

A Name in Murder Cipher

Amateur code-breakers in the Bay Area deduced yesterday that the mystery man who claims he killed three people in Vallejo hid his name in an anagram

among garbled letters in the cipher he sent to newspapers.

Ungarbled, they said, the letters spell out the signature: "Robert Emmet the

hippie."

Actually, the garbled ending of the cipher — the deciphered translation appeared in last Saturday's Chronicle — is missing three letters, one R, one M, and one P, from the above phrase.

The code-breakers contend this is because the person who drafted the cipher wanted to make the finding of his name more difficult.

This is the garbled version: "obeo riet emeth hpi-ti."

Vallejo Police Sergeant John Lynch, in charge of the murder investigations, said several puzzle solvers had come up with the name "Robert Emmet" and passed it on to him.

He said he is checking on Robert Emmets, hippie and otherwise, but is also pursuing the possibility that the name might be a nom de plume—or not the cipher sender's name at all.

"The garble might just be that—a garble," Lynch said, "to try to throw us off the track. After all, it says in the cipher 'I will not give you my name.'"

Lynch is also taking note of the fact that Robert Emmet also happens to be the name of an Irish revolutionary patriot who was executed in Ireland in 1803.

The sender of the cipher claims he killed two Vallejo teen-agers last December and a young Vallejo woman last month.

The cipher was turned over to Navy cryptographers but before they solved it, a solution was worked out by a Salinas high school teacher and his wife.

"We aren't sure 'Robert Emmet' is who we are looking for," said Lynch. "Maybe he'll send another letter and let us know."

DEATHS

Admiral Robert Emmet, Served in Two Wars

Services and burial for Rear Adm. Robert R. M. Emmet, 89, who helped plan the logistics for the invasion of North Africa in World War II, will be at Arlington National Cemetery Monday.

Adm. Emmet, who was en route from his home in Miami Beach to the Naval Hospital in Bethesda, Md., for treatment of a heart ailment, died Wednesday at the Keesler Air Force Base Medical Center in Mississippi. His plane stopped at

Biloxi, Miss., after he suffered another heart attack in flight.

He was born in New Rochelle, N.Y., and was a 1908 graduate of the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. He served with distinction in two world wars.

Adm. Emmet is survived by his wife, the former Beulah Hepburn; three sons, Robert, Barton and John; two daughters, and 12 grandchildren.

Miami Herald 7/9/77

Name MARGOLIS, Marvin (none) **er**
(Name in Full, Surname to the Left)

301 17 77 Rate AS USN
(Service No.)

Date Reported Aboard: 11 MAR 1943

USNTS GREAT LAKES, ILL.

(Present Ship or Station)
USNRS CHICAGO, ILL.

(Ship or Station Received From)

Substance of contents of Soldier's and Sailor's Civil Relief Act of 1940 and of Public Resolution No. 96, 76th Congress, has been explained to this man.

Instrn. Recd. Requires Gas Mask Size

8 APR 1943

Application for N.S.L. Ins.
submitted by this man and forwarded with letter
of transmittal.

MAY 15 1943 Completed recruit training.
Advanced to S2C AUTH: CRUSTRATE ONE.

F. B. Murphy
F. B. MURPHY, Lieut. (S) USNR

TRAN: FOR A COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.
(HOSPITAL CORPSMEN) ←

June 12, 1943.

Date Transferred
NTSCH(HC) GREAT LAKES, ILLINOIS. ←

→ To
R. R. M. EMMET, CAPTAIN, USN.
2/5/43

Signature and Rank of Commanding Officer

Date Received Aboard: June 12, 1943.

NHCS, USNH, GREAT LAKES, ILLINOIS

(New Ship or Station)

USNTS GREAT LAKES, ILLINOIS

(Present Ship or Station)

R. B. Storck
R. B. STORCK, Comdr., (MC), U.S. Nav;

Signature and Rank of Commanding Officer.

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LIEUT. PAUL HINKLE CAPT. R. R. M. EMMET LIEUT. (j.g.) PAUL BROWN

GRID COACH WEARS NEW UNIFORM—Brown, Ohio State University football coach, reports to Captain Emmet, commanding officer at Great Lakes Naval Training Station. Lieutenant Hinkle is football coach there. Showing Brown a football (but he's seen one before), they tell him he will be assigned to the station's grid coaching staff for the coming campaign.

—Associated Press Wirephoto.

The Press & Sun Bulletin 4/18/44



NAVY BROWN

Lieutenant (jg) Paul Brown, right, Ohio State football coach on leave, reports for navy duty at Great Lakes and is greeted by Lieutenant Tony Hinkle, station grid coach, left, and Captain Robert R. M. Emmet, CO of Great Lakes. The football's a gag—or a hint!—(AP—Wirephoto.)

Times, The Picture Paper
4/18/44

Cryptogram Expert Belittles Zodiac Code

Ciphers devised by the Bay Area's homicidal maniac Zodiac are "valueless boasts" and not worth solving, according to the president of The American Cryptogram Association.

Dr. D. C. B. Marsh, Golden, Colo., said he and members of the association "have not wasted much time or effort" on Zodiac's second cipher for that reason. He explained:

"... in letters accompanying his first cipher, Zodiac had claimed that the cipher would reveal his identity. It failed to do so, of course... I would imagine... the contents of this second cipher are as valueless as those of the first—consisting merely of boasts or a rehash of his warped philosophical beliefs—and therefore we have not wasted much time or effort on it..."

The analysis bears out the evaluation made by Joseph DeLouise, the Chicago psychic, who told the News-Chronicle in an exclusive interview published Sunday that Zodiac's

complex cryptograms are merely games he played for his own amusement.

"He created a lot of his own patterns and changed them frequently," DeLouise declared. "All his codes are just games. No one is going to prove anything by breaking his codes."

Zodiac obviously is not as confident of his ability as he pretends, Dr. Marsh advised this reporter in an exclusive statement:

"If Zodiac had believed strongly enough in his own prowess to have sent us a well-constructed... cipher that was in the nature of a detailed, factual description of his crimes, and ended with his full name and address, then you would

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