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QUESTIONED DOCUMENT INVESTIGATIONS

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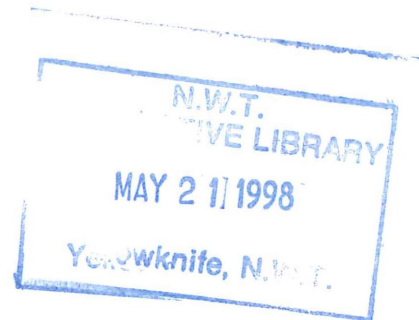
OUR FILE: 98-X-101

April 14, 1998

FORENSIC EXAMINATION REPORT

TO: The Honourable Goo Arlooktoo
MLA, Baffin South
Minister of Justice
Government of the Northwest Territories
P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2N2

RE: Anonymous Note to "Jane"
Your File: N/A

1. GENERAL:

(1) The following exhibits were received at this office on March 2, 1998, from the Department of Justice, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, NWT:

EXHIBIT A - a reproduction of a handwritten notation produced on a sheet of customized memo paper titled "Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly". The text of the notation is written as follows:

"Jane How did you get 800,000 loan from this gov't."

EXHIBIT B(1) - a reproduction of a handwritten notation produced on a sheet of customized memo paper titled "Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly". The text of the notation is written as follows:

"Jane 10:00 a.m. tomorrow? re: Y.O. facility. Goo"

EXHIBIT B(2-4) - reproductions of three (3) Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly memo forms each bearing a short handwritten notation addressed to "Mani", and each purportedly written and signed by Goo Arlooktoo.

EXHIBITS C(1-8) - reproductions of eight (8) assorted Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly memo forms each bearing a short handwritten notation addressed to "Mani", and each purportedly written and signed by Levi Barnabas.

[Handwritten signature]
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1. GENERAL (cont'd):

(2) The following additional exhibits were received at this office via facsimile on March 30, 1998, from the Department of Justice, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, NWT:

EXHIBITS B(5-10) - reproductions of six (6) DEPUTY PREMIER/JUSTICE/NWTHC "Document Cover Page" sheets bearing various dates in January and February of 1998, and each bearing a short handwritten notation purportedly written by Goo Arlooktoo.

EXHIBIT B(11) - a reproduction of a Northwest Territories Memo form bearing a short handwritten notation addressed to "Ed", purportedly written by Goo Arlooktoo.

EXHIBIT B(12) - a reproduction of a Northwest Territories ISSUE FORM bearing a handwritten notation entitled "Cape Dorset Youth Committee", purportedly written and signed by Goo Arlooktoo.

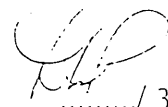
EXHIBIT B(13) - a reproduction of a one-page undated handwritten memorandum entitled "Mtg. w/ Sanikiluaq Hamlet Council", purportedly written by Goo Arlooktoo.

2. PURPOSE:

To examine and compare the questioned handwritten notation on Exhibit A with the specimen handwriting in Exhibits B(1-13) and C(1-8).

3. DATA & OBSERVATIONS:

(1) Examination and comparison of the questioned handwritten text on Exhibit A with the specimen handwriting in Exhibits B(1 - 13) has disclosed a moderate degree of superficial similarity in general writing style and letter design, but has also disclosed several consistent and fundamental differences in handwriting habits, including the small letters "d", "l", "f", and "th". Because the specimen handwriting does not contain all of the letters and letter combinations which occur in the questioned note, there remain a few features which have not been fully evaluated in the present comparison.



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3. DATA & OBSERVATIONS (cont'd):

(2) Examination and comparison of the questioned handwritten text on Exhibit A with the specimen handwriting in Exhibits C(1-8) has disclosed several unique and consistent similarities of identifying significance, with no significant differences in handwriting habit. There are, however, a few features which have not been fully assessed in the present comparison, which is primarily because the specimen handwriting does not contain all the letters and letter combinations which appear in the questioned note.

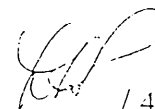
4. CONCLUSIONS:

- (1) The questioned handwritten notation on Exhibit A was probably not written by the writer of the specimen handwriting in Exhibits B(1 - 13), purportedly Goo Arlooktoo.
- (2) The questioned handwritten notation on Exhibit A was probably written by the writer of the specimen handwriting in Exhibits C(1 - 8), purportedly Levi Barnabas.

5. REMARKS:

(1) Further to the Conclusions described in paragraphs 4(1) and 4(2) above, the features observed in the present exhibits are not of sufficient strength to permit a completely positive identification or elimination of either writer. It is clear, however, that the samples provided allow a relatively thorough interpretation of each writer's natural and spontaneous characteristics, and to the extent that the above conclusions can be clearly supported with features from the specimen material. The term "probably" in the above conclusions is intended to describe a level of certainty which is relatively high, and which, in my estimation, includes only a remote chance of error.

(2) If this matter requires a more definitive assessment of probabilities or certainties, the services of my office are available to conduct a second comparison, but only if the original specimen material is made available for examination. In addition, the original questioned note, or a good quality first generation photocopy, would significantly assist any further evaluation of similarities or differences.


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5. REMARKS (cont'd):

(3) The specimen handwriting in Exhibits B(1 - 13) and C(1 - 8) contains a moderate degree of superficial similarity in writing style, size, and some letter formations. This is not an unusual occurrence, and can usually be attributed to similarities in educational, family, and/or cultural backgrounds. In addition, the questioned notation consists only of nine words and one numeral combination, all of which are contained on a small slip of memo paper, and likely produced with some degree of restriction in the writing process. In cases of this nature, it is extremely difficult for any examiner to thoroughly evaluate and assess the significance of the characteristics observed during his/her study of the documents. This limitation is magnified, and potentially prejudiced, when the examiner is only provided with limited samples from one writer, and is therefore not allowed the opportunity to establish that writer's natural characteristics and range of variation. Based on my assessment of all the exhibits reviewed and described above, it would be difficult for any examiner to provide a strong or definitive opinion after studying only Exhibits A and B(1).

(4) Further to the above Observations and Conclusions, all Exhibits will be retained at this office in view of the fact they are all copies of the various documents involved in this dispute. The original report, together with a copy of my Curriculum Vitae, is being forwarded to your office via Loomis Courier Service.

SUBMITTED BY:



Leslie L. Peace, B.A.
Forensic Document Examiner
Lethbridge, Alberta

LESLIE L. PEACE
Forensic Document Examiner
Lethbridge, Alberta

STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

(Curriculum Vitae)

- EDUCATION: Bachelor of Arts (with Distinction) - University of Alberta, 1976
- TRAINING: My training in the field of Document Examination consisted of a two-year period of understudy training, which was successfully completed under the direct supervision and guidance of a more senior and accepted Document Examiner. I commenced my training in October of 1968 at the R.C.M.P. Laboratory in Edmonton, Alberta, and I completed it in October, 1970.
- My training consisted of extensive readings in various textbooks, journals, and research papers which comprise most of the scientific literature in our field. I was also required to complete numerous practical tests, oral presentations, test cases, and extensive written examinations at the conclusion of the two-year period.
- SCOPE OF PRACTICE: The various types of examinations conducted in my firm can be divided into three very broad, but closely related, categories:
- 1) The most frequent type of case received in my office requires the examination and comparison of various questioned and known writings. The material to be examined usually involves signatures, handwritten phrases, handprinting, initials, or numerals. Approximately 80% of the cases I receive involve the examination of handwriting.
 - 2) The second category involves the examination of those materials and instruments which may be used to produce documents, such as typewriters, chequewriters, pens, paper, ink, rubber stamps, or photocopiers.
 - 3) The third category includes the study of the numerous occurrences which can affect a document prior to, during, or after it has been completed. In this category I frequently examine alterations, additions, erasures, obliterations, indented writing, or charred documents.

EXPERIENCE: I was a regular member of the R.C.M.P. for approximately 24 1/2 years and during that period was employed in the Forensic Laboratory system for almost 20 years. I retired from the R.C.M.P. in July of 1988, and at the time of my retirement I held the rank of Staff-Sergeant. I was in charge of the Document Section at the Regina Laboratory and supervised a staff of 4 other Document Examiners who possessed varying levels of experience. My duties also required me to train and monitor the performance of Junior Examiners.

During my employment in the R.C.M.P. I completed approximately 2,000 case examinations which involved the study of approximately 30,000 exhibits. As a direct result of these examinations, I was required to testify on many occasions in the various courts of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. These case examinations involved all aspects of our discipline.

On August 1, 1988, I commenced a private forensic consulting service in Lethbridge, Alberta, which is known as *Questioned Document Investigations*. This practice has included a wide spectrum of case examinations from all prairie provinces, and has embraced most areas of civil litigation.

RESEARCH: I have completed or participated in several small unpublished studies of handwriting, inks, forgery, and disguise. In 1983 I completed a formal research paper which outlined the parameters for the physical matching of torn and perforated documents. This paper has been published by the Canadian Society of Forensic Science.

SEMINARS & LECTURES: I have attended a number of seminars which dealt exclusively with the various disciplines of Forensic Science. I have also presented numerous formal and informal lectures to various police, legal and community groups. The Lethbridge Community College has contracted my firm to provide a forensic lecture to members of their Law Enforcement program.

TOURS: In 1970 and 1984 I participated in tours of various typewriter, chequewriter, pen, paper and printing establishments in Eastern Canada and North-Eastern United States. In the latter tour I acted as Tour Leader and Coordinator.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS: I am a member of the Canadian Society of Forensic Science, and receive the regular journal publications from the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.