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FORD also advised that he does not have any information as to the identity of the persons responsible for the bombing of the MOORE residence, adding that the bombing came as a complete surprise to him. He also stated he does not have any information regarding the activities of MOORE since his employment as a teacher was discontinued at Mims, Florida.

IRVING A. HOLDER, Mims, Florida, advised that he was appointed to fill the vacancy on the School Board of Trustees at the death of Mr. DARDEN and that to the best of his memory he served as a Trustee from about September, 1946 to January, 1946 and does not recall HARRY T. MOORE and his wife resigning from their teaching positions. He stated further that he could only recall having one contact with MOORE and that that was in about 1940. He explained that during that time he went to the colored school to help fill out Selective Service questionnaires for the colored people of Mims. HOLDER stated he found MOORE to be uncooperative and never contacted him after that. HOLDER could give no information as to what persons might have bombed the MOORE residence.

JOHN D. NASH, Brevard Title and Abstract Company, Titusville, advised he is presently Chairman of the Brevard County Board of Instruction and was a member of the Brevard County Board of Public Instruction during 1945-46. NASH stated he personally recalls that HARRY T. and HARRIETT MOORE resigned as teachers during either 1945 or 1946, he does not recall the reason for their resignations.

He further advised that after MOORE's services had been discontinued MOORE and another colored man came to NASH's residence and at that time MOORE asked NASH if MOORE might again be employed as a teacher. NASH said he advised MOORE that he would not personally recommend MOORE for employment as long as MOORE was engaged in any political activity. In this regard NASH explained MOORE was very active in the Progressive Voters League. He said that he is of the opinion school teachers should not engage in politics and he so advised MOORE. He also stated that MOORE at that time did not mention HARRIETT's employment or desire that she should be reemployed but was concerned with employment for himself. He said that when he heard of the bombing of the MOORE's residence he was quite surprised inasmuch as he thought MOORE had left Mims a few years ago and was living elsewhere. He could suggest no suspects.

12-27-51 [JOHN S. BOWLING, 1214 S. Hopkins Street, Titusville, Florida, was interviewed at his request on December 27, 1951. BOWLING advised that he is a teacher at the Titusville Grammar School and that on the night of December 25, 1951 he and his wife and Mr. and Mrs. EARL ROBERTS and their son BILL,

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proceeded from Hims, Florida to Titusville, Florida by the Old Dixie Highway. He said that at a point approximately one mile and a half south of the MOORE residence they observed an automobile parked on the side of the road with three men gathered around it. According to BOTLAND this was at approximately 9 P.M. and that the automobile was an old model car which had been converted into a truck. He said the truck was light blue. As they passed these individuals the ROBERTS made the comment they looked like "bank robbers dividing the loot" inasmuch as they were huddled together beside the car.

BILL ROBERTS had told BOTLAND that he had seen this automobile on the high school grounds being driven by a high school student.

Mr. and Mrs. EARL ROBERTS and their son, BILL, were interviewed at their home on the corner of Orange and Lime Streets, Titusville. Mr. and Mrs. ROBERTS stated that they placed the time of seeing these individuals as about 8 P.M. instead of 9 P.M. BILL ROBERTS advised that the automobile was light green in color, about a 1941 or 1942 Ford that had been converted into a truck. He said that the cab of the automobile was still on the frame but that the back end of the car was open. BILL ROBERTS stated he would be able to identify the car if he saw it again.

Mr. and Mrs. ROBERTS and their son, BILL, accompanied Agents and pointed out the place where this automobile had been parked. It was estimated that this place was a mile and a half south of the MOORE home on the Old Dixie Highway. While enroute to Titusville from this spot Mr. and Mrs. ROBERTS and BILL spotted the car they had seen at the place. It was noted at this time that this car bore 1951 Florida license tag #19-309.

Records of the Florida State Auto License Bureau, Chamber of Commerce Building, Titusville, reflected that this car was registered in the name of B. B. CARLILE, Hims, Florida.

B. B. CARLILE advised that he had owned a 1939 Ford sedan but that he had sold it to the Roberts Motor Company in Titusville, Florida. He had heard that an individual by the name of DARBY, who is employed at the Titusville Ice Company had purchased this automobile.

JOHN H. DARBY, Titusville Ice Company, advised that on the night of December 25, 1951 he and his uncle, JACK CORBITT and his cousins, DONALD SNOWDEN and GLORIA JEAN SNOWDEN, drove to Hims, Florida at about 7 P.M. He said they proceeded to Hims by U.S. Route #1. DARBY stated further that when they returned to Titusville they came by the Old Dixie Highway and stopped

HOLBERT recalled that MOORE had made a speech at the Daytona Beach Convention of the NAACP on "Fight for Civil Rights through State Legislation" and had also decried the action of Sheriff WILLIS McCALL in connection with the Lake County case. Many of MOORE's remarks were directly quoted in numerous State newspapers. HOLBERT said he had discussed the bombing of MOORE's home with DICKENSON and many others in Daytona Beach and that no one seemed to be able to attribute the motive to any particular person or group, and that they were unable to suggest any clues or ideas and had no suspects.

LEON HUTCHESON, who lives approximately one and a half miles southwest of the MOORE residence, was interviewed on December 27, 1951 at which time he advised that at the time of the explosion he was in bed asleep. According to HUTCHESON he had retired at approximately 10 P.M. and had been in bed about 25 minutes when the blast came. According to HUTCHESON he got up and dressed to see what had caused the explosion and at that time noticed his brother, DONNIE, who lives next door to him, had come over to his house to see about the same thing. HUTCHESON stated that together they got in his car and drove from their house to the hard top road referred to as the Old Dixie Highway and from there turned left going into Mims, Florida.

As HUTCHESON recalled they went by the MOORE residence, which sets back off the hard top road approximately 300 to 400 yards, he noticed lights on at the MOORE house and one or two cars moving about with their headlights on. HUTCHESON stated they stopped the car approximately 100 yards from the intersection of the Old Dixie Highway and the railroad to determine if there were following blasts, then proceeded on into Mims.

Arriving in Mims they stopped at DUFFY's Fruit Stand and overhead some unknown party say "We are just waiting for the debris to fall." Leaving DUFFY's fruit stand HUTCHESON stated they then proceeded south on the main highway of U. S. #1 to a point where the road intersects that leads to their home at which time they saw a colored fellow by the name of ZEIGLER standing on the road.

According to HUTCHESON they picked ZEIGLER up and from that point proceeded to the MOORE residence. Arriving at the MOORE residence, according to HUTCHESON, the only person around was a colored boy by the name of SIMS, first name unknown. HUTCHESON stated that his brother, DONNIE, left at that time to go back into Mims and call "the law" while he looked around to see if he could be of any help.

HUTCHESON stated he has known MOORE for many years and, to his knowledge, had no enemies in the Mims vicinity. HUTCHESON stated MOORE was well.

regarded in the community and it was a matter of common knowledge he was very active in securing equal rights for the negroes.

HUTCHESON stated he had no information as to who were the person or persons responsible for this explosion.

HUTCHESON stated that he could recall no strange persons in this vicinity during the past few weeks and knew of no one who held animosity towards MOORE.

HUTCHESON mentioned that fact that approximately 9 months ago a similar explosion had occurred somewhere in this vicinity, however, he had been unable to determine where it had actually occurred.

DONNIE HUTCHESON, who lives next door to his brother, LEON HUTCHESON, advised that at the time of the explosion he was sitting in his house reading a newspaper. According to DONNIE, he estimated the time of the explosion to be around 10:30 P.M. DONNIE advised upon hearing the explosion he went outside thinking possibly it came from his brother's home and as he did he heard screams and yells and recalled hearing the name of ARNOLD. As DONNIE recalled, these screams were coming from the direction of the SELMS or MOORE residence.

At about this time, DONNIE advised his brother LEON had come over from his home and together they got in LEON's car and drove into Mims, Florida. According to DONNIE, as they passed the MOORE residence, which would have been approximately 15 minutes after the blast, he noticed lights on at the MOORE house and two cars with their headlights on moving about the yard. DONNIE advised he did not think anything about this, thinking probably they were going to see what the blast was all about also.

DONNIE stated on arriving in Mims they stopped at DUFFY's fruit stand to inquire as to where the source of the explosion was and no one seemed to know. Following the main highway then, U. S. #1, from DUFFY's fruit stand, he and his brother drove together towards their home and as they crossed the Old Dixie Highway noticed JERRY ZEIGLER, a colored man, standing on the side of the highway. Seeing ZEIGLER they stopped and picked him up and from that point went to the MOORE residence.

According to DONNIE, when they arrived at the MOORE residence the only person at the scene was a colored boy by the name of SELMS. DONNIE stated at that time he left and went into Mims, Florida, to call "the law" but being so nervous he had "POP" ADKINS, owner of the Old Folks Truck Stop actually make the call to the Sheriff's Office.

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at a spot located near the residence of Mr. NASH. He said that the purpose for their stopping was to shoot off some firecrackers that JACK CORBITT had obtained while he was in Georgia. DARBY recalled that while they were shooting these firecrackers a number of automobiles had passed them, and said they spent about an hour shooting off fireworks and returned to Titusville at about 8 P.M.

Mr. and Mrs. JACK CORBITT and their two children, DONALD and GLORIA JEAN, 624 South Palm Street, were interviewed and they furnished the same information as told by JOHN DARBY.

All of the above persons advised they saw no suspicious persons in the area in which they were shooting off fireworks. They stated they did not know the MOORE family and had no information as to the persons who might have blown up the MOORE residence.

DEXTER R. PARTELOW, 602 Palm Street, Titusville, Florida, contacted Brevard County Sheriff BILL WILLIAMS on the morning of December 28, 1951 and told the Sheriff that he and ROSEMARY RICHARDSON of Mims, Florida, were directly in front of the MOORE residence at the time of the explosion. PARTELOW was interviewed by FBI Agents and stated that on the night of December 25, 1951 he and ROSEMARY RICHARDSON of Mims, Florida attended the movie at Titusville. He said after the show they were proceeding to Mims, Florida by the Old Dixie Highway and that as they passed the MOORE residence they heard a terrific explosion. PARTELOW said the explosion shook the automobile and frightened him so that he could not keep his foot on the gas. He said the car slowed down and that as they passed the residence of Mr. SHARPE he noticed Mr. SHARPE at the front door of his house.

PARTELOW said that he managed to get 100 feet back on the gas and they proceeded to the home of ROSEMARY RICHARDSON without stopping at the scene. PARTELOW returned to TITUSVILLE by U. S. Route #1. He said that at the time of the explosion he heard a very deep boom and saw no flash. He thought at that time some boys were setting off dynamite to celebrate Christmas. PARTELOW stated further that he placed the time of the explosion at 10:20 P.M. because he and ROSEMARY had left the theatre at about 10:10 and it would have taken them about 10 minutes to go to the MOORE residence. He said that during their trip to Mims they saw no automobiles and saw no one walking along the road.

It was ascertained during the interview that PARTELOW was driving a 1941 Oxford maroon two-door Ford automobile bearing 1951 Florida license, 19-573.

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent FRED E. GORDON on January 16, 1952:

Re: M. B. ROBERTS, Night Jailer, Titusville, Florida, was the first officer of the Brevard County Sheriff's Office to be notified concerning the explosion.

M. B. ROBERTS, Night Jailer, Brevard County Sheriff's Office, advised that he received a telephone call at approximately 10:45 P.M., December 25, 1951 from "POP" ADKINS in Mims, Florida, advising him that a negro had come to him, ADKINS, at his place of business, Old Folks Truck Stop, and told him the MOORE home had been dynamited.

According to ROBERTS, ADKINS informed him to get somebody up there as soon as possible.

ROBERTS informed that he immediately hung up the phone and called Deputy Sheriff CLYDE BATES at his home residence.

Radio log for December 25, 1951 indicates that Deputy Sheriff CLYDE BATES checked in service at 10:48 P.M. on that date.

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents JAMES P. SHANNON and ROBERT T. NISCHWITZ on January 6, 1952.

BASIS: ADEL MCKENZIE was reported by HAZEL SHELTON as being in the automobile with ARTHUR MCKENZIE the night of instant explosion and ADEL MCKENZIE was supposed to have seen two cars in the grove in front of MOORE's house prior to the explosion.

ADEL MCKENZIE, Box 194, Mims, Florida, advised he was 32 years old and worked for JAMES IRBY who owns groves north of Mims. ADEL MCKENZIE said that he was in Titusville at the time of the explosion and had returned at about 2:30 AM that night. He stated that he did not know anything about the explosion until the next morning. He said that he was with his wife ANNIE MAE JOHNSON who had just arrived in Mims for a short vacation coming here from Slaton, Texas. He advised that ARTHUR MCKENZIE was driving the car from Titusville to Mims and stated that they had not seen any automobiles in the grove in front of MOORE's residence and that they had not been anywhere near MOORE's residence that day and further advised that he did not know anything about who killed HARRY T. MOORE and his wife or why they were killed. He insisted that they had not passed in front of the MOORE residence at any time during Christmas night or day.

ADEL MCKENZIE stated that ANNIE MAE JOHNSON was his wife from whom he had separated for a couple of years and that LISA was his present wife with whom he is about to separate. He said that ANNIE MAE was the one in the car not LISA. MCKENZIE refused to admit any knowledge of suspicious automobiles in the Mims area and especially near the victims' residence. He stated that he knew nothing more about the incident and said that his connection with HARRY T. MOORE was through the NAACP, that HARRY T. MOORE had paid for his initial application for membership in the NAACP and continued to pay the dues for MCKENZIE in the NAACP. He went on to state that it never cost him any money to belong to the NAACP as HARRY T. MOORE paid for it. MCKENZIE advised that he is no longer a member of the NAACP.

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