

Volume III- Case Incident File
File 7
St. Louis PD- Letter
10/25/83

Decapitated young girl buried with only a detective to mourn

ST. LOUIS — (UPI) — The headless body of a young girl was buried in an unmarked pauper's grave with four mud-covered gravediggers as pallbearers despite the nine-month effort of a police veteran to locate her relatives.

"Maybe I grew so attached to this kid I didn't want to go through with it," said Detective Herb Riley, who led the investigation into the killing. "I kept thinking she would get a burial by the family."

Four empty chairs were at grave side Friday for the 5-minute burial service paid for by the city. No stone marked the grave, identified

"We're no closer today than the day I picked her up in that building," he said. "I don't know of anything else to do. We never even found the head."

The Rev. John W. Heyward Jr., whose Union Memorial United Methodist Church is just a few blocks from where the body was found, prayed that the "dastardly crime" would be solved.

"We are here to commit this body of a girl whose name we don't

know, but whose name is surely known to God," Heyward said.

A burial attendant scattered flower petals over a single spray of pink, white and yellow flowers placed on the casket.

The girl's body was clothed only in a yellow V-neck sweater when found. Authorities said she had been sexually assaulted, and her head neatly severed. The medical examiner's office said bone tests

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Detective Herb Riley

only as Lot 270, Section 6, Grave 2 at the Washington Park Cemetery.

The ceremony was attended by the media, Riley and four gravediggers who carried the small white casket up a muddy hillside to the site they had prepared moments before.

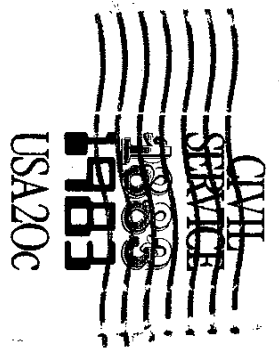
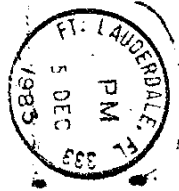
Riley, an 18-year veteran of the homicide division, attended the ceremony on the "long-shot" hope that a relative, or even the girl's killer, would appear. Her body was found Feb. 28 in the basement of a vacant tenement.

"I've been in homicide too long to be surprised by anything," he said.

Riley said thousands of missing person reports were studied, school enrollments were examined and hundreds of people were interviewed. But no clues turned up to the girl's identity.

Could this be related to
the murder of Adam
Waltch?

Sally White



Hollywood Police Dept
Investigation of Adam Walsh
3250 Hollywood Blvd
Hollywood, Fla 33021



COL. JOHN F. BERNER, CHIEF OF POLICE

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY OF ST. LOUIS 1203 CLARK AVENUE • ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103

October 25, 1983

Hollywood Florida Police Department
Detective Unit
3250 Hollywood Boulevard
Hollywood, Florida 33021

ATTENTION: Detectives Jackie Hoffman and Ron Hickman

Gentlemen:

The Homicide Division of the St. Louis Police Department is presently conducting an investigation which began February 28, 1983.

This case involves the decapitation of a young, black female described as:

black female, 8 to 12 years of age,
5'3" to 5'4", medium brown skin,
75# estimated weight, thin build.

The victim was found clad only in a yellow long-sleeved V-neck orlon sweater. She had two coats of red fingernail polish on her fingernails and her hands were tied behind her back with a red and white nylon rope, possibly nautical type nylon rope.

Evidence revealed that the victim had apparently been slain in an undisclosed location and her body dumped in a vacant building at 5635 Clemens, which is a primarily black area in the west end of our city.

The Medical Examiner's Office determined that the victim had been sexually assaulted. The weight of the body was 70 pounds and the height is 4'8", without the head.

The victim's head has never been found and the victim has never been identified.

Our most recent action in this case, 10/20/83, has been a check of the N.C.I.C. list of missing persons matching the victim's description, which was provided by the F.B.I. Only one black female was reported missing from Boston, Massachusetts, and she has been located in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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Hollywood Florida Police Department Page Two 10/25/83

As of this writing, we have been unable to place Otis Elwood Toole or Henry Lee Lucas, his apparent accomplice, in our city.

We realize that your investigation surrounding Otis Toole is time consuming and you are probably receiving numerous inquiries from numerous jurisdictions. We would appreciate any information which could possibly connect Toole to our victim, city, etc.

We have finger, palm and footprints of our victim in the event they could possibly aid in your investigation.

Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated. Please direct all correspondence to Detective George Bender or Detective Joseph Burgoon of the Homicide Division.

If you prefer to contact us by telephone, our number is Area Code 314-444-5371.

Respectfully,

Detective George Bender 4364

Detective George Bender
Homicide Division

Enclosures: 2

GWB/bfs 2039

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A \$10,000 REWARD IS BEING OFFERED FOR THE ARREST AND CONVICTION OF THE PERSON OR PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER AND SEXUAL ASSAULT OF A YOUNG GIRL WHO WAS FOUND IN THE BASEMENT OF A VACANT BUILDING AT 5635 CLEMENS ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1983. THE VICTIM'S HEAD IS MISSING. THE VICTIM HAS NOT BEEN IDENTIFIED AND THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IS ATTEMPTING TO LEARN HER IDENTITY. VICTIM HAS BEEN FINGERPRINTED AND FOOT PRINTED.

THE VICTIM IS DESCRIBED AS BEING A NEGRO FEMALE, BETWEEN THE AGES 8 TO 10, AND MEASURED 4'8" WITHOUT THE HEAD. SHE SHOULD BE BETWEEN 5 FEET TO 5 FEET 4 INCHES TALL. SHE WEIGHED 70 POUNDS, MEDIUM BROWN SKIN. THE VICTIM'S HANDS WERE TIED BEHIND HER BACK WITH A RED AND WHITE NYLON ROPE, POSSIBLY NAUTICAL TYPE NYLON ROPE. THE VICTIM WAS WEARING A YELLOW LONG SLEEVED ORLON V-NECK SWEATER AND HAD TWO (2) COATS OF RED FINGERNAIL POLISH ON HER FINGERS. THE VICTIM HAD BEEN KILLED SOMEWHERE ELSE AND THEN LEFT IN THE BASEMENT AT 5635 CLEMENS.

IF ANYONE KNOWS OF A CHILD MISSING WHO FITS THE ABOVE DESCRIPTION, PLEASE CALL OR WRITE THE HOMICIDE DIVISION, ST. LOUIS POLICE DEPARTMENT, 1200 CLARK, ST. LOUIS, MO. 63103. PHONE NUMBER 314-444-5371.



SE OFRECE UN GALARDON DE \$10,000 (DIEZ MIL DOLARES) POR EL ARRESTO Y CONVICCION DE LA PERSONA O PERSONAS RESPONSIBLE POR LA HOMICIDIA Y ASALTO SEXUAL DE UNA NINA QUE SE FUE HALLADA EN EL SOTANO DE UN EDIFICIO DESOCUPADO EN LA DIRECCION, 5635 CLEMENS. ESTO FUE PASADO EL LUNES, 28 de FEBRERO, 1983. LA CABEZA DE LA NINA NO SE FUE HALLADA CON EL CUERPO. EL DEPARTAMENTO DE LA POLICIA NECESITA IDENTIFICAR LA NINA EN QUE A ESTE MOMENTO NO SE SABEN LA IDENTIDAD DE ELLA. SE FUERON TOMADOS IMPRESIONES DIGITAL DE LAS MANOS Y LOS PIES DE LA NINA.

LA DESCRIPCION DE LA NINA ES ASI: UNA NINA DE COLOR, DE LA EDAD DE OCHO A DIEZ Y ALTURA, SIN LA CABEZA, DE 4 PIES Y 8 PULGADAS. ELLA PUEDE TENER ALTURA DE 5 PIES A 5 PIES, 4 PULGADAS Y PESO DE 70 LIBRAS. TENILLA UN CUTIS MEDIO CAFE. CUANDO SE FUE HALLADA, LA NINA TENILLA LAS MANOS AMARRADAS DE TRAS DE SU CUERPO CON UNA CUERDA COLORADA Y BLANCA DE NYLON, POSSIBLE UNA CUERDA NAUTICO. LA NINA NO MAS ESTABA VESTIDA EN UNA CAMISA DE MANGAS LARGAS, AMARILLA DE COLOR Y DE MATERIAL ORLON. LAS UNAS DE LA NINA ESTABAN PINTADAS COLORADAS, DOS CAPAS. SE CREYE QUE LA NINA FUE MATADA EN OTRO LUGAR Y LUEGO LA DEJARON EN EL SOTANO DE ESE EDIFICIO DESOCUPADO.

SI ALGEN SABE DE UNA NINA QUE SE PARECE COMO LA DESCRIPCION, HABLE POR TELEFONA O ESCRIBA, A LA DIVISION DE HOMICIDIA, DEPARTAMENTO DE POLICIA DE ST. LOUIS, 1200 CLARK, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, 63103. TELEFONO (314) 444-5371.

