

The Zodiac Murders California December 1968 to October 1969



(June 4, 1963-September 6, 1970)

John B. Averitt, Ph.D.

Cookeville Police Department

Known Victims

Four Men
and

Three Women

between the ages of 16 and 29 were
targeted.

Five Died, two survived.

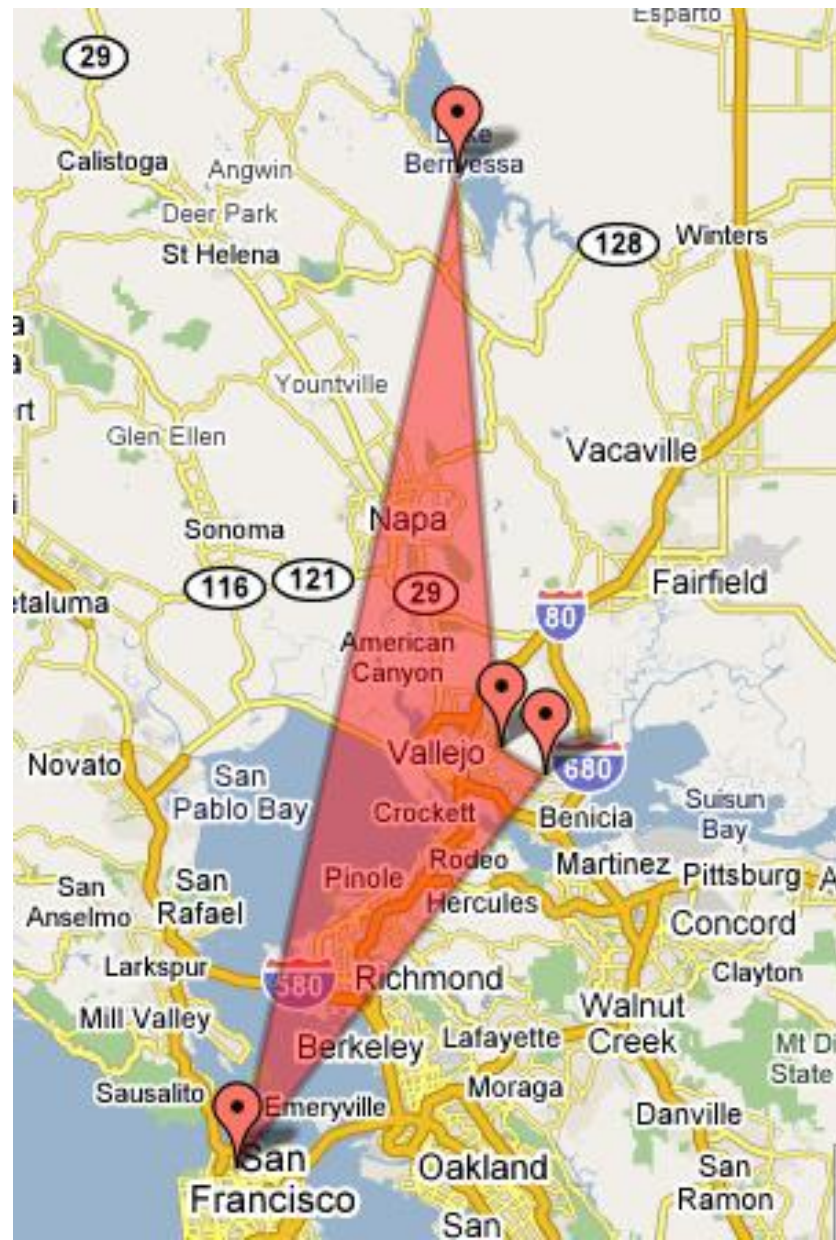
The suspect Identified himself as

The Zodiac

He has never been caught or
identified.

He claimed 37 murders in letters to
the newspapers.

Map of Known Zodiac Murders



Other Possible Zodiac Crime Scenes



Brief History—Known Victims
Betty Lou Jensen and David Arthur Faraday
December 20, 1968(Friday)
Benicia, California (Lake Herman Road)
Approximately 11:15 p.m. PST



Brief History—Known Victims

Darlene Elizabeth Ferrin and Mike Mageau Renault

July 4, 1969(Friday)

Blue Rock Springs Park, Eastern

Outskirts of Vallejo, California

Approximately 11:55 p.m. PDT



Brief History—Known Victims
Cecelia Ann Shepard and Bryan Calvin Hartnell
September 29, 1969(Saturday)
Lake Berryessa, Napa County, Calif.
Approximately 6:15 p.m. PDT



Brief History—Known Victims

Paul Lee Stine

October 11, 1969(Saturday)

San Francisco-Presidio Heights, California

Approximately 9:55 p.m. PDT



Possible Zodiac Victims

- Many were suggested, these were considered serious possible victims of the Zodiac Killer.

Possible Zodiac Victims



Robert Domingos and Linda Edwards



(Robert George Domingos at age 18 in 1963)



(Linda Faye Edwards at age 17 in 1963)

If you have any information about this case, please [e-mail me](#)
or call the Zodiackiller.com Info Line at  (415) 267-4818 

Killed: June 4, 1963 (Tuesday)

Case number: 73855

Time of attack: Unknown; probably late afternoon.

Place of attack: A [remote beach](#) south of Gaviota in Santa Barbara County, Calif.

Method of attack: Robert Domingos, age 18, was shot 11 times. His fiancée, Linda Edwards, age 17, was shot nine times. The weapon was a .22 caliber semi-automatic, probably a rifle. The ammunition was Winchester Western Super X copper-coated long rifle. There was no indication of robbery or sexual molestation. There were no witnesses. Due to the remote location of the [crime scene](#), the bodies weren't found until the following evening.

Details: The victims were students at nearby Lompoc High School and were participating in "Senior Ditch Day," a local tradition among students close to graduation. Instead of celebrating with classmates at another location, however, Domingos and Edwards chose to be alone at an isolated stretch of [beach](#). Apparently the killer [approached](#) while they were sunbathing. As Edwards was forced to bind Domingos at gunpoint with lengths of narrow rope (probably pre-cut), both victims attempted to [flee](#) and were shot numerous times. The circumstances of the shooting suggested the killer had some level of expertise with firearms. The bodies were dragged approximately 30 feet to an [empty shack](#) occasionally occupied by transients. Edwards was placed face up on top of Domingos and the top of her bathing suit was cut open with a sharp instrument (probably a knife), exposing her breasts. The killer then attempted to set fire to the shack with wooden matches, to no avail.

Zodiac victims? The similarities between this attack and Zodiac's [Lake Berryessa](#) attack of 1969 are striking. Additionally, the ammunition used to kill Domingos and Edwards was the same kind Zodiac used at his [Lake Herman Road](#) attack of 1968. In 1972, the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Dept. issued a [press release](#) in an attempt to conclusively link Zodiac to the Domingos-Edwards killings. The potential involvement of the Zodiac received [extensive coverage](#) in the news media.

Conclusion: The Domingos-Edwards tragedy has Zodiac's fingerprints all over it: The knife, gun, pre-cut rope and the motiveless assault on vulnerable teenagers at a remote location. It is very unlikely this attack and Zodiac's Lake Berryessa attack were the work of separate individuals.

Also see:

Zodiackiller.com [MESSAGE BOARD](#) | [2003 Zodiackiller.com Task-Force Meeting](#)

[NEXT CASE \(Possible Victim\)](#) | [PREVIOUS CASE \(Definite Victim\)](#)

[Main Page](#) |

[FAQ](#) | [About This Site](#) | [The Victims](#) | [The Suspects](#) | [The News Center](#) | [The Arthur Leigh Allen File](#) |
[Zodiac Letters](#) | [Message Board](#) | [Zodiac Stuff](#) | [Archive](#) | [Zodiac Links](#) |
[Contact Zodiackiller.com](#)



ZODIAC BOOKS, DVDs and MORE from
[amazon.com](#)
[click here](#)



Brief History—Possible Victims

Cheri Jo Bates

October 30, 1966(Sunday)

Riverside, California

Riverside City College

Approximately 9:30 p.m. PDT



Brief History—Possible Victims

Kathleen Johns

March 22, 1970(Sunday)

Near Patterson, California

Approximately 11:15 p.m.



Brief History—Possible Victims

Donna Lass

September 6, 1970(Saturday)

South Lake Tahoe, California

Approximately 2:00 a.m. PST



Evidence--Stine



Evidence--Stine



Evidence--Stine



Evidence--Stine



Evidence--Stine

- Explicit slide not included in the web or class handouts.

Evidence--Stine

- Explicit slide not included in the web or class handouts.

Evidence--Stine

- Explicit slide not included in the web or class handouts.

Evidence--Stine



The Evidence--Stine



Evidence--Stine

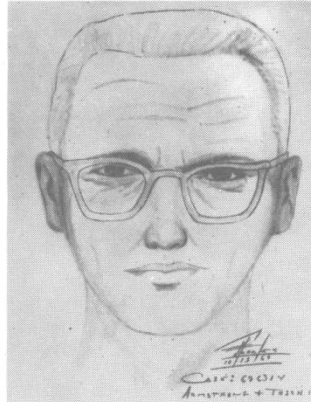
WANTED

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT

NO. 90-69

WANTED FOR MURDER

OCTOBER 18, 1969



ORIGINAL DRAWING



AMENDED DRAWING

Supplementing our Bulletin 87-69 of October 13, 1969. Additional information has developed the above amended drawing of murder suspect known as "ZODIAC".

WMA, 35-45 Years, approximately 5'8", Heavy Build, Short Brown Hair, possibly with Red Tint, Wears Glasses. Armed with 9 MM Automatic.

Available for comparison: Slugs, Casings, Latents, Handwriting.

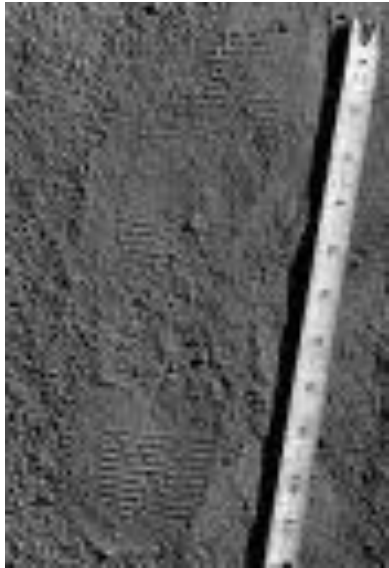
ANY INFORMATION:
Inspectors Armstrong & Toschi
Homicide Detail
CASE NO. 696314

THOMAS J. CAHILL
CHIEF OF POLICE

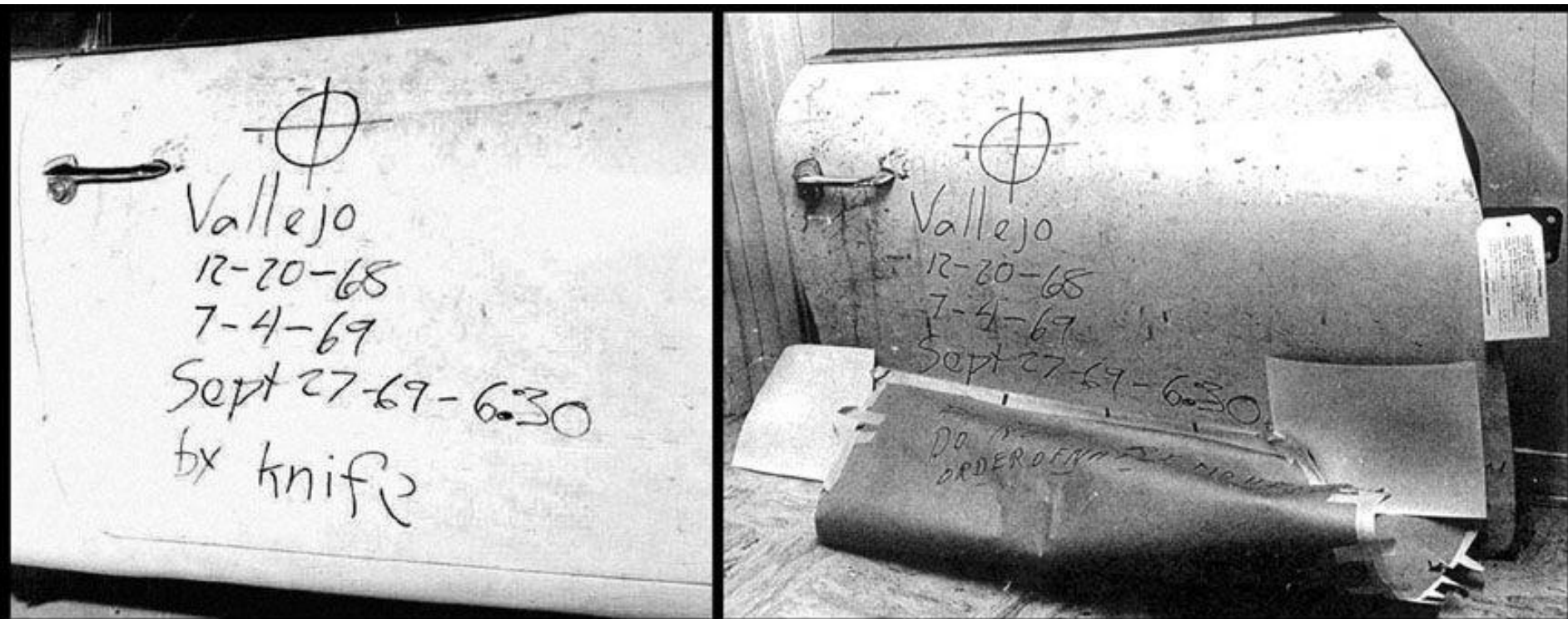
Evidence—Shepard/Hartnell



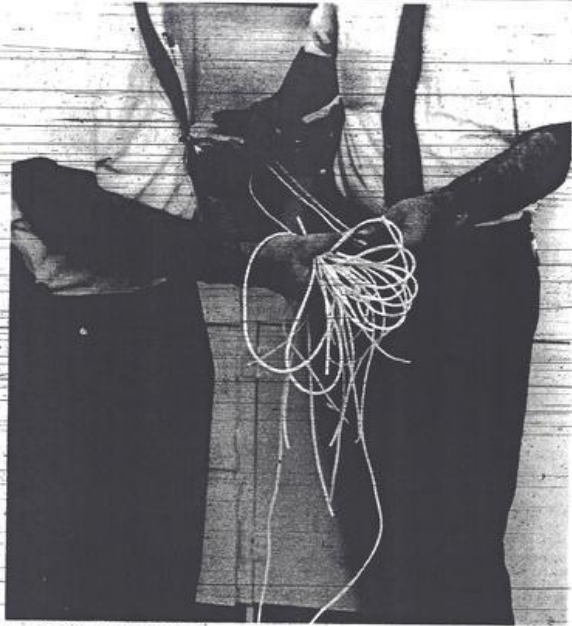
Evidence—Shepard/Hartnell



Evidence—Shepard/Hartnell



Evidence—Shepard/Hartnell



STRIPS OF plastic clothesline used by a "psychopathic killer" to tie up two young college students at Lake Berryessa Saturday before he viciously stabbed them are examined by Napa County Sheriff's Det. Sgts. Kenneth Narlow, left, and Richard Lonergan. The young girl, Cecilia Ann Shepard, died Monday of 10 knife wounds, two of which punctured her lungs. Her companion, Bryan Hartnell, is showing slight improvement today at Queen of the Valley Hospital. Narlow and Lonergan, along with other investigators, are checking out numerous clues and evidence today that hopefully will lead them to the killer. (Register photo by Robert McKenzie)



Evidence—Shepard/Hartnell



Evidence—Shepard/Hartnell

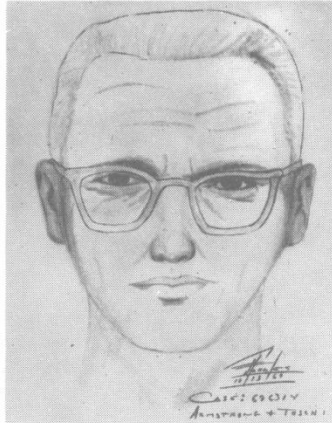
WANTED

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT

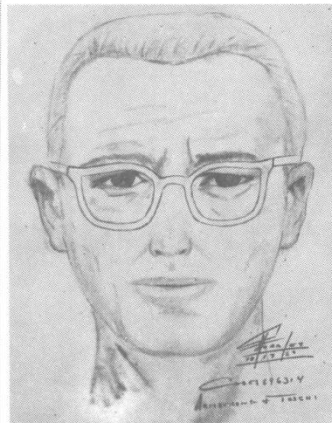
NO. 90-69

WANTED FOR MURDER

OCTOBER 18, 1969



ORIGINAL DRAWING



AMENDED DRAWING

Supplementing our Bulletin 87-69 of October 13, 1969. Additional information has developed the above amended drawing of murder suspect known as "ZODIAC".

WMA, 35-45 Years, approximately 5'8", Heavy Build, Short Brown Hair, possibly with Red Tint, Wears Glasses. Armed with 9 mm Automatic.

Available for comparison: Slugs, Casings, Latents, Handwriting.

ANY INFORMATION:

Inspectors Armstrong & Toschi
Homicide Detail
CASE NO. 696314

THOMAS J. CAHILL
CHIEF OF POLICE



Evidence—Domingos/Edwards

- Precut Pieces of Cord (same length as LB)
- Matches
- 22 Cal Western Super Match X Long
- Rifle (not recovered)
- Knife (not recovered)
- Wing Walker Shoes (military)
- No fingerprints
- No DNA



Evidence—Domingos/Edwards



Evidence—Domingos/Edwards

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
STATE OF CALIFORNIA—DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

LOCAL REGISTRATION 4200
CERTIFICATE NUMBER 703

1. NAME OF DECEASED—FIRST NAME
ROBERT

2. SEX
Male

3. COLOR OR RACE
Cauc.

4. BIRTHPLACE
California

5. DATE OF BIRTH
May 12, 1945

6. MAIDEN NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER
George Domingos - Calif.

7. MAIDEN NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER
Alice Chaves - Calif.

8. NAME OF LAST EMPLOYING COMPANY OR FIRM
Student

9. KIND OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS
School

10. PLACE WHERE DEATH OCCURRED
Never Married

11. STREET ADDRESS
2 N. So. Vista Del Mar School Near Tajiguas Beach

12. CITY OR TOWN
Unincorporated

13. LAST USUAL RESIDENCE
RFD Box 138

14. COUNTY
Lompoc

15. STATE
Santa Barbara

16. PHYSICIAN'S OR CORONER'S CERTIFICATION
Autopsy

17. FUNDAL DIRECTOR AND LOCAL REGISTRAR
MoPeck & Starbuck

18. DATE OF DEATH
June 3, 1963

19. CAUSE OF DEATH
Gunshot Wounds, Multiple

20. MANNER OF DEATH
Homicide

21. DATE OF OPERATION
June 3, 1963

22. PLACE OF INJURY
Sanja Barbara California

23. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION
Santa Barbara California

24. COUNTY
Santa Barbara

25. STATE
California

26. DATE ISSUED
AUG 05 2009

27. SIGNATURE
Joseph E. Holland

28. TITLE
COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER AND ASSESSOR

29. THIS COPY NOT VALID UNLESS PREPARED ON ENGRAVED BORDER DISPLAYING SEAL AND SIGNATURE OF COUNTY CLERK, RECORDER AND ASSESSOR.

30. ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
STATE OF CALIFORNIA—DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

LOCAL REGISTRATION 4200
CERTIFICATE NUMBER 704

1. NAME OF DECEASED—FIRST NAME
LINDA

2. SEX
Female

3. COLOR OR RACE
Cauc.

4. BIRTHPLACE
Colorado

5. DATE OF BIRTH
June 7, 1945

6. MAIDEN NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER
Delbert Edwards - Missouri

7. MAIDEN NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER
Eva Phillips - Kansas

8. NAME OF LAST EMPLOYING COMPANY OR FIRM
Student

9. KIND OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS
School

10. PLACE WHERE DEATH OCCURRED
Never Married

11. STREET ADDRESS
2 N. So. Vista Del Mar School Near Tajiguas Beach

12. CITY OR TOWN
Unincorporated

13. LAST USUAL RESIDENCE
421 N. 1/2 St. Apt C

14. COUNTY
Lompoc

15. STATE
Santa Barbara

16. PHYSICIAN'S OR CORONER'S CERTIFICATION
Autopsy

17. FUNDAL DIRECTOR AND LOCAL REGISTRAR
MoPeck & Starbuck

18. DATE OF DEATH
June 10, 1963

19. CAUSE OF DEATH
Gunshot Wounds, Multiple

20. MANNER OF DEATH
Homicide

21. DATE OF OPERATION
June 10, 1963

22. PLACE OF INJURY
Sanja Barbara California

23. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION
Santa Barbara California

24. COUNTY
Santa Barbara

25. STATE
California

26. DATE ISSUED
AUG 05 2009

27. SIGNATURE
Joseph E. Holland

28. TITLE
COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER AND ASSESSOR

29. THIS COPY NOT VALID UNLESS PREPARED ON ENGRAVED BORDER DISPLAYING SEAL AND SIGNATURE OF COUNTY CLERK, RECORDER AND ASSESSOR.

30. ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

Fingerprint Evidence

The content of this page has been edited and is confined to the subject of fingerprints and other evidence. The text has not been altered.

NAPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT. SUPPLEMENT CRIME REPORT		65 CASE NO. 105907
TO: CODE SECTION 187 P.C.	TI: CRIME MURDER	TS: CLASSIFICATION FELONY
TS: VICTIM'S NAME - LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE (FIRM IF BUS.) CECELIA SHEPARD		TS: ADDRESS RESIDENCE BUSINESS TS: PHONE

At 2040 hours, 9-27-69, Reporting Officer received phone call from the office that there had been a double stabbing at Lake Berryessa, and that an ambulance had been dispatched. Reporting Officer requested Det. Sgt. NARLOW and LONERGAN be called out and that the units at the Lake be instructed to rope off the scene.

Reporting Officer met Det. Sgt. Narlow at Queen of the Valley Hospital at 2045 hours, and was advised the Suspect had made a phone call from a pay phone at the Napa Car Wash, Main and Clinton Streets, Napa, and that units were at that scene.

At 2050 hours Reporting Officer met Officer Eric Ronback and Reserve Officer Donald Stanley at the Napa Car Wash. They stated they had secured the area and no one had approached the area that was located on the south wall of a building located at the intersection of Main and Clinton Street.

Color photographs were taken of the scene and the area around the phone searched for physical evidence. No indications were found that the suspect had left at a high rate of speed and tire and foot prints were not observed on the blacktop.

Reporting Officer then approached the phone booth and noted the receiver of the phone was off the hook, and laying on the shelf with the mouth piece directly under the phone unit, the ear piece protruding to the south and the openings on the receiver facing the east wall of the booth. The phone unit was located on the north corner of the east wall of the booth the folding door entrance being the south enclosure of the booth. This scene was photographed to show the receivers position and the phone number 255-9673.

The phone booth was then processed for latent impressions and latent impression lifts #1 thru 35 were taken into evidence. The latent impression removed on latents lifts 29, 30 and 31, and the impression lifted on lift 32, was photographed prior to lifting. Heavy beads of moisture remained on the impresions photographed approximately three hours after the arrival of Reporting Officer at this scene. Processing of this scene was completed at 2349 hours and Reporting Officer proceeded to the Lake Berryessa scene arriving at 0020 hours, 9-28-69.

REPORTING OFFICER: Det. Sgt. Hal Snook	RECORDING OFFICER: Det. Sgt. Hal Snook	TYPED BY: S. Ramos	DATE AND TIME: 10-5-69	ROUTED BY: (Cont'd)
FURTHER ACTION: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> COPIES TO: DETECTIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C11 <input type="checkbox"/> JUVENILE <input type="checkbox"/> PATROL <input type="checkbox"/> DIST. ATTY. <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> S.O.P.D. <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/>				
REVIEWED BY:		DATE:		

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT

INTRA-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

TO:	LIST: DIV. / DET.	CITY & DATE
VALLEJO P.D. NAPA CO. SHERIFF SOLICIT. CO. SHERIFF C.I.I. S.F.P.D.	HOMICIDE	SLW, OCT. 19, 1969
SUBJECT:		
ZODIAC HOMICIDE CASES S.F.P.D. HOMICIDE CASE #696314		

All of the latent prints in our case were obtained from a taxi cab. The latent prints that show traces of blood are believed to be prints of the suspect. The latent prints from right front door handle are also believed to be prints of the suspect. These prints are circled with a red pen.

The other latent prints many of which are very good prints, may or may not be prints of the suspect in this case;

Per. Insp. Wm. Hamlet Crime lab;

FROM: Armstrong & Toschi	APPROVED BY:	REFER TO:
RANK: Homicide Det.	STAR:	RANK: STAR

Fingerprint Evidence

At some day it may happen
that a victim must be found.
I've got a little list. I've
got a little list, of society
offenders who might well be
underground who would never
be missed who would never be
missed. There is the post-
ulental musician who whine
for autographs, all people who
have flabby hands and irritat-
ing laugh. All children who
are up in date and imple
you with im platt. All people
who are shaking hands shake
hands like that. And all third
persons who with unspiling
take their who insist. They'd
none of them be missed. There's
the banjo seranader and
the others of his race and
the piano organist I got him
on the list. All people who
eat pepermint and phomphit

none of the
the banjo
the others
the piano
on the list who
eat pepermint and phomphit

SUBJECT: Latent prints in homicide cases where the suspect refers to himself as the ZODIAC. Numerous letters have been received by local newspapers from this suspect. In the past evidence has been included in some of the letters that strongly indicate this suspect is involved in the homicides in question. Several days ago two additional letters were received by a local newspaper. A handwriting comparison indicates these last two letters are from the same individual.

Eight latent fingerprints were developed from one of the letters. These prints are from two different pages. It is possible to determine the pattern of each of the prints. All are individually identifiable with the possible exception of the print that is believed to be the right little finger. Six of the latent prints were developed on the letter in a position that indicates they are impressions of the middle, ring and little fingers of the right and left hand. Two of the latent prints may be of the thumb or index finger of the right and left hand.

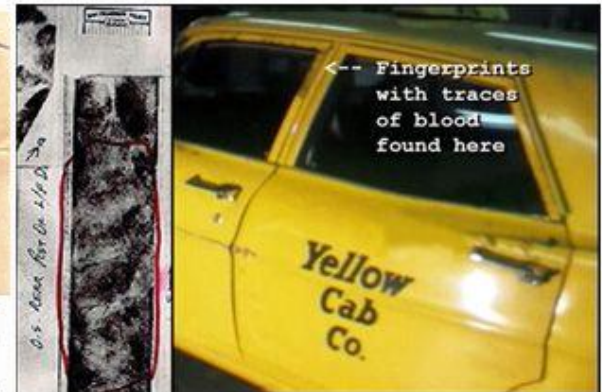
Enclosed herewith for the Identification Division are one set of three photos bearing latent impressions obtained from a letter attributed to UNSUB by Crime Lab of San Francisco Police Department (SFPS). Also enclosed for

Inspector [REDACTED] Crime Lab. SFPS. advised on 7/31/70, that he believes the left ring finger latents noted on enclosure bear similarity to bloody latent fingerprint removed from door of vehicle driven by Victim taxi driver. Photo of this latent previously furnished to Identification Division.

-- FBI MEMO

dic-

- need on
and com-
vate
re



SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT

UNIT FILE NO.	HOMICIDE	DATE
		SUN, OCT. 19, 1969

The latent prints that show traces of blood are believed to be prints of the suspect. These prints are circled with a red pen. Per. Insp. Wm. Hamlet Crime lab;

Fingerprint Evidence

7/31/70

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (9-49911)
(Attn: Identification Division,
Latent Fingerprint Section)

FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (9-2296?)

SUBJECT: ZODIAC
EXTORTION
CC: Sacramento

Re: San Francisco telephone call to Bureau instant.
Enclosed herewith for the Identification Division
is one set of three photos bearing latent fingerprints
obtained from a letter attributed to UNSUB by Crim Lab of
San Francisco Police Department (SFPD). Also enclosed for
identification Division are two xerox copies of letter from
Inspector [REDACTED] Crime Lab, SFPD, which relates
to the above enclosures and is self-explanatory.

Enclosed for Sacramento is one copy of the
letter.

The above enclosures made available to San Francisco
Office by Lt. [REDACTED] Homicide Detail, SFPD
on 7/31/70, and he requested comparison of latents be made
with latents attributed to UNSUB previously submitted this
case.

Inspector [REDACTED] Crime Lab, SFPD,
advised on 7/31/70 that he believes the left ring finger
latents noted on enclosure bears similarity to bloody
latent fringerprints removed from door of vehicle driven
by Victim cab driver. Photo of this latent previously
furnished to Identification Division.

If all latents are idenifiable for classi-
fication, the Identification Division is requested to
search through the main print file in an effort to
[UNREADABLE].

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

Communication from "Zodiac"

Vallejo Mass Murder Threat Fails

Special to The Examiner

VALLEJO — A self-accused killer failed to keep a threat of mass murder here, but there was no slackening of tension or mystery caused by the warning.

The police department telephone system was clogged at times by anxious callers asking if the "cipher killer" had been caught.

Newspapers also reported an above normal number of calls.

Vallejo, however, was without violence despite the supposed killer's ultimatum that if the cipher clues to his identity were not published by daily newspapers here and in San Francisco by Friday evening:

"I will go on a rampage Fry (Friday) night."

Violent Threats

"This will last the whole weekend," wrote the killer, "and I will cruise (cruise) around killing people who are alone until Sun night or until I kill a dozen people."

The writer mailed his threats Thursday in San Francisco to the Vallejo Times-Herald, The San Francisco Examiner, and the Chronicle.

His letters contained "confessions" of three long unsolved local murders plus weird ciphers supposedly containing clues to his identity.

Earlier Murders

The murders were those of a high school boy and girl found shot to death on rural Lake Herman Road last December 26, and the July 4 slaying of a 22 year old Vallejo woman in a park not far from the other slaying scene.

Each newspaper received a different cipher and, according to the letter, the puzzle could only be solved by bringing the three together.

Code Not Broken

Police Chief Jack E. Stiltz has done just that. He dispatched the ciphers to the nearby Navy base for analysis by a cryptographer.

The latest report was that the code had not been broken.

Stiltz said he still is not convinced the letters and codes were written by the actual killer although the letters contained details of the crimes that are not public knowledge.

Details

The letter writer described clothing of the victims, position of the bodies, and even the brand names of the ammunition used.

Stiltz said such knowledge could have been obtained from any witnesses at the death scenes.

The police chief urged the writer yesterday to send more letters with more facts to prove his connections with the crimes.

He warned Vallejo residents to avoid lonely places and know whom they were admitting to their homes.

TO EXAMINER

DZKQ9I@WPIA@LHRAZ
BPD.R+TX@N@E@HKE
Z@Q@V@T@+@L@J@R@H
I@D@R@O@T@Y@+@Q@X@J@A
P@M@R@U@+@L@N@V@E@K@H@G
Y@I@I@X@@A@L@M@J@N@A@Z@P
@U@Y@A@D@B@V@W@+@V@T@J@P
A@N@S@Y@J@U@Z@O@D@P@G@Q@J@M

TO CHRONICLE

NX@5@E@/A@Q@Z@P@B@V
Q@X@W@O@F@A@+@Q@A@B
@O@T@R@U@+@Q@Y@P@L@S@P@W
V@Z@G@Y@K@E@T@Y@A@D@B@L@D
H@I@F@B@X@A@+@X@A@D@C@A@L@T@P@
@Q@Q@B@O@P@O@R@Y@Q@F@B@G@Z
Z@J@T@L@P@A@J@I@+@Y@B@P@Q@W@O
V@E@X@A@W@I@O@P@E@H@M@X@U@I@X

TO TIMES-HERALD

A@P@/Z@/U@B@X@O@R@X@Q@X@B
W@Y@+@G@Y@F@O@A@H@P@K@Z@P@Y@E
M@J@Y@A@U@I@X@A@P@T@L@N@G@Y@D@O@
S@P@Z@A@B@B@P@O@R@A@U@B@F@R@J@P@E
X@A@L@H@Z@J@O@R@+@Q@F@H@V@W@Z@Y
@+@Q@G@D@K@I@+@Q@X@A@+@Q@S@P
R@N@J@Y@E@J@O@A@P@G@B@T@G@S@B@B
L@/P@B@B@X@P@E@H@H@U@A@B@R@X

Section A Page 9
August 3, 1969
S. F. Sunday Examiner
& Chronicle

Communication from "Zodiac"

4 San Francisco Chronicle 1969 Sat Aug 2, 1969

Coded Clue in Murders

A man who claimed he shot and killed two Vallejo teenagers last December and a young woman on July 4 threatened yesterday to kill 12 more this weekend.

The menacing message came in unsigned letters mailed to the editors of The Chronicle, the Valley Times-Herald and the San Francisco Examiner.

"Here is part of a cipher," the letter said in part. "In this cipher is my identity."

"If you do not print this cipher by the afternoon of Friday, (Friday), I will go on a kill rampage Friday night."

PEOPLE

"I will cause terror around all week end killing 12 people in the night then move until to kill again until end of with a dozen people over the week end."

The covering letter listed what the writer called "some facts which only I and the police know" such as the brands of ammunition used and the positions in which the bodies were found.

Vallejo police said most of the material was actually common public knowledge. But officers took the letter seriously anyhow. They learned last month that the killer of Darlene Ferrin, 22, who was slain July 4, was a man with a bizarre craving for attention.

Half an hour after the girl was killed, the police received an anonymous phone call from a man who said he shot her and a young companion while they were parked in Blue Rock Springs Park.

VICTIMS

The other victims the man claimed were Thomas Faraday, 17, and Bettison Jensen, 16, who were shot while they were parked on Lake Herman road, three miles from Blue Rock Springs Park, last December 20.

"We're not satisfied that the letter was written by the murderer, but it could have been," Police Chief Jack F. Stiltz of Vallejo said. He requested the writer to send a second letter "with more facts to prove it."

The three newspapers turned over their letters to Vallejo police, and the ciphered message in turn was given to a Navy cryptographer in the hope that he could decode it.

This code may conceal Vallejo-killer's identity

N X Θ S C E / Δ □ □ Z 7 A P □ B V
 4 3 X Θ W Θ □ F □ Δ C + □ Δ A Δ B
 □ O T O R U C + □ Θ Y Θ □ A S Θ W
 V Z E G Y K E □ T Y A Δ □ □ L L □
 H I F B X Δ Θ X A P C \ Δ L I T Θ
 □ E D □ □ O E O P O R X Q F □ G C
 Z □ J T L Θ □ Δ J I + R B P Q W O
 V E X R Δ W I O Θ E H M Θ T U I K

Communication from "Zodiac"

Page 26 Section A ☆☆☆
Sunday, Aug. 10, 1969
S. F. Sunday Examiner
& Chronicle

Salinas Teacher Breaks Code on Vallejo Murders

A Salinas high school teacher yesterday was credited with cracking an intricate code invented by a man claiming responsibility for three Vallejo murders.

Vallejo Detective Sergeant John Lynch said he was convinced the translation made by Donald G. Harden, a history and economics teacher at North Salinas High, was accurate.

The investigator, naturally, was disappointed that the mystery man failed to give his name in the three coded pieces sent The Examiner, Chronicle and the Vallejo Times-Herald as he had earlier promised.

Harden Praised

Harden's work also was checked and praised by Dr. D. C. B. Marsh, a mathematician at the Colorado School of Mines who heads the American Cryptogram Association.

He called the code complicated and obviously drawn by somebody who knows his business.

Translation

The code as translated by Harden read:

"I like killing people because it is so much fun it is more fun than killing wild game in the forest because man is the most dangerous animal of all to kill something gives me the most thrilling experience it is even better than getting your rocks off with a girl the best part of it is that when I die I

will be reborn in paradise and all I have killed will become my slaves I will not give you my name because you will try to slow down or stop my collecting of slaves for my afterlife ebeori ete met hh piti."

Both Lynch and Dr. Marsh suggested the groups of letters at the end could contain clues to the author's identity.

Code Checked

Harden, 41, said he and his wife broke the code after more than 20 hours of working on it. He said the writer used 12 different symbols for the letter "e," the most common letter in the English language. Harden said the writer used a backward "q" 16 times to try and lure the analyst into thinking it was an "e."

The code was broken, Harden said, by looking for four letter patterns which

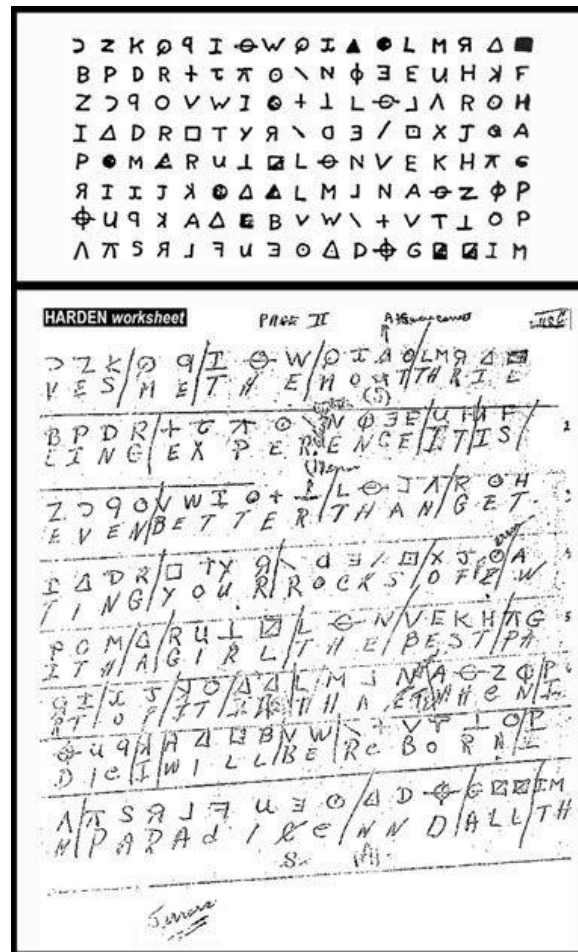
would fit in with the word "kill."

The boastful mystery man, it was learned, supplied information not previously made public in a letter to The Examiner that followed the sending of the coded messages earlier this month.

Couple Killed

The police were called July 4 moments after a high school couple were shot to death in a "lovers" lane by a man who described the shooting and the type of gun used.

Communication from "Zodiac"



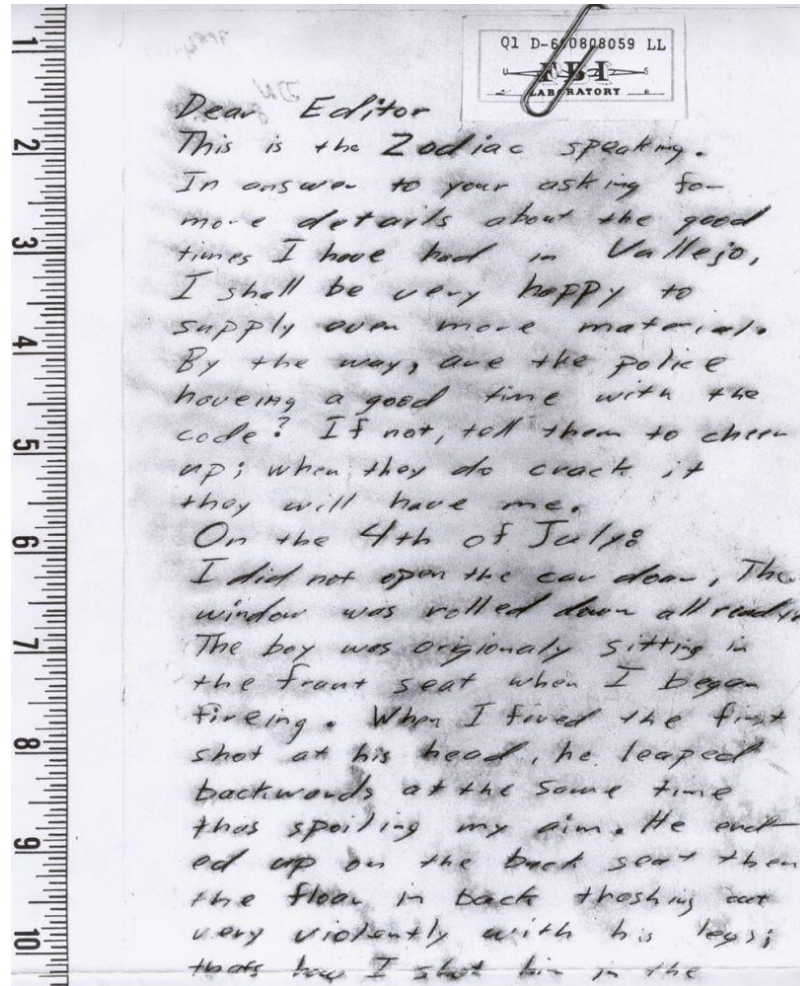
Communication from “Zodiac”

“ I LIKE KILLING PEOPLE BECAUSE IT IS SO MUCH FUN IT IS MORE FUN THAN KILLING WILD GAME IN THE FORREST BECAUSE MAN IS THE MOST DANGEROUE ANAMAL OF ALL TO KILL SOMETHING GIVES ME THE MOST THRILLING EXPERENCE IT IS EVEN BETTER THAN GETTING YOUR ROCKS OFF WITH A GIRL THE BEST PART OF IT IS THAE WHEN I DIE I WILL BE REBORN IN PARADICE AND THEI HAVE KILLED WILL BECOME MY SLAVES I WILL NOT GIVE YOU MY NAME BECAUSE YOU WILL TRY TO SLOI DOWN OR ATOP MY COLLECTIOG OF SLAVES FOR MY AFTERLIFE ”

EBEOR IETEMETHHPIT I

Communication from "Zodiac"

August 4, 1969, First Use of Zodiac Name



Q1 D-670808059 LL
FBI
LABORATORY

Dear Editor

This is the Zodiac speaking.
In answer to your asking for
more details about the good
times I have had in Vallejo,
I shall be very happy to
supply even more material.
By the way, are the police
having a good time with the
code? If not, tell them to cheer
up; when they do crack it
they will have me.

On the 4th of July
I did not open the car door, The
window was rolled down all ready.
The boy was originally sitting in
the front seat when I began
firing. When I fired the first
shot at his head, he leaped
backwards at the same time
thus spoiling my aim. He ended
up on the back seat then
the floor in back thrashing out
very violently with his legs;
that's how I shot him in the

Communication from "Zodiac" SF Chronicle April 20 and June 26, 1970

This is the Zodiac speaking
By the way have you cracked
the last cipher I sent you?
My name is —

A E N ⊕ ⊗ K ⊗ M ⊗ J N A M

I am mildly cerous as to how
much money you have on my
head now. I hope you do not
think that I was the one
who wiped out that blue
meannie with a bomb at the
cop station. Even though I talked
about killing school children with
one. It just wouldn't do to
move in on someone else's territory.
But there is more glory in killing
a cop than a kid because a cop
can shoot back. I have killed
ten people to date. It would
have been a lot more except
that my bar bomb was a dud.
I was swamped out by the
rain we had a while back.

June 26, 1970

This is the Zodiac speaking

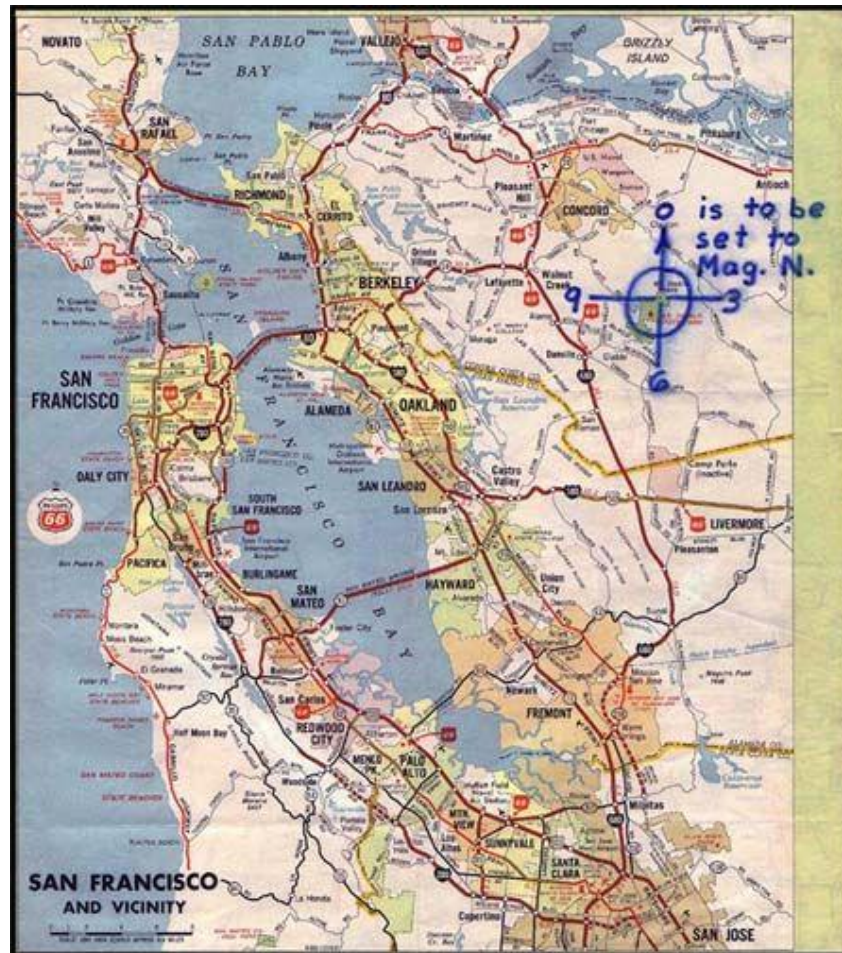
I have become very upset with
the people of San Fran Bay
Area. They have not complied
with my wishes for them to
wear some nice ⊕ buttons.
I promised to punish them
if they did not comply, by
anilating a full School Bass.
But now school is out for
the summer, so I punished
them in an another way.
I shot a man sitting in
a parked car with a .38.

⊕-12 SFPD-0

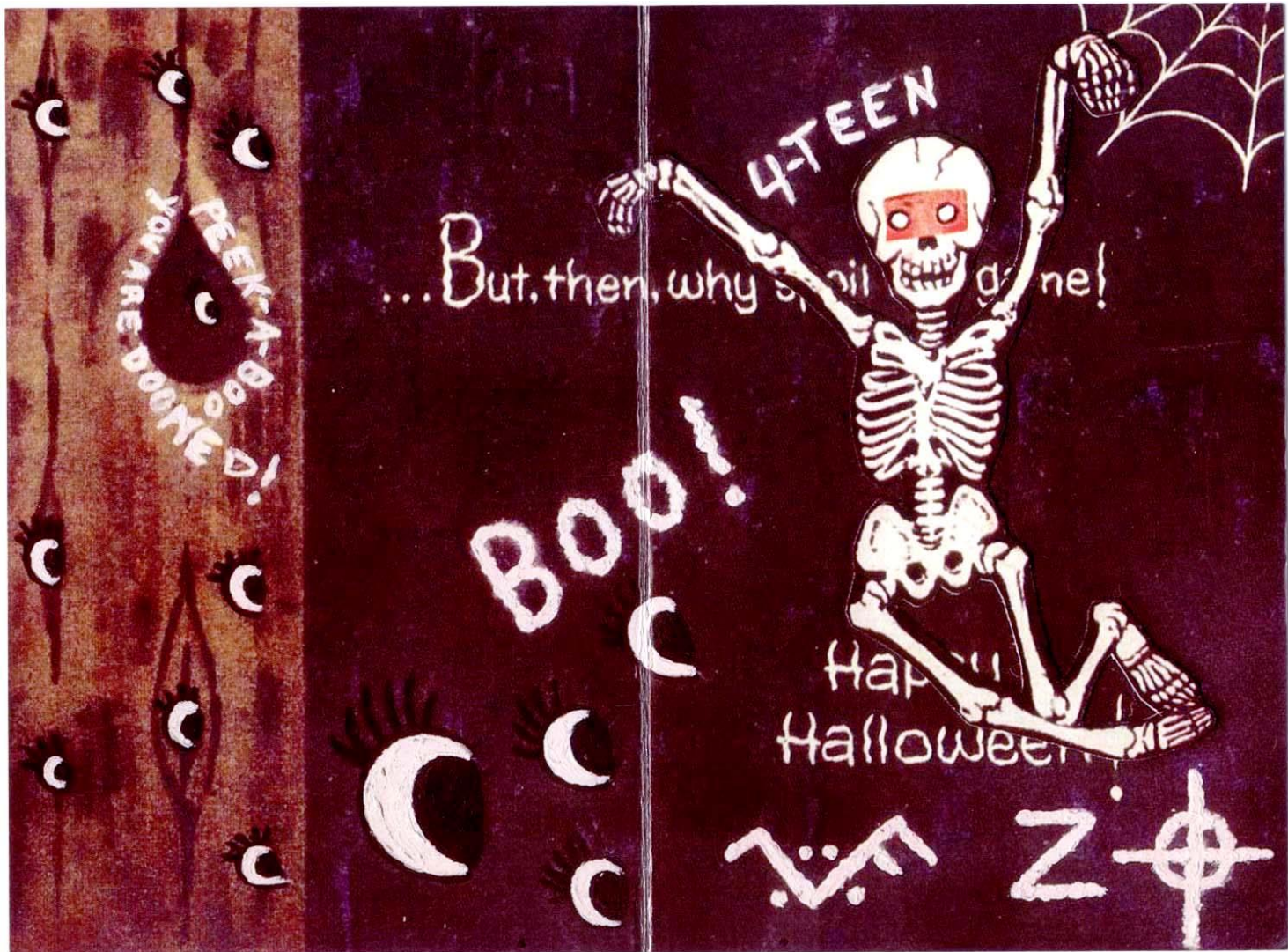
The Map coupled with this
code will tell you where the
bomb is set. You have until
next Fall to dig it up. ⊕

C Δ J I ■ O K J A M F ▲ Ω O R T G
X ⊗ F D V ⊔ H C E L ⊕ P W Δ

Communication from “Zodiac”

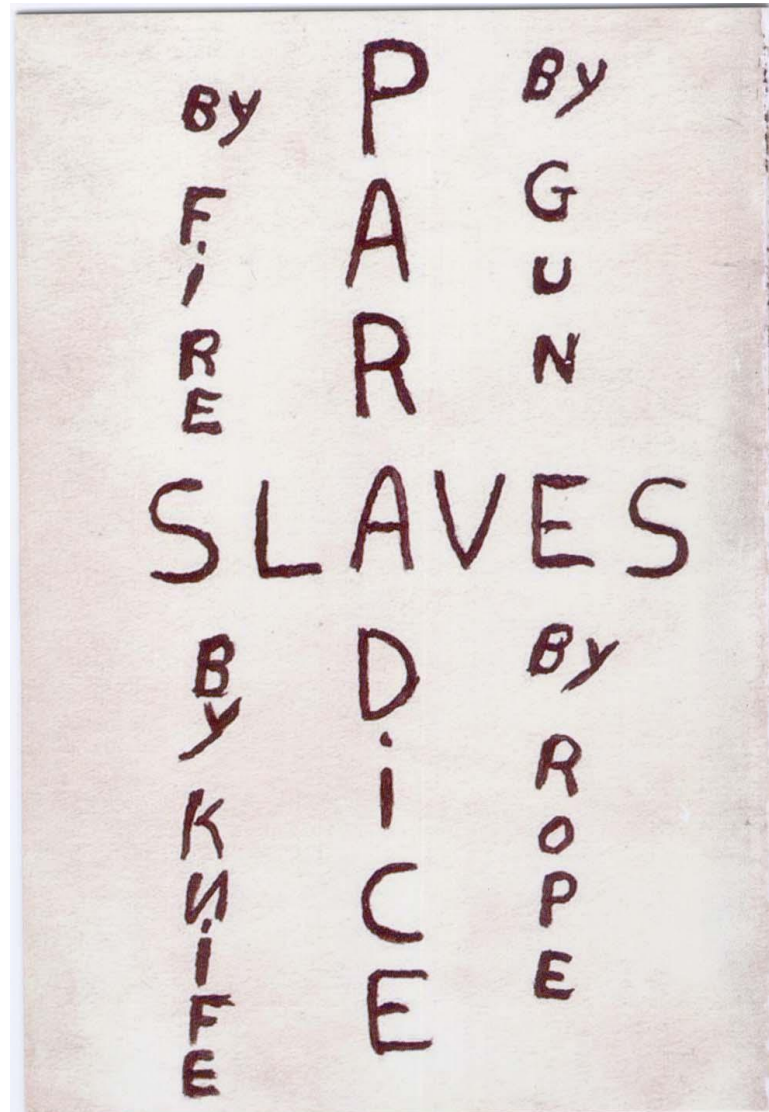


Communication from “Zodiac” Halloween Card—October 27, 1970

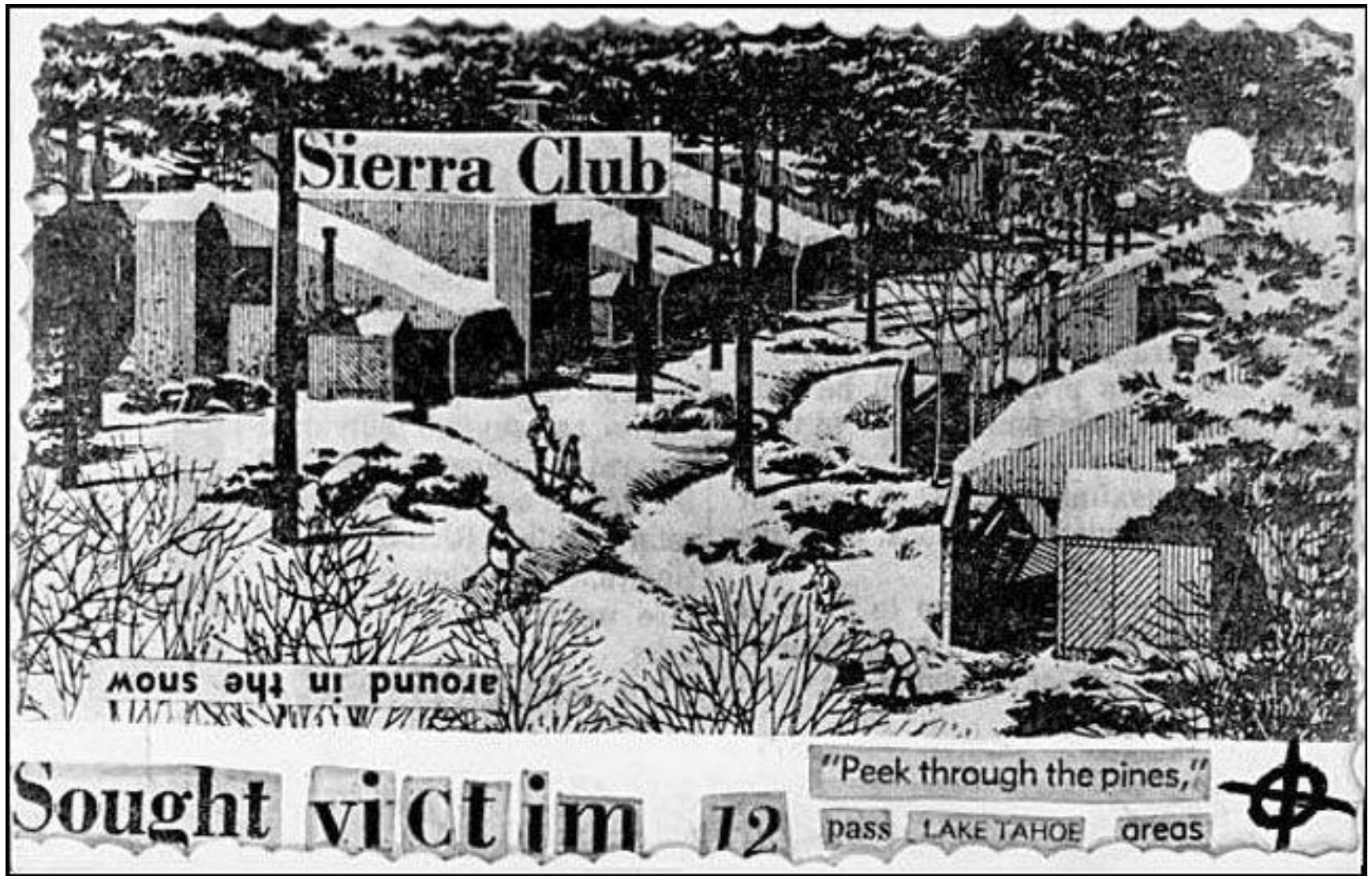


Communication from "Zodiac"

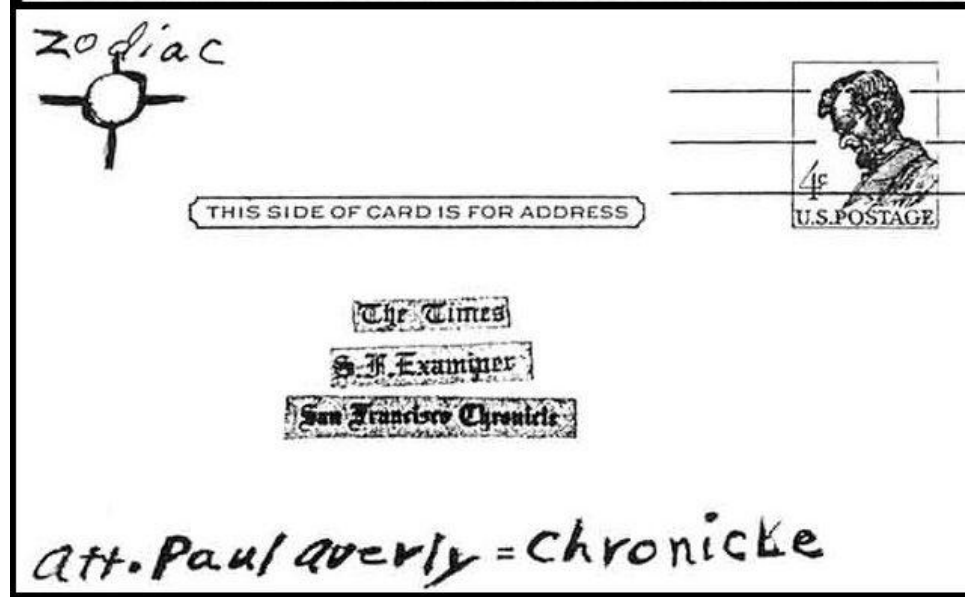
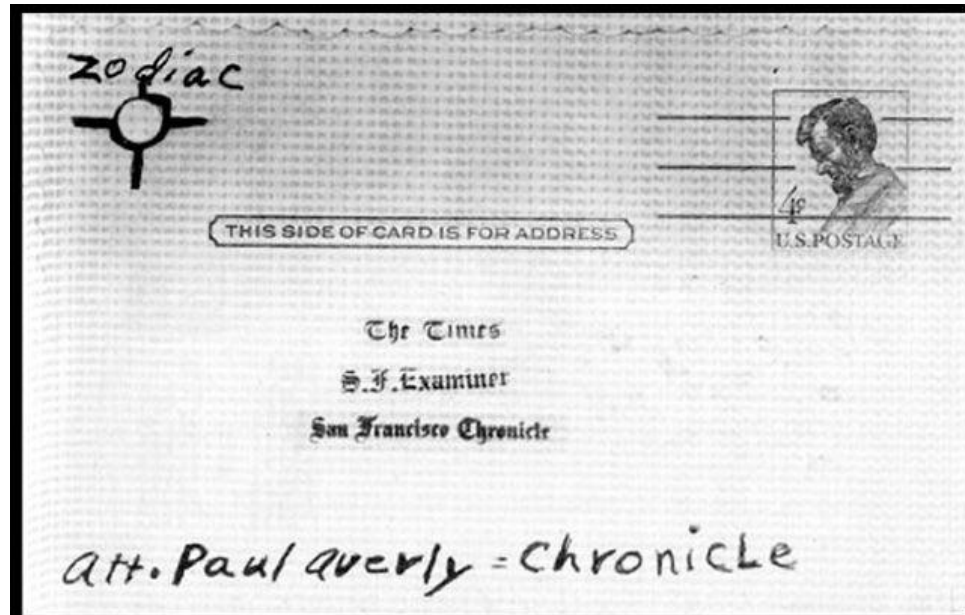
Halloween Card—October 27, 1970



Donna Lass "Pines Card," 3/22/1971



Donna Lass "Pines Card," 3/22/1971



Last Zodiac Letter, 1/29/1974

I saw + think "The Exorcist" was the best satirical comedy that I have ever seen.

Signed, yours truly :

He plunged him self into
the billowy wave
and an echo arose from
the suicides grave
titwillo titwillo
titwillo

Ps. if I do not see this note in your paper, I will do something nasty, which you know I'm capable of doing

11

Me - 37

SFPD - O

Suspect

EXPIRES ON BIRTHDAY **CALIFORNIA LICENSE** 450

971

ISSUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE CALIFORNIA VEHICLE CODE
Keith Ball
CHIEF, DIVISION OF DRIVERS LICENSES

DRIVER • B672352

• Arthur Leigh Allen
• P.O. Box 44
• Burson, Cal. 95225

SEX	HAR	EYES	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	MAR	PRE LIC EXP
M	Brn	Brn	6-0	250	Sgl	67
DATE OF BIRTH			AGE	DMV USE ONLY		
12-18-33			33			
OTHER ADDRESS 32 Fresno St - Vallejo						
CLASS 3. 2 AXLE VEH. EXCEPT BUS OR FARM LABOR TRUCK, MAY TOW VEHICLE LESS THAN 6,000 LBS. GROSS.						
SEE OVER FOR ANY OTHER CONDITIONS			<input type="checkbox"/> MUST WEAR CORRECTIVE LENSES		<input type="checkbox"/> DRIVE TEST	
x <i>Arthur Leigh Allen</i>						
10-13-67			SNA	48		
DATE			F.O.	C.C.		

MUST BE CARRIED WHEN OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE AND WHEN APPLYING FOR RENEWAL

Arthur Leigh Allen's 1967 driver's license.

Suspect



Recent Developments in the Case

- Many have suggested Persons of Interest
- Five individuals have been brutally murdered
- Two men survived serious injuries
- Other possible victims are being investigated
- Cold cases are being worked
- Persons of interest are being investigated
- The media is involved in reviewing evidence
- Creative ways of involving the public in cold cases
 - Documentaries/Web Sites

Current Status of the Zodiac Case

- *SAN FRANCISCO HAS CLOSED AND
THEN REOPENED THE CASE (04-07)**
- *NAPA COUNTY, HAS SENT EVIDENCE
FOR DNA TESTING**
- *RIVERSIDE HAS A SUSPECT**
- *SANTA BARBARA HAS OPENED A NEW
COLD CASE UNIT**
- *AMATEUR SLEUTHS ARE MORE
ACTIVE THAN EVER**

Questions?

