

LINDBERGH BABY'S ABDUCTION FROM CRIB BEGAN HUNT THAT FINALLY TRAPPED HAUPTMANN

Hopes of Flier, Wife Smashed When Child's Body Was Found 73 Days After Crime; Meanwhile, 'Jafsie' Had Paid \$50,000 Ransom to 'John' for Infant.

By United Press

HOPEWELL, N. J., March 31.—The day and night of the first of March in 1932 was bleak and cold in the Sourland mountain region. A gusty wind whipped through the forests back of the big white stone mansion three miles from the small town of Hopewell, N. J.

Inside the home, comfortable and warm, the world's most widely publicized baby, Charles Augustus Lindbergh Jr., spent the day like any other normal infant at the age of 17 months.

In fact this secluded spot had been selected by the child's famous parents for the precise purpose of giving him a normal life by shielding him from the mauldin public that insisted on interrupting the private lives of the Lindberghs.

Present in the house as a dreary dusk drew near were the child, its mother, Anne Morrow Lindbergh, and the regular household staff.

Three Household Workers

The staff was composed of an English butler, Oliver Whatley; his wife, Elsie, who was the cook, and Betty Gow, attractive blonde nursemaid.

Earlier in the day Miss Gow had been at the Englewood home of the child's grandmother, Mrs. Dwight Morrow, and it had been planned to take young Charles there, too.

But the baby was suffering from a slight cold; plans were changed and Miss Gow was called to the Lindbergh residence near Hopewell.

At 7 p. m. Mrs. Lindbergh and Miss Gow took the youngster to the nursery and saw that he was bundled warmly into his bed.

Lindbergh Returns Home

Miss Gow made the rounds of the windows, closing shutters. There was one, warped by the weather, that could not be locked. She struggled with it unsuccessfully, then turned out the lights and went out of the room.

At 8:15 Col. Lindbergh arrived unexpectedly from New York. He was scheduled to have made an address at New York University, but he had become engrossed in business problems and had forgotten the engagement.

At 8:30 Whatley announced dinner and the colonel and his wife sat down to eat.

The meal finished, Mrs. Lindbergh went upstairs to prepare to retire. The colonel went to his study to work over some papers.

Study Under Nursery

The stage was set for the first move in a crime that was to shake the world and to cause more universal public interest than any other of modern days.

At approximately 9:30 Col. Lindbergh heard what he described as a "rather sharp crack." He didn't pay any attention to it for the whistling wind was breaking branches from trees outside.

At 10, nursemaid Gow, ready to go to bed, took one last look into the nursery.

The baby wasn't in its bed. The nursemaid hurried to Mrs. Lindbergh's quarters, found that he wasn't there either and asked if it might be that Col. Lindbergh had taken him downstairs.

Family's Fear Confirmed

"You had better ask Col. Lindbergh," said Mrs. Lindbergh.

At the nursemaid's question, Lindbergh threw his papers aside and dashed upstairs, his long legs taking two steps a time.

A hasty search revealed what the Lindberghs and Betty Gow feared. The baby was not to be found.

While Col. Lindbergh was the nation's No. 1 hero and the baby the nation's No. 1 child, they had been out of the news for some time.

Headlines of the day were concerned with sanguinary battles between the Japanese and Chinese, President Hoover's special message to Congress and the investigation of the city government of Mayor James J. (Jimmy) Walker.

Colonel Searches Estate

They were destined for the hellbox the second Col. Lindbergh called Whatley and told him to inform police the child was missing.

A few hours later the whole world knew that the Lindbergh baby was kidnapped.

The Hopewell police already having been informed, Col. Lindbergh telephoned state police. Lindbergh now grasped a rifle and rushed out in the darkness in a futile trip over his estate.

The police arrived and went to the nursery. On the sill of the window whose shutter would not lock they found a footprint and a note.

Ransom Note Found

The note said:

"Dear Sir! Have 50,000 ready 25,000 in 20s bills 15,000 in 10s bills and 10,000 in 5s bills. After 2-4 days we will inform you were to deliver the money."

"We warn you for making anything public or for notify the police."

"The child is in safe care."

"Identification for our letters are signature."

The symbolic signature was composed of circles of red and blue with holes punched at certain points.

This note was the first clew in what was to become the greatest manhunt the United States ever has known.

Ladder 50 Feet Away

Below the nursery window were imprints of a ladder and several blurred footprints. Investigators found a chisel and then, 50 feet from the house, they found the ladder. It was constructed in three sections and it was broken at a joint where two sections joined.

It was presumed the ladder broke under the combined weight of the kidnaper and the baby and that the breaking was the sharp crack that Col. Lindbergh heard as he pored over his papers in his study.

The Lindberghs, although they

\$1,200,000 Expended in Bringing Hauptmann to Trial

By United Press

FLEMINGTON, N. J., March 31.—It took \$1,200,000 and more than two years of grinding work by police and Federal agents to bring Bruno Richard Hauptmann to trial in Hunterdon County Courthouse on Jan. 2, 1935.

At 9:45 a. m. on that day Hauptmann was led in from the jail by Lieut. Allan Smith of the New Jersey State Police and Deputy Sheriff Hovey Low of Hunterdon County.

The prisoner was seated in a folding chair, with a guard on each side of him. He had on a brown suit, blue necktie and brown shoes, but that wasn't what everybody noticed first. Hauptmann had changed the way he combed his hair—it was parted on the left side instead of the right.

"Your honor," said Egbert Rosecrans, defense counsel, "I move the admission to the New Jersey bar of Mr. Edward J. Reilly of Brooklyn, N. Y."

Reilly in Morning Coat
Reilly stood up—Reilly who had won acquittals in 1000 homicide cases—a heavy, red-faced man in striped trousers and morning coat.

"We are glad to have you with us, Mr. Reilly," said Justice Thomas W. Trenchard.

The nation's most sensational murder trial was on.

It took a day and a half to get a jury of four women and eight men.

Atty. Gen. David T. Wilentz had never prosecuted a criminal case until he found himself in the little courtroom at Flemington, where the heat of so many human beings packed into so small a space raised the temperature from 68 to 83 in three hours.

Disturbed by failure of the kidnappers to contact him and fearing that it might be because of the law enforcement officials and reporters that surrounded his home, Col. Lindbergh finally announced the appointment of official intermediaries.

Those appointed were Salvatore Spitali and Irving Bittz, New York underworld figures. They achieved nothing.

Jafsie Enters Picture

On March 8, an elderly and respected educator of New York's Bronx, Dr. John F. (Jafsie) Condon, gave an interview to the Bronx Home News. In it he offered to act as an intermediary.

Surprisingly enough, his offer was accepted almost immediately. Four hours after the interview appeared in print a letter was posted to him. It read:

"If you are willing to act as go-between in Lindbergh case please follow strictly instructions."

"Handel inclined letter personally to Mr. Lindbergh. It will explain everything. Don't tell any one about it so will be found out press or police is notified everything is cancell and it will be a further delay. After you gets the money from Mr. Lindbergh put then 3 words in paper: Money is ready."

"After note we will give you further instructions. x x x be at house every night. x x x be at house every night between 6-12 by this time you will hear from us."

Lindbergh Became Convinced

Lindbergh was convinced of the authenticity of the note to Condon and eventually "Jafsie" turned \$50,000 over to the purported kidnaper in St. Raymond's cemetery.

In return he received a receipt for the money and false instructions as to where young Lindbergh could be found.

Dr. Condon, however, had the full confidence of Col. Lindbergh and Jafsie was the chief state's witness at the trial which ordered the execution of Bruno Richard Hauptmann for the kidnapping and murder of Lindbergh's son.

William Allen, a Negro truck driver, was the person who accidentally stumbled upon the baby's body. He saw what he thought was a child's leg sticking out from a clump of leaves and earth. Physicians decided a fractured skull caused baby Lindbergh's death.

EXHIBITORS GET READY FOR CITY HOME SHOW

Exterior Construction of Electro-home is Nearly Complete.

The Manufacturers' Building at the Fairground was thrown open today to exhibitors for the construction and installation of display booths, decorations and exhibits for the Indianapolis Home Show to be held April 16 to 26.

Exterior construction of the 1936 Electrophome, show centerpiece, is near complete, John E. Bauer, model home builder, said. Modern electrical home equipment is to be installed in the Electrophome sponsored jointly by the Electric League of Indianapolis and the Indianapolis Home Builders' Association.

Indianapolis Garden Clubs are in charge of advance ticket sales.

Mrs. R. E. Peckham is chairman.

PARK SCHOOL MOTHERS TO HOLD GARDEN TOUR

Flower Exhibit to Be Shown in Gymnasium April 25, 26.

The Mothers' Association of Park School is to sponsor a garden tour April 25 and 26, with 11 gardens open for inspection, and a flower exhibit in the school gymnasium.

Mrs. G. H. A. Cloves is general chairman. She is assisted by committee chairmen Mrs. August C. Bohlen, tickets; Mrs. Don T. Test, lists and mailing; Mrs. Russell Ryan, flower exhibition; Mrs. Bowman Elder and Mrs. Cornelius O. Alig, tea; Mrs. Walter W. Kuhn, treasurer, and Mrs. James F. Carroll, publicity.

Floyd E. James Enters Race

By United Press

SCOTTSBURG, Ind., March 21.—Floyd E. James, superintendent of Scott County schools, today announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Representative in Congress from the Ninth District.

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stepped to the witness chair. It was a crucial moment. Reilly had said the state's case will stand or fall on Condon's testimony.

Patiently, Wilentz got the story out of the old man; had him tell about putting an advertisement in the Bronx Home News, going to Woodlawn Cemetery at night and talking to a man who called himself "John," and finally of a trip to St. Raymond's Cemetery, where he paid \$50,000 ransom.

"The state rests," said Wilentz.

No Eyewitnesses Produced

The state had woven a tight, strong web of circumstantial evidence out of the testimony of the kidnappers that the kidnapers abandoned under the Lindbergh nursery window.

Hauptmann looked at the ramshackle ladder, laughed and said: "I am a carpenter."

Why did Hauptmann quit work and live in ease after the ransom was paid? Because he had made some money in the stock market.

Peter Sommer testified he was sure it was not Hauptmann who kidnapped the Lindbergh baby because he saw the actual kidnappers on the Weehawken ferry, escaping from New Jersey.

A woman was with them, he said, and she was Violet Sharpe, maid in the home of Mrs. Wright Morrow, who later committed suicide. She carried a blond, curly-haired baby. Violet Sharpe was with her.

"The defense rests," said Reilly.

Defendant Guided by Reilly

Then Hauptmann got on the stand. Under Reilly's guidance he explained that a man named Isidor Fisch, a former business partner, gave him the ransom money that was found in the Hauptmann

He was caught passing ransom bills; ransom money was found in his own home. But the state could not produce a witness who saw Hauptmann climb into that window and kidnap the baby.

"It all reads like a movie scenario," shouted Reilly, opening for the defense.

Hauptmann could not have committed this crime, the defense concluded, because on the night of March 1, 1932, he was sitting in a

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