



## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Sacramento, California

February 3, 1978

ROBERT WESLEY JONES,  
Also Known as  
Robert Wesley Rackstraw,  
R. L. Boehner, ~~RM~~  
Gary Miller

On January 3, 1978, an authorized complaint was filed by Special Agent [redacted] before U. S. Magistrate E. Dean Price, Modesto, California, charging subject as Robert W. Rackstraw, with violation of Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 1073, in that on or about December 9, 1977, he did flee the State of California, to avoid prosecution for the felony of issuing non-sufficient fund checks. Federal warrant issued same date and in hands of U. S. Marshal, Eastern District of California, Sacramento, California. Bail recommended in the amount of \$100,000.

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On February 2, 1978, [redacted] Stockton, California, Police Department, telephone number 209-944-8323, advised that captioned individual opened a checking account under the false name of R. L. Boehner at the Wells Fargo Bank, Cupertino, California, and on December 4, 1977, wrote a non-sufficient funds check on that account in the amount of \$32,400 to 3R Engineering. He also opened a false account at the Crocker National Bank in Downey, California, in the name of Gary Miller, and on December 3, 1977, wrote a non-sufficient funds check (NSF) in the amount of \$21,640 payable to 3R Engineering. On

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5-[redacted]  
2-[redacted]  
2-Honolulu  
2-[redacted]  
2-MOBILE  
2-[redacted]

2-San Antonio

2-[redacted]

2-[redacted]

2-[redacted]

WLL:js  
(23)P

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sub-933-  
164-81-7806  
DB Cooper-15948

ROBERT WESLEY JONES

December 7, 1977, he deposited both of the above non-sufficient fund checks to his account at the Union Safe Bank, Lockeford, California. On December 8, 1977, he withdrew \$25,000 from this account, part of which was in American Express Money Orders bearing serial numbers RG 89-801-260, 270, 280, and 88-942-800.

[redacted] advised that subject similarly made other false check deposits to an account he maintained at the Security Pacific National Bank, North Stockton Branch, 6530 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, California, and on December 8, 1977, he made a withdrawal there of \$50,940.00.

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In addition the Stockton Police Department located 150 pounds of high explosives in storage by subject at Stockton and determined that he also had shipped fifty electric blasting caps and a one thousand foot roll of detonator cord to an ex-Army buddy in San Antonio, Texas,

[redacted] advised [redacted] is under investigation there by a task force as subject was a suspect in the theft of high explosives at the Felton Quarry, near Santa Cruz, California, on February 21, 1975, a portion of which were found by the FBI when they arrested [redacted] of the New World Liberation Front at Richmond, California, in early 1976.

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[redacted] advised that when the explosives were found in Rackstraw's effects at Stockton, California, in mid-January, 1978, they also discovered 25 rifles and handguns and over 3,000 rounds of ammunition. Papers in his effects noted he had been trained as an Army Green Beret and was skilled in guerrilla warfare.

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On February 2, 1978, [redacted] California Highway Patrol, Stockton, California, telephone number [redacted] advised he located a Drott Crawler Excavator, valued at about \$75,000 when it was stolen in 1976, at San Jose, California, among the equipment operated by subject in Calaveras County, California, and is seeking a warrant for subject's arrest.

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ROBERT WESLEY JONES

On February 2, 1978, [redacted] California, telephone number [redacted] advised she and at least one other couple have been swindled out of money they furnished to Bob Rackstraw [redacted]. They have furnished the details of this fraud to [redacted] State of California Consumer Affairs [redacted] San Andrcas, California, telephone [redacted]

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By communication dated January 27, 1978, the Dallas Office of the FBI reported they had located captioned individual as currently employed in Iran by Bell Helicopter International. Bell employed him on January 6, 1978, and by January 13, 1978, he was in Iran. He is currently living at the Couroush Hotel, Isfahan, Iran, and has Bell Employee number 5238 as Robert Wesley Rackstraw. His work location is known to the American Embassy, Teheran, Iran, and to the Bell Director of Security in Iran,

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On February 2, 1978, District Attorney Joseph Baker, San Joaquin County, Stockton, California, advised he is requesting extradition of subject from Iran through the Governor of California. He understands Governor Brown will ask the U. S. State Department to arrange for subject's return to the U. S. He hopes at the time of his arrest in Iran subject will be asked about the location of the stolen assets and the possible involvement of subject in the murder and/or disappearance of his stepfather, Phil Rackstraw.

Subject is described as follows:

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| Name   | Robert Wesley Jones<br>Also known as,<br>Robert Wesley Rackstraw<br>an alias he has used most<br>of his life.   |
| Sex    | Male  |
| Race   | Caucasian   |
| Born   | October 16, 1943, at<br>Cleveland, Ohio, and has<br>falsely used October 16, 1940,<br>at Santa Cruz, California |
| Height | 6'1"  |

ROBERT WESLEY JONES

|                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Weight                         | 192 pounds                 |
| Hair                           | Brown, receding at temples |
| Eyes                           | Green                      |
| Social Security Account Number | 546-54-1279                |
| California driver's license    | H887157                    |
| U. S. Passport Number          | B1155169                   |

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Occupation

Has employee number 5258 for Bell Helicopter International at Isfahan, Iran.

Prior Occupations

Claimed to be associated with 3R Engineering, Cal Trans or California Trans Copters, Fargo Graphics & Printing, Cal-Motive Engineering, Courtesy Parking, Los Angeles, California. Reportedly is a qualified pilot for helicopters, single and multi-engined aircraft.

Relatives

Mother, Lucille Rackstraw, deceased. Stepfather, Phil Rackstraw, who formerly was a business partner of subject and whose whereabouts has been unknown for several months prior to date subject fled California

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ROBERT WESLEY JONES

Relatives (Cont)



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Military

Military records concerning Rackstraw reveal he received a discharge under honorable conditions on June 21, 1971, because of resignation in lieu of elimination because of unfitness or unacceptable conduct. He was a 1st Lieutenant in the U. S. Army at the time of discharge. Examination of his background by the Army showed he had been convicted and placed on probation for burglary on two occasions, April 14, 1958, and December 20, 1957, and had also been arrested for using false identification and destruction of jail property on October 23, 1963, which resulted in his bail forfeiture of \$144.00, on November 4, 1963. Rackstraw also falsely claimed college degrees when filling out applications to the Army. He also admitted to the Army that he had been arrested by Military Police on August 4, 1969, for wrongful appropriation of Military property in the taking of a  $\frac{1}{4}$  ton truck in Huloi, Republic of Viet Nam. He received training in weapons, explosives, and hand-to-hand combat while in the Military. In one statement to the Army he wrote, "I can only hope that I will never use the training and education the Army gave me against the Army itself, as I would be a formidable advisory."

ROBERT WESLEY JONES

LEAD:

It is requested that subject be located in Iran and returned to the U. S., along with any cash assets. At time of arrest he should be advised of his rights and questioned concerning his fraudulent activities and the possible murder of his stepfather.

APPROACH WITH CAUTION AS SUBJECT TRAINED IN KARATE AND USE OF FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES.

## ROBERT W. RACKSTRAW

Address:  
6410 Edgemoor Way  
San Jose, Ca. 95129  
Phone No:  
(408) 257-6783  
Social Security No:  
546-54-1279  
Passport No:  
B1155169

Description:  
6ft. 1in. 192lbs.  
Date of Birth:  
Oct 16, 1940  
Place of Birth:  
Santa Cruz, Ca.  
Health:  
Excellent

## EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Chief of Construction

3R Engineering Contractors

From 1971 to 1976

Project Manager

1246 Folsom St.

Engineering Consultant

San Francisco, Ca.

DUTIES: Performed as a general engineering and building contractor involved in the techniques and knowledge of leveling and surveying devices, instruments and measuring equipment, leveling and surveying abbreviations, signs, symbols and definitions, engineering-construction working drawings, excavating, grading and paving, trenching, portland cement, concrete, including aggregates, mixing, form work, placing, curing, finishing and test; asphalt-concrete pavement, including asphalts, aggregates, mixing, placing and rolling; brick and stone masonry; pipe, pipelines, fittings and valves, including concrete, cast iron, cement asbestos, metal and vitrified-clay pipe, pipe laying structural steel; reinforcing steel; welding, gaseous, inert, petroleum and gas transmission lines, dams and hydroelectric installations. foundations, footings; building frames and framing systems, floors and floor systems; walls bearing and curtain, doors, windows, cabinet and millwork, trim and other details. Units of quantity by which building materials are sold and purchased. Carpentry, lathing, plastering, roofing, painting and decorating cosmetic appeal; applicable construction codes, and safety orders of the State Division of Industrial Safety; provisions of the State Housing Law; made quantitative surveys from plans and specifications then submitted estimates, costs and projections.

Reason for leaving: Company sold to larger corporation, not interested in particular corporation policy.

Real Estate Agent

Olympic Realty

From 1971 to 1973

Construction Consultant

240 California St.

Commercial Pilot

San Francisco, Ca.

DUTIES: Acted in capacity of real estate agent to develop and promote large land tracts and commercial ventures for prominent real estate agency. Arranged qualification, mortgages, subordinations, corporate divers, and syndications. Utilized aviation capability to a great extent to assist in a most expeditious manner. Combined contractor knowledge, expertise and license as needed for advice, consultation and direction regarding construction and further development to include single and multiple family dwellings, office structures, shopping centers, sub-divisions, roads, lots, paving, building codes and all other necessary data, as required.

Reason for leaving: 3R Engineering

Owner Operator

Aqua-Marine Industries

From 1970 to 1971

Commercial Diver

Panama City,

Underwater Instructor

Fla.

DUTIES: Worked under contract on various operations using SCUBA, closed circuit, open and electrolung and other diving apparatus to explore, inspect, evaluate, repair, and consult on equipment and structures, check vessel bottoms and drive and propulsion systems. Worked as salvage operator to recover lost or sunken objects as required. Also operated to diving related business's in the sale, leasing and repair of diving equipment and supplies, and instructed students in basic, advanced and special diving techniques at different locations throughout the world.

Reason for leaving: Sold the business.

DB Cooper-15954

sub 9331

16-1-81-7807

Electronic Test Engineer      Sylvania Electronic Systems      From 1965 to 1967  
333 Encinal St.  
Santa Cruz, Ca

**DUTIES:** Responsible for testing, troubleshooting, repair or modifying and re-design of electronic equipment, recommending changes, if necessary, to circuitry or installation specification and design to improve simplify, and lower projected costs. Also aligned, adjusted, calibrated and modified test evalation and registration equipment. Wrote test reports and developed charts, graphs and schematics to describe and illustrate system operating characteristics, malfunctions or deviations from design specifications and performed a multitude of other duties as assigned by supervision of company operations.

Reason for Leaving: U.S. Army. NOTE: Sylvania Financed Graduate Studies

Cement Contractor      Rackstraw Construction Company      From 1963 to 1965  
220 36th Ave.  
Santa Cruz, Ca.

**DUTIES:** Operated own business and equipment on various contracted jobs under an agreed specification acceptable mass, pavement, flatwork, foundations, curb and gutter, special installations and other cement and concrete applications. Placed, finished and installed concrete including the setting of forms and screeds. Coordinated work assignments and materials to insure on-time completion of contracted jobs within cost estimates. Kept accurate records and documentation, from safety to payroll and other administrative duties that are required when self-employed.

Reason for leaving: Sold business to further education

**DUTIES:** Operated plant for growing cement company. Operated heavy equipment: bulldozers, large loaders, drove transit-mix trucks on many diversified contracts. Prepared mix designs and all other batch plant operations to include; customer sales and service, contract requirements, payroll, administration, employee relations, headed maintenance for entire operation including; truck fleet, required to remove and install engines, transmissions, rearends, hydraulic systems, and all other related mechanical and electrical equipment. Gas cutting and welding, electric welding, heavy equipment repair, machine shop, and handle plant breakdowns at critical production periods.

Reason for leaving: Plant did so well Kaiser Industries bought it just to shut it down.

### To eliminate competition:

EDUCATION:

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1945-1953 Scotts Valley Grammer School<br>Santa Cruz, Ca |            |
| 1953-1957 Santa Cruz High School<br>Santa Cruz, Ca.      | Math Major |
| 1957-1961 San Jose State<br>San Jose, Ca.                | BSEE       |
| 1966-1967 San Jose State<br>San Jose Ca.                 | MSME       |

MILITARY EDUCATION:

On Request

LICENSES

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| General Engineering Contractor (A)             |                      |
| General Building Contractor (B-1)              | Ca. Lic. No. 302709  |
| Cement and Concrete Contractor (C-8)           |                      |
| Earthwork and Paving Contractor (C-12)         |                      |
| Real Estate License                            | Ca. Lic. No. 413064  |
| Class 1 Chauffers License                      | Ca. Lic. No. H887157 |
| National Association of Underwater Instructors | Lic. No. 44544       |
| Commercial Pilot                               | Fed. No. 2104631     |
| Certified Flight Instructor                    | Fed. No. 2104631     |

SECURITY CLEARANCE:

SECRET Dept' of Defense 1968  
TOP SECRET SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE Dept. of Defense 1969

AFFILIATIONS:

Pilots International Association  
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association  
Association of Underwater Instructors  
Helicopter Pilots Association  
Costeau Society  
Oregon Pilots Association  
1st. Cavalry Division Association

WILLING TO RELOCATE WORLD WIDE



California License No. 302703

1246 Folsom St., San Francisco, Ca 94103  
San Francisco (415) 431-1774  
Stockton (209) 772-1756

#### MILITARY EDUCATION

|                                      |                          |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Basic Training                       | Fort Ord, Ca             |
| Advanced Infantry Training           | Fort Ord, Ca             |
| Desert Armored Warfare               | Fort Irwin, Ca           |
| Airborne                             | Fort Benning, Ga         |
| Special Forces Operations            | Fort Bragg, NC           |
| Counter-Insurgency                   | Fort Bragg, NC           |
| Ranger                               | Fort Benning, Ga         |
| Non-Commissioned Officers Course     | Fort Benning, Ga         |
| Pathfinder                           | Fort Benning, Ga         |
| Weapons Domestic & Foreign           | Fort Bragg, NC           |
| Demolitions                          | Fort Bragg, NC           |
| Jungle Warfare                       | Panama Canal Zone        |
| Underwater Demolitions               | Fort Bragg/ Florida Keys |
| Psychological Warfare                | Fort Bragg NC            |
| Internal Defense & Development       | Fort Bragg, NC           |
| High Altitude Low Opening (HALO)     | Fort Benning, Ga         |
| Basic Flight Training                | Fort Wolters, Tx         |
| Advanced Flight Training             | Fort Rucker, Ala         |
| Aviation Maintenance Officers Course | Fort Eustis, Tx          |
| Infantry Officers Basic Course       | Fort Benning, Ga         |
| Test Writers Evaluation Course       | Aberdeen, Md             |
| Aeronautical Engineers Course        | Fort Rucker, Ala         |

#### Licensed for:

Aircraft: Helicopter Single & Multi-Engine, Piston & Jet Powered  
Single & Tandem Rotor, Flight Instructor & Check Pilot.

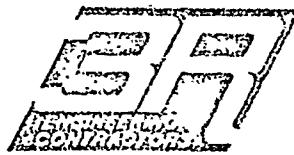
Airplane Single- & Multi- Engine Prop Driven, Piston & Jet

To my knowledge, I was one of (7) individuals who flew experimental  
aircraft in the Army in S.E. Asia on Combat Missions (J) prefixes

Vehicles: 1/4 ton Through 10 ton including 60 pass. bus  
Tracked Vehicles up to M-60 Tank

#### Ranks held:

|         |                |                           |
|---------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Pvt E-1 | Corporal       | Warrant Officer WO1       |
| Pvt E-2 | Sergeant       | Chief Warrant Officer CW2 |
| PFC     | Staff Sergeant | 1LT Infantry              |
|         |                | Captain, Infantry         |



California License No. 302709

1246 Folsom St., San Francisco, Ca 94103  
San Francisco (415) 431-1774  
Stockton (209) 772-1756

#### DECORATIONS

|                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Army Aviator Wings           | Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry    |
| Paratrooper Badge            | Presidential Unit Citation       |
| Vietnamese Paratrooper Wings | (2) Bronze Stars                 |
| Combat Infantry Badge        | (2) Distinguished Flying Crosses |
| Good Conduct (2)             | (6) Campaign Ribbons             |
| National Defense             | (5) Purple Hearts                |
| Calif. Service Medal         | (36) Air Medals                  |
| Army Commendation Medal      | Silver Star                      |

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
 Facsimile  
 Airtel

## PRECEDENCE:

Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 E F T O  
 CLEAR

Date 3/6/78

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (164-2111)  
ATTN: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION, LATENT  
FINGERPRINT SECTION  
FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (P)

SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
OO: Seattle

Enclosed for Seattle is one copy of LHM dated  
2/3/78 concerning ROBERT WESLEY JONES, aka Robert Wesley  
Rackstraw Sacramento

[redacted] who was recently arrested by the New  
York Division and is awaiting transfer back to Stockton,  
California after waiving extradition. He claims RACKSTRAW  
is his true name and all records except birth records list  
him as RACKSTRAW.

Also enclosed for Seattle is one copy of  
RACKSTRAW's resume wherein he claims to hold Army aviator  
and paratrooper insignia, as well as Vietnamese paratrooper  
wings, and to have received training in both demolitions  
and underwater demolitions while in the U.S. Army.

RACKSTRAW's military record discloses he was forced  
to resign his first lieutenant's commission in June, 1971,  
and he was extremely bitter over his severance. His descrip-  
tion and sketch of NORJAK subject are very similar. When  
arrested by the FBI in February, 1978, he admitted to the  
arresting agent that he would be fully capable of successfully

1 - Bureau  
(2) - Seattle (164-81) (Enc. 2) *Rec'd 4/11*  
2 - San Francisco (164-220)  
2 - St. Louis (164-63)  
3 - Sacramento (2 - 164-50)

WLL/kj  
(10)

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*Rec'd 4/11*

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| SEARCHED    | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED  | FILED   |
| MAR 8 1978  |         |
| 164-81-7808 |         |
| P           |         |

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DB Cooper-15959

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number) (Time)

SC 164-50

effecting the NORJAK hijacking, but denied participation and claimed he was interviewed and eliminated as a suspect by a San Francisco FBI Agent in Fort Cronkite, California in 1971.

Photos of RACKSTRAW taken within the past three years have been sent direct to the Seattle case agent and should be returned to SA [redacted] at the Stockton, California RA when no longer needed.

The day after RACKSTRAW was arrested in New York, the body of his stepfather was located in a hole in Calaveras County, California, and a murder warrant against RACKSTRAW has just been issued.

RACKSTRAW's [redacted] has been located by the FBI [redacted] been with the suspect in November, 1971 at the time of the NORJAK and may be able to establish his whereabouts at the pertinent time.

FBI Identification Division, Latent Fingerprint Section, is requested to compare suspect's fingerprints under FBI No. 977 973E with the NORJAK partials.

LEADS:

SAN FRANCISCO

Will assign SA [redacted] to interview suspect's [redacted] and will search files to determine why RACKSTRAW was considered a suspect in NORJAK in 1971. Advise Seattle and Sacramento if he was interviewed and eliminated as a suspect in 1971.

SEATTLE

Will consider RACKSTRAW as a suspect and set out other logical leads.

ST. LOUIS

Will review RACKSTRAW's military record under SSAN 546-54-1279 and send Seattle a copy of it and will attempt to locate good copies of any 1971 photos of RACKSTRAW for the Seattle Division.

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SC 164-50

SACRAMENTO

AT STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA. Will remain alert to any clues that might arise concerning NORJAK during local investigation of RACKSTRAW on murder and theft charges.

ARMED & DANGEROUS

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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93  
6Date of transcription 3/8/78

following information:

She works for [redacted]  
and has home phone [redacted]

She is [redacted] ROBERT WESLEY JONES

PHILIP RACKSTRAW, who was recently discovered as a murder victim.

PHIL RACKSTRAW [redacted]

[redacted] PHILIP never adopted JONES and JONES is his true name, although he always used the last name of RACKSTRAW in school and when he went into the Army.

She realizes that a murder warrant has been issued against JONES for the murder of [redacted] stepfather, but she will await the verdict of the court before deciding as to his guilt.

She denied any knowledge that ROBERT is identical to "D. B. COOPER", but she recalled that during the fall of 1971, ROBERT was just "floating around" because he was being sought on some fraud warrant out of Alabama. (Houston County, Dothan, Alabama) He intentionally did not keep his exact whereabouts known to his family.

She realizes D. B. COOPER had a knowledge of navigation and of parachuting and ROBERT is highly skilled at both. She believed he received his commercial flying license some time in the fall of 1971, because at Christmas, 1971. [redacted]

She recalled that it was about this time that he worked for some real estate firm in the Los Angeles area and part of his work was the promotion of some land in Oregon, back in an area so remote that there were no roads and ROBERT had to fly prospects in there to see the land.

Interviewed on 3/3/78 at [redacted] California File # SC 164-50  
SE 164-81

by SA [redacted] tjs Date dictated 3/3/78

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DB Cooper-15962

164-81-741

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SC 164-50

When he first got out of the Army, in June, 1971, he first traveled around the south, for about a month, before he came back home to California. He stayed with his mom for a while and then when he heard he was wanted in Alabama he moved in with her for awhile. He then moved down to the San Jose area and from there he went to San Fernando to work for the real estate company. He seemed to have money and he frequently rented airplanes. He was always a pretty good "spender", but she has no recollection of his having any unusual amount of money during the fall of 1971. He got his real estate license when he moved to San Jose, she thought, although the land promotion firm that hired him was in San Fernando. She does not recall the name of the girlfriend he had for a short time in the San Jose area. but it was her recollection California. b6 b7C

He broke up with [redacted] and he did not meet [redacted] until after 1971.

In a recent conversation she had [redacted]  
[redacted] b6 b7C

ROBERT, [redacted] not surprised at the murder accusation against ROBERT because on one occasion [redacted]

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

O  
9331Date of transcription 3/8/78[redacted] Stockton  
Police Department, furnished the following information:b6  
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While returning ROBERT WESLEY JONES, also known as Robert Wesley Rackstraw, from New York to California, on March 3, 1978, he listened when JONES mentioned the "D. B. COOPER" case. JONES had earlier refused to sign a rights and waiver form.

JONES mentioned that he was one of 1500 men who were members of the Green Berets and who had the requisite skills to pull off the COOPER caper. JONES claimed the FBI interviewed all 1500 of them and left the inference he had been cleared of any involvement.

JONES furnished no other information of value but his attitude during the entire time was that he was vehemently against the "system", or "establishment".

It is noted that JONES had been forced to resign from the Army about five months before the hijack took place.

Interviewed on 3/6/78 at Stockton, California File # SC 164-50  
SE 164-81

by SA [redacted] js Date dictated 3/6/78

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DB Cooper-15964

164-21-7812

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Q1Date of transcription 3/8/78

[redacted] Stockton Police Department, furnished the following information:

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On March 6, 1978, while ROBERT WESLEY JONES was making a court appearance he had a brief conversation with [redacted]

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[redacted] asked JONES when he was at Ft. Cronkite and JONES replied in 1968. [redacted] advised that there was no Miranda warning given and no questioning was made concerning the D. B. COOPER hijacking.

[redacted] are attempting to clear up their explosives case and have told JONES that they are not interested in prosecuting him on the explosives case, but just want to clear their cases. On this basis he has been talking to them.

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He remarked that the FBI was looking for him on the Felton Quarry burglary or how the explosives were used but they never came to see him. He admitted that he was acquainted with [redacted] the Quarry, but denied involvement in the theft.

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Interviewed on 3/7/78 at Stockton, California File # SC 164-50  
SE 164-81

by SA [redacted] js Date dictated 3/7/78

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164-81-77  
DB Cooper-15965

F B I

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
 Facsimile  
 Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 E F T O  
 CLEAR

AIRTEL

Date 3/9/78

TO: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)

FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (P)

SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)

OO: Seattle

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Re Sacramento airtel to Seattle dated 3/6/78.

Enclosed for Seattle are the original and one copy of FD 302's reflecting interviews with [redacted]

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Lead to follow up on issuance of suspect's flying licenses with FAA is being left up to the office of origin. This data is reportedly available from the FAA General Aviation District Office, Oakland, California.

LEAD:SACRAMENTO

AT SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA. Will check with California Department of Real Estate, 714 P Street, to determine dates in the fall of 1971, that they dealt with suspect as a real estate salesman and obtain pertinent residence addresses during October - December, 1971. He registered as ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW, born 10/16/43, at Cleveland, Ohio.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2 Seattle (Encl. 6)  
 3-Sacramento [initials]  
 WLL:js  
 (4)

164-51-7015-7

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| MAR 11 1978   |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

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Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_

(Number) (Time)

DB Cooper-15966



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D. C. 20537

## REPORT

of the

## IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

## LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION

YOUR FILE NO. 164-50 (P)  
 FBI FILE NO. 164-2111  
 LATENT CASE NO.

March 16, 1978

b6  
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TO: SAC, Sacramento

RE: NORJAK;

*Sus: Robert Wesley Rackstraw*

REFERENCE: Airtel 3-6-78  
 EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY: Sacramento  
 SPECIMENS:

The unidentified latent fingerprints and latent impression previously reported in the captioned case were compared with the available fingerprints of Robert Wesley Rackstraw, aka Robert Wesley Jones, FBI #977973E, but no identification was effected. No palm prints were located here for Rackstraw.

② - Seattle (164-81)

11.11.71 - 25188  
sub 933  
8  
8

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Acting Assistant Director, Identification Division |  |
| FILE   |  |
| 11   |  |
| b6<br>b7C  |  |

REGISTRATION FEE

\$4.00

ORS 493.050



OREGON PILOT REGISTRATION RENEWAL REMINDER

REGISTRATION PERIOD FROM 01/01/78 TO 12/31/79

PLEASE REVIEW THE BELOW INFORMATION. CROSS OUT ENTRIES IN ERROR AND  
WRITE IN THE CORRECT INFORMATION. FAA PILOT CERTIFICATE NUMBER MUST BE  
ENTERED BY ALL BUT STUDENT PILOTS.

FAA PILOT CERTIFICATE #: 2104631

FAA STUDENT PILOT #: NOT APPLICABLE

DATE OF BIRTH: 10-16-43  
Mo. Day Year

RACKSTRAW, ROBERT W  
PO BOX 352  
VALLEY SPRINGS

CA 95252

OREGON

COUNTY (NON-OR STATE): CALIFORNIA

HOME PHONE: 7721245  
BUSINESS PHONE: 7721756

INSTRUMENT RATING: YES

FOR AIRCRAFT OWNERS ONLY  
AIRCRAFT OWNER: NO      AIRCRAFT USED FOR BUSINESS: N.A.

FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR: YES

FAA AIRCRAFT #: N.A.      AIRCRAFT USED FOR PLEASURE: N.A.

\*\*\*HIGHEST PILOT CERTIFICATE\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*TYPE OF AIRCRAFT RATING\*\*\*\*\*

STUDENT: NOT APPLICABLE

SINGLE-ENGINE-LAND: YES      GLIDER: NO

PRIVATE: NOT APPLICABLE

SINGLE-ENGINE-SEA: NO      HELICOPTER: YES

COMMERCIAL: YES

MULTI-ENGINE-LAND: YES      BALLOON: NO

AIR TRANSPORT: NO

MULTI-ENGINE-SEA: NO      OTHER: NO

FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW

TOTAL PILOT FLYING HOURS \_\_\_\_\_

For Office Use Only

PILOT HOURS FLOWN PAST 12 MONTHS: \_\_\_\_\_

Admin. Code R

BUSINESS \_\_\_\_\_ PLEASURE \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

County Code \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF PILOT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AND YOUR REMITTANCE OF \$4 TO:

AERONAUTICS DIVISION  
3040 25th Street S. E.  
Salem, Oregon 97310

Phone: (503) 378-4880

Appropriate Oregon Revised Statutes  
are printed on the reverse side.

a division of the

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

164-81-7826 933

F B I

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
 Facsimile  
 Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 E F T O  
 CLEAR

AIRTEL

Date 4/3/78

TO: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)

FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (P)

SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)

OO: SE

933

Re Sacramento airtel to Bureau, 3/6/78.

Enclosed for San Francisco and Seattle is  
 one copy each of insert of SC

b6  
b7C

It is noted that neither real estate firm listed  
 for suspect in the records of the Department of Real  
 Estate was set out on his resume.

Police Department investigators advise that his  
 papers show him renting numerous airplanes in San Jose,  
 California, during 1972, but earliest one located prior  
 to that was 12/7/71.

Seattle is requested to advise if they desire  
 palm prints taken of suspect RACKSTRAW for submission to  
 Latent Fingerprint Section.

ARMED & DANGEROUS

D.S.I.  
(P)

2 - Seattle (Enc. 1) *rel 18*  
 1 - San Francisco (164-220) (Info) (Enc. 1)  
 2 - Sacramento  
 WLL/ab  
 (5)

933-12

*164-81-7895 sub 933-12*

|            |         |
|------------|---------|
| SEARCHED   | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED   |
| APR 6 1978 |         |

*T/V*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number)b6  
b7C

DB Cooper-16013

F B I

Date: 4/7/78

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Precedence)

TO: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50)

FROM: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)  (P)

SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
OO: Seattle  
Bufile 164-2111

Re: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
Sub  933

Re Sacramento airtel to Seattle, 4/3/78.

LEADS:

SACRAMENTO DIVISION

At Sacramento, California

Will obtain and forward to the Latent Fingerprint Section of the Identification Division palm prints of suspect RACKSTRAW for comparison with NORJAK partials.

ARMED & DANGEROUS.

2 - Sacramento

3 - Seattle

RNN:jsb

(5)

*AND*

933-B

*sub*

164-81-7852

*N*

b6  
b7C

*as*  
Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized *o*  
Indexed *o*  
Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed *o* Special Agent in Charge

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
 Facsimile  
 Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 E F T O  
 CLEAR

AIRTEL

Date 5/5/78

TO: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)

FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (P)

SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)

OO: Seattle

Re: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
 Sub Number 933

b6  
b7C

Re Seattle airtel to Sacramento dated 4/7/78.

Suspect RACKSTRAW was approached by SA [REDACTED] on 4/24/78, at the San Joaquin County Jail, French Camp, California, and he refused palm prints or interview without permission of his attorney. He identified his attorney as [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was contacted and he advised SA [REDACTED] that he did not desire to have his client interviewed concerning NORJAK, but that he was agreeable to palm prints being taken.

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On 5/4/78, SA [REDACTED] returned to the jail to take the palm prints, but RACKSTRAW again declined and advised that he wanted SA [REDACTED] to contact his attorney, [REDACTED] Oakland California, telephone [REDACTED] He stated that [REDACTED] is his primary attorney, [REDACTED] in Calaveras County.

b6  
b7C

[REDACTED] was telephonically contacted by SA [REDACTED] on 5/4/78, and he advised that it would be necessary for the government to get a court order to obtain the palm prints. He stated RACKSTRAW has denied being D. B. COOPER, but he does not want his client interviewed concerning it nor will he cooperate in the investigation as it might possibly not be in RACKSTRAW's best interest.

b6  
b7C

② Seattle

3-San Francisco (164-220)  
 2-Sacramento

Approved: WLL:js  
 (7)

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Number) (Time)

DB Cooper-16015

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| SEARCHED    | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED  | FILED   |
| MAY 10 1978 |         |
| 164-81-7881 |         |
| 14          |         |
| IN          |         |

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b7C

SC 164-50

On 5/4/78 this matter was discussed with AUSA [redacted] Sacramento, California, and he advised that the court order should be obtained by the Seattle Office through the U. S. Attorney at Seattle.

b6  
b7C

On 5/4/78, [redacted] Stockton Police Department, advised he has heard that [redacted] is a lawyer in Oakland [redacted]

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b7C

[redacted] He wondered if this would indicate that RACKSTRAW's suspected involvement in the 1975 theft of the explosives at the Felton Quarry, Santa Cruz, California, some of which were later recovered from the NWLF by the FBI at Richmond, California, in early 1976, might mean that RACKSTRAW intentionally obtained the explosives for the radicals. He stated that [redacted] reportedly was formerly in partnership with [redacted] another reported [redacted] reportedly [redacted] by the San Francisco Police Department, is [redacted] and has [redacted]

Seattle Division will discuss this matter of palm prints with the U. S. Attorney to determine if a court order will issue or whether it has to be handled as a subpoena to the Federal Grand Jury in Seattle. It is noted that RACKSTRAW is presently feigning a back injury which requires him to be transported in a wheel chair, and custodial personnel feel he is doing this in an attempt to effect a possible escape attempt. If U. S. Marshals are to transport him they should be warned that RACKSTRAW is a former U. S. Army Green Beret and Vietnam veteran and is highly skilled in the use of his hands and feet as weapons.

San Francisco Division will advise if the involvement of [redacted] on the defense team possibly indicates some interest by the NWLF in protecting their source of explosives. RACKSTRAW is known to have purchased a great deal explosive between the time he murdered his

b6  
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SC 164-50

stepfather during the summer of 1977, and the time he fled to Iran in early 1978, and at least one case of the explosives has not been traced.

San Francisco will also furnish Sacramento the results of investigation requested in 3/6/78, Sacramento airtel to Bureau.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
 Facsimile  
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:  
 Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:  
 TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 E F T O  
 CLEAR

Date 5/24/78

TO: SAC, PORTLAND  
 FROM: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)(P)  
 SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
 OO: SEATTLE

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
 SUB NUMBER 933

Re Sacramento airtel to Seattle, dated 5/5/78.

Enclosed for the Portland Division is one (1) copy of referenced communication.

For the information of the Portland Division, RACKSTRAW has been suggested as a suspect in this matter because he resembles the artist's composite of Unsub, and because of his military background particularly his paratrooper training. He appears to be fully capable of successfully affecting the Norjak hijacking.

LEADS:

PORLAND DIVISION

At Portland, Oregon

Will discuss with the United States Attorney's Office in Portland the feasibility of obtaining a subpoena for the palm prints of ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2 - Portland (Encl. 1)

2 - Sacramento

3 - Seattle (164-81) *m*

RNN:ecf

(7)

*6*  
 Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
 Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
 Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Filed \_\_\_\_\_

*Sub 933-15*  
 164-81-7914

*N*

b6  
 b7C

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Number) (Time)

Per \_\_\_\_\_

FBI/DOJ

DB Cooper-16018

X Airtel

7/5/78

TO: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50)  
FROM: SAC, PORTLAND (164-41) (P)  
SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
(OO: Seattle)  
Bufile 164-2111

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
SUB NUMBER 933

Re Sacramento airtel to Seattle, 5/5/78; Seattle  
airtel to Portland, 5/24/78.

Contact with USA SIDNEY I. LEZAK, District of Oregon, Portland, Oregon, on 6/12/78, determined that USA LEZAK wished to have the matter of the means of obtaining RACKSTRAW's palm prints researched before taking any action. He advised he would have the matter researched and advise.

On 6/26/78, USA LEZAK advised he had turned the matter over to First AUSA [redacted] District of Oregon.

On 7/3/78, First AUSA [redacted] advised that he wishes to explore the possibility of obtaining RACKSTRAW's palm prints through some other means than a subpoena or a court order. He accordingly requested that the identity of the District Attorney of the locality in which RACKSTRAW is to be tried for murder be obtained and furnished to him, so that he may contact that District Attorney and discuss the matter with him.

2 - Sacramento  
② - Seattle (164-81)  
2 - Portland

RPH:ceh  
(6)

Sub 933-16

164-81-7973

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| JUL 6 1978    |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |
|               |         |

PD 164-41

LEAD

SACRAMENTO

AT SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA. Will obtain the name of the District Attorney prosecuting RACKSTRAW on local charges, and forward same to Portland Division to furnish to First AUSA [redacted]. Will note that it is not clear from referenced Sacramento airtel to Seattle whether this would be the District Attorney of San Joaquin County or the District Attorney of Calaveras County.

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AIRTEL

7/27/78

TO: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)  
FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (RUC)  
SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
OO: SEATTLE  
BUFILE 164-2111

Re ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW Sub Number 933

b6  
b7C

Re Seattle airtel to Sacramento, 7/6/78.

On 7/26/78, [REDACTED] Calaveras County SO advised that he expected the trial of ROBERT RACKSTRAW was in its final stages and expected to be completed in two weeks.

b6  
b7C

The following investigation was conducted by SC

b6  
b7C

AT SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA:

On 7/21/78, [REDACTED] California Department of Motor Vehicles, Driver's License Section, advised that a search of their files failed to locate any California driver's license for [REDACTED] date of birth [REDACTED] described as 6', 185 lbs., brown hair, and blue eyes.

b6  
b7C

No record could be located for [REDACTED] aka [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

No further investigation is outstanding in the Sacramento Division, therefore, this matter is being RUC'd at this time.

② - Seattle  
2 - Little Rock (164-22)  
1 - Sacramento  
TRK:mml  
(5)

164-81-7997

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| JUL 29 1978   |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

15

XX AIRTEL

7/12/78

TO: SAC, PORTLAND (164-41)  
FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (P)  
SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
OO: SEATTLE  
(BUFILE 164-2111)

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
SUB NUMBER 933

Re Portland airtel to Sacramento dated 7/5/78.

On 7/12/78, [REDACTED], Calavares County Sheriff's Office, advised that RACKSTRAW is currently on trial in Calavares County for murder and is being prosecuted by DA JOSEPH KILEY. He advised KILEY could be reached at number (209) 754-3887.

On 7/12/78, contact with the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office, Stockton, California, revealed that the name of the Assistant DA handling the RACKSTRAW case in Stockton is [REDACTED]

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2 - Portland  
2 - Seattle (164-81)  
2 - Sacramento  
TJK/kmc  
(6)

18  
SUB 933-18  
164-81-7998

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| JUL 15 1978   |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

DB Cooper-16022

8/10/78

TO: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)  
FROM: SAC, PORTLAND (164-41) (P)  
SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
(OO: Seattle  
Bufile #164-2111

RE ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
Sub #933

Re Portland airtel to Sacramento dated 7/5/78; and  
Sacramento airtel to Portland dated 7/12/78.

Information contained in referenced Sacramento airtel  
to Portland was furnished on 8/7/78 to First Assistant U.S.  
Attorney [redacted] for the District of Oregon who had  
been on vacation prior to that time.

On 8/8/78, AUSA [redacted] advised that he had been in  
telephonic contact with the District Attorney of Calavares  
County, California, JOSEPH KILEY, and had determined that  
suspect RACKSTRAW had been acquitted of the murder charge for  
which he was tried in Calavares County. [redacted] then  
telephonically contacted Deputy District Attorney [redacted]  
[redacted] of the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office, Stockton,  
California. [redacted] advised [redacted] that suspect RACKSTRAW  
is scheduled to be tried on various charges in San Joaquin  
County beginning in September, 1978. Meanwhile, RACKSTRAW is  
free on \$60,000 bail.

[redacted] related to [redacted] that he has worked very  
closely for a number of years with the FBI Resident Agent at  
Stockton, SA [redacted] and he thinks very highly of SA [redacted]  
He stated that he would make every effort to see to it that  
major case fingerprints of RACKSTRAW are obtained at some point  
during the forthcoming prosecution in September, 1978.

2 - Seattle  
2 - Sacramento (164-50)  
2 - Portland  
RPH:kgf  
(6)

164-81-7999

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| AUG 12 1978   |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

[Signature]

DB Cooper-16023

PD 164-41

LEADS

SACRAMENTO

AT STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA. Will maintain contact with Deputy District Attorney [redacted] for progress in his efforts to obtain major case fingerprints of suspect RACKSTRAW for elimination purposes in this matter.

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

1  
SF 164-220  
JRO/ds

SLA 933

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA [redacted]

b6  
b7C

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

San Francisco indices contain no reference to  
ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW or ROBERT WESLEY JONES to the  
NORJAK investigation (SF 164-220) prior to 1978.

AT [redacted] CALIFORNIA

[redacted] was recontacted regarding [redacted]  
[redacted] whereabouts in 1971. [redacted] recalled that [redacted]  
left ROBERT RACKSTRAW at Fort Rucker, Alabama, in early 1971,  
[redacted] California, area. She recalled that  
the Subject was released from the Army some time in mid year  
1971. She believes that he was [redacted] California,  
area in the summer of 1971, [redacted] She could  
not recall where he was in the fall of 1971, or specifically  
Thanksgiving, 1971.

b6  
b7C

[redacted] vaguely recalled that RACKSTRAW may have been  
flying a plane or helicopter for some land development company  
in Oregon or Washington in late 1971. She believed that his  
job required him to fly people over large land tract areas.

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b7C

[redacted] could recall no other particulars about [redacted]  
[redacted] location or employment in 1971.

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b7C

164-81-8637

SLA 933-20

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| OCT 27 1978   |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)

9/27/78

SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (164-220) (P) (SJRA)

UNSUB, aka  
D. B. Cooper  
CAA - HIJACKING (A)  
OO: SE

Re Portland letter to San Francisco dated 2/28/78.

Enclosed for Seattle are two (2) copies of an investigative insert showing investigation by SA [redacted] [redacted] at San Francisco and [redacted], California. This insert concerns investigation regarding ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW and ROBERT WESLEY JONES.

Regarding the information contained in referenced Portland letter to San Francisco, be advised that San Francisco has reviewed the information contained in letter furnished by [redacted] and after much due deliberation, San Francisco, has determined that no further logical investigation appears warranted to involve or eliminate the suspect suggested. San Francisco, therefore, is taking no further action with regard to this letter.

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b6  
b7C

2 - Seattle (Encs. 2)  
2 San Francisco  
TPW:rvs  
(4) #10

164-81-5442-21

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| OCT 2 1978    |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

13

DB Cooper-16026

SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)

11/8/78

SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (RUC)

NORJAK (A)  
OO: Seattle  
Bufile 164-2111

Re: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
Subject No. 933

*Sub-933*

Re Portland airtel to Seattle, 8/10/78.

On 10/11/78, one day prior to his trial in Stockton, California, ROBERT RACKSTRAW rented a \$55,000 plane from Bridgeford Flying Service and later that day called in a "Mayday" advising that his plane was on fire and he was forced to ditch in the ocean approximately 12 miles out of Monterey, California.

Investigation by the U.S. Coast Guard failed to find any sign of wreckage and it is believed that subject flew the plane to Mexico.

In view of the above, Sacramento is conducting no further investigation on this matter; however, if subject is located and arrested he will be returned to Stockton, California and major case prints will be obtained.

② - Seattle  
1 - Portland (164-41)  
1 - Sacramento  
TRK/emh  
(4)

*Sub-933*

164-81-8629 22

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| NOV 10 1978   |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

DB Cooper-16027

160288 2301353

RE SE PR SC

RE LA

R 051453Z FEB 79FM LOS ANGELES (164-497)

TO SEATTLE (164-9L) ROUTINE

PORTLAND (164-41) ROUTINE

SACRAMENTO ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

NORJAK (A), OO: SEATTLE, RUMBLE 164-2111.

RE PORTLAND TELETYPE TO LOS ANGELES FEBRUARY 3, 1979.

FOR INFORMATION OF SACRAMENTO, PORTLAND ADVISED IN TELETYPE THAT FOREST WESLEY PACKSTRAW HAS BEEN CONSIDERED AS A POSSIBLE SUSPECT IN THIS MATTER. PACKSTRAW IS CURRENTLY BELIEVED TO BE IN CUSTODY OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES AT FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA.

PACKSTRAW WAS RELEASED TO THE CUSTODY OF [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (PHO), SAN JOAQUIN SHERIFF'S OFFICE, FOR RETURN TO STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA.

SACRAMENTO AT STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA, WILL CONTACT LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN MAJOR CASE FINGERPRINTS OF

b6  
b7C

Sub 933<sup>23</sup>

164-81-8049  
FEB 05 1979  
FEB 05 1979

DB Cooper-16028

PAGE TWO (LA 164-497) UNCLAS

PACKSTUFF, INCLUDING PALM PRINTS, AND FORWARD SAME IMMEDIATELY TO FBI IDENTIFICATION DIVISION FOR COMPARISON WITH UNIDENTIFIED LATENT FINGERPRINT IMPRESSIONS DEVELOPED IN THE HIJACKED AIRCRAFT IN THIS MATTER.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

BT

13618597 SF 1

DB Cooper-16029

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
 Facsimile  
 AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNCLAS E F T O  
 UNCLAS

Date 2/6/79

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (164-2111)  
ATTN: FBI IDENT

FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (P) *Sub 953*

SUBJECT: NORJAK  
OO: Seattle

Re Sacramento airtel to Seattle, 11/8/78, and  
Portland teletype to Sacramento 2/5/79.

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW

Enclosed for the Bureau are three copies of palm  
prints of ROBERT W. RACKSTRAW.

RACKSTRAW was apprehended 1/26/79, by the Fullerton  
Police Department, Fullerton, California, for trying to  
have copies made of a forged federal pilot's license.

On 2/5/79,  San Joaquin  
County Sheriff's Office, provided the enclosed palm prints  
obtained from RACKSTRAW at Fullerton, California.   
stated that the original prints are being retained by his  
office for use in RACKSTRAW's local prosecution.

Sacramento is obtaining major case prints which  
will be submitted when available.

2-Bureau (Encl. 3)  
2-Portland (164-41)  
2-Seattle (164-81)  
2-Sacramento  
TRK/ab  
(8)

b6  
b7C

*Sub 955-29*

164-81-86418

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| FEB 8 1979    |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |
| Per           |         |

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_

(Number)

(Time)

SC 164-50

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU

The Bureau is requested to compare palm prints of RACKSTRAW to those of unknown subject in captioned hijacking.

2/6/79

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)  
FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (164-220) (P) (SJRA)  
RE: NORJAK (A)  
OO: SE

ROBERT RACKSTRAW

On 2/5/79, [REDACTED] (PROTECT IDENTITY),  
[REDACTED] telephone [REDACTED]  
telephonically contacted the FBI, San Jose, Calif., and  
advised that [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED] ROBERT RACKSTRAW. Source stated  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Source advised that he is providing this information  
to the FBI because he read in the newspaper that RACKSTRAW  
is possibly identical to D.B. COOPER, the man who hijacked  
an airliner in 1971 and thought that the FBI would possibly  
want to talk [REDACTED] concerning RACKSTRAW's activities.

The source requested that his identity be protected  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

b6  
b7C  
b7D

On 2/5/79, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] California, telephone [REDACTED] appeared at the  
San Jose FBI Resident Agency and provided the following  
information:

[REDACTED] met ROBERT RACKSTRAW during [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Recently  
[REDACTED] saw a picture of RACKSTRAW in the paper and identified  
him [REDACTED]

b6  
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② - Seattle  
2 - San Francisco  
WRS:rvs  
(4)

Sub 9335  
164-81-8069

164-81-8069

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| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| FEB 9 1979    |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

DB Cooper-16032

SF 164-220

WRS:rvs

[redacted] met RACKSTRAW while [redacted] working in a restaurant named [redacted] California. RACKSTRAW came into the restaurant [redacted] a casual conversation occurred and [redacted] and RACKSTRAW became acquainted.

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[redacted] knew RACKSTRAW by his true name. [redacted]

Shortly after meeting, [redacted] and RACKSTRAW moved to San Jose, California. [redacted] is certain that she and RACKSTRAW were in San Jose during November of 1971. During the period in question, November, 1971, to 1973, she saw RACKSTRAW on a daily basis, [redacted]. RACKSTRAW very rarely was gone overnight and [redacted] cannot remember that RACKSTRAW was gone overnight during November of 1971.

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RACKSTRAW smoked occasionally, but [redacted] could not remember his brand of cigarettes.

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Referring to RACKSTRAW's mannerisms, she described him as robust, but polite in speech, with no noticeable accent. He talked fast on occasion.

During November and December, 1971, RACKSTRAW had a full mustache, and she does not remember him shaving it off. At the time RACKSTRAW was about twenty-eight (28) years old and looked his age.

After [redacted] RACKSTRAW moved to San Jose in September or October of 1971, RACKSTRAW enrolled in and attended real estate school. About January of 1972, RACKSTRAW [redacted]

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[redacted] Later on [redacted]

[redacted] California, [redacted]

[redacted] California. The last four numbers of her telephone number are [redacted]

In 1972, RACKSTRAW got a second job working at the Radio Shack in Cupertino, California.

[redacted] advised that there was no indication whatsoever that RACKSTRAW obtained a sizeable amount of money during the time that she knew him, 1971-1973. [redacted]

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SF 164-220  
WRS:rvs

stated that during this time, there was no indication that RACKSTRAW was involved in any illegal activity.

AIRTEL

3/8/79

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (164-2111)  
FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (RUC)  
SUBJECT: NORJAK  
OO: Seattle

Re Los Angeles teletype to Sacramento, 2/5/79,  
and Sacramento airtel to Bureau, 2/6/79.

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW

ROBERT RACKSTRAW, San Joaquin County Jail, French  
Camp, California, refused to give consent to having major  
case prints taken without the advice of his attorney,  
[redacted] Oakland, California.

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b7C

On 3/7/79, Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney [redacted]  
[redacted] Eastern District of California, Sacramento,  
California, contacted RACKSTRAW's attorney, [redacted]  
Oakland, California, and advised that [redacted] desired the  
FBI to obtain a court order prior to obtaining major case  
prints from ROBERT RACKSTRAW.

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In view of the above, Sacramento is conducting  
no further investigation in this matter subsequent to receiving  
a subpoena for RACKSTRAW's major case prints.

2 - Bureau  
2 - Portland (164-41)  
② - Seattle (164-81)  
1 - Sacramento  
TRK:s1b  
(7)

Sub 933-26

164-81-8070

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|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| MAR 10 1979   |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

DB Cooper-16035



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D. C. 20537

## REPORT

of the

### LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

YOUR FILE NO. **164-50 (P)**  
 FBI FILE NO. **164-2111**  
 LATENT CASE NO.

March 8, 1979

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b7C

TO: **SAC, Sacramento**

RE: **NORJAK**

REFERENCE: **Airtel 2/6/79**  
 EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY: **Sacramento**  
 SPECIMENS: **Copies of finger and palm prints of Robert W. Rackstraw,  
FBI #977973E**

**The unidentified latent prints previously reported in this  
case are not identical with the submitted prints, which are enclosed.**

**Enclosures (3)**

**2 - Seattle (164-81)**

Sub 933-27

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|----------------------|-----------------|
| SEARCHED             | INDEXED         |
| SERIALIZED <i>Sp</i> | FILED <i>Sp</i> |
| MAR 12 1979          |                 |
| FBI-SEATTLE          |                 |
| 3                    |                 |

FBI/DOJ

164-81-8071

DB Cooper-16036

F B I

## TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
 Facsimile  
 Airtel

PRECEDENCE:  
 Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:  
 TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNCLAS E F T O  
 UNCLAS

Date 3/16/79

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (164-2111)

FROM: SAC, PORTLAND (164-41) (P)

SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
(00: Seattle)Re ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW, Sub #933

Re Sacramento airtel to the Bureau, dated 3/8/79.

For information of all recipients, on 3/15/79, AUSA  
[redacted] District of Oregon, Portland, Oregon, advised  
as follows:

Departmental Attorney [redacted] telephonically advised  
[redacted] this date that he had received a communication from one  
[redacted] Attorney. [redacted] Oakland, California,  
telephone [redacted] advised him that he represents  
a client whom he did not identify who is willing to provide  
information which will prove he is the UNSUB in this matter  
in return for immunity from federal prosecution. [redacted]  
instructed [redacted] to have the Portland Case Agent contact  
[redacted] by telephone in an attempt to determine the validity  
of this claim and to evaluate the potential for benefit to this  
investigation.

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It is noted that during the period April, 1978 to  
March, 1979, investigation has been conducted to eliminate  
or involve one ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW. RACKSTRAW is now  
only 35 years old, and at the time of the hijacking in this  
matter, would have been approximately 28 years old. UNSUB in  
this matter was described as late 40's or early 50's in 1971,  
with the median age of the description being 48 years. This

2 - Bureau  
② - Seattle (164-81)  
2 - San Francisco (164-220)  
2 - Portland

RPH:cam  
(8)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number) (Time)

Sub 933-200

164-81-5772

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| SEARCHED      | INDEXED     |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED       |
| MAR 20 1979   |             |
| FBI - SEATTLE |             |
| Per           | [Signature] |

DB Cooper-16037

PD 164-41

would indicate a disparity of approximately 20 years, and RACKSTRAW would not appear to be a very good suspect.

RACKSTRAW has been the subject of highly publicized prosecution for major crimes in California, and is now incarcerated in a California penitentiary. The Sacramento Office advised in May, 1978, that at that time RACKSTRAW was in custody feigning a back injury which required him to be transported in a wheelchair. Custodial personnel felt he was doing this in an attempt to effect a possible escape. It was noted that RACKSTRAW is a former U. S. Army Green Beret and Vietnam veteran highly skilled in the use of his hands and feet as weapons.

Sacramento Office further advised that on 5/4/78, [REDACTED] Stockton, California Police Department advised he has heard that [REDACTED] is a lawyer in Oakland, California. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] He wondered if this might indicate that RACKSTRAW's suspected involvement in the 1975 theft of explosives at the Felton Quarry, Santa Cruz, California, some of which were later acquired from the New World Liberation Front by the FBI at Richmond, California in early 1976, might mean that RACKSTRAW intentionally obtained the explosives for the radicals. He stated that [REDACTED] reportedly was formerly in partnership with [REDACTED] another reported [REDACTED] reportedly [REDACTED] San Francisco Police Department. [REDACTED]

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In view of the above information, Portland SA [REDACTED] after consultation with Supervisor [REDACTED] of the Seattle Division, suggested to AUSA [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] in furtherance of Departmental Attorney [REDACTED] request. AUSA [REDACTED] was furnished a list of questions which could be asked anyone claiming to be UNSUB in this matter, the answers to which could only be known by the UNSUB and investigators close to the case. [REDACTED] was not provided with the answers to the questions.

Subsequently, on the same date, [REDACTED] advised he had been in telephonic contact with [REDACTED] who requested the list

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PD 164-41

of questions be furnished him in writing. [redacted] stated he would provide such a written list of questions to [redacted] with the stipulation that [redacted] not release the list of questions.

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The above for information. Portland will maintain contact with AUSA [redacted] for any subsequent developments.

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (164-2111)

FROM : SAC, PORTLAND (164-41) (P)

SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
(OO: Seattle)

DATE: 4/25/79

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
Sub #933

Re Portland airtel to the Bureau, dated 3/16/79.

On 4/23/79, AUSA [redacted] for the District of Oregon, Portland, Oregon, advised he had received a letter from Attorney [redacted] Oakland, California, [redacted]. This letter was a response to [redacted] letter to [redacted] dated 3/15/79, in which [redacted] furnished [redacted] with a list of questions to be answered by [redacted] client prior to any negotiations or discussions concerning the possible prosecution of that client. [redacted] advised the letter from [redacted] stated as follows:

"Dear [redacted]

"I am in receipt of your letter of 15 March, 1979, and agree to abide fully by its terms. I have discussed the contents of said letter with my client. At this point in time, he is not interested in pursuing the matter. This change in plans stems from personal problems which may well resolve themselves in the near future and allow us to once again pursue this topic.

"I shall consider the matter closed until I hear otherwise from my client and, in that event, I will contact you once again.

"Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

"Very truly yours,

"/s/ [redacted]

2 - Bureau  
② - Seattle (164-81)  
2 - San Francisco (164-220)  
2 - Portland  
RPH:cam  
(8)

164-81-8073

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| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
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| APR 28 1979   |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

DB Cooper-16040

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PD 164-41

AUSA [redacted] stated he presumes from the above  
that [redacted] client, as anticipated, was unable to answer  
the questions posed.

In view of the above, Portland does not feel any  
further inquiry concerning this suspect is indicated.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

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FM PORTLAND (164-41) P

TO LOS ANGELES (164-497) ROUTINE

SEATTLE (164-81) ROUTINE

PT

INCLAS

MURJAK (A), OO: SEATTLE, BUFILE 164-2111.

PE SUSPECT ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW, SUB NO. 933.

FOR INFORMATION OF LOS ANGELES, ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW HAS BEEN CONSIDERED AS A POSSIBLE SUSPECT IN THIS MATTER. RACKSTRAW IS CURRENTLY BELIEVED TO BE IN CUSTODY OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES AT FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA.

LOS ANGELES, AT FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA, WILL CONTACT LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN MAJOR CASE FINGERPRINTS OF RACKSTRAW, INCLUDING PALM PRINTS, AND FORWARD SAME IMMEDIATELY TO FBI IDENTIFICATION DIVISION FOR COMPARISON WITH UNIDENTIFIED LATENT FINGERPRINT IMPRESSIONS DEVELOPED IN THE HIJACKED AIRCRAFT IN THIS MATTER.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

BT

164-81-8111 *Sub 933* *Se 30*

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| SERIALIZED     | FILED   |
| FEB 22 1979    |         |
| FBI - PORTLAND |         |
| [Redacted]     |         |

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[redacted]  
29 February 20000

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RE: DB Cooper

Dear Agent [redacted]

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On 22 February 2000, the History Channel presented a 30 minute documentary called "In Search of D.B. Cooper". I remembered the hijacking and decided to watch the program. At about the end of the program a statement was made that "in February 1979, the FBI thought they had their man." They put up a picture and I took notice and could not believe what I was seeing. Then the announcer said, "Robert Wesley Rackstraw, age 35 was being held on another arrest charge and was later cleared in the D.B. Cooper case." I could not believe what I had just seen, but from the profile of the hijacker, I can see why Robert W. Rackstraw would have been a suspect.

This letter is not really about DB Cooper, but rather about Robert W. Rackstraw and who he really is, if anyone knows.

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I am a former Air Force Officer and recently took an early retirement from [redacted] CA. I was [redacted] for the military and JPL.

Last summer, University of Riverside Extension offered an accelerated (4 week) certificate program in Conflict Management. I felt that with [redacted] [redacted] Mediation and Arbitration would allow me to use my background to start a new career. Robert W. Rackstraw was [redacted] and taught Mediation II

Robert Rackstraw held himself out as an attorney, but finally stated he had a JD but had not taken or passed any state bar exam. I have my JD, and I asked him where he got his degree, he mentioned several different schools but you could not get him to state the exact school or year he graduated.

He bragged about all the international arbitration and mediation he did for a living. He then told our class about all his military experiences. Robert was very hard to pin down to specifics or time frames. He mentioned or bragged about all types of military operations, awards etc. The man would have had to be over 100 years old to do all he said he has done in life. His military career was like Forrest Gump. He was in on every action, some CIA, that our country has encountered since WWII.

Robert showed me a picture in an Army Class A uniform with jump wings, and pilot wings. Since I have three children in the military, two of them at West Point, and being former Air Force Officer, he talked to me about his military experience.

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[redacted]  
933 233  
MAR 23 2003  
FBI SEATTLE  
DB Cooper-16043

[REDACTED] formed a group to conduct mediation and arbitrations. Because of his "experience" in mediation and arbitration, we asked Robert if he wanted to join our group to set up a web site.

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He agreed to join our group but provided a very limited resume for our website. He listed BS, BS, JD and LLM but gave no school. He then mentioned mediating 3100 cases but he was never specific. We worked on expanding his resume but had very little facts to deal with. [REDACTED]

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Our group is composed of professional's in law, contracts, real estate and government. After seeing the History Channel program, I taped the second showing and got our group together to review the tape. We are all in agreement that the man shown on the History Channel, "In Search of, DB Cooper" is Robert Wesley Rackstraw, a member of our mediation group. He was 35 when he was a suspect in the DB Cooper case. That was 1979, and he would be 56, which is his age now.

Our concern is that Robert Rackstraw holds himself out as a non practicing attorney, dealing with all the various judges, courts and dispute centers of Riverside and the surrounding areas. He was hired for a short time at UCR Extension as director of Public Law and Policy. The FBI had him arrested for something else and he was a suspect in the DB Cooper case. Our group is very concerned being associated with him, if he has a felony record.

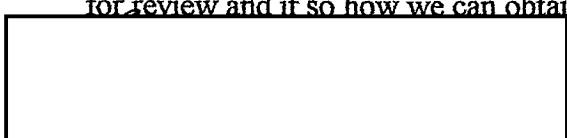
Our group has tried to check him out and has been unable to find any law school from which he might have graduated, the address he gives in Lake Elsinore is an industrial park and his military experience is very questionable.

The History Channel stated that he was arrested, it did not say convicted. We would like to know if we should be concerned about associating professionally with this man.

The group has always been concerned about Robert and his stories but felt it was better to have him on our side, than to have him mad at us because of his mouth and contacts all over the court system.

There are a few of us that feel that maybe you did have your man and he talked his way out of the situation. The man is very much a loner. They stated the suspect wore sun glasses, was a chain smoker, had military experience, possible jump and flying experience. Robert matches all of those clues. We have checked and he owns no property in California, he has several different email addresses, and phones that forward to other numbers. Just a strange man. None of us would be surprised if he was DB Cooper.

Please let us know if any information on Robert Rackstraw's arrest is open to the public for review and if so how we can obtain a copy.



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U.S. Department of Justice



Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

1110 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101-2904  
March 20, 2000



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Dear [redacted]

In reference to your letter dated February 29, 2000 concerning Robert Rackstraw, I am sorry to tell you that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) can't assist you with what you are looking for. While arrest records are usually considered open records, the FBI can only supply an arrest record about a living person to another person if the person whose record is being sought signs a waiver giving up his privacy rights.

As for the issue of Mr. Rackstraw passing himself off as an attorney, you may want to contact California law enforcement authorities. Most states have laws making it illegal to practice law without a license.

For your information, I will pass your letter on to those investigating the D.B. Cooper case.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Mandigo  
Special Agent in Charge

By: [redacted]

[redacted]  
Special Agent

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64-81-Sub 133-32

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| MAR 28 2000 |         |
| FBI SEATTLE |         |

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DB Cooper-16045

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AIRTEL

5/5/78

TO: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)  
FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (P)  
SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
OO: Seattle

Re: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
Sub Number 934

Re Seattle airtel to Sacramento dated 4/7/78.

Suspect RACKSTRAW was approached by SA [redacted] on 4/24/78, at the San Joaquin County Jail, French Camp, California, and he refused palm prints or interview without permission of his attorney. He identified his attorney as [redacted]. [redacted] was contacted and he advised SA [redacted] that he did not desire to have his client interviewed concerning NORJAK, but that he was agreeable to palm prints being taken.

On 5/4/78, SA [redacted] returned to the jail to take the palm prints, but RACKSTRAW again declined and advised that he wanted SA [redacted] to contact his attorney, [redacted] Oakland, California, telephone [redacted]. He stated that [redacted] is his primary attorney, [redacted] in Calaveras County.

[redacted] was telephonically contacted by SA [redacted] on 5/4/78, and he advised that it would be necessary for the government to get a court order to obtain the palm prints. He stated RACKSTRAW has denied being D. B. COOPER, but he does not want his client interviewed concerning it nor will he cooperate in the investigation as it might possibly not be in RACKSTRAW's best interest.

2-Seattle  
3-San Francisco (164-220)  
2-Sacramento  
WLL:js  
(7)

DB Cooper-16520

164-81-7881

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| MAY 10 1978      |         |
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FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
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 AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET  
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Date 5/24/78R  
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TO: SAC, PORTLAND  
 FROM: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)(P)  
 SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
 OO: SEATTLE

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
 SUB NUMBER 933

Re Sacramento airtel to Seattle, dated 5/5/78.

Enclosed for the Portland Division is one (1) copy of referenced communication.

For the information of the Portland Division, RACKSTRAW has been suggested as a suspect in this matter because he resembles the artist's composite of Unsub, and because of his military background particularly his paratrooper training. He appears to be fully capable of successfully affecting the Norjak hijacking.

LEADS:PORTLAND DIVISIONAt Portland, Oregon

Will discuss with the United States Attorney's Office in Portland the feasibility of obtaining a subpoena for the palm prints of ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2 - Portland (Encl. 1)

2 - Sacramento

3 - Seattle (164-81)

RNN:ecf

(7)

164-81-7914

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DB Cooper-16615

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Number) (Time) FBI/DOJ

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PRECEDENCE:  
 Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:  
 TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 E F T O  
 CLEAR

Date 5/24/78

TO: SAC, PORTLAND  
 FROM: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)(P)  
 SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
 OO: SEATTLE

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
 SUB NUMBER 933

Re Sacramento airtel to Seattle, dated 5/5/78.

Enclosed for the Portland Division is one (1) copy of referenced communication.

For the information of the Portland Division, RACKSTRAW has been suggested as a suspect in this matter because he resembles the artist's composite of Unsub, and because of his military background particularly his paratrooper training. He appears to be fully capable of successfully affecting the Norjak hijacking.

LEADS:

PORTLAND DIVISION

At Portland, Oregon

Will discuss with the United States Attorney's Office in Portland the feasibility of obtaining a subpoena for the palm prints of ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2 - Portland (Encl. 1)  
 2 - Sacramento

3 - Seattle (164-81)

RNN:ecf

(7)

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Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Number) (Time)

Per \_\_\_\_\_

FBI/DOJ

DB Cooper-16616

X Airtel

7/5/78

TO: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50)  
FROM: SAC, PORTLAND (164-41) (P)  
SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
(OO: Seattle)  
Bufile 164-2111

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
SUB NUMBER 933

Re Sacramento airtel to Seattle, 5/5/78; Seattle airtel to Portland, 5/24/78.

Contact with USA SIDNEY I. LEZAK, District of Oregon, Portland, Oregon, on 6/12/78, determined that USA LEZAK wished to have the matter of the means of obtaining RACKSTRAW's palm prints researched before taking any action. He advised he would have the matter researched and advise.

On 6/26/78, USA LEZAK advised he had turned the matter over to First AUSA [redacted] District of Oregon.

On 7/3/78, First AUSA [redacted] advised that he wishes to explore the possibility of obtaining RACKSTRAW's palm prints through some other means than a subpoena or a court order. He accordingly requested that the identity of the District Attorney of the locality in which RACKSTRAW is to be tried for murder be obtained and furnished to him, so that he may contact that District Attorney and discuss the matter with him.

2 - Sacramento  
② - Seattle (164-81)  
2 - Portland

RPH:ceh  
(6)

164-81-7973

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| JUL 17 1978    |         |
| FBI - PORTLAND |         |
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DB Cooper-16747

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

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PRECEDENCE:

Immediate  
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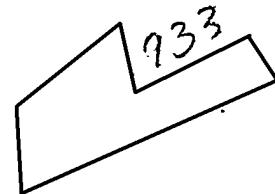
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TOP SECRET  
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AIRTEL

Date 7/27/78

TO: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)  
 FROM: *REW/RAC* SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (RUC)  
 SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
 OO: SEATTLE  
 BUFILE 164-2111



Re ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW Sub Number 933

Re Seattle airtel to Sacramento, 7/6/78.

On 7/26/78, Calaveras County SO advised that he expected the trial of ROBERT RACKSTRAW was in its final stages and expected to be completed in two weeks.

The following investigation was conducted by SC

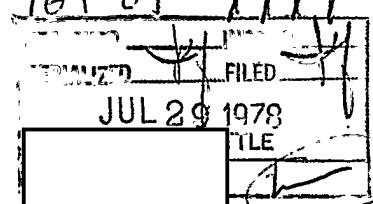
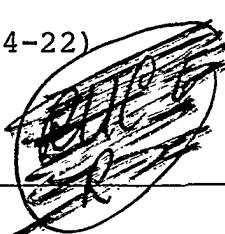
AT SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA:

On 7/21/78, California Department of Motor Vehicles, Driver's License Section, advised that a search of their files failed to locate any California driver's license for date of birth described as 6', 185 lbs., brown hair, and blue eyes.

No record could be located for aka

No further investigation is outstanding in the Sacramento Division, therefore, this matter is being RUC'd at this time.

2 - Seattle  
 2 - Little Rock (164-22)  
 1 - Sacramento  
 TRK:mml  
 (5)



Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number) (Time)

Per \_\_\_\_\_

FBI/DOJ

DB Cooper-16786

XX AIRTEL

7/12/78

TO: SAC, PORTLAND (164-41)  
FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (P)  
SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
CO: SEATTLE  
(BUFILE 164-2111)

133

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
SUB NUMBER 933

Re Portland airtel to Sacramento dated 7/5/78.

On 7/12/78, [REDACTED] Calavares County Sheriff's Office, advised that RACKSTRAW is currently on trial in Calavares County for murder and is being prosecuted by DA JOSEPH KILEY. He advised KILEY could be reached at number (209) 754-3837.

On 7/12/78, contact with the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office, Stockton, California, revealed that the name of the Assistant DA handling the RACKSTRAW case in Stockton is [REDACTED]

b6  
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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2 - Portland  
2 - Seattle (164-81)  
2 - Sacramento  
TAK/kmc  
(6)

164-51-9998

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| SEARCHED    | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED  | FILED   |
| JUL 15 1978 |         |
| LE          |         |

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DB Cooper-16787

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
 Facsimile  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## PRECEDENCE:

Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 E F T O  
 CLEAR

Date 8/10/78R  
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3

TO: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)  
 FROM: SAC, PORTLAND (164-41) (P)  
 SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
 (OO: Seattle  
 Bufile #164-2111

933

RE ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
 Sub #933

Re Portland airtel to Sacramento dated 7/5/78; and  
 Sacramento airtel to Portland dated 7/12/78.

Information contained in referenced Sacramento airtel  
 to Portland was furnished on 8/7/78 to First Assistant U.S.  
 Attorney [redacted] for the District of Oregon who had  
 been on vacation prior to that time.

On 8/8/78, AUSA [redacted] advised that he had been in  
 telephonic contact with the District Attorney of Calavares  
 County, California, JOSEPH KILEY, and had determined that  
 suspect RACKSTRAW had been acquitted of the murder charge for  
 which he was tried in Calavares County. [redacted] then  
 telephonically contacted Deputy District Attorney [redacted]  
 [redacted] of the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office, Stockton,  
 California. [redacted] advised [redacted] that suspect RACKSTRAW  
 is scheduled to be tried on various charges in San Joaquin  
 County beginning in September, 1978. Meanwhile, RACKSTRAW is  
 free on \$60,000 bail.

[redacted] related to [redacted] that he has worked very  
 closely for a number of years with the FBI Resident Agent at  
 Stockton, SA [redacted], and he thinks very highly of SA [redacted].  
 He stated that he would make every effort to see to it that  
 major case fingerprints of RACKSTRAW are obtained at some point  
 during the forthcoming prosecution in September, 1978.

164-81-7909

② Seattle  
 2 - Sacramento (164-50)  
 2 - Portland

RPH:kgf  
 (6)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Number) (Time)

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| SEARCHED    | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED  | FILED   |
| AUG 12 1978 |         |
| E           |         |
| [Redacted]  |         |
| [Signature] |         |
| FBI/DOJ     |         |

DB Cooper-16788

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b7Cb6  
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PD 164-41

LEADS

SACRAMENTO

AT STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA. Will maintain contact with Deputy District Attorney [redacted] for progress in his efforts to obtain major case fingerprints of suspect RACKSTRAW for elimination purposes in this matter.

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

*Sub 433*  
1  
SF 164-220  
JRO/ds

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA [redacted]

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AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

San Francisco indices contain no reference to  
ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW or ROBERT WESLEY JONES to the  
NORJAK investigation (SF 164-220) prior to 1978.

AT [redacted] CALIFORNIA

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[redacted] was recontacted regarding [redacted]  
whereabouts in 1971. [redacted] recalled that [redacted]  
left ROBERT RACKSTRAW at Fort Rucker, Alabama, in early 1971,  
[redacted] California, area. She recalled that  
the Subject was released from the Army some time in mid year  
1971. She believes that he was [redacted] California,  
area in the summer of 1971, [redacted] She could  
not recall where he was in the fall of 1971, or specifically  
Thanksgiving, 1971.

[redacted] vaguely recalled that RACKSTRAW may have been  
flying a plane or helicopter for some land development company  
in Oregon or Washington in late 1971. She believed that his  
job required him to fly people over large land tract areas.

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[redacted] could recall no other particulars about [redacted]  
[redacted] location or employment in 1971.

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164-81-8639

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| OCT 2 1978    |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

DB Cooper-16852

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)

DATE: 9/27/78

FROM : *CPM/PKB* SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (164-220) (P) (SJRA)

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka  
D. B. Cooper  
CAA - HIJACKING (A)  
OO: SE

*Sub 933*

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Re Portland letter to San Francisco dated 2/28/78.

Enclosed for Seattle are two (2) copies of an investigative insert showing investigation by SA [redacted] at San Francisco and [redacted] California. This insert concerns investigation regarding ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW and ROBERT WESLEY JONES.

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Regarding the information contained in referenced Portland letter to San Francisco, be advised that San Francisco has reviewed the information contained in letter furnished by [redacted] and after much due deliberation, San Francisco, has determined that no further logical investigation appears warranted to involve or eliminate the suspect suggested. San Francisco, therefore, is taking no further action with regard to this letter.

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② Seattle (Encs. 2)  
2 - San Francisco  
TPW:rvs  
(4) #10

*recd*



5010-110

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

164-81-80281

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| SEARCHED   | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED   |
| OCT 2 1978 |         |
| FILED      | 1       |

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DB Cooper-16853

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)

DATE: 11/8/78

FROM : SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (RUC)

*Re: RACKSTRAW*  
SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
OO: Seattle  
Bufile 164-2111

Re: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
Subject No. 933

Sub 933-

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Re Portland airtel to Seattle, 8/10/78.

On 10/11/78, one day prior to his trial in Stockton, California, ROBERT RACKSTRAW rented a \$55,000 plane from Bridgeford Flying Service and later that day called in a "Mayday" advising that his plane was on fire and he was forced to ditch in the ocean approximately 12 miles out of Monterey, California.

Investigation by the U.S. Coast Guard failed to find any sign of wreckage and it is believed that subject flew the plane to Mexico.

In view of the above, Sacramento is conducting no further investigation on this matter; however, if subject is located and arrested he will be returned to Stockton, California and major case prints will be obtained.

*RECORDED*

② - Seattle  
1 - Portland (164-41)  
1 - Sacramento  
TRK/emh  
(4)



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

164-81-8029

|               |         |
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| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| NOV 10 1978   |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |
| 12            |         |

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DB Cooper-16854

LA0002 0361853

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R 051853Z FEB 79FM LOS ANGELES (164-497)

TO SEATTLE (164-8L) ROUTINE

PORLTAND (164-41) ROUTINE

SACRAMENTO ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

NORJAK (A), OO: SEATTLE, BUFILE 164-2111.

RE PORTLAND TELETYPE TO LOS ANGELES FEBRUARY 3, 1979.

FOR INFORMATION OF SACRAMENTO, PORTLAND ADVISED IN RE  
TELETYPE THAT ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW HAS BEEN CONSIDERED  
AS A POSSIBLE SUSPECT IN THIS MATTER. RACKSTRAW IS CURRENTLY  
BELIEVED TO BE IN CUSTODY OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES AT FULLERTON,  
CALIFORNIA.

RACKSTRAW WAS RELEASED TO THE CUSTODY OF A [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (PH), SAN JOAQUIN SHERIFF'S OFFICE, FOR RETURN TO  
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA.

SACRAMENTO AT STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA, WILL CONTACT LOCAL  
AUTHORITIES AND ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN MAJOR CASE FINGERPRINTS OF

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164-81-8047

EE605 070

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DB Cooper-16921

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
 Facsimile  
 AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNCLAS E F T O  
 UNCLAS

Date 2/6/79

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (164-2111)  
ATTN: FBI IDENT

FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (P)

SUBJECT: NORJAK  
OO: Seattle

*Sub 753*

Re Sacramento airtel to Seattle, 11/8/78, and  
Portland teletype to Sacramento 2/5/79.

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW

Enclosed for the Bureau are three copies of palm  
prints of ROBERT W. RACKSTRAW.

RACKSTRAW was apprehended 1/26/79, by the Fullerton  
Police Department, Fullerton, California, for trying to  
have copies made of a forged federal pilot's license.

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On 2/5/79, Deputy [redacted] San Joaquin  
County Sheriff's Office, provided the enclosed palm prints  
obtained from RACKSTRAW at Fullerton, California. [redacted]  
stated that the original prints are being retained by his  
office for use in RACKSTRAW's local prosecution.

Sacramento is obtaining major case prints which  
will be submitted when available.

2-Bureau (Encl. 3)  
2-Portland (164-41)  
2-Seattle (164-81)  
2-Sacramento  
TRK/ab  
(8)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_

(Number) (Time)

DB Cooper-16922

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64-81-8048

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| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| FEB 8 1979    |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

[Redacted box] *JK*

SC 164-50

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU

The Bureau is requested to compare palm prints of RACKSTRAW to those of unknown subject in captioned hijacking.

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
 Facsimile  
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:  
 Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:  
 TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNCLAS E F T O  
 UNCLAS

Date 2/6/79

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (164-2111)  
ATTN: FBI IDENT

FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (P) *Sub 423*

SUBJECT: NORJAK  
OO: Seattle

Re Sacramento airtel to Seattle, 11/8/78, and  
Portland teletype to Sacramento 2/5/79.

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW

Enclosed for the Bureau are three copies of palm  
prints of ROBERT W. RACKSTRAW.

RACKSTRAW was apprehended 1/26/79, by the Fullerton  
Police Department, Fullerton, California, for trying to  
have copies made of a forged federal pilot's license.

On 2/5/79, Deputy [REDACTED] San Joaquin  
County Sheriff's Office, provided the enclosed palm prints  
obtained from RACKSTRAW at Fullerton, California. [REDACTED]  
stated that the original prints are being retained by his  
office for use in RACKSTRAW's local prosecution.

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b7C

Sacramento is obtaining major case prints which  
will be submitted when available.

2-Bureau (Encl. 3)  
2-Portland (164-41)  
2-Seattle (164-81)  
2-Sacramento  
TRK/ab  
(8)

164-81-8041

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| FEB 8 1979    |         |
| FBI - SEATTLE |         |

Per [Signature]

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number) (Time)

DB Cooper-16924

F B I

Date: 2/6/79

Transmit the following in

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTELAIR MAIL

(Precedence)

TO: SAC, SEATTLE (164-81)

FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (164-220) (P) (SJRA)

RE: NORJAK (A)

OO: SE

# 933

ROBERT RACKSTRAW

On 2/5/79, [REDACTED] (PROTECT IDENTITY), [REDACTED] telephone [REDACTED] telephonically contacted the FBI, San Jose, Calif., and advised that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ROBERT RACKSTRAW. Source stated [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Source advised that he is providing this information to the FBI because he read in the newspaper that RACKSTRAW is possibly identical to D.B. COOPER, the man who hijacked an airliner in 1971 and thought that the FBI would possibly want to talk [REDACTED] concerning RACKSTRAW's activities.

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The source requested that his identity be protected [REDACTED]

On 2/5/79, [REDACTED] California, telephone [REDACTED] appeared at the San Jose FBI Resident Agency and provided the following information:

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[REDACTED] met ROBERT RACKSTRAW during [REDACTED] Recently [REDACTED] saw a picture of RACKSTRAW in the paper and identified him [REDACTED]

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② - Seattle  
2 - San Francisco  
WRS:rvs  
(4)

164-81-8069

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| SEARCHED            | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED          | FILED   |
| FEB 9 1979          |         |
| FBI - SAN FRANCISCO |         |

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Approved: Orville R. Smith  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_

DB Cooper-16981

[redacted] met RACKSTRAW while [redacted] working in a restaurant named [redacted] California. RACKSTRAW came into the restaurant [redacted] a casual conversation occurred and [redacted] and RACKSTRAW became acquainted.

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[redacted] knew RACKSTRAW by his true name. [redacted]

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Shortly after meeting, [redacted] and RACKSTRAW moved to San Jose, California. [redacted] is certain that she and RACKSTRAW were in San Jose during November of 1971. During the period in question, November, 1971, to 1973, she saw RACKSTRAW on a daily basis, [redacted] RACKSTRAW very rarely was gone overnight and [redacted] cannot remember that RACKSTRAW was gone overnight during November of 1971.

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RACKSTRAW smoked occasionally, but [redacted] could not remember his brand of cigarettes.

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Referring to RACKSTRAW's mannerisms, she described him as robust, but polite in speech, with no noticeable accent. He talked fast on occasion.

During November and December, 1971, RACKSTRAW had a full mustache, and she does not remember him shaving it off. At the time RACKSTRAW was about twenty-eight (28) years old and looked his age.

After [redacted] RACKSTRAW moved to San Jose in September or October of 1971, RACKSTRAW enrolled in and attended real estate school. About January of 1972, RACKSTRAW [redacted]

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[redacted] Later on [redacted]

[redacted] California, [redacted]

[redacted] California. The last four numbers of her telephone number are [redacted]

In 1972, RACKSTRAW got a second job working at the Radio Shack in Cupertino, California.

[redacted] advised that there was no indication whatsoever that RACKSTRAW obtained a sizeable amount of money during the time that she knew him, 1971-1973. [redacted]

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SF 164-220  
WRS:rvs

stated that during this time, there was no indication that RACKSTRAW was involved in any illegal activity.

AIRTEL

3/8/79

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (164-2111)

FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (164-50) (RUC)

SUBJECT: NORJAK  
OO: Seattle

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Re Los Angeles teletype to Sacramento, 2/5/79,  
and Sacramento airtel to Bureau, 2/6/79.

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW

ROBERT RACKSTRAW, San Joaquin County Jail, French  
Camp, California, refused to give consent to having major  
case prints taken without the advice of his attorney,  
[redacted] Oakland, California.

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On 3/7/79, Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney [redacted]  
[redacted] Eastern District of California, Sacramento,  
California, contacted RACKSTRAW's attorney,  
Oakland, California, and advised that [redacted] desired the  
FBI to obtain a court order prior to obtaining major case  
prints from ROBERT RACKSTRAW.

In view of the above, Sacramento is conducting  
no further investigation in this matter subsequent to receiving  
a subpoena for RACKSTRAW's major case prints.

- 2 - Bureau
- 2 - Portland (164-41)
- ② - Seattle (164-81)
- 1 - Sacramento

TRK:slb  
(7)

164-81-8070

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| SEARCHED         | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED       | FILED   |
| MAR 10 1979      |         |
| FBI - SACRAMENTO |         |

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D. C. 20537

## REPORT

of the

### LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

YOUR FILE NO. **164-50 (P)**  
 FBI FILE NO. **164-2111**  
 LATENT CASE NO.

March 8, 1979

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TO: **SAC, Sacramento**

RE: **NORJAK**

*Sub. 4/12/79*

REFERENCE: **Airtel 2/6/79**  
 EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY: **Sacramento**  
 SPECIMENS: **Copies of finger and palm prints of Robert W. Rackstraw,  
 FBI #977973E**

The unidentified latent prints previously reported in this case are not identical with the submitted prints, which are enclosed.

Enclosures (3)

**2 - Seattle (164-81)**

*164-81-8071*

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| SERIALIZED   | FILED   |
| MAR 12 1979  |         |
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*[Signature]*

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THIS REPORT IS FURNISHED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

DB Cooper-16985

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
 Facsimile  
 Airtel

PRECEDENCE:  
 Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:  
 TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNCLAS E F T O  
 UNCLAS

Date 3/16/79

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (164-2111)

FROM: SAC, PORTLAND (164-41) (P)

SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
(OO: Seattle)Re ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW, Sub #933

Re Sacramento airtel to the Bureau, dated 3/8/79.

For information of all recipients, on 3/15/79, AUSA  
 [redacted] District of Oregon, Portland, Oregon, advised  
 as follows:

Departmental Attorney [redacted] telephonically advised  
 [redacted] this date that he had received a communication from one  
 [redacted] Attorney. [redacted] Oakland, California,  
 telephone [redacted] advised him that he represents  
 a client whom he did not identify who is willing to provide  
 information which will prove he is the UNSUB in this matter  
 in return for immunity from federal prosecution. [redacted]  
 instructed [redacted] to have the Portland Case Agent contact  
 [redacted] by telephone in an attempt to determine the validity  
 of this claim and to evaluate the potential for benefit to this  
 investigation.

It is noted that during the period April, 1978 to  
 March, 1979, investigation has been conducted to eliminate  
 or involve one ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW. RACKSTRAW is now  
 only 35 years old, and at the time of the hijacking in this  
 matter, would have been approximately 28 years old. UNSUB in  
 this matter was described as late 40's or early 50's in 1971,  
 with the median age of the description being 48 years. This

2 - Bureau  
 2 - Seattle (164-81)  
 2 - San Francisco (164-220)  
 2 - Portland

RPH:cam  
 (8)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_

(Number) (Time)

DB Cooper-16986

Re: 164-81-8072

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| SEARCHED       | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED     | FILED   |
| MAR 20 1979    |         |
| FBI - PORTLAND |         |

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PD 164-41

would indicate a disparity of approximately 20 years, and RACKSTRAW would not appear to be a very good suspect.

RACKSTRAW has been the subject of highly publicized prosecution for major crimes in California, and is now incarcerated in a California penitentiary. The Sacramento Office advised in May, 1978, that at that time RACKSTRAW was in custody feigning a back injury which required him to be transported in a wheelchair. Custodial personnel felt he was doing this in an attempt to effect a possible escape. It was noted that RACKSTRAW is a former U. S. Army Green Beret and Vietnam veteran highly skilled in the use of his hands and feet as weapons.

Sacramento Office further advised that on 5/4/78, [REDACTED] Stockton, California Police Department advised he has heard that [REDACTED] is a lawyer in Oakland, California. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He wondered if this might indicate that RACKSTRAW's suspected involvement in the 1975 theft of explosives at the Felton Quarry, Santa Cruz, California, some of which were later acquired from the New World Liberation Front by the FBI at Richmond, California in early 1976, might mean that RACKSTRAW intentionally obtained the explosives for the radicals. He stated that [REDACTED] reportedly was formerly in partnership with [REDACTED] another reported [REDACTED] reportedly [REDACTED] San Francisco Police Department, [REDACTED]

In view of the above information, Portland SA [REDACTED] [REDACTED] after consultation with Supervisor [REDACTED] of the Seattle Division, suggested to AUSA [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] in furtherance of Departmental Attorney [REDACTED] request. AUSA [REDACTED] was furnished a list of questions which could be asked anyone claiming to be UNSUB in this matter, the answers to which could only be known by the UNSUB and investigators close to the case. [REDACTED] was not provided with the answers to the questions.

Subsequently, on the same date, [REDACTED] advised he had been in telephonic contact with [REDACTED] who requested the list

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PD 164-41

of questions be furnished him in writing. [redacted] stated he would provide such a written list of questions to [redacted] with the stipulation that [redacted] not release the list of questions.

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The above for information. Portland will maintain contact with AUSA [redacted] for any subsequent developments.

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (164-2111) DATE: 4/25/79

FROM : SAC, PORTLAND (164-41) (P)

SUBJECT: NORJAK (A)  
(OO: Seattle)

RE: ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW  
Sub #933

Re Portland airtel to the Bureau, dated 3/16/79.

On 4/23/79, AUSA [redacted] for the District of Oregon, Portland, Oregon, advised he had received a letter from Attorney [redacted] Oakland, California, [redacted]. This letter was a response to [redacted] letter to [redacted] dated 3/15/79, in which [redacted] furnished [redacted] with a list of questions to be answered by [redacted] client prior to any negotiations or discussions concerning the possible prosecution of that client. [redacted] advised the letter from [redacted] stated as follows:

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"Dear [redacted]

"I am in receipt of your letter of 15 March, 1979, and agree to abide fully by its terms. I have discussed the contents of said letter with my client. At this point in time, he is not interested in pursuing the matter. This change in plans stems from personal problems which may well resolve themselves in the near future and allow us to once again pursue this topic.

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"I shall consider the matter closed until I hear otherwise from my client and, in that event, I will contact you once again.

"Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

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b7C

"Very truly yours,

"/s/ [redacted]

164-81-8073

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| APR 28 1979     |              |
| FBI—SEATTLE     |              |

2 - Bureau

② - Seattle (164-81)

2 - San Francisco (164-220)

2 - Portland

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FM PORTLAND (164-41) P

TO LOS ANGELES (164-497) ROUTINE

SEATTLE (164-81) ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

NORJAK (A), OO: SEATTLE, BUFILE 164-2111.

RE SUSPECT ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW, SUB NO. 933.

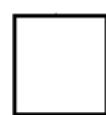
FOR INFORMATION OF LOS ANGELES, ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW HAS BEEN CONSIDERED AS A POSSIBLE SUSPECT IN THIS MATTER. RACKSTRAW IS CURRENTLY BELIEVED TO BE IN CUSTODY OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES AT FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA.

LOS ANGELES, AT FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA, WILL CONTACT LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN MAJOR CASE FINGERPRINTS OF RACKSTRAW, INCLUDING PALM PRINTS, AND FORWARD SAME IMMEDIATELY TO FBI IDENTIFICATION DIVISION FOR COMPARISON WITH UNIDENTIFIED LATENT FINGERPRINT IMPRESSIONS DEVELOPED IN THE HIJACKED AIRCRAFT IN THIS MATTER.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

BT

164-497-988



b6  
b7c

DB Cooper-25874

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype  
 Facsimile  
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PRECEDENCE:

Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET  
 SECRET  
 CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNCLAS E F T O  
 UNCLAS

Date 2/5/79b6  
b7C

FM LOS ANGELES (164-497)

TO SEATTLE (164-81) ROUTINE *1053pm Des*PORTLAND (164-41) ROUTINE *1107pm Des*SACRAMENTO ROUTINE *1055pm Des*

BT

UNCLAS

NORJAK (A), OO: SEATTLE, BUFILE 164-2111.

RE PORTLAND TELETYPE TO LOS ANGELES FEBRUARY 3, 1979.

FOR INFORMATION OF SACRAMENTO, PORTLAND ADVISED IN RE TELETYPE THAT ROBERT WESLEY RACKSTRAW HAS BEEN CONSIDERED AS A POSSIBLE SUSPECT IN THIS MATTER. RACKSTRAW IS CURRENTLY BELIEVED TO BE IN CUSTODY OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES AT FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA.

RACKSTRAW WAS RELEASED TO THE CUSTODY OF A b6  
b7C

(PH), SAN JOAQUIN SHERIFF'S OFFICE, FOR RETURN TO STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA.

SACRAMENTO AT STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA, WILL CONTACT LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN MAJOR CASE FINGERPRINTS OF

JLC:fet

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Approved: TG

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

*See above*

164-497-989

Per

FBI/DOJ

DB Cooper-25875

PAGE TWO (LA 164-497) UNCLAS

RACKSTRAW, INCLUDING PALM PRINTS, AND FORWARD SAME IMMEDIATELY TO FBI IDENTIFICATION DIVISION FOR COMPARISON WITH UNIDENTIFIED LATENT FINGERPRINT IMPRESSIONS DEVELOPED IN THE HIJACKED AIRCRAFT IN THIS MATTER.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

BT

#

DB Cooper-25876