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FOR INFO RECEIVING OFFICES, AT 3:00 PM, PST, TODAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1980, PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD IN PORTLAND OFFICE WHICH WILL ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING:

ARHTUR G. BARGER, SPCIAL AGENT IN CHARGE OF THE FBI
FOR OREGON, HAS ANNOUNCED A DEVELOPMENT IN A CRIME WHICH
BEGAN ON THE NIGHT OF NOVEMBER 24, 1971, AT PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, PORTLAND, OREGON, AND HAS BECOME WIDELY
KNOWN SINCE THAT TIME AS THE D. B. COOPER HIJACKING CASE.

ON THE NIGHT BEFORE THANKSGIVING, 1971, A MAN WHO GAVE

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THE "AME DAD COOPER BOUGHT A ONE-WAY TICKET ON NORTHWEST AIRLINES FLIGHT 305 FROM PORTLAND, OREGON, TO SEATTLE, WASHINGTON. LPON DEPARTING PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, COOPER NOTIFIED A STEVARDESS THAT HE WAS HIJACKING THE AIRCRAFT AND DISPLAYED TO HER WHAT HE SAID WAS A BOMB IN HIS BRIEFCASE. THE FLIGHT PAGGEEDED TO SEATTLE, WHERE AFTER MAINTAINING A HOLDING PATTERN FOR SEVERAL HOURS, IT WAS PERMITTED TO LAND AND REFUEL. AFTER \$200,000 A'D FOUR PARACHUTES DEMANDED BY THE HIJACKER WERE BROUGHT On BOARD, HE RELEASED ALL OF THE PASSENGERS AND ALL BUT FOUR MEMBERS OF THE CREW. THE FLIGHT THEN TOOK OFF AND PROCEEDED SOUTH THROUGH WASHINGTON TOWARD RENO. NEVADA. THE HIJACKER INSTRUCTED THAT THE FLAPS AND GEAR REMAIN LOWERED AND THE REAR STAIR DOOR OPE .. AS THE AIRCRAFT PASSED OVER LACENTER, WASHINGTON, CABIN PRESSURE FLUCTUATION WAS OBSERVED, WHICH WAS LATER DETERMINED TO INDICATE HIS DEPARTURE FROM THE AIRCRAFT THROUGH THE REAR STAIRWELL DOOR. SINCE THAT TIME NO TRACE OF THE HIJACKER, THE PARACHUTES, OR THE MONEY HAS BEEN FOUND UNTIL SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1986.

O.: THAT DATE WHILE ON AN OUTING WITH THEIR CHILDREN, MR.

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A 30 MMS. HAROLD DWAYNE INGRAM OF VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON, DISCOVERED A SUM OF MONEY PARTIALLY BURIED BY SAND IN THE NORTH RIVER BANK OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER, APPROXIMATELY FIVE MILES DOWN RIVER FROM THE U.S. INTERSTATE 5 BRIDGE CROSSING BETWEEN PORTLAND AND VA. COUVER, WASHINGTON. THE INGRAMS CONTACTED THE FBI AND AN EXAMINATION OF THE BADLY DECOMPOSED \$20 BILLS REVEALS THAT THEY BEAR SERIAL NUMBERS IDENTICAL TO A PORTION OF THOSE GIVEN TO THE HIJACKER. BECAUSE OF THE DECOMPOSED NATURE OF THE BILLS A PEXACT ESTIMATE OF THE RECOVERED MONEY IS NOT POSSIBLE PENDING A LABORATORY EXAMINATION, HOWEVER, IT APPEARS TO BE SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS. THE PACKAGING AND THE NUMBERED SEQUENCE INDICATE THAT THE BILLS HAVE NOT BEEN SEPARATED AND ARE IN JUCH THE SAME ORDER AS WHEN GIVEN TO THE HIJACKER. THE BILLS WILL BE SENT IMMEDIATELY TO THE FBI LABORATORY FOR ADDITIONAL EXAMIJATION.

IT APPEARS LOGICAL THAT THE PACKAGE OF BILLS COULD HAVE
BELD CARRIED DOWNSTREAM ON ONE OF THE WASHINGTON TRIBUTARIES OF
THE COLUMBIA RIVER TO THE SITE WHERE THEY WERE FOUND.

SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE FBI FROM OREGON AND WASHINGTON HAVE SECURED THE AREA AND COMMENCED AN INTENSIVE SEARCH.

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