a park. The crimes gradually got more serious: petty larceny in 1965, vagrancy and prowling in 1968, carrying a concealed weapon in 1972.

Toole invited Lucas to his home in Springfield, a seedy residential



Associated Press

Toole appeared in court in Jacksonville in September.

section of the Florida city.

For the next four years, Toole, his blond hair thinning, and Lucas, short and wearing a dark, sloppy duckbill haircut, roomed and traveled together. Police believe Toole and Lucas were homosexual lovers.

A third person was added to their travels in 1980 when Toole got cus-

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the Walshes Hollywood is vice presi- sales for a ns, working

from an office in a Bal Harbour condominium.

The Walshes met in upstate New York, where John was a soccer player at the University of Buffalo. In 1970, Reve quit college to join John in Florida.

Walsh had taken a job as a bus-boy and lifeguard at the Diplomat Hotel in Hollywood. By 1981, he had begun to prosper.

Adam had become the centerpiece of the Walshes' life. They pampered and sheltered their only child. At age three he had already been island-hopping through the Bahamas with his father. His parents taught him to snorkel among the reefs, but at age six, he still wasn't allowed to cross the street alone.

Police said John Walsh expressed relief upon hearing about the arrest.

*Contributing to these reports were Herald Staff Writers Jennifer Schenker, Dan Ray, Brian Richardson, Chris Spolar, Julie Calsi, Patricia Andrews, John Arnold, Jeff Olson, Doug Adrianson, Ron Ishoy and Edna Buchanan.*

## The Adam Walsh Case



Walsh

NOV. 14, 1974 — John and Reve Walsh have a son, their first child. They name him Adam.

JULY 27, 1981 — Adam, now 6, disappears from outside a Sears store at Hollywood Mall. Volunteers help police search. Thousands of leads are checked in vain.

AUG. 10, 1981 — Adam's head is found in a Vero Beach canal.

AUGUST 1981 — The Walshes begin pushing for a federal Missing Children's Act.

JULY 15, 1982 — The Walshes have a daughter, named Meghan Jane.

OCT. 12, 1982 — President Reagan signs the Missing Children's Act, creating a national computer network to help search for missing children, into law.

JULY 22, 1983 — The Walshes file lawsuit against Sears, claiming the company had responsibility for protecting children in its store.

SEPT. 8, 1983 — Judge orders Hollywood police to unseal records of the Adam Walsh investigation, at the request of attorneys for Sears.

OCT. 10, 1983 — The television movie *Adam* is aired nationwide.

OCT. 21, 1983 — A suspect is charged.

## when Toole, companion teamed up



Associated Press art in mber.

tody of his 13-year-old niece, Freida Lorraine Powell, from a state institution. Freida, physically mature but slightly retarded, had become an orphan that year when her mother died of a drug overdose in Jacksonville.

They traveled together for a year, until Lucas and Freida drove off in a friend's car. In a videotaped confession, Lucas admitted to methodically knifing and dismembering the girl.

After police arrested Lucas in Texas in September for possessing a .22-caliber pistol, the unkempt drifter looked up at his jailer and said, "Joe Don, I've done some bad things."

The confessions began.

Stoically, Lucas provided details of about 150 murders, some including acts of necrophilia. Lucas named Toole in his confessions.

Toole provided corroborating evidence, enough for police to believe they have enough evidence to connect the men to 97 murders committed in eight states in the past six

years.

Hollywood police give a much lower estimate of their carnage — 35 to 50 murders.

In one 23-month period from 1979 to 1981, Jacksonville police believe the two were involved in the murders of eight women, including the granddaughter of a Neptune Beach police chief.

Lucas has been charged so far with a murder in Monroe, La., and five in Jacksonville.

Their confessions were so tantalizing that 90 officers from 19 states met earlier this month in Monroe to sort them out.

Until pulled out of jail for questioning, Toole was serving a 20-year sentence at Union Correctional Institute in Raiford for burning two unoccupied Springfield homes, and was under indictment for another arson fire.

In the latest case, Jacksonville Police Detective S.W. Higginbotham said Friday, Toole set fire to a wood-frame rooming house at 117 E. Second St. in January 1982.

Nicholas Sonneberg, 64, one of the boarders, died in the fire.

Police said crimes in which Lucas and Toole are believed to be separately involved show different methods of operating. The many murders include shootings, stabbings, strangulation, sexual molestation, arson and mutilation.

"I'm no psychiatrist, but it seemed like when these two got together, it set something off," said Texas Ranger Phil Ryan.

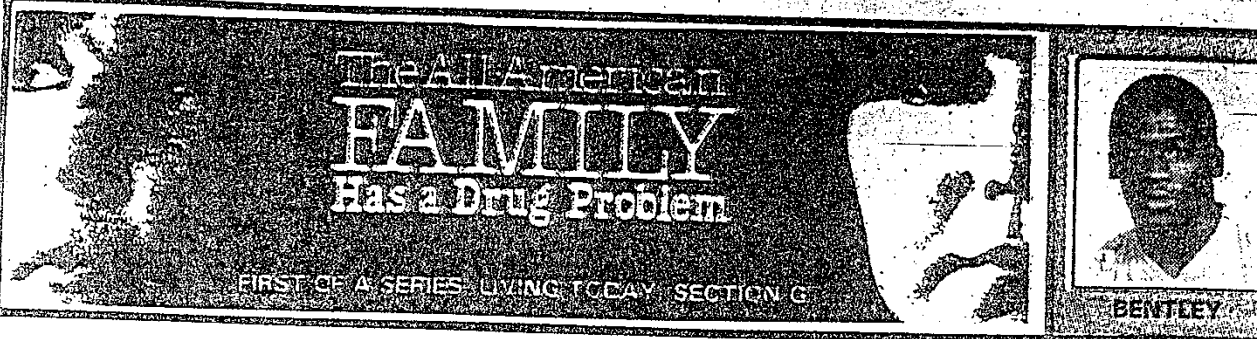
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**FEED A ME**



Partly  
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Details on 2A

# The Miami Herald

396 pages

Sunday, October 23, 1983

## Suspect has his roots in shabby part of city

By JOHN MacCORMACK  
*Herald Staff Writer*

JACKSONVILLE — For most of his life, the rotting core of the Springfield neighborhood confined Ottis Elwood Toole's world.

It was once the city's finest neighborhood, filled with great oaks and glorious Victorian homes. A good part of the 20 square blocks in Central Jacksonville remains clean and proud.

But its center, where Toole lived, is a shabby place for people passing through: day laborers, vagrants, prostitutes and the handicapped, whites and blacks.

"Eighty per cent of the people

around here are on mental disability," said Duane Purvis, sitting in front of the rooming house where he lives. "You just sit up here on the porch and watch the comic strip go by."

Until he met Henry Lee Lucas, Toole was part of the parade. He grew up here as the youngest of six children, four boys, two girls. One sister is dead.

His father died years ago, and his mother remarried. Toole lived with her until she died in 1981.

"It was a stable home, a loving home," said Georgia Toole, wife of

Please turn to TOOLE / 10A



ERICA BERGER Miami Herald Staff

"My heart will be broken for the rest of my life. I will always miss Adam. It will always be a nightmare . . ." John Walsh tells reporters Saturday. Story, Page 11A.

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# Questions persist in Walsh case

ADAM/From 1A

to find Adam's remains. Toole's confession, signed Friday, will be enough to charge him because Toole knew things only the killer would know, Hoffman said.

He would not discuss specifics of the case, but did concede that there is no evidence showing Toole was in South Florida at the time of Adam's abduction.

"At this time, we haven't been able to verify him being in the area," Hoffman said.

And Jacksonville Detective Buddy Terry, the man who alerted Hollywood police to Toole, said Saturday that Adam's beheading does not fit the pattern of other Florida killings in which Toole is suspect.

"There are certain aspects of the investigation that do raise some doubts," Hoffman said. Again, he would not elaborate.

Adam's murder in July 1981 gripped South Florida and was dramatized in a made-for-television movie this month.

Toole's confession was the first break in the Adam Walsh investigation for Hollywood police in two years.

They called a late-night press conference Friday to announce Toole's confession, but gave conflicting versions of events that led them to him.

Toole was returned to the Duval County Jail about 3 a.m. Saturday.

John Walsh, who turned his son's death into a successful crusade for a federal child-protection law, told a packed press conference Saturday afternoon that Toole's arrest was gratifying.

Two weeks after Adam was abducted from the Hollywood Mall on July 27, two Vero Beach fishermen found his head floating in a canal near Florida's Turnpike.

Saturday, Hollywood police changed their account of how Toole came to confess to killing Adam. At a Friday-night press conference, police said Terry contacted them with information about Toole's involvement in the case after reading an article on the Walsh case in The Herald.

Terry said Saturday that was not the case. "[I] didn't see any Miami Herald article or the [television movie about the abduction and murder of Adam]. That had nothing to do with it."

Originally, Hollywood police said Henry Lee Lucas, Toole's one-eyed companion, began talking to Texas authorities while in jail this summer



'I knew [Toole] since he was seven or eight, I guess,' recalls Betty Goodyear. 'He might not have been what you'd call on top, but he was stable.'



Catherine Purvis of Jacksonville says murder suspe

## Some speak kindly of W

TOOLE/From 1A

his older brother Howard.

Toole married a woman named Rita. "They separated a long time ago," she said. "There were no kids."

Many of those who have been around Springfield long enough remember Toole well, some of them kindly.

"He used to clean here," said Purvis' wife, Catherine. "I never saw anyone so clean. He was very good to me. I'm an invalid, you know. If I fell, he'd pick me up. He was kind that way. He was a good, kind man."

When he worked, he worked well.

"He was the hardest labor work-

er I ever had," said John Reaves Jr., a roofer who employed him for a time. "He'd pump up the other workers."

Betty Goodyear remembers him, too.

"He worked for me off and on for a year-and-a-half, cleaning rooms and yards," she said, sitting on the porch at 117 E. Second St., a decaying boarding house much like the six others she owns.

He called her Mom.

"That's what he always called me," she said. "I'm 51, he's thirty something. He said I reminded him of his mother. I felt he was kind of lost and he took to me."

"I knew him since he was seven or eight, I guess. He might not have been what you'd call on top, but he

was stable."

In between work, trouble, but nothing t neighborhood: a mou arrests and convictio in 1964 for loitering; grancy, petty larceny —The fires— and th lice say he carried o —came later.

"He could say this didn't like someone, him and throw him in and set it on fire." ( "But I didn't pay it thought it was just tal

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WALTER MICHOT Miami Herald Staff



In between work, Ottis Toole found trouble, but nothing unusual for the neighborhood.

of Jacksonville says murder suspect Ottis Toole was good to her.

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In between work, Toole found trouble, but nothing unusual for the neighborhood: a mounting string of arrests and convictions that began in 1964 for loitering, prowling, vagrancy, petty larceny.

The fires — and the murders police say he carried out with Lucas — came later.

"He could say things like, if he didn't like someone, 'I'll just kill him and throw him in an old house and set it on fire,'" Goodyear said. "But I didn't pay it any mind. I thought it was just talk."

For a long time, Toole talked and worked and walked through Springfield. And then Lucas came to town in 1976. They met while waiting for a meal at the City Mis-

sion.

"When Lucas arrived, he changed," Goodyear said. "He didn't have no car or nothing until Lucas came here. Then they bought an old car.

"After that, Ottis didn't do any work for me. They went out of town, always disappearing. All he cared about was that old car. I think they were using it for robbing people because they always seemed to have a lot of money," Goodyear said.

Toole and Lucas became inseparable.

"It was kind of a have-to thing," Goodyear said. "He said Lucas knew about a lot of fires and things and after he'd seen Lucas kill a couple of people, he was afraid of

him."

Lucas moved in with Toole and his mother. Toole's niece, a slightly retarded teenager named Freida Lorraine Powell, joined them in 1989.

She also joined their travels. In his descriptions of the killings, police say, Lucas admitted methodically knifing and dismembering her.

"I was telling my wife: He lives on my meat," said one officer who has patrolled Springfield for seven years. "I've had numerous run-ins with him and there was nothing remarkable about him."

"He's not like Charles Manson," he said. "You could see that Manson was crazy. Toole and Lucas didn't come off that way."

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## Father relief

By JONATHAN  
Herald Staff W

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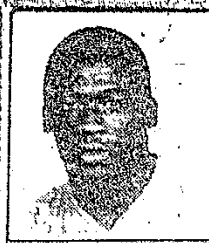
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SPORTS SECTION C



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### GATORS GET A SCARE

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SPORTS SECTION C

# Miami Herald

Final  
Edition

Sunday, October 23, 1983

75 cents



ERICA BERGER / Miami Herald Staff

## Many questions remain in Adam Walsh's death

By JENNIFER L. SCHENKER  
And BRIAN DUFFY  
*Herald Staff Writers*

The doubts emerged slowly Saturday, but police remain convinced that Otis Elwood Toole killed six-year-old Adam Walsh.

The 36-year-old Jacksonville drifter, a convicted arsonist and a suspect in nearly 100 other murders across the country, showed police Friday where he said he buried the Hollywood boy's remains. Police found nothing. They said they did not search further Saturday.

"I don't think another day [matters] at this time . . . it's been 2½ years," said Hollywood police Detective Jack Hoffman.

Hollywood Police Chief Sam Martin said

late Saturday that he would take the evidence against Toole to the state attorney today.

Broward State Attorney Michael J. Satz said Saturday that he had not been given any information about Toole. He said he expected his office would review the evidence against Toole this week.

"Martin is going to bring what they have . . . and we'll . . . see what they have and take it from there," Satz said. "Chances are it could be any degree of homicide, but probably first degree. An abduction charge is possible."

Police were not dismayed by their failure

*Please turn to ADAM? 10A*

art will be broken for the rest of  
. I will always miss Adam. It will  
be a nightmare . . . ' John Walsh  
porters Saturday. Story, Page 11A.



## Reagan Aides Are Freed; Gunman Held

AUGUSTA, Ga. — (UPI) — A gunman crashed a pickup truck onto the grounds of the Augusta National Golf Club where President Reagan was playing golf Saturday, held seven hostages and demanded to see Reagan. He surrendered after hanging up on

# Questions persist in Walsh case

ADAM / From 1A

to find Adam's remains. Toole's confession, signed Friday, will be enough to charge him because Toole knew things only the killer would know, Hoffman said.

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They called a late-night press conference Friday to announce Toole's confession, but gave conflicting versions of events that led them to him.

Toole was returned to the Duval County Jail about 3 a.m. Saturday.

John Walsh, who turned his only son's death into a successful crusade for a federal child-protection law, told a packed press conference Saturday afternoon that Toole's arrest was gratifying.

Two weeks after Adam was abducted from the Hollywood Mall on July 27, two Vero Beach fishermen found his head floating in a canal near Florida's Turnpike.

Saturday, Hollywood police changed their account of how Toole came to confess to killing Adam. At a Friday-night press conference, police said Terry contacted them with information about Toole's involvement in the case after reading an article on the Walsh case in The Herald.

Terry said Saturday that was not the case. "[I] didn't see any Miami Herald article or the [television movie about the abduction and murder of Adam]. That had nothing to do with it."

Originally, Hollywood police said Henry Lee Lucas, Toole's one-eyed companion, began talking to Texas authorities while in jail this summer



'I knew [Toole] since he was seven or eight, I guess,' recalls Betty Goodyear. 'He might not have been what you'd call on top, but he was stable.'



Catherine Purvis of Jacksonville says murder suspi

# Some speak kindly of W

TOOLE / From 1A

his older brother Howard.

Toole married a woman named Rita. "They separated a long time ago," she said. "There were no kids."

Many of those who have been around Springfield long enough remember Toole well, some of them kindly.

"He used to clean here," said Purvis' wife, Catherine. "I never saw anyone so clean. He was very good to me. I'm an invalid, you know. If I fell, he'd pick me up. He was kind that way. He was a good, kind man."

When he worked, he worked well.

"He was the hardest labor work-

er I ever had," said John Reaves Jr., a roofer who employed him for a time. "He'd pump up the other workers."

Betty Goodyear remembers him, too.

"He worked for me off and on for a year and a half, cleaning rooms and yards," she said, sitting on the porch at 117 E. Second St., a decaying boarding house much like the six others she owns.

He called her Mom.

"That's what he always called me," she said. "I'm 51, he's thirty something. He said I reminded him of his mother. I felt he was kind of lost and he took to me."

"I knew him since he was seven or eight, I guess. He might not have been what you'd call on top, but he

was stable."

In between work, trouble, but nothing in neighborhood: a moun arrests and conviction in 1964 for loitering, grancy, petty larceny. —The fires— and th lice say he carried o — came later.

"He could say this didn't like someone, him and throw him in and set it on fire." "But I didn't pay it thought, it was just tal

For a long time, To worked and wall Springfield. And thei to-town in 1976. Th waiting for a meal at

CHR

-truly advanced sk

Henry-Lee-Lucas, Toole's one-eyed companion, began talking to Texas authorities while in jail this summer about scores of murders they committed across the country. But it was not until recently that Lucas mentioned the murder of Adam Walsh. He told Texas investigators that Toole killed Adam.

Hoffman explained Saturday, however, that an unidentified detective from another state was interviewing Toole about other murders when Toole said he "wanted to discuss something in the [South Florida] area that's been bothering me."

Toole later told Terry about the Walsh killing, Hoffman said.

Terry contacted Hollywood police, who brought Toole to Hollywood Friday, when he signed the sworn confession.

A tall, beefy and dull-witted pyromaniac, Toole has a lengthy criminal past.

The first of his many convictions was for loitering in Duval County in 1964. His crimes got more serious: petty larceny in 1965, vagrancy and prowling in 1968, carrying a concealed weapon in 1972.

Police say it was not until 1976, when Toole hooked up with Lucas, that the former maintenance man from Jacksonville turned to murder.

Today, Toole and Lucas are suspects in as many as 97 murders across the country.

Adam vanished after his mother left him for less than 10 minutes in the toy department of the Sears store. She was shopping for a brass lamp only 75 feet away.

Reve Walsh looked for her son in the aisles of the store. Adam was nowhere to be found.

At 12:20 p.m., the first announcement for Adam was broadcast over the store's intercom. At least 20 minutes had elapsed since Adam and his mother first entered the store. A second page was broadcast at 12:40 p.m.

It was not answered.

The boy's disappearance launched the largest manhunt in state history.

The investigation also was crippled for other reasons.

The Broward Sheriff's Office did not help look for Adam. It was not asked by Hollywood police. Nor were state law-enforcement agencies asked for help.

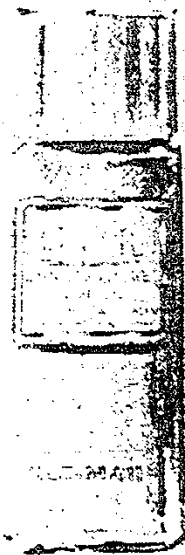
And, because Hollywood police had no evidence that the child's abductor had crossed state lines, the FBI could not take part in the investigation, although it assigned one agent to offer assistance.

With almost no hard evidence to go on, detectives spent hundreds of hours looking for a blue Ford van seen racing from the parking lot.

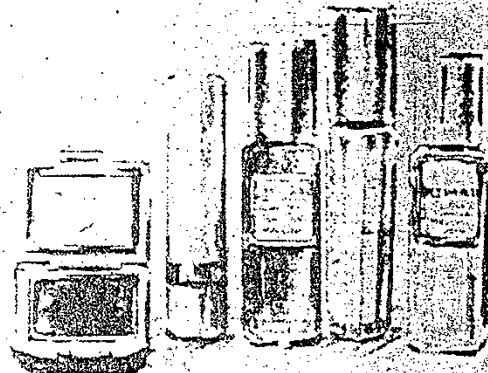
Many other leads also turned into dead ends. And still others — because of a lack of manpower — were not pursued.

Said Assistant Hollywood Police Chief Leroy Hessler: "It's a fluke we found out about this; there was no way we could have solved this case."

Also contributing to the report



The CHR Skin



CH

Look

Lipstick  
seductive

Now open, Lord & Taylor, Fort Lauderdale  
Cutler Ridge Mall—call 238-2000

Lord & Taylor welcomes the American Express

# Walsh: 'It will always

Father of murdered boy  
relieved by break in case.

By JONATHAN SACKS  
Herald Staff Writer

John Walsh, his face deeply lined, his eyes cast downward, pressed through the crowd to a lectern spiked with microphones Saturday afternoon.

"My heart will be broken for the rest of my life," he told a crowd of reporters and photographers, tears in his eyes. "I will always miss Adam. It will always be a nightmare . . ."

Late Friday, police announced they had a suspect in the 1981 murder of Walsh's six-year-old son Adam. It appeared to be the end of a two-year mystery that had horrified the nation.

Since the announcement, the Walshes' comfortable house in Hollywood had been guarded by a single police car to keep the curious at bay.

Walsh called a press conference at the Hollywood Police station for 1 p.m. Saturday.

By noon the first floor of the station was already packed with reporters, video cameras and floodlights.

Walsh said he was relieved by news of a break in his son's murder case. He thanked the police.

Walsh refused to comment on the suspect in Adam's murder.

"We pray the criminal justice system will not break down, and Adam receives justice," Walsh said.

Walsh, whose wife was not present at the press conference, vowed to continue efforts to protect children from kidnappings and assaults.

In the two years since his son's death, Walsh has lobbied doggedly for a national network to track missing children. Through his efforts, the Adam Walsh Child Resource Center Inc., was founded to act as a clearinghouse for information about children who have disappeared.

When the Walshes received \$150,000 for the movie rights to their harrowing story, the entire sum was donated to the resource center.



And, even as  
time to unfold.

## Ours first, Geoffrey Beene at

*We romance you with  
rich-as-cream separates*

by Geoffrey Beene for Beenebag,

here in an exquisite mélange of textures.

Silk blouse woven with tiny dobby dots,

tucked at the yoke and cuffs, 140.00

Gently pleated skirt of silk damask, 164.00

Both, 4 to 12 Chenille cardigan polished  
with satin border, rayon-cotton, S, M, L, 158.00

Soft rosette belt, in a collage of  
silk dobby, damask and twill, 40.00

All in a rich, creamy color.



# always be a nightmare'

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'We pray the criminal  
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break down, and Adam  
receives justice.'

John Walsh

And, even as the details of his son's murder con-  
tinue to unfold, Walsh fights on. He is scheduled to

go to Washington Tuesday, where he will lobby for  
a bill to establish a national computer to keep track  
of murders and murderers nationwide.

Walsh warned Saturday that no parent can rest  
in a society where children are victimized at ran-  
dom.

"The world," he said, "is scarier than ever."

At the beginning of the press conference Walsh  
attacked The Herald, saying the newspaper, in a  
January 1982 Tropic magazine story about the case  
printed "conjecture, innuendo, speculation and  
nothing based on fact."

He said the story was "unprincipled" and said it  
implied that he might have organized-crime connec-  
tions.

Herald Managing Editor Pete Weitzel respond-  
ed: "The Herald, in all of its reports, has been high-  
ly sympathetic to the Walsh family. The Tropic arti-  
cle was an effort to relate the status of a highly  
complex, inconclusive and multifaceted investiga-  
tion. We feel it was balanced and fair to everyone  
involved."

y Beene at



# Special team to attempt recovery of Walsh body

By WES SMITH  
And JENNIFER L. SCHENKER  
*Herald Staff Writers*

A special grave-recovery team from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement will try to recover the remains of Adam Walsh from a shallow grave flooded by recent heavy rains, police and other sources said Sunday.

Ottis Elwood Toole, the 36-year-old drifter who has confessed to abducting and killing the six-year-old Hollywood boy two years ago, took police last week to where he claimed to have buried the remains.

Detectives found nothing after a brief search Friday. They refused to say where the boy is supposedly buried.

"You have to use scientific techniques when you're looking for bodies," Hollywood Detective Jack Hoffman said Sunday. "FDLE has such a team. We're going to be using them [this week]."

Hollywood police will meet today with Broward State Attorney Michael Satz to discuss the case against Toole. Evidence will be presented as soon as possible to the grand jury, Chief Assistant State Attorney Ralph Ray said Sunday.

While Hollywood police prepared to search for Walsh's remains, investigators across the country continued looking into nearly 200 other cases in which Toole or his lover, Henry Lee Lucas, have admitted murdering and mutilating victims 12 to 84 years old.

Earlier this month, officers from

**I can remember Lucas claiming some child-slayings back East, maybe three or four of them in two or three locations.**

**Texas Ranger Phil Ryan**

19 states and the FBI met at a Holiday Inn in Monroe, La., to piece together the murder and mayhem Toole and Lucas allegedly left behind them.

### Efforts hampered

Their efforts were hampered by the two men's cloudy memories and the sheer number of crimes they claim to have committed.

"These guys have done so much that, even if you made up a murder to test their sincerity, anything you could invent would probably be similar to something they have already done," Texas Ranger Phil Ryan said in a telephone interview Sunday.

Ryan, who has been investigating Toole's and Lucas' activities for more than a year, indicated for the first time Sunday they may have murdered several young children about the age of Adam Walsh.

Ryan said Lucas has admitted killing "three or four" children in at least two states: "I can remember

Lucas claiming some child-slayings back East, maybe three or four of them in two or three locations. . . .

But Toole was not involved in these slayings, said Ryan, who would not give specifics about the killings.

### Slayings unconfirmed

Ryan questioned the truthfulness of the confessions. None of the child slayings has been confirmed by police.

"I think sometimes [Toole and Lucas] are trying so hard to remember stuff, they don't give themselves the benefit of the doubt when someone asks them about a murder," Ryan said.

"They just figure, they've done so much, they must have done that one, too."

The string of events that led to Toole's confession — and the apparent end to the two-year investigation into the death of Adam Walsh — had an unlikely beginning.

Lucas was serving a prison sentence in Denton, Tex. In late August, he began talking to police: He had killed scores, maybe hundreds, of people across the country, he said.

Some of the killings were in Jacksonville, some in Louisiana. Detective Buddy Terry of the Jacksonville Police Department went to see Lucas. He found himself talking about Toole.

"[Toole] has killed a number of people, too," Terry said Lucas told him.

Some of those people were in Louisiana, and Terry contacted detectives there.

### Admitted killing

"During an interview with Toole . . . we were getting background in-



**Adam Walsh: R**

formation from brought up the s Hollywood, Fla., Sgt. Jay Via of Office in Monroe

Hollywood po Toole, who is ser tence for arson tional Institutior Late last week, missed killing 1 gave informatior "only the killer c

According to o been read portic statment, Toole 1 cut the child's 1 buried the body i On Aug. 10, 19- after the boy wa store in the Holly ermen found his near Florida's T River County.

"It was the or any emotion fro who has interv times.

Also contrib were Herald Staff Cormack and Bria

## Misquoted teacher gets lectured

By MARTIN F. KOHN  
*Knight-Ridder News Service*

DETROIT — Defenders of the English language can — uh, better make that "may" — stop vilifying Wanda Hogg. She's a defender, too.

Hogg, a Redford High School English teacher, became famous — "infamous," she prefers to say — when she commented on a recent incident in which a substitute janitor, mistaken for a substitute teacher, was assigned to teach two social studies classes at Redford.

"I heard he did real good," the Detroit Free Press quoted Hogg as

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as Ranger Phil Ryan

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## Admitted killing

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Adam Walsh: Killed in 1981.

formation from him when he  
brought up the subject of a child in  
Hollywood, Fla., being killed," said  
Sgt. Jay Via of Ouachipa Sheriff's  
Office in Monroe, La.

Hollywood police went to see  
Toole, who is serving a 20-year sen-  
tence for arson at Union Correc-  
tional Institution in Raiford, Fla.  
Late last week, police said, he ad-  
mitted killing Adam Walsh and  
gave information about the crime  
"only the killer could have known."

According to one source who has  
been read portions of his signed  
statement, Toole used a machete to  
cut the child's head off. He then  
buried the body in a shallow grave.  
On Aug. 10, 1981 — two weeks  
after the boy was abducted from a  
store in the Hollywood Mall — fish-  
ermen found his head in a canal  
near Florida's Turnpike in Indian  
River County.

"It was the only time I've seen  
any emotion from him," said Via,  
who has interviewed Toole five  
times.

Also contributing to this report  
were Herald Staff Writers John Mac-  
Cormack and Brian Duffy.

# Judge in Clev to weigh depo of two alleged

CLEVELAND — (UPI) — Two men v  
the Nazis execute Jews during World W.  
charged with being a feared guard called "I  
death camp prisoners, faced deportation hea-

Immigration administrative law judge  
today is scheduled to hear the case against  
65, of Cleveland, who allegedly helped shoo  
Jewish men, women and children in the Ukr

On Wednesday, Angelilli is to consider  
Demjanjuk, of Seven Hills, Ohio, accused of  
"ribble," a feared guard at the Trebelinka de  
where 900,000 Jews died.

Both cases turn on whether the men lie  
pers they filled out to come to the United  
ment charged both concealed their perse  
should be deported.

Demjanjuk was stripped of his citizen-  
Judge Frank Battisti in 1981. Lehmann is no  
deported without a federal trial.

The Justice Department's Office of S  
responsible for hunting down war crimina  
of being the deputy chief of the Ukrainian  
Zaporozhe. The organization was directed  
ment.

"During the period from fall 1941 unt  
personally assisted in the persecution and k  
ians in and around Zaporozhe," the gover  
filed with the Immigration and Naturalizat  
land.

Lehmann's attorney Art Lambros denie  
"We went to the Soviet Union and ta  
ment's so-called six star witnesses ... and n  
do anything" to Jews, Lambros said.

The lawyer said Lehmann, a retired  
who came to the United States in 1957,  
other points for the occupying Germans in c  
labor camp.

He said Lehmann did not lie on his imm  
In the Demjanjuk case, defense attor  
said he would argue that a piece of evidenc  
card — was forged by the KGB to get Demj

onor has asked that the card be surpressed  
"This guy wasn't any Ivan the Terrible  
Witnesses used the picture on the iden  
way of identifying Demjanjuk.

Eastern announces a  
major breakthrough in  
airline hours program

# Searchers to check 2

By BRIAN DUFFY  
And PETER CARY  
*Herald Staff Writers*

Police and state technicians will begin looking today for the remains of Adam Walsh in Martin and Indian River counties.

The search will be confined to two areas along Florida's Turnpike: under the Frank B. Manuel Bridge, just south of Stuart, and near the 130-mile marker in Indian River County, where fishermen found the six-year-old Hollywood boy's head in August 1981.

"They'll call in the morning and go to a couple of places," said State Attorney Robert Stone, whose district includes the two counties. "There are two sites they want to look at."

Ottis Elwood Toole, a 36-year-old drifter, told Hollywood police Friday he abducted the

boy from the Hollywood Mall and murdered him.

Toole's court-appointed attorney discounted his client's confession Monday.

Alfred Washington, a Jacksonville lawyer, said Toole was trying to outdo his former lover, a convicted murderer named Henry Lee Lucas, by confessing to more killings than Lucas has.

"It appears that Toole and Lucas are in a race," Washington said. "I got the feeling that [with] these reported confessions . . . it may be that the policemen are starting to hurt the state's case [against Toole]."

Toole took police Friday to where he said he buried the boy after killing him and cutting off his head. They found nothing. Recent heavy rains have flooded the areas where the grave might be.

## New PACs to seek black vote

VOIE / From 1B

this community," Dawkins said. "But it's time to put him out to pasture."

Though Operation Big Vote is making no formal endorsements this election, Hadley himself openly supports the three incumbents: Ferre, Plummer and Commissioner Joe Carollo.

Carollo is the only one of the





# 2 sites for boy's body

A source familiar with the search said Monday that it might be difficult to find the remains.

"It was a shallow grave and it could have been that an animal dug it up," said the source, who would discuss the case only if his name was not used.

Toole and Lucas, ne'er-do-well drifters who became lovers and traveling companions after meeting in a mission soup line seven years ago, have admitted to killing more than 100 persons across the country. They are suspects in at least 100 other cases, police say.

Nocturnal wanderers who slept in flophouses and lived on the run, Toole and Lucas left few traces in their path of murder and mayhem. They never used credit cards, for example. And, with the exception of Jack-

sonville and a few other cities, they seldom remained in one place for long.

Hollywood police, for example, have no evidence Toole was even in South Florida when young Walsh was abducted.

Another problem is Toole's intelligence and recollection.

In a psychiatric report filed last summer when Toole was sentenced to Union Correctional Institution at Raiford for arson, Dr. Ernest C. Miller wrote: "At times, he fancies he hear voices [saying] that he should kill himself and go to rest. . . . He regards the origin of these voices as from his minds and from the devil."

The report concluded: "He has no homicide thoughts, and he is not given to violence. . . ."

*Herald Staff Writers Phil Long and Patrick May contributed to this report.*

Of



# Nine plead in number

By AL MESSERSCHMIDT  
*Herald Staff Writer*

Nine members of a numbers lottery ring that collected an estimated \$250,000 a month were ordered to pay \$35,250 in restitution Monday.

The nine, including an Eastern Airlines pilot, a convicted drug dealer and the onetime operator of a local dry cleaning business, pleaded guilty to lottery charges in Circuit Judge Herbert Klein's court.

Klein ordered sentences of proba-

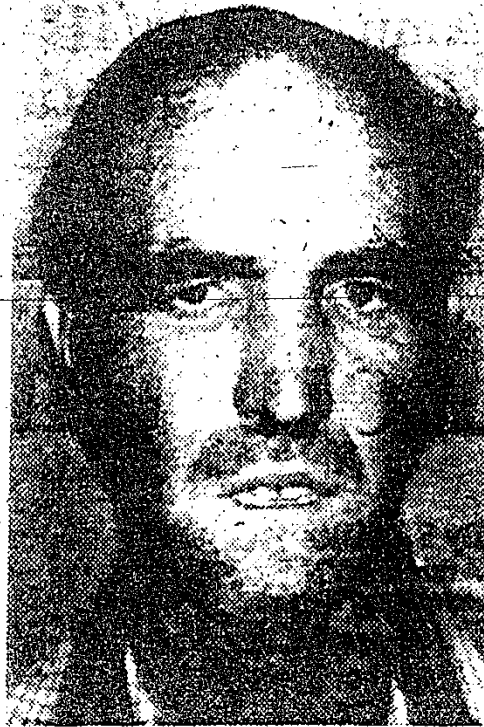
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erald Staff Writers Phil Long and Patrick  
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Ottis Toole: In a race?

# Nine plead guilty in numbers lottery

By AL MESSERSCHMIDT  
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cuit Judge Herbert Klein's court.

Klein ordered sentences of proba-

employed by Eastern since 1966,  
was sentenced to six years' proba-  
tion, ordered to pay \$10,000 in res-  
titution and ordered to complete  
500 hours of community service  
work. Pamela Burnett was sen-  
tenced to one year of probation  
with a \$1,000 fine. Klein withheld  
adjudication of guilt, which would  
leave the couple without criminal  
records if they complete probation.

● Jack Harold Mann, 41, of 6790  
NW 186th St., a onetime operator

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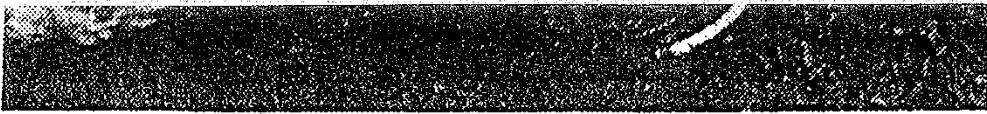
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RANDY BAZEMORE / Miami Herald Staff

## Shall we dance?

This tanned and winsome little Hurricane fan was among those treated to a huge hug Tuesday night by Ibis, mascot of the University of Miami football Hurricanes, during homecoming festivities in preparation for Saturday's game against West Virginia. The No. 7-ranked 'Canes will take on the West Virginia, ranked No. 12, in the Orange Bowl, and in preparation homecoming festivities continue through the week.

## Capsules

*Miami Herald Wed. 10/21/83  
Pg 3B*

## Search continues for boy's body

Police and forensic technicians using stainless-steel probing rods failed Tuesday to find any remains of 6-year-old Adam Walsh in a snake-infested marshland along Florida's Turnpike in northern St. Lucie County.

After laboring for five hours Tuesday, authorities will resume work today with a sensitive soil-analysis machine they say might pinpoint the whereabouts of a buried body.

Ottis Elwood Toole, an itinerant

handyman and convicted arsonist, told Hollywood police he killed and buried the boy in the marsh, two officials familiar with the search said Tuesday. Toole then drove several miles north before throwing the boy's head in a canal, said the officials, who would not allow their names to be used.

Fishermen found the boy's head floating near the turnpike's 130-mile marker two weeks after he vanished from the Hollywood Mall on July 27, 1981.

## High school student slashed with razor

A 17-year-old student at North Miami Senior High School was cut on the face several times by a 14-year-old wielding a razor-tipped cutting tool Tuesday morning in a school hallway, police said.

Mario Canizale, 17, of 14015 NE 10th Ave., was taken to North Miami General Hospital, where he was treated for facial lacerations and released.

North Miami police said the 14-year-old female student, who attends North Miami Junior High School, 13105 NE Seventh Ave., was charged with aggravated battery. Police arrested her several blocks from the school. Police said the incident stemmed from an argument.

It was the third violent incident at the school, 800 NE 137th St.

## Teacher wins Hialeah Gardens council seat

AA-01 Death Notices



### KRAVEC

CHAYA 83 resident of community for originally from Cuba for 35 is survived by son, Jose, Jr. and daughter, Elise from Eugene, Lt. Pura; 16 grand and 12 great-grandchildren. She was a mother, a teacher and guide for the entire family. Funeral services held Wednesday 1:30pm with burial to follow at Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

"THE RIVER" Guardian Plaza 1920 Alton 531-11

### ANHALT

CECIL 89 passed away resident of community for originally from is survived by wife, Irwin (Dina), daughter, Shirley, children, Helen, Edward, and great-grandson, Justin; Mr. Anhalt was active in the Jewish War Veterans Post 330 Beach. Local services will be held at 1:30pm with side services the following day at 10:00am Mount Ararat Cemetery in Far Rockaway, N.Y.

"THE RIVER" Guardian Plaza 2230 Hollywood 523-581

### BAUMGARTE

JACK 66 of Pittsburgh, Pa. died Oct. 24, 1983. He was survived by wife, Mrs. Josephine (Jay); sons, Ron, Fla. and Harry, Fla.; daughter, Mrs. Josephine (Jay); grandsons, Harry, Fla. and Harry, Fla.; granddaughters, from Alterman, Fla. and from Carnell Mason, Fla. and from Union, Fla. He was a member of the Pittsburgh 60-471. Private services by VAN DYKE & COMPANY, N. MIAMI CITY. Memorials to the American Cancer Society.

### CORTEZ

000864

# Rental car executive charged in theft ring

Miami Beach police said Wednesday that they have cracked an auto theft ring with the arrest of a car rental agency executive.

Joaquin Cortizo, 38, an owner of Miami Rent-a-Car, admitted his involvement in a scheme to steal late-model luxury autos parked at hotels, substitute their license tags with tags from his rental cars, sell the stolen cars for \$500 to \$1,000 and provide the new owners with phony rental papers, investigators said.

Most of the autos were stolen while parked at the Deauville and Seville hotels, where Cortizo operated rental agencies, police said.

Investigators said they learned of the car theft ring after Miami Shores officers stopped a man in a stolen Lincoln Continental who implicated Cortizo.

Officers Ken Miller and Doug Bales of Miami Beach's Crime Suppression Team on Tuesday arrested Cortizo, of 1120 SW 102nd Ave., on charges of auto theft, dealing in stolen property, conspiracy, and worthless checks.

Cortizo told police that a car valet at one of the hotels was involved in the conspiracy, and was paid \$100 for each key he supplied for Cadillacs and Lincoln Continentals.

Jorge Reyes, 33, of 8701 Mindello St., Coral Gables, who works at the agency operating out of the Seville, was arrested for possession of cocaine, police said.

## Drifter gave vivid details of boy's death

When he confessed to killing 6-year-old Adam Walsh, Otis Elwood Toole gave a flawless description of the child's clothes and the place he was abducted, police said Wednesday.

He told how he snatched the child, drove off in a battered Cadillac and beat the boy unconscious, in a rubbish-strewn marsh in northern St. Lucie County, Toole said, he cut off the child's head with a machete, then buried the body.

Police say the detailed confession last Friday convinced them that Toole was Adam's murderer, Wednesday, after two fruitless days searching the marsh, they remained optimistic — but stressed the importance of finding the boy's remains.

"We have to have something other than [Toole's] statement that 'I killed the boy,'" said Hollywood Police Chief Sam Martin, whose department is leading the search.

Searchers began using a ground-penetrating radar device borrowed from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the first time late Wednesday.

## Man found dead in South Dade complex

Metro-Dade police late Wednesday were investigating a shooting death of a man at a South Dade apartment building.

Police had not yet identified the man. He was found shot to death Wednesday afternoon at the building, 20001 SW 110th Ct. Police said nobody had been arrested in connection with the shooting.

## Wanderer, 4, is given to his grandparents

A 4-year-old boy who was found wandering around downtown Miami three weeks ago was turned over to his grandparents Tuesday after a hearing before a juvenile court judge.

Circuit Court Judge Adele Segall Faske awarded custody of little Bobby David Abercrombie to his maternal grand-

## Capsules

The driver told investigators he didn't see Buhl until it was too late to avoid hitting him. He has not been charged, police said.

Buhl was taken to Mercy Hospital, where he died later.

## Haitians plan service for 33 who perished

A memorial service for the 33 Haitians who drowned two years ago off Hillsboro Beach in Broward County will be at 7 p.m. today at the Haitian Catholic Center, 110 NE 62nd St.

The Haitians who washed ashore after their rickety craft, the Nativite, broke up in the Atlantic Ocean on Oct. 26, 1981, have become a symbol for the Haitian community

here, said the Rev. Thomas Wenski, pastor of Notre Dame d'Hauti. The brief service in front of the

cross between the Catholic Center and the church will be conducted by Father Wenski.

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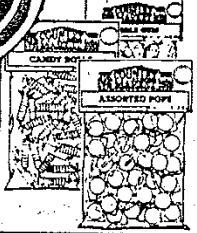
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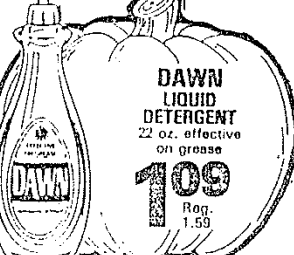


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for music scholarships and for the mandarin institute of Recorded Sound at the U.M. "I have an interest in the human race and I did not want this to be forgotten."

The collection includes the original transcript into English of the trial of Adolf Eichmann, the full transcripts of the Nuremberg trials of the Nazi war criminals and a photo album showing the destruction of the

shows.

"There's a great drive to get as many sources and resources about the Holocaust [as possible] so it will not disappear," said Fagin. "The message has been so totally neglected for so many years that we have to do it with more intensity."

when it arrived in Miami includes 99 rare black palm eclectus parrots.

They were arrested Friday by which the government

## Big cougar

By YVES COLON  
Herald Writer

Visibly worn out from a tussle Friday night, Barbara Gammon against the door of her back Friday afternoon and looked blood marks and the gaping hole in the screen.

She wished it had all been lowen prank.

But the thumpings and gro in her Miami Springs yard day night didn't come from a prankster. They belonged to a cat — probably a cougar —

## Capsules

### Help asked

Metro detectives were looking for help Friday in identifying a little boy whose remains discovered sealed in ceme the closet of a vacant apart the day before.

No one has reported him ing, according to detectives pored over missing person ports from throughout the s

"We need help with this," Metro-Dade Homicide Det W.D. Merritt. "If we can fir next of kin of the child, n

### Suspended Surfs

Suspended Surfside 1 Chief Kenneth Galusha pl no contest to charges of wi tampering and perjury and sentenced to five years of p tion Friday in Dade C Court.

Galusha's attorney Philip ton Jr. called Judge Richard er's decision "a gross injus

### Nesbitt nominate

President Reagan Friday mally nominated Dade C Judge Lenore Nesbitt to re U.S. District Judge C. Clyd kins on the federal bench in Southern District of Florida.

Nesbitt, 51, whose nomi

## School co

By MARK SILVA  
Herald Staff Writer

Workers have started spray protective sealant on plaster ings in Melrose Elementary S that recently were found to co asbestos, according to a Dade ( ty school official.

The ceilings — in four kind ten classrooms and the school torium — apparently escape notice of inspectors four year: when the School Board launc \$4-million countywide effort t the schools of asbestos, said A ant Superintendent Sam Blank.

The asbestos contained in plaster at Melrose has pose

# Police criticized as search ends for Walsh's body

By PHILIP WARD  
And PHIL LONG  
Herald Staff Writers

An intensive four-day search of a St. Lucie County marsh for the remains of Adam Walsh ended in vain Friday amid criticism that Hollywood police botched the effort with an earlier attempt to find the murdered youth's grave.

"It was like a Chinese fire drill," said Bob Stone, state attorney for the 19th Judicial District, which includes the search site.

"I don't mind saying I am upset because they went out there and conducted a search initially on their own without contacting the sheriff, without contacting our office."

He added: "Our office was contacted only after they had been unsuccessful and they needed additional help."

Eight days ago, Ottis Elwood Toole confessed to abducting the six-year-old boy outside Sears at the Hollywood Mall. He led Hollywood police to the marsh, near the 126-mile marker on Florida's Turnpike.

There, he said, he had beheaded the boy with a machete, then buried his body. Hollywood police dug for eight hours. They found nothing.

Neither did scores of other investigators, who scoured the site four days this week with probes, a sensitive radar device and, finally, heavy earth-moving machinery.

"The search was totally negative," said Dave Powers, chief investigator for the State Attorney's Office in St. Lucie County.

Because of the digging done by Hollywood police, Stone said, the radar equipment brought in to detect disturbed ground was ineffective. But he reserved his strongest criticism for their failing to notify local authorities.

Hollywood police "had an obligation to contact us," Stone said. "If it is going to be screwed up, let us screw it up."

"I sure would have liked to have talked to Toole myself when he was here," said Steve Williams, a detective sergeant with the St. Lucie Sheriff's Office.

"We have one of the best homicide units in the state," Hollywood police spokesman Ron Pagano said.

"Maybe the attorneys should be down digging in the dirt instead of

shooting their mouths off. It's a shame that this case has turned into a name-calling event."

Meanwhile Friday, crime laboratory technicians in Jacksonville said they will test the Cadillac Toole said he used in the abduction for evidence to positively link him to the crime — the boy's blood or fingerprints. Authorities have a set of Adam's fingerprints with which to compare any they find in the car.

### Adam's father fails to delay Sears' questions

John Walsh lost a bid Friday to postpone a fifth time his questioning by attorneys defending Sears and the Hollywood Mall in his suit over his son's abduction and death.

Walsh's suit contends that negligence on the part of Sears and the mall resulted in Adam Walsh's abduction two years ago. The boy's head was found in an Indian River County canal two weeks after he disappeared from the mall.

Walsh's attorney, Samuel Holland, argued it would be inconvenient for his client to return to Broward from Washington, D.C., where he is lobbying for legislation dealing with missing children.

But Circuit Judge J. Carl Lee ordered Walsh to give testimony today to Sears attorney Richard Gordon and mall attorney Rex Conrad, who want to question him about the crime and the recent confession of Ottis Elwood Toole to Adam's murder.

Gordon and Conrad are scheduled Monday to question Toole in Jacksonville.

At Friday's hearing in Fort Lauderdale, Gordon and Conrad said they were exasperated by Walsh or his attorney postponing four earlier dates for taking the statement.



Walsh

Miami Herald 10/29/83 pg. 2B



BOB EAST / Miami Herald Staff

amed through before house

## garage door ed drug lab

finger. A number of things could set them

gators searching the ruins found a hand- remains of a night stand, a fully equipped in a bedroom, and chemical cans and further room and in the kitchen.

nt casings or bullets were found. Police it what neighbors thought were gunshots soil cans or ammunition exploding in the

nds like the occupants of the house real- ame had started, and being chemists, and he chemicals involved, made a hasty evac- hout opening the garage door," Wood-

suspected that some of the occupants been singed in a flash fire, but a check of emergency rooms for possible victims

van said he believes all the occupants got re the explosion. "If anybody had been in- would have been knocked silly," he said.

ors say the house did not appear to be full-time residence. People were not seen daily basis, and when they were, the ac- suspicious, they said.

with smoked glass windows would pull scGowan. "The garage door would go up, down. They were not your typical type of (t's a nice neighborhood."

state records reveal that the house is a corporation: Santiago Enterprises, Inc.. Detectives are tracing the principals.

## Traces of Santeria found often among drug dealers, police say

Wetli has written several scholarly papers on the

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Details on 2A

# The Miami Herald

56 pages

Tuesday, November 1, 1983

## Walsh Suspect Recants Co

Toole now denies abducting and murdering six-year-old boy; police search through car.

By PHILIP WARD  
Herald Staff Writer

Ottis Elwood Toole, the Jacksonville drifter who confessed to the 1981 murder of six-year-old Adam Walsh, is now saying he didn't kill the boy, a defense lawyer said Monday.

"He is denying any implication in the

Adam Walsh case whatsoever. At this point he maintains his innocence in the Adam Walsh case notwithstanding what he told the Hollywood Police Department," said Elton Schwarz, chief public defender for the state's 19th Judicial District.

Schwarz, reached in Tallahassee Monday night, said that Toole has been claiming inno-

cence in the case ever since he was first interviewed by an investigator from Schwarz's office Friday.

Toole could be tried in the 19th District, which includes St. Lucie County, where Toole told Hollywood police he killed the boy.

"He denies he killed Adam Walsh, or that he ever saw Adam Walsh," Schwarz said. He said he had not discussed, however, the variance in that position from Toole's earlier confession to the Hollywood Police.

Meanwhile, crime-lab experts began



# Miami Herald

Gulf Edition

Tuesday, November 1, 1983

25 cents

## Toole Denies Confession



Ottis Elwood Toole: Denies murder charge.

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Meanwhile, crime-lab experts began

spraying Toole's 1971 Cadillac with "super glue" Monday, seeking conclusive evidence that Toole used the car in the abduction and murder of Adam Walsh two years ago.

"We'll be testing for fingerprints, hairs, fibers and bloodstains," said Steve Pfaff, chief of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Jacksonville bureau. "It could take four or five days."

Schwarz said Toole was aware authorities were searching his Cadillac for Walsh's fin-

Please turn to TOOLE / 15A

## Navy bomber hit hospital, U.S. confirms

Cuban evacuation delayed / 13A.

Democrats plan visit / 14A.

By R.A. ZALDIVAR  
Herald Staff Writer

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada — A U.S. bomb that was apparently intended for a Grenadian army fort but hit a nearby insane asylum was blamed Monday for the largest civilian losses in the week-old American invasion.

At least 13 patients of the Richmond Hills Mental Home were killed in the bombing, which took place amid heavy fighting when the Americans landed on this Caribbean island Oct. 25.

In Washington, the Pentagon reported Monday that the U.S. casualty toll had risen to 18 American servicemen killed in action in Grenada, with 86 wounded and one missing.

St. George's returned to business almost as usual Monday. Some American paratroopers and reporters had coconut milk from

### Argentines vote 'ghosts' out of office



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# Adam Walsh murder suspe

TOOLE / From 1A

gerprints, but the lawyer declined to comment further.

So far, the only thing connecting Toole to the crime is his confession. After a four-day search last week, investigators were unable to find the boy's body where Toole said he buried it.

"I still feel we have a prime suspect, Toole, in this crime," said Hollywood Police Chief Sam Martin. "We just want to prove something — one way or another."

"We are not certain that it was him; but we're not certain it's not, either," said Hollywood police spokesman Tony Alderson. "We are convinced we have sufficient evidence to pursue this avenue."

"There are still a lot of unanswered questions [about Toole's confession] that until we have them answered we won't present a case to the [Broward] state attorney."

Toole confessed, Hollywood po-



Adam Walsh: Abducted and killed in 1981.

lice said, that he killed the boy, beheaded him, then buried his body in marshland along Florida's Turnpike in St. Lucie County.

But an intensive four-day search of the marsh, employing scores of investigators and heavy earth-moving machinery, turned up nothing — and dimmed convictions that Toole was telling the truth.

When they announced the confession at a press conference Oct. 21, Hollywood police said they would file charges within three days — but none were.

Broward State Attorney Michael Satz met with Hollywood detectives for a second time Monday, but declined to comment on the case.

"We're almost positive the car was used in the crime," Chief Martin said. "It was definitely linked to Toole. We know where the car was before the Walsh murder, and we know where it was after."

As to where the car, white with black vinyl top, has been for the past two years, Martin said, "I wish to hell I could tell you."

In Jacksonville, sheriff's officials who released the car to the FDLE refused to say where they recov-

ered it. They not to discuss Platt, the said the "sup called cyano mixed with

## Senate kills arms-freeze resolution

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Senate on Monday rejected 58 to 40 a resolution calling for the United States and the Soviet Union to reach agreement on a mutually verifiable freeze on the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons.

The vote was the high water mark so far on a grass roots movement to put pressure on both Soviet and American leaders to halt the arms race by simply calling it off.

A similar resolution was approved in the Democrat-controlled House earlier this year, but until now, there had been no vote in the full Senate.

The resolution was attached to a critical debt limit bill which must be approved for the federal government to continue to borrow funds, and thus continue to operate.

The freeze proposal, opposed by President Reagan, came to Congress after hundreds of local organizations around the country gathered petitions, and raised money to get the idea taken seriously in Washington.

"I believe the U.S. public is at the head of the pack," said Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D., Mass.), who introduced the resolution.

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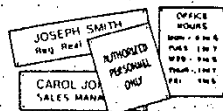


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# Murder suspect now denies crime

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In Jacksonville, sheriff's officials who released the car to the FDLE refused to say where they recov-

ered it. They are under court order not to discuss the case.

Platt, the FDLE crime lab chief, said the "super glue" is a substance called cyano-acrylate, which when mixed with a base and sprayed on

surfaces turns fingerprints white.

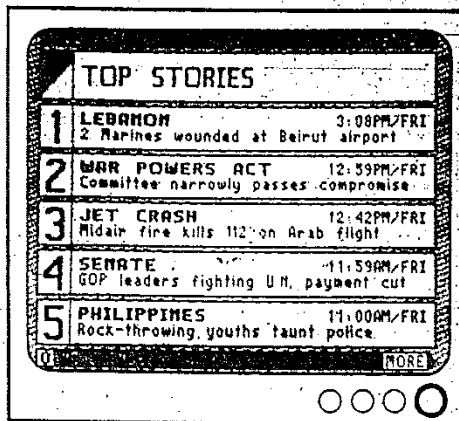
A crime lab in Tallahassee will also go over the Cadillac with an argon-laser device for latent prints, he said.

But, Platt cautioned, the time

elapsed time would work against connecting the car to the Walsh murder.

"It's going to make recovery of any evidence very difficult," he said.

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# The Miami He

56 pages

Tuesday, November 1, 1983

## Walsh suspect recants con

Toole denies even having seen murdered boy, attorney states; car being searched for clues.

By PETER CARY  
And PHILIP WARD  
*Herald Staff Writers*

Ottis Elwood Toole, the Jacksonville drifter who confessed to the 1981 murder of six-year-old Adam Walsh, now says he didn't do it.

"He is denying any implication in the Adam Walsh case whatsoever," Elton

Schwarz, chief public defender for the 19th Judicial District, said Monday. "He denies he killed Adam Walsh or that he even saw Adam Walsh."

"That is the story he has been telling us since Friday. He has not taken any other position with us. He denies it altogether."

Schwarz sent two members of his staff to Jacksonville to interview Toole, who could

be tried in the 19th District. The district includes St. Lucie County; where Toole told Hollywood police he had cut off the boy's head and buried his body.

A four-day search of the site last week, employing scores of investigators and heavy earth-moving machinery, turned up nothing.

So far, the only thing connecting Toole to the crime is his confession, which police have said contains details only the killer would know.

Hollywood police began questioning Toole, a suspect in nearly 100 murders across the country, after he told a Jacksonville detec-

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## Woman, 78, toles gun, foils burglar

Heart patient holds  
intruder for police

By DEB KOLLARS  
*Herald Staff Writer*

A 78-year-old woman with a pacemaker and a lot of courage captured a would-be burglar at gunpoint Monday and held him — face down on her living room floor — until police arrived.

Then, reluctantly, Cleta Marshall climbed aboard a stretcher for an ambulance ride to a hospital for treatment of chest pains from her racing heart.

Marshall

Marshall, who lives in a shaded, secluded little coral rock house in the Redland area of southwest Dade, said she heard noises in her back room about 11 a.m. She thought it was a raccoon.

She peeked out her bathroom



# Herald

Final Edition

1, 1983

25 cents

## s confession

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he site last week. tigators and heavy urned up nothing. onnecting Toole to which police have the killer would

questioning Toole. murders across the Jacksonville detec-

tive about abducting and killing a small boy from the Fort Lauderdale area.

When they announced the confession at a press conference Oct. 21, Hollywood police said they would file charges within three days. No charges have been filed in the Walsh case.

Schwarz, who has not spoken with Toole himself, couldn't explain why the 36-year-old convicted arsonist told investigator Robert Coppock and assistant Robin Frierson one

Please turn to TOOLE / 15A



Ottis Elwood Toole: Denies murder charge.



# U.S. Bombed Mental Home On Grenada

Cuban evacuation delayed / 13A

Democrats plan visit / 14A

By R.A. ZALDIVAR  
*Herald Staff Writer*

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## Argentines vote 'ghosts' out of office

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# Police hope suson

**WALSH / From 1A**

thing and Hollywood police in-  
er.

"You can take [Toole's] family and do whatever you want with it," Hollywood Police Chief Sam Martin said late Monday night. "That will have no effect whatsoever on our investigation."

Earlier in the day, Martin said, "I still feel we have a suspect, Toole, in this case. We just want to prove something one way or another."

Seeking the chief, he says, evidence, crime-lab experts b-

ing Monday the 1971 C-119, he said he had in the 1970s.

was a testing for fingerprints, hairs, fibers and bloodstains," said Steve Platt, chief of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Jacksonville bureau. "It could take four or five days."

The FDLE will use cyanoacrylate "super glue" and an argon laser device to raise latent fingerprints. But, Platt cautioned, the elapsed time would work against investigators.

## Recovery difficult

"It's going to make recovery of evidence very difficult," he said.

Platt said Toole was aware of the search for fingerprints. He said he was in contact with the Jacksonville bureau for further information.

Platt said he was in contact with the Jacksonville bureau for further information. He said he was in contact with the Jacksonville bureau for further information.

## Senate

## arms-freeze

## resolution

**WASHINGTON** — The Senate on Monday rejected a resolution calling for the United States and the Soviet Union to reach agreement on a mutually verifiable freeze on the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons.

The vote was 53-41, a mark so far on a grain agreement to put pressure on the Soviet and American leaders.

Both Florida senators, Sen. Lawton Chiles and Kenneth Paula Hawkins, voted to not kill the freeze measure.

A similar resolution was approved in the Democrat-controlled House earlier this year, but now, there had been no vote in the full Senate.

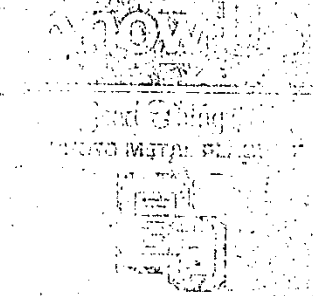
The resolution was attached to a critical debt limit bill which must be approved for the federal government to continue to borrow funds and thus continue to operate.

The freeze proposal, approved by President Reagan, came to Congress after hundreds of local organizations around the country gathered petitions, and sent them to Washington.

"I believe the U.S. should be the head of the pack," said Sen. M. Kennedy (D., Mass.), who introduced the resolution.

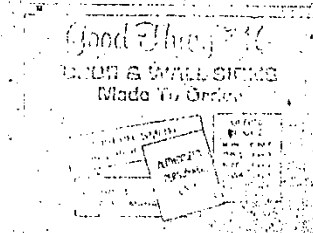
The non-binding proposal declared that the U.S. and Soviet Union should "pursue an immediate and complete halt to the nuclear arms race."

The resolution also called on the superpowers to negotiate a major reduction of nuclear warheads.



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# Police still want to question

By JENNIFER CERVEN  
Herald Writer

Even though Otis Elwood Toole has recanted his confession that he killed Adam Walsh, investigators from at least 10 states still want to talk to him or his former lover about other crimes.

Toole and Henry Lee Lucas have admitted more than 100 killings, police say, and could be responsible for hundreds more.

But some investigators admit they are wary that Toole and Lucas may confess to crimes they didn't commit.

"The impression I get is that they'll confess to anything, given the opportunity," Michigan State Police Lt. Paul Wood said. "That's something the police should look out for."

Oklahoma City Detective Larry Koonce, who recently questioned Toole about 70 unsolved cases in that state, said the denial in the Walsh case won't affect his investigation.

Toole confessed to two Oklahoma City homicides. And, unlike in the Walsh case, police have solid physical evidence to back up the

## Hollywood police led Toole to confession

By PETER CARY  
Herald Staff Writer

The attorney for Otis Elwood Toole said Wednesday that he believes Hollywood police led his client into confessing to the murder of six-year-old Adam Walsh.

"From my conversations with Toole, I believe that suggestive questioning was used," said Robin Friarson, Toole's public defender. That questioning, Friarson said, told Toole "either directly or indirectly things he didn't know."

Friarson, however, said he had not seen or heard the confession, which Toole gave to Hollywood police Oct. 19 and is the only link between Toole and the abduction-murder of the Hollywood child July 27, 1981.

Toole later recanted the confession, but Hollywood police say he is still their suspect.

Police spokesman Tony Alderson reacted angrily to Friarson's claims. "This guy is trying to litigate this in the media, and we're not going to do it. We're not going to daily discuss the merits, the methods, and techniques that we used."

Alderson said Toole's confession was taken using "proper police methods," he was warned of his rights and the statement was given "freely and voluntarily." He said Toole did not request that a lawyer be present.

Friarson said his belief was based on "conversations with Toole and other people I've talked with," but he would not be more specific.

He said Toole originally told police that his companion, Henry Lee Lucas, was with him

confessions, Koonce said.

Sgt. Wilbur Williams of the Mobile, Ala., Police Department, recently talked to Toole in the Jacksonville jail, where he is waiting to begin a 20-year prison sentence for arson.

Toole said he had committed crimes in the Mobile area, Williams

said, but no specific cases have been pinned on the 36-year-old drifter.

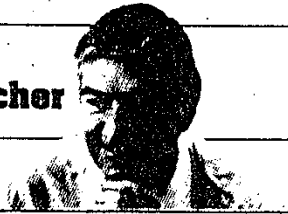
"We didn't want to go down there and dump all our unsolved cases on him," Williams said. "He told us right from the start, 'If I did the case, I'll take responsibility for it. If I didn't, I won't.'"

Mobile has one or two unsolved

homicides each year, Williams said, so choosing cases that fit a pattern was a simple matter.

Not so simple is the task police in Houston: Sgt. Williamson, a homicide detective, said the department is sorting through 1,100 unsolved cases going back seven years.

**Bill Braucher**



## Talk of future is unwelcome at any time

The confrontation was brief. But the question stayed with me Wednesday, probably because I was hit with it first thing in the morning.

"What do you think the future holds for mankind?"

Holy Moseal Was I dreaming?

Unless it's something hot to drink, confronting anything first thing in the morning is painful.

## Chicks are my nest egg,

By LAURA MISCH  
Herald Staff Writer

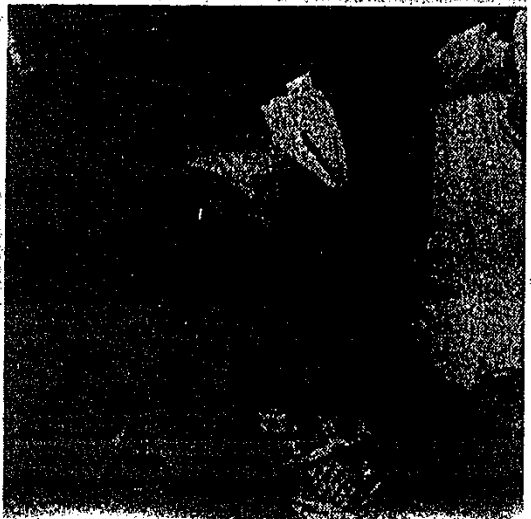
The embryo of an idea came to Billie Bollinger after a farm friend told her the best way to feather her nest: Get into the chicken business.

The idea grew, and it hatched full-blown last month when Bollinger bought 75 cheeping chicks and installed them in a makeshift pen in her back yard.

A genetic experiment, she calls it. She aims to breed what she calls "good-looking, walking city chickens" and sell them live to other breeders.

It's all part of her plan to make her home at 1224 NE 17th Ave. into a kind of Walter Mitty urban agricultural station.

Trouble is, keeping chickens is illegal in Fort Lauderdale.



# No question two drifters

## Toole to confess, lawyer says

He later recanted the confession, but Hol- police say he is still their suspect. ce spokesman Tony Alderson reacted an- Friarson's claims. "This guy is trying to this in the media, and we're not going to 'e're not going to daily discuss the merits, hods, and techniques that we used." erson said Toole's confession was taken proper police methods," he was warned ghts and the statement was given "freely untarily." He said Toole did not request wyer be present. erson said his belief was based on "con- ns with Toole and other people I've with," but he would not be more specific. said Toole originally told police that his ion, Henry Lee Lucas, was with him

when Adam was abducted and that Lucas killed Adam. "Then the police confronted him with the fact that Lucas was in jail at the time, and then he changed his story and broke down and admitted that he was the one."

Friarson claimed that Toole could not read or write. "The man cannot write his own confession, and he certainly cannot read it."

However, Jacksonville police records show that Toole wrote a complete sentence at the end of the three-page arson confession that he signed on June 6, 1983.

"I have read this statement and it is the truth as I told it to Detective Hyde and Detective Carroll. O.T." Toole wrote in a large, legible script, and signed his name.

cases have been ur-old drifter. t to go down our unsolved llams said. "He e start, 'If I did sponibility for '... r two unsolved

homicides each year, Williams said, so choosing cases that fit Toole's pattern was a simple matter.

Not so simple is the task facing police in Houston. Sgt. Ken Williams, a homicide detective, said the department is sorting through 1,100 unsolved cases going back seven years.

He attended a police conference in Monroe, La., in mid-October to learn details of the confessed killers' methods.

"That little meeting we had in Louisiana kind of opened up a book of worms for us.

"Since they supposedly did murders in our area, we had to go

through our murder books and pick out any without suspects since 1977, when they supposedly got together," Williamson said.

After reviewing about 250 cases, Williamson said 30 possibly could be attributed to Toole or Lucas. Once he has compiled a complete list of possible cases, Williamson wants to interview both men.

He'll be standing in a long line.

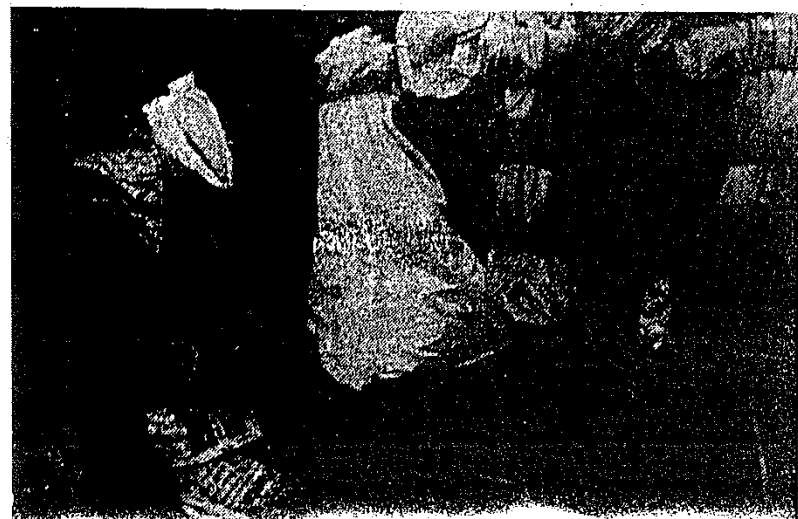
"Everybody who has an unsolved murder wants to talk to them," said Sgt. Steve Diamond of the Salt Lake City Police Department. "Our turn just hasn't come up yet. I guess we're a bit lower on the list."

Police in Westminster, Colo., want their turn, too. The small department sent a detective to the Monroe conference in hopes of finding a clue to the only unsolved murder in the Denver suburb's history.

The strangled body of 23-year-old Perrie Becker was found in a vacant Westminster field Dec. 6, 1975. Lucas may have been in the Denver area at the time.

"We haven't been definitely able to prove they did it," Cmdr. Matt Raja said. "But we haven't been definitely able to prove they didn't."

## By nest egg, she crows



## Students get a preview of Metrorail

METRORAIL / From 1C

Its scheduled December opening was offered as a reward to students with the best attendance records in Dade County in October. Most had never ridden a train before.

They cruised at 70 miles per hour over the rarely seen roofs, treetops, backyard swimming pools, rusty air-conditioning ducts and parking lots of Coral Gables, as far as Vizcaya Station and back to South Miami.

It was the first time passengers were taken all the way to Vizcaya, according to Herbert Smith, public affairs officer with Metro's Transportation Administration (MTA). Today the train is sched-

## Tea

By EDITH M. LEDE  
Associated Press

LONDON — By love affair with te again, with a revivals dances, trendy tea business deals over stead of a cocktail.

London's fashion Waldorf hotels are time dancers, who several cups of the cream-covered scon around the floor to arrangement of In th

"It's so English," agent Michael Leach orchestra break at th 16th Century-style d

"We like to keep t So many things go these days. You've look to find style. I we expected. In far dering what we can afternoon to top it."

Specialty tea sh brisk business. Re Egon Ronay said: "It pen nowadays that over a dainty cucur

## Physic may h

MENLO PARK, Ca A California physic has located the tom Great deep within t ancient tower in th south of Jerusalem.

If the discovery would be a major arc and the first attribut ficated new equipn "see" through earth

Herod the Great, v 73 B.C. to 4 A.D., is ruler who ordered th infant boys in Bethl tempt to thwart the slah. He is also know er of the Second Ten lem and other major ing the spectacular fo dium, where he is buried.

Lambert Dolphin, with SRI Internatio during this summer h ber team working found a secret chamb of a large, otherwis He said he believes t sought tomb of Herod

MIAMI HERALD Feb. 11/18/83 - 19 50

# Exhaustive police search fails to link accused drifter's car to Adam Walsh

By BRIAN DUFFY  
Herald Staff Writer

An exhaustive search of the car Otis Toole said he used to abduct Adam Walsh failed to yield enough evidence to present to the Broward State Attorney's Office, Hollywood police said Thursday.

Without evidence linking Toole to the boy, investigators are left with little more than the confession — which the Jacksonville drifter, a suspect in dozens of murders across the country, recanted earlier this month.

"It seems to me that they have reached the end of the line [in this case]," said Elton Schwarz, chief public defender for the 19th Judicial Circuit, who has offered to defend Toole if he is charged with murdering the boy.

Reading a brief, prepared statement Thursday, Hollywood police spokesman Tony Alderson said: "Certain evidence [from the search of the car] revealed negative or inconclusive results, while certain other evidence was positive . . . ."

"We will not present a case to the Broward State Attorney's Office until such time as every possible investigative lead is exhausted."

He would not elaborate on the statement and refused to answer questions about the search. Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) forensic technicians spent nearly three weeks examining Toole's 1971 Cadillac Sedan DeVille for Adam Walsh's fingerprints, blood, hair, fibers from his clothes or other evidence.

Such evidence would have been crucial to the case against Toole, a 36-year-old arsonist who admitted



Toole



Schwarz

last month to abducting Walsh from the Hollywood Mall in July 1981, killing him and cutting off his head. A few days later, he said he was lying.

The two years that have passed since the abduction did not necessarily result in the failure to find significant evidence, said Ernie Hamm, a FDLE supervisor who assisted in the examination.

"Time can have an effect," Hamm said. "But . . . detections can be made after a long period of time, even a longer period of time than this."

Hamm would not discuss the re-

sults of the search.

Hollywood police have said they think Toole snatched the boy from the mall, then drove north on Florida's Turnpike, killing him and cutting off his head in a marsh in St. Lucie County.

Fishermen found the boy's head in a canal two weeks later.

Last month, Toole led police to where he said he buried the boy's body. A week-long search by technicians using soil-analysis and earth-moving equipment failed to find any remains.

Prosecutors would have to present their case to a grand jury, which would decide whether the evidence was strong enough to indict Toole.

Lawyers familiar with grand jury proceedings said Thursday that, because Toole has recanted his confession and there is no physical evidence against him, the case is not strong enough to go to a grand jury.

## Police have suspect in bank robbery

North Miami Beach police have issued a warrant for the arrest of a man they think robbed a Sun Bank Oct. 27.

Police identified the suspect as Jorge Angel Ruiz, about 19 or 20, whose last known address was 139 Meridian Ave., Miami Beach. Ruiz has since left that address but is still in the area, police said.

The robbery of the bank, at 1576 NE 163rd St., North Miami Beach, was the second in October. On Oct. 13, a man, dressed in a tuxedo

walked off with \$6,350 in cash. He has not been identified.

In the second robbery, the suspect walked into the bank about 12:30 p.m. and gave the teller a note that said, "All your money or I'll kill you. No noise."

The teller put an undetermined amount of marked cash into a brown paper bag and the suspect ran out. But half a block away, police said, the suspect dropped the cash after a small exploding canister released tear gas and red dye.

## Reading

Sat., Jan. 7 &

A Newspaper in Education work developing reading instructional techniques and materials will be held on Jan. 7, 1984 at the Miami Herald building. The Miami Herald Newspaper in Education consultant, Dr. Arnold Chertoff of the University of Miami, will conduct the workshop.

### IMPORTANT

The Miami Herald Newspaper in Education workshop has been designed to include four components: comprehension, Detail, Vocabulary and Generalization enrichment activities using the newspaper. This workshop will also be demonstrated.

# MUST RAISE CASH

## SEVERE CASH CRUNCH EMERGENCY



# Aaron buys furniture We must

000876

# Parents of slain boy drop

By PETER CARY  
Herald Staff Writer

Adam Walsh's parents have dropped their suit against Sears Roebuck and the Hollywood Mall, claiming that the legal action had hindered their work on behalf of missing children.

The Walshes had filed suit July 22, claiming a Sears store's and the mall's negligence resulted in their six-year-old son's abduction two years ago.

The search for the boy, whose head was found in an Indian River County canal, and his father's efforts to get legislation passed to help missing children sparked nationwide interest and the recent TV movie, *Adam*.

"... The present litigation is detracting from the gains" the Walshes have made for missing and exploited children, the agreement ending the lawsuit said.

It also caused what Walsh attorney W. Sam Holland two weeks ago called the "public humiliation" of his clients.

Attorneys for Sears and the mall had fought to make public a sworn statement by family friend James Campbell, who claimed he had a two-year love affair



John Walsh



Reve Walsh

with Reve Walsh that ended shortly before her son disappeared.

In his deposition, Campbell said John and Reve Walsh used marijuana and cocaine socially when he lived with them. He also contradicted statements that

# War crimes suspect avoids jail, uses Ohio home to back bailbond

CLEVELAND — (UPI) — Accused Nazi death camp guard John Demjanjuk, whom Israeli authorities are attempting to extradite and try on war crimes charges, is out of jail after using his house to post \$50,000 bond Monday.

Demjanjuk, who has been stripped of his U.S. citizenship, did not appear in court this week, but his attorneys handed over the deed. He still lives in his \$60,000, suburban Cleveland house with his wife and three children.



Demjanjuk

U.S. District Magistrate David Perelman had ordered Demjanjuk, 63, a retired autoworker, to surrender to authorities or post bond by Monday afternoon.

"Now we're seeing the ridiculous theatrics of having to put up his home for ransom," said defense attorney Mark O'Connor.

Federal marshals said they arrested Demjanjuk Friday at the request of Israeli officials. In freeing Demjanjuk, Perelman said he probably would not flee before Monday because he had been free during his denaturalization trial and deportation proceedings but remained in Cleveland.

Israel's request for Demjanjuk's extradition marks the first time it has appealed to the United States to turn over an accused Nazi war

criminal. An extradition hearing is scheduled for January.

Adolf Eichmann was taken from Argentina to be tried in Israel for war crimes, and was executed in 1962.

The U.S. government alleged Demjanjuk was "Ivan the Terrible," a sadistic guard who operated the gas chamber at the Treblinka death camp in Poland, where 900,000 Jews perished during World War II.

U.S. District Judge Frank J. Battisti stripped Demjanjuk of his citizenship after a five-week trial in 1981.

O'Connor said he will ask the court to provide protection for Demjanjuk because he fears his client will be kidnaped or killed by foreign forces. But he said he knew of no specific plots against Demjanjuk.



# Top suit against store, mall

the Walshes made to police and attorneys. After the suit was filed, attorneys for Sears and the mall had contended the boy's abduction and death were due to the "negligence of his mother."

In papers signed Monday, Sears stipulated it "wholeheartedly supports the cause of prevention of crimes against children and improving the handling of missing children cases in this country."

Sears also cited the Walshes for having made "significant contributions" to that cause. Sears' attorney Richard Gordon could not be reached for comment.

Asked about a monetary settlement, mall attorney Rex Conrad said, "The entire agreement is in that stipulation."

Denny Abbott, director of the Adam Walsh Child Resource Center, said Monday, "I just talked to John, and he said he'd let the statement [in the court papers] speak for itself."

"The parties and the lawyers have agreed that we won't make any comment beyond that in the stipulation," Holland said.

On July 27, 1981, Reve Walsh took Adam to Sears

at the Hollywood Mall. She told police she left him with a group of boys playing a video game on display while she shopped for lamps about 50 feet away. Upon returning five to seven minutes later, she said, Adam was gone.

Two weeks later, the boy's head was found in a canal near Florida's Turnpike in Indian River County.

Ottis Elwood Toole, an itinerant Jacksonville roofer and convicted arsonist who is a suspect in scores of murders, told police last month that he killed Adam Walsh. He recanted the confession a few days later.

The Walshes' suit contended that a 17-year-old Sears security guard had chased Adam out of the store with a group of noisy older boys.

The suit also claimed that Sears gave the family little help as they tried to search for the missing child.

The suit never asked for any specific monetary amount, but Holland had stated that the Walshes sought "substantial damages for their horrible pain and suffering."

Such damages are normally set by the judge or the jury in negligence suits if they are to be awarded.

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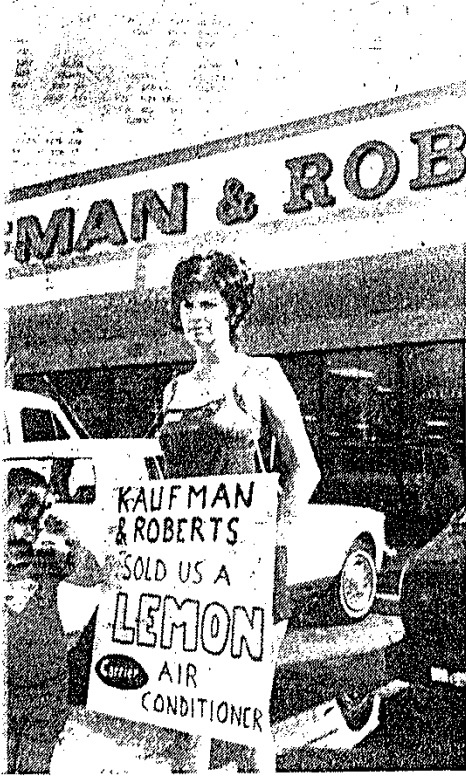
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been a team since between rodeo performances, they've not nobody looked twice. This is after an hour between a South Louisiana every schools and nursing homes, so Cajun must be week in the cowtown of Davie.



MARIA ROSAS / Miami Herald Staff

John III picket Kaufman and Roberts in

kaufmans into court hospital bill, Sandra in't help herself and top of her lungs, h of liars!" The judge e, but Sandra was lf, hey never did itemize aid. air conditioner, their now is to give the grief as they feel the m. until Christmas," said n, "we're going to ore. I warned them. I declare war on Kauf- erts. I told them I'd aggravation, just like n." his wife added, "Is ng taken for a ride in

this country and people should know about it. When you buy a new product and it's no good, stores say they'll fix it. Well, I'm gawd-derned fed up with that approach and I want the public to know." Kaufman and Roberts considered asking the shopping center to force the couple off private property, said vice president Lesser. But, "I don't want to make a bigger issue out of this. I think they really want to be arrested or something. They want notoriety." "They may be problem people who can't be satisfied." As a newspaper photographer snapped away at the couple Friday, Sandra Kaufman sighed. "Praise the Lord," she said, "At last, somebody showed up to take our picture."

Unidentified

blue jeans and a black h information contact as or Gary Ciani at e 1980 Cadillac report- by the burglar and an ases belonging to Mal- apers related to Mal- a mortgage company home. n abandoned in Miami, Highway Patrol nearly confronted Malcolm in the burglar returned to tealing the car. t \$200 was stolen from nly \$100 was found on reports on the finger- burglary scene.



Police drawing of slain robbery suspect.

# No clues found in state search of Toole's car

By BRIAN DUFFY  
Herald Staff Writer

A day after Louisiana investigators disclosed that Ottis Toole has again confessed to killing Adam Walsh, state forensic specialists said Wednesday they found no evidence linking the Jacksonville drifter to the abduction and murder of the six-year-old Hollywood boy.

In a confidential report to Hollywood police, Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) technicians said they had finished searching for the boy's fingerprints in a 1971 Cadillac Sedan DeVille once owned by Toole.

Ernie Hamm, an FDLE supervisor, would not discuss specifics of the test results Wednesday. But Hollywood police spokesman Tony Alderson said the three-week search of the car failed to yield enough evidence to present a case against Toole to the Broward State Attorney's Office.

"We are proceeding with the investigation," Alderson said. "We are not going to present any evidence to the State Attorney's Office... until we feel that there's nothing further that can be done in the investigation."

No further tests on the car are planned.

Statement wasn't taped

Louisiana police said Tuesday that Toole again said he murdered young Walsh two years ago. They do not have the statement on tape, the Louisiana detectives said.

"I didn't pin him down to specifics," said Mike Byrne, a detective with the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office who questioned Toole last week about an unrelated murder. "I asked him if he was the one that had killed Adam Walsh, and he just said, yes, he had done it."

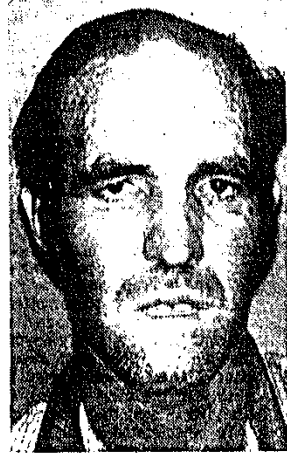
Toole, a convicted arsonist serving a 20-year sentence in a North Florida prison, has an IQ of 75 and reads at a third-grade level. With his former lover, a convicted murderer named Henry Lee Lucas, Toole, 36, is a suspect in scores of killings, abductions and mutilations across the country during the last seven years.

Alderson placed little importance on Toole's latest confession to the Walsh murder, and he intimated that reports of Toole's earlier recantation could have been made up.

Offer to defend Toole

Eltan Schwarz, chief public defender of the 19th Judicial Circuit, has offered to defend Toole if he is charged with murdering Walsh. He said last month that Toole told him he was lying when he confessed to Hollywood police that he abducted Walsh from the Hollywood Mall, killed him, then cut off his head in a St. Lucie County marsh.

"That [recantation] is only from the mouth of this Schwarz character," Alderson said Wednesday. "We have had subsequent conversa-



The case against Ottis Toole, above, has been hampered by the failure to get definitive results from the search of Toole's car.

tions where [Toole] has admitted [to the murder], and we don't really give a s - - what Schwarz says.

"It's not going to affect our investigation."

Schwarz would not comment Wednesday on the report of Toole's latest confession. He could not be reached later for a response to Alderson's comments.

Alfred Washington, a Jacksonville lawyer appointed to represent Toole in a separate murder case, also would not comment on the report of Toole's latest confession to the Walsh murder.

Since Toole's original confession, Hollywood police have maintained that he knew details only the killer could know.

But the case against Toole has been hampered by the FDLE's failure to get definitive results from the search of Toole's car and because police failed to discover the remains of Walsh where Toole said he buried the boy's body.

Hollywood detectives, assisted by an investigator from the Broward State Attorney's Office, are trying to determine Toole's movements at the time Walsh disappeared. They believe this will help them link him to the boy's murder.

MIAMI HERALD - TOOLE'S NOV. 24, 1983 - Broward pg. 2, BR

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at overflows daily behind the  
a that pours through their  
bing they say usually doesn't

Harold E. Rogers and Carlos R. Gonzalez, eviction notices. But Bourassa-Díaz said they had no right to evict the others without offering a plan and money for relocation.

"Usually, by morning you can swim out here,"

Please turn to TENANTS / 4BR



PAM SMITH O'HARA / Miami Herald Staff

dragged away from a courtroom after spitting at a judge.

## mad enough to spit, at judge in court

he prisoner made  
t. and shaking with  
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Judge J. Leonard  
and his legs were  
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killing," Fleet said,  
k right now."

communicate with

those who want to help you," Fleet said, "I have to act without the benefit of what you might have to say."

The guards strengthened their grips on Delaney.

"I hereby find you incompetent to stand trial, and I remand you to the custody of HRS [Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services] for . . . confinement and treatment . . . "Is there anything you wish to say?"

With a furious heave, Delaney spat across the room at the judge.

His timing faultless, Fleet shot back: "Let the record show that Mr. Delaney spat in the direction of the court, barely missing a charge of battery on the court reporter, and I find him in direct contempt of court and order him confined for a period of six months in jail immediately after his release from HRS."

"Now, bailiffs," Fleet said, "please remove this man from the dignity of this court."

After spitting again at a photographer, Delaney was placed in a headlock by one of the three guards, shoved through the courtroom door and dragged upside down, on his head and backward, down the hall to the jail.

## Hollywood cops hit 'dead end' in Walsh case

By BRIAN DUFFY  
Herald Staff Writer

Hollywood police have transferred the case against Otis Toole, the Jacksonville drifter accused of killing young Adam Walsh, into an inactive file. They said Thursday they may never be able to prosecute the man.

"It's kind of a dead-end case," said Jean Kirk, acting spokeswoman for the Hollywood police department. "... There is no new information and the case is not moving forward."

Toole is the only suspect in the case. Police said they may have enough evidence to have him indicted, but not enough to convict him.

By putting the Walsh case into the department's inactive, or "dead" file, detectives in effect have conceded they may never solve the 1981 murder of the 6-year-old Hollywood boy, whose disappearance inspired a television movie and a federal law to help track missing children.



Police department policy requires that inactive criminal cases be reviewed at least every two months by detectives not involved in the initial investigation. Police will continue to pursue new leads and tips in the Walsh case, the spokeswoman said, but detectives will not be assigned to it daily.

Hollywood police emphasized that the case against Toole is not closed. All murder investigations remain open, they said, until a suspect is arrested and tried.

Adam's father, John Walsh, who has moved his family to Washington D.C., was traveling in Detroit Thursday and could not be reached for comment on the department's action.

Toole, awaiting execution on Florida's Death Row for an unrelated murder in Jacksonville, had confessed to killing the tow-haired Hollywood boy, but later recanted. A suspect in dozens of other murders, Toole, 37, with an IQ of 75, was first identified as Walsh's killer by his ex-lover, a confessed mass murderer named Henry Lee Lucas.

Until this week, nearly a year after they named Toole as Walsh's killer, Hollywood police have refused to say anything about the case, repeating that Toole's confession showed he "knew things only the killer could have known."

The department's new statement Thursday came in response to a story in the TODAY newspaper in Cocoa, Fla., in which Hollywood detective Jack Hoffman was quoted as saying Toole no longer is a suspect in the murder case. The reporter, Laurin Bracey, questioned Hoff-

Please turn to WALSH / 8BR

## Troubled school gets extra help

By LAURA MISCH  
Herald Staff Writer

For teachers at Sunset Learning Center in southwest Fort Lauderdale, classes had become a physical battle for control. Some of the severely emotionally disturbed students would throw chairs, pull knives and hit other students and teachers.

Four students were arrested for assault during the first few weeks of the fall term. Police were called 10 times to restore order.

Finally, after one student yanked out her earring and another almost whacked her over the head with a chair, the new principal, Jane Nester, decided she had had enough.

In late September, she asked her area superintendent, William Dandy, for a teacher's aide in every classroom, a social worker and an extra security guard. She got them.

Members of the Broward County School Board listened in stunned silence Thursday when they learned that Dandy had hired the extra personnel without getting the board's approval.

After hearing his story, however, the board voted 3-2 to approve the transfer of \$116,042 from the general fund to pay for the nine new Sunset employees. Board chairman Bill Higginson and member Marie Harrington voted against it.

"An emergency situation existed there," Dandy told the board. "We are not dealing here with a typical school. I went there and met with teachers and saw that we could not meet the board's minimum requirements for education without these extra personnel. I take full responsibility for what I did."

The extra personnel were paid out of the school's budget, Dandy said. If the board had not approved the transfer of funds, the personnel would have remained on the staff and the school would have operated in the red, he said.

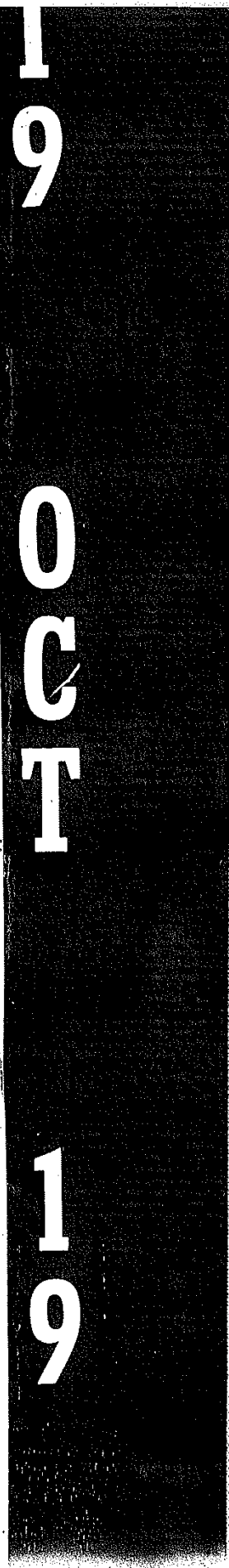
Since the seven teacher's aides began assisting in class, the disciplinary problems have almost stopped, Nester said.

The Sunset Learning Center, at 3775 SW 16th St., teaches 47 severely emotionally disturbed students aged 5 to 22, 14

Please turn to TROUBLED / 8BR

## ool project is for the birds

Miami Herald 10-19-84 - p. 13C



## What the School Board Did

What the Broward County School Board did Thursday:

**APPROVED AN A-through-F student grading system** based on teachers' interpretations. The board voted Oct. 4 on an emergency basis to discontinue a numerical grading scale. The letter grading system is already in effect under that emergency vote, but subsequent readings of the proposal are required.

**APPROVED A request for state funds by school Superintendent William Leary** for a school-based management grant that would examine the district's organizational structure.

**AGREED TO borrow up to \$1 million to buy 44 replacement buses.** The loan will be repaid from 1985-86 tax revenues.

**ACCEPTED AN internal audit of the school administration** by the accounting firm Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co.

**ACCEPTED AUDIT reports on Bright Horizons School, Pembroke Lakes Elementary and Pine Ridge Center.**

**DEFERRED AN interlocal agreement with the city of Pembroke Pines to build a human resource center in that city.**

## Walsh case may stay unsolved

WALSH /from IBR

man during research for an article to run on the anniversary of the press conference at which Toole was named as Walsh's killer.

"He was a suspect until we were able to put holes in his story," the newspaper quoted Hoffman as saying. "His confession only vaguely matched [details of the killing]."

Hollywood police contradicted the statement attributed to Hoffman Thursday, saying Toole still was a suspect and the case against him open.

A woman who answered the telephone at Hoffman's home Thursday referred all questions to the police department. Hoffman, who confirmed talking with a reporter from TODAY, did not answer requests for an interview Thursday. The newspaper stands by its account.

In closing the day-to-day investigation of Toole's involvement in the Walsh case, Hollywood police officials showed no more coordination Thursday than when they opened it, at the crowded press conference Oct. 21, 1983.

That night, before a bank of blinding television lights, senior police officials said Toole had confessed to the murder and that

charges would be filed against him within days.

No charges have ever been filed. Indeed, even as police officials answered questions at the late-night press conference, Toole was stumbling around a trash-strewn marsh with investigators in northern St. Lucie County, where he said he dumped the boy's body. Toole led police to the site along Florida's Turnpike where he said buried the body after severing the head with a machete. The head was found in a canal near Vero Beach two weeks after the boy vanished.

The body, despite an exhaustive search of the marsh with sophisticated ground radar, has never been found.

Later, Hollywood police paid for an exhaustive search of Toole's beat-up 1971 Cadillac Sedan DeVille, in which he said he abducted young Walsh from the Hollywood Mall.

Investigators who carried out the search later said nothing of value was discovered.

Despite the obstacles confronting police, and the problems that plagued their investigation, many still believe Toole killed Walsh.

But because of the gaping holes in the case, Adam Walsh's family may never know how he died, or where.

## Deaths

**AUSTERMANN, Anton J.**, 82, of Hollywood, died Thursday. Services in Aurora, Ill. Winiter Federal Highway Funeral Home.

**BARR, Raymond E. Sr.**, 77, of Fort Lauderdale, died Oct. 11. Services 1 p.m. Saturday, National Church of God. Benton Funeral Home.










**BEJA, Nadisha**, 87, of Lauderdale Lakes, died Tuesday. Services 11 a.m. today, Jennings-Talbot Funeral Home.

**KIMES, Arthur**, 57, of Fort Lauderdale, died Monday. Services 3 p.m. today, Fred Hunter's University Drive Funeral Home.

**LEWIS, Marguerite E.**, of Fort Lauderdale, died Tuesday. Services 7 p.m. today, Fairchild North Federal Funeral Home.

**MANOS, James**, 84, of Davis, died Thursday. Services 10 a.m. Saturday, Forest Lawn South Funeral Home.

**WATSON, Bob**, 81, of Tallahassee, died Wednesday.

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	<b>BG1 BG2 OPPORTUNITY BG3</b>
	<b>BI4 EMPLOYMENT</b>
	<b>BK5 DIRECT</b>
	<b>BM6 PETS /</b>
	<b>BM7 MERC</b>
	<b>BR8 REG VEH</b>
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# Broward News

For Your Information / 6BR  
 Religion / 6BR  
 Classified / 7BR

Friday, August 2, 1985

The Miami Herald Section BR

## Cop rules out drifter in Walsh case

By PAUL SHANNON  
 Herald Staff Writer

The commander of the Hollywood police detective division said Thursday he doesn't believe Otis Toole, the Jacksonville drifter accused of killing Adam Walsh, committed the murder.

"It was virtually impossible for those men to have been where they said they would be," Capt. Steve Davis said of the confessions of Toole and his ex-lover, confessed mass murderer Henry Lee Lucas. "Everything the man told us proved false. We left no stones unturned."

Davis' statement was the first from the Hollywood Police Department on the investigation since last October, when they moved the case against Toole to an inactive file. Police said then they may have enough evidence to have Toole indicted for the 1981

murder of the Hollywood boy, but not to convict him.

A year earlier, officials had called a televised press conference to announce charges would be filed against Toole within days. His confession, they said then, showed he "knew things only the killer could have known."

"Everything he said was very ambiguous," Davis said Thursday.

What ruled out Toole in Davis' mind was the work of detectives who traveled to Newport News, Va., and followed Toole's alleged route to Florida. Davis said "time frames" in the string of crimes Toole and Lucas have confessed to proved impossible. He would not elaborate.

Adam's father, John Walsh, didn't return calls Thursday to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in Washing-

ton, D.C., where he is a consultant. Toole, a 38-year-old man with an IQ of 75, is on Florida's Death Row for an unrelated killing. He was first identified by Lucas as the killer of Adam, whose disappearance from a Hollywood mall inspired a federal law to track missing children and a television movie.

Toole confessed and led police to a marsh in St. Lucie County where he said he had buried the boy's decapitated body. The head had been found in a Vero Beach canal two weeks after the disappearance. The body was never found.

Toole later recanted, confessed again, then recanted again.

Toole's and Lucas' confessions to murders throughout the South have increasingly been questioned by law enforcement offi-

cial. Police have unearthed records that indicate Lucas was receiving food stamps in Florida when he said he was on a murder spree in Texas.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement has been working for months to evaluate the credibility of Toole's confessions to crimes in Florida, including the Adam Walsh killing.

FDLE spokesman Fred Schneyer and Mickey Watson, FDLE's chief investigator on the Toole confessions, would not comment specifically on the Adam Walsh case because the FDLE report isn't complete. "I am having difficulty accepting some of the things Toole has said," Watson said.

Hollywood police have named no other suspects in the case.



Otis Toole: Everything he told police 'proved false.'

# Concorde visit a first for Broward

## Arrival signals new era

BY ROBERT L. STEINBACK  
 Herald Staff Writer

Four Rolls Royce engines blast...

Sun-Sentinel, Tuesday, February 20, 1996 Section B

## Police: Blood in car may not help Walsh case

By WARREN RICHEY and SCOTT GLOVER Staff Writers

Even if Hollywood police could find bloody evidence taken from a 1971 Cadillac that Otis Toole once said he used to carry Adam Walsh to his car, it may not be of much use to investigators today.

There may be nothing left to compare the blood to. Police say blood detected on the carpet of Toole's car in 1983 may have come

Medical office's few remains of boy hinder DNA test from Adam Walsh's severed head, which even if it's found, there may not be enough left of Adam Walsh's remains to make a DNA match.

Even if there had been enough blood to do a DNA test, Broward Medical Examiner Joshua Perper said, "I think too much time has passed."

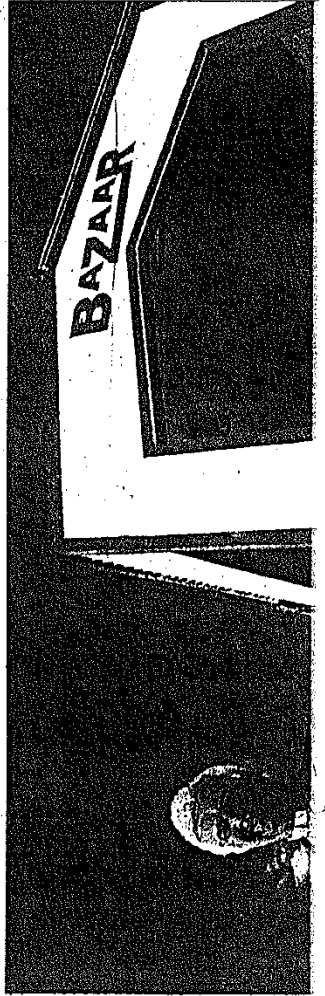
The Broward Medical Examiner's Office has maintained custody of Adam's Norris.

In the meantime, detectives are continuing to search for the bloody carpet. "We're not sure it's going to be fruitful when and if we find it," said Todd DeAngelis, also of the Hollywood Police Department. "Nonetheless, we want to have that evidence."

A solution to at least part of the problem may come with further advances in DNA testing. Sarah Yarborough, a spokeswoman for the North Carolina lab that has performed blood tests on some evidence in

PLEASE SEE ADAM /4B

## Gay church plans center



Group turning flea market into community hub

By ROBERT NOLIN Staff Writer

Leave it to a most uncommon church to embark on a most uncommon mission: Turn a failed gargantuan flea market into the epicenter of South Florida's gay universe. The Metropolitan Community

## Tribe's immunity from suit challenged

Attorneys: Seminole have lost protection

By BOB FRENCH

ADAM

SEMINOLES

FROM PAGE 1B

**DNA test difficult with few remains of boy, officials say**

the Walsh case, declined to speak about the case specifically.

But she said it may be possible to make a genetic match without having a sample of the victim's blood.

This is done, she said, by taking samples from both parents and comparing them with the blood thought to be the victim's.

"The child would have markers from the mother that matched and from the father that matched," she said. "Theoretically, it's possible to make a genetic match. I don't know that we've ever done it."

It is unclear when and why the decision was made to destroy organic material from the head that might have easily been used in DNA testing years later. The decision would have been made during the tenure of former Broward Medical Examiner Ronald Wright. Wright could not be reached for comment on Monday.

In the early 1980s it was not standard procedure to maintain blood and other samples from victims in homicide cases, Perper said.

According to the 10,000-page case file released by Hollywood police on Friday, the best suspect in the case is Toole, who twice confessed the crime, and twice recanted.

In detailed statements, Toole, who is serving five life terms in state prison, told detectives he placed the severed head on the back seat floor of his Cadillac. Detectives found the car in 1983.

**"Even if there had been enough blood [evidence], ... I think too much time has passed."**

— Broward Medical Examiner Joshua Perper

Tests suggested the presence of blood. Investigators cut away the carpet as evidence. They also vacuumed for fibers and hairs, and dusted for fingerprints.

Police reports show that no hairs, fibers or fingerprints were discovered that would place Adam in the car. But the bloody carpet was considered key evidence.

It wasn't until early 1995 — 12 years later — that a new Hollywood police detective assigned to the case, Mark Smith, discovered that the bloody carpet was missing.

According to a report written by Smith in January 1995, the evidence was transferred from a Florida Department of Law Enforcement crime lab near Jacksonville to the property room at the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office on May 24, 1984. That was the last anyone saw of the carpet evidence, according to Smith's report.

In addition to the lost carpet swatches, detectives are searching for Toole's car, which was inadvertently released by police after it was processed for evidence. However, police don't expect to find much in the car in the way of additional evidence.

FROM PAGE 1B

**Attorney for tribe says sovereignty protects Seminoles**

Court of Appeal in 1985 ruled the tribe couldn't be sued for taxes on its reservation businesses, nor could it be sued over a claim of wrongful arrest by tribal police.

But attorneys for Roselius and Berman are undeterred. They say the tribe lost its immunity protection when it formed the Seminole Tribe Inc. in 1957, a corporation that runs most of the tribe's businesses. The attorneys say that argument was not raised in previous lawsuits.

In its charter, the tribe's company said it could sue or be sued, said attorney Paul Chmielewski, who represents Roselius.

"They're functioning like any other corporation out there," Chmielewski said. "They can't have it both ways. They should be held liable. This girl was vulnerable. There is no indication anyone [in the tribe] cared about what happened to her."

Roselius moved to Florida from Forest City, Iowa, to coordinate publicity for the Swamp Safari at the tribe's Big Cypress Reservation west of Fort Lauderdale.

On June 3, 1994, her first day on the job, Roselius said her boss, James McDaniel, who is not a tribal member, asked her if she would like to make a "quick \$10,000" from a wealthy Arab client, according to her suit.

"I thought he was kidding," she said. "But he wasn't."

Roselius said McDaniel once grabbed her bottom during a lunch to show off in front of a

half-dozen hunting g

McDaniel also ask would like some Chin balls because wome them to get better or lius said in her suit.

When she complain er employee, McDan in.

Roselius said she v ter she refused to sig canting her allegatio

McDaniel could no for comment. Orlovsk ney representing the the tribe denies the and exerts its sovereignty.

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Eventually, the trib other contractor. But contractors who star were never paid, Bern

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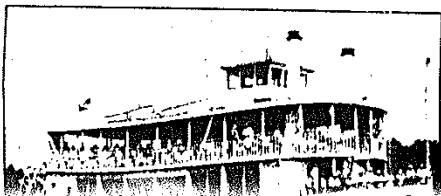
Orlovsky said the tr able to Berman becau had a contract with h

"It would have ha writing and approved al Council, the secreta terior and the comm Indian affairs," he sai

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Enjoy a scenic cruise on the always calm Intracoastal waterway aboard the roomy 250 passenger replica river boat. SEE the million dollar homes of either Manalapan North or Boca Raton South.

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**NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION CITY OF TAMARAC, FLORIDA**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified by the City Clerk of the City of Florida, that there will be a General Election held in the City of Broward County, Florida, on Tuesday, March 12, 1996.

**DISTRICT #1 VOTING ONLY**

City Commission	John E. McKee
District #1	James I. Moore
Vote For One	

**CITY-WIDE VOTING**

Charter Board	Gabriel Glantz
District #2	Randy S. Gordon
Vote For One	

The polls will be open from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm of the said day. Please refer to your Voter Registration Card for the location of the polls.

# LOCAL

Sun-Sentinel, Thursday, February 22, 1996 Section B

## Detective linked to suspect in Walsh case

By SCOTT GLOVER  
and EVELYN LARRUBIA  
Staff Writers

A former Jacksonville Sheriff's Office detective who hoped to profit from a book deal in the Adam Walsh case fed a suspect secret information about the boy's murder, then went to Hollywood police and said he had obtained a confession to the crime, police investigative files show.

In 1983, Jacksonville Homicide Detective Jesse "Buddy" Terry was among a team of investigators who met with suspect Otis Toole about the murder of 6-year-old Adam, who disappeared from a Hollywood Sears store on July 27, 1981. "Apparently believing he could enrich

### Memo says officer may have offered information in deal



Toole

himself, Terry entered into an arrangement with Otis Toole in regards to book and movie rights to Otis Toole's life story," says an Internal Broward Sheriff's Office memo that was included in the 10,000 pages of the Adam Walsh police investigative files released on Friday by order of a Broward circuit judge.

"Detective Terry then provided Otis Toole with confidential information he

had obtained from the Hollywood Police Department. [He] then contacted Hollywood and told them that Toole had confessed to the Adam Walsh murder," according to the memo from then Broward Sheriff's Sgt. Richard Scheff to then Capt. Walter Luan.

"Detectives from the Hollywood Police Department then responded to Jacksonville and insisted one year in the investigation before uncovering Terry's actions," the Oct. 24, 1988, memo states.

"Otis Toole's statements were dismissed, and Detective Terry was removed from the homicide unit," the memo says.

"From this historical perspective one can readily detect the ease with which Toole, a brain-damaged and troubled man, can be manipulated by others."

The memo may help explain why Toole, who twice confessed to killing Adam, then twice recanted — was never charged with the crime. Toole, who is still a suspect in the case, is serving five life sentences in state prison for unrelated arson homicides.

Terry, who now works as a bailiff at the Duval County Courthouse, is also embroiled in a controversy over some lost evidence in the Walsh case. He did not re-

turn several telephone calls to him on Thursday.

However, in a 1983 Hollywood police homicide case file, Toole said he was not familiar with the case before his confession.

The Broward Sheriff's Office, which is currently involved in the investigation, an informant said Toole confessed to Adam's murder. Toole has not sold his confession.

Stephanie Norris, a spokeswoman, declined to comment on the memo about former

PLEASE SEE A1

## Making the grade

Students may need C average for diploma

By SARAH TALALA  
Education Writer

State legislators moved one step closer Wednesday to requiring all Florida high school students earn a C average to graduate — a plan some Broward County educators think is a mistake.

The Florida Senate education committee approved a bill that would raise the minimum average requirement for graduation statewide from a D-plus to a C.

The full Legislature this spring is expected to give final approval to the measure, which could spell trouble for one in six Broward students who have been getting by with D-plus averages.

Some Broward school officials said the state's plan won't do anything to better educate students.

"It is subjective and no one knows what an A or B or a C means anyway," Deputy Superintendent Frances Faithcock said. "We've all had teachers for whom an A meant extremely rigorous work and we've also had situations where an A meant nothing."

Last month, the House Education Committee unanimously agreed that high school graduates must earn a C or 2.0 average to get a diploma. On Wednesday, the Senate Education Committee followed suit.

The House and Senate bills also require all high school graduates to pass Algebra or a comparable math class. Palm Beach County schools only require three years of math. Broward began requiring students entering high school this year to pass Algebra.

In anticipation of the state changes

## ART OF THE DEAL



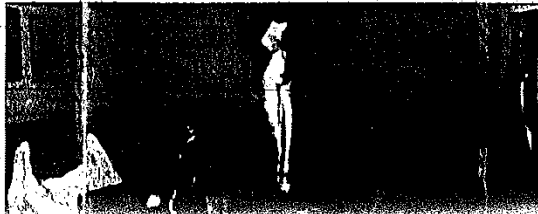
Tim Nowak, left, bought six sculptures his father, were stolen in Fort Lauderdale in October. Tony Nowak, right, said were ugly. The sculptures Nowak said, "I thought they were worthless."

Miami pawnbroker pays \$40 for \$650,000 sculptures.

By MAYA BELL  
The Orlando Sentinel

Pawnbroker Tony Nowak thought the \$40 his son paid a customer for six "ugly" sculptures was exorbitant. He didn't learn what a spectacular bargain his son had struck until an FBI agent and a Hollywood policeman came knocking earlier this month.

They told Nowak the figures, which were stolen in Fort Lauderdale in mid-October but belong to a Volusia County artist, were worth \$650,000.



## School board proposes praise

Parents welcome more choice

By LEDYARD  
Education Writer

It was an extraordinary event lining up Wednesday at the School Board for giving parents a say in picking their child's school.

Extraordinary because the hearings like this have rarely been held. In the past, parents have fought each other over assignments and board members have been called out by angry parents.

The debate over boundaries has become a major issue this year because of a tentative plan to redraw boundaries. Frank Petrucci, preliminary approval Wednesday, gives parents more than they have ever had before. Magnets for all of neighborhood schools, black children, and a choice to place their children in other schools.

Even relatively minor changes are being recognized.

"Thank you for making us aware of our children's options," said Gail Levine about a public hearing about a plan to open a new high school in Palm Beach County.

Wednesday's meetings were the first of a series of public hearings on school boundaries for the 1996-97 school year.



# LOCAL

Sun-Sentinel, Thursday, February 22, 1996 Section B

## ked to suspect in Walsh case

s-officer may have offered information in deal

If Terry entered an arrangement with Ottis Toole in return for information about the life story of Ottis Toole, Broward Sheriff's Office memo included in the Walsh police investigation on Friday by or judge.

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turn several telephone messages left for him on Thursday.

However, in a 1983 interview with Hollywood police homicide detectives, he said he was not familiar with the details of the case before hearing Toole's confession.

The Broward Sheriff's Office was briefly involved in the investigation after a prison informant said Toole was willing to confess to Adam's murder for personal gain. Toole has not sold his story.

Stephanie Norris, a Hollywood police spokeswoman, declined comment on the memo about former Detective Terry.

PLEASE SEE ADAM /7B

## ART OF THE DEAL



Orlando Sentinel photos/MAYA BELL

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Sentinel

Nowak thought a customer for six as exorbitant. He spectacular baruck until an FBI wood policeman er this month.

the figures, which auderdale in mid-a Volusia County e the work of the



## School boundary proposal praised

Parents welcome more choices

By LEDYARD KING  
Education Writer

It was an extraordinary sight — parents lining up Wednesday night at Plantation High to thank the Broward County School Board for giving them a greater say in picking their children's schools.

Extraordinary because school boundary hearings like this one have historically been battlegrounds where communities fight each other over school assignments and board members are railed at by angry parents.

The debate over boundaries has been tame this year because Schools Superintendent Frank Petruziello's proposal, preliminarily approved by the board Wednesday, gives parents more choices than they have ever had — a choice of more magnets for all children, a choice of neighborhood schools for thousands of black children, and a choice for parents to place their children in schools near their jobs.

Even relatively minor choices were recognized.

"Thank you for making the best interests of our children your priority," said Gill Levine about a proposal allowing her 10th-grade daughter to finish school at Cooper City High even though her community has been reassigned to the new high school in Pembroke Pines.

Wednesday's meeting was the first of two public hearings on proposed school boundaries for the 1996-97 school year. The second hearing and board vote will

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OBITUARIES

ADAM

FROM PRECEDING PAGE

**EGER** — Howard A., 85 of Lauderdale Lakes, passed away February 21, 1996, as a WWI veteran and a member of the World War Veterans. He is survived by a son, Molly Shapiro; nephew, Joseph Green; nieces, Sheila Knapp and Barbara Cohen; and will be 7:30 AM Thursday, February 22, 1996 at MENORAH CHAPELS, 6800 W. and Park Blvd., Sunnee, FL.

**GO** — Madeline L., 89 of Miramar, passed away Tuesday, February 20, 1996, resident of South FL since 1973 coming from Brooklyn, NY. Madeline is survived by her husband, Michael; daughter, Christine (Kenneth), both of Miramar, FL; son, Joe Longo (Patricia Fararri) of NJ; grandson, Mike May, Jr.; Michael May, Jeffrey Longo and Greg Longo. Visitation will be held from 4:00 and 6:00 to 9:00 PM today with a service at 7:30 PM at BOYD'S FAMILY FUNERAL HOME, 6400 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood. A Mass of Christian burial will be 10:00 AM Friday at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church.

**NULTY** — James of Margate, died February 21, 1996. Mr. McNulty is survived by his wife, Barbara; devoted children, Virginia, Robert and Muriel (Henry); and brother of John, Agnes; Francis and nieces; cherished grandfather of Sharon, Jamie, Muriel, Judy, Michael, John, Mike, Tamara and Caroline; adored grandfather of ten; and great-great-grandfather of one. Visitation will be held from 12:00 to 2:00 PM on Thursday, February 22, 1996 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at STAR OF DAVID MEMORIAL CHAPEL, 33068, Bailey Rd., North Lauderdale, FL 33068. A service will be held Friday, February 23, 1996 at 1:00 PM in the chapel. Interment of James will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

**HELS** — Lillian S., 87 of Hollywood, died February 19, 1996. Menorah Gardens Memorial Chapel, Aventura.

**JAN** — Kenneth Robert, 63, passed away February 19, 1996. Beloved father of Moran of Hattandale, Jackie Moran, and Linda Correll of NJ. Burial will be Saturday, March 2, 1996. He will be loved and missed by his family and

**AK** — Melvin A., of Coral Springs, died February 20, 1996. Kraefer Funeral Home, Coral Springs.

**ES** — Bryson Sinclair, of Coral Springs, died Monday, February 19, 1996. An excellent student 1979, formerly of Jefferson, MO. Bryson was a graduate of the University of Miami in biology and geology. He is survived by his loving parents, James C. and Carole Oates of Coral Springs; aunts, Julia Oates Allbright of Washington, DC and Barbara Sinclair Rogers of Memphis, TN and John W. Sinclair of York, NY. Funeral services will be held at 3 PM on Thursday, February 22, 1996 at RAEBER FUNERAL HOME, 1655 University Blvd., Coral Springs, 753-8960. Interment will be in the Pisgah Cemetery, Pottersville, PA. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made in his name to the Medical Assistance Fund, University of Miami School of Medicine, One University Blvd., P.O. Box 649650 (R100), Miami, FL 33164.

**CKER** — Sue, 41, of Ft. Lauderdale, died February 21, 1996. Fred Hunter's Funeral Home.

**RONAGGIO** — John, 90 of Margate, passed away on Wednesday, February 21, 1996. He moved to FL in 1978 from Brooklyn, NY, where he was the proud owner of Grand Pastry Shop. He is survived by his wife, Anna; two daughters, Castoro of Coconut Creek and Rosemary; Mass of Boca Raton; two sisters, Anna Trishetta and Mrs. Rosalie Longero of Long Island, NY; four grandchildren, Mary, Gina, Christine and Donna; and six grandchildren, Jordan, Jonathan, Anthony, Vincent, Jenna and Joseph. Friends will gather today (Thursday) from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the funeral home. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Friday 10:00 AM at the Holy Catholic Church. Entombment to follow arrangements by the MASON FUNERAL HOME, 7151 West McNab Road, Tamarac, FL 33066.

**LETTICE** — Anne, 97 of Davie, a resident coming from NJ, died Tuesday, February 21, 1996. She is survived by her daughter, Leothe of Cherry Hill, CA; sister, Marcia of Pasco, WA; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren. Funeral Mass will be held Thursday (today) at St. David Catholic Church, Davie, with burial following at Wood Memorial Gardens North. Arrangements by FRED HUNTER'S UNIVERSITY FUNERAL HOME, 2401 S. University Dr., Davie, FL 33413.

**ERKIN** — Charles, passed away in his 90s of Coral, February 20, 1996. Buried by his loving wife, Patricia; daughter,

**SCHULMAN** — Ethel of Hollywood, FL died February 21, 1996. Levitt Weinstein Memorial Chapels, E. Hollywood.

**SESTA** — Rose, 80, of Davie, died February 19, 1996. She came to this area in 1976 from Brooklyn, NY. She is survived by her daughter, Christine (Frank) Bravata of Sunrise; brother, Anthony Levil of NJ; sisters, Mary, Guilfre, Isabelle DeSocio, and Vinnera; and all of her grandchildren, Thomas, Crystal and Anthony. The family will receive friends on Wednesday, 2-4 and 5-8 PM at the funeral home. A prayer service will be held at 7 PM. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 9:30 Thursday at All Saints Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Arrangements by T.M. HALPH PLANTATION FUNERAL HOME, 587-6888.

**SHOVLAIN** — Pauline R., 67 of Pompano Beach died February 20, 1996. Friends may call 5-8 PM Thursday at Kraefer Downtown Funeral Home, 200 N. Federal Hwy., Pompano Beach, 954-841-4111. Funeral Mass 9:30 AM Friday Assumption Catholic Church.

**SINNEIRICH** — Joseph A., 84 of Deerfield Beach, FL died February 20, 1996. Menorah Gardens & Funeral Chapel, Boca/Daerfield.

**SMITH** — Orville O., 34 of Ft. Lauderdale, FL died February 20, 1996. National Cremation Society, Dania.

**SOMMERS** — Ruth, survived by her two sons, Joseph and Howard; elater, Ricky Pine Garber; brother, Arnold Fox; sisters-in-law, Peggy Fox and Ann Goldman; grandchildren, Pamela, Peter, Lee, Wendy and Stephen; and numerous nieces and nephews.

**HALER** — Eugene, 72, of Hollywood, FL died February 21, 1996. Star of David Memorial Chapel, N. Lauderdale.

**WALLACE** — Evelyn, 88, of Hollywood, FL died February 20, 1996. Fred Hunter's University Drive Home.

DADE COUNTY

**BARGIEL** — Ann, 77 of Miami, FL died February 19, 1996. Van Orsdel Funeral Chapel, Coral Gables.

**KELLY** — William J., Jr., 55 of Miami, FL died February 19, 1996. Van Orsdel Funeral Chapel, North Miami.

**SCHWAB** — Thomas, 71 of North Miami Beach, FL died February 19, 1996. Menorah Gardens & Funeral Chapel, Aventura.

**SHEPARD** — Earl G., 72 of Miami, FL died February 20, 1996. Van Orsdel Funeral Chapel, Pembroke Pines.

**TORESON** — Lillian, 88 of Miami, died Monday, wife of the late Albert Torreson. Survived by three grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and daughter-in-law, Evelyn Howdyshell. Graveside service 11:00 AM Friday at Hollywood Memorial Gardens. FRED HUNTER'S HOLLYWOOD MEMORIAL GARDENS HOME, 6301 TAIT ST.

**WRINN** — Cecelia, 89, of Miami, FL died February 20, 1996. Fred Hunter's Cremation Memorial Center, Lauderdale.

PALM BEACH COUNTY

**BAUBY** — William John, 41 of West Palm Beach, FL died February 20, 1996. Palm Beach County Community Chapel.

**EAGLE** — Joseph, 81 of Delray Beach, FL died February 20, 1996. Beth Israel Memorial Chapel, Delray Beach.

**FINE** — Charlotte, of Lake Worth, FL died February 21, 1996. Guttenman-Warheit Memorial Chapel, Boca Raton.

**FORSYTHE** — Margaret, of Boca Raton, FL died February 21, 1996. Kraefer Funeral Home, Boca Raton.

**HESSDORFER** — Alice Hazel, 87 formerly of West Palm Beach, FL died February 20, 1996.

**HOFFMAN** — Theodore V., 86 of Boynton Beach, FL died February 20, 1996.

**KANE** — Terry, 74, of Boca Raton, FL died February 21, 1996. Levitt Weinstein Memorial Chapels, Boca/Daerfield.

Sheriff's Office memo links suspect to Duval detective

But according to another memo contained in the Adam Walsh file, Hollywood police homicide Detective Mark Smith was aware of such allegations when he took over the case in 1994.

"One of the beliefs by the original investigators was that Toole was confessing for publicity fueled by specific facts furnished by an overzealous Jacksonville detective," Smith wrote in an Aug. 16, 1994, memo.

Norris said Toole's confession is not the only reason he remains a suspect. She pointed to blood recovered from the floor of Toole's 1971 Cadillac and on a machete he once told police he used to cut off Adam's head.

There was not sufficient technology then to determine whether the blood belonged to Adam.

Toole was also able to identify the Hollywood Mall as the scene of the abduction.

And Toole described in detail a dirt road where he said he decapitated the boy. That road is just four miles from a drainage canal where Adam's head was found by two fishermen.

Terry, who may have been privy to detailed information about the slaying, was always near when Toole felt like confessing, files show.

In at least two instances, Toole changed his story after brief conversations alone with Terry, who he had known since about 1965 from having crossed paths on occasion in Jacksonville.

During his first confession, on Oct. 19, 1983, Toole said it was his lover and best friend, Henry Lucas, who abducted and later killed Adam and that he just accompanied Lucas.

After the confession, detectives discovered Lucas had been in jail in Maryland when the murder was committed.

Detectives confronted Toole, files show, and he recanted.

But after being alone with Terry, Toole again was ready to confess, files show.

A week later, Toole was again recanting to Hollywood detectives. Terry interjected and started badgering Toole.

"Ottis, were you lying today? Are you sure you didn't kill Adam Walsh? Now, come on now, let's don't do this way. Look at me. Look at me, Ottis," Terry said, according to the files. "Just tell me the truth."

Reduced to tears, Toole responded: "No, I didn't kill Adam Walsh. I made it all up."

Detectives thought they were done for the day but after 12 minutes alone with Toole, Terry told them he wanted to talk some

Supporters of fired officers pack meeting in

By DAVID PLESA Staff Writer

HOLLYWOOD — About 200 police officers, family members and friends jammed City Hall on Wednesday in an emotional show of support for two officers fired in the wake of the city's police hiring scandal.

Several supporters cried as they praised former Sgt. Tony Rode and Officer Angel de la Rosa, both of whom have filed grievances with the city.

The crowd's message to city leaders: The punishments were too harsh.

"These guys are being railroaded," said former police officer Jose "Pepe" Lopez, a community activist who is chairman of the city's Hispanic Affairs Council.

Officers were joined by neighbors, church leaders, school teachers and others who applauded the fired officers during the citizens' comments portion of the City Commission's regular meeting.

"If we lose [Rode], we lose a very effective police officer, and

all we are doing selves," Officer D.

Rode and de la Rosa officers, we investigated and revealed the way 40 of 61 were hired in the

Two other police Dept. Chief, Gil Officer, Philip T.

rather than face discipline. Rode, who attended said he wasn't in

sonnel office with questionable hire. "We did not do

said. "We certainly thing corrupt."

Dick Brickman Police Benevolent said a settlement were punishment worked out before were fired. But he through when P

ard Witt set a date not be met.

Rode said he wanted to meet with Witt their grievances

Officials' talks with

By DAVID PLESA Staff Writer

HOLLYWOOD — The goal is simple enough: Provide residents with better cable service.

But getting there seems to be like pulling teeth.

City commissioners haggled again on Wednesday over a new franchise agreement with TCI of

South Florida. sion company city.

TCI's 15-year city has expired on a new agree

dragging on for drag on some m After 90 minu

bate, the comm layed action on

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the funeral home. A Mass of Christian will be held Friday 10:00 AM at the St. y Catholic Church. Entombment to follow arrangements by the MASON FUNERAL 7151 West McNab Road, Tamarac, 214-3300.

**ETTIRE** — Anna, 97 of Davis, a resident coming from NJ, died Tuesday of St. David Catholic Church. d by daughters, Lee Karwan of Davie nces, Goodman of Plantation; brother, eonthe of Cherry Hill, CA; sister, Mar ucci of Passaic, NJ; five grandchildren; en great-grandchildren. Funeral Mass M Thursday (today) at St. David Cath- urch, Davie, with burial following at od Memorial Gardens North. Arrange- by FRED FLETCHER'S UNIVERSITY HOME, 2401 S. University Dr., Davie.

**ARKIN** — Charles, passed away in ds of our Lord, February 20, 1996, d by his loving wife, Patricia; daughter, id son-in-law, Richard Mark; son, Jo- nd daughter-in-law, Cyndie; son, nd daughter-in-law, Wendy; 8 grand- . Patrick, Michael, Shane, Jesse, auren, Megan, and Caitlin. Funeral ar- ants conducted by All Care Crema- wate memorial to be held by family.

**PPIN** — Eugene F., 66 of Sunrise bruary 6, 1996. He is survived by his- elia; and son Dwayne Phillipin. A me- service will be held at the Worship Plantation on Saturday, February 24, 6:00 PM. The family has requested us to Vitae Hospice in lieu of flowers.

**FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES**, Pem- nes in charge of arrangements.

**IAK** — Julius of Hollywood, FL bruary 20, 1996. Fred Hunter's Holly- memorial Gardens Home.

**JSS** — Alyce Cecilia, 87 of Pompa- h died Tuesday, February 20, 1996. Detroit, MI, local resident. She arrived by her daughters, Tish Preuss rado-Springs, 60 and Sue Hall, of lo Beach; grandchildren; Mary Beth, eantato; FL, Mark Hall (deceased), all of Pompano Beach and Dr. Anne- etiani of Old Town, ME; three great- idren; and sister, Phyllis Preuss of emorial Mass will be 10 AM Monday, y 26, 1996 at St. John the Baptist Church, 4595 Bayview Dr., Ft. Lau- Arrangements by KRAEER FUNERA- DE, 200 N. Federal Hwy., Pompano 11-1111. Donations to Hospice Care rd County, 309 SE 18 St., Ft. Lauder- 33319.

**E** — Sarah P., 79 of Lauderdale FL died February 20, 1996. Star of Memorial Chapel, N. Lauderdale.

**IGUEZ** — Louis H., 80 of Lauder- died February 20, 1996. He came to a 24 years ago. He was employed by the U.S. Army during WW II. He is d by his wife, Juanita; son, John (Ma- i Boca Raton; daughters, Jeannette ) Oberrieth of NY, Geraldine Baluss of Carol Sydnor of Miami and Mary Ro- of Ft. Lauderdale; and six grandchil- en family will receive friends on Thurs- 1 PM at the funeral home. Mass of n burial will be celebrated Friday 12 1 St. Bernard Catholic Church. Inurn- ill take place at a later date. In his / the family suggests donations the ers Association, 8333 W. McNab Rd., c in his name. Arrangements by T.M. PLANTATION FUNERAL HOME, 587-

**ENZWEIG** — Harry Edward, 89 of d Beach, FL died February 16, 1996. h Gardens & Funeral Chapel, efield.

**O** — Sophie, 83 of Hollywood, FL bruary 20, 1996. Panciera Memorial Hollywood.

**ULMAN** — Ethel, of Hollywood, away February 21, 1996. Beloved wife d; loving mother of Carole Reader; ster of Dorothy Kessman and Marla Alexander; cherished grandmother of ill (Lori) Reader, Mrs. Adine (Collin) on and Ms. Jamey Reader; adored grandmother of Erin and Wesley Nichol- urett and Alyssa Krow; and beloved nd brother-in-law, Howard (Diane) ed Debbie (Harold) Lederer, Chapel Ser- ursday 12 Noon at

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Hollywood 1921 Pembroke Rd.  
#921-7200  
ant Lakeside Memorial Park - Miami

rial Chapel, Delray beach.

**FINE** — Charlotte, of Lake Worth, FL died February 21, 1996. Guttmann-Warheit Memorial Chapel, Boca Raton.

**FORSYTHE** — Margaret, of Boca Ra- ton, FL died February 21, 1996. Kraefer Funer- al Home, Boca Raton.

**HESSDORFER** — Alice Hazel, 87. For- merly of West Palm Beach, FL, died February 20, 1996.

**HOFFMAN** — Theodore V., 86 of Boyn- ton Beach, FL died February 20, 1996.

**KANE** — Terry, 74, of Boca Raton, FL died February 21, 1996. Levitt Weinstein Memorial Chapels, Boca/Deerfield

**KAUFMAN** — Marjory G., 77 of West Palm Beach, FL died February 20, 1996. Riv- erside/Gordon Memorial Chapel, WPB.

**KOPLIK** — Michael R., 74 of Palm Beach Gardens, FL died February 20, 1996.

**MAC LAREN** — Gertrude Carson, 72 of Delray Beach, FL died Friday, February 16, 1996 at her home on her fifty-first wedding anniversary while caring for her husband, Robert I. MacLaren. She was a resident of Delray Beach, FL since 1945 and an active supporter of education, children, scouting, gardening and wildlife activities. She is sur- vived by her husband, Robert Ian MacLaren; her four children, Robert Ian MacLaren, II, Donald Alexander MacLaren, Sally MacLaren Hartley and Patricia A. MacLaren; two sons-in-law, Dr. Todd C. Hartley of Jacksonville, FL and Dr. Douglas E. Runde of Enumolau, WA; two daughters-in-law, Linda Olson MacLaren and Loraine Smith MacLaren; and seven grandchildren, Eleonora Olson MacLaren, Robert Ian MacLaren, III, Carson Hunt MacLaren, Marylinne Pierce-Mills MacLaren, Donald Alexander MacLaren, II, 6601 Addison MacLaren and Duncan Angus MacLaren. Memorial services will be held at 4:00 PM Friday February 23, 1996 at the First Presbyterian Church, 33 Gleason St., Delray Beach, FL. A private family interment will follow at the Delray Beach Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family has requested that donations be made to the Nurses in Schools Program of the Boca Raton Community Hospital. LORNE & SON of Delray Beach, FL is in charge of the arrangements.

**ODIN** — Thyra, of Boca Raton, FL died February 20, 1996. Kraefer Funeral Home, Boca Raton.

**SILBERMAN** — Augusta, 78 of Delray Beach, FL died February 20, 1996. Beth Israel Memorial Chapel, Delray Beach.

**SINGER** — Meyer S. (Mike), 79 of Boca Raton, FL died February 21, 1996. Levitt-Weinstein Memorial Chapel, Boca/Deerfield.

**WARD** — LaVerne, 80, of Delray Beach, passed away, Monday, February 19, 1996. Mrs. Ward was a member of the Eastern Star of LaGrange, OH and the VFW Auxiliary in Delray Beach. Survived by her sons, Terry C. and Thomas A. Ward both of Delray Beach; sister, Maxine Redman, Delray Beach; 5 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. Graveside service will be held, Saturday, February 24, 1996, 1 PM at the Greenwood Cem- etery, Eutis, FL. In lieu of flowers contribu- tions may be made to Hospice by the Sea, 153 1 W. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton, FL 33486. LORNE & SONS FUNERAL HOME, Delray Beach in charge of arrangements.

**OBITUARY INFORMATION**

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8 AM - 5 PM Monday through Friday  
Deadline 4 PM Monday through Friday  
For the following day

Saturday 9:30 AM until 12:30 PM  
Sunday 1 PM until 4 PM

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ed badgering Toole.

"Otis, were you lying today? Are you sure you didn't kill Adam Walsh? Now, come on now, let's don't do this way. Look at me. Look at me, Otis," Terry said, according to the files. "Just tell me the truth."

Reduced to tears, Toole re- sponded: "No, I didn't kill Adam Walsh... I made it all up."

Detectives thought they were done for the day but after 12 min- utes alone with Toole, Terry told them he wanted to talk some more, the documents show.

In that interview at 10:42 p.m. on Oct. 26, 1983, Toole gave one of the most detailed descriptions of how he got to South Florida and committed the crime.

It was also Terry who led Hollywood detectives to the 1971 black and white Cadillac Toole claimed to have used to kidnap Adam.

Years later, Terry's name arises again in files related to the loss of seven pieces of bloody car- pet cut from the car in which Toole at one time told police he had placed Adam's severed head.

The carpet evidence is thought by Hollywood detectives to have been misplaced in the property room of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

A September 1995 memo writ- ten by Hollywood Detective Smith says that the carpet evi- dence and the Caddy were trans- ferred from a Florida Depart- ment of Law Enforcement crime lab to the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office on May 24, 1984. Smith's memo says the FDLE official signed over the evidence to some- one with the initial "J."

The memo continues: "It is be- lieved that this individual is ei- ther Det. J. W. Terry or Det. James Geisenberg of Jackson- ville [Sheriff's Office]."

Smith's memo says in part: "Det. Terry had no independent recollection of taking custody of these items and there is no docu- mentation to date to confirm this on the part of Jacksonville... or the Hollywood Police Department."

In an interview Tuesday night, Geisenberg, now retired from the Sheriff's Office, said he had no memory of signing for the evidence.

But their investigation appears no further along that it was 12 years ago, when one investigator summed up Toole's connection to the case in a memo this way: "MAYBE HE DID AND MAYBE HE DIDN'T."

Staff Writer Warren Richey contributed to this report.

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# Detective in Walsh case eyed book deal

By **RONNIE GREENE**  
Herald Staff Writer

Another reason to doubt Ottis Elwood Toole's confession in the murder of Adam Walsh.

J.W. Terry, the Jacksonville detective who helped cull the error-filled confession in 1983, was trying to cut a book deal with Toole at the same time, Terry's former boss said Monday.

"Here's a police officer entering into an agreement that somehow requires collusion of a serial killer," said John Nelson, then-Jacksonville undersheriff.

"It was for the worst of reasons. It was for financial gain," said Nelson, now the police chief in Orange Park. "I just didn't want him around the case any more after I found out about that. You are supposed to be arm's length to people."

Still, Nelson recalled, Terry took a different view of a book venture with the man he hoped to finger for the crime. "He didn't see anything wrong with that."

Records show Terry was eager to seal Toole's confession, despite huge errors in the suspect's story and the lack of any bona fide physical evidence, to link him to the crime. Terry was

*'It was for financial gain. I just didn't want him around the case any more after I found out about that.'*

**JOHN NELSON**, was J.W. Terry's boss at the time

involved because Toole is from Jacksonville, and first started talking about Adam Walsh while in the Duval County Jail.

The errors in Toole's first confession, Oct. 24, 1983, included:

■ He said his partner in crime, Henry Lee Lucas, was with him when he abducted Adam July 27, 1981, from a Sears store in Hollywood, and that it was Lucas who beheaded the child. Lucas was in a Maryland jail cell that day and couldn't have been there.

■ Toole couldn't describe Adam, getting his hair color and clothing entirely wrong.

■ Toole said he buried Adam's remains near mile marker 126 on Florida's Turnpike, but an exhaustive search revealed no grave.

Still, detective Terry — who was present while two Hollywood detectives questioned Toole that day and others — pressed on,

records show.

On Oct. 26, 1983, Toole recanted: "No, I didn't kill Adam Walsh." Toole was then left alone with Terry for 12 minutes, and his story changed again, with Toole now admitting he "did kill Adam Walsh."

A few days later, on Nov. 1, 1983, came this exchange:

Terry: "Ottis, were you lying today? Are you sure you didn't kill Adam Walsh? Now come on now, let's don't do this way. Look at me. Look at me. Ottis ..."

Toole, crying: "My mind ain't gonna take much more of this."

Terry: "Just tell me the truth, that's all I want to know."

Toole: "No, I didn't kill Adam Walsh."

Terry: "Are you sure or you're not sure?"

Toole: "I'm sure I didn't."

Terry: "How are you sure?"

What makes you sure you didn't kill Adam Walsh?"

Toole: "Because if I was really sure I could come up with his body."

Toole had boasted of being involved in 65 murders at the time of his Adam Walsh confession. Today, he's serving five life sentences at Union Correctional Institution in Raiford for five murders.

Though he has never been charged as Adam's killer, Toole remains a suspect even today, according to Hollywood police.

Still, Hollywood cold-case detective Mark Smith made note of the questions swirling around Terry's involvement: "One of the beliefs by the original investigators was that Toole was confessing for publicity fueled by specific facts furnished by an overzealous Jacksonville detective."

Terry, retired from the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and now working at the Duval County Courthouse, did not return phone calls over the past week.

Once, Terry went on record with his conclusion:

"In my own opinion, I firmly believe Toole is the murderer of Adam Walsh."

# Charles Adelman, Lions Club international director

By **DONNA GEHRKE**  
Herald Staff Writer

Charles Adelman ran a steel fabrication company that helped make the walkways for Miami International Airport and the ornamental art in many of South Beach's Art Deco hotels. He had another passion; leading the Lions Clubs — at one point helping direct more than one million members worldwide.

Adelman was working at both his family-owned company, Adelman Pipe and Steel, and volunteering for the Lions just before he died Friday of heart problems at age 78.

"He enjoyed life with a flair," said his daughter, Harriette Williams. "He was working up until the end. He officially retired — and then went back to work. He didn't like not working. He liked being vital and he was vital to the very end."

Adelman, jovial and popular, was an international director of the Lion's Clubs, the world's largest service club, when the international board voted to bring its 1989 convention to Miami.

## DEATHS

"That's 35,000 Lions, spending an estimated \$20 million in a six-day event that ranks as one of the biggest single conventions in Florida history," the late Herald columnist Charles Whited wrote at the time. He called it a "windfall."

Adelman described Miami as an international city to other Lions directors, who hailed from Thailand, Japan, France, Latin America and Europe. "They were impressed," he told Whited.

Adelman came to Miami as a boy in 1925, when the city was still in its infancy. His family lost everything in the 1926 hurricane. But they hung on and in 1929, started their family business. Adelman worked in the company and became the chief operating officer in the 1950s.

He liked taking his wife of 55 years, Goldie, as well as his daughter and sons Ted and Marty, to South Beach to show off the ornamental work that his company did for the Art

Deco hotels in the 1930s and 1940s.

Adelman Pipe and Steel also had contracts with South Florida shopping centers, office buildings, public schools and MIA.

In the 1950s, Adelman became involved in the Little River Lion's Club. He became its president and then head of the district, an area that extended from Dania to Key West.

He was president of the Lion's state foundation that raised money for expensive eye operations and other free medical treatment that the group provided.

He volunteered to help the group's eye bank at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute and the camp for children at Lake Wales.

"There aren't enough nice things to say about Charlie," said long-time Lions member Marshall Ruff. "Everybody loved him."

In addition to his wife and children, Adelman is survived by seven grandchildren.

Services have already been held. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Lion's Eye Bank at Bascom Palmer.

## NIALL MacDERMOT

### Legal expert who fought for disappeared

Associated Press

GENEVA — Niall MacDermot, a champion for the "disappeared" in Latin America and other victims of oppression, has died after a short illness. He was 79.

nardo Garcia Miami Funeral Homes.

**Arias**, Antonio "Chiquitico," 77, died Sunday. Vista Memorial Gardens and Cemetery.

**Avila**, Laureano D., 68, of Miami died Sunday. Services 2 p.m. today, Woodlawn Park Cemetery South, Caballero-Woodlawn Kendall Funeral Homes.

**Baker**, Rudolph, 82, of Coconut Grove, died Tuesday. Visitation 4 to 8 p.m. today, services 1 p.m. Wednesday, Range Funeral Home, Coconut Grove.

**Broom**, Charles M., 86, of Miami, died Monday. Visitation 9 to 11 a.m. today, services 4 p.m. today, Van Orsdel North Miami Funeral Chapel.

Van Orsdel Northside Funeral Chapel. **Miehkovsky**, Elizabeth. Services in Illinois. Levitt-Weinstein North Miami Funeral Chapel.

**Molina**, Carlos A., 39, of Miami Beach, died Friday. Caballero-Woodlawn Coral Gables Funeral Home.

**Numberg**, Helen. Services 3 p.m. today, Lakeside Memorial Park, Miami. Levitt-Weinstein Memorial Chapels, North Miami Beach.

**Palmero**, Rinaldo, 45. Private services, Bernardo Garcia Funeral Homes, Miami.

day. Van Orsdel North Miami Funeral Chapel.

**Vance**, Elizabeth J., 84, of Miami, died Sunday. Visitation 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, services 7 p.m. Wednesday, Van Orsdel Kendall Drive Funeral Chapel.

**Winick**, Albert, died Sunday. Riverside-Gordon Memorial Chapels, North Miami Beach.

**Zubizarreta**, Mateo, 79, of Miami, died Sunday. Services were held. Caballero-Woodlawn Coral Gables Funeral Home.

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A ROUNDUP OF NEWS IN THE SUNSHINE STATE



FRED GRIMM

CENTRAL FLORIDA  
Speedy scanner

Disney World is trying out a speedy, biometric scanner that reads a ticket holder's index and middle fingers — it will replace picture ID cards used for visitors buying annual and seasonal passes.



Killer whale dies

Gudrun, one of the performing killer whales at Sea World in Orlando, is dead at the age of 20, apparently from complications from a stillbirth several days earlier.



SOUTH FLORIDA

A clean record

Sean Patrick McHugh, 32, of St. Augustine, killed in a crash while stunt flying off Palm Beach County, had a spotless record, said a Federal Aviation Administration spokesperson in Oklahoma City.



TALLAHASSEE

Protecting cranes

The Florida game commission hopes to keep cranes from eating whooping cranes released in the wild by raising the price of bred hatchlings in certain areas.



A convenient Toole took cops off hook

Ottis Toole was the ultimate crime-buster. He solved some 160 murders in Florida alone, including the state's most notorious murder mystery — the killing of little Adam Walsh.

Toole's crime-solving technique was to confess. The half-wit pyromaniac freely confessed to nearly any old homicide languishing in police files. It was a great deal for everyone involved. Detectives across the state cleared their old files, appeased their bosses. And we in the media got to employ some wonderful hyperbole. Toole, after his confession frenzy,



became "the most prolific mass murderer in Florida history." The only mystery left unsolved was how any cop, without supporting evidence, could have believed Ottis Toole.

The newly released Adam Walsh files offer a particularly unsettling insight into Toole's fanciful remembrances.

On Oct. 14, 1983 — back when Toole's confessions numbered only about 65 murders, he told how he and his evil lover Henry Lee Lucas had spotted young Adam in the Hollywood Sears' parking lot on July 27, 1981. How Henry had hacked up the child.

Mass-killing competition

A couple of problems: Toole's description of Adam was wrong. The clothes were wrong. The age was wrong. The hair was wrong. Toole was unable to identify Adam's photograph. And, oh yeah, at the time of the killing, Henry Lee Lucas was doing time in a Maryland jail.

Later that day, nudged by his interrogators, Ottis cleaned up his story, dropping Henry Lee Lucas from the narrative. One story had him burying Adam's body. Another had him cremating the body in Jacksonville. He did. He didn't. He confessed.

And, occasionally, like on Jan. 10, 1984, he recanted, explaining that once he started lying, "I didn't know how to turn it back around, but I didn't really kill Adam Walsh."

Even those few accurate details attributed to Toole were suspect. The policeman coaching most of the incriminating details out of

By NANCY KLINGENER  
Herald Staff Writer

ISLAMORADA — For a glimpse of the future, Floridians only need to look south.

What happens when people pollute the waters and run out of land? The Florida Keys are providing the answers:

Building a new home or business becomes more and more difficult. In some places, it is impossible. Sale prices on vacant land start to plummet; values of existing homes soar.

This week, Keys lawmakers and taxpayers will be dealing with the consequences of running out of room. The rest of South Florida should be watching; the lessons learned here could be applied to booming areas on the mainland, as subdivisions bump up against the Everglades in western Broward and strip malls stretch far into South Dade.

The Keys have sold themselves to Florida and the rest of the nation as a vacation paradise — enticing millions annually.

But problems are as much a part of the Keys now as rumrunners at sunset.

Sewage seeps through porous limestone, obscuring once-clear water in canals and on shorelines. Cars clog the highway that is the economic and evacuation lifeline. Good-paying jobs and affordable housing are becoming as scarce as the diminutive Key deer.

In the Keys — a 100-mile-long archipelago paralleling the last living reef in the hemisphere — there can be no suburban sprawl. Instead, there is a spiral of ever-increasing home prices and rents and taxes. In this surreal world, a mere mobile home has sold for \$130,000.

Fate of Monroe County

The governor and Cabinet are about to pronounce the fate of the county as they consider the final parts of its land-use plan. The blueprint for growth is supposed to guide individual counties in planning how to handle increasing numbers of people and their needs for roads, sewers, police and schools.

In the Keys, the land-use plan is a political atomic bomb. No longer of interest just to county planners and real estate developers, it tops the public agenda. No one is immune from its reach.

The plan will determine how much more construction is allowed in unincorporated Monroe County — most of the Keys outside of Key West.

The result so far: tighter restrictions on who can build where, growing frustration with the state and increasing uncer-

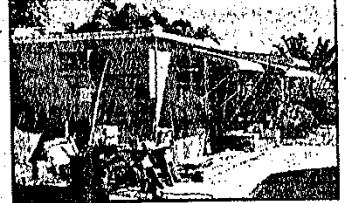
HIGHER AND HIGHER

As growth is restricted and fewer and fewer lots can be built upon, housing prices in the Keys have



LOWER KEYS

This three-bedroom, two-bath house in Key Haven, a neighborhood just outside Key West, sold in 1983 for \$159,000; in 1985 for \$167,000 and in 1990 for \$280,000. It is now valued by the property appraiser's office at \$274,000.



MIDDLE KEYS

This one-bedroom, two-bath mobile home on a canal in Marathon sold in 1978 for \$37,000. It changed hands again in 1993 for \$91,000 and was sold in 1995 for \$133,000. It is valued by the property appraiser's office at \$74,000.

allowed.

This week, environmentalists are heading to the Cabinet meeting to support restrictions, saying it is the only way to save the Keys. And chartered planes from Marathon will carry business owners and tourism promoters, who worry that the new rules would trigger an economic crisis.

Benning or limiting?

The proposals before the Cabinet range from banning all new construction to allowing the current 255 new homes a year, a pace that many consider minimal.

County Commissioner Jack London, who has been the county's negotiator with the state on growth issues, says a freeze on building would be irresponsible.

If the people who own land can't build anything on it, then the public must buy it, London says. And the county, at least, does not have the \$700 million to pay for all the unbuilt land in the Keys.

"It's fine to say 'let's not do anything else.' But there are financial consequences that somebody has to come to the table and ante up for," London says. He is angry with environmental groups that have intervened in the land-use planning process and that claim that the county doesn't do enough to protect the islands' fragile ecology.

"They seem prepared to take these actions and let somebody else worry about the financial consequences," London says. Environmental advocates credit the county for limiting new

Too late to wait

But they say the polluted near-shore waters, the dwindling hardwood hammocks, the endangered Key deer and the ailing coral reefs can't afford a wait-and-see attitude any longer.

"We're facing a total and complete collapse of the marine ecosystem. We have to find solutions," says Debra Harrison, Keys representative for the World Wildlife Fund.

"We're in a situation where all the consequences of our reckless development over the last decade are going to come back and haunt us," she says.

Some in the Keys are seeing a different specter: the prospect of wildly fluctuating real estate as the market copes with vacant lots that can't be used.

15,000 unbuilt lots

There are an estimated 15,000 unbuilt lots in the Keys. Some are in mangrove wetlands. Some are in built-up neighborhoods. Some are on Big Pine Key, the island in the Lower Keys that is ground zero for development battles.

While county officials and environmental advocates argue, Andy Armentani of Hallandale wonders: What about the property that was supposed to provide his retirement income?

Armentani, 70, bought land on Big Pine in the late '60s and early '70s. He's trying to sell it now.

"I've already dropped the price \$20,000 and it just keeps going down and down," he said. Individual cases like Armentani's could lead to a larger fall-out:

"You can't keep people's rights and property values the same," said County Commissioner Mary Kay Reich. "We're limited base to begin, you start taking it a and bounds, somebody pay for it."

One solution is forment to buy the prothen it is no longer ta leaves the county homeowners to pay Reich says public open open land should pay property tax.

Tax burden will shift

With one-tenth of property tax base in property appraiser sees the market value burden shifting to the homes and businesses.

"You've shut down demand," he said.

So Monroe County home values are all than double the state will probably remain for many would-be h. The average price of family home in is \$139,000, pretty h motel clerk or teachman.

Already in the l Monroe's tax base h percent; by comp booming Broward, the 1985 to 1995 was 63

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the incriminating details out of  
Toole was Jacksonville police  
detective Buddy Terry.

Terry, meanwhile, also had a  
book and movie deal (as The  
Herald reported in 1985) with  
Toole. It was in their common  
interest, policeman and criminal,  
to enhance Toole's reputation as  
the nastiest killer on earth.

Yet, all these years later, Toole  
endures as a prime suspect in the  
Walsh case.

Toole's own lawyer suggested  
the confessions were a kind of  
bizarre competition with Henry  
Lee Lucas, who, meanwhile, was  
taking credit for hundreds of  
unsolved homicides across the  
South, from Florida to Texas.  
Jacksonville police, for example,  
had closed eight grisly cases  
based on Lucas confessions but  
later had to admit that Lucas had  
lied.

**Confessions worthless**

Lucas also confessed and was  
charged with the 1981 killing of  
two teenagers in South Dade.  
The Herald, however, uncovered  
convincing evidence that Lucas  
was in Jacksonville the day of the  
murders.

At one time, Lucas had been  
assigned 210 murders, most of  
them in Texas and Florida.  
Finally, in 1985, the Dallas  
Time-Herald noticed that Lucas  
would have had to have been in  
several locations simultaneously  
on his killing spree.

Ottis Toole and Henry Lee  
Lucas were undoubtedly horrible  
murderers — mass murderers.  
But their confessions were nearly  
worthless fodder in any police  
investigation.

Toole's old confession to the  
Walsh killing was resurrected  
with some fanfare when the old  
police files were finally made  
public. But it has been an empty,  
misleading exercise. Ottis  
Toole's gashy lies do nothing to  
shed light on the enduring mys-  
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The result so far: tighter  
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the state and increasing uncer-  
tainty about what will happen to  
property values when only a  
handful of new homes a year are

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**Banning or limiting?**

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Environmental advocates credit  
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homes to 255 a year and declar-  
ing, for now, a moratorium on  
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Richard Grosse  
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**State to relocate 109-year-old from his prop**

By LIBA HOLEWA  
Associated Press

TAMPA — An appeals court  
lifted its order allowing a 109-  
year-old man to stay on the land  
e has farmed all his life, and,  
a lawyer said Monday that  
Julius James will be moved  
as soon as possible.

"The court basically says  
we can do what  
we originally  
wanted to do,"  
said Tampa  
lawyer Henry

James Nobles, who represents James'  
guardian, Clardelle Duncan.  
"We think it would be in his best  
interest to move to another house  
so he can live the remaining years  
of his life with dignity and  
respect."

The state needs 21 acres of  
James' property in Ocala to  
expand Interstate 75, which cuts  
through the eastern edge of his  
60-acre farm. It is willing to pay  
almost \$2 million for the prop-  
erty, but James, who inherited  
the land from his slave ancestors,  
wants to remain there for the rest  
of his life.

A lawyer for relatives who live  
with James had asked that he be  
allowed to live on a knoll deep in  
the portion of the property that's  
not needed by the state. But own-  
ership of that land is under dis-  
pute.

Nobles did not know when  
James would be moved to a  
\$52,000 handicapped-accessible  
home in a nearby subdivision,  
but he said it would happen

quickly.

"He seems sad and doesn't  
have much to say," James'  
grandniece, Lucie McMillian,  
said after her mother told James  
about the Fifth District Court of  
Appeals order lifting its stay. "I  
hope that they'll have heart  
enough to wait, to give him a few  
days here, at least."

The state Department of  
Transportation has deposited  
\$1.9 million with the court to pay  
for James' land, but there are  
more than 50 relatives who want  
some of it.

One caretaker had persuaded  
James to sign over six acres of the  
land and write him into his will.

At age 103, James signed a con-  
tract selling a large parcel of  
property to a Kansas City truck  
stop developer. Those agree-  
ments are being challenged in  
court. A bank has launched a title  
search.

But Nobles said the dispute is  
one reason James should not be  
moved elsewhere on the prop-  
erty. He also accused James' rela-  
tives of being more interested in  
the value of the land than they  
are with the man.

"I think they're concerned with  
Mr. James, but I think the real  
issue in this case is M-O-N-E-Y,"  
he said. "Mr. James himself has  
said that he wouldn't mind mov-

ing, but once he ha  
tives and TV came  
around, obviously  
people around him  
say."

"I don't want to  
James said seven  
being first order  
"This is home."



James Nobles, who represents James' guardian, Clardelle Duncan.

**Bankruptcy?**

**I Have Had It With Creditors!**

**Q** I've attempted to keep my good credit, but I started to fall behind in my bills, even when I was making payments on them. Before I knew it, the letters and calls from creditors, collection agencies and even attorneys, began pouring in. Now I'm being threatened with lawsuits, garnishments, and repossession of my property. This is getting out of control! I have tried everything, even seeking help from a credit repair service, but my financial situation is not getting any better. I see no other way out of this situation, except to file for bankruptcy and start all over again. How can you help me?

**A** First, we make your bankruptcy experience as simple and painless as possible. We assist you throughout the entire process. We also notify your creditors of our representation, and from then on, they contact our office instead of your home, job, or even your neighbors. Aside from our very reasonable rates, we offer our clients a PAYMENT PLAN to fit your individual budget. Filing for bankruptcy will not only give you financial and emotional relief, but it will also help you get a fresh start and become financially productive again without losing your home or property. Moreover, think of the OPPORTUNITIES available to you when you are debt-free. If you want my assistance, call us so we may further discuss your options and rights with you.

**The Law Offices of Patrick L. Cordero, P.A.**  
Ocean Bank Building • 782 NW Le Jeune Road  
Suite 328 • Miami, Florida 33126 • (305) 445-4855

The filing of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisement. Before you decide, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience.

**EMP UNDER THE FOR**

Pursuant to Se  
Training Partner  
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suggestions for  
to Joseph Altan  
Suite 300, Miam

From: **Phil Mundy**  
Investigator  
State Attorney's Office  
Phone 305-831-6368  
Pager 305-879-5288  
Mobile 305-249-6619

May 15, 1997

To: RALPH RAY, JR.

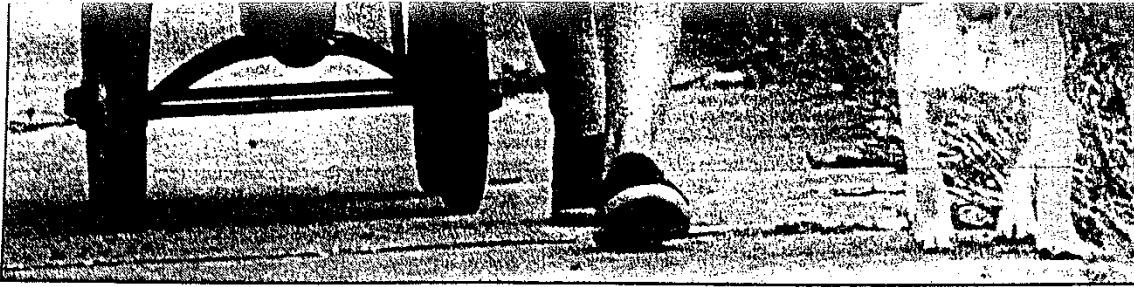
Did some more research and attached is the Miami Herald article of June 26, 1991 that Mistler refers to in his first statement of July 29, 1991, pages 14 & 15.

HOFFMAN questioned him about other articles announcing TOOLE had not been charged and you can be the judge of his responses. I have previously sent you the articles I found on that subject from 1983 as well as the 1982 TROPIC magazine article. On page 13 of his statement to HOFFMAN he refers to reading a story in TROPIC. The 1982 story in TROPIC was so far the only TROPIC article I found on the WALSH murder.

*Phil*

201 S.E. 6th Street • Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

000892



### BACK-SEAT DRIVER

Ellen Sewejks doesn't want to be critical or anything, but it appears she has some second thoughts about the driving skills of stepsister Alice Kuchar. The 3-year-old Hollywood girl was riding around the neighborhood

of Hollywood Boulevard and South 56th Avenue when she decided to put the brakes on things. Loyal guard dog Delliiah doesn't appear to be too happy about the chosen route, either.

BETH A. KEISER / Miami Herald Staff

## Walsh case tips keep coming in

### Break still goal of retiring major

By TRISH POWER  
Herald Staff Writer

**HOLLYWOOD** — It has been 10 years. There are no suspects or motives in one of the nation's most publicized kidnap and murder cases, but police continue to check every lead, follow every trail, hoping one day to find the person who killed 6-year-old Adam Walsh.

Maj. J.B. Smith was a sergeant in the robbery unit when Adam Walsh was abducted in 1981. On Friday, Smith will retire after 21 years with the Hollywood Police Department.

He will leave Florida but will not give up his hope that one day the Adam Walsh case will be solved.

Even 10 years after the murder, the department continues to receive letters with possible information about the case, most of them forwarded from calls to the Adam Walsh Resource Center and The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

The 10th this year arrived Tuesday afternoon.

"It's a typical lead," Smith said. "There's very little information, but it can't be set aside. This could be the one we need."

Investigators have followed hundreds, maybe thousands, of leads. They have eliminated all of them, including the most promising suspects: Ottis Toole and his lover, convicted one-eyed mass murderer Henry Lee Lucas.

"Ottis Toole is probably the most complete investigation we've ever done to prove that somebody didn't do it," Smith said.

Toole confessed, recanted, con-



WALTER MICHOT / Miami Herald Staff

**10TH TIP OF 10TH YEAR:** Retiring police Maj. J.B. Smith holds the latest tip, received Tuesday, on the 1981 murder of Adam Walsh.

fessed, then recanted again. He never was charged. He is serving a life sentence in Florida State Prison for a 1982 Jacksonville arson/murder. He will have to serve at least 25 years before he will become eligible for parole. Lucas, who was on Death Row in a Texas prison, was extradited to Florida in December to stand trial in four other slayings.

Smith thinks it will be a tip, possibly from someone who saw something or knows something but was afraid to come forward, that eventually will lead to the murderer.

"I don't know of any homicide that's this old that's going to be solved because of legwork," Smith said.

There are others who still think about the case.

Dennis Neylon, one of the lead detectives in the case, is retired and lives in Colorado.

"It's probably one of the toughest cases I ever worked on," Neylon said. "The notoriety of the case was nationwide."

"I have to agree with J.B. ... Somebody's going to make a call," Neylon said. "A lot of cases are like that. You'll work it and work it and work it, and one day you get a call and it all comes together."

Adam Walsh was abducted from the Sears store in the Hollywood Mall — across the street from the Hollywood Police Department.

Two weeks later and 120 miles away, his severed head was found in an isolated canal by some fishermen. His body never was found.

## Chiles appoints two Democrats as BCC trustees

By STEVE BOUSQUET  
Herald Staff Writer

Gov. Lawton Chiles has appointed two Fort Lauderdale Democrats, an architect and a lawyer, to replace two Republicans on the five-member Broward Community College Board of Trustees.

Chiles chose architect Mario Cartaya, 40, and lawyer Katharine Barry, 40, for four-year terms on the board. They will replace securities dealer Michael Curran and lawyer Davis "Bill" Duke, who were appointees of former Gov. Bob Martinez.

The job of setting policy for the college is voluntary. Nominees must be confirmed by the Florida Cabinet and Senate, usually a formality.

The Cuban-born Cartaya, owner of Cartaya and Associates, is a graduate of Miami-Dade Community College and a former BCC instructor. He is chairman of the Broward Hispanic American Democratic Club.

After he received his master's degree in building construction at the University of Florida, he taught architecture at BCC for 12 years. He left last year to devote more time to his business, he said.

"I really believe in the community college system," Cartaya said. "I think it's time a Hispanic was on the board. I also would like to see BCC have more Hispanic teachers."

BCC's Hispanic student population has slowly risen in recent years. Hispanic students now represent about 10 percent of the school's enrollment. The school, which opened in 1960, has three Broward campuses.

Barry, a member of the law firm of Rotella & Boone since 1988, serves in various groups, including Women in Distress, Greenpeace and the Boys and Girls Clubs. Barry is a Gainesville native and 1979 law graduate of Florida State University, and once ran her own law practice. She was unavailable for comment Tuesday.

With the two appointments, Chiles continues his practice of reaching beyond the Broward political establishment to fill board openings. Previous appointments to the School Board and Circuit Court were of lesser-known candidates without a roster of support among Democratic politicians.



Cartaya



Barry



Adam

Miami Herald 6-26-91 - Broward Edition  
JBA



A. I FOLLOWED EVERY WORD THAT CAME OUT IN THE PAPER.

Q. HOW ABOUT TWO WEEKS AFTER THE ABDUCTION WHICH WOULD OF BEEN A WEEK AFTER YOU GOT BACK THAT THE UH, THE HEAD OF THE CHILD WAS DISCOVERED. DID THAT REFRESH YOUR MEMORY ABOUT THAT INCIDENT AT SEARS?

A. NO IT DIDN'T.

Q. IT DIDN'T?

A. NO.

Q. HOW COME IT WASN'T SUSPICIOUS AT THAT POINT AND IT WAS SUSPICIOUS AT THE TIME YOU VIEWED IT?

A. IT WAS SUSPICIOUS TO ME AT THAT TIME BUT IT JUST DIDN'T CLICK BECAUSE OF THE BLUE VAN THEY HAD PUMPED THAT BLUE VAN AND PUMPED THAT BLUE VAN AND THEY HAD LITERALLY CONVINCED ME THAT WHOEVER HAD THIS BOY WAS DRIVING A BLUE VAN. I SAW A RUSTY OLD WHITE CADILLAC I DIDN'T SEE BLUE VAN. I MEAN THEY LITERALLY BRAIN WASHED ME BECAUSE I HAD STARTED TO COME UP TO THE HOLLYWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT LATER ON AFTER I HAD REMEMBERED THIS INCIDENT A MONTH MAY HAVE WENT BY IT MAY HAVE EVEN BEEN 6 MONTHS WENT BY AND I THINK WHAT JARRED IT WAS I HAD WENT TO SEARS AND I HAD STOPPED RIGHT THERE AT THE EXACT SAME PLACE AND BASICALLY THE SAME THING HAPPENED, I WAS WAITING AND I WAS IN ALMOST THE IDENTICAL SPOT I WAS IN AND IT WAS LIKE SOMEBODY HIT ME IN THE HEAD ALL OF A SUDDEN I REMEMBERED THE OLD MAN AND THE KID AND I REMEMBERED IT SO CLEARLY BECAUSE I WAS SO NERVOUS ABOUT IT THAT DAY BUT THE BLUE VAN THREW ME OFF. IF IT WASN'T FOR THE BLUE VAN I WOULD OF CAME UP AS SOON AS I REMEMBERED THAT.

Q. ALRIGHT. UH..WHILE YOU WERE FOLLOWING THIS INVESTIGATION, THROUGH THE NEWSPAPERS, ON TELEVISION AND WHATEVER ELSE, AT ANY TIME WAS THE INFORMATION BROUGHT TO YOU OF THIS CADILLAC THAT YOU OBSERVED?

A. NEVER.

Q. YOU NEVER READ ANYTHING, SAW ANYTHING OR HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT A WHITE CADILLAC?

A. NO. I READ ONE ARTICLE WHICH I THINK THEY SAID THE RUSTY OLD CAR. THEY DIDN'T SAY A RUSTY OLD CADILLAC OR JUST A RUSTY OLD CAR. I MIGHT EVEN BE WRONG ABOUT THAT I, THERE WAS SOMETHING, THAT WOULD OF BEEN IN THE TROPIC I BELIEVE THE TROPIC CAME OUT WITH AN ARTICLE ON THIS, YOU KNOW, WE HAD, I HAD READ THE ARTICLE ON THAT.

Q. THE ONLY..

A. I THINK WHEN THEY MENTIONED IT IT WAS FILTHY DIRTY OR SOMETHING THERE WAS SOMETHING THAT MENTIONED IT WAS I'M NOT SURE WHAT.

TRANS.SERIAL: 2134  
SERIAL: 38  
REVIEWER:

REPORTING OFF. : HOFFMAN  
DATE: 07-30-91  
SUPERV. APPROV. SERIAL:

Q. THE ONLY VEHICLE YOU WERE, HAD KNOWLEDGE OF WAS THIS BLUE VAN THAT WAS GIVEN OUT CONSTANTLY THROUGH THE NEWS MEDIA? CORRECT?

A. THEY BRAIN WASHED ME WITH IT.

Q. OK. NOW...WHAT CAUSED YOU TO COME FORWARD AND CONTACT ME ON JULY 5TH, OF 1991?

A. BECAUSE OF AN ARTICLE IN THE UH...OH THIS IS THE MIAMI HERALD PAPER...AN ARTICLE IN THE MIAMI HERALD..I DIDN'T THINK THAT WAS THE HERALD THOUGH.. WEDNESDAY JUNE 26TH...AN ARTICLE IN THE MIAMI HERALD ON WEDNESDAY JUNE 26TH, OF THIS YEAR, IT WAS AN ARTICLE ABOUT A RETIRING POLICE OFFICER, A RETIRING DETECTIVE. AND IN THIS ARTICLE IT SAID OTTIS TOOLE'S PROBABLY THE MOST COMPLETELY INVESTIGATED WITH EVER DONE TO PROVE THAT SOMEONE DIDN'T DO IT. I LIKE TO SHIT I ALMOST HIT THE CEILING WHEN I READ THAT.

Q. WHY IS THAT?

A. BECAUSE I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU HAD OTTIS TOOLE PINNED TO THE WALL, I KNEW YOU HAD THE RIGHT PERSON. THERE WAS NOT A DOUBT IN MY MIND ABOUT THAT. I KNEW YOU HAD THE RIGHT PERSON. WHEN I READ THIS I SAID HOW IN THE HELL COULD THEY SAY THAT. HOW IN THE HELL COULD THEY SAY THAT.

Q. ALL THESE YEARS YOU ASSUMED THAT OTTIS TOOLE WAS CHARGED WITH THE OBDOCTION AND MURDER OF ADAM WALSH?

A. WHEN HE CAME IN AND TURNED HIMSELF IN THE NIGHT THAT I SAW HIS PICTURE AND I BELIEVE ALL THEY SHOWED WAS A BLACK AND WHITE PICTURE OF OTTIS TOOLE, I WAS LAYING ON MY BED AND I HAVE A RECESS T.V. IN MY WALL AND I WAS WATCHING THE 11 O'CLOCK NEWS AND I GOT ALL SNUG AND I'M SITTING THERE WAITING AND WHEN THEY FLASHED THAT PICTURE BEFORE MY FEET HIT THE GROUND, I KNEW WHERE I HAD SEEN THAT GUY BEFORE. AND I PUT MY HANDS IN MY, MY HANDS ON MY FACE AND JUST KEPT SAYING NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO. UNTIL MY WIFE CAME IN AND WANTED TO KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON..

Q. RIGHT. AND YOU TOLD HER?

A. AND THEN I TOLD HER.

Q. WHEN, WHEN OTTIS TOOLE BECAME THE FOCUS OF OUR INVESTIGATION, WHICH STARTED IN OCTOBER OF 1983, OK, WERE YOU FOLLOWING THAT PART OF THE INVESTIGATION THROUGH THE MEDIA?

A. I WAS FOLLOWING WHAT WAS IN THE PAPER AND UH..

Q. OK WELL AT THAT POINT IN TIME HOW COME YOU DIDN'T COME FORWARD AND NOTIFY THE POLICE THAT, WHAT YOU HAD WITNESSED?

A. I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION YOU HAD HIM PINNED TO THE WALL. I KNEW THERE WERE OTHER, OTHER WITNESSES UP THERE THAT DAY. I FIGURED

TRANS.SERIAL: 2134  
SERIAL: 38  
REVIEWER:

REPORTING OFF. : HOFFMAN *J*  
DATE: 07-30-91  
SUPERV.APPROV.SERIAL:

SOMEONE ELSE AND BY THAT TIME JOHN WALSH HAD MADE THIS MORE FAMOUS THAN THE LINBERG CASE AND I'M A LOCAL BUSINESS MAN. I'M JUST TRYING TO SURVIVE LIKE A LOCAL GUY YOU KNOW I'M NOBODY SPECIAL. I DON'T WANT MY NAME IN THE NEWSPAPER I DON'T WANT MY FACE ON TELEVISION. I LIKE MY LIFE THE WAY IT IS. I REALLY ENJOY IT THE WAY IT IS BUT BY THIS TIME THIS HAD BEEN THE MOST FAMOUS CASE IN THE WORLD LET SOMEBODY ELSE GO UP THERE AND TAKE THE HEAT WAS MY OPINION BECAUSE I KNEW THERE WERE OTHER WITNESSES.

Q. BUT DIDN'T THERE COME A TIME DURING 1983 WHEN THE HOLLYWOOD POLICE...

A. WE NEVER HEARD ANY MORE ABOUT IT.

Q. ADVISED THAT THEY..(END SIDE A)...CONTINUE FROM SIDE 1 OF THIS TAPE...I'M GOING TO REPEAT MY QUESTION.. DIDN'T THERE COME A TIME THAT THE HOLLYWOOD POLICE ADVISE THAT THEY DID NOT CHARGE OTTIS TOOLE WITH THE ABDUCTION AND MURDER OF ADAM WALSH?

A. WE HAD SEEN ARTICLES THROUGHOUT THE YEARS AFTER THAT. BUT THERE MOSTLY ARTICLES WERE SAYING CRIME SUSPECT OTTIS TOOLE AND MY WIFE AND I JUST FIGURED THAT WAS POLICE TALK AND THEY'RE JUST TIDYING UP LOOSE ENDS AND YOU KNOW THEY WOULDN'T OF PUT HIS PICTURE ON THE THING THAT HE'S THE PRIME SUSPECT UNLESS HE REALLY UNLESS THEY REALLY KNEW HE WAS THE PRIME SUSPECT. I MEAN AFTERALL THE GUY CAME IN AND TURNED HIMSELF IN AND PROBABLY GAVE THEM ALL THE DETAILS THAT ONLY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT WOULD HAVE KNOWN AND LIKE I SAID THERE WERE OTHER WITNESSES THERE I KNOW THERE WERE OTHER, THE LADY BEHIND ME HAD A BETTER VIEW OF HIM WHEN I WAS PARKED ALONG SIDE OF THE CAR THAN I DID.

Q. YEAH BUT READING THE NEWSPAPER AND ACCOUNTS WOULDN'T YOU HAVE READ THAT WITNESSES HAVE COME FORWARD PUTTING OTTIS TOOLE AT THE...

A. WE NEVER READ THAT. WE SAW VERY LITTLE ABOUT OF THE CASE AND SEE AN ARTICLE NOW AND THEN BUT IT WAS USUALLY SOMETHING THAT JOHN WALSH WAS DOING WITH ANOTHER RESOURCE CENTER OR SOMETHING ELSE WAS OPENING OR THIS AND THAT AND...

Q. THEN WHAT ABOUT THESE POSTERS THAT WE PUT OUT THROUGHOUT BROWARD COUNTY WITH A 100,000 DOLLAR REWARD FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADAM WALSH. DIDN'T THAT STIMULATE YOUR CURIOSITY?

A. I DON'T THINK I SAW. I SAW POSTERS I SAW A LOT OF THE POSTERS WITH HIM.

Q. YOU DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS A REWARD OUT FOR A, ADAM WALSH'S...

A. NO I DIDN'T. I READ IT IN THE PAPER OVER THIS PAST WEEKEND BUT I WAS UNAWARE...

Q. THAT DIDN'T STIMULATE YOU?

TRANS.SERIAL: 2134

SERIAL: 38

REVIEWER:

REPORTING OFF. : HOFFMAN *ff*

DATE: 07-30-91

SUPERV. APPROV. SERIAL:

From: **Phil Mundy**  
Investigator  
State Attorney's Office  
Phone 305-831-6368  
Pager 305-879-5288  
Mobile 305-249-6619

May 7, 1997

To: RALPH RAY

Ref: DONALD LEROY EVANS

Discovered a Adolpho Jesus CONSTANZO with a record for shoplifting in 1981 in Dade Co. with a last known address of 1914 S. W. 94 Ct., Miami. At that address I interviewed a Adela BRITO who is the current resident.

Ms. BRITO informed me that the CONSTANZO family moved in 1984 and that the entire family is crazy. She went on to tell me about the mother leaving dead animals on neighbors doorsteps and other bizarre behavior and that everyone was and still is afraid of the CONSTANZO's. Ms. BRITO also said that the son Adolpho had been killed in Mexico by a cult member of which Adolpho and his girlfriend were the leaders and that they had killed some people in Mexico, one of whom was an American on Spring Break and that a story had been written about them in People Magazine (coincidentally) in April or May of '89 or '90. Ms. BRITO said the press had been out in the neighborhood in droves when the story broke.

A search of old editions of People at the <sup>LIBRARY</sup> ~~magazine~~ unearthed the attached.

201 S.E. 6th Street • Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

People  
MAY 1, 1989

# THE GRISLY SECRETS OF A LONELY RANCH

A drug smuggler's worship of evil leads to the human-sacrifice  
slaying of Texas student Mark Kilroy and 12 other victims



**T**he small bridge over the Rio Grande links Texas with good times. During spring break every year, thousands of American college students cross from Brownsville to the Mexican town of Matamoros, where a strip of bars with names like Sergeant Pepper's and the London Pub offer hot Mexican food, cold Mexican beer and no American drinking laws. Mark Kilroy, 21, a premed student at the University of Texas, so happily anticipated his March vacation that a friend who went with him recalls, "The whole semester, that was all we talked about." Nobody suspected harm could come to a young man who wanted to do nothing more venture-some than spend a few nights of drinking and fun across the border.

On the first evening, Kilroy and three buddies, all former classmates at Santa Fe (Texas) High, met some girls from Kansas, drank a lot of beer and returned safely to their rooms at the Sheraton Hotel on South Padre Island, Texas, 20 miles away. The second night of beer-drinking revelry went just as well, and at about 2 o'clock in the morning of March 14, the four began walk-



Coroners from Matamoros remove victim No. 13, below, two days after finding the body of Mark Kilroy, left.





"Godfather" Adolfo de Jesus Constanzo, above, fled with his "witch," Sara Maria Aldrete.



ing toward the river, a 15-minute stroll that would take them over the bridge to the U.S. side of the border, where they had parked their car. Two of the men walked ahead, while Kilroy and Bill Huddleston, 21, followed about 20 feet behind. Huddleston paused to step into an alley and do what young men must do after drinking beer all night long. Kilroy waited on the street.

By the time Huddleston came out, Kilroy had vanished. There were no sounds. There were no witnesses. He was just gone.

The first part of Mark Kilroy to be found, four weeks later, was his brain. It turned up in a black cauldron, and it had been boiled in blood over an open fire along with a turtle shell, a horseshoe, a spinal column and other human bones.

His ritual death and dismemberment had been carried out in service to religion—a bizarre, drug-demented occult religion practiced by an American marijuana smuggler operating out of Mexico. Authorities were led to a grave containing Kilroy's body, or at least what remained of it, and after that the uncovering of mutilated corpses went on and on. The first day of digging brought up a dozen bodies, all of them buried on the grounds of Rancho Santa Elena, a grand name for a cattle ranch that is little

Sergio Martinez, who confessed to helping kidnap Kilroy, was forced by police to dig up one of the gang's victims.

more than a decrepit corral and a tarpaper-and-wood shanty located just off a twisting, unpaved road. The victims had been slashed, beaten, shot, hanged or boiled alive, the only commonality to their deaths the ritual mutilations that followed. The walls of the 15-foot by 25-foot shack were stained with blood, and scattered about were some items used in the rituals, including a machete and white votive candles in a box bearing a representation of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of Mexico.

The four men who led police to their cult clubhouse were picked up after one of them, David Serna Valdez, 22, ran a narcotics-interception roadblock near Rancho Santa Elena. Authorities pursued his silver Chevrolet onto the property and found a revolver and a small amount of marijuana in the car. Police showed a picture of the missing American. The ranch caretaker, who has not been charged with any crimes, recognized Kilroy from the photo, and he was also able to give police the names of three other gang members. After 36 hours of questioning—questioning by Mexican authorities





RICHARD CARRON/HOUSTON CHRONICLE/91

can be persuasive—the four men talked. The gang members told how their leader, Adolfo de Jesus Constanzo, a 26-year-old Cuban-American born and raised in Miami, had killed Kilroy with a single machete blow to the back of his head. Three of the men said they personally had no part in the killings because Constanzo did not permit them to participate. The fourth, Elio Hernandez Rivera, 22, admitted that Constanzo had selected him to be his second-in-command and had marked his body with the symbols denoting fitness to be an occult executioner. On his shoulders, chest and back were scarred arrows, branded into his flesh with a hot knife blade.

Two days later, one of the gang members, Sergio Martinez, 23, was ordered to dig up a 13th body in the presence of the international press. Although he did so in the stench and heat without mask or water, there was no outcry at this display of summary justice. Ultimately, though, there was little satisfaction. Still at large were the leaders: Constanzo, known as *El Padrino* (the Godfather), and a Mexican woman named Sara Maria Villarreal Aldrete, 24,

The killing shack at the ranch held a bloody altar and pots filled with the remains of goats, chickens—and humans.

who led a mysterious double life as the so-called witch of the gang and as an honor student at Texas Southmost College in Brownsville. They were last seen together in Brownsville, in a 1989 Mercedes-Benz. (After they found Aldrete's purse and passport last week, Mexico City police speculated that Constanzo might have killed his partner. But U.S. authorities continued to believe the two were alive and on the lam.)

The four men filled in some details of Kilroy's abduction. They said they were driving a red pickup truck along the main street of Matamoros, on orders from Constanzo "to pick up an Anglo spring-breaker." One of them offered Kilroy a ride, and when he got close, they grabbed him and threw him into the truck. A well-built six-footer, Kilroy struggled free and ran for two blocks, but was recaptured and taken to the shack. At first he was given food and assured he would not be harmed, but less than 12 hours later he was executed. When Kilroy's father, a deeply religious Catholic, learned that some time had passed between abduction and death, he was relieved. "Mark had plenty of time to cry out for God's help," said James Kilroy, 45. "When you cry out, God listens."

Santa Fe, where Mark Kilroy lived most of his life, is a simple town: It has a single main street, a single high school and even a singleness of purpose. Like many American towns, it is a notably fine place to grow up.

Jim Kilroy works as a chemical engineer; his wife, Helen, 44, is a volunteer paramedic. They have a second son, Keith, 19. The family regularly attends Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in the adjoining town of Hitchcock, where about 1,500 mourners turned out to celebrate a Mass of the Resurrection a few days after the body of the church's former altar boy was found. Yellow bows graced the church doors, and yellow ribbons fluttered quietly from trees and signposts; they had been placed there only a few days earlier to remind townspeople to support the search for Mark.

As a high school student, Mark played on the basketball and golf teams, served on the student council and was graduated 14th in a class of 210 in 1986. He first enrolled at Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas, on a basketball scholarship but transferred to the University of Texas at Austin after two years, giving up athletics in order to concentrate on premed courses. His grades were 3.0 on a 4-point scale, and he was preparing to take the MCAT. In the

Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox described the occult rituals at Rancho Santa Elena as "religious craziness."





Old high school pals Bill Huddleston, 21, Brent Martin, 20, and Bradley Moore, 20, joined Kilroy on spring break.

emotional days that followed the discovery of the body, Jim Kilroy recalled that when his son was in high school, he would sometimes go to Mark's bedroom to make certain he was studying, only to find him reading the Bible instead. "What do you do?" Kilroy says, smiling at the memory. "He

needs to study. But do you go in and tell your son to quit reading the Bible?"

Adolfo de Jesus Constanzo was also raised in a religious environment, but one of a very different character. His last-known address, where he lived with his mother, two brothers and a sister, was in a

section of West Miami known as Coral Park Estates. Although the entire family left the block five years ago, many neighbors still fear Constanzo and few are willing to talk about him. "Everyone here is worried [Constanzo] will come back to get them for talking," says one man, standing in the half-opened door of his home. "I've completely protected my house, and if they come by, I'll blow them away."

Constanzo's mother, Delia Aurora Gonzalez del Valle, was married at least three times, although she seems to have raised her family alone. According to neighbors and police records, she was a practitioner of *Santeria*, a religion that evolved when African slaves blended the worship of the gods and spirits of their ancestors with Catholicism.

*Santeria* has as many as 100 million practitioners worldwide, many of them concentrated in the Caribbean and South America. In the United States, the spiritual center is La Iglesia Lukumi Babalu-Aya, a church in Miami. Although rites include animal sacrifice, *Santeria* is a relatively benign religion. But Del Valle practiced it in a peculiarly vindictive manner, said her one-time Miami neighbors, who have accused her of settling grudges by leaving headless animals on doorsteps. Elena Menedez found a dead goose, its head wrapped in a



At a Brownsville Mass of the Resurrection, Jim Kilroy and wife Helen requested prayers for their son's killers.

red handkerchief, and Carmen Reigada opened her door to find a decapitated chicken on her stoop shortly after her son quarreled with Del Valle. Constanzo's only known arrest while living in Miami was for shoplifting a chain saw. In 1984 he left to seek his fortune in Mexico, where recently his gang was selling a ton of dope a week and grossing an estimated \$200,000.

According to Constanzo's followers, he kept them in line using *Santería* practices until about nine months ago, when he began immersing himself in the rituals of *Palo Mayombe*, a malevolent Afro-Caribbean cult that stresses what one expert calls "evil for evil's sake." The effective gods are the all-powerful group leaders, who in an increasing number of cases appear to be drug lords employing the occult as a disciplinary tool. "What we are seeing," says Carl Raschke, a professor of world religions at the University of Denver, "is a religious ideology that is being used almost like a corporate motivational training program to bond and enforce absolute obedience among criminal groups."

One of Constanzo's teaching aids was *The Believers*, a 1987 Hollywood film starring Martin Sheen and Jimmy Smits

that purported to investigate *Santería* and *Palo Mayombe*. Constanzo's partner Aldrete was said to use the film to lure men into the circle of the cult and ultimately to the killing shack.

The amalgam of evil created by Constanzo also contained elements of voodoo,

Satanism and *santismo* (a bloody Aztec ritual), but the essential element was human sacrifice. Constanzo told his followers that the spirit and the essence of the victims were absorbed by those who did the sacrific-

ing, and the grisly killings were followed by prayers for strength, riches and protection from the police and physical harm. Not all of Constanzo's victims died for such elevated causes. Some of the 13 murdered men found at the ranch were also in the illegal-drug trade, sacrificed in the name of deals that went bad.

Among the corpses exhumed at the ranch were those of two 14-year-old boys, and

when the residences of Aldrete and Constanzo were searched, police came upon disturbing evidence. In Aldrete's Matamoros home, they found an altar, spattered blood and children's clothing. In Constanzo's neat, white, two-story home outside Mexico City, they also discovered baby clothes. Ru-

rumors swept through the lower Rio Grande valley shortly afterward that cultists were planning to kidnap children in revenge for the Matamoros discovery, causing panicked parents to pull their children out of schools and officials

to post sentries around campuses. The rumors proved completely unfounded. Yet even as Rancho Santa Elena began fading into macabre memory, the horrifying possibility remained that somewhere, more innocents lie, as yet undiscovered in the earth.

—Alan Richman, Bob Stewart in Brownsville, Anne Maier in Santa Fe, Kent Demaret in San Antonio, and Valerie Gladstone in Miami

Constanzo told his followers  
that the spirit and the  
essence of the victims were  
absorbed by those who did the  
sacrificing.

Following memorial services, mourners at Our Lady of Lourdes Church filed by to look at boyhood snapshots of Mark.



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BROWARD ■ DADE ■ STATE

LOCAL

The Herald

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SECTION  
TUESDAY,  
890 FEBRUARY 13, 1996

# Prosecutor: Keep Walsh files shut

By RONNIE GREENE  
Herald Staff Writer

Four days before secret files detailing the hunt for Adam Walsh's killer were to open for public view, the Broward State Attorney's Office on Monday filed a last-minute request to keep the record sealed.

Joining forces with Hollywood Police and Adam's parents, John and Reve Walsh, prosecutors contend release of the 10,000 page file would be premature and potentially hinder the criminal investigation.

"Mr. and Mrs. Walsh are extremely gratified by the Broward County State's Attorney's decision," family lawyer George Terwilliger III said Monday.

"The Walshes agree with the prosecutors that unsealing the file now could foreclose forever the possible prosecution of

*The Broward State Attorney's Office, backed by Adam Walsh's parents, insist that opening the long-secret files could destroy any chance of ever solving the crime.*

anyone responsible for this heinous crime."

Under orders from Broward Circuit Judge Leroy Moe, Hollywood Police had been scheduled to open the files to the media at 1 p.m. Friday. Moe ordered them opened last year after several newspapers. The Herald included filed suit.

Media lawyer Thomas Julin's argument: With no arrest after nearly 15 years, there's no reason to keep the witness statements and list of suspects under wraps.

Julin argued the publicity could trigger new leads and help crack the case.

Further, he argued, the records may reveal whether Hollywood Police fumbled the investigation.

Now, Judge Moe has set an emergency hearing for 10 a.m. Thursday to weigh prosecutors' request.

The State Attorney's Office entered the public records lawsuit four months after Moe's initial order to unseal them.

On Jan. 26, Hollywood Police took a

copy of its 10,000-page file to the State Attorney's Office. Prosecutors had not combed through the complete file before.

"All I can tell you is we're reviewing it," Broward State Attorney Michael Satz said Monday. "If I gave you a book to read, wouldn't you want to read the book before you tell me what it's about?"

From the motion by Ralph Ray, Jr., Satz's Chief Assistant State Attorney:

"The release and dissemination of the contents of this investigative file to the public and/or media at this time would be premature and may negatively affect and prejudice the on-going criminal investigation."

State Attorney Satz said John Walsh paid his office a visit recently to talk about

PLEASE SEE WALSH, 6B

# Walsh parents fear opening files will abort investigation

WALSH, FROM 1B

the files.

"I think Mr. Walsh has a big concern," Satz said. "He wanted once and for all to have this case solved. And he doesn't want to see anything happen that would jeopardize the effective prosecution."

Police and prosecutors say their main fear is that, by releasing the records, crucial details known only to the killer could become public knowledge.

"There are definitely portions of that file that should not be let loose," said Paul Dungan, administrative assistant to Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt.

"This case is like putting a jigsaw puzzle together," Dungan added. "Right now, there's a lot of missing pieces. Some of those pieces will never be found. But sometimes, like with a jigsaw

puzzle, even with pieces missing you can tell what the picture is."

Adam, 6, was snatched from the Sears at Hollywood Mall July 27, 1981 as his mother, Reye, said she left him to play a video game as she went shopping for a lamp. Two weeks later, the child's head was recovered in a canal 125 miles north of Hollywood.

His body was never found. Suspects have emerged over the years, but no arrests.

Last week, John Walsh issued a statement to The Herald:

"We continue to pray that police and prosecutors have the opportunity to investigate all leads in Adam's case. . . . The police and prosecutors' responsibility to identify and bring to justice the person who committed that crime should take precedence over anything else."

# State aims to block Walsh file

## Records supposed to be opened Friday

By SCOTT GLOVER  
Staff Writer

Arguing that the police investigation of the 1981 murder of Adam Walsh is not yet complete, the Broward State Attorney's Office on Monday filed a motion seeking to block the release of the Hollywood Police Department's investigative files on the case.

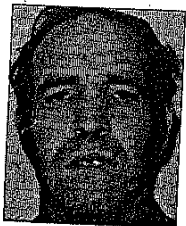


Adam

prejudice the ongoing criminal investigation and any successful prosecution" of the case.

Ray said the State Attorney's Office "had never completely reviewed the entire investigative file" in the 14-year-old murder case until Jan. 26, when Hollywood police turned it over.

Also on Monday, a police source confirmed detectives as recently as last week interviewed suspected serial killer Ottis



Toole

Elwood Toole in connection with Adam's murder. Toole, who twice confessed to killing the 6-year-old, then twice recanted, has not been ruled out as a suspect in the case, said a source who spoke on condition of anonymity. Other anonymous sources have said Toole's confessions and other evidence related to his testimony weigh heavily in the police investigation. The sources refused to elaborate on Toole's alleged role in the killing.

Toole, 49, is serving a 20-year term at Florida State Prison near Starke. He is a convicted arsonist who is suspected in dozens of murders throughout the South.

A hearing on the State Attorney's Office motion to keep the file closed is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in Circuit Judge Leroy Moe's chambers.

About 10,000 pages of police files on the case were expected to be released at 1 p.m. Friday, after several newspapers, including the *Sun-Sentinel*, sued the Police Department to make them public.

In preparation for the release, police turned over the case files to the State Attorney's Office for a review, said police spokesman Todd DeAngelis.

It is unclear how Ray's motion will affect the anticipated release of the docu

PLEASE SEE WALSH /7B

*Sun-Sentinel*  
2-13-96

## WALSH

FROM PAGE 1B

### Releasing Adam's file could hinder case, officials say

ments, which police argued for years should be kept secret to protect their investigation.

"We have the case at a point where we can disclose it without impeding our investigation," DeAngelis said. "We are planning to go along with whatever the judge orders. If the state attorney deems there is sufficient information for a prosecution, that is a determination for them to make, not us."

For almost 15 years, the Hollywood police investigation of Adam's kidnapping and murder has raised more questions than it has answered.

In their search for the young boy's killer, police questioned scores of potential suspects, ranging from a close friend of the

Walshes to serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer.

The investigation inspired a made-for-TV movie, led to mainstream acknowledgement of missing children and launched the career of Adam's dad, TV crime fighter John Walsh and his *America's Most Wanted* show.

But it has never produced an arrest.

What has been called South Florida's most notorious unsolved murder started on July 27, 1981, when Adam disappeared from a Hollywood Sears store where he was last seen playing a video game while his mom was shopping for a lamp.

Reve Walsh later told investigators she was gone for only minutes, and that when she returned Adam had vanished.

One of the largest manhunts in state history ensued. Police, friends and neighbors scoured the Sears store, the Hollywood Mall across the street from the Hollywood Police Department and combed nearby streets.

John Walsh reached out to the

media, passionately appealing for his boy's safe return.

In fact, it was just moments before the Walshes were to appear on *Good Morning America* that they learned their son was dead.

On Aug. 11, 1981, two fishermen found the boy's head floating in a canal near a desolate stretch of Florida's Turnpike near Vero Beach. The head was identified a day later by John Walsh's close friend, businessman John Monahan Sr.

In 1983, Toole led police to a marsh near where Adam's head was discovered, but police were unable to find the boy's body.

Over the years, police have ruled out many suspects, including James E. Campbell, a man who lived with the Walshes for two years, and John Monahan Jr., another family friend.

"Anyone who wants to keep their names alive in this are not paying attention to the facts," said Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt.

Staff Writer Henry Fitzgerald contributed to this report.

BRO

THE ADAM WALSH CASE

# Police chief: Investigators lost objectivity

Toole may have killed his boy, but believes the publicity generated by the files may taint the waters and prevent a prosecution.

Lance Heflin, the executive producer of *America's Most Wanted*, used even harsher language in an interview with *The Herald*.

"It was a great opportunity, and he bungled it," Heflin said of Witt not bringing charges against Toole. "He may well be the poster boy for shoddy law enforcement."

Witt refused to respond publicly. He said only: "We're all entitled to our opinion. I have some also that are pretty strong. That doesn't make them correct."

*'Police officers are supposed to be like scientists. You need to leave emotion outside the ring of your pursuit. You're supposed to be objective.'*

RICHARD WITT, Hollywood police chief

occasion to criticize Witt. On *CBS This Morning*, Walsh said: "The chief of police in Hollywood, Fla., gave up on the case. This is heartbreaking."

He chided Witt for not preventing the release of the police files to reporters. Walsh, the host of *America's Most Wanted*, fervently believes Ottis Elwood

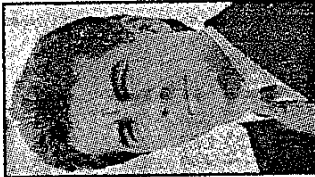
"Because it creates a distraction," Witt said. "Police officers are supposed to be like scientists. You need to leave emotion outside the ring of your pursuit. You're supposed to be objective."

John Walsh and his circle of associates, meanwhile, used the release of the files Friday as an

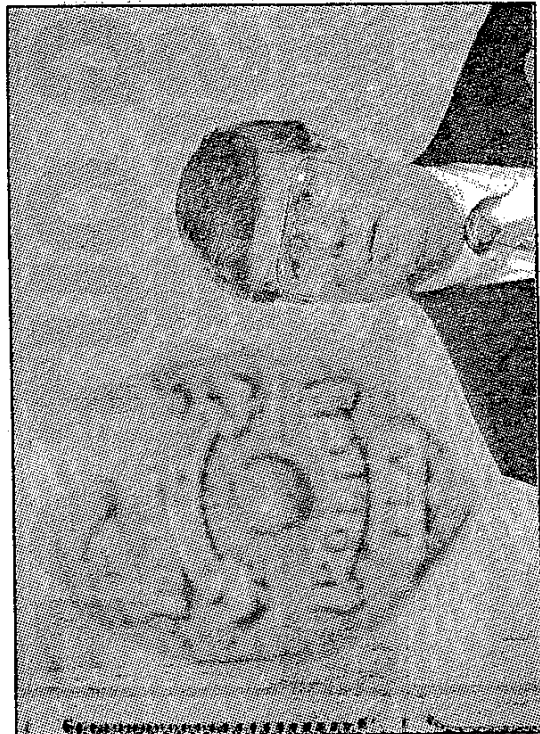
POLICE CHIEF, FROM 1A

should have been managed differently is the allowing of the Walsh family and some of their close associates to be involved in the investigation," the chief said.

"That is just not professional. They were involved in every stage of the investigation. Why is that wrong?"



John Walsh



J. ALBERT DIAZ / Herald Staff

**CRITICIZED BY JOHN WALSH:** Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt said investigators' conduct during the probe wasn't 'professional.'

# The Herald

JOHN S. KNIGHT (1894-1981)

JAMES L. KNIGHT (1909-1991)

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## Opening a cold case

There is something a bit odd about the recent (non)developments in the Adam Walsh case. The Hollywood Police Department was to open its secret, yellowing files on the case tomorrow under the Open Records Law; yet on Jan. 26 the department asked prosecutors to take their first look at the whole file — at the behest of Adam's father, John Walsh.

Today prosecutors and attorneys for Mr. Walsh are to argue that the case should remain a secret despite the Police Department's reported willingness to open the file at last.

The law permits police and prosecutors to keep secret only files on investigations that are "continuing with a reasonable, good faith anticipation of securing an arrest or prosecution in the foreseeable future."

Adam Walsh, age 6, disappeared on July 27, 1981, from the Hollywood Sears store. His head was found two weeks later. No arrests were ever made; the best suspect then and still may be a drifter who spun a tale of many murders and then recanted. John Walsh went on to become host of TV's *America's Most Wanted*, which tries to solve old cases by shedding new, public light on them.

The issue of opening this file began in January 1995 with inquiries by an Alabama reporter. Jay Grelen says his interest was piqued by a friend who had analyzed extreme claims about

### REVEAL WALSH FILES

The Open Records Law protects secrecy of police files only when an arrest is likely, and soon.

child kidnapping in the months after this murder. Last May The Mobile Press Register filed suit seeking the records. In June the Police Department hinted at, and then hedged about, new leads. Its cold-case

expert got the file a year before.

In October, Broward Circuit Judge Leroy Moe gave the department four months to pursue any new angle. Mr. Walsh's affidavit claims that Police Chief Richard Witt told him that Chief Witt would name the killer upon releasing the file. The chief says that he doesn't recall telling Mr. Walsh this. Naming names and releasing the file would signal that a successful prosecution was considered highly unlikely.

State Attorney Michael J. Satz says that releasing information in an unsolved case, such as facts knowable only by the killer, could taint any prosecution should, say, new evidence arise. After 15 years, that's possible but not likely.

Further, the Open Records Law does not provide for a maybe-someday exemption — and for good reason. Without openness, there would be little accountability in government, and, in this case, no means for reviewing how well the Hollywood Police Department performed in investigating the most notorious tragedy ever within its jurisdiction. And what is wrong with new light on an old case?



Adam Walsh



# Police have had 15 years to find Adam's killer; let files be opened

**W**hat's going on in the State Attorney's Office that a "complete review" of South Florida's most notorious unsolved murder case doesn't take place until nearly 15 years after the crime?

Or is the untimely need for a review just part of an ongoing coverup? Might it be a coverup about how and how well a police investigation was conducted, about what suspects were investigated and cleared, about what leads were followed and abandoned, about who might have killed Adam Walsh and, in fact, about why unspecified "new developments" tend to coincide so conveniently with newspaper requests for the files from a murder case more than a decade old?

Adam was just 6 when he disappeared from a Hollywood shopping mall on July 27, 1981. Two weeks later, the little boy's severed head was found in a canal 120 miles away, near Vero Beach.

His body has never been found, no one has been arrested — and the Hollywood Police Department has steadfastly refused to comply with newspaper requests under the Public Records Law to submit their investigation to public scrutiny.

Last June, Broward County Circuit Court Judge Leroy Moe said police could keep the file confidential for a bit longer, while detectives pursued what they claimed were new leads and new suspects. The judge said newspapers could refile their legal request for full disclosure after detectives questioned those new suspects. Since then, no arrest or indictment has been made and no evidence of progress has been seen.

Nor have any files been released for inspection. But about 10,000 pages worth of them were expected to be released by the Police Department at 1 p.m. Friday in response to suits by several newspapers, including the

**Astonishingly, Chief Assistant State Attorney Ralph J. Ray said his office "had never completely reviewed the entire investigative file" in the 14-year-old murder case until Jan. 26.**

*Sun-Sentinel.* In preparation for that release, police said, they turned the files over to the Broward State Attorney's Office, which filed a motion on Monday seeking to block the release.

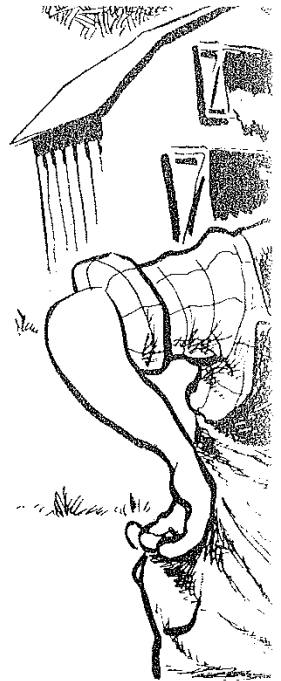
Chief Assistant State Attorney Ralph J. Ray argued in an emergency motion that releasing the files "may negatively affect and prejudice the ongoing criminal investigation and any successful prosecution" of the case.

Astonishingly, Ray said his office "had never completely reviewed the entire investigative file" in the sensational 14-year-old murder case until Jan. 26, when Hollywood police turned it over.

Do other decades-old crimes languish similarly, one wonders, "awaiting review" by the State Attorney's Office, or is something fishy going on in the Adam Walsh case alone?

A hearing on Ray's request is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in Judge Moe's chambers.

Florida's Public Records Act was designed to maximize the kinds of records open to the public and minimize those that are kept secret. The act prevents disclosure of active criminal intelligence and investigative information, but does not grant blanket secrecy for any and all unsolved crimes. Nor should it allow any further stonewalling on the Adam Walsh files. Fifteen years is too long for the public to be left in the dark.



## Let's put time, a

Well, it's finally happened. A big push to privatize the schools has reached a point. What was considered the salvation of the school system in Hartford, Conn., by turning the public schools to profit, hands has failed. Now, after some years of experimentation, the schools are safely back in the hands of professionals — the administrators and teachers who know best.

We all know that the schools should automatically make for a free system. However, if school administration is open to public scrutiny, it is a system — unlike any private system. Parents and outsiders must closely

# Relocation game needs safeguards that protect taxpayers' investment

**D**espite being burned twice in the last year by now-you-see-it-now-you-don't promises of newly created jobs, some South Florida business promoters obviously still haven't learned not to play with fire.

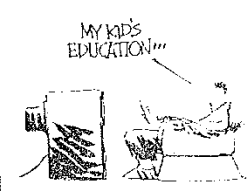
With some reluctance, Palm Beach County commissioners Feb. 6 gave their approval to job-incentive grants of more than a quarter-million dollars for four companies who have proposed to add 182 new positions to the local economy.

Conspicuously absent from last week's deals were the conditions belatedly imposed by the county commission last year when two firms pulled up stakes shortly after qualifying for more than \$500,000 in business development grants.

**Critics charge that many of the jobs created by such inducements are stolen away from other communities, some of them neighbors.**

The installation of minimal safeguards to protect the taxpayers' investment is the reason why the County Commission approved the two-year rule. If the relocating and expanding firms are serious about their commitment, they should have no problem living up to the two-year standard before seeking to collect a check.

Broward County has no similar program, but several Broward cities are becoming ac-



# OPINION

## Sun-Sentinel

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### EDITORIALS

## Opening records on Walsh case upholds public's right to know

**F**lorida's Public Records Law has nothing to do with the media's right to know. But it has everything to do with the public's right to know, and it is the public that should be thankful for the decision Thursday by Broward County Circuit Court Judge Leroy H. Moe that has resulted in the Hollywood Police Department opening its files on the Adam Walsh case.

Judge Moe, one of the most experienced and knowledgeable members of the Broward County bench, heard the evidence, weighed the facts of the case and made his decision based on a forthright and accurate interpretation of the law. Anyone who claims otherwise needs to enroll, or re-enroll, in law school.

It has been nearly 15 years since 6-year-old Adam Walsh was murdered. The investigation is stymied, and no arrests are in sight.

The *Sun-Sentinel* and other newspapers filed suit to have the Hollywood Police Department open its records. In October, Judge Moe ruled that this should happen on Feb. 16. The Broward County State Attorney and Adam Walsh's parents filed 11th-hour motions this week to block the release, which Judge Moe rejected.

Nothing had changed since the original ruling, other than the State Attorney's Office's incredible admission that after all these years it hadn't finished reviewing the files. If procrastination were a legitimate argument, state attorneys could keep public records

### If procrastination were a legitimate argument, state attorneys could keep public records sealed forever.

sealed forever.

Adam's father, John Walsh, has sharply criticized the decision to open the records. His criticism is curious, considering he is the host of the nationally televised program *America's Most Wanted*.

The popular show is designed to focus public attention on unsolved crimes, with the expectation that the publicity will result in new leads that will culminate in arrests and convictions.

The show has had considerable success in its mission, yet John Walsh steadfastly has insisted the records of his own son's case be kept under wraps.

The police files contain 10,000 pages of text. It will be awhile before they are fully digested and interpreted.

At the very least, public disclosure will shed light on how well the investigation was handled, or whether it was mishandled. But public disclosure could result in new leads that will get the investigation moving forward again.

If it does, it will be because of Florida's Public Records Law, and a proper decision upholding it.

## Dockery, O'Hara 'miracles' prove medical consensus isn't foolproof

**T**he startling talking spree of Gary Dockery, after 7 1/2 years in a "minimally responsive" state, can be related to the "miracles" of O'Hara.

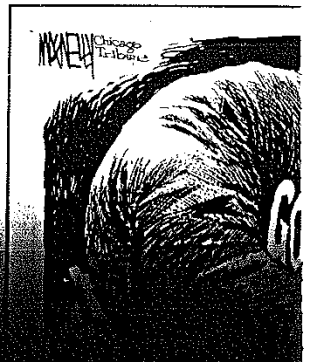
No two patients are exactly alike in their will to stay alive or in their ability to heal.



### Congress passes

Most of us have read many times that corporations often wind up the average citizen. This harassment of Congress, which creates loopholes that favor rich, thoughtful way our election campaign contributions.

The result for the citizen is honesty and to the best of rates. All decent people realize it is the small-time cheat who is entitled to, or who will only hire accountants



# The Herald

BROWARD EDITION OF The Miami Herald

BRO

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1996

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6

## Missing car may hold secret to murder

### Hollywood chief says investigators let emotions get in the way of probe

By **RONNIE GREENE**  
Herald Staff Writer

From the start, Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt said, the detectives chasing Adam Walsh's killer let emotions get in the way of old-fashioned police work.

Witt didn't become chief until 1986, five years after Adam's abduction. But his review of his department's handling of the case raises questions dating to the start — when Adam turned up missing and the crime shocked much of the nation.

Witt said detectives simply got too

close to the family, friends and associates of John and Reve Walsh.

That inner circle helped the investigation to the point of answering tips from hotlines, regularly meeting with detectives, even reviewing vital information as it came in.

It's not that the Walshes are suspected in Adam's murder, the chief said. But police detectives must draw a detachment from emotions and focus on the facts, he said.

"Not the least of the areas that

PLEASE SEE POLICE CHIEF, 11A

### Files show arsonist still suspected of slaying Adam Walsh 15 years ago

By **RONNIE GREENE**  
Herald Staff Writer

The secret of Adam Walsh's grisly murder may lie inside the belly of a 1971 Cadillac, black over white with faded interior. It is there, police say, that bloodstains blotting the front- and rear floorboards may be from Adam's head.

It is inside this car, they say, that career criminal Ottis Elwood Toole may have transported Adam to his tragic end July 27, 1981.

Hollywood police have a big problem. They don't know where the Caddy is. The Vehicle Identification Number: 683491Q134601.

For all they know, it could be scrap

metal, torn into pieces like their investigation into the murder of Adam Walsh, 6, of McKinley Street in Hollywood.

"We don't know where it is," Police Chief Richard Witt acknowledged Friday. "That's why we're looking for it."

On Friday, nearly 15 years after Adam Walsh's abduction and beheading, Hollywood police unsealed a 10,000-page investigation, detailing their quest for the killer.

They did so under court order, despite protests from officers, prosecutors and the boy's parents, John and Reve Walsh. In the end, the 10,000 pages tell a striking

PLEASE SEE ADAM WALSH, 10A



**MURDER STILL UNRESOLVED:**  
Victim Adam Walsh.

# Files show police still suspect arsonist of killing Adam Walsh

ADAM WALSH, FROM 1A

ing tale:

Today, police suspect the same man they zeroed in on in 1983 — Ottis Elwood Toole, 48, an illiterate with a seventh grade education who likes to set fires, and now is serving time at Union Correctional Institution in Raiford on charges of arson and homicide.

But the problem with the case against Toole goes beyond the missing Cadillac — where he said he placed Adam's head before tossing it into a canal 125 miles north of Hollywood.

Ottis Elwood Toole is a man who told lies again and again. Like a yo-yo, he said he did it, then said he didn't; then said he did, then said again he didn't.



Toole

"Maybe I didn't kill the boy," he said once.

Then, firmer: "No, I didn't kill Adam Walsh."

Still, Chief Witt told The Herald other suspects have come and gone. "The constant is Toole."

And a 37-page police summary concludes: "Despite repeatedly retracting his confessions, some accounts he has provided are curiously accurate. . . . Detectives do not yet have sufficient information to eliminate him as a suspect, so Ottis Elwood Toole remains a part of this continuing investigation."

The case against Toole dates to Oct. 10, 1983. Holed up in the Duval County Jail on charges of arson and homicide in Jacksonville, he started talking about a murder in Broward two years earlier.

During an interview with Brevard County Sheriff's Detective Steve Kindrick, there to question him on the Jacksonville case, Toole blurted: Are you from Broward County?

Why, the detective wanted to know?

"I killed someone in Broward County and I'd like to discuss this case with them," Toole replied, according to the newly released files. Toole went on to "relate how he had abducted a young boy from a Sears Mall in the Fort Lauderdale area and had killed him."

## Toole questioned

On Oct. 19, Hollywood Detective Jack Hoffman interrogated Toole.

It was 10 p.m. Toole waived his right to an attorney. After an 80-minute discussion, Toole confessed. But there were problems in his confession.

For one, his description of Adam.

Toole said the boy had blond curly hair and was wearing dungarees, a blue shirt and sneakers.

In truth, Adam had sandy brown hair and was wearing green shorts, a striped Izod shirt and flip-flops.

And Toole at first said he wasn't alone. His partner in crime, Henry Lee Lucas, was with him that day, he said.

Big problem: Lucas was behind bars in Maryland the day Adam disappeared from the Sears at Hollywood Mall.

"Ottis has a problem with months and dates," police surmised.

## A ring of truth

But there was a ring of truth to his tale, too, police concluded.

For one thing, he said he beheaded Adam with a machete, whacking four or five times.

"This information is consistent with Dr. Ronald Wright's autopsy finding," police wrote, "which indicated that the victim had to be laying face down; the head was chopped off with five blows."

Toole told his story: After driving down from Jacksonville, he pulled into the Sears at Hollywood Mall on July 27, 1981, about noon. That's about the time of Adam's reported abduction.

Toole said he lured Adam with promises of candy and toys, then locked the doors and windows so the boy couldn't leave. Then he started driving north on Florida's Turnpike.

"Ottis said he wanted to take the child back to Jacksonville and raise him for himself."

While driving, "He states he hit the child in the eye, causing him to cry. This was done because the child started to cry when he couldn't get out," police said.

"Ottis states that the child was unconscious due to Ottis having hit him so many times in the face and stomach. He states he removed the unconscious child from the front seat of the vehicle and carried him to an area close to where he parked the car, then laying the child face down, chopped his head off with the machete."

Why did he do it?

"Ottis stated he killed the child because he was a smart kid and would have recognized Ottis if he let him go."

Toole told police he placed the head on the front seat, and then the back floor. Then, according to police files, Toole soon pulled over, "stopped his car and threw the head into a canal, which had a little wooden bridge."

Back then, police tracked down Toole's 1971 Cadillac.

It did, in fact, reveal the presence of blood on the left front and rear floorboards. And they found a machete owned by Toole. It, too, showed samples of blood.

Authorities conducted tests on the car and machete back in 1983.

That was before the advent of DNA testing, which would scientifically link whether it was, in fact, Adam's blood.

"In 1983, law enforcement didn't fully understand its application to cases such as this," Chief Witt said Friday. "Had we had this much technology at that time, we probably wouldn't be here today."

The machete is still around, but has been of no use. "Attempts to utilize DNA technology in the course of follow-up investigation were futile as blood was not lifted from the machete or its sheath," a police statement said.

"These results may be due to having consumed all trace evidence with the initial testing in 1983, or the passage of time having deteriorated any remaining trace evidence."

Witt and his colleagues believe the Cadillac, if found today, could still answer the question.

"There's a common belief that DNA evaporates," Witt told The Herald. "DNA never goes away. That's why it is such an amazingly strong breakthrough."

So, where is the car?

Police don't know. Witt said it has been sold at least twice since the Toole investigation was going full steam in 1983. He said Jacksonville police once had possession, and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement tested for blood 13 years ago.

"We are absent any significant physical evidence. I can assure you that's extremely critical," Witt said. "Physical evidence is the most invaluable evidence that law enforcement can present in a court of law."

Recently, Hollywood police got some potential eyewitness testimony they say may help make a case against Toole.

In August 1991, Hollywood resident William Mistler called police with a tip after reading a story about Adam. Mistler had assumed that Toole had long ago been charged; when he learned he wasn't, he dialed police.

Mistler said he was 33 at the time of Adam's abduction and was at the Hollywood Mall that day.

"He said he saw Ottis Toole lure a boy he believed to be Adam Walsh into a 1971 black over white Cadillac with faded black interior near the garden shop entrance of Sears the day of the abduction," police say.

Mistler, put under hypnosis, described a Cadillac with a small dent on the rear bumper. It matched, precisely, Toole's car, police said.

"This statement is significant because, if accurate, it represents the only known eyewitness account of the abduction," police files say.

"This information, to detectives' best knowledge, was never reported by news media and likely could not have been known by anyone unless they had actually seen the car."



## Adam: a shy, respectful boy

By RAY LYNCH  
Staff Writer

He was like most boys his age: skinny, gap-toothed, just coming into that awkward age of inquisitiveness and energy that marks true boyhood.

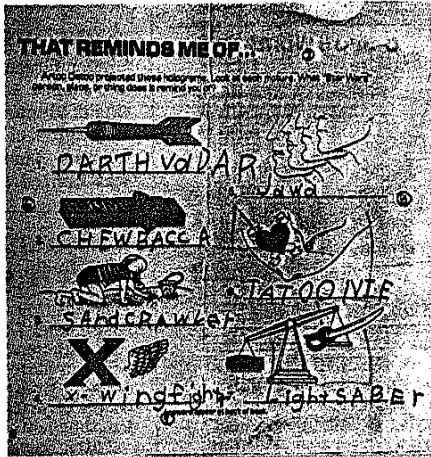
Adam Walsh was 6 years old when he disappeared from a Hollywood store on July 27, 1981. It was the same day his mother Reve had re-registered him at St. Mark's Lutheran Church school. His teachers said he was intelligent, observant, shy, respectful.

His parents, friends and teachers said Adam liked T-ball, video games, movies, coloring books, sports — the normal kid stuff. He also liked to be hugged.

He was last seen wearing blue shorts and a red-and-white-striped short-sleeved shirt on his thin, 3½-foot-tall, 45-pound frame. A beige boat captain's cap crowned his tousled, sandy-blond hair. A pair of yellow rubber thongs protected his feet from the steamy, hot asphalt of the Sears parking lot that Monday morning.

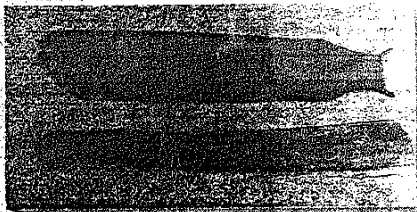
When detectives talked with Reve Walsh about Adam's developing personality, a police report synopsized her thoughts: "Adam was very mature for his age, somewhat reserved and would not voluntarily talk with strangers. Adam did not like being left alone. A person of authority could take control of Adam. . . . Adam liked to stay at home and be with his family."

Those who knew Adam said he liked T-ball and coloring books. Police pulled Adam's fingerprints from his *Star Wars* activity book, right.



# Key Walsh evidence missing

### THE EVIDENCE

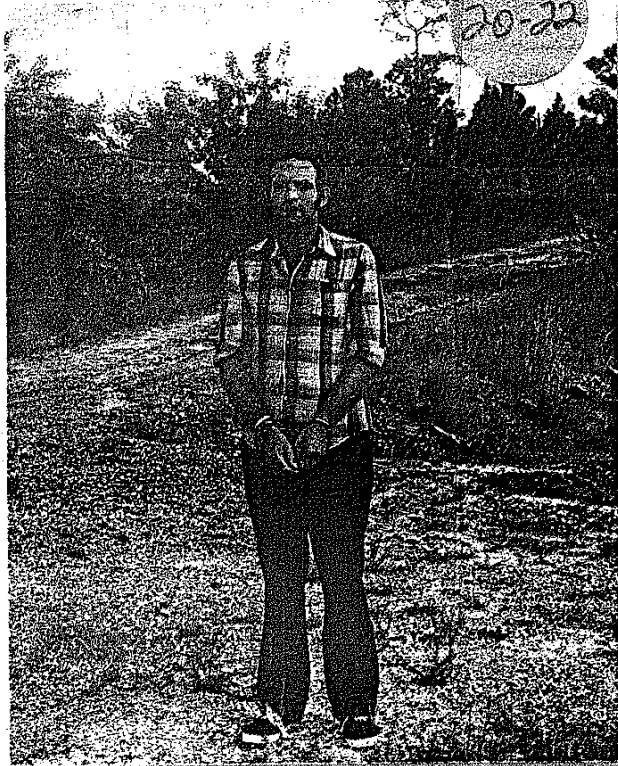


The evidence consists of bloody carpet scraps taken from the floor of Toole's 1971 black and white Cadillac, below, and trace amounts of dried blood on a machete, above. Unaware of the soon-to-come powers of DNA testing, investigators never lifted the blood from the machete or its sheath.



The carpet scraps were "misplaced" while in the custody of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office. At the time, there was not sufficient technology to determine whether the blood on the blade or on the carpet was the same type as Adam's. Today, there is. But the evidence is gone.

### THE SUSPECT



In this photograph released Friday, Ottis Elwood Toole stands in handcuffs during a search for Adam's remains near Indian River. Toole appears to be the prime suspect in the murder. Another man, Kenneth Leclair, has not been ruled out as a suspect in the killing.

## Man says he saw abduction, case files show

By SCOTT GLOVER  
and EVELYN LARRUBIA  
Staff Writers

The Hollywood Police Department's best shot at solving the 1981 murder of Adam Walsh may have been lost forever, along with some bloody evidence that may have linked a dimwitted killer to the crime.

Ottis Elwood Toole, a convicted killer serving five life sentences in Florida State Prison, remains "an excellent" suspect in the murder of Adam, 6.

But according to investigative documents on the murder that were released on Friday, police have misplaced crucial evidence that — through DNA testing — could have either proved or disproved that Toole did the killing.

The missing evidence consists of bloody carpet scraps taken from the floor of Toole's black and white 1971 Cadillac, and trace amounts of dried blood found on a machete that he once told investigators he used to cut off Adam's head.

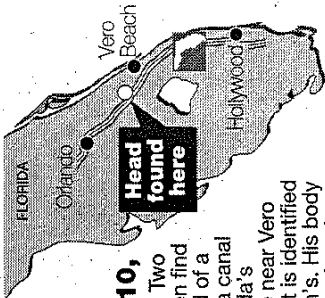
The evidence was collected in 1983 while Toole was in jail in Duval County awaiting trial on an arson murder. He contacted police, telling them he wanted to talk about a child he had killed in Broward County.

At the time, there was not sufficient technology to determine whether the blood on the blade or

PLEASE SEE FILES / 12A

# THE WALSH FILE

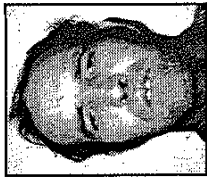
**JULY 27, 1981:** Adam Walsh, 6, disappears from Sears at Hollywood Mall while on a shopping trip with his mother, Reve Walsh. One of the largest manhunts in state history ensues. The father, John Walsh, reaches out to the media, passionately appealing for his boy's safe return.



**AUG. 10, 1981:** Two fishermen find the head of a child in a canal off Florida's Turnpike near Vero Beach. It is identified as Adam's. His body was never found.

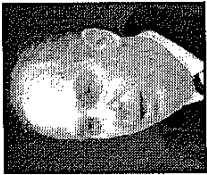
**Head found here**

**OCT. 21, 1983:** Police announce that a convicted murderer, Otis Elwood Toole, has confessed to killing Adam. Toole said he used a machete to cut off the boy's head. Police later discount the confession, but files released Friday indicate he is still a suspect.



**OCT. 26, 1983:** Despite two days of searching, Adam's body is not found where Toole says he buried it. Chief Sam Martin says investigators will have a difficult task making a case if the boy's remains are not found.

**MAY 1984:** Toole is sentenced to death for a 1982 arson that killed a 64-year-old rooming house resident.



**JUNE 12, 1995:** Broward Circuit Judge Leroy Moe denies a motion by media organizations to open the police records on the case, saying the police should be allowed to follow suspects without facing disclosures about the investigation in the media. He leaves open the possibility that the files be opened at a later date.

**OCT. 18, 1995:** Judge Moe says Hollywood police have until Feb. 16 to produce a viable suspect in the case or they must take their case files public.

1981

1982

1983

1984

1987

1995

'96

NO ACTIVITY 1988-1995

NO ACTIVITY 1985-86



File photo/JOHN CURRY

**OCT. 12, 1982:** President Reagan signs the Missing Children's Act in the Rose Garden of the White House. The law mandates the creation of a national clearing house of computerized information to aid parents of missing children. The Walshes had traveled around the nation lobbying for the law.



File photo  
Walshes were present in White House Rose Garden when President Reagan signed the Missing Children Act.

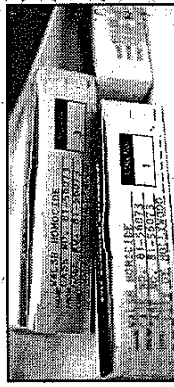
**1987:** John Walsh becomes host of the TV show *Most Wanted*.

**MONDAY:** Broward State Attorney's Office files a motion to block the release of the Hollywood Police Department's files, about 10,000 pages.

**WEDNESDAY:** John and Reve Walsh file a motion asking that the files be kept secret.

**THURSDAY:** Judge Moe denies motions to keep files secret and orders them released on Friday.

**FRIDAY:** Files are released.



FILES

## Key Walsh evidence missing; man may have seen abduction

on the carpet was the same type as Adam's.

Today, there is.

But the evidence is gone.

The carpet from the floor of Toole's Cadillac, where he once told investigators he placed Adam's severed head, was "misplaced" while in the custody of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

Unaware of the soon-to-come powers of DNA testing, investigators didn't lift the dried blood from the machete or its sheath, according to the police file.

In an interview after the release of the documents at 10 a.m. Friday, Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt said Toole was "an excellent suspect" in the case and he called the missing evidence "extremely critical" to the investigation.

"If we had that [DNA] technology at the time, we wouldn't be here today," Witt said. "Toole would have been arrested and successfully prosecuted, or he would have been eliminated as a suspect."

Critics of the release of the documents to the media, including Adam's parents, said now there is little hope that Adam's killer will ever be prosecuted.

"The tragedy and travesty of this is that the professionals who may someday try to prosecute this case have had a tremendous roadblock thrown in their way with the release of these files," said attorney George Terwilliger III, a spokesman for Adam's parents, John and Reve Walsh. "Justice has not been served."

The 10,000-page police file shows that Toole, who has twice confessed to the murder, then twice recanted, has some detailed knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the crime. It also reveals the existence of a possible eyewitness who says he saw Toole kidnap Adam from a Hollywood Sears store on July 27, 1981.

Also in July 1981 — two days before Adam's abduction — a Hollywood resident, Arlene Mayer, said a man followed her and her daughter from a parking lot in Hollywood into a Kmart store. At one point, when the girl was alone, the suspect approached her and asked if she wanted him to push her around the store in the shopping cart. The girl screamed and cried for her mother, who ran back to find her. The man walked away. The daughter identified Toole from a photo lineup.

These new details about Toole's possible involvement in the killing come after Hollywood police were ordered by a Broward Circuit Court judge to release the files, after several newspapers, including the *Sun-Sentinel*, successfully argued that there was no imminent possibility of arrest in the case so the voluminous case file should be opened to the public.

But parts of the file supplied to the media are missing.

Joel Cantor, the Hollywood Police Department's attorney, said he advised police officials to release the entire file but said they could withhold information that would reveal the identity of confidential informants.

Reporters found that some information was deleted and some pages were missing from the record, including a July 1995 interview with Toole.

According to the police file, when the now-defunct Hollywood

**"If we had that [DNA] technology at the time, we wouldn't be here today. Toole would have been arrested and successfully prosecuted, or he would have been eliminated as a suspect."**

— Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt

*Sun-Tattler* newspaper ran a story on the 10-year anniversary of Adam's disappearance, it caught the eye of a man named William Mistler.

Mistler, who was 33 when Adam disappeared, called police and said he was at the Sears the day Adam was kidnapped and that he may have witnessed the abduction.

Mistler told investigators he saw Toole lure a boy he believed to be Adam into a black and white Cadillac with faded black interior, near the entrance of the Sears garden shop.

Under hypnosis, Mistler was able to recall details about the car, including a small dent on the bumper, which had never been reported in the media and would have been known only to someone who had seen the car. Mistler's description matched exactly that of the vehicle Toole said he used to kidnap Adam during one of his confessions.

Toole was also able to lead detectives from the Hollywood Mall to a remote dirt road near Mile Marker 126 on Florida's Turnpike, not far from where Adam's head was found floating in a canal on Aug. 10, 1981. Investigators have never been able to find the rest of Adam's body.

When Toole was trying to convince police in 1983 that he killed Adam, he told investigators he couldn't show them exactly where the body was because he was "extremely intoxicated during the abduction, murder and burial."

Despite being touted as the killer by then-Hollywood Police Chief Sam Martin in 1983, Toole has never been charged with Adam's murder. Besides the lack of physical evidence and his penchant for confessing to the crime, then recanting, Toole poses another problem to investigators.

"I made it all up," he told police at one point, but later recanted the crime for them.

His confessions, as well as the stories he has told friends and cellmates, have been riddled with inconsistencies and changes.

Over time, he gave conflicting reports of the murder — first saying he committed the crime with an accomplice, later saying he acted alone — then of how he disposed of Adam's torso.

But the rest of Toole's story was consistent and he showed so much remorse in an interview that one Jacksonville sheriff's detective said there is no doubt in his mind who killed Adam.

"In my own opinion, I firmly believe Toole is the murderer of Adam Walsh," Detective Jesse W. Terry told Hollywood detectives in November of 1983.

It was the beginning of the investigation into Toole's connection with the crime. In the days and weeks following, Toole told police how and why he abducted, then murdered Adam. Here is what he said:

After returning home to Jacksonville from Newport News, Va., on July 25, 1981, Toole retrieved his black and white 1971 model Cadillac from a roofing company parking lot, dug up \$300 he had stashed in the ground at his mother's house, gassed up and headed south on Interstate 95.

He ended up on Biscayne Boulevard in Miami, where he turned some tricks and ended up sleeping in his car. The next day, he went to Fort Lauderdale, then went to Hollywood Mall about noon.

The police file shows that Adam may have been instructed to leave the Sears store that day by a store security officer who mistakenly thought Adam was related to another boy who was causing problems near a video game. She later told her boss she was "85 percent" sure the boy was Adam.

Toole told police he was sitting on a bus bench outside the northern exit of the Sears store at the mall when he met Adam. He struck up a conversation with Adam and asked him to go over to his car, saying he had some candy and toys.

"In this statement Mr. Toole indicated that he did not have any intention of kidnapping this child earlier that day and it was a spur of the moment thing," a Hollywood detective wrote.

After he got Adam in the car, Toole locked the doors and headed toward the entrance to Florida's Turnpike less than two miles away.

But the child "became rowdy, at which time he slapped the daylight out of the boy. Mr. Toole indicated that he slapped the child dead in the face and across the child's eyes," investigators wrote. But Adam wouldn't stop crying, according to Toole, so he pulled over and "grabbed Adam around his throat and started to choke him" until the child passed out.

"Mr. Toole stated that it was possible that the boy may have been dead after he choked him because the child never regained consciousness," documents show.

Toole told police he drove onto a dirt road off Mile Marker 126 and just north of Radebaugh Road where he could hide.

He carried Adam out of the car under one arm. In his other hand was a machete. Then he laid the boy down on the dirt road and severed his head with four or five blows of the machete.

Trying to explain his actions to detectives, Toole once told them he abducted Adam because "he liked the little boy and only wanted to take him home and raise him to be his own child," documents show. "He killed the child because he was a smart kid and would have recognized Otis if he let him go."

Staff Writers Warren Richey and Henry Fitzgerald contributed to this report.



# Convicted serial killer remains prime suspect in Walsh slaying

By EVELYN LARRUBIA  
Staff Writer

Lying on the dirt beside his mother's grave, Ottis Elwood Toole would sometimes feel the ground move, he told psychologists.

The seventh-grade dropout and convicted serial killer is the strongest suspect Hollywood police have in the murder of Adam Walsh.

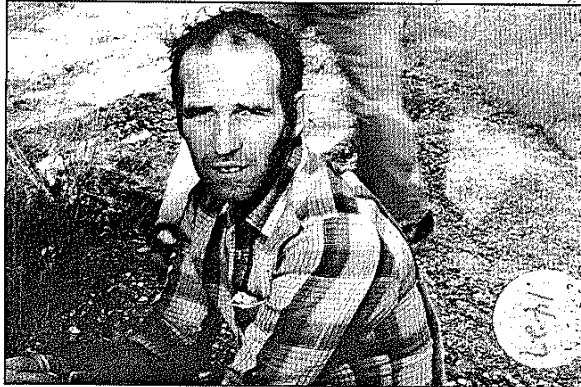
Toole even confessed to the crime only two years after the boy turned up dead, but has never been charged.

"Well, it's true. I grabbed him and raped him and murdered him and cut him up and tossed his parts around," Toole wrote in an October 1988 letter to *The Orlando Sentinel*. "Unfortunately they found his head."

He is in the Florida State Prison near Starke, serving five consecutive life terms for premeditated first-degree murder in five cases and 20 years on top of that for two counts of arson and willful damage to a structure.

But he is suspected of killing many, many more, police investigative files on the Adam Walsh case released Friday show.

Between 1978 and 1983, police think Toole raped, robbed, dismembered, beat, stabbed, decapitated, strangled, shot and buried



Police file photo

Ottis Elwood Toole, shown during a search for Adam's remains near Indian River, is a convicted killer serving five life sentences in Florida State Prison. Toole has confessed and recanted twice.

about 30 victims across the country, most of them women.

As a child he confessed to burning buildings and masturbating as he watched the flames consume structures, police documents show.

Toole, 48, youngest of nine children, was raised by an alcoholic father and mentally ill mother. He ran away from home time and again. His mother died in 1981.

As an adult, he traveled across the United States with another se-

rial killer, his lover, Henry Lee Lucas.

Police say the two committed dozens of killings and rapes, often taking the dead to Jacksonville to burn them in Toole's mother's back yard, Lucas once told police.

It was there that Toole claimed to have burned Walsh's decapitated body the day after his abduction and murder on July 27, 1981, police records show.

Toole later recanted his story, telling police "I made it all up."

## Police files on Adam's disappearance give suspects, leads, but no conclusion

By HENRY FITZGERALD JR.  
Staff Writer

The first suspects in any missing and murdered child case are the parents.

When Adam Walsh was discovered missing from the Sears store at the Hollywood Mall on July 27, 1981, police followed a normal police procedure.

They interviewed John and Reve Walsh, Adam's parents, and his immediate family, including grandmother Jean Walsh; his uncle, Joseph Walsh; and family friends James Campbell and Michael Monahan.

After a series of interviews, sessions with hypnotists and polygraph tests, nothing turned up to give police any indication that someone who loved the 6-year-old boy now etched into our memories had anything to do with his death.

"A background check was completed, and nothing of any significance was discovered," the police report states.

It wasn't until two weeks after the kidnapping, when two fishermen found Adam's severed head floating in a canal near Vero Beach, that police called off their search. There were never any ransom demands.

A summary provided by Hollywood police outlines parts of the investigation:

Reve Walsh met with Hollywood police detectives on Aug. 18, 1981, to give a detailed interview about her and Adam's activities on the day of the kidnapping.

It began like any other morning, Reve Walsh said. She woke at 8 a.m., Adam 30 minutes later. John Walsh left for work at 9 a.m. Campbell dropped by for a late breakfast at 9:30 a.m. At mid-morning she fed Adam a hot dog, then loaded him into her gray

1979 Checker car and they drove from their McKinley Street home to St. Mark's Lutheran school to pay Adam's tuition.

Then they drove to the mall. Reve Walsh thinks she arrived there about 12:30 p.m., but wasn't sure because she says her watch was broken. She left Adam at the Sears toy department while she went to look at a map that was on sale. She said she'd left him there alone before while she shopped. Ten minutes later he was gone, forever.

Campbell, who was 25 at the time, had lived with the Walshes for about four years. He did odd jobs around the house, occasionally babysat Adam, and ran a sailboat concession stand in Miami Beach. He moved out of the Walshes' Hollywood home the same month Adam was abducted.

Campbell agreed to two polygraph tests. He also gave police an interview under hypnosis. During one of the lie detector tests, he admitted that he and Reve Walsh had an affair and said the two of them had talked about going off together when Adam was old enough.

"I liked her from the very first," Campbell said during his second test, on Aug. 10, 1981. "We [later] knew we were in love. If I had everything together at that time then, we would have been together now."

Outside family and friends, one of the first tips that detectives followed seriously involved Edward James, 50, of Pompano Beach. He'd been arrested in November 1981 for abducting a boy and had been questioned about Adam's murder. John Terry, 55, a cellmate of James' in the Broward County Jail, told police James talked of murdering Adam.

Neighbors told detectives that

James was gone from his apartment for two weeks around the time of the murder, and detectives learned that James had a new seat cover installed in the front seat of his 1973 Plymouth Fury on Aug. 27, 1981.

James denied any involvement in the murder. In a November 1995 interview, a computer voice stress test turned up nothing.

Over the years many other serial killers with ties to Florida were mentioned as possible suspects, including serial killers Henry Lee Lucas and Donald Leroy Evans, even Jeffrey Dahmer.

But most of the police's investigative attention in recent years has been directed at Ottis Elwood Toole, a seventh-grade dropout, drifter and suspected serial killer now serving five life sentences in the Florida State Prison near Starke.

On Oct. 10, 1983, while Toole, now 48, was in the Duval County Jail on arson homicide charges, he told a detective that he and his buddy Lucas had abducted a boy from the Hollywood Mall, and that Lucas cut off the boy's head.

The problem? One day after Adam's disappearance, Lucas had been jailed in Maryland. Toole also failed to describe accurately what Adam was wearing the day he disappeared.

But Toole's descriptive inconsistencies were often mixed with vivid and specific detail.

Then in 1991, a Hollywood man told detectives he saw someone fitting Toole's description lurk a boy fitting Adam's description into a beat-up, black-and-white Cadillac at the mall.

Toole was questioned at least eight times about the murder. He confessed twice. He also recanted both times.

No one has ever been arrested in Adam's murder.

## NOWHERE LEADS

In nearly 15 years, detectives have sifted through thousands of leads that range from the bizarre to the outrageous:

### FALSE CHARGE

One woman said she saw a man chasing a boy through a Sears at Twin City Mall in North Palm Beach. The man later turned out to be a security guard.

### WATERGATE CONNECTION

In 1981, Hank Blum of Vero Beach says he knew things about Watergate and that a John Davis of Fort Pierce was being paid by the CIA to keep Blum quiet by murdering Walsh, actor Gig Young and his wife, actor Bob Crane, and others. Davis says he didn't know Blum. Blum later can't explain why the CIA didn't just kill him, police said.

### TOBY

Palm Beach police receive an anonymous letter postmarked West Palm Beach in September 1981 that says they should check someone named Toby. The letter says Toby, who attended a homosexual self-help group called Acceptance, liked molesting young boys. It also said he drove a blue van and was away for three or four days around the time Adam was killed. Police spend three days trying to find out more about Toby, running down the owner of a Rolls-Royce and a butler at a Palm Beach home, but come up with nothing.

### HEAD PHOTOGRAPH

In August 1981, while cleaning room 306 at Sannibel Inn in Daytona Beach, an employee says he found a photograph of a young white male's head stuck in the bottom of a picture frame belonging to the motel, according to a Volusia County Sheriff's Office report.

### RAYMOND

Ronnie Carroll of Hollywood tells police that he met a man named Raymond at a North Miami topless bar. Raymond bragged about killing Adam Walsh, showing him photos of Adam both dead and alive. The police conclude Carroll is a psychopathic liar. Eventually, Carroll admits making the whole thing up.

### THE PSYCHIC

On the third day after Adam's abduction, Peggy Rodgers Gordon tells the Hollywood Police Department she has 'certain feelings' that Adam is alive. She later gets in touch with Reve Walsh and even draws a map showing where Adam can be found. Later still, she tells police, 'I had an attack' and knew 'Adam Walsh was just killed.'

### OBSESSED

Terry Alan Green, 41, says that a week after Adam disappeared, he saw Adam drive away from a Mister Donut in Melbourne with a man in a blue van. Detectives say he is 'somewhat obsessed with this case,' and a polygraph test was inconclusive.

### THE OIL DRUM

An anonymous caller tells the Okeechobee Sheriff's Office that John Alden killed Adam and placed his remains in an oil drum off State Road 70. Police determine the caller is Kenneth Bosch, an ex-Riviera Beach police officer in a dispute with his neighbor, Merton Alden.

### SIGHTINGS

In October 1995, Jennie Warren of Hollywood tells police that she now remembers seeing Adam with Reve at the mall that day, and noticing a suspicious man in khaki shirt and pants with dirty blond hair.

In November 1983, Alvin Simmons says he and his wife saw Adam at the Time Saver near a truck stop in Okeechobee County with a man and a woman. The woman told Mrs. Simmons that the trio had just come from a Hollywood shopping center, where they reclaimed their son from someone else who had taken him. Dolores Simmons later says she saw Adam alive five days before the murder was verified in the media.

In November 1982, Fort Pierce police find a photo album with numerous clips of the Adam Walsh case in the possession of Edward Joseph Deatley of Fort Pierce, who was arrested. Deatley says he is a teacher and loves kids — 'I mean extremely' — and had been upset by the case. He said he'd kept albums of similar cases, but that they must have been stolen during his travels.

On Oct. 16, 1991, Fort Pierce Police Chief Jim Gabbard gets an anonymous handwritten letter, postmarked Orlando, saying John Resetar admitted to killing Adam in 1989. Hollywood police compare the handwriting to another anonymous letter written to the Tiffin, Kan., police, which says Resetar was guilty of an unsolved rape. Handwriting analysis reveals both letters were written by the same person. The Kansas Bureau of Investigation also received an anonymous letter accusing Resetar of the murder of a 20-year-old, but they say Resetar was in court in Ohio at the time of their murder. They identify the author as Tom Cronin, a mental patient and Resetar's former fraternity brother. Resetar is ruled out as a suspect.

Source: Hollywood Police Department investigative files.

## SOME OF THE SUSPECTS

### KENNETH LECLAIR, Fruitland Park:

Last August, Ohio police told Hollywood detectives about Leclair, a prime suspect in the 1972 Ohio murder of a 10-year-old. Detectives learned Leclair was arrested in Florida in 1982, 1983 and 1985. In December 1995, they went to the central Florida home where they believe he lives; they have been unable to contact him.

### EDWARD HAROLD JAMES, Pompano Beach:

He was arrested in November 1981 for abducting a boy. His Broward jail cellmate, John Terry of Tennessee, said James told of abducting a 5- or 6-year-old boy from a Hollywood store that summer. Terry said James told him he had kept a piece of the boy's clothes under the seat of his 1973 Plymouth Fury, but got rid of it. Detectives later learned James was gone from his apartment for two weeks in the summer of 1981 and had a new seat cover put in his car Aug. 27. Detectives re-interviewed James in November 1995; he denied confessing and computer analysis showed no signs of deception.

### ALZEMORE THIBAUT, Hollywood:

A man called *America's Most Wanted* in March 1995 to say that Thibault, a suspect in the 1980 murder of 12-year-old Stacy Wytrva of Hollywood, may also have killed Adam. He said that when he was 15, he saw Thibault with a machete and that he drove a light blue van. He was not charged.

### JEFFREY DAHMER, Wisconsin:

Ten years after Adam's death, a man said he saw someone fitting the description of the serial killer dragging a boy into a white van. Another man also placed Dahmer at the mall. Police learned he was in Miami Beach from March until September 1981. Investigators flew to Milwaukee; Dahmer said he had never been to the Hollywood Mall. He said he wasn't a pedophile and would have admitted to Adam's murder because he welcomed the death penalty instead of rotting in prison. Dahmer was beaten to death by an inmate in 1994.



### MICHAEL KELLY, Merritt Island: KIM MORAN, Titusville:

When Kelly was charged with drunken driving in North Florida a month after the disappearance, a machete was found in his car. He later said a friend, Kim Moran, had told him he liked to kill boys. The machete was ruled out as the weapon used on Adam.

### MARY GREEN-NORTHCUTT, Fort Pierce:

Former boyfriend Jerry Childress said she told him she and several others took a boy from the Hollywood Sears to Fort Pierce and killed him. She denied it and police concluded Childress concocted the story out of jealousy.

### KEITH ALLEN WARREN, Las Vegas:

Las Vegas police wrote Hollywood detectives in March 1986 to say Warren was then in custody for attempted murder, kidnap, sexual assault and robbery. He was accused of raping a 15-year-old boy, then repeatedly cutting the teen's neck and leaving him for dead. He had admitted to similar crimes in several other states but was ruled out because he was in the Keys when Adam was abducted.

SOURCE: Investigative files of the Hollywood police department.

## THE ADAM WALSH FILES

# Walsh believes Toole killed Adam

### ADAM From 1A

Detectives also focused on Michael Monahan, a family friend who attacked another boy with a machete just days after Adam vanished, reports show. Eventually, he was ruled out too.

Meanwhile, police were fielding thousands of calls, from disgruntled ex-wives to jailhouse snitches, all of whom claimed to know Adam's killer. Some children playing in the arcade where Adam was last seen said they saw a blue van near the Sears entrance. Suddenly, blue van sightings were reported hourly. Police fruitlessly checked a list of 6,700 Ford vans sold in South Florida in the three years before the kidnapping. Adam was "seen" in an Orlando mall, his kidnapper in a North Palm Beach supermarket, the two together at a Melbourne doughnut shop.

A would-be psychic from Lexington, Ky., wrote chatty notes to one detective. The killer, he predicted, was a hairdresser named Pete Jones — a Taurus.

Investigators plodded through as many leads as they could; sometimes they seemed tantalizingly close to solving the case. For months, they focused on Edward Harold James of Pompano Beach, who was arrested in November 1981 for abducting a boy. His cellmate said James admitted he abducted a boy from a Hollywood store that summer. James had no alibi, but he passed a lie detector test.

Police also briefly considered serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer, who was living in Miami Beach when Adam disappeared. In prison, Dahmer told detectives he did not kill Adam and had never even been to the Hollywood Mall, according to police reports.

### Makes first confession

Ottis Toole, a 48-year-old drifter who dropped out of the seventh grade, emerged as a suspect in October 1983. While in jail on other charges — and suspected in dozens more — Toole told a Jacksonville detective, Jesse "Buddy" Terry, he had abducted a boy from a Fort Lauderdale-area mall two years before.

Hollywood detectives then questioned Toole, who said he and Henry Lee Lucas, his frequent partner in crime, snatched a blond boy in blue jeans from the Sears at the Hollywood Mall in July 1981. He said Lucas cut off the boy's head with a bayonet.

The problem was, Lucas was in a Maryland jail that day. And

Adam, a brown-haired boy, was last seen wearing green shorts.

Toole changed his story, saying he lured Adam into his Cadillac with promises of candy and toys, then killed the boy himself. It was the first of many shifts in his story, reports show.

Toole confessed and recanted over and over again, once just 12 minutes apart. In one version of events, Toole was driving down the road tossing body parts out the window; in others, he had burned the remains in his back yard in Jacksonville. Police excavated alleged burial sites in his back yard and 4 miles south of where Adam's head was found: nothing was found at either.

Detectives also flew Toole to Broward County, taking him first to a mall in Plantation to test him. He said that wasn't the right mall. They took him to the Hollywood Mall. He said he wasn't sure it was the right one but later said it was.

### Concerns about reliability

The investigators knew Toole was less than reliable. At the time, he was confessing to dozens of equally hazy murder cases across the country. Detectives also worried that he learned about the Walsh case from a television movie that aired two weeks before his first confession (Toole and other jail inmates said they watched football instead). Still, there seemed a hint of hope in his statements.

Police placed him in Jacksonville on July 24 and July 31, but they couldn't account for him on July 27 — the day Adam disappeared. Detectives also tracked down Toole's old Cadillac in a Jacksonville used car lot. Blood was found on the carpeted floorboards — where Toole said he placed Adam's remains — but tests at the time weren't as sophisticated as the DNA tests of today and couldn't say it was Adam's.

By Jan. 10, 1984 — just four months after Toole first confessed — Hollywood police had exhausted 3,500 man hours and \$62,000 chasing his leads, reports show. They had traveled all over the South interviewing witnesses and relatives and cellmates, but were unable to corroborate his stories. All they had was his confession — and that day he recanted again.

The volumes of information on Toole take up nearly half of the Walsh file, and he never completely disappeared as a suspect. In 1988, he inserted himself in the case again, confessing to Adam's murder in letters to the *The Or-*

*lando Sentinel*, *The National Enquirer*, Sears and Walt Disney World.

But that year, detectives from the Broward County Sheriff's Office learned that Toole's confessions may have been bogus from the beginning.

Toole, by then serving time at Florida State Prison for murder and arson, met with detectives with a fellow inmate, Gerald Schaffer, a former Martin County sheriff's deputy suspected in the disappearance of 34 women. Schaffer, detectives noted, coached Toole through his confession and said he wanted any reward money to come from Toole's testimony.

### Detective fed him info

In a 1988 memo, Broward detectives said they discovered that Jesse Terry, the Jacksonville detective who said he heard Toole's first confession, had done exactly the same thing five years earlier, feeding the impressionable Toole confidential details of the Walsh case and setting in motion the agonizing cycle of confessions and denials.

Terry had made a deal with Toole for the book and movie rights to his story, according to a memo in the Walsh file. Terry was kicked off the homicide squad when the scheme was uncovered, reports show.

As recently as December, Toole again denied killing Adam. He said he lied about the murder to get trips out of prison, food and cigarettes. Since Hollywood Detective Mark Smith reopened the case in 1994, Toole has been interviewed twice; both times he claimed innocence.

To this day, despite doubts about Toole's reliability, enough evidence points to Toole to keep him alive as a suspect.

The medical examiner said a bayonet found at Toole's sister's home is the most likely murder weapon they have seen, reports show. And in 1991, one witness, William Mistler of Hollywood, identified Toole as the man he saw at the Hollywood Mall luring Adam into his dingy white Cadillac — giving details about the car that had not been in the news.

But in a Jan. 16 meeting between the Walshes, their associates and Hollywood Police, John Walsh asked Chief Richard Witt to "make a loud, clear, unequivocal statement that Ottis Toole is the prime suspect and it's only because of a lack of evidence or prosecutorial discretion that Toole has not yet been prosecuted and

probably won't be," according to a summary by Walsh lawyer Michael Christiansen.

Christiansen said he concluded Hollywood police "gave up" on the case when they agreed to open the files.

### Father says Toole did it

John Walsh is convinced Toole is the person who abducted his son, cut off the boy's head and threw it in an Indian River County canal, where it was found Aug. 10, 1981.

Walsh said Friday the "incredible incompetence" of Hollywood police and the opening of the files to the press have jeopardized any chance Toole will be punished for his son's murder.

He also says Toole mailed him an extortion letter that outlined "what he did to Adam and what he did with Adam's body," but that as of last month the Broward State Attorney had not seen it.

"I bit my tongue for 14 years," Walsh said from New Orleans, where he was taping his television program, *America's Most Wanted*. "I'm not saying all of the Hollywood Police Department is incompetent, but there was certainly incredible incompetence over the last 14 years."

Hollywood police have said they would not comment Friday on the contents of the files.

After four newspapers, including *The Palm Beach Post*, sued under the state's open records laws, police agreed in October to the Feb. 16 release. This week the Walshes and the Broward County State Attorney filed emergency motions to block the release, saying it would jeopardize the case.

On Thursday, Broward Judge Leroy H. Moe turned them down.

Even as they released the files, police said they are still actively pursuing the case.

They resurrected the case again in August 1994, when they turned it over to a "cold case" detective. In October, they brought it to the FBI's Child Abduction Serial Killer Unit, and continue to pursue it. Detective Mark Smith reinterviewed witnesses and followed old tips that had been neglected during the last 14 years.

In the end, police came back to Toole.

Staff writers Barbara Feder, Scott Shifrel and staff photographer Caroline Couig and staff researcher Derek Willis contributed to this report.



On Jan. 16 the Walshes (shown above in this file photo) had a meeting with Hollywood police. John Walsh asked Chief Richard Witt to 'make a loud, clear, unequivocal statement that Ottis Toole is the prime suspect and it's only because of a lack of evidence or prosecutorial discretion that Toole has not yet been prosecuted and probably won't be.'

## OTTIS ELWOOD TOOLE

- **BORN:** March 5, 1947, Jacksonville.
- **NOW:** At Florida State Prison, Starke, serving five life terms for murder.
- **HE AND HIS LOVER**, serial killer Henry Lee Lucas, confessed to hundreds of murders across the United States. Many confessions were later recanted or discounted.
- **HE CONFESSED TO ADAM'S SLAYING** at least four times and recanted at least twice; he once confessed 12 minutes after recanting.
- **TOOLE TOOK DETECTIVES** to a dirt road 4 miles from where Adam's head was found and said he'd buried the rest of his body there. Nothing was found.
- **HE LATER SAID HE BURNED ADAM'S BODY** in a refrigerator behind his mother's Jacksonville home and buried the ashes.
- **HE USED A MACHETE** police later found. Police could not link it to Adam.
- **POLICE REMOVED BLOODY CARPET** from Toole's Cadillac, but cannot find it or the car now.
- **POLICE CANNOT ACCOUNT FOR** his movements the five days around Adam's death.
- **DETECTIVES LATER LEARNED** a Jacksonville homicide detective — the one who first called Hollywood to say Toole had confessed — was seeking to cash in on book rights and had fed Toole confidential information about the case.
- **TOOLE SAID LUCAS HELPED** him; Lucas was in jail in Maryland that day.
- **A WOMAN AND HER DAUGHTER** identified Toole as the man who tried to grab the girl at a Hollywood Kmart the month Adam was taken.
- **IN AUGUST 1991**, a Hollywood man said he saw Toole lure a boy into a 1971 black and white Cadillac near the Sears garden shop entrance.
- **IN 1988, TOOLE** again began confessing to Adam's slaying. But in 1991, and again as recently as 1995, he said he didn't do it.

SOURCE: Hollywood police files

# Walshes ask judge to keep files secret

Adam's father says case could be hurt

By HENRY FITZGERALD JR.  
Staff Writer

The parents of Adam Walsh on Wednesday filed a motion asking a judge to keep Hollywood police investigative files of their son's 1981 murder out of the public's hands.

John and Reve Walsh's request also says Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt "planned to publicly identify the person that police believed responsible for the Adam Walsh homicide at the time the file was to be released."

Witt denies it.

The motion filed by the Walshes' attorney, George J. Terwilliger III of Washington, D.C., comes two days after Broward State Attorney Michael Satz filed a similar motion to intervene.

Broward Circuit Judge Leroy H. Moe has scheduled a hearing for 11 a.m. today to discuss the two motions.

Under orders from Moe, the

Hollywood Police Department was scheduled to release the 10,000-page Adam Walsh file to the public at 1 p.m. Friday. Moe made the order after several newspapers, including the *Sun-Sentinel*, sued the Police Department to make the file public.

Adam Walsh, 6, was kidnapped from a Sears store at the Hollywood Mall almost 15 years ago. His head was found in a canal near Vero Beach two weeks later. His body was never found, and no one has been ever been charged in the murder.

In an affidavit that is included in the Terwilliger motion, John Walsh states: "I have . . . been informed by the prosecutor's office that the [office] has received the case file and they have concluded that there is additional investigative work to be done in Adam's case . . ."

"I have asked only one thing of

PLEASE SEE ADAM /16A

## Adam's parents want boy's case file closed to public

the prosecutor and ask only one thing of this court, to do whatever the law allows to permit the opportunity that there might be justice done for the murder of my son."

Broward Chief Assistant State Attorney Ralph Ray said his office has never completely reviewed the investigative file and says releasing it "may negatively affect and prejudice the ongoing criminal investigation and any successful prosecution of the case."

The Walsh family and prosecutors argue that if certain facts known only to the police and the murderer or murderers are disclosed, a confession or arrest would be jeopardized because those facts have never been made public.

In his motion, Walsh says he met with Witt on Jan. 16, and the police chief said he planned to identify the suspect.

Walsh said he then met with Satz and Ray on Jan. 29 and asked Satz to review the file before releasing it.

"It was apparent that there were recent investigative results known to the Police Department that had not been made available to the prosecutor's office as of Jan. 29," Walsh said in the affidavit.

On Wednesday, Witt said the Walshes must have misunderstood what he said during the meeting.

"[The Walshes] presented things that I thought were nonsensical. I think they're focusing on a statement I made that they took out of context. The new findings presented to the Walshes in January were determined by them to be valueless."

**"I have . . . been informed by the prosecutor's office that the [office] has received the case file and they have concluded that there is additional investigative work to be done in Adam's case."**  
— John Walsh, in an affidavit

Added Witt: "John Walsh is looking for some kind of unequivocal statement that says neither he nor his wife had any part in the death of their son. I don't know why they want that. But they are emotionally upset by certain members of the media pursuing a poor man's Oliver Stone-style plot."

Meanwhile, the *Sun-Sentinel* has been told that detectives as recently as last week interviewed suspected serial killer Otis Elwood Toole in connection with Adam's murder.

Witt on Wednesday confirmed that Toole, who twice confessed to killing the 6-year-old, then twice recanted, has not been ruled out as a suspect in the case.

"There are some unresolved issues in the investigation," Witt said. "Toole is definitely one of the issues — and a big one. He is a viable [suspect], but there are other places we are looking."

Sources have said Toole's confessions and other evidence related to his testimony weigh heavily in the police investigation. The sources refused to elaborate on Toole's alleged role in the killing.

Toole, 49, is serving a 20-year term at Florida State Prison near Starke. He is a convicted arsonist who is suspected in dozens of murders throughout the South.

In 1983, Toole led police to a marsh on Florida's Turnpike near where Adam's head was discovered, but police were unable to

find the boy's body.

Adam disappeared from a Sears store on July 27, 1981, where he was last seen playing a video game while his mom said she shopped nearby.

On Aug. 11, 1981, two fishermen found the boy's severed head.

Over the years, police have ruled out many suspects, including James E. Campbell, a man who lived with the Walshes for two years, and John Monahan Jr., another family friend.

Staff Writer Scott Glover contributed to this report.



# Keep files on son's case shut, Walsh asks

By RONNIE GREENE  
Herald Staff Writer

John Walsh, who made a career publicizing real-life crime mysteries in hopes of catching the culprit, Wednesday asked a judge to keep records of his own son Adam's murder sealed.

The host of *America's Most Wanted* TV show believes disclosure will interfere with Hollywood police's search for Adam Walsh's killer. After nearly 15 years, there have been no arrests.

And Walsh dropped a potential bombshell in court papers that Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt had plans to announce who he believes the killer is on Friday.

Walsh said Chief Witt told him so during a meeting Jan. 16.

"The police chief told us he intended to release the file and at the same time to publicly identify the person he believed responsible for Adam's murder," Walsh said in an affidavit.

In an interview Wednesday, Witt said: "I don't recall whether or not I made a statement such as that."

Walsh's motion comes on the eve of a court hearing to determine whether the 10,000-page Adam Walsh file will be opened to the public.

In October, Broward Circuit Judge Leroy Moe ordered Hollywood police to unseal the witness statements and lists of suspects this Friday. The judge ruled after several newspapers. The Herald included a filed suit for the records.

Police began taking orders from the news media for microfilm copies of the 10,000 pages.

But on Monday, the Broward state attorney's office stepped into the public records suit. Prosecutors say they had not read the entire Walsh file until Hollywood police presented them a copy on Jan. 26, and now need more time to comb through it.

Prosecutors say release would be "premature," and their request set in motion today's hearing.

On Wednesday, John Walsh jumped into the suit, arguing the files should stay sealed "in the interests of justice." As the parents of the victim in this case, Mr. and Mrs. Walsh assiduously seek justice for their son.

Media lawyer Thomas Julin objects to both last-minute motions.

"It's all too late," Julin said. "They obviously could have filed these motions months ago. And the idea that the state attorney's office has just now gotten involved in the case is completely ridiculous."

Short of an arrest on the immediate horizon, Julin said, the files must be opened. "Their representation now is just what it was months and months and months ago: that they need more time. And that doesn't do it."

Julin argues that opening the files could generate new leads — and reveal whether Hollywood police



Walsh

PLEASE SEE WALSH, 3B

# John Walsh asks judge to keep files on son's case sealed

WALSH, FROM 1B

bungled the case. Still, Chief Witt said leads are being pursued. "I have a feeling that tells me this case needs more investigation," Witt said. "There was some evidence that pointed to specific suspects."

He identified one as Ottis Elwood Toole, a career criminal whose name long

ago surfaced in the Walsh case. In 1983, Toole confessed, and police called a press conference to announce they had the killer, likening Toole to Charles Manson.

Toole took back his confession. Then to newspaper reporters he confessed again, saying he lured Adam to his car with promises of candy. Finally, a Hollywood police captain said in 1985, "Everything the man told us proved false."

But Witt says Toole's being looked at again. "There are some avenues to be pursued. Ottis Toole certainly is one of those avenues. Absolutely, positively."

He said there's "at least one other person who needs to be closely pursued," but refused to give a name. Are police close to an arrest? Witt wouldn't say.

John Walsh has hosted nearly 400 episodes of *America's Most Wanted*, but not

one on his son's case. He said that's because police asked him to remain quiet.

"While this has sometimes frustrated me personally because I have not been able to focus on my own son's case on *America's Most Wanted*, I want my son's killer identified and will not do anything that might compromise the investigation," he said.

# Police files on Adam Walsh murder will be unsealed

## 10,000 pages of information, but no solution

By **RONNIE GREENE**  
Herald Staff Writer

*Adam Walsh, please come to customer service.*

It was Monday afternoon, July 27, 1981, and a little boy was missing. He wasn't a famous kid, didn't come from a rich family. He was Adam Walsh, a gap-toothed 6-year-old. Adam Walsh, of McKinley Street in sleepy Hollywood, Fla.

He disappeared from the Hollywood Mall Sears across the street from Hollywood Police headquarters. Just 10 minutes earlier, his mother Reve said, she left him to play a video game in Sears as she looked for a brass lamp on sale.

"I knew from the moment that he wasn't there that something was wrong," she later said.

As she searched frantically, another page went out. *Adam Walsh, would you please report to the toy department? Your mother is waiting for you.*

Two weeks later, 125 miles north, two

fishermen discovered Adam's head in a canal along Florida's Turnpike, just west of Vero Beach.

Pathologists said someone killed him first, then beheaded him. No one ever found the body.

In the nearly 15 years since, homicide detectives have compiled a 10,000-page investigation — but not identified the killer.

This Friday — Feb. 16 — Hollywood police will unseal case file 81-56073. Newspapers, The Herald among them, filed suit to inspect the public record.

Any childhood lost is tragedy, but Adam's is particularly troubling.

Why? The question still pulls at Dennis Naylon, a Hollywood homicide sergeant now retired in Colorado.

"Who would do this to a 6-year-old kid? It was a terrible, terrible crime. When you work that stuff, and you put so much



**PORTRAIT:** This picture of Adam Walsh was widely distributed after he disappeared.

PLEASESEE WALSH, 10A

Aug. 14, 1981

A 10-year-old boy in the mall the day of Adam's disappearance is put under hypnosis by hypnotist Martin Segall and tells a sketchy tale of a man and a blue van that may have whisked Adam away. The boy can't recall a license plate number.

Aug. 27, 1981

Police, worn down by the seven-day-a-week search for Adam's killer, begin to show fatigue and frustration. "We've got no clues, no leads, no evidence and no motive," says Hollywood detective Jack Hoffman.

Oct. 21, 1983



Ottis Elwood Toole, 36, a pyromaniac behind bars for arson, tells police he's the killer, saying he lured Adam to his car with promises of candy and toys. He later recants, then says he did it. Eventually, police put the Toole matter in the inactive file. Says Capt. Steve Davis, "Everything the man told us proved false. We left no stone unturned."

Toole

Adam to his car with promises of candy and toys. He later recants, then says he did it. Eventually, police put the Toole matter in the inactive file. Says Capt. Steve Davis, "Everything the man told us proved false. We left no stone unturned."

July 27, 1986

Five years after Adam's murder, the puzzle yields no answers. "I never put it out of my mind," says detective Hoffman. "I'm always saying, 'Did I overlook something?'"

Dec. 8, 1991

Hollywood police rule out mass murderer Jeffrey Dahmer, who lived in Miami Beach about the time of Adam's abduction.

May 5, 1995

The Mobile Press Register in Alabama files suit against Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt to review the Adam Walsh files. Police refuse to release records, saying they're still chasing leads. The Herald and others join the suit.

Feb. 16, 1996

Under order from Broward Circuit Judge Leroy Moe, the Hollywood Police Department is scheduled to release its 10,000-page Adam Walsh file.

— RONNIE GREENE

ADAM WALSH CASE

Adam Walsh case files to be opened

involved in their son's brutal murder. The Walshes attorney said the deposition questions about the deposition discrepancies are "irrelevant." Although Jimmy Campbell was a piece mentioned in Adam's made-for-TV drama documenting his father's fight for justice, Campbell, still living in Hollywood, declined requests for an interview. Today, John Walsh hosts *America's Most Wanted*, helping to capture crooks by providing tips to police. He has hosted nearly 400 episodes, but not one on his son. He explains that Hollywood police asked him to remain silent because he was frustrated personally because of his own son's case on *America's Most Wanted*. "I want my son's name to be on the show, but I might compromise the investigation."

Chercher with tinted windows, she and Adam were going to a party. "I can remember having a hot cup of tea," she said. "I was sitting on the couch, and I was talking to you know where Adam was supposed to be going that day." A: "I've had said at breakfast that she was planning on possibly having a hot cup of tea." Two weeks after Campbell's statement, the Walshs dropped their suit. Walsh said they were disappointed that the Congressional sponsors of the Missing Children's Act said the police long ago ruled out any notion: Adam's parents.

A number of key questions remain: How were suspects ruled out? Were there other, more promising suspects? Was the case fumbled? Like Campbell, according to Michael Monahan, a director of the FBI, the FBI was not involved in the case. Questions remain: How were more promising suspects? John Walsh disputes any more promising suspects. He made it unequivocally clear that the FBI was not involved in the actions of a person known to us.

whacked a door with a mallet and fled. Years later, he was convicted of extortion charges. Campbell, according to Michael Monahan, a director of the FBI, the FBI was not involved in the case. Questions remain: How were more promising suspects? John Walsh disputes any more promising suspects. He made it unequivocally clear that the FBI was not involved in the actions of a person known to us.

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Both tragedies empowered distraught parents. The Walshes filed a lawsuit with the FBI to get the files. In New York, according to a national audience on *Good Morning, America*, Hours earlier, they had learned that the FBI had a file on Adam Walsh. They called the FBI and demanded to see the files. The FBI refused to release the files. The Walshes filed a lawsuit with the FBI to get the files.

Adam Walsh, 6, all-star right fielder for the Boston Red Sox, was missing, touching off a massive manhunt. Helicopters hover overhead, police boats patrol the water. The search for Adam Walsh was a national event. The FBI refused to release the files. The Walshes filed a lawsuit with the FBI to get the files.

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10A SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1996 THE HERALD

CHRONOLOGY



A FATHER'S GRIEF: John Walsh launched a crusade after his son's murder. Adam Walsh, 6, all-star right fielder for the Boston Red Sox, was missing, touching off a massive manhunt. Helicopters hover overhead, police boats patrol the water. The search for Adam Walsh was a national event. The FBI refused to release the files. The Walshes filed a lawsuit with the FBI to get the files.

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DS spreading fast among young hom

"HIV prevalence is very high among young men who hang out at spots..."

**DEATHS, 7BR**  
SURVIVE THE DRIVE, 2BR  
FOR YOUR INFORMATION, 4BR

# LOCAL BROWARD COUNTY

The Herald



## Adam Walsh police files to be made public today

**BY RONNIE GREENE**  
Herald Staff Writer

Barring a last-second appeal, the secret story of the search for Adam Walsh's killer will be unsealed this morning, nearly 15 years after the mysterious murder of the 6-year-old boy.

Case #81-56073, 10,000 pages long, chronicles a Hollywood Police Department investigation that has yet to identify the killer, but tells of the suspects who have come and gone.

Police don't want the file unsealed. Nor do prosecutors.

Nor do Adam's parents, John and Reve Walsh.

On Thursday, Broward Circuit Judge Leroy Moe cast aside protests from all three and instructed Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt to open the file. "I expect full, complete compliance with the substance and wording of the order," Moe said.

Short of an appeal from prosecutors this morning, Witt plans to open the files at 10 a.m.

Moe sided with lawyers for Florida and Alabama newspapers, who argued that with no arrest in sight, the time has come for public disclosure. Lawyers contend the media scrutiny could generate new leads — and gauge whether

police mishandled the case.

Adam's mother, Reve, had hoped to address the court Thursday. But Moe, declining to allow emotions to fill his courtroom, said she could communicate only through her lawyer.

Afterward, from the set of *America's Most Wanted*, John Walsh issued a strong reply.

"We are gravely wounded and bitterly disappointed that a judge in Florida has decided that a newspaper's demand to see the police file in our son's case is more important than find-



ALAN FREUND / Herald Staff

**DISTRESSED:** Reve Walsh leaves Broward Circuit Judge Leroy Moe's courtroom.

PLEASE SEE WALSH, 2BR

# Walsh files to be opened today

WALSH, FROM 1BR

ing his killer," John Walsh wrote.

"Now, details previously known only to the police and the killer will be known to all — making it almost impossible to find out who the real murderer is."

John Walsh's stance runs counter to his role as host of *America's Most Wanted*, where he publicizes real-life crime mysteries in hopes of catching the culprit. In a statement to The Herald, Walsh explains that Hollywood police asked him to remain silent on his son's case.

Two of the four potential suspects to surface over the years have links to the Walsh family. One is family friend James Campbell, who said he had an affair with Reve Walsh that broke off shortly before Adam's abduction July 27, 1981. The other is Michael Monahan, whose father was called upon to

identify Adam's remains two weeks later.

Witt said both have been ruled out as suspects. And in a statement to The Herald, John Walsh wrote: "The Hollywood Police Department has made it unequivocally clear that the murder of our son resulted from a stranger abduction, not the actions of a person known to us."

In court Thursday, Walsh lawyer George Terwilliger III said:

"The Walshes aren't here for themselves. There's nothing in this file that they're afraid of. What we're here for and what this is about is giving the [authorities] the opportunity to do their job."

Thursday's hearing came in response to last-minute pleas to block release of the files.

In October, Moe had given Hollywood police until Feb. 16 — today — to make the records available to the media, The Herald included. He called it "more

or less a drop dead date," with the files staying sealed only in the event of an imminent arrest or prosecution.

Monday, the Broward state attorney's office stepped into the case, saying it had just begun reviewing the 10,000-page file.

"There are further things that need to be done," Chief Assistant State Attorney Ralph Ray Jr. told Moe. "This was an especially heinous and egregious crime, and we feel this case should be fully investigated."

He argued that disclosure could hinder that effort. Still, Ray gave no indication an arrest is imminent.

Media lawyers Martin Reeder and Jerry Budney countered that the arguments made Thursday echoed those made last year, when Moe first ordered the files unsealed.

"It is ultimately the court's job to decide when enough is enough," Reeder said. "We submit enough is enough — now."

## THE ADAM WALSH CASE

# Witness in Walsh case spurred by news report

By RONNIE GREENE  
Herald Staff Writer

When the media sued to open the Adam Walsh police files, it got a swift response: Publicity like that will kill the case.

It came from Hollywood police. From the Broward State Attorney's Office. Even from John Walsh, Adam's father and host of *America's Most Wanted*, a program that tries to solve true-life crime mysteries through publicity.

But police files unsealed Friday give hints of a different result.

In fact, a potential eyewitness to the crime only went to Hollywood police after reading about Adam's case in the newspaper.

His name is William Mistler, 48, and he lives in Hollywood. It was August 1991, and Mistler had just read a story documenting the 10-year anniversary of Adam's death — and the fruitless search for the killer.

Mistler was jarred. He learned that Ottis Elwood Toole, who initially claimed to be the killer in 1983, had never officially been arrested.

"According to Mr. Mistler, after reading this article, he was

appalled to find out that Ottis Toole had never been charged in this case."

The reason: Mistler said he was at the Hollywood Mall that day. He swears he saw Ottis Elwood Toole lure Adam into his 1971 Cadillac, then drive away.

He didn't go to police right away, back in 1981, because the buzz then was that someone in a blue van snatched Adam. And then, after Toole confessed, Mistler didn't go, he explained, because he thought police had their man.

But the article told him Toole had never been charged, so Mistler went to police.

"Mistler was emphatic about the identification of the white male that he saw exiting the black-over-white Cadillac as being Ottis Toole," police files say.

He said Toole had "weird eyes, greenish teeth" and a two-week-old beard.

More significantly, police say he described the black-over-white Cadillac perfectly, even mentioning the small dent on the rear bumper.

## Lost blood trail in Walsh case bedevils police

ADAM WALSH, FROM 1A

ment, which did the blood testing.

"The issue is we had evidence, and we no longer have it. That's not good police work," Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt said Saturday. "Because it is evidence. We need to have that evidence."

And from the circle of Adam's father, John Walsh, comes protest, too. Said Lance Heflin, executive producer of *America's Most Wanted*, hosted by John Walsh: "The chain of evidence has been such a nightmare over the 14 years. They bungled it. They just let it get away from them."

Smith's investigative reports, made public as part of the 10,000-page Adam Walsh police file unsealed Friday, details the detective's fruitless search for the crucial evidence.

Toole told police he drove to Hollywood from Jacksonville in July 1981. He pulled into the lot at the Sears at Hollywood Mall, saw Adam and lured the boy with promises of toys and candy.

Once in his car, Toole testified, he locked the doors and windows and set off for home, where he allegedly planned to raise Adam himself. Along the way, he said, Adam began to cry, so Toole beat him, pulled off to the side of the road 125 miles north of Hollywood and beheaded Adam with a machete.

As this version of Toole's story goes, he put the boy's head back in his car.

When police began checking into Toole's confession back in 1983, they tracked down his old Cadillac. Sure enough, blood was found on the left front and rear floorboards.

But this was before the era of DNA, and FDLE crime lab experts weren't able to say definitively whether it was Adam's blood.

According to Smith's report, FDLE turned over the Cadillac and carpet samples to Jacksonville police. At the time, Toole was being held at the Duval County Jail on charges of arson and homicide.

On May 24, 1984, records show the items were sent to Jacksonville police, care of detective J.W. Terry.

When Smith called Terry — now retired, working at the Duval County Courthouse — the blood-stained evidence didn't ring a bell, Smith's report shows.

So, on Jan. 17, 1995, Smith drove to Jacksonville himself to check the evidence room. No luck.

As for the car — also once in the possession of Jacksonville police — Smith's search wound up in a Jacksonville junkyard.

"Based on this information, it is believed that this vehicle is no longer accessible, and attempts to locate it for the previously mentioned test would be futile."

## Police bedeviled by lost blood trail in Walsh case

By RONNIE GREENE  
Herald Staff Writer

It was August 1994, and Hollywood detective Mark Smith was handed the case of a lifetime. No. 81-56073, the murder of Adam Walsh, 6.

From day one, Smith, a methodical detail man, set his sights on two targets:

■ Ottis Elwood Toole, 48, an arsonist who claimed responsibility as far back as 1983.

■ The bloody trail of evidence Toole allegedly left behind.

Smith is still eyeing Toole as a suspect.

Following the trail of blood

hasn't been so easy.

That blood, perhaps from Adam's head, covered Toole's machete and his 4,200-pound 1971 Cadillac. Inside the car, lab tests revealed, were traces of blood on the floorboard and the carpeting.

Along the way, the Cadillac and seven squares of carpeting tested for blood disappeared from evidence. It got lost, records show, sometime after Jacksonville police — near Toole's home — received it from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

PLEASE SEE ADAM WALSH, 22A

### KEY EVIDENCE

Here's what police know about the car:

■ It's a 1971 Cadillac, black over white with faded interior. The Vehicle Identification Number is 683491Q134601.

■ Detective Mark Smith traced the Cadillac to a St. Augustine man who said he had it towed to a Jacksonville junkyard in the late 1980s.

■ Also missing: Chunks of carpeting that were cut out of the car and tested for blood in 1983. Last traced to evidence room of Jacksonville police.



Herald - 2/19/96

# Walsh case car sold for scrap

## Suspect's Caddy last seen at junkyard

By **RONNIE GREENE** and **ROBYN MARX**  
Herald Staff Writers

**ST. AUGUSTINE** — What may be the most crucial evidence in the Adam Walsh murder — a 1971 Cadillac perhaps driven by the killer — was sold to a junkyard more than a decade ago.

For \$50. For scrap.

By a cook at Pizza Hut.

"The windows stopped working. And I had a lot of work done on the engine," said the seller, Sirree Safwat, now living in St. Augustine. "I bought another Cadillac."

Safwat has no connection to the Adam Walsh murder mystery. How he came to own the '71 Caddy is a mystery in itself.

Simply put, police let a 4,200-pound piece of evidence slip through their fingers.

The Caddy was once operated by Ottis Elwood Toole, a dimwitted career arsonist who has claimed responsibility as Adam's killer. Toole has changed his story countless times, confessing, recanting, confessing again and recanting again.

In one version — which Hollywood police have not ruled out — Toole said he snatched Adam from the lot outside a Hollywood Sears July 27, 1981, then started driving north on Florida's Turnpike.

Along the way, his story went, Adam began to cry, and Toole slapped him unconscious. Then, Toole said, he pulled over about 125 miles north of Hollywood and beheaded Adam with a machete.

Next, Toole said, he placed the boy's head in his Cadillac, before tossing it into a canal.

In 1983, when Toole first confessed, lab experts at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement tested the Cadillac. They found blood in the front and rear floorboards. They removed seven squares of carpeting dotted with bloodstains.

In the era before DNA testing, authorities couldn't scientifically link the blood to Adam.

Police didn't charge Toole with Adam's murder because his confessions were shaky and the physical evidence was inconclusive.

After the blood tests, the FDLE sent the Cadillac



**Adam**

PLEASE SEE WALSH, 10A

# How police lost 2 tons of evidence in Walsh case

WALSH, FROM 1A

and carpet samples to Jacksonville police, records show. The FDLE did so because Toole is from Jacksonville and was being held at the Duval County jail at the time on charges of arson and homicide. Today, Hollywood police, still investigating Adam's death, have made it clear Toole is their top suspect.

## Lingering questions

Despite holes in his stories, police have placed him in Florida at the time; an eyewitness has come forward to allege he saw Toole snatch Adam from the Sears parking lot; and the manager in which Toole said he beheaded Adam is consistent with autopsy results.

*Anywhere they towed it, it's been crushed by now. I usually keep mine about six months. It would have been sent to the shredder.*

CHARLIE KENNETT, junkyard manager

Still, there are serious questions whether Toole is the killer. His confessions have come with strings attached. For instance, he once reportedly sent a letter to John Walsh, Adam's father, offering to show where Adam's remains are for a fee, said Lance Heflin, executive producer of *America's Most Wanted*, the show hosted by John Walsh.

"He said for \$5,000, he'd show him where the remains are," Heflin told The Herald. In 1994, Hollywood police

assigned its top cold-case detective — Mark Smith — to retrace the trail of Adam's killer.

## A dead-end trail

From the start, Smith went looking for the Cadillac and car-pel samples, hoping they could be tested today for blood traces. As Police Chief Richard Witt explained this weekend, "Physical evidence is the most invaluable evidence that law enforcement can present in a court of

had it, probably in 1984. The Herald tracked Safwat down Sunday. He said he was living in Jacksonville at the time and liked the looks of the 1971 Cadillac on sale for about \$1,000.

A strange thing happened when he went to buy the car, he said. The used-car dealer — Safwat doesn't remember the name — told him he couldn't take delivery right away.

"Because the car was under investigation," Safwat said he was told. He learned from the dealer the car had been owned by a man named Henry Lee Lucas. Lucas is Toole's longtime partner in crime.

Safwat said he noticed carpeting had been taken out of the floor and from the trunk, too.

Three weeks later, Safwat's phone rang. His Cadillac was ready. He bought it. But then after engine problems, he stripped off the tires and had it towed to a junkyard, he said.

He doesn't recall which one it was about 1985. The chances the Caddy, Vehicle Identification Number 683491Q134601, is still around are pretty slim, say those in the business.

"Anywhere they towed it, it's been crushed by now," surmised Charlie Kennett, manager of R&R Used Auto Parts in Jacksonville. "I usually keep mine about six months. It would have been sent to the shredder."

Herald news researcher Michael Clark contributed to this report.

HERALD  
2/24/96

## Opening old wounds

**M**uch ado about nothing? The huge files of the Hollywood Police Department contain no stunning revelation about the murder of Adam Walsh nearly 15 years ago. A prime suspect for 13 years remains the prime suspect. But prosecution is unlikely.

Yes, the file ought to have been released. Broward Circuit Judge Leroy Moe must have been aware that he would be criticized by a man with national visibility, John Walsh, the child's father and host of the TV show *America's Most Wanted*. But the judge followed state law that provides for opening investigative files when prosecution is unlikely.

The boy, age 6, was kidnapped from a Sears store in Hollywood in 1981. In 1983 a drifter, Ottis Toole, confessed to the murder while in Jacksonville but recanted. Toole, now serving five life terms for murder, knew unpublicized details of the child's death but supplied

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**EVIDENCE IS MISSING**  
**The Walsh files don't**  
**answer the riddle.**  
**Instead, they're a study of**  
**mishandling of evidence.**

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other, conflicting statements. Further, he said that he confessed to get his lover, a serial killer, into more trouble.

Meanwhile, Jacksonville police took carpet samples from his car. Perhaps now, with DNA testing,

those samples might have answered the riddle. But they have vanished, and a later owner sold the car for scrap.

The last good break came after a 1991 feature article about the case. A Hollywood man, who had thought it solved with Toole's arrest, told police that he had seen a man who looked like Toole trying to lure a young boy on the fateful day. The police took him seriously, but a systematic re-examination of the case did not start until August 1994.

Is the case over? Maybe. Maybe more leads will be produced now with fresh mention of the case. If nothing more, this case should be a textbook on all of the steps, right and wrong, that two police departments took over 15 years with a notorious homicide.

## Police: Blood in car may not help Walsh case

By WARREN RICHEY  
and SCOTT GLOVER

Staff writers

Even if Hollywood police could find bloody evidence taken from a 1971 Cadillac that Otis Toole once said he used to carry Adam Walsh to his death, it may not be of much use to investigators today.

Why?

There may be nothing left to compare the blood to.

Police say blood detected on the carpet of Toole's car in 1983 may have come

### Medical office's few remains of boy hinder DNA test

from Adam Walsh's severed head, which the convicted serial killer once told detectives he placed on the floor of his car after abducting the 6-year-old from the Hollywood Mall on July 27, 1981.

At the time, investigators removed the bloody carpet from the car, but the technology did not exist to determine whether the blood belonged to Adam.

Now, in the era of DNA testing, that sort of determination can be made.

But the police have two problems: The

bloody carpet has been misplaced. And even if it's found, there may not be enough left of Adam Walsh's remains to make a DNA match.

"Even if there had been enough blood [evidence], I doubt there would be enough organic material to do a DNA test," Broward Medical Examiner Joshua Perper said. "I think too much time has passed."

The Broward Medical Examiner's Office has maintained custody of Adam's

remains since the severed head was discovered on Aug. 10, 1981, by fishermen in a canal near Florida's Turnpike west of Vero Beach. Today, all that is left is a skull, jawbone and hair samples.

Police acknowledged that now — more than 14 years after Adam's murder — a successful DNA test would be a long shot. But they are optimistic.

"All we can do is hope," said Hollywood police spokeswoman Stephanie Norris.

In the meantime, detectives are continuing to search for the bloody carpet.

"We're not sure it's going to be fruitful when and if we find it," said Todd DeAngelis, also of the Hollywood Police Department. "Nonetheless, we want to have that evidence."

A solution to at least part of the problem may come with further advances in DNA testing.

Sarah Yarbrough, a spokeswoman for the North Carolina lab that has performed blood tests on some evidence in

PLEASE SEE ADAM /4B

ADAM

FROM PAGE 1B

### DNA test difficult with few remains of boy, officials say

the Walsh case, declined to speak about the case specifically.

But she said it may be possible to make a genetic match without having a sample of the victim's blood.

This is done, she said, by taking samples from both parents and comparing them with the blood thought to be the victim's.

"The child would have markers from the mother that matched, and from the father that matched," she said. "Theoretically, it's possible to make a genetic match. I don't know that we've ever done it."

It is unclear when and why the decision was made to destroy organic material from the head that might have easily been used in DNA testing years later. The decision would have been made during the tenure of former Broward Medical Examiner Ronald Wright. Wright could not be reached for comment on Monday.

In the early 1980s it was not standard procedure to maintain blood and other samples from victims in homicide cases, Perper said.

According to the 10,000-page case file released by Hollywood police on Friday, the best suspect in the case is Toole, who twice confessed the crime, and twice recanted.

In detailed statements, Toole, who is serving five life terms in state prison, told detectives he placed the severed head on the back seat floor of his Cadillac. Detectives found the car in 1983.

**"Even if there had been enough blood [evidence], ... I think too much time has passed."**

— Broward Medical Examiner Joshua Perper

Tests suggested the presence of blood. Investigators cut away the carpet as evidence. They also vacuumed for fibers and hairs, and dusted for fingerprints.

Police reports show that no hairs, fibers or fingerprints were discovered that would place Adam in the car. But the bloody carpet was considered key evidence.

It wasn't until early 1995 — 12 years later — that a new Hollywood police detective assigned to the case, Mark Smith, discovered that the bloody carpet was missing.

According to a report written by Smith in January 1995, the evidence was transferred from a Florida Department of Law Enforcement crime lab near Jacksonville to the property room at the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office on May 24, 1984. That was the last anyone saw of the carpet evidence, according to Smith's report.

In addition to the lost carpet swatches, detectives are searching for Toole's car, which was inadvertently released by police after it was processed for evidence. However, police don't expect to find much in the car in the way of additional evidence.

## Searches, suspects, evidence — all fruitless in Walsh case

At age 6½, Adam Walsh was so shy that one of the few things he was brave enough to do was poke around in the toy department of a Sears store "all by himself."

His mother recalls a summer day in 1981 when she allowed her little boy to do just that, while she took a few minutes to shop for a lamp.

"I remember feeling him let go of my hand," Reve Walsh once told investigators. "That's where we parted."

There began the saga of Adam Walsh. Last week, nearly 15 years later, a window into the murder opened when Hollywood police files were opened under court order.

Calm at first, Reve Walsh scanned the aisles, looking for her child.

S/S 2/18/94

Nowhere.  
She had him paged.  
Nothing.

It was July 27, 1981.

The police were called. Relatives, friends and neighbors flocked to Hollywood Mall in search of Adam.

They called out his name inside and outside Sears, and in the adjoining mall.

"Adam Walsh, please come to customer service," a voice repeated over the store intercom.

Adam never came.

Within hours, the search spilled into the Walshes' McKinley Street neighborhood.

On foot, by bicycle and in cars, friends, family, even strangers

called out for the gap-toothed kid nicknamed "Kooter."

By nightfall, what has been described as one of the largest searches in Florida history was in full swing. Police dogs searched for Adam's scent. Helicopters looked for him from the sky.

When 24 hours slipped into 36, then 48, Adam's disappearance became news.

Adam's handsome and articulate young father reached out to the media, passionately appealing for his son's safe return.

In fact, it was only moments before the Walshes were to appear live on TV's *Good Morning America* that one element of the mystery was solved: Adam was dead.

On Aug. 10 — two weeks after Adam disappeared — two fishermen found the boy's head floating in a canal on a desolate stretch of Florida's Turnpike west of Vero Beach. The tiny head was identified a day later by the Walshes' close friend, businessman John Monahan Sr.



Adam

Staff Writers Scott Glover, Henry Fitzgerald, Evelyn Larrubia, Warren Richey and Ray Lynch wrote this report, which is based on Hollywood Police investigative files. The Adam Walsh files, sealed for almost 15 years, were ordered opened to the public last week.

scribbling notes on matchbook covers and scraps of paper, then stuffing them in their pockets.

## TWISTS AND TURNS

Ada Wolff of Fort Lauderdale betried the Walsh family after Adam disappeared. She claimed to have raised \$21,000 and arranged prizes for a fund-raiser to benefit the search for Adam.

On Oct. 17, 1981, the day of the Adam Walsh benefit at Hollywood Mall, she admitted she had lied.

"No prizes/donations were ever collected," the Hollywood police investigative files say. Wolff told detectives she concocted the story to make the Walshes feel better.

John Walsh had to run out and buy two bicycles with his money to give away at the benefit.

A month earlier, Hollywood detectives spent days tracking down a lead when a man in St. Lucie County said that a Fort Pierce woman he had dated had knowledge of Adam's abduction and death.

Police investigated and gave the woman a polygraph test. She passed. Further questioning of the man revealed that he made up the story because he was jealous of her new boyfriend.

Also in October, a Vero Beach man called police and said Adam's murder was part of a CIA conspiracy that was linked to the Watergate break-in and included the deaths of actors Gig Young and Bob Crane.

A Hollywood man came forward in November 1981 and said a man he had met during a homosexual encounter showed him pictures of Adam's severed head. After several days of scrutiny, the Holly-

## THE INVESTIGATION

In their search for Adam's killer, homicide detectives started — as usual — with the people who knew the boy best.

Adam's parents both were given polygraph tests. They passed, and were eliminated as suspects almost immediately.

Next, the spotlight was on James Campbell, a family friend who had lived with the Walshes for several years and had an affair with Reve Walsh.

Campbell, who often baby-sat Adam and considered the boy "a brother and best friend," had a difficult time convincing police that he was at work in north Dade when Adam was snatched. He had known Reve Walsh's and Adam's schedule and had moved out of the Walsh home two weeks before the abduction.

Because of that, police suspected Campbell, 25, could have been involved. It would be months before he would be ruled out as a suspect. Finally, he passed a detailed lie-detector test. At one point, detectives called him a loser, a live-in sex toy, the family pet.

At the time, the Walshes were furious at the police for investigating Campbell, a trusted family friend. Detectives were wasting precious time while the killer was getting away, they said.

John Walsh publicly criticized the investigation, once telling reporters he watched detectives

that he wanted to talk about a boy he killed in Broward County two years earlier.

He confessed to murdering Adam, then recanted. He led police to a marsh off Florida's Turnpike west of Vero Beach where he said he buried the body. Police dug for days. They found nothing.

Toole confessed again. And again recanted.

In the end, the cagey, streetwise killer seemed unable to convince authorities that he had killed Adam Walsh.

The chase was back on.

## A CAREER LAUNCHED

For John Walsh, what was surely the most painful loss in his life was also the catalyst for his career.

In the wake of Adam's murder, the Walshes became active in the fight for a better system of tracking America's missing kids. He and Reve Walsh appeared on TV and before Congress. Their efforts resulted in the passage of the Missing Children's Act in 1982. A year later, the case was dramatized in the made-for-TV movie Adam.

By 1987, John Walsh had become host of the TV show *America's Most Wanted*.

After years of relative inactivity, interest in Adam's unsolved murder was renewed in 1995 when an Alabama news reporter sought access to the case files. Police refused, citing the need for confidentiality in an open murder investigation.

Other news organizations, including the *Sun-Sentinel*, joined the battle to open the files.

The Broward State Attorney's Office and the Walshes urged that

the files be kept closed because of a concern that opening them might make it impossible to convict Adam's murderer.

On Thursday, a judge heard final arguments and ordered Hollywood police to open the case files to the public the next day.

With the release on Friday of the 10,000-page police investigative files came the revelation that the No. 1 suspect in the crime was a man whom police had looked at long ago: Ottis Elwood Toole.

Police reports show there were at least three witnesses who told detectives that they saw a man fitting Toole's description lurking a little boy into a car in the Sears parking lot at the same time and on the same day that Adam disappeared.

## THE EVIDENCE

While investigating Toole's claims that he abducted and killed Adam, detectives located a black and white 1971 Cadillac in Jacksonville that Toole said he drove during the kidnapping and murder. They wanted the car so they could test for the presence of hairs, blood, fibers and fingerprints that might place Adam in the car.

Toole had told investigators that after killing Adam, he placed his severed head on the floor inside the car. Tests revealed traces of blood on the floor in front of the back seat and on the floor on the driver's side.

But in 1983, police did not have the capability to perform DNA tests that might have established a solid link between Toole and Ad-

am's killer.

Detectives cut away seven samples of the carpet and sent them to a Jacksonville lab for tests. They also dusted for fingerprints, vacuumed for hairs and checked for fibers.

In the meantime, detectives located a machete that Toole said he used in the crime. Like the car, the machete had traces of blood.

For the first time since Adam's disappearance, Hollywood detectives possessed solid physical evidence. It wasn't solid enough.

The Broward State Attorney's Office wanted more evidence proving Toole was the murderer before it would file charges.

Detectives followed other leads and continued to talk to Toole, who is serving five life sentences for first-degree murder counts — not related to Adam Walsh — at a Florida prison. Then in 1995, investigators decided to re-examine the blood in the car and on the machete. They wanted to use DNA testing.

But by 1995 — 12 years after Toole's initial statement to police — the carpet samples had been lost by the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

Detectives turned instead to the blood on the machete. But lab technicians performing new tests in 1995 were unable to find any blood on it. Detectives speculated that all the blood traces were destroyed by the chemicals used in the initial blood tests and by time.

Nearly 15 years later, Adam Walsh's murder has not been solved.

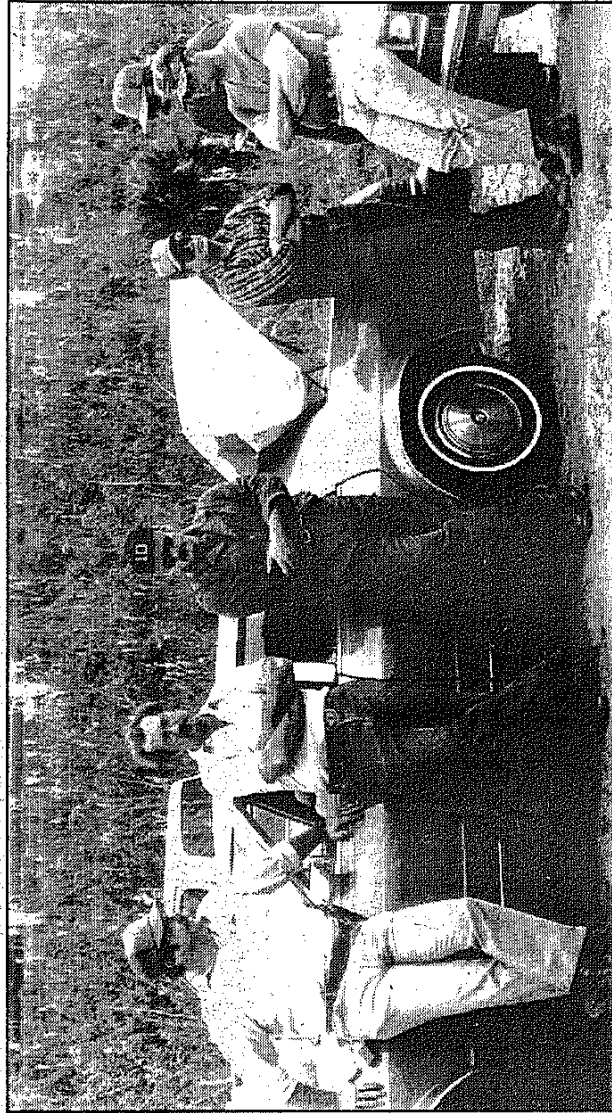
ADAM



Staff file photo/JOHN CURRY

Adam Walsh disappeared July 27, 1981, from a Hollywood Sears store. It was an emotional news conference, above left, for his parents, John and

Reve Walsh, on Aug. 12, 1981, two days after Adam's severed head was found, but there was no suspect. On Oct. 28, 1983, above right, law enforce-



Staff file photo/URSULA E. SEEMANN

ment officials from various Florida agencies rest off Florida's Turnpike after the search for remains was called off. To date, a killer has not been found.



# Cops probe evidence loss in Walsh case

## Bloody carpet, Cadillac had been in Jacksonville

By **RONNIE GREENE**  
Herald Staff Writer

The hunt for missing evidence in the Adam Walsh murder mystery escalated Tuesday, as Jacksonville police opened an investigation to determine whether bloody carpet samples and a 1971 Cadillac slipped from their hands.

"We're just trying to get to the bottom of it," said Harry Reagan, a Jacksonville sheriff's spokesman. "Whether we have it. If we don't have it, where it might be. We just don't have the answer to that question."

The Caddy and its carpeting had belonged to Ottis Elwood Toole, a five-time convicted killer now considered the prime suspect in Adam's abduction and murder July 27, 1981.

Adam, 6, was snatched from a Sears at the Hollywood Mall, just across the street from Hollywood police. Two weeks later, fishermen discovered the boy's severed head floating in a canal 125 miles north of Hollywood. His body was never found, and no one's been charged with his killing.

In 1983, when Toole first con-

fessed to Adam's murder, he said he placed the child's bloody head on his Cadillac before tossing it into the canal. Lab experts with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement found traces of blood on the front and rear floorboard. They removed seven samples of carpeting dotted with blood.

Back then, in the era before DNA, crime lab experts couldn't say whether the blood was Adam's.

Today, with DNA capabilities, Hollywood police are hopeful the physical evidence could provide the answer.

When Hollywood detective Mark Smith went looking for the Cadillac and carpet samples in 1994, he couldn't find it. According to Smith's reports, the evidence was last placed in the hands of Jacksonville detective J.W. Terry in May 1984.

"Terry had no recollection of receiving the previously mentioned carpet samples and/or placing them into property at the Jacksonville Police Depart-

PLEASE SEE WALSH, 6BR

# Jacksonville police probing loss of evidence in Adam Walsh case

WALSH, FROM 1BR

ment," Smith wrote, however, in a police report unsealed to the media.

Hopes of finding the Cadillac are slim. A St. Augustine man told The Herald he bought it from a used-car dealer in Jacksonville years ago, then sold it for scrap — for \$50 — about 1985. How the Cadillac left police custody and landed on a used-car lot is unclear.

Hollywood police hold out hope the carpet samples are around, as DNA testing could reveal whether it was Adam's blood in Toole's car. The DNA test isn't foolproof, considering the 12-year gap since the carpets were last seen. But Chief Richard Witt told The Herald, "There's a common belief DNA evaporates. DNA never goes away. That's why it is such an amazingly strong breakthrough."

With newspapers focusing on the missing evidence, Jacksonville police opened an investigation to try to track it down.

Still, Jacksonville spokesman Reagan reasoned that the evidence would more likely be left with Hollywood.

"We would have no reason to retain that evidence," Reagan said. "Because it was not an ongoing investigation here, it was

a city of Hollywood investigation. So the logical thing would be any evidence that was relevant would have been turned over to the city of Hollywood.

"But we don't know. We're going to take a look at the records

and see what we can find out."

Without physical evidence, a case against Toole is shaky. He's a compulsive liar, spinning different yarns about whether he killed Adam whenever police question him.

## Detective linked to suspect in Walsh case

By SCOTT GLOVER  
and EVELYN LARRUBIA  
Staff Writers

A former Jacksonville Sheriff's Office detective who hoped to profit from a book deal in the Adam Walsh case fed a suspect secret information about the boy's murder, then went to Hollywood police and said he had obtained a confession to the crime, police investigative files show.

In 1983, Jacksonville Homicide Detective Jesse "Buddy" Terry was among a team of investigators who met with suspect Otis Toole about the murder of 6-year-old Adam, who disappeared from a Hollywood Sears store on July 27, 1981. "Apparently believing he could enrich

Memo says officer may have offered information in deal

himself, Terry entered into an arrangement with Otis Toole in regards to book and movie rights to Otis Toole's life story," says an internal Broward Sheriff's Office memo that was included in the 10,000 pages of the Adam Walsh police investigation files released on Friday by order of a Broward circuit judge.

"Detective Terry then provided Otis Toole with confidential information he

had obtained from the Hollywood Police Department. [He] then contacted Hollywood and told them that Toole had confessed to the Adam Walsh murder," according to the memo from then Broward Sheriff's Sgt. Richard Scheff to then Capt. Walter Laun.

"Detectives from the Hollywood Police Department then responded to Jacksonville and invested one year in the investigation before uncovering Terry's actions," the Oct. 24, 1988, memo states.

"Otis Toole's statements were dismissed, and Detective Terry was removed from the homicide unit," the memo says.

"From this historical perspective one can readily detect the ease with which Toole, a brain-damaged and troubled man, can be manipulated by others."

The memo may help explain why Toole — who twice confessed to killing Adam, then twice recanted — was never charged with the crime. Toole, who is still a suspect in the case, is serving five life sentences in state prison for unrelated arson homicides.

Terry, who now works as a bailiff at the Duval County Courthouse, is also embroiled in a controversy over some lost evidence in the Walsh case. He did not re-

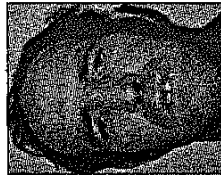
turn several telephone messages left for him on Thursday.

However, in a 1983 interview with Hollywood police homicide detectives, he said he was not familiar with the details of the case before hearing Toole's confession.

The Broward Sheriff's Office was briefly involved in the investigation after a prison informant said Toole was willing to confess to Adam's murder for personal gain. Toole has not sold his story.

Stephanie Norris, a Hollywood police spokeswoman, declined to comment on the memo about former Detective Terry.

PLEASE SEE ADAM 77B



Toole

investigative files released on Friday by order of a Broward circuit judge.

## Sheriff's Office memo links suspect to Duval detective

But according to another memo contained in the Adam Walsh file, Hollywood police homicide Detective Mark Smith was aware of such allegations when he took over the case in 1994.

"One of the beliefs by the original investigators was that Toole was confessing for publicity fueled by specific facts furnished by an overzealous Jacksonville detective," Smith wrote in an Aug. 16, 1994, memo.

Norris said Toole's confession is not the only reason he remains a suspect. She pointed to blood recovered from the floor of Toole's 1971 Cadillac and on a machete he once told police he used to cut off Adam's head:

There was not sufficient technology then to determine whether the blood belonged to Adam.

Toole was also able to identify the Hollywood Mall as the scene of the abduction.

And Toole described in detail a dirt road where he said he decapitated the boy. That road is just four miles from a drainage canal where Adam's head was found by two fishermen.

Terry, who may have been privy to detailed information about the slaying, was always near when Toole felt like confessing, files show.

In at least two instances, Toole changed his story after brief conversations alone with Terry, who he had known since about 1965 from having crossed paths on occasion in Jacksonville.

During his first confession, on Oct. 19, 1983, Toole said it was his lover and best friend, Henry Lucas, who abducted and later killed Adam and that he just accompanied Lucas.

After the confession, detectives discovered Lucas had been in jail in Maryland when the murder was committed.

Detectives confronted Toole, files show, and he recanted.

But after being alone with Terry, Toole again was ready to confess, files show.

A week later, Toole was again recanting to Hollywood detectives. Terry interjected and started badgering Toole.

"Ottis, were you lying today? Are you sure you didn't kill Adam Walsh? Now, come on now, let's don't do this way. Look at me. Look at me, Ottis," Terry said, according to the files. "Just tell me the truth."

Reduced to tears, Toole responded: "No, I didn't kill Adam Walsh . . . I made it all up."

Detectives thought they were done for the day but after 12 minutes alone with Toole, Terry told them he wanted to talk some more, the documents show.

In that interview at 10:42 p.m. on Oct. 26, 1983, Toole gave one of the most detailed descriptions of how he got to South Florida and committed the crime.

It was also Terry who led Hollywood detectives to the 1971 black and white Cadillac Toole claimed to have used to kidnap Adam.

Years later, Terry's name arises again in files related to the loss of seven pieces of bloody carpet cut from the car in which Toole at one time told police he had placed Adam's severed head.

The carpet evidence is thought by Hollywood detectives to have been misplaced in the property room of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

A September 1995 memo written by Hollywood Detective Smith says that the carpet evidence and the Caddy were transferred from a Florida Department of Law Enforcement crime lab to the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office on May 24, 1984. Smith's memo says the FDLE official signed over the evidence to someone with the initial "J."

The memo continues: "It is believed that this individual is either Det. J. W. Terry or Det. James Geisenberg of Jacksonville [Sheriff's Office]."

Smith's memo says in part: "Det. Terry had no independent recollection of taking custody of these items and there is no documentation to date to confirm this on the part of Jacksonville . . . or the Hollywood Police Department."

In an interview Tuesday night, Geisenberg, now retired from the Sheriff's Office, said he had no memory of signing for the evidence.

But their investigation appears no further along that it was 12 years ago, when one investigator summed up Toole's connection to the case in a memo this way: "MAYBE HE DID AND MAYBE HE DIDN'T."

*Staff Writer Warren Richey contributed to this report.*

# Walsh file casts doubt on suspect

## Confession full of inconsistencies

By **RONNIE GREENE**  
Herald Staff Writer

Although Hollywood police say Ottis Elwood Toole remains the key suspect in the murder of Adam Walsh, the department's own files cast substantial — if not overwhelming — doubt that he is the killer, a Herald review found.

Most of the reasons to doubt that Toole killed Adam Walsh in July 1981 come from the suspect's own mouth.

For instance:

■ When Toole first "confessed" to Adam's murder in 1983, he provided graphic descriptions of how he and his partner in crime, Henry

Lee Lucas, found Adam "running through the parking lot hitting people's car," and snatched Adam from a Sears parking lot.

Later, he said, Toole held Adam down while Lucas "chopped the kid's head off" with a bayonet.

"I wouldn't have killed the kid like that myself," Toole told detectives from Hollywood and Jacksonville police on Oct. 24, 1983.

Adam was abducted July 27, 1981.

Henry Lee Lucas couldn't have conceivably been involved. He was sitting in a Maryland jail cell from July 22 until Oct. 7, 1981.

■ Toole's initial description of Adam was wrong. He had described him as a blond-haired child in dungarees, a light blue shirt and sneakers. In fact, Adam had sandy brown hair and wore green shorts, a striped Izod shirt and flip-flops.

■ During his first "confession," Toole failed to identify



**KEY SUSPECT,  
BUT  
EVIDENCE  
IS LACKING:**  
Ottis Toole.

PLEASE SEE TOOLE, 12A

2/22/96

# Walsh file casts doubt on suspect's confession

## TOOLE, FROM 1A

Adam's photo on missing picture files.

■ Toole wants money for his story. In 1988, he wrote to Sears threatening to tell the world how easy it is to abduct and assault kids from their stores. Adam had been last seen at the Sears at Hollywood Mall that day.

"I do my shopping for juicy little kiddies at Sears," he wrote. "For some money I'm willing to downplay my activities hunting kids in Sears. See you soon. Bring money."

Sears forwarded the letter to Hollywood police.

■ Toole also wrote to The Orlando Sentinel and The National Enquirer.

"Someone told my car that a big paper like Orlando might pay me a nice amount of cash money for my personal interview about how I snatched, raped and chopped up Adam Walsh," he wrote to the Orlando paper in 1988.

"Please make me your best cash offer promptly."

Both publications forwarded the letters to police.

■ Toole may have been fed facts about Adam's abduction by a Jacksonville detective.

"One of the beliefs by the original investigators was that Toole was confessing for publicity fueled by specific facts furnished by an overzealous Jacksonville detective," according to a memo written recently by Mark Smith, the Hollywood cold case detective assigned to investigate



**PRIMARY SUSPECT:** Otis Elwood Toole, whose confession to killing Adam Walsh couldn't be proved, in a photo from police files.

Adam's murder.

■ There's no physical evidence to link Toole to the crime. Two potential pieces of evidence that could possibly be checked for DNA samples today — seven bloody carpet squares cut from Toole's 1971 Cadillac, and the car itself — somehow slipped from the evidence room. It was last in the hands of Jacksonville Police, Det. Smith said.

■ Toole has boasted of killing many, many people, though he's serving time at Union Correctional Institution in Raiford for five murders. Once, Toole confessed to "being present and/or taking part in what he believed to be approximately 65 murders," records show.

■ From the start, detectives often asked questions that gave Toole information.

For instance, from an Oct. 24, 1983, interrogation:

"And you do admit that you abducted some child from a Sears Mall approximately two years ago?"

*'One of the beliefs by the original investigators was that Toole was confessing for publicity fueled by specific facts furnished by an overzealous Jacksonville detective.'*

**MARK SMITH**, Hollywood cold case detective, in memo written recently

"Yeah."

"And you killed that child?"

"Yeah."

"And the head was decapitated?"

"Yeah."

"And you took approximately, you said, anywhere from three to four blows to the back of the head...?"

"Yeah."

"... to chop it off?"

"Yeah."

"And Henry was the one who did that while you held the child and the child was on his stomach is that correct?"

"Yeah, that's right."

Another time, detectives asked Toole about the route from Hollywood to where the child's head was discovered in a canal 125 miles north.

"Was there an overpass right near by where you pulled off? A road going over the turnpike?"

"I can't remember. I really can't," he answered.

"Look at me. Look at me. We're drivin down the turnpike."

"Yeah."

"You see a road and you pull off?"

"Yeah."

A 37-page police summary concludes: "Detectives do not yet have sufficient information to eliminate him as a suspect so Otis Elwood Toole remains a part of the continuing investigation."

Why are police still looking at Toole?

For one, they say a new witness in 1991 said he saw Toole snatch Adam from the mall that day. The witness, William Mistler of Hollywood, accurately described Toole's 1971 Cadillac, including a small dent on the bumper, police said.

Though police lost track of the carpet samples and the Cadillac, they say lab tests conducted in 1983 found traces of blood inside the car — where Toole said he placed Adam's severed head.

That was before DNA testing. In 1984, after Toole changed his story many times, Hollywood Lt. J.B. Smith concluded:

"My opinion, as is most everyone else from the city of Hollywood, is that he did not do this killing," Smith reported to the Regional Organized Crime Information Center.

"The only thing that we will say for sure is that 3,500 hours and \$62,000 later, we can't confirm anything he has said."

Smith then issued a caution to authorities investigating Toole.

"I don't want to be a devil's advocate," he said, "but I do want to warn you that if you are looking at Toole as a suspect, be darn sure that you do your homework."

2/27/96



FRED GRIMM

## A convenient Toole took cops off hook

Ottis Toole was the ultimate crime-buster. He solved some 160 murders in Florida alone, including the state's most notorious murder mystery — the killing of little Adam Walsh.

Toole's crime-solving technique was to confess.

The half-wit pyromaniac freely confessed to nearly any old homicide languishing in police files. It was a great deal for everyone involved. Detectives across the state cleared their old files, appeased their bosses. And we in the media got to employ some wonderful hyperbole. Toole, after his confession frenzy, became "the most prolific mass murderer in Florida history."

The only mystery left unsolved was how any cop, without supporting evidence, could have believed Ottis Toole.

The newly released Adam Walsh files offer a particularly unsettling insight into Toole's fanciful remembrances.

On Oct. 14, 1983 — back when Toole's confessions numbered only about 65 murders, he told how he and his evil lover Henry Lee Lucas had spotted young Adam in the Hollywood Sears' parking lot on July 27, 1981. How Henry had hacked up the child.

### Mass-killing competition

A couple of problems: Toole's description of Adam was wrong. The clothes were wrong. The age was wrong. The hair was wrong. Toole was unable to identify Adam's photograph. And, oh yeah, at the time of the killing, Henry Lee Lucas was doing time in a Maryland jail.

Later that day, nudged by his interrogators, Ottis cleaned up his story, dropping Henry Lee Lucas from the narrative. One story had him burying Adam's body. Another had him cremating the body in Jacksonville. He did. He didn't. He confessed. And, occasionally, like on Jan. 10, 1984, he recanted, explaining that once he started lying, "I didn't know how to turn it back around, but I didn't really kill Adam Walsh."

Even those few accurate details attributed to Toole were suspect. The policeman coaching most of the incriminating details out of Toole was Jacksonville police detective Buddy Terry.

# Poacher monkeying around at Bonnet House, staff fea

By HARRIET JOHNSON BRACKEY  
Herald Staff Writer

They've been looping their little tails and lifting their two-pound bodies over the wall for a little food and fun, but it hasn't always ended up that way.

Some of the squirrel monkeys who live at Fort Lauderdale's historic Bonnet House are being stolen, volunteers and staff fear.

An animal dealer was spotted last week using bananas to try and lure monkeys off the property and into his van. Once cap-

tured, the cheery little whistling monkeys can sell for as much as \$3,000 each in pet stores.

Bob Kauth, executive director of Bonnet House, says he and his staff are aware of the problem and are discussing ways to keep the monkeys happy and wild on the 35-acre estate just off Fort Lauderdale beach.

Brought to the estate decades ago by original owner Evelyn Bartlett, the real monkeys are as much a part of the estate as the monkeys on the pillows, the

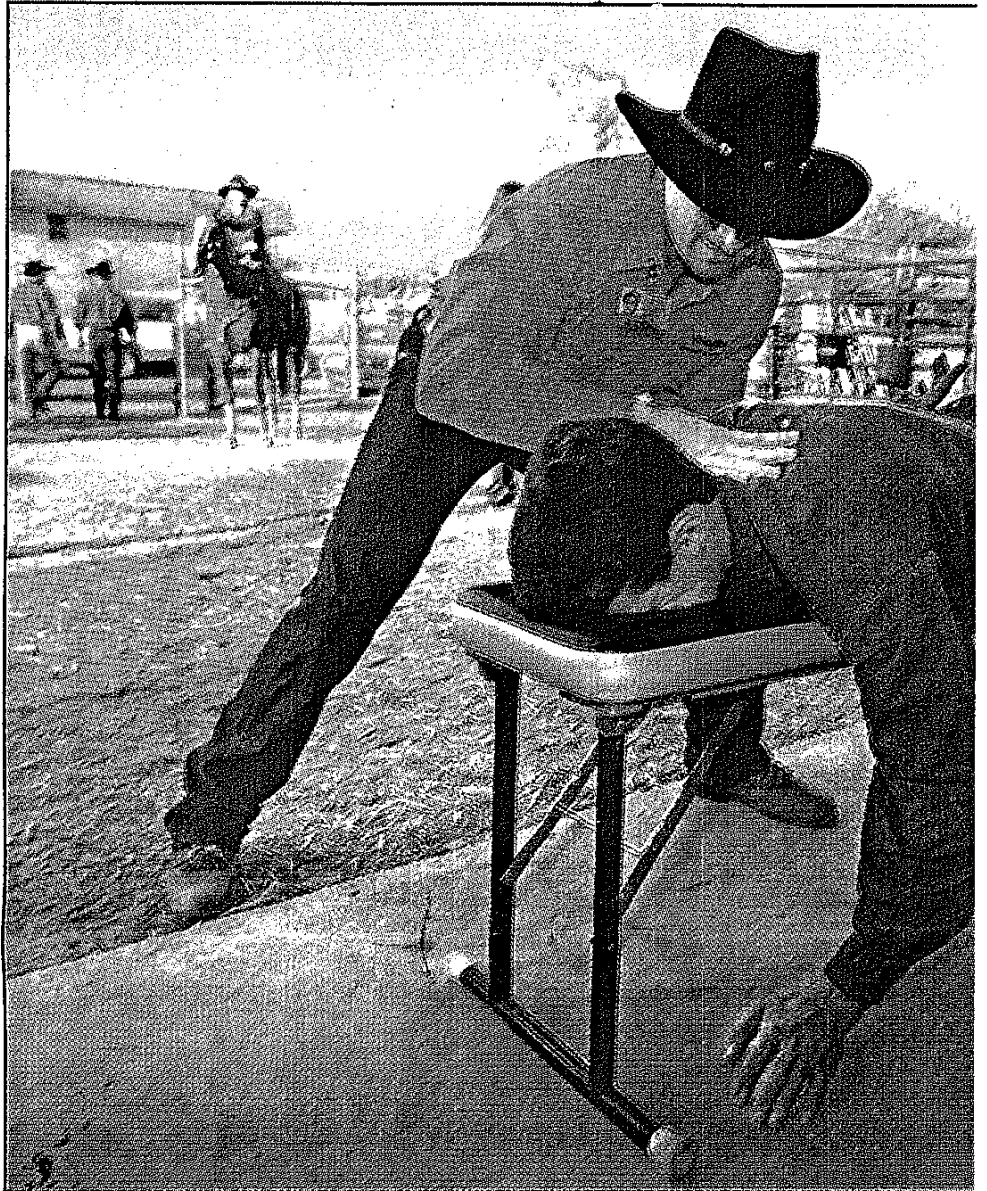
paintings, the sculpture. But the little animals are not satisfied with lizards, slugs, insects that their natural habitat provides.

Kauth says a change being considered, along with tooting the monkeys so could be easily traced if they try to rustle them up.

Kauth says the monkey population has dwindled from

PLEASE SEE MONI

## GOOD TO THE BONE



Utilizing a mobile office, North Miami chiropractor Dr. Brad Kern adjusts the spinal alignment of Steve Roberts, a rodeo competitor from Springtown, Texas, before he pounds Sunday in the

# Rodeo doctors rub cow

By STEPHEN SMITH

bulls. Backward. Worked with a broken f

fantiful remembrances.

On Oct. 14, 1983, when Toole's confessions numbered only one, he and his brother Henry Lee Lucas spotted young Adam in the Hollywood parking lot on Jan. 10, 1981. How Henry Lee Lucas did up the child.

A couple of problems: Toole's descriptions of the team were wrong. Toole's descriptions of the team were wrong. Toole was unable to identify Adam's photograph. Yeah, at the time of the killing, Henry Lee Lucas was doing time in a Florida jail.

Later that day, nude interrobators cleaned up Henry Lee Lucas' narrative. One story had him burying Adam's body in a field near a crematorium in Jacksonville. He did. He did. He did. And, occasionally, on Jan. 10, he admitted, explaining "I can't show how to turn back around, but I can't kill Adam."

Those revelations were attributed to Toole's confession. The confession was most of the thing. Jacksonville police department. Terry, meanwhile, also had a book and movie deal (as The Herald reported in 1985) with Toole. It was in their common interest, policeman and criminal, to enhance Toole's reputation as the nastiest killer on earth.

Yet, all these years later, Toole endures as a prime suspect in the Walsh case.

Toole's own lawyer suggested the confessions were a kind of bizarre competition with Henry Lee Lucas, who, meanwhile, was taking credit for hundreds of unsolved homicides across the South, from Florida to Texas. Jacksonville police, for example, had closed eight grisly cases based on Lucas confessions but later had to admit that Lucas had lied.

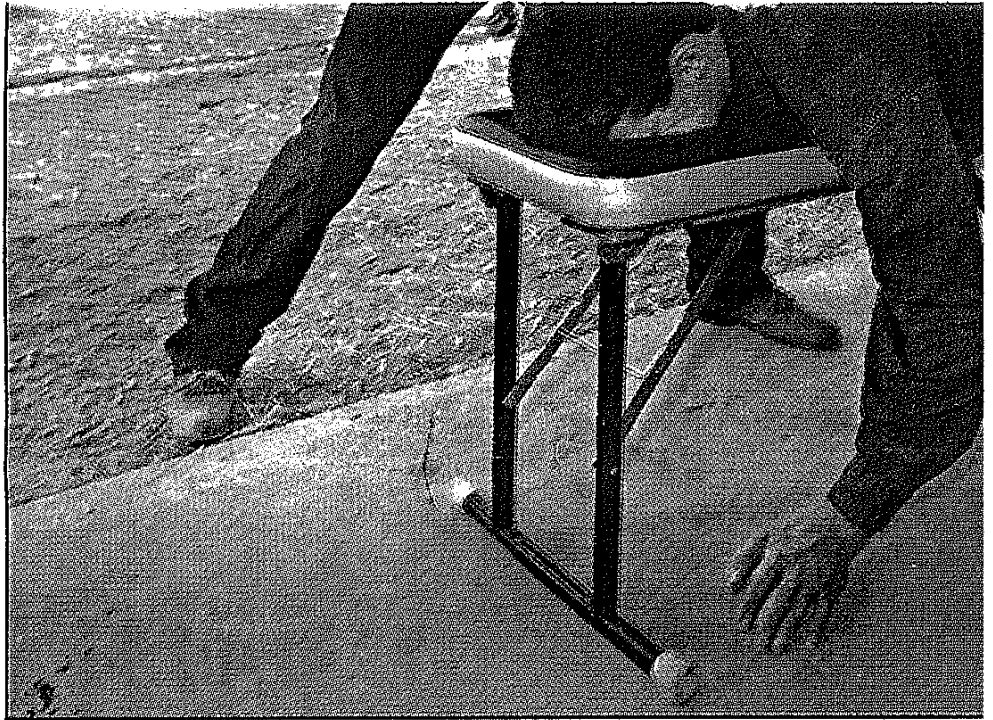
**Confessions worthless**

Lucas also confessed and was charged with the 1981 killing of two teenagers in South Dade. The Herald, however, uncovered convincing evidence that Lucas was in Jacksonville the day of the murders.

At one time, Lucas had been assigned 210 murders, most of them in Texas and Florida. Finally, in 1985, the Dallas Time-Herald noticed that Lucas would have had to have been in several locations simultaneously on his killing spree.

Ottis Toole and Henry Lee Lucas were undoubtedly horrible murderers — mass murderers. But their confessions were nearly worthless fodder in any police investigation.

Toole's old confession to the Walsh killing was resurrected with some fanfare when the old police files were finally made public. But it has been an empty, misleading exercise. Ottis Toole's ghastly lies do nothing to shed light on the enduring mystery of little Adam Walsh.



Utilizing a mobile office, North Miami chiropractor Dr. Brad Kern adjusts the spinal alignment of Steve Roberts, a rodeo competitor from Springtown, Texas, who was injured Sunday in the

# Rodeo doctors rub cow

By **STEPHEN SMITH**  
Herald Staff Writer

L.A. had its coroner to the stars. Davie has its chiropractors to the cowboys.

They all specialize in stiff. Difference is, the patients of Drs. Pat Helma and Bruce Kern ride away on a horse, not in a hearse, aches and pains dissolved by fingers and hands that need to knead.

"You get a lot of bumps and bruises and bones out of place, and they put you back together," Ernesto Franco says.

He should know. Franco, wearing a face of pain and a clown's glad rags, rides

bulls. Backward. Worked with a broken leg last year.

"There's an expression," Helma says, "called 'cowboy up,' which just sort of means, 'suck it up.' Sometimes, they'll get injured, and I don't know if it's the cowboy mentality or what, but they want to handle it on their own."

Franco — after seven years of choking on dust in rodeo arenas — was not in the mood to cowboy up Sunday at the Florida WestFair in Davie. For only the second time that he could remember, a bull had thrown him when he was trying to per-

# Community newspapers trying to cash in on Pines' big boom

■ PAPER FOCUSES ON WOMEN, 5BR

By **PATRICIA MALDONADO**  
Herald Staff Writer

Community newspapers are the latest to join the fray to capture the attention — and the dollars — of residents and businesses in Pembroke Pines.

In fact, the battle for the reader and title as the city's hometown paper is getting a little crowded.

Today, Spanish-language El Heraldo de Broward will start setting up bright red newspaper bins throughout Pembroke Pines, Miramar and West Hollywood.

Last month, the Pembroke Pines Digest and the Western Express distributed their first issues in Pembroke Pines.

And the South Florida Newspaper Network, which owns 33 papers from South Dade to Port St. Lucie, bought the already-established Community News in November and is expanding circulation in Southwest Broward.

"It's a crowded market. But what isn't a crowded market?" said Bruce Warshal, president of the South Florida Newspaper Network. "We are out to get our cut of the pie."

They are all aiming for the new young

*'What we realized since Hurricane Andrew was the tremendous growth in the southwest part of the county.'*

**ELAINE MICELI,**  
El Heraldo de Broward

homeowner, fresh off the moving van. And what keeps the presses running are advertising dollars from hundreds of new businesses moving to Pembroke Pines to cash in on the city's burgeoning population.

Elaine Miceli, editor of the weekly El Heraldo, studied the market and discovered young Hispanics from Dade were moving to Broward and missed the connection to the community they left behind.

"What we realized since Hurricane Andrew was the tremendous growth in the

PLEASE SEE PUBLICATIONS, 5BR



REAL Blues



# A grab bag of suspects; where's Adam's killer?

By **RONNIE GREENE**  
Herald Staff Writer

Among America's most famous unsolved crimes, the crucial questions persist, haunt, hang fire.

Who murdered Jimmy Hoffa, the tough-fisted Teamster boss? He vanished in 1975. Who is The Unabomber? His first mail bomb exploded in 1978. Who is The Green River Killer? The killings began in Oregon and Washington in 1982, and the body count is now 49.

Few unsolved crimes perplex as much as the disappearance and beheading of a 6-year-old from Hollywood, Adam Walsh.

Case 81-56073 remains in the nation's consciousness in part because his father, John Walsh, is the charismatic host of *America's Most Wanted*, the TV show famed for cracking true-life crime myster-



**THE VICTIM:**  
Adam Walsh, 6,  
was killed — by  
whom?

PLEASE SEE ADAM, 9A

## ADAM, FROM 1A

ies.

Last month, a court order compelled Hollywood police to open to the public its 10,000-page homicide file, and the unanswered question flares anew: Who killed Adam Walsh?

It's the morning of July 27, 1981, and Reve Walsh figures to run three errands: Pay her son Adam's \$90 tuition at St. Mark's Lutheran school, stop by Sears at the Hollywood Mall to buy a ginger jar-shaped lamp on sale for \$59, and drop by the gym for her 1 p.m. workout. Adam, on summer break before second grade, will tag along.

Two people know Reve's schedule.

One is her husband, John, and the other is James Edward 'Jimmy' Campbell, Adam's godfather.

Campbell stops by the McKinley Street home about 9:30 a.m., just as Adam is getting up. John Walsh is already at work in Bal Harbour, where he books conventions for a Bahamas hotel. Campbell shares a cup of hot tea with Reve and watches mother and son cuddle on the sofa. Then, he later says, he drives to work at the Golden Strand Hotel in Miami Beach, arriving about 11 a.m.

### Making her rounds

Sometime after Campbell leaves, Reve says later, she heads to St. Marks, the \$90 check written by her husband in one hand, Adam in the other. It's about 12 noon, she says.

From there, she says, she drives to Sears, arriving about 12:30. It's directly across the street from police headquarters. She leaves Adam at an Atari video game in the toy department for 10 minutes while she hunts for the lamp, she says.

Not long afterward, Sears switchboard employee Jenny Rayner receives a phone call. "Reve Walsh stated, 'I was supposed to meet my son Adam in the toy department. He's not here.'"

By day's end, a massive manhunt searches for Adam Walsh. Helicopters hover overhead, police boats cruise canals, and 50 police officers and 100 crime-watch citizens scour Hollywood. No sign of Adam.

3/11/96

Miami Herald

It's Aug. 10, 1981, and Adam is missing two weeks. Police fear the worst but hope. So do Adam's parents.

That day, Jimmy Campbell, then 25, walks into the office of Joseph Matthews, polygraph examiner. "Joe, why are they treating me so rough? I know they think I'm responsible for Adam being missing.

"I was close to Adam, closer than his father. I was his father, brother, uncle and playmate," Campbell tells Matthews. "I could play with him, and John would read to him. Adam would say, 'I have two fathers, one stays at home, one works.' We're inseparable — totally. If he got scared, he would sleep with me."

That day, Campbell takes his second polygraph test. The first, three days earlier, Matthews classified inconclusive.

Campbell is asked:

Do you know who took Adam? (No.) Do you know where Adam is now? (No.) Did you conspire with anyone to cause Adam's disappearance? (No.) Are you withholding information from the police concerning Adam's disappearance? (No.) Do you suspect anyone of taking Adam? (No.) Did you take Adam? (No.)

"It is the opinion of this examiner based on Mr. Campbell's polygraph examination that he responded truthfully," Matthews concludes.

That evening, one question is resolved forever: Adam is dead. In a canal in Indian River County 125 miles north of Hollywood, two fishermen find his severed head.

Though Campbell passed the polygraph, detectives Jack Hoffman and Ron Hickman go back to him.

On Nov. 25, 1981, they tell him no one can vouch for his whereabouts from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the day Adam vanished. Campbell explains it was too windy to rent boats at the Golden Strand, so he stayed in his cabana.

The detectives tell Campbell they think they know his motive: Reve Walsh.

Campbell, who lived with the Walshes for two years, admits he's in love with Reve and carried on a four-year affair with her. He moved out at John's request. "The day I left, we argued," Campbell says. "I told her I was moving out immediately for my own sanity. She was pissed. I was fuming."

But Campbell says he dearly loved the boy. "My life centered around Adam. Period."

A detective suggests otherwise. "I think Adam was the one that kept John and Reve's marriage strong. And Adam was the person standing between you."

A week later, Dec. 2, 1981.

3/11/96

Miami Herald

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attorney Joseph A. Varon writes Detectives Hoffman and Hickman, cc: Sam Martin, police chief.

"There will be no longer any communication between your department and my client, James Edward Campbell. I have been informed certain threats have been made such as, 'We know you did it, and we are going to get you one way or the other.'"

Police wonder about a time "inconsistency": Jackie Wing, an office worker at St. Mark's, says Reve stopped by — alone — around 10 or 10:30 a.m. Reve insists it was noon and Adam was with her. She wasn't wearing a watch, she says. Reve passes a polygraph.

Today, Campbell still lives in Hollywood and declines interviews.

Mark Smith, the cold-case detective on the case, discounts the "love triangle" motive and says Campbell is not a suspect.

Hollywood Chief Richard Witt says it's a "physical impossibility" that Campbell did it. The reason: Though no one could vouch for Campbell earlier, he was definitely in town that afternoon and for long after and couldn't have driven that far north and back in time.

"He could have been the abductor and murderer if he went under the alias of Clark Kent," Witt says. "He would need that kind of speed."

These days, John and Reve live north of Hollywood on the Treasure Coast. They have three children, all born since Adam. "We want justice for a beautiful 6-year-old boy," John Walsh says.

The Walshes' lawyer, George Terwilliger III, understands the early focus on Campbell.

"In any missing child case, the first place an investigator looks is the family, and people close to the family who might have a motive," says Terwilliger, once a federal prosecutor.

"But, equally as important, they did pursue it — and they did eliminate him."

In the frantic days after discovery of the severed head, another lead consumes: a desperate search for a navy blue van.

Initially, police collected the names of eight individuals who "may have seen" Adam at Sears. No one identified him positively. One was a 10-year-old boy, whose mother reported a "suspicious incident."

On Aug. 14, 1981, Martin Segall hypnotizes the boy. The story: A white man about six feet tall with dark brown hair and mustache was hanging around the toy department, reading a comic book. When a little boy — presumably Adam — left Sears, the man followed and got into a blue van.

Two men "wearing stocking masks" pulled the boy inside the van and drove off.

The alleged getaway vehicle: navy blue Ford van, tinted windows, mag wheels, chrome ladder, no spare tire on the rear.

Suddenly, practically every blue van in South Florida is suspect. Police check hundreds, logging in owner's name, address, phone number, tag number. And "reason cleared."

In all, more than 2,000 of the 10,000 pages of the file encompass "miscellaneous tips, letters and teletypes regarding blue van."

It's 9 p.m. Oct. 10, 1983, two years after the murder, and the Adam Walsh story goes network. *Adam*, starring Daniel J. Travanti as John Walsh, airs on NBC.

At 9 a.m. Oct. 11, 1983, a Jacksonville detective telephones Hollywood and says an inmate in the Duval County Jail wants to talk.

He is Ottis Elwood Toole, notorious confessor of multiple murders. Hollywood Detectives Hickman and Hoffman fly to Jacksonville: Did he see the TV movie? No, Toole says, adding that he doesn't listen to radio

news, either, as "he likes country-western music."

Toole spins a story. He snatched the boy from the Sears parking lot, locked the doors on his 1971 Cadillac. He says his buddy in crime, Henry Lee Lucas, used a bayonet to cut off the child's head.

A few days later, the department calls a press conference to proclaim the case solved.

But no indictment follows. It turns out that Lucas, the supposed executioner, was in a Maryland jail cell the day Adam disappeared.

#### No recollection

Toole can't describe Adam's hair color or clothes. Although he claims he buried the body near mile marker 126 of Florida's Turnpike, a search finds nothing. Toole changes his tale: He cremated Adam's remains.

Then it develops that a Jacksonville detective, J.W. Terry, is trying to cut a book deal with Toole.

In 1984, Hollywood Lt. J.B. Smith concludes: "We can't confirm one thing he has said."

Yet police still consider Toole — serving five life terms for murder — a prime suspect. That day, a security guard ushered four arguing boys out of the mall, and one may have been Adam. Ten years after the murder, a Hollywood man, William Mistler, came forward to suggest he saw Toole ushering Adam from the mall parking lot.

The potential physical evidence — his alleged getaway car, which showed traces of blood in 1983 — was sold for scrap to a junk yard for \$50.

Of Toole, Chief Witt admits "a certain amount of skepticism," but adds: "I am absolutely, thoroughly convinced that this is a

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stranger abduction and murder.”

■ In 15 years, a grab bag of suspects comes and goes.

■ 1989: Michael Wagner, a.k.a. Space Case, 43, convicted of sodomy of a girl, 3, in Virginia and the brutal stabbing murder of a boy, 12, in Binghamton, N.Y., once traveled in Florida.

■ 1991: Jeffrey Dahmer, serial killer of considerable notoriety. Two newspaper readers say they remembered him at the Hollywood Mall in 1981. Dahmer lived briefly in Miami Beach in 1981 after discharge from the service.

Intrigued police obtain a letter from the Broward State Attorney's office: Florida “would not pursue the death penalty should Mr. Dahmer make admissions regarding the death of Adam Walsh.”

He doesn't. He says he likes adults, not kids.

■ 1995: Kenneth Leclair, 57, suspect in a 1972 Ohio murder of a boy, 10. In the early '80s, he got arrested in Indian River County on firearm, drug, armed robbery and auto theft charges. Hollywood police can't find him for “routine questioning.”

■ Again in 1995, detectives requestion Edward Harold James, 64, of Pompano Beach, arrested Nov. 17, 1981, for abducting a young girl.

Back then, a cell mate alleged that James boasted of enticing a 6-year-old boy from a Hollywood store that summer and “felt confident detectives would never find blood in his car.” James had a seat cover installed on his '73 Plymouth Fury.

James maintains that his only knowledge comes from the media. He shows no deception on a computer voice-stress analysis. He says his 1981 cell mate was a drunk.

■ In 1995, police look briefly at a second family friend, Michael V. Monahan. He is the son of John Monahan Sr., the man who identified Adam's head for the distraught family in 1981. Michael and his brother, John Jr., roomed with Campbell at the time of Adam's abduction.

The investigation occurs after a reporter for the Mobile (Ala.) Press Register, Jay Grelen, creates a “furor” with a series of articles, Detective Smith notes. Three days after the abduction, Grelen reported, an enraged

Michael Monahan, then 20, slashed a door with a machete in a dispute about a skateboard in Oakland Park.

In a police memo, Smith says he had talked with the reporter — and Grelen raised a startling possibility: “That Monahan committed the murder of Adam Walsh as a favor for James Campbell.”

Smith discounts this as “far-fetched.” The machete attack “he referred to was a far leap from committing this homicide.”

Crime lab technicians examined several machetes in the years after the crime. Monahan's was “not scientifically linked.” Monahan's owning a machete was “not suspicious,” Smith concludes, noting he worked in landscaping.

On June 21, 1995, Smith questions Michael Monahan. He is out of prison on probation after a federal conviction for extortion of a stockbroker — later found murdered. Monahan says he was a passenger in his girlfriend Chris Fehlhaber's '79 Camaro in Fort Lauderdale when he heard on the radio that Adam was missing.

On June 29, 1995, Police Chief Richard Witt writes The Herald to say Monahan has been eliminated as a suspect.

Yet seven months later, on Jan. 4, 1996, police polygraph Monahan. Did you deliberately cause the death of Adam Walsh? (No.) Do you know who murdered Adam Walsh? (No.) Result: “No significant signs of deception.”

Reporter Grelen has a far different recollection of events.

“I wasn't saying Michael Monahan was a suspect. I was saying his name came up and I wanted to know if police ever considered him a suspect,” Grelen says. “And I presented absolutely no motivation. Nothing about a murder weapon. I didn't even mention the name Jim Campbell.”

Seeing the memo makes Grelen skeptical. “It makes me wonder about the accuracy of other things.”

■ From Volume II, File #17, Page 1090, report of Detectives Hickman and Hoffman:

“We're gonna step on a lot of people's toes in this investigation. And whatever it takes to solve Adam's death, we're gonna solve it.”

Fourteen years and eight months after the crime, the words ring hollow.

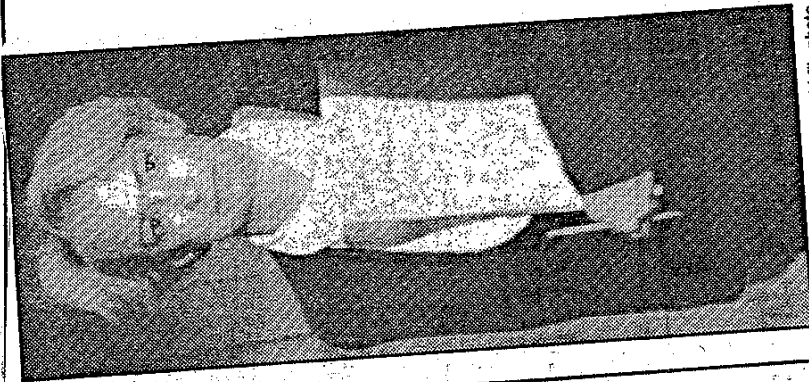
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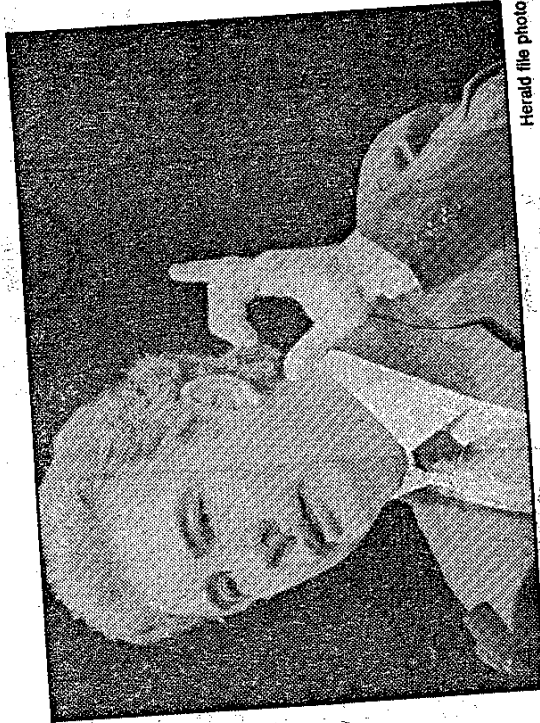
# Lots of suspects but no killer in Adam case

## WHO'S WHO IN THE ADAM WALSH CASE



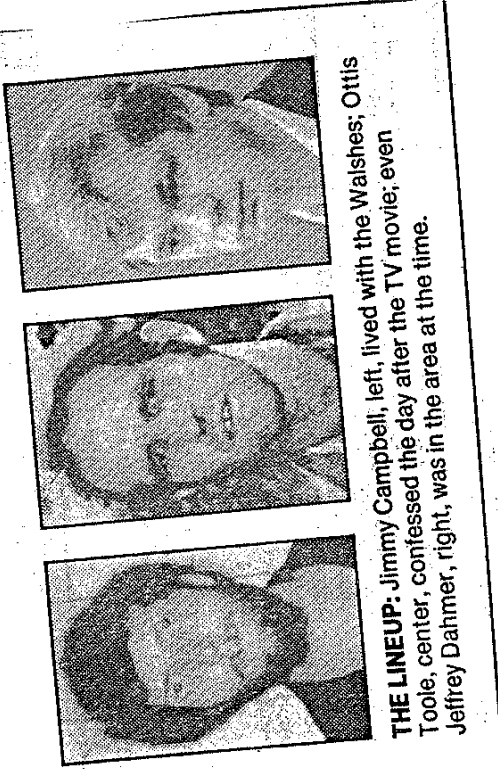
Herald file photo

**THE MOTHER:** A grim-faced Reeve Walsh after last month's release to the media of the murder case files.



Herald file photo

**THE FATHER:** John Walsh, host of *America's Most Wanted*, addresses a police chiefs convention last fall in Miami Beach.



**THE LINEUP:** Jimmy Campbell, left, lived with the Walshes; Ottis Toole, center, confessed the day after the TV movie; even Jeffrey Dahmer, right, was in the area at the time.

Herald 2/23/84

# Jacksonville cops: Evidence loss in Walsh murder wasn't our fault

By **RONNIE GREENE**  
Herald Staff Writer

Jacksonville police say they didn't "lose" a 1971 Cadillac and seven bloody carpet fibers that potentially could link Otis Elwood Toole to Adam Walsh's grisly murder.

So what happened? Jacksonville sheriff's officials said Thursday Hollywood police left the evidence sitting so long at a Florida Department of Law Enforcement crime lab, 12 years ago that Jacksonville shipped the car back to its "rightful owner."

A used-car lot. Now, the potential evidence is history. The Caddy was eventually sold for scrap for \$50. The seven carpet samples were destroyed, Jacksonville police confirmed Thursday.

And any chances of a criminal case against Toole — already a

shaky prospect, considering his error filled "confessions" and quest for cash for his story — got that much dimmer.

These carpet fibers have since been destroyed, wrote Rick Seibler, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office's chief of detectives. "This is routine on nonevidentiary materials. This also followed Hollywood Police Department's lack of interest in receiving these items."

These items would not have been in our custody had it not been for the Hollywood Police Department's electing not to recover same from FDLE."

Both Jacksonville sheriff's officials and Hollywood police went to lengths Thursday to avoid blaming one another for the destroyed evidence.

Still, "All of it is gone, one way

or another," said Jacksonville sheriff's spokesman Harry Reagan.

Agreed Stephanie Norris, spokeswoman at Hollywood: "The fact is, they're destroyed. Here's what happened:

In 1983, when Toole first started telling stories about killing Adam Walsh two years earlier, police tracked down the 1971 Cadillac he said he drove that day. Crime-lab experts found blood in the car. They removed huge chunks of carpeting inside the Caddy, then lifted seven samples from there.

Before the era of DNA, experts couldn't say whether the blood was Adam's.

In November 1983, after the FDLE testing, a Hollywood officer went to the crime lab and retrieved one piece of evidence: Toole's machete.

According to Jacksonville authorities, the Hollywood officer left the seven carpet fibers, 1971 Cadillac and three boxes of carpeting.

After six months, Jacksonville police picked up the remaining items from FDLE "as a courtesy for the Hollywood Police Department, giving consideration that their agency had not picked up this evidence," Seibler explained.

The carpet fibers were destroyed. The Cadillac and boxes of carpeting went back to a used-car lot, which later sold it to a man who ended up selling the car for scrap.

"It was their evidence," Jacksonville spokesman Reagan said. "It was not the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office's evidence."

Said Hollywood's Norris: "We don't hold them responsible."

# Steel Hector helps open Adam Walsh murder files

**I**N a decision that has triggered a reexamination of the investigation into the murder of Adam Walsh, Broward Circuit Judge Leroy Moe ordered the opening of the Hollywood police file on the case over the protest of police and the boy's family.

Steel Hector & Davis partners and First Amendment attorneys Tom Julin and Ed Mullins, in the firm's Miami office, and Martin Reeder in its West Palm Beach office, represented the Mobile Press Register, the Palm Beach Post and the Sun-Sentinel. Miami Herald in-house counsel Jerold Budney also joined in the complaint.

The effort to open the file, spurred by the Mobile Press Register and its reporter Jay Grelen, began last year. In May, Moe ruled that Hollywood, represented by City Attorney Joel Cantor, had six months for additional investigation before he would order the 50,000-page file opened. The state attorney's office, represented by chief assistant state attorney Ralph Ray, and the Walsh family, represented by



Reeder



Julin

Washington, D.C., attorney George Terwilliger and Michael E. Christiansen of Fort Lauderdale's Mastriana & Christiansen, joined Hollywood in protesting the opening of the file.

On Feb. 15, Moe denied an eleventh-hour motion again to postpone opening the file and Hollywood police opened it the next day.

The case received national attention in 1981 when 6-year-old Adam Walsh was kidnapped and murdered. No one has been arrested for the crime.

His father, John Walsh who hosts "America's Most Wanted," said opening the files would endanger the slim hope of finding the murderer.

(Editor's note: Steel Hector & Davis is among the Daily Business Review's law firms.)

—Piper Lowell

**Editor's note:** This column is designed to identify the lawyers and other professional players behind significant business transactions and litigation. The Daily Business Review welcomes your input in identifying cases or business deals we should consider. Information can be faxed to the Daily Business Review law editor Noreen Marcus at (305) 347-6626; or, it can be mailed to her attention at the Daily Business Review, 1 SE Third Ave., Miami, Fla. 33131; or, you can call her directly at (305) 347-6648. Broward items can be faxed to Mary Hladky's attention at (305) 468-2630. Palm Beach County items can be faxed to Kenneth Cogburn's attention at (407) 820-2077.

## LETTERS

The Daily Business Review welcomes letters. Please keep letters to a reasonable length — no longer than 300 words. We condense letters as necessary and we correct errors of spelling, grammar and punctuation.

*Broward Business Review*  
*March 1, 1996*

# Tenacious detective dives into Walsh file

Since 1994, officer has pursued leads

By SCOTT GLOVER  
Staff Writer

HOLLYWOOD — Mark Smith, then 23 years old, was sitting in his police car near a Sears store when the parents of a little boy named Adam Walsh appeared at his window, asking for information about their son who had disappeared the day before.



"You could tell they'd been up all night," Smith recalled in an interview this week. "They asked me if there was any news."

Smith, who had just been briefed on Adam's disappearance at morning roll call, flipped down the sun visor of his idling patrol car and pulled out a photo of the gap-toothed 6-year-old. He held it up for the Walshes to see.

"We're looking for him," he said. "We'll find him."

Today, Smith is still looking. But now the search is for Adam's killer.

Since that day in July 1981, Smith has risen through the ranks of the Hollywood P.D. to the department's homicide squad.

He's earned a reputation as a dogged, persistent investigator who won't give up. In exchange for his hard work — and for cracking a few cases that others could not — Smith was handed South Florida's most notorious unsolved murder in August 1994: the case of Adam Walsh.

Smith, a native of Hollywood, has been wearing a badge since he was 19. After graduating from high school, he landed a job as patrolman at the Hallandale Police Department.

He joined the Hollywood force

PLEASE SEE WALSH / 10A

(over)



FROM PAGE 1A

## Hollywood sleuth noted for tenacity tackles Walsh case

two years later, where he worked for two years in patrol, seven years in street crimes and a year as a detective in robbery. He's been working homicide since 1989.

It was there where he honed his image as a tenacious, yet patient sleuth.

In addition to his own cases, Smith began "dusting off" some of the department's unsolved murders to see if there was a new angle, or maybe an old one that just needed to be re-explored.

"Sometimes time is your ally," Smith said of the old cases, commonly referred to as "cold cases."

In the case of Vinci Soddu, time was on Smith's side.

The detective was approached by an associate of a Soddu, who was suspected of a 1977 contract killing of a man named Mark Allen.

The man, who was friendly with Soddu in 1977, no longer considered himself a friend. Smith interviewed him, and his testimony helped convict Soddu of murder 13 years later in 1990.

That same year, while working on a case dubbed "the good samaritan murder," Smith was trying to prove that a gun used to kill a man who tried to thwart the home-invasion robbery of a Hollywood cou-

ple had also been used in a similar crime in Dade County.

On a hunch, Smith went to the home of the Dade County victim and asked her to describe her assailant, and to walk him through the crime.

When the woman pointed to the site from where she said the assailant had fired, Smith — clad in dress slacks, a shirt and a tie — began kicking around in the dirt.

Minutes later, the shiny metal casing of a 9mm bullet appeared from under a thin layer of earth.

"It was complete luck," Smith said of the find.

The shell casing later served as vital evidence in court, leading to the conviction of Rudolph Wilson in the slaying of Thomas Danner, the good samaritan who tried to thwart the Hollywood home invasion robbery.

Darron Castiglione, Smith's former sergeant in the homicide squad, said going out to the scene of the Dade shooting was an approach that many detectives, including himself, might not have thought of.

"Mark is extremely meticulous," Castiglione said of the detective he hand-picked from the robbery squad. "He doesn't take anything for granted."

Asked what led to the decision to put Smith on the Walsh case, Castiglione paused for a minute.

"Let's put it this way," he said. "I would not want to have done something wrong and have Mark Smith investigating me."

Despite his high-profile role and

the media glare surrounding the Walsh case, the word most often used to describe Smith's demeanor is "humble."

"I know this is cliché," said Lt. Debbie Futch, who supervised Smith from 1993 to 1995. "But he's just a nice guy."

Smith refuses to discuss details of the Adam Walsh case, which made national headlines again last month when the 10,000-page investigative file was released to the media, by order of a Broward circuit judge.

"Frustration was the first thing that came to my mind," Smith said of Judge Leroy Moe's decision.

Smith has worked tirelessly on the case since he was assigned it in 1994, logging thousands of hours and making more than a dozen trips.

His efforts have even won praise from Adam's father, John Walsh, host of TV's *America's Most Wanted*.

Walsh has harshly criticized the Hollywood Police Department for its initial handling of the case, in which crucial evidence that might have linked convicted serial killer Ottis Toole to Adam's murder was lost.

Walsh said he thinks things would have been different if Smith had been in charge.

"I think he might have been able to break the case," Walsh said in a telephone interview on Friday. "He's done more in six months than had been done in 14 years. I just hope he stays on it."

As dedicated as he is, Smith

does not often bring his work home with him, said Anna, his wife of 16 years.

"I hear more from my girlfriends in the department than I do from my own husband," said Anna Smith, who works as an office manager at the Memorial Regional Hospital Cancer Center.

At home, she said, her husband spends as much time as he can with their two children, Christina, 10, and Brandon, 6 months.

Still, she acknowledges the hours he's devoted to the Walsh case, especially in the past year, have postponed at least one significant date — the celebration of their wedding anniversary on Sept. 8.

"He keeps telling me we'll go out to dinner," she said, laughing. "We'll see."

Anna Smith said she's proud of her husband's commitment to his job.

"He loves his work and that's what makes me happy," she said. "If he didn't enjoy it then that would make it hard on all of us."

Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt, who worked as a homicide detective for years in the Miami Police Department, said he envies Smith's ability to balance work and family.

"He's been able to do it better than I did," Witt said. "My oldest kids will tell you that sometimes even when I was with them I was someplace else. I don't think Mark has been like that — and that's important."

WALSH

Jim Sentinel  
3-2-96



MOBILE PRESS ... claims were filed during the week ended July 25, 1992.

The now-ended strike had idled more than 175,000 workers—both GM employees and those working for related businesses such as suppliers.

stead of buying easily available metal pieces... likes to box his video-sized devices in what sometimes using four v...

an air traffic control, Miljenko Jadic, told Croatian state TV that the plane approached Dubrovnik airport "left of the usual route."

"It should not have been here," he said.

The Air Force said because of the bad weather, the plane

Ivo Djuricic was on the hill behind his house when he heard the plane overhead. "It was very strange to hear it," he said, "because planes never fly above here."

He climbed up the hill until he saw the plane was "in large pieces, loosely together." Then he ran back, jumped in his car and raced to the village to call police.

# New data in Adam Walsh case probed

By Jay Grelen Staff Reporter

Florida's top law enforcement agency has stepped into the Adam Walsh case to examine new information on the unsolved Florida murder.

"We have received some unsubstantiated information relating to the Adam Walsh case," said Liz Hirst, public information officer for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. "It's our job to follow up on that information to determine if it's founded, and that's what we're doing now."

"Beyond that, it would be inappropriate to discuss FDLE's role."

On Wednesday, two FDLE agents interviewed a potential witness, the Mobile Register has learned.

Hirst would not say where agents had gone for the interview. "If, in fact, any new information proves to be true," she said, "we don't want to jeopardize what could be a once-in-a-lifetime shot at making a difference."

Adam, 6, was abducted from a Hollywood, Fla., mall on July 27, 1981, while his mother shopped for a lamp.

Two fishermen later found Adam's severed head in a drainage canal, igniting national fears and raising awareness about the issue of missing children. Adam's father, John Walsh, has gone on to become host of Fox-TV's "America's Most Wanted."

Last May, the Mobile Register published a three-day series about the case, "Adam Walsh: Myth and Mystery." The Register also won a nine-month legal battle to force the Hollywood Police Department to make public its files on the case.

It's not clear whether the Hollywood Police Department has been apprised of FDLE's involvement. The department's public information officers didn't return telephone calls to the Register,

# Version of Boeing 737

1994, in Aliquippa, Pa. crash of a United Airlines Boeing 737, killing 11 people, though blamed.

and Pennsylvania accidently rolled and causing the accidents of problems with a rudder movement. e to pin down the

T43, the Air Force ne of a dozen in the s. It was based at any. Among recent dy Hillary Rodham etary William Perry, board have been 737 to determine if relap under various

flight conditions, but the results of those tests have not yet been made available.

The safety board has investigated at least 12 Boeing 737 incidents involving unusual rudder movements or sudden rolls that were not controlled by the pilot. Air France reported three incidents of unusual rudder changes between June and August 1993. Incidents are classed as cases of unexpected control movement and do not imply an accident took place.

Boeing officials note that more than 2,600 of the plane are in use worldwide, safely completing thousands of flights daily.

The deadliest crash of a 737 before the Aliquippa accident was blamed on the weather — a snowy plunge into the frigid Potomac River after takeoff from Washington's National Airport on Jan. 13, 1982. That accident claimed 78 lives.

# Lives traveling with Brown

T Submarine Systems rod, father of three, a had served in a broad g telecommunications n expert in the compa- n communications infra-

officer, Parsons Corp., iteran of the engineer- ation's fourth-largest t six years. During that in modernization work k's Northeast rails to l Saudi Arabia. Married

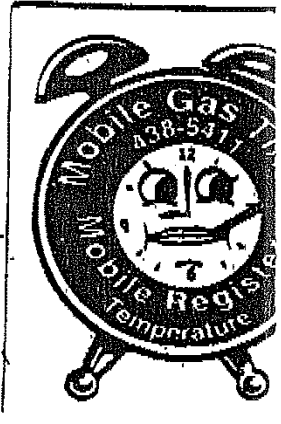
## JOHN A. SCOVILLE

Chairman, Harza Engineering Co., Chicago, Ill., 64. A 39-year veteran of the employee-owned company, he oversaw all its business operations. His purpose on the Brown trip was to discuss possible work rebuilding dams and other water resources in Bosnia. Harza served as a consultant on Chicago's 1992 project to reformat 47 miles of underground tunnels after an accident flooded basements in the downtown area. Married with four children and four grandchildren.

## ROBERT A. WHITTAKER

Chairman and chief executive officer, Foster Wheeler Energy International, Clinton, N.J., 49. Hired three years ago by the company, which designs and manufactures power generation equipment.

— Associated Press



## The Mobile Press

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4.4.96 mobile Press Register

the 40-year-old Darwood drive man drowned that night, said Dr. James Downs, a pathologist with the Mobile County Medical Examiner's Office, after an autopsy Thursday.

Investigators were continuing to interview Duncan's co-workers at Coastal Tug and Barge on Thursday, but they had uncovered nothing to suggest there was foul play involved, said Maj. Tommy Calhoun of the Mobile Police

assistant engineer on the Coastal St. Marks tugboat, said Steve Eames, a spokesman for parent company Coastal Corp. in Houston.

Duncan had been employed with Coastal Tug and Barge almost two years, Eames said. Mobile company officials declined to comment.

Duncan left the tugboat to make a telephone call on shore about 9 p.m. March 27, and never returned, Eames said.

## Florida agents join Adam Walsh case

FDLE checking new, unsubstantiated evidence in slaying of boy, official says

By JAY GRELEN  
Staff Reporter

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## Two area men dead in separate mishaps

Victims identified as being from Saraland, Bay Minette

Staff Reporter

A Saraland man and a Bay Minette man died in separate automobile accidents Wednesday.

at the scene, police said. Kenneth R. Morris, 50, of Bay Minette, was rushed to North Baldwin Hospital after a two-vehicle accident at 5:20 p.m. Wednesday. He died during surgery at 8:40 p.m., said Baldwin County Coroner Huey Mack Sr. Morris' Ford Bronco was hit

\$143,000.  
Jeffery A. Thompson et al to C Muller; lot 19, Florence Place, Meldon F. Hurbert et al to Scherrer et al; lot 3, River Park Arthur Wesley Cable Jr. et al to Williams, et al; lot 90, Sugar, Cre \$175,000.  
Dennis James Clifton to Steven et al; lot B, Villa Oaks, \$24,000 James Leslie Falkenberry et al Lane; lot 56, Shelton Beach Estate Pricle Gardner to Michael W. S 17, Sandra Marie Estates, \$63.5 Stabler Contracting Inc. to Joser et al; lot 3, Stafford Trace, \$62 Ella Hess Killing to Robert Mayr et al; lot 18, block D, Cambridge \$52,900.  
Jeffery Alan Griffin et al to Ten et al; lot 79, Twin Lakes, unit Travis L. Hall et al to J. Michael L 86, Belckory, Ridge, unit 3, \$138, Frank M. Harbin Jr. et al to Bel et 69, unit 4, Dauphin Acres, 3 James Arnold Duke et al to Rich Wailer et al; lot 16, Mellinda Acre Mary Louise Maffel to Andrew al; lot 12, block 16, DuBrock Trac Anthony W. Smith et al to Jeffery al; lot 9, block A, Lord, \$65,000 Noel Wheeler Bedwell et al to Breedlove et al; lot 3, block 13, W \$250,000.

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McRoes, Inc. vs. American T Inc., Oak Circle Drive, Mobile; \$3,

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# DEAD ENDS

**N**ight after night before he dozed off, Troy Green psychically fine-tuned his mind to give him the name of the killer of 6-year-old Adam Walsh. The clues, Green told police, were in his dreams — disturbing visions of dismembered men, childhood bullies, and things too complex for a cop to understand.

In September 1981, Green told police that Adam's killer was a retired fisherman named "Smiley" or "Happy."

That was his theory that day, anyway.

Two months later, Green, who had mistakenly been calling the detective the wrong name on the phone, decided this slip was also a clue. "An error like this is the *subconscious* breaking through, and 'Bill' is one name ... the killer might possess," he explained.

In December 1981, Green was stunned by a profound vision. Could it be the killer was named Ralph Garner — coincidentally the same name as the bully who had once split Green's head with a rock? Indeed, Green's nocturnal flashback to his own prom night provided him with the psychic solution that had eluded him for months. Green was sure — yes, positive — this name would lead detectives to Adam's killer.

"I've done all I can do," he concluded.

Only three days later, on Christmas Day, Green changed his mind. The killer was probably named Palazolo, he said. Wait, another letter suggested, could it be his mind was chasing a rapist in his own hometown of Lexington, Ky.? Maybe. In each letter, Green settled on new suspects. Forget the fisherman. The killer is a gay hairdresser, no ... a salesman ... a priest ... or, yes this is it, a wrecker driver.

"As Jupiter, the planet that rules solving crimes and justice is now exactly 90 degrees (we say 'square') to where the sun was when Adam was kidnapped, our chances of chasing down the killer and bringing him to justice are *very* strong," Green wrote in May 1982.

Fourteen years later, Adam's killer remains unnamed and unpunished. Green's letters are jammed in the voluminous case file amid other missed psychic predictions, false confessions and wild theories. Green was just another nobody with a big ego drawn to the dazzling media spotlight surrounding the July 1981 abduction and murder of Adam Walsh. The 6,792 pages in Adam's homicide file are filled with similar leads — dourly labeled "Dead Ends" by detectives.

The number of strange tips in a murder case is directly proportional to the amount of publicity it gets, and the Walsh detectives wound up with hundreds of bizarre and mostly useless leads. It was a sensational story with gory details and charismatic, grieving parents who turned their son's murder into a personal crusade to draw attention to the issue of missing children.

So, in living rooms across America, schizophrenics realized the discovery of Adam's head in a canal was a message to them, psychics like Green saw a chance for glory, and a handful of sickos tried to cash in on the case or indulge in sadism at the Walshes' expense.

"Loose minds wander," says Robert Ressler, a retired FBI agent who tracked serial killers for the agency's behavioral science unit. "You get the lunatic fringe who are incited by these cases. These people want to gain some recognition for themselves, not realizing through their admissions they might get wrapped up in a homicide."

North Lauderdale Police Detective Robert Edgerton knows this all too well. He's seen plenty of useless psychic predictions and cruel pranks during his investigation into the unsolved Sept. 22, 1994 abduction and strangulation of 5-year-old Amanda Marie Dougherty.

"Every publicized case, we get 'em," Edgerton says. "Most of them are off the wall."

Police check out each lead, no matter how

**False starts, leads to nowhere, and mercenary tips make the Adam Walsh murder case one of America's most flaunted.**

crazy. There is always a possibility the killer made the call to stroke his own ego. Or there is a chance that a caller — weird as he or she may sound — really saw or heard something useful.

The release of the Adam Walsh homicide files to the public — something neither police, prosecutors, nor the Walshes wanted to happen — offers a rare glimpse into the inner workings of an unsolved homicide. Murder is normally presented to the public in a neat package complete with suspect, motive, and hard evidence. There is little of that in the Walsh file. Adam's murder — like many unsolved cases — is a tangled mess, a motley collection of losers and miscreants.

## THE BANK OF ADAM

The right murder can be worth big bucks. In Adam's case, his dad, John Walsh, turned his national crusade for missing children into the wildly popular true-crime television show, *America's Most Wanted*, now in its ninth season. The Walshes also sued Sears for allowing their unattended son to be taken from the Hollywood store. The suit was dropped in November 1983.

Lawsuits are standard fare in this type of case. But there is a darker, far more sinister side, too. Some people are just sick.

"My name is Otis Toole," begins the Oct. 5, 1988 letter to *The Orlando Sentinel*. "You may recognize my name since I'm the person accused

Go to page 16

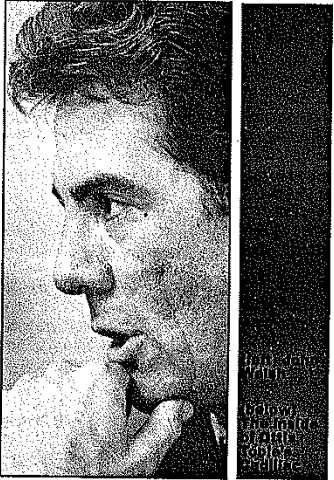
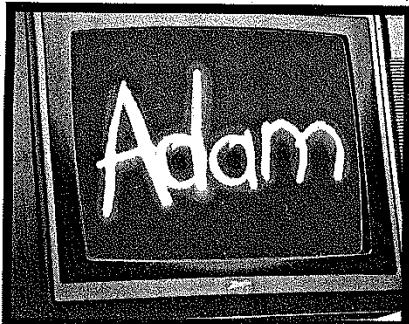
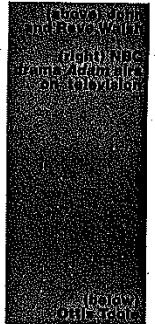
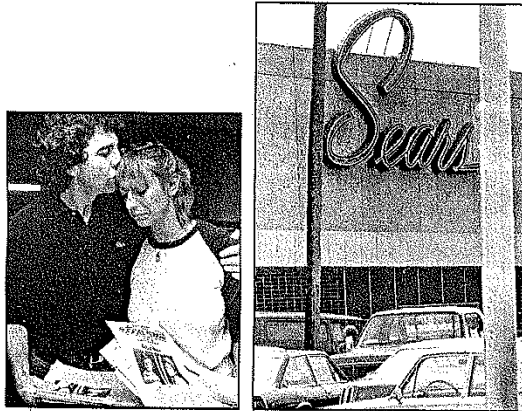
BY PHIL DAVIS

Cover illustration: L.M. Sileoche

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**July 27, 1981:** Adam Walsh, 6, vanishes from Sears at the Hollywood Mall. He was last seen in the toy department.

**Aug. 10, 1981:** Fishermen Robert Hughes and Vernon Bailey find Adam's head floating in a canal along Florida's Turnpike near Vero Beach. The rest of Adam's body has never been found.

**Oct. 12, 1982:** Then-President Ronald Reagan calls it "a great day for Adam" after he signs into law the "Missing Children Act," which creates a national databank on missing or abducted children. Adam's parents, John and Reye Walsh, lobbied for the measure.

**Oct. 10, 1983:** The drama *Adam* airs on NBC. That same day, Otis Toole, a murderer locked up for arson in Jacksonville, claims he killed Adam. The first of many confessions, Toole takes back his statement and then again claims he did it.

**Oct. 26, 1983:** Police give up searching for Adam's remains in a spot Toole led them to near Vero Beach.

**Feb. 11, 1984:** Bloody carpet samples from Otis Toole's Cadillac are returned to Hollywood police and subsequently lost, an error that went unnoticed for 11 years. Police also lost track of Toole's car, which was sold to a Jacksonville man and eventually destroyed.

**1985 to 1986:** No new leads recorded in the file.

**Feb. 7, 1988:** Adam's dad, John Walsh, starts a successful career as host of *America's Most Wanted*, a true crime television show geared toward catching fugitives. Adam's case has never been featured on the show.

**July 1991:** News stories on the 10th anniversary of the case spark a new flurry of tips. One tipster says Jeffrey Dahmer, the Milwaukee cannibal, killed Adam. Another suspects Otis Toole.

**1992 to 1994:** No new leads in file.

**August 1994:** Hollywood cold case investigator Mark Smith begins his investigation into the Walsh files.

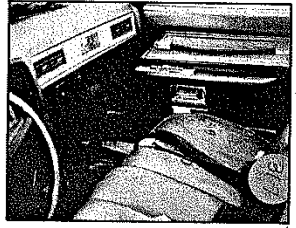
**January 1995:** Mobile, Ala., *Press Register* reporter Jay Greien scoops South Florida media by requesting access to files in the dormant murder case under Florida's public records law.

**Feb. 16, 1996:** Adam's file, case No. 81-56073, is released to the public. Some information, names of informants, military records, and some confidential documents from other law enforcement agencies, are withheld.

John Walsh  
meets the White  
House  
to demand  
the boy's return  
to his father



Missing Person  
REWARD  
\$100,000.00  
Adam Walsh  
A photograph of Adam Walsh and a woman, likely his mother, is shown below the text.



# TIMELINE

From page 14

of murdering Adam Walsh in 1981. Well it's true, I grabbed him and raped him and murdered him and cut him up and tossed his parts around. Unfortunately, they found the head.

"Police have been pestering me to tell them where the rest of the cute little c-sucker is hidden. Everyone seems to want to know," the convicted murderer continued. "People don't seem to understand that I enjoy raping and killing children and not just boys. Nobody's perfect, you know, and I'm a little kinky. I admit it. ... Someone told my car that a big paper like Orlando might pay me a nice amount of cash money for my personal interview ... no cops, no lawyers. Just me and a reporter. Please make me your best CASH offer promptly."

Toole, or another inmate writing for the supposedly illiterate drifter, penned a similar letter to Sears. This time he demanded money to downplay the fact that Adam was taken from Sears.

"I snatched that little boy right out of a Sears store down in Hollywood, Fla.," he wrote. "I'm getting paid big money for my story and as you know I've never been charged for the murder so I get to keep it. ... I'm a boy lover. I do my shopping for juicy little kiddies at SEARS. ... See you soon. Bring money."

Nancy McBride, director of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, says Toole even tried to shake down John Walsh.

Toole saw it differently: "I am going to sue the little boy's father, the one I cut his head off, and then I am going to kill him. [Walsh] is trying to pay me off and I should have never signed the check," Toole said, according to a 1983 jail report.

The letters and threats weren't the first time Toole confessed to killing Adam. He is a suspect to this day, though detectives have grown weary of his repeated confessions, denials, and lies.

Toole has said just enough to make him a suspect, but he has failed to give police the proof they demand — the location of Adam's bones.

Some detectives suspect Toole is just a simple-minded loser who will go along with any scheme.

"One can readily detect the ease with which Toole, a brain-damaged and troubled man, can be manipulated by others," Broward Sheriff's Sgt. Richard Scheff wrote in a 1988 memo analyzing Toole's efforts to cash in on the case. Scheff suspected Toole was being manipulated by a Duval County sheriff's investigator in 1983, and then by a fellow inmate in 1988.

That inmate, former Wilton Manors cop Gerard Schaefer, first tried to get free road trips from the detectives by claiming Toole would talk to detectives only if he was there. When that scheme failed, Schaefer, serving life sentences for the 1972 murders of two St. Lucie County girls, demanded the Walsh reward money and a transfer to a more comfortable prison. In return, Schaefer promised Toole's confession.

"I'm a well-trained former police officer myself and I was able to be very cagey with Toole," Schaefer wrote to authorities in 1989. "I am of the opinion that he has killed quite a few people and if he didn't kill the Walsh boy, he sure is good at selling bullshit stories."

The cops didn't buy it.

Last December, Schaefer was stabbed to death in his cell at Florida State Prison by an inmate who was angry because the ex-cop had used up all the hot water.

But it wasn't just criminals who tried to cash in on Adam's murder. Toole's police confidant, Duval County Sheriff's Detective Buddy Terry, "apparently in an effort to enrich himself," made a deal with Toole for book and movie rights, according to Scheff's report.

This move, while ultimately unprofitable for the deputy, may have cost Broward County taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars in wasted police time. "Detective Terry ... provided Ottis Toole with confidential information he had obtained from the Hollywood Police Department," Scheff wrote. "Detectives ... invested one year in the investigation before uncovering Terry's actions. Ottis Toole's statements were dismissed, and Detective Terry was removed from the homicide unit."

THE CIA DID IT

One of the more bizarre theories in the Walsh case came from Herald H. Blum, of Vero Beach.

"It was a political killing," Blum wrote to Adam's parents, in one of many letters mailed to everyone from Barbara Walters to Sen. Ted Kennedy. "Herein lies the answer of why you were never told the truth about your son's death. The key is the date that Adam's head was placed on the bank to be found Aug. 10th, 1981, an anniversary present of Nixon and Company, for what I caused to happen to him on Aug. 10th, 1974."

(For the record, Nixon resigned on Aug. 9, 1974.)

Blum claimed to be Deep Throat, the infamous secret source who helped journalist Bob Woodward link President Richard Nixon to the Watergate scandal. Blum's theory goes like this: Rogue CIA agents in Nixon's employ traveled to Hollywood, snatched Adam from in front of the Atari computer games at Sears, brutally murdered him, and then masterfully arranged it so that two fishermen would find Adam's head on Aug. 10, 1981 — seven years and a day after Nixon was forced to resign from the presidency.

"Think what this would do to the country," Blum wrote to the Walshes in July 1982. "All these innocents wasted as a warning that if I do not stop my resistance, my own grandchildren will end up the same as Adam. I'm sorry Mr. and Mrs. Walsh, but you have a right to know what the country did to Adam."

In October 1981, Hollywood police gave Blum a chance to explain why the CIA killed Adam instead of him. Their conclusion: "Mr. Blum ... is apparently trying to show his own self importance and does not have any sound evidence concerning ... this investigation nor the Watergate investigation."

CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER

It would seem hard to top Blum, but 17-year-old Ronnie Wayne Carroll of Hollywood succeeded. In November 1981, Carroll claimed to have met a Broward doctor who had showed him photos of Adam — dead and alive.

"Well, you could see him with the meat cleaver, and two pictures later you could see him holding Adam Walsh's head without the cap or anything — just the head in one hand and the meat cleaver in the other," Carroll told detectives. But when officers checked out the tip, they found nothing.

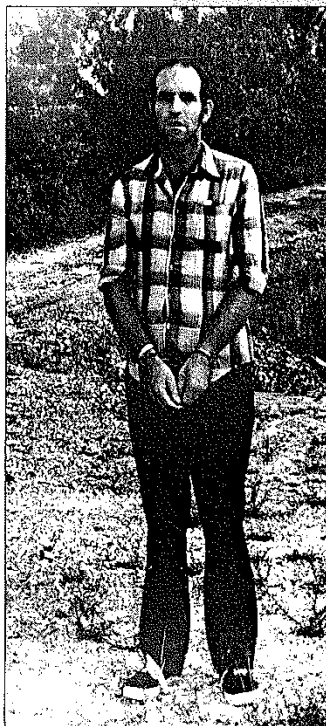
Carroll had made up the whole story — a tale that implicated an innocent man in a murder —

Go to page 18

MR. TOOLE'S WILD RIDE

Convicted killer Ottis Toole turned Adam Walsh's murder into a game that continues to this day.

by Phil Davis



For a no-account drifter with an IQ of 75, Ottis Toole sure as hell has outsmarted a bunch of cops.

It's been 13 years since Toole took a crack at making serial-killer history by cooking up wild tales of murder and devil worship. Toole is a killer, no doubt. He's serving consecutive life sentences for five murders in North Florida, plus another 20 years for arson. But criminologists say his claims of 65 kills on cross-country crime sprees with his lover, Henry Lee Lucas, are most likely the product of a hyperactive sense of self-importance.

"Egomaniacs," says Robert Ressler, a retired FBI agent who studied violent criminals for nearly two decades with the agency's behavioral sciences unit. "They get a real thrill out of having their name and their picture in the paper. All they have to do is say I, Henry Lee Lucas, or I, Ted Bundy, want to

talk about my crimes and everybody comes running. I've been studying these guys for 35 years and I've come to realize they are all just con men."

Still, in the early '80s, Toole and Lucas were hot commodities in law enforcement circles. Lucas, locked up in Texas, and Toole, jailed in Jacksonville, regaled what



Henry Lee Lucas

seemed an unending parade of cops with tales of dismemberment, mutilation, rape, Satanic worship, and thrill-killing. Detectives from across America interviewed the killers and declared hundreds of murders solved — often with little more than a vague confession to prove their case.

"It was just utter chaos," Ressler says. "Lucas and Toole both pulled some pretty heavy cons on the police. What you ended up with is the boys who cried wolf. Now there's no way of telling if anything they said is true."

That's exactly the problem Hollywood police have with Toole.

In October 1983, Toole claimed to have killed Adam Walsh. Then he denied it. Then he said he did it again. And so on. But while other crackpots in the Walsh case were dismissed almost immediately, detectives still call Toole a suspect in the slaying.

Toole intrigues police because he got some details about the killing right. They also have a witness who swears he saw the drifter at the Hollywood Mall on the day Adam was kidnapped.

On the flip side, it's possible Toole was coached on details of the killing by a Duval County detective who was interested in a book and movie deal. And their eyewitness may have created a false memory of seeing Toole after reading too many news articles about the slaying. But police still can't eliminate Toole as a suspect, mainly because they lost crucial evidence — bloodstained carpet samples from Toole's car — that today could help prove or disprove the convict's claims.

#### THE MURDER MARKET

What happened with Toole in Jacksonville was not an isolated occurrence. His buddy Lucas pulled the same scam on the Texas Rangers, who went along with it by coaching him with details before detectives from other agencies arrived.

"I interviewed Lucas and he flat out told me he was having a lot of fun," Ressler says. "He said he didn't realize that the police could be conned so easily."

Not long after his orgy of confession, Lucas met with Dallas newspaper reporters and told them about his scam. The journalists' investigation proved that Lucas had alibis for many of the 162 murders in which the Rangers claimed to have confirmed him as the killer.

In the mid-'80s, law enforcement officials held two Lucas-Toole conferences to swap information on various unsolved killings, leading to bizarre exchanges like this: "You may want to check with Houston. They've got two heads and no bodies."

The conferences became clearing-houses for unsolved killings. The Houston Police Department planned to present a whopping 172 unsolved murders to Toole and Lucas.

"Cops were jumping up and down and hollering. It was like the stock market," Ressler says.

While cops gathered to discuss his killing prowess, Toole bragged to his cellmates.

"He told me one night ... that he would get all the information the detectives had and he would turn it around," Duval County Jail inmate James Collins told detectives in 1983. "They'd say it happened in a house,

and he'd say it happened outside the house. And if they said a person had clothes on, he'd say, 'No, they didn't have clothes on.' And he'd say, 'Yes, I killed them but they didn't have clothes on.'"

"He talked a bunch of shit, man," Collins said.

Hollywood Police Lt. J.B. Smith, now retired, is one cop from the Walsh case who was inclined to agree.

"We got led down the path somewhat. We still will not say 100 percent that [Toole] did not [kill Adam Walsh]. The only thing that we will say for sure is that 3,500 hours and \$62,000 later, we can't confirm anything he has said," Smith told detectives at one conference. "He will take you down the primrose path ... I don't want to be the devil's advocate, but I do want to warn you that if you are looking at Toole as a suspect, be darn sure you do your homework."

Back in the present, Ressler concurs. "From what I can tell about these two, they are a pair of psychopaths who were taking advantage of the naiveté of the press and law enforcement and it escalated," he says. "It went from 100 [murders] to 200 to 300 and so on. These people are monsters. To trust them is stupid, it's outright foolish."

#### FUN BEHIND BARS

The killers are still playing the game. Toole, writing through another inmate, agreed to talk to XS about the Walsh case, but prison officials say he is in close confinement and not allowed to do interviews. Lucas also agreed to speak with XS, and — just like the old days — he hinted he might have some useful information about the Walsh killing. But his two-page letter was big on innuendo and contradictions and short on facts.

"If I say I don't want the [Walsh] family knowing what did happen to their son it's because it's not good," Lucas wrote. "I even feel bad I never told anyone what I did know. Yes, I could clear the case, but I don't feel I should because of the way I have been done by John Walsh and his TV show."

In a second letter, Lucas, pressed for details, suddenly became a model citizen. He said he was cooperating with Hollywood police, and therefore "cannot say any more on this subject."

Lucas isn't the only inmate who claims intimate knowledge of Adam's murder.

"Mr. Toole has spoken with me about Adam Walsh," inmate Richard Sewar wrote to XS on, appropriately enough, April Fools' Day. "I really don't think it's a good idea to speak about this in a letter. Mr. Toole has agreed to speak to me about any subject I wish to speak of, so I might be of use."

Unfortunately for Sewar, Toole was recently transferred to another prison. Dr. Joe Davis, a criminologist at National University in San Diego, says the inmates are simply feeding their egos.

"It's a game to these people," Davis says. "Keep in mind, [Toole's] personality is set up to draw attention any way he can get it. He is inherently manipulative. He is sitting in prison and he is still controlling people."

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From page 16

because he figured a cop would go easy on him in a hit-and-run accident. He also told police he was mad at the doctor for wanting to have sex with him.

"When he told me about having intercourse with kids, I figured he needed some kind of help anyway," Carroll said.

#### THE PSYCHIC CONNECTION

After more than a decade of working on missing children cases, Nancy McBride puts little faith in the claims of psychics.

"We have never had a psychic confirm the location of a missing child. I guess I'm a little skeptical," she says. "We get information like the child is in water. Well, in Florida that is highly probable." Adam's murder was no exception.

On Aug. 12, Peggy Gordon, of Pompano Beach, called police to report some vibes she had on where to find Adam's body. "She advised to search within a 15-mile radius of where the head was found. She also said she has a feeling [the body] is in a heavily wooded area buried by an old house."

They were hardly stellar directions. Later, Gordon told detectives she had actually felt Adam die. "I had an attack right in my living room where I got very, very hot all over and then all of the sudden I got cold, and I got chills all over me and I started having a headache that really hurt really bad ... this attack lasted for two hours. And after it was over I told Bobby, I said Adam Walsh was just killed," she said.

She is not the only one who claimed to have been inside Adam's head. On Aug. 8, 1981, Jeannie Weisberg of Lauderhill turned over a 30-minute tape to authorities in which she claimed to be channeling the thoughts of Adam and his killer.

Her information couldn't have been of much use, though. Adam was already dead by the time she claimed to experience the thoughts.

Although her involvement is not noted in the file, well-known North Miami psychic Micki Dahne also joined Adam's case. She didn't lead police to Adam's killer or his body, but she did get a lot of free publicity posing for photos with Reve Walsh.

#### THE ROAD TO HOWHERE

More strange and unusual tidbits from the file:

▼ "Phone memo, Walsh case -- To: Any detective ... Patrick Murphy, Chicago, Ill. Message: Knows suspect is going to kill him or possibly capture him." Police never returned his call.

▼ Ada Wolff of Fort Lauderdale befriended the Walsh family shortly after Adam's death and claimed to have raised \$21,000 for the family, but she turned out to be a fraud. Wolff had collected no donations. She told detectives she lied because "she felt sorry" for the Walshes.

▼ "Three coke dealers in the 'Grouper Bunch' were dealing with Walsh in smuggling persons in group (Latin) into U.S. and were caught -- revenge," one tipster theorized.

▼ "Cando," a self-described armchair detective who gave himself his own code name, wrote to police on Aug. 8, 1981 to offer his theory, and to say he would "like a crack at the hundred G's," his words for the reward money. Cando's theory: Two affluent homosexuals, intelligent and sincere, took Adam because they found him "irresistible." They could be coaxed out of hiding, Cando figured, through publicity. Two days later, Adam turned up dead. No reward for Cando.

▼ On Aug. 17, 1981, seven days after Adam's head was found, Volusia County Sheriff's deputies found an odd photograph that showed only the cut out head of a young boy. The photo was stuck in the corner of a picture frame at the Sanibel Motel in Daytona Beach.

▼ In August 1981, a Miami man told police he heard the voice of his half brother, "Stan the Man," outside his window admitting he had cut off Adam's head. An officer concluded the man "was mentally confused to some extent."

▼ A Pompano Beach woman, who named herself 1436, told detectives she had come face to face with a man she believed to be Adam's killer at Clothworld in north Broward. "What better place to look for a child than a cloth store while a mother could be busy looking at patterns and a child roaming around?" she hypothesized.

▼ Someone from Hallandale reported seeing a van with a bumper sticker that said, "I kill kids."

▼ Linda from Margate called because she had spotted a suspicious van headed east in her city. "She has ESP and will lead detectives to exact location," the operator noted.

▼ One unidentified woman wrote a letter to Reve Walsh that named Adam's killer, a man with skin trouble who was fascinated with Adolph Hitler and kept children in cages. Miraculously, the woman was able to describe the killer's cabin in detail even though she didn't know its exact location. "The area is heavily wooded and in a remote area of Florida," she offered.

▼ In June 1987, a boy came forward with his mom to explain how his step-father had killed Adam Walsh. Their evidence: The stepfather knew the Walshes and allegedly had touched his stepson's privates twice, therefore: "I think he kills children," the informant said. "My mom thinks, and I think, that he cut Adam Walsh's head off."

#### VENOM AND SICKNESS

"I know where he is," one anonymous caller told police dispatchers before they knew Adam was dead. Then he hung up. It was either a sick joke or Adam's killer calling to brag.

Two weeks later, a reporter for the now-defunct *Hollywood Sun-Tattler* got an unsigned letter from "a friend." The letter said: "You did a wonderful job reporting on the Walsh case, but in no way do I agree with you or feel sorry for that slut Mrs. Walsh. She should be driven out of town. I feel sorry for the child, he was murdered by his mother's thoughtlessness ... she deserves the hell she is going through and a lot more."

McBride and Edgerton say this sort of malice is common in high-profile murders.

"There are always people out there with 20/20 hindsight who have the answer to everything, but we would find a lot more missing kids if they did," McBride says.

Edgerton, the North Lauderdale detective, says the parents of the victim in his murder case, David and Laurie Dougherty, frequently get accusatory phone calls and letters from people who don't have the courage to identify themselves.

"This is their opportunity to vent their venom and sickness," Edgerton says. "The Doughertys get a lot of letters delivered to them about what they deserve and how God is paying them back."

#### MUFFINS FOR DAHMER

After perusing an issue of *People* magazine in 1991, Willis Morgan of Hallandale was sure he had cracked the 10-year-old Adam Walsh case: Serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer did it.

Morgan was at the Hollywood Mall the day Adam was abducted. So, he says, was Jeffrey Dahmer.

"A man tried to pick me up in Radio Shack at the north end of the mall. This man was Jeffrey Dahmer. I will never forget his face," Morgan wrote to John Walsh in August 1991. Morgan

said he followed Dahmer into Sears.

He was so sure it was Dahmer, he took a composite drawing of a Walsh abduction suspect, erased the mustache, lengthened the hair, pasted it next to a picture of a younger Dahmer and attached it to his letter.

As far-fetched as the theory sounds, it turned out that Dahmer was in South Florida when Adam was killed.

"What a coincidence, huh?" a Hollywood Police detective said to the famous Milwaukee cannibal.

Dahmer, serving life for the gruesome murders of 16 men in Wisconsin, told police he had been discharged from the Army six months early for excessive drinking and decided to soak up some sun in Miami before heading home. Dahmer, who had no car, told detectives he never came up to Hollywood and he didn't kill Adam.

The detective suggested Dahmer might not admit to killing Adam out of fear of Florida's electric chair.

"I would welcome the death penalty," Dahmer replied. "In fact if ... that would give me the death penalty I'd admit to it. Do you think it would? That'll be fine with me. I don't want to go on rotting away in this place."

With the Walsh questions out of the way, the Hollywood detective chatted with Dahmer about necrophilia and cannibalism.

"Thanks for the muffins and the book," Dahmer said when the interview was over.

"Susan will be happy you liked her muffins," the detective replied.

Dahmer's death wish was fulfilled when another inmate beat him to death in a prison restroom in November 1994.

#### TO BE CONTINUED ...

For two years now, Hollywood Police Detective Mark Smith has searched the Walsh case files for clues that his colleagues missed. He has re-interviewed the handful of still valid suspects, including Otis Toole. Smith's most recent work remains secret. Police are not required to release any new leads they develop. In April, John Walsh told local reporters that police and state law enforcement agents were pursuing some new leads in the case.

Still, McBride, the activist for missing children, thinks police have pretty much given up on Adam's case. Otherwise, she says, they never would have released the files.

"There was no reason to do it," McBride says. "I took this to be them throwing in the towel. It took away, in my point of view, the last shred of hope this case will be solved. It was devastating for me, personally, and certainly to the Walshes. The public's right to know doesn't supersede a child's right to justice."

## READ ON

In the spirit of Florida's public records law, XS has donated its microfilm copy of the Adam Walsh homicide files to the Broward County Public Library. You can look at the files for free.

One copy is at the Main Library, 100 S. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale, in the fifth floor government documents section. The other is available at the South Regional Library, 7300 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines. Be sure to bring a picture ID. (Or you can buy your own microfilm copy from Hollywood police for \$225.)

If you have a computer with Internet access, you can also link to these crime-related Worldwide Web sites through XS's our web site, at <http://www.xs.com>.

▼ The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children: Created in the wake of Adam's murder, this center is a clearing-house for information on missing children.

▼ The Internet Crime Archives: A lurid shrine to mass murder that rates killers and Doomsday cuts by body counts.

▼ America's Most Wanted page: See Adam's father, John, in his current persona as the host of this popular true-crime show.

n Zackowitz sing during a Shabbat service for children at Temple Kol Am, a founding member of the temple. Staff photo/Anastasia Walsh

# s rite stuff

walls and no air conditioning. said, 'This is where we could be to a temple,' " recalled am, 85, of Plantation. felt such a vitality and an asm in the beginning. Even were confident." im prophetic. weekend, Temple Kol Ami in on will celebrate its 25th year, grown from Greenbaum's days nding member to become d's largest synagogue, with milies from throughout the in its congregation.

After early years spent bouncing nomadically to find room for services in Plantation's community centers and schools, the temple's members now come together on 13 acres of land at 8200 Peters Road, just west of University Drive.

The temple, which practices Reform Judaism, now offers the only day school sponsored by a synagogue in Broward, as well as an elementary program and religious school from kindergarten through senior year. The three schools

■ TEMPLE continues on 2B

# discrimination in Lauderdale

By BRITTANY WALLMAN  
STAFF WRITER

FORT LAUDERDALE — Two black city employees who for years contended the city is racist won a victory this week when the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ruled that evidence showed the men had been discriminated against.

The federal EEOC findings, in the cases of city engineers Harold Wise and Elgin Jones, clear the way for the two to seek settlements from the city or pursue lawsuits.

Fort Lauderdale has been dogged by claims of discrimination or harassment based on race or gender and has other cases pending. A sexual harassment case recently cost the city a \$53,254 settlement, and legal fees in these cases have been in the tens of thousands throughout the years.

City Manager Floyd Johnson on Thursday acknowledged a "good ol' boy" network but denied racism.

"I don't believe there is institutional racism per

■ FINDINGS continues on 2B

# T, GRAVES MUSEUM HAS A BIGGIE

Stone is ripping SoFla

Any Given Sunday but he obviously has or us.

a lot of money in e thought we'd be ily," he says in the n Drive mag. "But us the time of day. anything about the ped \$25 million bucks were ignored."

more like Rodney Stone also complains k of media coverage. mi Herald didn't say od thing about the aid. "In the end, I loved Miami, but it's a hard

oes on to pronounce ade Film Office . cites the lack of from Guv. Jeb Bush. eel, Dade's film boss, became particularly en some scenes at the

Orange Bowl had to be postponed for international soccer games. Stone, Peel said, even tried to get Bush involved, to no avail.

"This is unfair, a cheap shot," Peel said of Stone's digs. "He's a lose cannon, and you should take everything he says with a grain of salt."

Peel has got that right. In the same interview, Stone claims he didn't party much during the film's shooting. Sure! And I'm not bald.

## Sightings . . .

. . . Green Bay Packers wide receiver Antonio Freeman, cowering poolside at his new \$700,000 home on NW 18th Street in Plantation Acres as his high-priced lawyer pleaded not guilty for him in a Green Bay court. He is accused of lying to police about whether he was driving a car when it crashed on Dec. 22, injuring a woman . . . Diva Celine Dion and hubby Rene Angelil last week celebrating his 58th birthday at

Renato's on Palm Beach. While fellow diners complained the chanteuse and entourage made pains of themselves, waiters kept their glasses filled to the brim with \$120 per bottle Gado Al Tasso red wine . . . Dolphins Zach Thomas, Dwight Hollier and Larry Izzo, drowning their sorrow over the team's playoff ouster at Himmarshee club Rush Street Tuesday night in Lauderdale. Zach cried in his Perrier, while Izzo and Hollier stuck to vodka.

## Reve Walsh: Nevermind!

TV crimefighter John Walsh is out of the doghouse.

The host of America's Most Wanted has patched things up with this wife of 29 years, Reve Walsh. She has withdrawn the petition for divorce she filed in a Palm Beach County court last October.

"There is no pending divorce, there is no separation, nothing," said Avery Mann, John Walsh's

spokesman. "John Walsh is at home with his wife and three kids, and they're doing fine."

Reve had filed a terse complaint against her hubby, the former Broward resident who parlayed the 1981 murder of their little boy into a career before the cameras of the popular Fox show.

At the time, she deemed their marriage "irretrievably broken" by Walsh's philandering, and the money he spent on it. Supermarket tabs documented Walsh's extra-curricular activities, including his jetting cross-country with staffers and beauty queens for steamy, champagne-fueled trysts.

The Walshes, who split their time between Washington, D.C., and Vero Beach, couldn't be reached for comment.

Insider appears Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Call Jose at 954-356-4529, or e-mail jlambiet@sun-sentinel.com.

Sun Sentinel 11/21/2000

# Lauderdale, Miami

ite, did not make the cut.

"It's going to be those two sites," said Jonathan Mariner, Marlins senior vice president and chief financial officer.

He would not elaborate, other than to say the club had not decided between two sites in Fort Lauderdale, one along the south side of the New River just west of Andrews Avenue and the other north of Broward Boulevard and east of the FEC railroad tracks.

The Marlins hope that by adding to their team Brian Ballard and Peter Dunbar, lobbyists with a history

ign for a n with the ations in e counties ivy-hitter

announce hosen Bi- ami and le as their tractable-

hich was y's favor-

■ STADIUM continues on 2B



**IN CUSTODY:** Fabio Ochoa Vasquez, center, is escorted by police as he arrives in Bogota on Wednesday shortly after he was captured along with 29 other suspects. AFP photo/Javier Casella

# major

By JOHN HOLLAND  
STAFF WRITER

A massive cocaine i- trated in Miami and throughout Colombia on Wednesday when police arrested 30 people, including the group's leader, synonymous with the violent drug-smuggling.

Alejandro Bernal, head of the organization of smuggling up to 30 tons of cocaine into the United States last month, and Fabio Ochoa, arrested by the Colombian police during an earl-

# OUR TOES, HOLLYWOOD BEACH: HERE COMES B

My New star signed to Hollywood. It's the Art en onths. come his gigs: rfaces rature-

ected to d a little. t the take g Ocean ce 000 mission dance ct, will ng to or the



**JOSE LAMBIET**

SOUTH FLORIDA INSIDER

## It's splitsville ...

... for **John Walsh**, the former Broward resident who parlayed the 1981 murder of his little boy into a career before the cameras of *America's Most Wanted*, and the woman with whom he lived through the tragedy.

The TV crimefighter's

"He likes the spectacle of performing beachside," a source said. "He was really taken by the fact that his will be a not-for-profit event that will bring ballet to huge crowds."

Look for the official announcement within weeks.

philandering, and the money he spent on it, may have caused his wife **Reve Walsh**, 48, to file in Palm Beach County court.

In the filing, Reve cites an "irretrievably broken" marriage of 28 years. She asks for their Vero Beach house, to-be-determined alimony and child support, and custody of their three children.

Reve alleged Walsh, 53, "wasted and dissipated marital assets."

In this weekend's issue, the supermarket tab *Globe* goes over Walsh's extra-curricular activities, including his jetting cross-country with staffers and beauty queens for steamy, champagne-fueled trysts.

Because the couple have three children — ages 5 to 17 — they must learn about shared parental responsibilities in a mandatory class before the end of the month. "John is working a missing child case in Kansas City and can't be bothered commenting," said Walsh's publicist.

## From saint to sinner

Artsy SoBe actress **Geraldine Chaplin** is feeling a little naughty, especially after starring in a flick about **Jesus Christ** produced by members of the Kennedy clan.

Chaplin, the publicity-shy 55-year-old daughter of silent-era great **Charlie Chaplin**, tells me she was so sick of playing elderly goody-two-shoes characters that she couldn't wait to be cast as a brothel madam.

Chaplin played **Mother Teresa** in a 1997 made-for-TV bio, and just finished a Nov. 14 NBC special called *Mary and Jesus*. The film tells about the New Testament, seen through Mary's eyes. Chaplin plays **St. Elizabeth**.

"I'm so tired of playing 90-year-old saints that it makes me want to s---," Chaplin said. "But I couldn't refuse playing Elizabeth. The film's produced by **Eunice Shriver**, (JFK's sister) and her son **Bobby Shriver**. They're big

Catholics, and this is something they wanted to do."

So, what did Chaplin do? She ran off to Switzerland on a role as madam to high government officials in B...

"The film has been a huge scandal over there," she says. "That's why I'm staying here."

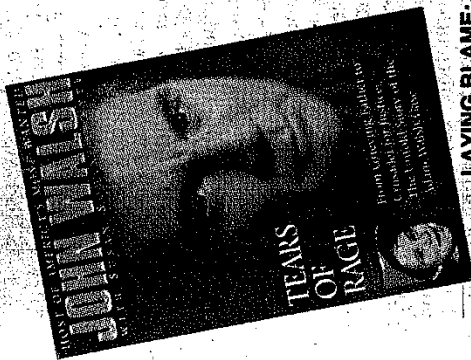
No U.S. release date yet

## Get the picture?

One clue that Channel 4 settled a lawsuit brought by cameraman against a star reporter? Bye-bye lensman

**Aurelio Zarate**, who sues station and news digger **N Gillen** in '98 because he'd she continuously tried to get bed, has left the station as secret settlement.

Legal minds who were in the case said it was unlike Zarate received much more. **Smolar**, Zarate's lawyer, says settlement called for Mr. Z departure from the station



**LAYING BLAME:** John Walsh's book faults Hollywood investigators.

# Hollywood chief 'understands' Walsh's anger

## Stone says police tried their best

By DAVID KIDWELL  
Herald Staff Writer

Responding to accusations of "laziness, stupidity and arrogance" against his department by one of the nation's best-known anti-crime crusaders, Hollywood's police chief said Thursday: "I'd like to go back and start from scratch, but none of us can do that."

Chief Rick Stone, who inherited the controversial Adam

Walsh case when he joined the department last year, stopped short of acknowledging mistakes in the 1981 kidnapping and murder, but said that with current technology and the "professional team I have today, it's possible things could have turned out much differently."

Adam Walsh, 6, was snatched from outside a Sears store across the street from the police department. His severed head was found two weeks later. Walsh's parents, John and Revé, channeled their grief and anger to begin a nationwide crusade for

missing children. John Walsh, host of the TV series *America's Most Wanted*, has written a book, *Tears of Rage*, which skewers Hollywood police investigators for allegedly botching the case.

Both Walsh and Stone agree no amount of police work would have saved Adam, who died within hours of his abduction.

"We understand Mr. Walsh's anger. Many of us at the department are parents ourselves," Stone said. "He's angry at the FBI, he's angry at the media, and he's angry at us. But the FBI

didn't kill Mr. Walsh's son. The media didn't kill Mr. Walsh's son. And the Hollywood Police Department didn't kill Mr. Walsh's son."

Stone would not address specific mistakes that Walsh's alleges police made, such as allowing crucial evidence — a key suspect's car — to be discarded, the loss of the car's bloody carpet samples, failure to secure the crime scene where Adam's head was found, and wasting time chasing family

PLEASE SEE HOLLYWOOD, 88R

# Chief: 'We understand Mr. Walsh's anger'

**HOLLYWOOD, FROM 18R**  
friends as suspects when evidence pointed to a psychopath in prison for other murders.

"I've spoken with the few people who are still here who worked the case, and they feel they bent over backward to help the Walshes and investigate this case," Stone said. "Officers volunteered their time off to help and they even turned over a city building to Mr. Walsh to help."

Stone said he spent most of his police career in Dallas before joining Hollywood.

"I'm used to bearing the anger

people feel from things that happened decades ago," he said.

"I'm sure the Secret Service would like to go back and check the windows of the Texas [School] Book Depository. I'm sure the Lindberghs would like to go back and install a burglar alarm. And given the professional team I have today, I'd like to go back and start from scratch. But none of us can do that."

Stone also tried to debunk a new tip suggesting the imprisoned murderer Ottis Elwood Toole, who confessed to the Walsh murder and then recanted, made a deathbed confession last

year. Walsh said Wednesday that the former medical director of the North Florida Reception Center telephoned *America's Most Wanted* to say he overheard prison medical staff talking about the confession. Prison officials say they have begun an inquiry.

"As any good detective would do, our detective went up there in person following Mr. Toole's death and interviewed all the people providing health care," Stone said. "To a person, each and every one stated he had made no such confession."

# John Walsh says police botched Adam's case

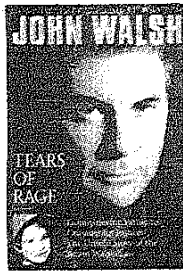
## Book criticizes Hollywood probe

■ DEATHBED CONFESSION?, 22A

By DAVID KIDWELL  
Herald Staff Writer

John Walsh — the Hollywood businessman who turned the case of his kidnapped and murdered son Adam into a national crime-fighting crusade — is now taking on the police department he had steadfastly defended for 14 years.

Mingled not-so-delicately in a vivid backdrop of detail and personal anecdotes of his family's struggle, Walsh's new book, *Tears of Rage*, accuses Holly-



**FATHER'S  
STORY:** John  
Walsh's book.

wood investigators of misplaced pride and a series of errors that ruined any chance for a conviction.

Walsh's statements contradict his steadfast defense of the police since 1981, when Adam, 6, was abducted from the Sears at Hollywood Mall.

"I didn't have a choice at the time, I wanted justice," Walsh said in an interview Wednesday. "But it's strange that I've caught more criminals than anyone in the history of this country, and I didn't know anything about all the screw-ups in my son's case."

Even though Walsh tenaciously fought the 1995 release of the 10,000-page police file, he used that same information to make his case in the book.

"We believed [disclosure] would forever destroy whatever evidence could still be used to prove who killed our son," Walsh wrote. "Instead, it showed what a disaster the investigation was right from the start. How filled with laziness, stupidity, and arrogance."

"It showed that there had never been a chance of convicting Adam's killer. Not from day one."

Hollywood Police spokeswoman Stephanie Norris said

PLEASE SEE WALSH, 22A

# Walsh: Murder investigation 'a disaster'

WALSH, FROM 1A

neither she nor anyone at the department had read the book, officially released this week.

"Obviously, this is just his opinion of what that file shows — his conjecture," she said.

Former Hollywood Chief Richard Witt, now police chief in Golden Beach, did not return telephone calls.

Even Walsh, now host of the nationally syndicated TV series *America's Most Wanted* and renowned as a friend of law enforcement, acknowledges the most perfect police work would not have saved his son, who was dead within hours of his July 27, 1981, kidnapping.

But Walsh outlines a pattern of disorganized police work: leads jotted on matchbook covers, bloody carpet samples lost by police, a confiscated Cadillac from a key suspect that was sold for scrap. He said Hollywood investigators wouldn't let go of their focus on family friends even after evidence pointed to an imprisoned psychopath named Otis Toole, whom police interrogated after he confessed to Adam's murder. He later recanted.

He chided "well-intentioned" investigators for never asking for

the floor of the Hollywood Police Department. It was all left unread.

"That was the first time that I remember feeling that we didn't have a chance," Walsh wrote. "I remember saying to myself, 'Maybe they should just go ahead and bomb this building and turn all the criminals loose. Because we're definitely out in the woods on this one. We're so far out behind the eight ball here that it's nothing but a big sick joke.'"

Beyond his feelings about the police, the book is the Walshes' story of their struggle to find Adam, cope with almost suicidal grief and then build their crusade on behalf of missing children.

With the help of People magazine writer Susan Shindehette, John and Revé Walsh describe their son, his love of *Star Wars* and baseball and the few moments they've saved of his life.

"Little things he made in school," Revé wrote. "I have a box he covered with construction paper, and there's a little flower handle on the top of it that he made... It's just a little jewelry box. Not anything that will last a lifetime."

Walsh also explains the terror during the first days after Adam was missing, the huge search run out of their Hollywood home, the intrusive media and how they

appeared on *Good Morning America* two weeks into the search, the phone call that came to their hotel room afterward, and the news he relayed as his wife and sister Jane walked in the door. "I said: 'Our baby's dead.'"

"And Revé said: 'I know.'"

"I don't know how she knew," Walsh wrote. "At first she turned from me and started putting her clothes into a suitcase. Like a robot."

"Then Jane left, and the door was closed. And as I watched, the spirit that made her who she was slowly collapsed into her... She was still my wife. But she went from being a girl to an old woman before my eyes."

Within days after they returned home, one of Adam's friends came to the door asking if he could come out and play.

"So Revé explained to him as best she could that Adam had died, and that he wouldn't be here to play with anymore," Walsh wrote.

"'Jeremy,' she said. 'Would you like to have Adam's bicycle?'"

"So Revé went back out to the garage and found Adam's bike. The police had dusted everything for prints, apparently with a fire hose... So she got some rags and cleaned the bike off and wheeled it out to the driveway. People

riage. "It would have made a great crime story, a great ending to a movie. But it wasn't true," Walsh wrote.

He lambastes the heartlessness of Washington, the initial indifference of the FBI, and the cruel intrusiveness of a cadre of psychics. "Damn them."

Walsh also criticized the media, suggesting reporters were more interested in digging up dirt on his family than information that would help find his son or his killer.

Walsh also writes about his flirtation with suicide and "ridiculous" accusations he was tied to the mob.

Most striking, however, are the emotions for Adam — the terror they felt the day a young Sears security guard, not much more than a child herself, shuffled Adam unattended out the door and how it took Revé more than an hour to get anyone at Hollywood Mall to pay attention.

"She never went into another Sears store again," Walsh wrote. Now, Revé is in demand to speak to thousands of people.

"When she's standing there talking to those people, sometimes she can hardly believe it," he wrote. "Because what she's remembering is that day when no one would listen to her."

# TV's John Walsh slams police in book

S/Sent.  
9/22/97

## 'Tears of Rage': Pride plagued case

By ARDY FRIEDBERG  
Staff Writer

John Walsh says Hollywood police detectives totally botched the investigation of his son's murder 16 years ago.

In his new book, *Tears of Rage*, the host of the *America's Most Wanted* TV show says the investigation was marked by laziness, arrogance and pride, "the worst of the seven deadly sins."

When 10,000 pages of the case file on Adam Walsh's murder were ordered opened by a Broward County judge in January 1996, Walsh says he learned "what a disaster the investigation was right from the start. . . . It showed that there had never been a chance of convicting Adam's killer."

Walsh, 51, became a na-



Walsh

tional figure after the kidnapping on July 27, 1981, of his 6-year-old son while the boy's mother shopped in a Hollywood mall. The boy's severed head was found by fishermen in a canal near Vero Beach the following month. No one was ever arrested or charged with Adam's murder.

While maintaining that he is a big supporter of law enforcement, Walsh has been critical of the Hollywood department since Adam's remains were found.

The next day, Walsh criticized the lack of coordination by law enforcement agencies in the search for Adam, and the FBI in particular for not having a centralized list of missing children. He called on the government to use its resources better.

In his book, Walsh says of the Hollywood department: "They were a tiny local police agency that had limited resources and never manned

PLEASE SEE WALSH / 7B

## WALSH

FROM PAGE 1B

### Walsh: Hollywood police botched son's murder case

a search anywhere near this size. We did have a gut intuition that mistakes were being made. Everything seemed so chaotic and disorganized."

Former Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt, who didn't become chief until 1986, agrees with Walsh on that point.

"The problem was they had a total lack of experience in handling homicide cases and especially one of that magnitude," Witt said. "It became [lead detective] Jack Hoffman's life work, but he wasn't keeping good records."

But Dick Hynds, who was in charge of the department's crimes against persons unit at the time of the kidnapping, said Walsh is entitled to his opinion, but that he didn't know what was going on.

"Monday morning quarterbacking is always easy," said Hynds, who retired in 1992. "We were not overwhelmed. That was obviously a very difficult time in John Walsh's life. The finding of the head was traumatic for him and for us. As far as the FBI involvement goes, they couldn't take part until kidnapping was proven. That was their rule, but one of their agents kept daily contact with us."

Walsh, who could not be reached for comment, also says that over the years, detectives lost critical evidence, such as bloody carpet samples from a

Cadillac confiscated from a key suspect and sold for scrap, and never followed up on witnesses with potentially important information.

But Walsh's main claim is that investigators never paid enough attention to convicted serial killer Otis Toole, a drifter who confessed from prison in October 1983 that he had killed Adam with a machete.

Toole was sentenced to death in May 1984 for a 1982 arson that killed a 64-year-old rooming house resident. Toole later recanted his confession and died last year in Florida State Prison in Starke.

Walsh still says Toole was the killer.

"They can think what they like. I am Adam's father, and I know what I believe."

Rick Stone, who took over as

Hollywood chief last October, said it was hard for him to comment on what happened 16 years ago, but that there was "a feeling of concern that Hollywood picked up the ball on the investigation and ran with it because no one else would."

Normally, a homicide investigation is handled in the jurisdiction where the body is found. In Adam's case that would have been the Indian River County Sheriff's Office.

Stone said that his department is better than it was 16 years ago.

"I've seen what our investigative team can do and I have great faith in their abilities," he said. "I wish we could go back with this team and do it all again. All of us in the department would still like to solve the Walsh case. As long as I'm the police chief this case will remain open."

# Walsh thinks suspect's death means son's murder unsolved

By SARAH RAGLAND  
Staff Writer

John Walsh thinks the answer to the unsolved murder of his son may be buried in a Raiford prison cemetery under a metal marker bearing the name Ottis Toole.

For 13 years, Toole was a suspect in the 1981 murder of 6-year-old Adam Walsh.

Two years after Adam's severed head was found, Toole confessed to abducting the 6-year-old from a Hollywood store, raping him and decapitating him. He recanted, confessed, then recanted again.

Toole's death on Sept. 15 leaves Walsh, host of *America's Most Wanted*, wondering whether his family lost its last chance to solve the case. He is angry that the Hollywood Police Department did not try to solicit a deathbed confession.

"Someone has to explain to me why no one went in and talked to him before he died," Walsh said Wednesday. "I begged Hollywood Police to let someone go in there before he died ... I don't get it."

Hollywood Police, who last interviewed Toole in late 1995, said Toole's death will not derail their continuing investigation.

"If we were able to get a deathbed confession from him, the only thing that would separate that one from previous confessions is he would not have lived to take it back," said Todd DeAngelis, a Hollywood Police spokesman.

"The bottom line is you still have to prove Toole committed the crime to the exclusion of everyone else, and whether he is dead or alive, that mission remains the same."

Since 1983, Toole has told police, friends, and cellmates that he killed Adam Walsh.

His former lover, Henry Lee Lucas, who is on Death Row in Texas for murder, said on Wednesday that Toole told him he killed Adam and showed him the remains after an hour's drive north from Hollywood.

"It wasn't completely decomposed," Lucas said. "He kicked it uncovered and showed it to me. I got sick about it. I said 'Let's get the hell



Henry Lee Lucas said Ottis Toole, top, told him he killed Adam Walsh and showed him the remains.

PLEASE SEE TOOLE /7B

S/Sgt. 9/26/96

FROM PAGE 1B

## Walsh thinks death of suspect means son's case unsolved

out of here. I left." The last time Lucas saw or had any communication with Toole was in 1983 in the Jacksonville sheriff's office. There the two men told a sordid tale that included confessing to hundreds of murders in several states. Toole, who was serving a life sentence on an arson and murder charge, was never charged with the murder of Adam Walsh. But he remained a prime suspect because blood was found on the

## TOOLE

## Ottis Toole was serving a life sentence on an arson and murder charge; he was never charged with the murder of Adam Walsh.

floor of his 1971 Cadillac and on the machete he told police he used to cut off Adam's head. A DNA link was never established, however, and key evidence was lost by police. Hollywood Police also learned that Toole might have been fed specific details about the Walsh murder by a Jacksonville detective who hoped to profit with a book deal. State Department of Corrections officials said Toole left little behind to pick over: a King James Bible, a copy of *The Plain Truth*, a religious magazine, some letters and family photos and a beaded cross given to him by a prison chaplain. After Toole, 49, died of cirrhosis of the liver, no family members or friends stepped forward to claim his body, said corrections spokeswoman Laura Levings. "He had a very pathetic life," said Paula Saunders, a public defender who represented Toole. Information from The Associated Press was used to supplement this report.



Miami Herald 9/26/96

# Inmate: Partner showed me body of Adam Walsh

By MICHAEL GRACZYK  
Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE, Texas — Death Row inmate Henry Lee Lucas claims his former partner in crime, Ottis Elwood Toole, killed 6-year-old Adam Walsh in 1981 and showed him the remains of the boy that have never been found.

"It wasn't completely decomposed," Lucas, awaiting execution for a Texas killing, said Wednesday of the decapitated remains Toole allegedly dug up from a shallow grave. "He kicked it uncovered and showed it to me. I got sick about it. I said, 'Let's get the hell out of here.' I left."

The Walsh case, which set off a nationwide manhunt, has gained renewed interest with word Tuesday from Florida prison officials that Toole, 49, died last week in a prison of cirrhosis of the liver. He was buried on prison grounds because nobody claimed his body.

Lucas said he talked with Hollywood police about the case as recently as six or eight months ago on the phone.

"If they want to talk to me and take me down there, I'll show them where it's at," he said. "I have nothing against showing them. . . . I think the body should be given a decent burial."

Detectives spoke with Lucas after the file on Adam was released earlier this year, Hollywood police spokesman Todd DeAngelis confirmed Wednesday.

"None of it is news to us. The thing you need to remember is that you need to take everything either one of them has said with a grain of salt," DeAngelis said of Toole and Lucas.

*'None of it is news to us. The thing you need to remember is that you need to take everything either one of them has said with a grain of salt.'*

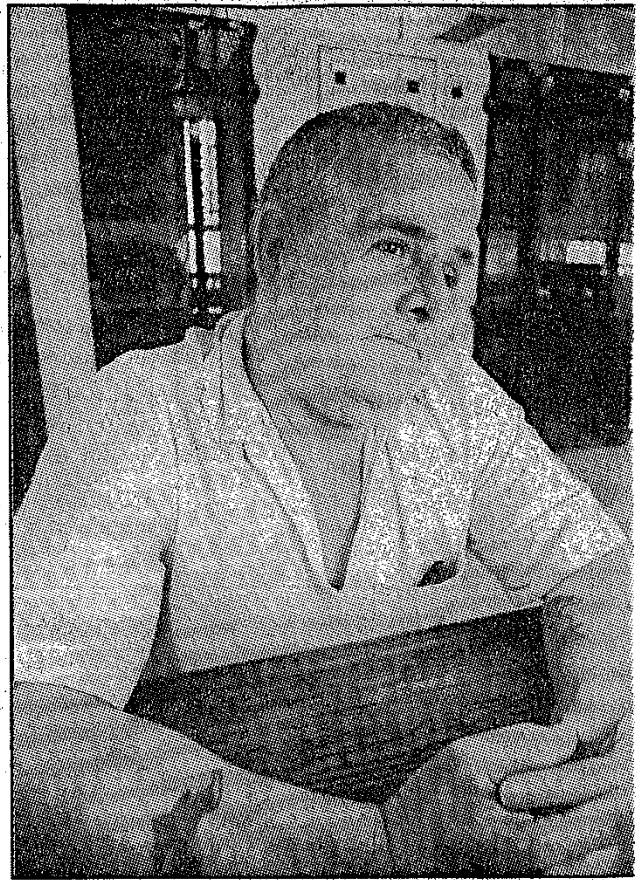
TODD DeANGELES,  
Hollywood police spokesman

Police believe Toole killed Adam in 1981 after abducting the boy from the Hollywood Mall. Police said Toole confessed to killing the boy, whose severed head was found two weeks after his abduction, but he later recanted and never was charged.

Toole also confessed to scores of murders with Lucas, saying the two had killed nearly 200 people as they traveled the country, Lucas, awaiting execution in Texas on an unrelated case, has denied involvement in any killings. He, too, has a history of credibility problems, confessing to hundreds of slayings and then recanting them all.

"I'm not saying this because Ottis is dead," Lucas said Wednesday. "I've wanted this off my chest for a long time. But when all this other stuff started I didn't want to get involved in it. It was just one thing after another. I've got enough of these false confessions on me as it is."

Lucas, however, said he's certain Toole did the Walsh killing in Lucas' car — a 1972 or 1973 black and white Cadillac — because there was blood in the



Associated

**ON DEATH ROW:** Henry Lee Lucas has a history of credibility problems, confessing to hundreds of slayings and then recan-

car after Toole used it.

Lucas, who said he subsequently sold the vehicle, said Toole even took him step-by-step through the slaying, beginning with a trip to the mall about two months after the killing.

"He took me into the shopping mall and asked me if I recognized the place. He said, 'This is where I got the kid at . . . the kid I killed.'"

According to Lucas, Toole said after abducting the boy, he drove to "a fishing area, it's what he called it."

"He said he got scared and killed the kid and threw his head over a sort of ramp area, or something there where it's at. Once he did that, he said, 'C'mon, I want to show you the rest of it.'"

Lucas said they left the mall for a drive of between 30 minutes and an hour down a freeway, then left the highway for a dirt road that went into an isolated area.

"We got to an old foundry in there, either a barn house," Lucas said. "There's nothing there, just a fiction. There was an old oak or pine tree and that's who the body was at."

Between 1984 and 1985, Toole was sentenced to life terms for first-degree murder convictions across Florida.

Lucas said he first met Toole in Jacksonville in 1979 on a mission where he was to get a meal. Toole approached him and offered to find something to eat, then moved in with Toole as a family. They were together about two years, said Lucas.

"It's a shame, but he's off," Lucas said of Toole's death. "At least he's at peace. He may not be the kind of peace all want, but at least he's at peace."

Herald staff writer Fran nandez contributed to report.