

INVESTIGATIVE INTERVIEW

TO: Michael E. Tigar
Ronald G. Woods

FROM: Roland Leeds

CASE: Nichols

DATE: December 10, 1996

RE: Interview with Corporal Ronald F. Karchefski

On December 10, 1996 between approximately 1430 and 1600 hours, I interviewed Corporal Karchefski at his place of employment, the Garland County Sheriff's Department, 525 Ouchita Avenue, Hot Springs, AR 71901; phone 501/622-3690; fax 501/321-4212.

Corporal Karchefski stated that he has been with the Garland County Sheriff's Department for approximately seven years and was previously employed with the Detroit Police Department where he retired after 25 years.

Karchefski said that with his 30+ years of experience in law enforcement, the Roger Moore robbery case is one of the most unusual situations he has ever dealt with. Karchefski believes the case is "bullshit;" however, he was not specific in his conclusion other than the specifics surrounding his involvement with the case.

Karchefski said he initially responded to the robbery via the Garland County Communications Center, radio No. 111. He responded to the residence of Moore's neighbors where Moore was awaiting his arrival. Moore was standing outside of the Powell residence and subsequently received a telephone call at the Powell residence. Mrs. Powell handed Moore a cordless telephone, indicating he had a telephone call. Moore started to speak with the individual on the phone. He then stopped and told the caller that the deputy was at the scene and that he should speak with him.

* Corporal Karchefski then took the phone from Moore and spoke to a person who identified himself as a former sheriff's deputy, possibly in the states of Tennessee or Kentucky. The unidentified person told Karchefski that he had worked with the ATF in the past, and Moore's robbery fits the same modus operandi of the robberies that he had investigated when working with the ATF. Karchefski stated that he had spoken to this person briefly on the phone and then obtained his name and phone number. The person calling said he was currently in the state of California. After Karchefski terminated his telephone conversation, he asked Moore specifics of who this person

- This name & # needs to be found!
- Also check out Moore's phone calling card for any calls made on Nov. 05, '94.

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was and why he was calling. Moore replied that he had no idea who this person was that had called the Powell residence asking for him, and that he did not know him. Karchefski said he explained to Moore that there was no reason why someone would call out of the clear blue looking for him at a neighbor's residence and speak to him about a robbery unless he was previously notified of the incident. Karchefski pointed out this was the first of several incidents that gave him the impression that this was an unusual case, to say the least.

After Karchefski told me about the phone conversation with the ex-deputy that was in California, he contacted Captain Sanders in an attempt to obtain information about that telephone call. Karchefski said he gave that information about the individual who called to Captain Sanders. Karchefski asked Captain Sanders for the information regarding the deputy; however, Sanders denies receiving the information or could not find it.

Real fishy!

* Karchefski said the second element that was unusual was the description that Moore gave of his assailant. He said most people would be trying to survive the incident and not gain detailed information about the perpetrator. The fact that Moore gave intense detail about the robber was very unusual.

Karchefski said another element that drew his attention to the peculiarity of the case was when Moore indicated he changed his clothes from the original clothes he had on during the robbery. Karchefski got the impression that Moore had preserved his original robbery clothing and changed into a fresh set of clothes. When the detectives arrived at the scene, Karchefski explained to them Moore had preserved his clothing and was then corrected by Moore. Moore pulled down the outer layer of trousers he was wearing to reveal that he had on the original pair of pants which had duct tape on them. It is Karchefski's understanding that the inside pants that Moore was wearing were ones with duct tape; however, he was not present when Moore released the pair of pants to the detectives for examination.

Karchefski questioned Moore regarding his live-in girlfriend, Karen Anderson, and wanted to know where she was currently located. Moore told Karchefski that she was out of state in Louisiana but had no idea where she was specifically. He felt this was another unusual situation and was under the impression that Moore and his girlfriend had been involved in an altercation and that she may have been responsible for the robbery. Karchefski later determined that Karen was no longer a suspect, and that they had not been involved in an altercation. He said, however, he still felt that it was

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unusual since Moore had no idea where Karen had traveled and was unable to contact her. Karchefski said if it was his girlfriend, he would have had information as to where she could be contacted in an emergency.

* Karchefski mentioned that another deputy assisted the detectives when they found the Roger Moore van. Karchefski said a Deputy Shemp assisted the detectives at the scene and later mentioned to Karchefski that he found a *Soldier of Fortune* magazine in Moore's van. The magazine was opened to a page that depicted the robber that Moore described earlier that day. Karchefski said the magazine was either open to that particular page or was somehow bookmarked showing a photograph of an individual who fit the same description of the assailant who robbed Moore.

* Karchefski said the "trigger man" of the Roger Moore robbery has not been determined as of this date, nor has an related suspect been arrested for the crime. He said "off the record" they theorized Moore may have fabricated the robbery in order to avoid a pending arrest by the ATF. In order to avoid arrest by the ATF, Moore staged the robbery to purge his residence of weapons.

* Karchefski said he has knowledge of other similar type robberies that have occurred in the Garland county area in the last seven years. He mentioned the robberies were somewhat similar but were different in particular elements.

Karchefski said he would like to assist me in gathering information regarding the Moore robbery; however, he had nothing further to add to his original report other than the information he had just provided. He indicated that he needed to terminate the interview in order to proceed with his regular patrol duties.

RL:mcn