

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CINCINNATI, OHIO.

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REPORT MADE AT: LOS ANGELES, CAL. DATE WHEN MADE: 11/2/23 PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 10/25-11/2/23 AGENT'S NAME: E.J. CONNELLEY /PP

TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE: DON OSBORN, alias H.L. PUTNAM - GROSSE PUTNAM; R.C., alias C.W., alias BLACKY WALSON; J.A., alias JACK RYAN, alias GRAHAM; HERBERT L. ROSS alias ALBERT S. HARRIS; CELIA MARGARET GIBSON, alias PATRICIA "PAT" PALMER. In custody, Cincinnati, Ohio. Fugitive. Fugitive. In custody, Cincinnati. In custody, Los Angeles. VIO. SEC. 32 C.C. Impersonation. Govt. Officer. VIO. SEC. 37 C.C. Conspiracy. Sec. 32 VIO. SEC. 145 Extortion.

At Los Angeles, Cal.  
San Diego, Cal.

Attention: Mr. Hoover 47.  
Los Angeles File [redacted]  
Cincinnati File 8195.

1293

Agent, together with Agent Meahan, Los Angeles, assisted by Detectives Reed and Shafer, Los Angeles Police, and C.J. Reimer, Investigator, County District Attorney's office, developed the following additional information.

Continuing investigation as to the developments pertaining to a charge against subject, PATRICIA "PAT" PALMER.

Agents interviewed R.L. Thomason, Assistant Secretary, Security Trust and Savings Bank, Hollywood Branch, 6385 Hollywood Blvd., and learned that PATRICIA PALMER, 2324 Beechwood Drive, opened an account there on December 7th, 1922 with about \$1200.00, and up to December 11th, 1922, her check would have been good for \$1000.00, but never after that date. The check given her by George W. Lasher on February 4th, 1923, was deposited through her account at the above bank. Signature upon check agrees with that appearing upon signature record card in bank. After original deposit, there were no large deposits to this account, other than two for \$200.00.

FILE NO. 47-1293-25

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION RECORDED & INDEXED

NOV 13 1923  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NOV 17 1923

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up to March 10th, 1923, when she deposited \$585.00, this evidently being check obtained from DON OSBORN, for equity in property at 267b Beechwood Drive, assigned to OSBORN March 9th, 1923. Her account with this bank closed June 15th, 1923.

George W. Lasher formerly had an account in this bank, but his balance has never been sufficient to meet a check of \$1000.00. The members of the bank here are unable to recall the details of the \$1000.00 check transaction, but same could not have been cashed, for reason of insufficient funds.

In further interview of George W. Lasher, Burbank, Cal., he advised that the name of the contractor previously mentioned is O.E. Lepper, office Johnson Building, home 3611 W. 4th St., Los Angeles, and that this is the party who appeared at the place of M.H. McCabe Electric Company, 6278 Hollywood Blvd., together with another party and tried to secure the cashing of the \$1000.00 check. He advises they represented this check to be a gambling debt, and when he, Lasher, returned he learned of their visit and he called upon O.E. Lepper and demanded the return of the check. Lepper advised that the check was then held by Jim Dallas, who was then stopping at his, (O.E. Lepper's) home. When he saw Jim Dallas, he demanded the return of the check, and Dallas advised him that he had been sent across the border in an effort to cash this check. He advised PATRICIA PALMER at first told a story to the effect that the check had been taken away from her at the point of a gun and that she was forced to endorse same, but later would not stand by this story. BLACKY THOMPSON, previously mentioned, is now going by the name of ROLLY ROLLINS, and is now out on location, and this is the party who advised him of PATRICIA



Lasher, when he first came to the place said this woman was his wife.

The above statement read by me and same made voluntarily without threat, promise or duress upon the part of any one.

Witness:

Ralph H. Colvin,  
E. J. Connelley.

(Signed) James K. DeLes."

On November 2nd, PATRICIA PALMER was arrested upon complaint secured by Agent Meehan and was arraigned before United States Commissioner Long; entered a plea of not guilty; bond placed at \$2500. and hearing set for November 8th.

Upon subject, PATRICIA PALMER, being arrested, she was brought to the Bureau office, Los Angeles, and advised as to her rights by Agent and Agent in Charge Wheeler, and upon being asked whether or not she cared to make a voluntary statement in this matter, agreed that she would. PATRICIA PALMER then was interrogated at length by United States Attorney Joseph Burke, and her complete statement taken with questions and answers, copy of which is attached to this report, as exhibit "A".

Continuing investigation as to developments in case as pertaining to DON OSBORN and ROSE PUTNAM. Agents interviewed Thomas C. Deane, assistant cashier, Commercial National Bank, 401 S. Spring St., Los Angeles. Arthur M. Osborne had an account here, and closed same in 1913, after paying an overdraft of about \$207.00 which had stood for several months. George W. Osborne had an account here about 1913 and closed same shortly thereafter; neither of these accounts ever showed a large amount of money. Mrs. E.M. Osborne, mother of DON

November 19, 1923.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:

MARGARET GIBSON,

STAGE NAME, PATRICIA PALMER.

Letter from Special Agent in Charge, Los Angeles, California dated November 3, 1923 gives the following information on the above mentioned subject:

Subject was arrested in Los Angeles on November 2, 1923 under a Commissioner's warrant, charging Violation of Section 145 C.C.; was arraigned the same date and her bond fixed at \$2500.00

The complaining witness, George W. Lasher, alleges that subject obtained approximately \$1,000.00 from him under a threat that she would inform Federal authorities concerning a trip taken by them in an automobile to Tia Juana, Mexico.

The investigation of this case came as a result of the investigation made by Agents Meehan and Connelley, of the Don Osborn and Rose Putnam case, originating in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Subject is known in motion pictures as Patricia Palmer.

Facts were presented to the U.S. Attorney, who authorized issuance of the complaint.

Yours very truly,

R. J. ALLEN,  
Special Agent.

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Cincinnati, Ohio.

JOURNAL TO BE MADE AT ORIGINATING OFFICE ONLY

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES, CAL.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>11/13/23</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/24-11/2-8/23</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>OWEN E. MEEHAN, JR.</b>
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TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE

<b>MILLA MARGARET GIBSON, alias</b>	<b>: Los Angeles, :</b>	<b>VIO. SEC. 32 C.C. Impersonation</b>
<b>PATRICIA "PAT" PALMER, "DON"</b>	<b>: Cal. :</b>	<b>Govt. Officer; Vio. Sec. 37 C.C.</b>
<b>GIBSON alias H.L. PUTNAM, et al</b>		<b>: Conspiracy; Vio. Sec. 32; Vio. Sec. 145 Extortion.</b>

FACTS DEVELOPED:

At Los Angeles, Cal.

Attention: Mr. Hoover #2  
Los Angeles File  

47-1293

Reference is made to reports of E.J. Connelley of the Cincinnati Bureau Office, under dates of October 25th, 1923 and November 2nd, 1923 respectively.

It will be noted that on October 24th, 1923, this agent, together with Agent Connelley conferred with United States Attorney Joseph Burke, Los Angeles, relative to MARGARET GIBSON, alias PATRICIA PALMER, at which time the facts as set forth in Agent Connelley's report, were presented to the United States Attorney, who was of the opinion that there was sufficient evidence for the issuance of a complaint for the arrest of MARGARET GIBSON, alias PATRICIA PALMER.

On November 2nd, 1923, MARGARET GIBSON, alias PATRICIA PALMER was taken in custody by a complaint sworn to by this agent, by the Deputy United States Marshall, and a preliminary hearing was held under this date, and at the request of MARGARET GIBSON'S Attorney, hearing was continued until November 8th, 1923, under bonds of \$2500.00.

On November 5th, Agent conferred with United States Attorney, Joseph Burke and Chief Deputy District

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

FILE NO. <b>47-1293-26</b>	<b>NOV 30 1923</b>
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION <b>NOV 21 1923</b>	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
ROUTED TO: <b>HOOVER</b>	<b>RECORDED &amp; INDEXED</b>

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*Wheeler*  
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE



Attorney Mark Herron, relative to MARGARET GIBSON, alias PATRICIA PALMER. Deputy District Attorney Mark Herron advised agent that he had examined Agent Connelley's reports very closely, and from the evidence set forth and the statement made by MARGARET GIBSON, he did not deem it advisable to proceed with this case, in view of the fact that there was insufficient evidence. On November 8th, 1923 United States Commissioner Long dismissed the case, for lack of sufficient evidence.

After this report had been dictated, the following letter was received from Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark L. Herron:

"Mr. L.C. Wheeler,                      Los Angeles, Cal.,  
Bureau of Investigation,              November 10, 1923.  
Los Angeles, Cal.

Sir:

In accordance with the conclusions reached in our telephone conversation, I yesterday dismissed before the Commissioner, the case of U.S. v. Margaret Gibson, alias Patricia "Pat" Palmer, for the reasons as outlined to you in my telephonic conversation, that an examination of the report failed to disclose any corroboration of the story told by George Leasher.

It therefore appeared to me that the Government would find itself in the position of attempting to prosecute a woman upon the uncorroborated testimony of a man who admittedly had had improper relations with her and had in the course of that relationship with her, apparently violated the Mann Act. I do not believe that good public policy warrants such prosecution. I return herewith the files.

Respectfully,  
For United States Attorney  
(Signed) Mark L. Herron  
Assistant U.S. Attorney."

Case concluded as to MARGARET GIBSON, alias PATRICIA PALMER.