

COPY

SUBJECT: Mrs. Lois Zelensak
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

DATE: April 20, 1960

INTERVIEWED BY: Trpr. Murphy and Trpr. Sales

Somewhere between six and eight PM on March 21, 1960, when I opened my monitor key to notify the parties that their time was up, I heard the Aurora party say that they sure have a big write up on the Murder Case in tonight's paper. You know the kid has bloodstained overalls in the trunk of the car and he's getting a little anxious to know what he's going to do with them. He's afraid he'll get caught. LaSalle Party says, We'll tell him to get rid of them. Burn them. End of conversation relating to the Murder.

In further conversation which I didn't listen very closely to, I gathered the impression that the LaSalle party was an auto dealer. They were talking about a business deal pertaining to cars and the LaSalle party said he had the money to go ahead with the deal. It gave me the impression that it was a bigger deal than just the purchase of one car; more like the purchase of a business or business location pertaining to cars.

I was so astonished that I really couldn't concentrate on listening to the rest of the conversation so I heard no closing remarks or names mentioned. The Aurora voice I can't forget. It was a voice that gave the impression of an uneducated person. Harsh, deep, voice, no softness in it at all. Limited vocabulary. No pronounced characteristic such as dia, dase, dem. No foreign or nationality traits or hillbilly tones. Gave impression that might be big, burly man. Talked like a man who would'nt care much or think about anything too deeply. Gave impression that he was reporting to the boss, not nervous or worried.

The LaSalle voice just a natural man's voice, low, soft. Harsh used to talking to people, a typical salesman's voice and manner of speech. No outstanding characteristics. He seemed to be the dominant one of the two.

Once during the conversation the LaSalle Party hesitated, told Aurora to wait a minute, as though possibly some one had come within hearing distance. Aurora Party was courteous when notified of time limit, then at completion of call when I rang him back to collect overtime charges, he said don't worry, I won't run away. This was definitely a call from a pay station in Aurora. The LaSalle number may or may not be a pay station. The LaSalle number began with a Capitol 5----- (Subsequent check with information shows that there is no Capitol 5. All LaSalle phone numbers are Capitol 3.)

I was uncertain what to do after hearing this conversation. The rules of Communication prohibit revealing anything overheard, yet I felt very strongly that I had just overheard something extremely important. I've thought about it ever all this time and discussed it with my husband, Glenn. He said that I couldn't be sure and advised me to stay out of it. Last week it really began bothering me; I even considered going to my Priest for advice. Then finally on Saturday, April 16, I decided to tell my neighbor, Jim Brunell, who is an Aurora Police Officer. Jim told Lt. Vielman and the Lt. called me to the Police Station about 5PM Saturday Evening, where I told the Lt. my story. The Lt. requested that I attempt to find the phone numbers involved and that he would notify the investigating authorities.

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On Monday, the 18th, I notified Lt. Vielman that I had been unable to trace the numbers and asked him if he thought I should see my Chief Operator. He advised me to do so.

On Tuesday, the 19th, I called my Chief Operator, Mrs. Kistin and made an appointment with her for Wednesday, the 20th. This morning I went in and told Mrs. Kistin about the conversation. Mrs. Kistin advised me that she would immediately notify the proper authorities.

I feel that this is definitely related to the murders. I have lost much sleep trying to determine the right thing to do.

ADDITIONAL: We then went to the Business Office of the Telephone Co. in Aurora and were informed by the Manager that their files had been checked today and that the slip in question is not at this office. The Ass't Mgr's. name is Larry Benson. Benson stated that since the slip is not in the Aurora Office, it is most likely at the Auditor's Office in Harvey, Illinois. We were also informed that the only classification on these slips is by the number that the call originated from. Therefore, since we don't know the Aurora number there may be over a hundred thousand slips to be looked through. The Manager then called Chief Special Agent Smith who advised us that the checking of the slips in Harvey has already begun and that he will notify Lt. Toffant immediately.

We contacted Lt. Bailman at the Aurora PD who informed us that he had no additional information beyond what we already had from Mrs. Zelenek's statement. We asked Lt. Bailman what his opinion would be of the value of this statement since he has spoken to Mrs. Zelenek on several occasions. The Lt. advised us that he considered the statement to be most sincere and that in his opinion the reward has little or nothing to do with it. He volunteered the full cooperation of his Department.

After taking this statement we agree with the Lt.'s opinion that this subject is most sincere and quite relieved to finally tell her story and get it off her mind.