

THE ZODIC KILLER UNMASKED

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THE CHRISTMASS QUINTET

In 1967 a genius lost his job, but instead of seeking employment elsewhere, murdered his parents. It seems that his mother “turned tricks” and his father dealt in drugs.

But this was just a start. He then decided to murder 10 other persons who were engaging in “unlawful” sexual relationships or were known drug dealers or prostitutes. Why another 10?

Because there were 12 Zodiac signs.

PART ONE

CALIFORNIA 1968 -1973 I LIKE KILLING PEOPLE.

PRELUDE

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**Analysis of Criminal Codes and Ciphers by Daniel Olson,
Cryptanalysis Forensic Examiner,
Records Racketeering Analyst Unit,
Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington D.C.**

Analysis of Criminal Codes and Ciphers

For as long as man has had the ability to communicate, secrecy has been sought. Over the centuries various methods of secret writing, or cryptography, have been developed for numerous purposes. The two major categories of cryptographic systems are ciphers and codes, both of which are used extensively by criminals to conceal clandestine records, conversations, and writings.

Cryptology is the scientific study of cryptography and includes cryptanalytics, which deals with methods of solving cryptographic systems. This article is an introduction to the variety of secret writing encountered in law enforcement and describes the role of FBI cryptanalysts in examining and deciphering these criminal codes and ciphers.

Cipher Systems

Ciphers involve the replacement of true letters or numbers (plain text) with different characters (cipher text) or the systematic rearrangement of the true letters without changing their identities to form an enciphered message. Cipher systems have been common since ancient times and vary in degree of complexity and sophistication. The Enigma Cipher Machine used by the Germans during World War II, for example, was thought to be unbreakable. Only after the fighting had concluded did it become known that the Allies had broken the cipher and had been reading secret German communications throughout the war.

*Criminals have a long history of using cipher systems. During the Prohibition era, rum runners in ships off the East and West Coasts of the United States used a variety of cipher systems to communicate with their confederates on shore. The United States Coastguard and the Department of Commerce pooled their resources to intercept and decipher the rum runners messages. In 1969 the Zodiac killer who terrorized California's Bay Area during the 1960's and 1970's, sent a three-part cipher message to area newspapers explaining his motives for killing. This complex cipher used more than fifty shapes and symbols to represent the 26 letters of the alphabet **but was broken in hours by a high school teacher and his wife.***

By hindsight, Daniel Olson was being somewhat economical with the truth on two counts. The Zodiac killer did not explain his motives for killing and the "complex cipher" was not broken in hours; the final 18 "shapes and symbols" had still not been broken when he wrote that document thirty years later.

THE "STORY" TIME LINE. THE CORRESPONDENCE AND DECRYPTS.

It later became obvious that the self-styled Zodiac killer had been indirectly linked to the Pasadena manufacturer Raytheon; responsible for the servicing and upgrading of the mini-computer used on the Mercury/Apollo space missions (1). Probably employed by a sub-contractor in San Francisco; he had certainly studied astrophysics/alpha-numeric encryption methods.

In 1967 he apparently suffered a nervous breakdown caused (according to him) by the tragic fire on Apollo One and decided to

move from San Francisco to Novato. Age? Most likely in his late 20's to early 30's.

At this point there is no mention of any parents.

With good views of Mount Diablo from Novato he realised that the mountain peak might be a way to confuse the police, who for some reason he had developed a bitter hatred. Near the top of the peak was a spot where latitude and longitude locations were identical (.9036 in metric % latitude and longitude and the reverse count .3096 matched the latitude and longitude in Napa City.

At the same time he was working on his "master code", a second way to taunt the "Pigs" or "Blue Meannies" (police) and prove to the world his superior skill in code construction.

Over the next few months a block of 408 hieroglyphs (split into 3 equal sections) composed of 24 different letter glyphs and 32 different symbol glyphs, was carefully prepared (2). The 2 missing letter glyphs were I and C.

He also constructed the 340 block (3) complete with 5 Morse code dashes and 6 dots, prompted by his knowledge that the Apollo lunar missions AGC (mini-computer) (1) possessed a feature that could be used to receive and decode Morse code. This feature was used to receive status messages from the ground. The ground would send a series of Morse code signals to the AGC and the AGC would decode the signals and display the messages on a screen. This feature was not used to control the spacecraft or to perform calculations.

Using Morse code signals was nothing new and was used to trap the US eye specialist Dr Hawley Harvey Crippen, the man who foolishly escaped arrest in London by taking passage to Canada on SS Montrose in 1910. Canada had an extradition obligation to UK but USA did not. Morse code transmissions warned the Canadian police and he and his girl friend were apprehended. Crippen was hung in London's Pentonville Prison on 23 November of that year.

It becomes apparent that "Z" viewed Dr Crippen as a pathetic loser; in a much later coded note referring to him as "HAWLEY CRAP ON".

One might even go so far as to suggest that Z's motivation to become one of the most infamous mass murderers was based on his presumption that, unlike Crippen he would never be caught. He certainly planned his actions with malice aforethought.

By hindsight it seems that in his many spare moments he began searching for suitable courting couple attack sites linked to "Minute only" geographical locations.

Finally, before he set about his "I like killing people" ambitions, he decided on using the doubled-up miss-spelt word CHRISTMASS as a "hidden" coded message and also worked out how to address letters to the media with a name hidden within.

Shortly before "Christmass", late on a Friday night, December 20, 1968, 2 youngsters, David Faraday, aged 17 & Betty Jensen aged 16, were both killed by gunfire. Faraday died in the car and Jensen was shot as she tried to run away. The poor girl's body was left in the open and footprints were in plain sight.

The location of the murders was, to the nearest half a mile or less **6' 00" N; 10'00" W; (and precisely where a killer would leave his car) – near the entrance to one of the Benicia Pumping Stations..... Lake Herman Road by the signpost pointing to Lake Herman and to Blue Rock Springs Municipal Golf Course. This is shown on a film interview taken by KRON 4 News at the crime scene. Several more recently published copies of the crime scene image have confusingly been printed upside down (south pointing north). No one at that time had any reason to suspect the killer would strike again.**

On Friday night, July 4 (Independence Day) 1969, two more courting youngsters, Darlene Ferrin and Mike Mageau were shot. Mageau survived to identify the murderer.

The attack was instigated at a parking lot; **08' 00" N; 12' 00" W: near Blue Rock Springs Park Golf Course, mentioned on the signpost near the first murder site.**

Someone then phoned Vallejo PD claiming responsibility.

Two such apparent site location coincidences should not have been ignored by profilers, especially as both were within the same policing district and both attacks had occurred at night. There was however a long time gap of over seven months between the 2 attacks.

The Zodiac's first published coded message was the 408 three part block (2) (referred to in the Olson/FBI paper) mailed on 31 July 1969 (the date Crippen had been arrested in Quebec 59 years earlier) to three newspapers shortly after the crew of Apollo Eleven splashed down in the Pacific Ocean.

Written on the envelopes of two of the three newspaper addresses were the words;

S.F Chronicle

San Fran. Calif

Please Rush to

Editor !

At this time no one had any reason to question why the addresses had been abbreviated but *nFranC* decrypted = **ROSCOE**. A leap of faith at this stage but these *level one decrypts* will be explained shortly. Although all the thirteen surviving envelopes carry the same hidden name, those sent to the San Francisco Chronicle on 8 November 1969, the Vallejo Times Herald on 31 July 1969, the envelope addressed to Paul Averly (sic) on the Halloween Card on 27 Oct 1970 and to The Los Angeles Times on 17 March 1971 carry slightly different solutions.

All the pages of each of the communications written by Z have been carefully examined and those consecutive strings of letters discovered relating to ROSCOE (plus NOVATO/RAYTHEON/T SAMPSON) are highlight in **red** and CRIPPEN in **blue**. These will be listed in a closing summary.

The three letters dated 31 July 1969

*“Dear Editor This is the murderer of the teenagers last **Christmass** at Lake Herman & the girl on the 4 th July **near the** golf course in Vallejo To prove I killed them **I shall state some facts that only** I and the police know.*

Christmass

1 Brand name of ammo

Super X

2 Ten shots were fired

*3 the boy was on his back
with his feet in **the car***

4 the girl was on her right

side feet to the west
4th July
1 girl was wearing patterned
slacks
2 The boy was also shot in
the knee.
3 Brand name of ammo was
western

Over

*Here is **part of a cipher** the other parts of **this cipher** are being mailed to the editors of the Vallejo times & S F Exam iner.*
I want you to print this cipher on the front page of your paper.
*In this **cipher is** my identity.*
*If you do not print **this cipher** by the afternoon of Fry. 1st of Aug 69, I will go on a kill ram Page Fry. Night. I will cruse around all weekend killing lone people in the night then move on to kill again, until I end up with a dozen people **over the** weekend.”*
Crude Z sign.

CIPHER IS or IS CIPHER (3 times) decrypts as;
H CRIPPEN with all but 3 of the letters “in plain sight” needing no decoding.

The double Christmass mentioned in all the letters carry encrypted messages based on anagrsm.

CCHHRRRIISSTTMMAASSSS

Using all the 20 letters the decrypt reads;

ROSCOE IS MASTER KILLER

Or by moving the anagram words; "Is Roscoe Master Killer?".

The required alternative reads;

RARE MALE CALICO MOUSER

One that uses only the first 12 letters;

CCHHRRRIISSTTMMAASSSS

CALICO MOUSER

And another that uses only the first 6;

CCHHRRRIISSTTMMAASSSS

ROSCOE

It would seem that Z at one time might have owned a Calico cat.

The double Christmass decrypts do not add much to the story other than to confirm that whoever does work this out has like as not broken into the Zodiac's **second level** encryption system.

Dr Hawley Harvey Crippen was executed back in 1910, so what was the point of suggesting it was the killer's name? But what was the point of mentioning any of the names? Well the answer to that lay in the three-part block (2) of a carefully written list of capital letters and symbols ---24 different letter hieroglyphs and 32 different symbols.

The murderer was waiting to see if anyone could break the 408 blocks of code.

What sort of maniac writes a letter to three prominent newspapers claiming he had killed three people and left a third badly injured at a time when the Vallejo police had not yet considered the two cases were linked --- and who spells Christmas incorrectly (twice)?

Answer. A very dangerous lunatic, make no mistake.

Note. The sentence *In this cipher is my identity* was only included in the letter sent to San Francisco Chronicle.

Local press comments included "*The investigator was disappointed that the mystery man failed to give his name in the three coded pieces as he had earlier promised.*".

Note. Whilst the Zodiac's letter dates the first alleged murders as "Christmass" rather than 20 December, the second case names the actual date.

The San Francisco Chronicle then offered a prize for the first person to break the 408 code.

At this point the media published an open letter to the Zodiac killer questioning his motives.

The 4 August 1969 response letter began "This is the Zodiac speaking." An apparent example of an oxymoron from a moron. However the Zodiac was indeed speaking..... to himself for the record. Confident, correctly, that no one was going to break his codifying endeavours he was from then on, for the rest of his long miserable life writing his memoirs in code.

Dear Editor

*This is the Zodiac speaking.
The 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 4 th of July:

*I did not open the car door , The
window was rolled down all ready.
The boy was originaly sitting in
the front seat when I began
fireing, When I fired the first
shot at his head, he leaped
backwards at the same time
thus spoiling my aim. He end
ed up in the back seat then
the floor in the back t(h/r)ashing out
very violently with his legs ;
thats how I shot him in the*

Page 2

*knee I didn't leave the cene
of the killing with squealling
tires & raceing engine as described
in the Vallejo paper,. I drove away
quite slowly so as not to draw
attention to my car.*

*The man who told the police
That my car was brown was a
negro about 40 - 45 rather shably
dressed. I was at this phone
booth having some fun with the
Vallejo cops when he was walking
by. When I hung the phone up
the damn X X thing began to*

*ring & that drew his attention
to me & my car.*

Last Christmass

*In that epasode the police were
wondering as to how I could
shoot & hit my victoms in the
dark. They didn't openly state
this, but implied this by saying
it was a well lit night & I could
see the silowets on the horizon
Bull Shit that area is surrounded*

Page three

*by high hills & trees. What I did
was tape a small pencil flash
light to the barrel of my gun.
If you reticule in the center
of the beam of light if you aim
it at wall or ceiling you will
see a black or dark spot in
the center of the circle of
was spray them*

**The next section was originally redacted
on the advice of the FBI because it
appeared to contain information only
the killer could have known
(or was listening in to police radio
traffic as did several local reporters).**

*as if it was
a water hosing there was no
need to use the gun sights.
I was not happy to see that I
did not get front cover
age.*

Zodiac sign

NO ADDRESS

The editor must have wished he hadn't bothered asking.

Three days later SFC reported that the Vallejo police chief Jack E Stiltz was not satisfied that the letter was written by the murderer because the 408 code had been written using a felt-tip pen.

On August 10 SFC published the solution to the 408 (2A). Once each section of the block had been slotted into place by matching the direction and number of stamps on each envelope, the message had soon been unscrambled by Donald and his wife Bettye Harden, who did so in such a remarkably short time that the police suspected them of having inside knowledge. The first 390 hieroglyphs produced a straightforward message but the last 18 letters and symbols, when the symbol glyphs were converted to letter glyphs read; **EVEXRIWTEMEHMHPUTI**

Once these have been linked with the Hardens' alternatives in the decrypted section, this gives quite a useful selection of options. The first giving E or S for example;

ES/VB/ES/XO/RG/I-/WE/TO/ES/MH/ES/HM/MH/HM/PI/UI/TO/I-

The following are the 2 alternates offered in the Harden explanation. One can select one from each pair in order to make an anagram that in turn can (hopefully) make words.

ES/VB/ES/XO/RG/I-/WE/TO/ES/MH/ES/HM/MH/HM/PI/UI/TO/I-

The level one either-or anagram solution to those last 18 unused letters reads;

HI HI SO I BET THE MISER (the letter options in Black)

Or:

HOPE I VETO HIS SUMMER

Neither being of any meaningful use whatever. But when one studies the rest of the 408 block that *was* decoded by the Hardens' (2A) you will discover that glyph F can =S and so on.

This in turn permits the construction of a **basic** crib sheet. Because there is no option for the glyph C (it was one of the 2 letter glyphs missing from the 408 document) it must remain as a C. (or a reverse E but we will come to that later)

Thus on the addressed envelopes, the *nFranC* section decrypted = **ROSCOE**. (**RR/ON/SF/C/ON/ES**)

"Dr D C B Marsh, a mathematician at the Colorado School of Mines who headed the American Cryptogram Association called the code complicated and obviously drawn up by somebody who knows his business.

Both Vallejo Detective Sergeant Lynch and Marsh suggested that the group of letters at the end (the last 18 glyphs) could contain clues to the author's identity."

At last two sensible remarks.

In a different news item Don Harden was quoted as saying;

"As you can see his spelling is rather poor and in some places he has made errors in the use of his own cipher. The writer had tried to make the cipher more difficult by using 12 different symbols for 'e' the most common used letter in the language." (one of the 12 is the reverse E)

"When the ciphers came to police attention Navy cryptographers were asked to break the code, (the last 18 glyphs) but with no reported success."

Don Harden (and later Daniel Olson) had failed to realise that “poor spelling” within Harden’s solution was deliberate, that the numerous different symbols for the letter E might make the decrypts easier, that the last 18 glyphs were in anagram form and last but by far, not least, that there would be a linked alternative (later very difficult to unearth because sometimes the alternative was in the next line).

This is their decrypt of the three 408 parts;

Part one.

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 dangerous animal of all to kill something gi.....

Part two.

....ves me the most thrilling experence 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 paradice and all th....

Part three.

....e 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 evexriwtemehmputi (EVEXRIWTEMEHMHPUTI)

Note the four spelling mistakes; forrest, experence, paradice, th..e

An “out of character” statement, “Getting your rocks off with a girl the best” in the central section of the Harden’s decrypt.

ROCKS OFF = ROSCOE. 5 out of 6 letters are "in plain sight" although in fairness to the Hardens' the 6th E/K is a level two decrypt.

The same sentence "*Getting your rocks off with a girl **the best***" also carries another link to the Zodiac, this time all but one letter at a level two decrypt, a very poor example as it turns out... **NOVATO**. However, later the words **to slow**= **NOVATO** 3/6 in plain sight and **become my slaves**=**RAYTHEON** 4/8 in plain sight

So from day one the Zodiac had supplied a name and an address (and possibly that of his employer), but one cannot assume the killer would be stupid enough to be telling the truth and probably not much help as Roscoe is a fairly common CA surname or forename. although the City of Novato does provide a view of Mount Diablo and has a street named Diablo Avenue.

Perhaps no one had realised that the entire 408 were all hieroglyphs? Maybe they thought that only the symbols were hieroglyphs and maybe they also thought Z had simply finished his message earlier than anticipated, or the last 18 would follow the same rules - letter by letter making further words in sequence?

The next level of decryption.

The nonsensical last 18 glyphs **HOPE I VETO HIS SUMMER** can be replaced with;

APOLLO NINE APOLLO ZE

and an appropriate alternative;

TOM MAYBE MY MONIKA ZE

Ergo those last 18 glyphs were NOT left-overs; they were deliberately constructed by Z. If and when someone realised this, his entire encryption system could be unravelled and eventually a third level crib sheet constructed by discovering the level two crib sheet flaws. Exactly in the same way the WW2 Enigma codes had originally been cracked (but not fully broken) because someone forgot to change the date.

The Harden couple may well have tried and not realised they were looking for an 18 string anagram with an alternate solution. Don then spent years trying to make sense of those last 18 hieroglyphs and he blamed the break up of his marriage on his dogmatism.

Don was right about the surfeit of E's. Those extra E's has been introduced deliberately so as to permit the alternative options. Originally a puzzle to us because we pronounce Z as ZED not ZEE.

Why Apollo Nine? Apollo One incurred a tragic accident. Apollo Seven and the subsequent crewed missions, Eight, Nine and Ten, experienced problems with their automatic navigation systems; their mini-word processors. Most of these missions will be mentioned by Z in other decrypts.

Of course they experienced problems, they were all test pilots of the very highest calibre, working with a wonderful miniature word-processor that needed to be upgraded after each flight.

This piece of equipment would remove the Russian advantage they currently held in the race to be first to land a human alive on the Moon's surface. USA won with Apollo Eleven, but even then only by "the skin of their teeth" after wresting control from the latest upgraded version of that tiny piece of equipment, in order to select a flat landing area.

Many will be familiar with TV footage of the ground controllers flicking through a sheaf of hand-written instructions before making the right call, leaving "Eagle" to land with just enough fuel left for the capsule take off again.

The third murder details.

Cecilia Shepard and her boyfriend Brian Hartnell were stabbed in broad daylight on Friday, 27 September 1969.

Hartnell survived but Shepard did not. The geographic location of the attack was **35' 00" N; 15' 00" W. Way up north on the edge of Lake Berryessa**

Several things are special about this case. Although Z never directly referred to it in any of his letters to the media, he left a note on the door of Hartnell's car, complete with the now-familiar Zodiac symbol. He even had time (or daring) to write the time of the attack and method used.

Vallejo

12-02-68

7-4-69

Sept 27-69-6.30

by knife

He had made several other amazing mistakes. He disguised himself by covering his head with a black or dark coloured sack, muttering threats and waving a gun before tying them up and stabbing both repeatedly. He had no idea how much other information survivor Hartnell had given to the authorities. He had stupidly phoned the police from a phone box close to their headquarters in down-town Napa on his way home. Detectives arrived at the phone box minutes after his departure. The approximate location of this box was **18'35"N and 18'35"W (Metric % of a degree .0963) a very rare “double” occurrence but obviously pre-planned.**

This reckless attack in broad daylight, was possibly triggered because the Hardens, Doctor Marsh, Detective Lynch, and the Naval cryptanalysts had all failed to break the last hieroglyphs of the 408 block. “I’m invincible and can do no wrong.”

On the other hand Z having wasted time previously driving all the way to Lake Berryessa searching for potential victims in the dark, changed tactics and in doing so dressed up in a weird garb for kicks. Dressing up at the last minute after passing others in "plain sight" when his intention was to kill, indicates how unpredictable Z was. The weird covering bore a vague resemblance to a 1910 newspaper print depicting Crippen’s execution although the description of Z’s clothing may not be accurate.

Brian Hartnell, a retired lawyer is still alive but declines to discuss anything to do with the murder of Cecilia Shepard. One can hardly blame him.

The fourth attack.

On Saturday night, October 11 1969, a cab driver Paul Stine was shot dead.

The local press had a field day just as Z had hoped.

The first piece hit the news-stands the next morning, giving details of the case. The suspect was described as white, about 40, 170 pounds, a blond crew cut and wearing glasses. Considering it was late at night some of the details may have been wrong.

Z then immediately set to work.

October 13 1969 letter addressed to **San Fran Calif. Please Rush to Editor.**

*“This is the Zodiac speaking.
I am the murderer of the
taxi driver over by
Washington St & Maple St last
night, to prove this here is
a blood stained piece of his
shirt. I am the same man
who did in the people in the
north bay area.
The S.F. police could have caught
me last night if they had
searched the park properly
in stead of holding road races
with their motor cicles seeing who
could make the most noise. The
car drivers should have just
parked their cars & sat there
quietly waiting for me to come
out of cover.
School children make nice tar-
gets, I think I shall wipe out
a school bus some morning, just
shoot out the front tire & then
pick off the kiddies as they come
bouncing out.”*

Zodiac sign with 2 crosses and 1 dot on the rim.

Note. The copy of the letter appears to have a finger smudge across the letters "area, Police & night".

Because the killing of a taxi driver was not going to be carried out at any pre-determined spot, only the proposed escape route linked to the standard full minutes of a degree location would have been possible to predict in advance. In this case 47'00"N; 28'00"W. An escape route, not a killing site.

On October 15 the SFC published Z's letter minus the smudged fingerprint and the second half about inefficient police work and killing schoolchildren on its front page titled The Boastful 'Slayer' and sub-titled "Letter Claims Writer Killed Cabbie, 4 Others". A nice mug shot (police drawing) that was soon to be published world-wide was included.

Was he really so stupid as to carefully wipe down blood-spattered surfaces in the cab with a piece of the poor man's shirt instead of leaving the scene pronto. Yes is the answer but it was not his blood on the shirt so even today DNA profiling is unlikely to trap him – always presuming the police have retained it. Question. Were there any cat hairs in the cab?

Again the police very nearly caught him. Two witnesses (but each gave different descriptions). Then a month later one of the officers involved in the case belatedly admitted he may have had a possible encounter with the killer (a third different description).

There was an interesting conclusion to this DNA profiling suggestion in 2003 when the investigation into Stine's murder was closed, despite protests from at least one detective who had worked tirelessly on the case back in 1969. Suggestions had included saliva tests on postage stamps and DNA blood sampling. Presumably the fingerprint had already been checked out.

But S.F.P.D and San Francisco F.B.I were both obviously aware of the links between the first three attacks and the murder of Paul Stine, because the Zodiac killer had publicly just laid claim to all four. So closing the Stine investigation meant closing the first three as well.

Have all the relatives, innocent suspects and both survivors been informed of this? No, is the answer; but they have now.

On Oct 19 1969 a "Message to the Zodiac Killer" was published. The writer pleaded with Z to give himself up to the Examiner (newspaper) and offered protection. Let there be no more killings etc. etc.

Well they almost had their wish. Z almost never killed anyone else in California although he did try with Kathleen Johns.

A week later, 22 October 1969, on the Walter Cronkite morning phone-in program on KGO-TV, the Zodiac killer, by prior agreement called the host Melvin Belli and was asked questions in the hope that the phone Z was calling from could be traced. Fame all round, especially for the ace lawyer Melvin Belli.

Another coincidence ? Crippen was sentenced to death by hanging on 22 Oct 1910. A point only Z would have been aware of when he at last agreed to a phone-in.

The result was not as expected because Z rang off too quickly and then phoned back. Meetings were agreed, Z failed to attend but Belli persisted.

Eventually one of the phone locations was traced – to a mental institution from an inmate using a staff line.

Z never let Belli forget his mistake, even mailing him a second section of Stine's blood-stained shirt.

Five months later to the day, Z struck again (Johns kidnapping) although he never admitted this until later.

Days after the bungled phone in, Avery of SFC wrote a piece titled "Cops No Closer on Zodiac Identity" explaining why, but expressing hope that sooner or later detectives will find a man that matches the killer's description. It was at about this time that he informed the police he was now carrying a gun for self-defence and was observed listening in to police radio traffic.

The "Dripping Pen" letter sent to SFC November 8 1969 explains a great deal. This is the letter that was enclosed with an image (3) of a block of 340 hieroglyphs; consisting of 128 letter glyphs and 212 symbol glyphs (including backward facing letters). There are 8 horizontal V's. Of the letter glyphs there are 5 C's.

The bottom line of this 340 block begins with one of the horizontal V's and includes the glyph letters MIKADO or MONIKA in plain but jumbled sight. The complete bottom line and the left side vertical can be decrypted (without the horizontal V). However the solution is meaningless and has no alternative. But both the words Monika and Mikado are *keys*.

Most of 340 block possible decrypts also appear meaningless, with one exception; the 6 dots and 5 dashes.

Selecting only these 11 symbols based on the Morse code dot =S and dash =O (S-O-S) using Z's crib sheet, the decrypt reads;

YE **TORRENTS ROAR** (the 5 O's in blue)

The MIKADO, Act I finale; the beginning of Katisha's Solo.

The link with Morse code is confirmed in the accompanying letter. The dripping pen seems to have created a weird heavily written section on the right and bottom of the letter.

"This is the Zodiac speaking"

*I thought you would need a
good laugh before you
hear the bad news
you wont get the
news for a while yet
PS could you print
this new **cipher**
on your front page?
I get aufully lonely
when I am ignored,
so lonely I could
do my Thing !!!!! Z symbol.*

_____ Des July Aug

_____ Sept Oct = 7

The word “Thing” had an enlarged dot on the i.
so lonely=NOVATO 3/6 in plain sight

Over on the left side opposite the wording are five lines of very large size (5 dashes) and amongst the wording 6 blobs (6 dots).
The five horizontal lines and six very large dots match the 5 dashes and 6 dots found on the 340 block.

This also explains the reason for sending the Dripping Pen card; to drawn attention to the Morse connection using a dripping pen.
Thus it is clear the 340 block (3) was composed at the same time as the 408 block and Z’s encryption systems were carefully planned and murder sites pre-selected about a year before the Apollo Eleven splash-down in the Pacific.

The next case relates to the letter Z sent to SFC the day after the Dripping Pen letter; November 9 1969.

The 9 November 1969 7 page letter from Z includes a diagram of a bomb booby-trap and 6 pages and an envelope of what appear to be aggressive miss-spelt waffle. This was held back for a short time.

Page one.
*This is the Zodiac speaking
up to the end of Oct I have*

*killed 7 people. I have grown
rather angry with the police
for their telling lies about me
So I shall change the way the
collecting of slaves. I shall
no longer announce to anyone.
When I comitt my murders,
they shall look like routine
robberies, killing of anger, &
a few fake accidents, etc*

*The police shall never catch me,
because I have been too clever
for them.*

*1 I look like the description
passed out only when I do
my thing, the rest of the time
I look entirle different. I
shall not tell you what my
descise consists of when I kill*

*2 As of yet I have left no
fingerprints behind me contrary
to what the police say*

Page two.

*In my killings I wear trans-parent Finger tip guards. All it
is is 2 coats of airplane cement coated on my finger tips - quite
unnoticable & very efective.*

*3 my killing tools have been bought in through the mail order
out-fits before the ban went into efect. Except (?)it was bought out of
the state. So as you see the police don't have much to work on. If you
wonder why I was wip ing the cab down I was leaving fake clews for the
police to run all over town with, as one might say,, I (?) gave thecops
som bussy work to do to keep them happy. I enjoy needling the blue
pigs. Hey blue pig I was in the park - you were useing fire trucks to
mask the sound of your cruzeing prowl cars. The dogs never came with
in 2 blocks of me & they were to the west & there was only 2.*

Page three

*groups of barking about 10 min apart then the motor cicles went by
about 150 ft away going from south to north west.*

*PS. 2 cops pulled a goof abot 3 min after I left the cab. I was walking down the hill to the park when this cop car pulled up & one of the m called me over & asked if I saw any one acting supicisous or strange in the last 5 to 10 min & I said yes there was this man who was running by waving a gun the cops peeled rubber & went around the **corner** as I directed them and I dissap-eared into the park a block & a half away never to be seen again.*

*The above paragraph has written down the left side the words **Must print in paper***

*Notes. Z was last seen heading in the direction of **27'00"N; 48'00"W**.*

Hey pig doesn't it rile you up to have you noze rubed in your boobos ? If you cops think Im going to take on a bus the way I stated I was, you deserve to have holes in your heads.

Page four.

*Take one bag of ammonium nitrate fertilizer & 1 gal of **stove oil** & dump a Four bags of gravel on top & then set the shit off & will posit ivily ventalate **any thing** that should be **in the way of the Blast**.*

*The **death machine** is all ready made. I would have sent you pictures but you would be nasty enough to **trace them** back to developer & then to me, **so I shall** describe **my master** piece to you. The nice part of it is all the **parts can** be bought on the open market with no quest ions asked.*

1 bat per clock - will run for aprox 1 year

*1(?) photo**electric** switch*

2 copper leaf springs

2 C V car bat

1 flash light bulb & reflector

1 mirror

2 18"cardboard tubes black with shoe polish in side & out

Page five.

The bomb diagram as described on page 4 above.

Page six.

*The **system** checks out from one end to the other in my tests. What you do not know is whether the death machine is at the sight or whether it is being stored in my basement for future use.*

I think you do not have the man power to stop this one by continually searching the road sides looking for this thing. & it wont do to re rout

& re schedule the busses be cause the bomb can be adapted to new conditions.

Have fun !! By the way it could be rather messy if you try to bluff me.

The page is signed off with a Zodiac with 5 X's round the rim and the following note;

*PS. Be sure to
print the part I
marked out on
page 3 or I shall
do my thing Z*

Page seven.

To prove that I am the Zodiac, Ask the Vallejo cop about my electric gun sight which I used to start my collecting of slaves.

The envelope used to send the above 7 pages to SFC was addressed in the same manner as the October 13 (Stine) 1969 letter.

Several points of interest. There is mention of commercial development of his film rather than doing this himself and of a basement. Did he really have a basement or was he confusing the police. How or where did Z run a test explosion?

The word "Roscoe" in a 6 letter "string" is relatively easy to spot hidden within the words already set out in the 7 page letter above because there must be at least one C and no I,P,Y,or U.

Note. The reference to "my master piece" crops up again exactly 30 years later.

The letter was signed off with the Zodiac symbol with 5 crosses round the rim (4). The 5 crosses happen to represent the 5 brightest stars that are close to the horizon and can be viewed from anywhere in central California, preferably high above mist and pollution.

These 5, from bottom cross clockwise represent 6 8 9 10 11 on a clock face and the names and magnitudes are;

ALDEBARAN {6 -0.8) BETELGEUSE(8 -0.4) PROCYON (9 -0.4)
REGULUS (10 -0.5 several) ARCTURUS (11 -0.1)

Another hint of things to come.

To close a busy half year, Z sent a Christmass letter to "Dear Melvin" (Belli).

Addressed to Mr. Melvin Belli, 1228 Mtgy San Fran Calif, and on the back the words Mery Xmass & New Year.

Posted San Francisco "DEC 20 PM 1969", on the evening of the first anniversary of the cold-blooded murder of Jensen & Faraday.

Very neatly written for a change, although the single page contained 9 spelling "mistakes", plus 2 on the envelope.

Also on the envelope, the numerals **1228** were an exact copy of those on the front door of Belli's house. The FBI assumed Z had, at one time stood outside Belli's property.

Dear Melvin

*This is the Zodiac speaking I wish you a happy Christmass. The one thing I ask of you is this, please help me. I cannot reach out for help because of this thing in me wont let me. I am finding it **extreamly** difficult to hold it in check I am afraid I will loose **control** again and take my nineth & possibly my tenth victom. Please help me I am drownding. At the moment the children are safe from the bomb because it is so massive to dig in & the **triger mech** requires much work to get it adjusted just right. But if I hold back too long from no nine I will loose ~~complet~~ all **control** of my self & set the bomb up. Please help me I can not remain in **control** for much longer.*

After a brief respite, Z was back in the news; or he thought he was.

Unfortunately this letter, presumably still in the SFC archives, was passed on to the FBI and never published, although as the scan states **(5)** "This is archived material from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It may contain outdated information and links may no longer function."

Question. How can an unpublished document from the "Zodiac

Speaking” received in 1970 become outdated in January 2000 (-
Volume 2 – Number 1)?

The letter from Z states;

This is the Zodiac speaking.

*I just need help I will kill again so expect it any time now The will be
a cop Than I will Turn my self in O K*

The following section of 38 scrawled glyphs translates as;

RAYTHEON APOLLO NINE TEN TEN STATOR STATOR

The alternative being;

I'M TOM SAMPSON ME BE TOM SAMPSON MASTER ZE ZE

Note. The alternative has to use the surplus E's in double sign off's
and each decrypt only relates to 36 of the glyphs and ignores the < >
because they have no value. No value because there is no such symbol
in the 408 block.

Using only last 23 glyphs also translates as;

TOM SAMPSON IS MY MONIKA ZEE

Now MONICA appears again, just as MIKADO already has. Thus
reinforcing the point that Tom Sampson was not Z's real name.

Note. The mixture of letter and symbol glyphs included **3 upright
crosses, 2 diagonal / and 2 sideways H bars.**

A letter sent to SFC April 20 1970 that included a second slightly
different bomb design begins;

*“This is the Zodiac speaking. By the way have you cracked the last
cipher I sent you ?”*

Which one was he referring to? One may well ask !

It was either the 340 block, the Dripping Pen letter or the 191 glyph
letter **(5)** that the FBI had redacted.

The letter continued... *“My name is*”

There followed a 13 letter/symbol glyph, **(6)** single line coded
message. Three of the symbols are excluded from the decrypt
(redacted) by us.

The other 10 do indeed tell us a name;

T SAMPSON ZE

The second alternative version, that is far more important, reads;

A STATOR ON 1

The letter ends;

“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 woudnt do to move in on someone elses teritory."

But there is more glory in killing a cop than a cid because a cop can shoot back.

*I have killed ten people to date. It would have been a lot **more except** that my bus bomb was a dud. I was **swamped out** by the rain we had a while back."*

Despite not claiming the death of the unfortunate police officer, Z was not beyond exaggerating his revolting "kill rate" as if he were a big game hunter.

The obvious question here is how did Z know that his bomb was a dud?

Note. The word "cerous" turns up again 29 years later.

On April 28 1970 SFC received a wonderfully adapted coloured card with presumably Z sitting on a 4 legged wingless dragon and Melvin Belli sitting on a donkey a la Don Quixote (7) and holding a miner's pick suggesting he may have been digging for gold.

However, tucked into the belt round the dragon just below the black boot there was also a miner's pick and a long pink forked tongue hung down from the dragon's mouth. So on the one hand it would seem Belli the ace litigation lawyer was being mocked for being a "gold digger" and Z was telling us he (or his pet) possessed a "forked tongue". No need to break any codes to work that out.

The manic murderer could have been employed by Walt Disney in his spare time as a cartoonist. Possibly as good as Robert Graysmith, the man who was employed by SFC as their political cartoonist at the time, and later was to spend much of his working life trying to break Z's codes.

To the card's words "Sorry To Hear", Z had added

"Your ass is a DRAGON blast". Using all 21 letters this decoded reads;

HOT SASSY LASSIE IS MELVA

Once again a very clever strike at Melvin Belli even if no one could decode the message.

The alternative, omitting the first letter and the word "blast" reads;

TOM IS AN ASSASSIN

The letter written on the back of the card reads;
“If you don’t want me to have the blast you must do two things. Tell every one about the bus bomb with all the details. c I would like to see some nice Zodiac buttons wandering about town. Every one else has those buttons like black power, Melvin eats bluber, etc. Well it would cheer me up considerably if I saw a lot of people wearing my button. Please no nasty ones like Melvin’s. Thank you”

Two harpoon stabs at Melvin Belli in the last line and one via Herman Melville the author of Moby-Dick and the 60’s song Melville eats blubber; yet another link between Z and lyrics.

Next. A package was sent to SFC on 26 June 1970. This lot were aimed at Paul Avery, and that bomb; again.

*“ 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 (Zodiac) buttons. I promised to punish them if they did not comply, by anilating a full School Bus.*

But now school is out for the summer, so I punished them in an other way. I shot a man sitting in a parked car with a .38.”

The unfortunate Paul Stine had seemingly been murdered a second time.

Then, lower down the letter, Z had written 2 lines of code, a very peculiar set of 20 glyph letters and 12 symbols (8).

Confusingly (as usual) many of the letter glyphs match several apposite real names of suspects with letters in clear sight.

Note. I promise =H Crippen

Using all 32 letter and symbol glyphs reads;

MORSE CODE HUNG FOOLISH DR H H CRIPPEN Z

The apposite alternative is “time-wise” important;

SMORE FUN THAN KILLING WILD GAME IN THE

This is the last letter in the top line and the continuing 31 glyphs of Part one of the 408 block as decoded by the Hardens thus;

I LIKE KILLING PEOPLE BECAUSE IT IS SO MUCH FUN IT ISMORE FUN THAN KILLING WILD GAME IN THE FORREST

As one can see, it begins with an anagram of MORSE. This document was constructed by Z before October 1968, although the 2 line code was not published until 26 June 1970. Thus Crippen and his “stupid

mistakes” were clearly responsible in part for the Zodiac’s madcap murderous behaviour from the outset.

Back to the letter, that concluded;

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

Superimposed on the map (9) was a drawing of a clock that pretends to be a magnetic compass. Pretends?

Has any reader ever seen a compass marked with 0,3,6 and 9 in the positions 0.90,180 and 270 marked on it?

Although normal clocks have X11 or 12 at the top, some altimeter readout clocks do have 0 instead.

The middle of this clock map is centred more or less on Mt. Diablo. Written alongside the clock-face were the words *“is to be set to Mag. N.”* Quite correct, but Z is referring back to his Zodiac sign with the 5 crosses round the rim of the circle. Explaining that the drawing is held so that the top is facing N(orth) and the Mag refers to the magnitude of those crosses that represent the positions of the bright stars that can be seen low in the sky above San Francisco. Only an astrophysicist or astronomer could have set that one up; likewise the altimeter.

The location of the *alleged* bomb was where no bomb could do damage to a school bus. The same goes for anywhere on Mount Diablo, but by now Z was well aware that everyone would be looking along the lines indicated by a magnetic compass –as indeed they were. The clock location was for Z’s own twisted sense of amusement. The metric % of a degree using the clock face is **.9036** both N and W; to the NE of the peak and of course nowhere near a school bus route.

As mentioned earlier. Use the clock’s numerals in reverse... **.3096** ...Not another bomb location, but a place in down-town Napa City where Z had phoned the police following his attack on Shepard and Hartnell.

The Dirty Harry film ended with a scene on the top of “Mount Davidson” where Callahan shot “Scorpio” less than 6 months after Z’s map was published.

Fifth case.

On the night of Sunday, March 22 1970 Kathleen Johns and her baby were abducted but escaped. She survived to identify her kidnapper.

Not until 24 July 1970 did Z mention this case. He had made another mistake and following the publicity, had been, as with the case of Hartnell, waiting to see what happened. The letter to SFC began: *“This is the Zodiac speaking.*

I am rather unhappy because you people will not wear some nice (Z) buttons. So I now have a little list, starting with the woeman & her baby that I gave rather intersting ride for a couple howers one evening a few months back that ended in my burning her car where I found them.”

Z chased after Johns pretending one of her wheels was loose and then undoing the wheel nuts making the car un-drivable and “offered” her a lift to the nearest garage.

His intended pre-arranged “dump site” was at the top end of Paradise Road, Tracy. Geo location **48'.00"N; 22'.00"W**.

However after driving around for more than 2 hours, Z stopped at a halt sign near the junction of a main road and *a different Paradise Road* nearer to Patterson. Johns opened her door and jumped out into a field with her baby. Z leaned across, shut the door and drove away, doubtless off to ensure none of his prints were left on Johns broken down car.

Seven months pregnant and carrying her 10 month old daughter she was given a lift to Patterson PD by a passing vehicle. There she claimed (rightly) that she had been kidnapped. Patterson PD were not as up to the mark as Napa PD and they bungled the interview, considered she was hysterical and probably had not been kidnapped (the couple who had found her had now departed without being interviewed or even providing an address).

The description of her kidnapper Johns gave to Patterson PD relating to weight and height differed considerably from that supplied by Hartnell.

The first victim of Z to escape more or less unharmed was very lucky... or was it because he had picked up an unsuitable victim by mistake, a nurse with an infant?

The fact that there were two completely different quite long roads to the NE and SE of Tracy named Paradise must have seemed doubly attractive locations.

Her burned out car, minus hub-cap and car keys, was later found where she had abandoned it. Z was also fortunate to escape because

his bogus attempts at “helping” John’s car after he had undone wheel nuts had been witnessed by other curious drivers.

The decrypt of “**a couple howers**” reads:

Hawley H Crippen. Of course!

Z sent Johns a Halloween card (10) and as will be mentioned later, this card had hand-written lettering on the back. In large letters down the centre, was the word PARADICE.

At this point in the evidence it is obvious Z had retained his mathematical abilities (as well as being an accomplished artist) whose spelling “mistakes” were deliberate, "a couple howers" being a good example. A far more dangerous opponent than anyone other than Paul Avery and Melvin Belli realised.

This July 26 1970 letter links Z’s “projects” backwards to the 340 block’s Mikado link and forwards regarding the number of slaves he is claiming –to date 13, equal presumably to the number of murders he is also claiming. Numbers that if the truth be told, really do not add up. It reads as follows;

*“Being that you will not wear some nice (Z) buttons, how about wearing **some nasty** (Z) buttons. Or any type of (Z) buttons that you can think up. If you do not wear any type of (Z) buttons I shall (on top of every thing else) torture all 13 of my slaves that I have wateing for me in **Paradice**. **Some** I shall tie over ant hills and watch **them scream & twitch and squirm**. Others shall have pine splinters driven under their nails & then burned. Others shall be placed in cages & fed salt beef untill they are gorged then I shall listen to their pleass for water and I shall laugh at them. Others will hang by their thumbs & burn in the sun then I will rub them down with deep heat to warm them up. Others I shall skin them alive and let them run around screaming. And all billiard players I shall **have them** play in a dark ened dungeon all with **crooked** cues and Twisted Shoes. Yes I shall **have the** great fun in flicting the most delicious of pain to my Slaves”*

Almost as an afterthought Z added a second letter to the above, all in the same envelope; his little list of a parody of Mikado lyrics complete with atrocious spelling “errors”.

*As some day it may happen that a victom must be found
I’ve got a little list, Iv’e got a little list*

*of society offender who might well be underground
 who would never be missed who would never be missed
 There is the pest –ulential nucences who whrite for autographs,
 all people **who have** flabby hands and irritat-ing laughs.
 All children who are up in date: and implore you with im platt
 All people who are shakeing hands shake hands like that.
 And all third persons who with unspoiling take those who insist.
 They'd none of them be missed. They'd none of them be missed.
 There's the banjo seranader and the others of his race
 and the piano orginast I got him **on the list**.
 All people who eat peppermint and phom phit in your face,
 they would never be missed They would never be missed
 And the Idiout who phraises with in-thusastict tone
 of **centuries** but this and every country but his own
 And the lady from the provences who dress like a guy
 who **doesn't cry** and the singlarly abnomily the girl who
 never kissed.
 I don't think she would be missed Im shure she wouldn't be missed.
 And that nice im priest that is rather rife the judic-ial hummerest
 I've got him **on the list**
 All funny fellows, com-mic men and clowns of private life,
 They'd none of them be missed. They'd none of them be missed.
 And uncompromiseing kind such as wachamacallit,
 thingmebob, and like wise,
 well – nevermind, and tut tut tut tut, and **whatsh is name**,
 and you know who,
 but the task of filling up the blanks I rather leave up to you.
 But it really does-n't matter whom you place **upon the list**,
 for none of them be missed, none of them be missed.*

The Halloween Card (10).

On the eve of Halloween 1970, Z posted SFC a Halloween Card. On
 the front were the words BOO HAPPY HALLOWEEN
 Another example of Z's artistic talents, but puzzling to SFC readers
 and the police.

The decrypt of all 17 glyphs reads;

IM TOM SAMPSON I BE ZE

A mite repetitive but indicates again use of extra "E's
 with an alternative;

HI HO HI HO SLAVERY ZE

A spiteful dig at Paul Avery. Also another slice of lyrics, this time from the Disney “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs” film. For 7 dwarfs read slaves because to date he has murdered 5 but is on the point of claiming 2 more.

On one section of the card, a close examination of the letters written round a large knot hole/eye are the words;

PEEK A BOO-YOU-ARE DOOMED

Decrypted reads; **LONE STINE SHOT BY MISTAKE**

Exactly when Z realised this mistake is a puzzle, but obviously before he wrote the letters round the knot-hole, yet he was still including the murder in his victim tally.

On the back of the card, (10A) Z had drawn 37 letters in 2 vertical rows reading:

BY FIRE BY KNIFE and BY GUN BY ROPE. The central cross of larger letters read **PARADICE & SLVES**

The decrypt reads;

BYE PA BY GUNFIRE MA BY ROPE EVIL PAIR NOW SAFE

One assumes it is Z who now feels safe.

An explanation of how a specific location is arrived at. Metric to Geographic.....

One of the 4 “By” headed sectors in the drawing on the back of the Halloween card the “By KNIFE” letter N is reversed.

Using a letter/numeral count Metric **2B5Y =25% of a degree =15’00”** and **KNIFE 14965 backwards=56941** (like the clock case and the reversed J in vertical line 7 on the 340 block)=more than 50%of a degree, actually **=34’59”**

Within reasonable distance of the place on the shoreline of Lake Berryessa where both Shepard and Hartnell were stabbed repeatedly “By Knife”.

Now the reversed N also makes perfect sense.

The Shepard Hartnell case also involved the knife/rope/gunfire threat.

On the back of the envelope was a diagonal cross of words “**Sorry no cipher**”. Another misdirection because the decryption reads;

MORSE H CRIPPEN (twice) with 9 of the 13 letters not even requiring decrypting shown in blue.

To close the Halloween case. In the diagram (10A) there are lines that look like an Eagle coming in to land or a poorly drawn letter W + 4 dots. Did Paul Avery work out the meaning of this prominently displayed logo on his envelope and along the bottom of the card ? Four dots = Z's four self-confessed murder cases and the five straight lines of various length = the relative distances between each murder site in time sequence. Starting on the left. Wingtip =Lake Harman Road murder. Where tip joins long straight line =nearby Vallejo Golf course killing. The long downward straight line ends at Lake Berryessa, far from the second. The long upward straight line ends in San Francisco a long way from Lake Berryessa; the Stine murder. Now come the two small downward lines. Presumably Ma and Pa. From later decrypts in Part Two Z claimed Ma and Pa's remains were to be found in SF Botanical Garden. In which case the 2 downward lines on the right at the end that follow the Stine murder in the time line do not represent Ma and Pa but Johns and her baby.

Not until March 13 1971, did anyone have the misfortune of reading more of Z's apparent nonsense. Then up he popped again, but with a letter to the Los Angeles Times posted in Pleasanton CA. The envelope was addressed to;
The L.A. Times
Los Angeles Calif.

*"This is the Zodiac speaking
Like I have always said I am crack proof. If the Blue Meannies are ever going to catch me, they had best get off their fat asses & do something. Because the longer they fiddle & fool around, the more slaves I will collect for my after life. I do have to give them credit for stumbling across my riverside activity, but they are only finding the easy ones, there are a hell of a lot more down there. The reasm that Im writing to the Times is this. They don't bury me on the back pages like some of the others."
SFPD – 0 (Z) -17+*

The **riverside** activity Z was referring to could have been a fishing trip, a spot of nude sunbathing, an excavation site, a work place, or another of those words linked to a key location relating to his murderous activities, but it was initially assumed that Z was claiming responsibility for the murder of a young student of Riverside City College.

Cheri Bates aged 18 who had been attacked viciously with a knife way back in October 1966, probably 2 years before Z experienced his mental breakdown/meltdown.

Although countless clues were left at the scene, the crime still remains unsolved but few believe Z was responsible.

March 23 1971 the SFC received a card with the words “Att Paul Averly – chronicle. Miss-spelt in true Zodiac style.

Z was apparently claiming to have murdered Donna Lass, a 25 year old nurse who was last seen September 6 1970 in the South Lake Tahoe area. Every Z document carries a decrypt of Novato and/or Roscoe/Raytheon/T Sampson. This has nothing.

A retired police official has since admitted he sent the card! Bad enough trying to deal with one sick publicity seeking maniac, but two of them?

**Finally back to the Dragon card (7) ;
The “YOUR ASS IS A DRAGON” decrypt reads;
SLIP AWAY FOR A REST
That Forrest again. And that is presumably exactly what Z did.**

**Totals decrypts of
NAVATO/ROSCOE/RAYTHEON/ T SAMPSON/CRIPPEN
All 13 envelopes-Roscoe.**

22 Roscoe

21 Novato

16 Raytheon

13 Crippen (with or without initials)

12 T Sampson

Note. None of the aforementioned 84 decrypts serve any useful purpose other than to explain to the reader how to construct a basic crib sheet.

Afterword.

In less than four years, a psychopath had somehow gained an envious reputation for the wrong reasons.

He had, by his own admission, attempted to murder 8 persons other than his parents. The first was bungled, the second left a survivor as did the third. The wrong man was shot in the fourth and the fifth turned into a kidnapping. In every case he made stupid mistakes. As for terroristic bomb threats, he risked being arrested on a terrorism

charge and caused mayhem, yet almost certainly never constructed any explosive device, not even a firework.

Any of the thousands of “normal” psychopathic killers could have done better; or could they?

But the Zodiac nut case who should (and may) have been consigned to a lunatic asylum, had done something no other mass murderer had done;

The Zodiac's **pre-selected** geographic locations were;
06' 00"N; 10' 00"W. December 20, 1968. Faraday & Jensen.
08' 00"N; 12' 00"W. July 4th 1969. Ferrin & Mageau.
35' 00"N; 15' 00"W. September 27 1969. Shepard & Hartnell.
These three sets matched the murder locations but were never recognised as such by the local police or the FBI.

The odds of random chance matching these three pairs of “minute only” consecutive locations (even allowing for up to 4 seconds of arc spread on each), are mind blowing.

Only a highly knowledgeable and cunning person could have selected these “suitable” sites, each near or on a road with vehicular access. The first two murder locations (**06' 00"N; 10' 00"W.** and **08' 00"N; 12' 00"W**) were within the same Vallejo police jurisdiction but went unrecognised.

Then the Zodiac killer presented the world with his three-part 408 hieroglyph coded message that diverted attention from those first two pre-determined locations. Next came the third murder way off within a different police jurisdiction; by which time minds were focussed on the 408 block and everyone assumed all three cases would be explained and the killer caught if and when his codes could be broken. They never were. But he was very nearly captured when Napa police arrived at the phone box in downtown Napa city, minutes after Z had fled the scene.

This damning evidence against Z can be ascertained *without breaking any of his encrypted material*, and a maths student could/can work that one out without Google Earth Pro's assistance.

Just to add to the evidence against him.....

48' 00"N; 27' 00"W. October 11 1969. Stine (escape route/car).

48' 00"N; 22' 00"W. March 22 1970. Johns (planned dump site).

Following his March 13 1971 letter to the Los Angeles Times, Z disappeared off the face of our planet, never to contact the media again.

Where did he go to, how did earn his keep, what happened to his car or parents?

Did someone eventually catch him? That might explain why he suddenly disappeared and why the San Francisco police have closed the files.

END OF PART ONE.

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THE ZODIAC KILLER RETURNS

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THE CHRISTMASS QUINTET
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The Zodiac's intention to take 12 people with him to Paradise had, mercifully only been partly successful in California. Upsetting the media and the blue meannies, had, by hindsight hampered his activities. A long rest to gather his thoughts and plan just how to boost his total to 12 was called for. By 1986 a second problem had occurred – the numbers of the Zodiac had been reduced to 11 but only accepted by some.

SAINT LOUIS/KANSAS CITY 1993 -200i+
I MUST KILL MORE PEOPLE.

PRELUDE

From the day that the Harden couple unscrambled the first 390 glyphs of the three-part 408 block, the Zodiac had been waiting for someone to make sense of the last 18 glyphs, or more importantly to discover if the FBI had realised the vital importance of those pre-selected modus operandi locations and were still actively looking for him. Maybe they had and maybe they were.

If so his memoirs would never see the light of day. He must ensure his brilliant material would one day be published *after* but not before he was living in *his* Paradise with *his* slaves.

Well, it took a while and may he rot in hell. If it was not for the surviving victims, and hundreds of grieving relatives, the Z codes and solutions should perhaps have been left to rot with him.

As it stands though, that possibility would seem to make the maniac even more of a legend, given the continuing fascination with his case. So, herewith the second half of the decrypts, but before we begin here is a strange tale of the disappearing body.....or not.

Enter Daniel Olson, Cryptanalysis Forensic Examiner,
Records Racketeering Analyst Unit,
Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington D.C.

This time not the January 2000 –Volume 2- Number 1 comments mentioned in the prelude to Part One, but later *March 29, 2011* statements;

Cryptanalysts Help Solve an Open Murder Case.

On June 30, 1999, sheriff's officers in St Louis, Missouri, discovered the body of 41 year old Ricky McCormick. He had been murdered and dumped in a field. The only clues regarding the homicide were two encrypted notes found in the victim's pants pockets.

Despite extensive work by our Cryptanalysis and Racketeering Records Unit (CRRU), as well as help from the American Cryptogram Association, the meanings of those two coded notes remain a mystery to this day, and Ricky McCormick's murderer has yet to face justice.

"We are really good at what we do" said CRRU chief Dan Olson "but we could use some help with this one."

In a separate statement to the media;

"Ricky McCormick's encrypted notes are currently listed as one of CRRU's top unsolved cases, with McCormick's killer yet to be identified. According to members of McCormick's family, Ricky had not used encrypted notes as a boy, and apparently no one in his family knows how to decipher the codes either."

According to St Louis PD and/or press reports, the body was discovered either by a lady walking her dog or maybe she was driving along a side road. She noticed it in a cornfield (in late June in Missouri?). Or maybe she didn't see anything and the body was found on a dump site often used by gangsters. Or it was found in the cornfield and then, like Lazarus, rose up and moved to the dump site only to die owing to the fact that his hands had been badly chewed by something.

Then there was the question of decomposition. Last seen 3 days earlier after attending the Barnes Jewish Hospital. SLPD reported that the body was badly decomposed and concluded it must have been kept somewhere very hot to speed up the process so as to prevent recognition – fat chance! So mutilated that they could take no fingerprints –but somehow SLPD did manage –or not? Perhaps they recognised his (undamaged) head. Not too difficult as he was black with fizzy hair and they knew him anyway as he had served time for a rape offence.

And so the stories over the intervening two decades had blossomed. Mother not told; Who informed the police and where is the phone record?

Why wait 12 years to request help when Dan Olsen had known Z had written the notes almost from the get-go? Just how did he know?

There are 31 lines on the 2 pages (20 & 21) found on the body of Ricky McCormick.

Three different hieroglyph symbols unique to the **Zodiac** are illustrated on Z's April 1970 letter to SFC (3+ 2/ & 2 H bars) that was passed to the FBI and first mentioned in Dan Olson's publication; January 2000 (5).

These unique Zodiac symbols are in clear sight on the 2 grubby pages, viz...

(20)...Line 4 2 H bars positions 8 & 15

(21)...Line 1.... + at position 17

(21)...Line 17..../ between the 1 & 2

(21)...Line 18..../ at position 6

So why ask for help? Two possible answers.

One. Olson was under pressure from other police agencies. *"You are the expert -over to you."* No point by replying *"All I know is that the Zodiac killer wrote it"*.

Two. Olson knew Z was dying from stomach cancer and MND when Z wrote the 2 grubby pages in 1999. Z was obviously dead by 2012 so safe to ask for help and hope no one did.

THE "STORY" TIME LINE AND DECRYPTS

Here are all 31 lines of the 2 pages (20 & 21) found on the body of Ricky McCormick. Page 1 (A) Page 2 (B). Converted so as to be legible.

Hieroglyph symbols and numerals appear in 21 of the 31 lines; 28 individual symbols unique to the Zodiac and 41 numerals.

Listing all 31 lines, one can see that many include hieroglyphs first used in the 408 (2) and 340 (3) blocks. All Z's letters here are actually capitals (he never used lower case in any of his codes). He did not make it easy for any cryptanalyst – why should he, he had the original and he never expected anyone to decipher everything.....*just enough to let the FBI know he was still alive and active.*

- A1. MNDMUNE+MRSC-N-S-M - -UNARE **One + 5 dashes**
- A1. MNDMUNE+MRSC-N-S-M - -UNARE (ALSM). **Same 6**
- A2. TFRNENPINSENPRSERCBRNSENPRSEINC
- A3. PRSEUMRSEDPREHLDCNLONCBE (TFXLETCXLNLBE)
- A4. AL-RRPPTJXLYPPOYNBEMGXSEINLDRCBRNSEPRSE
One dash & 2 different H bars.
- A5WLDRCB RNSEN7O6NENTKSE . CPSLE-CLTRSEWLDNCDE
One dot & one dash. Two numbers
- A6. ALNIPNCBETSMELISERLSENRLSNEASNWIDNCBE
- A7. (NOPFSENLSRENCBE) NTEGDDMUSENCURERCBRNE
- A8. TENETFRNE NCBRTSENCBEING
- A9. FLRSEPRSEONDE **71 NCBE Two numbers**
- A10. CDNSEPRSEONSD E **74 NCBE Two numbers**
- A11. PR+SEPRSEONREDE **75 NCBE One + Two numbers**
- A12.TFNGCMSDSOLEMRDELUSETOTETEWCDNWLDNCBE
- A13. (194WLDSNCBE) (GRFXL) **Three numbers**

Page 2 (B)

- B1. ALPNTEGLSC-SEER+E **One dash & One +**
- B2. YLSEMTSE-CTSE-WSE-FRTSE **Three dashes**
- B3. PURTRSEONDRSEWLDNCBE
- B4. NWLDXLRCMSPNEWLDSTSMEXL
- B5. DUMLTJ* TUNSENCBEXW (J* reversed)
- B6. MUNSARSTENMUNARSE
- B7. KLSE-LRSTE-TRSE-TRSE-MKSEN-MRSE **Five dashes**
- B 8. SAE6NSESENMRSE **One number**
- B9. UMNRLB RNSEP+E2PTEWSRCBKERE **One + One number**
- B10. 36MLSE94SPRKSE29KENOOOLE175RTRSE **Nine number**
- B11. 356LECIGSEOUNUTREDKRSEPSESHLE **Three number**
- B12. 651MTCSE HTLSE NCU TC TRSNMRE **Three numbers**
- B13. 99.84.5 ZUNEP LSE UCRSE AO I 7 SENS KSE DSE2dots 7nm
- B14. NSREONSE PU7SE WLDNCBE (3XORL) **Two numbers**
- B15.MNMSENRS E1N2NTRLERCBRNSENTSRCRONC**Two nmb**

B16. LSPNSENDRSPSEMKSEKBSENCBEMVXLR

B17. HNLRNENMRELBE 1/2 MUNDDLSE One / Two numbers

B 15,16,17 COMPOSITE (same1/2)}

B18. D-W-M/YMILXDRLX Two dashes & One /

It took us 10 minutes to spot the + (E) the / (K) and both H bars (O and T) in **all three** sections of the original 408 block, and no time at all to locate the same 3 hieroglyphs in the FBI letter (5) and not much longer to spot them again within the RM 2 grubby pages. It then took us 2 years to decrypt all 31 lines.

Although the notes were written in 1999 the decrypts are presented below in more or less chronological order, many referring to Z's CA cases.

The way in which each row is written by hand (see later) with the long lines often appearing to be compressed at the far end, suggest these are copies and it seems unlikely Z would place precious originals in a dead man's pockets. Indeed the originals could have been typed.

The Zodiac's age is also an important point, given the various differing descriptions provided in 1969/70. Probably born during WW2 and in his thirties at the time of his mental breakdown. This second part would put him in his late 50's to mid 60's.

Only complete lines of decrypts are generally included, but partial blocks of importance are mentioned where appropriate.

After his last letter to LA Times he was apparently "out of commission" for more than 2 decades.

Was he a dedicated ornithologist or a professional cartoonist or both during the interim? Or in a lunatic asylum or in Australia or temporarily sane?

First Group of linked decrypts.

B 9

UMNRLB RNSEP+E2PTEWSRCBKERE

MONTROSE QUEBEC VISITS BANKERS

An alternative reads;

CANADA GEESE NOISY ILL ALL WEEK

Montrose, a frontier town in British Columbia, western Canada

is easily accessible from California and was used by many to avoid being conscripted into the Vietnam war. Z apparently followed that trail, the name Montrose possibly acting like a magnet. In order to find a suitable Canadian bank Z probably stayed in the town at least overnight, hence the comment about Canada Geese that frequented this area. However it is not clear if he did find a suitable bank here because he also visited Quebec (where foolish Crippen was removed from SS Montrose).

Creating an encrypted line that covered both above versions and the next alternative must have taken an enormous amount of mental effort.

CANADIAN BANKS VAULT UNWOVEN Z

If the word **CANADIAN** is “unwoven” the letters, converted into numeric 1 to 10 then repeating = 3 1 4 1 and 4 9 1 4.

Metric % of a degree = 18’51” and 29’ 29” geographic.

Selecting any other combinations do not produce a location anywhere in a built area and 18’51” N and 29’ 29”W only fit one town or city location on the North American continent.....

A quiet residential area on the SE outskirts of MEHLVILLE (pronounced Melville) an inner ring suburb of St Louis, MO.

Presumably after leaving Quebec, Z lived in a property here, kept his car here, and used it as a base for his Mid West killings.

A 3

Line beginning PRSEUM

RESUME THE OLD COLD WAR WITH COP Z ILL A LOT

Inspector Michael Maloney was upset at the way his boss, Inspector John Hennessey, in charge of the entire Zodiac investigation in 1970, suddenly closed the case. A complete shambles; hence Z’s comments “The old cold war with cop (Maloney), who after his retirement stated that some day this case will really be closed.

A similar line from the 1970 FBI embargoed document (5) states: *“I will kill again so expect it any time now The will be a cop....”*

The alternative to line A 3 reads:

CLINT LEAST ILL ATE BLUBBER NOT THE ZODIAC

The comments about Clint “Least ill” and eating Blubber refer to Eastwood’s block-buster film “Dirty Harry” and the Moby Dick author Herman Melville’s lapel button “Melville Eats Blubber” as well as Z’s own 28 April 1970 letter on this subject.

No mere coincidence that the unfortunate lawyer Melvin Belli was involved or that Z lived in Mehlville or that this location would be mentioned in Z's visit to the UK. No coincidence either that Clint Eastwood killed Scorpio aka The Zodiac in the film premiered at Loews Theater San Francisco 22 December 1971.

B 8.

SAE6NSESENMRSE

DASHES ARE O'S ZEE

See B8 alternative in the Quinn/Ewing section.

B 3

Line beginning PURT. Block of 11

DOTS ARE S'S ZE

Timely reminders.

See later for other important alternatives for B8.

Second Group of linked decrypts.

B 7

KLSE-LRTSE-TRSE-TRSE-MKSEN-MRSE reads;

TO TAKE K JOHNS, A MOTHER, ERROR NR TWO ZE

(Error one related to the shooting of Paul Stine.)

In his letter to SFC 24 July 1970 boasting of his handling of this case he had written "*I gave a rather interesting ride for a couple howers one evening....*" This decode had read **Hawley H Crippen**

Now composing an entire line of 31 glyphs including five dashes, he uses the O's to admit he had made a mistake.

Why mention the Johns case again 30 years later (to himself) where he had NOT murdered a young woman who did not fit into his pattern of murders. Remorse perhaps?

B 7 Alternates.

KLSE-LRTSE-TRSE-TRSE-MKSEN-MRSE

STATOR STATOR STATOR THREE ERRORS ZE

Z admits to one error but Raytheon's three are a very different matter.

NOW TO GO TO A FORREST FOR A LONG REST ZEE

Note. Mentioned again later.

Or B7 Last 16/17 reads

MORSE OK MORSE SENT...SEEK MONTROSE MORSE

Third Group of linked decrypts.

A 7

(NOPFSENLSRENCBE) NTEGDDMUSENCURERCBRNE

ZODIAC ZOO ANIMALS DEADER CALICO MOUSER

One can assume Z is referring to his original live CA Rare Male Calico Mouser (**CCHHRRRIISSTTMMMAASSSS**) long since left dead and buried.

The alternative reads;

MY ONE SECURE CODE BROKEN CONGRATULATIONS

Z's only secure code was first broken by doubling the miss-spelt Christmass. The insecure main part of the 408 document (**2A**) was broken by the Hardens as Z knew. Thus if someone has now broken this line also, the accolade was justified.

Forth Group of linked decrypts.

B4

TENETFRNE NCBRTSENCBEING

ES ME THE MOST THRILLING E ZE

A very important coded message. These are a line of continuous letters from line 1 of part 2 of the Harden's decrypt of the 408 block. The question here is how did Z remember that original Harden decrypt, letter-perfect three decades later?

The alternate decrypt of the same line reads;

OFF TO PARADICE WITH DELEON

28 Nov 1989. Sarah Deleon aged 19. White, not a prostitute. Stabbed repeatedly even after dead. Car left in situ with signs of being run into from behind. Underpass by railway tracks.

Dumped a few miles away near railway tracks.

Nothing about this unsolved 1989 murder case matches the Zodiac's modus operandi and Z does not claim to have killed Deleon, only that he would take her with him.

Note. This could have been a "copycat" murder as the Johns' video had been published years earlier.

A 2.

TFRNENPINSENPRSERCBRNSSENPRSEINC 31

I WILL GO ALONE FOR A REST IN PARADICE

Or **PARADICE PARADICE VETO PARADISE**

B 11

356LECI GSEOUNUTREDKRSEPSHLE

PARADICE EXPERENCE FORREST THEN Z

These 4 words are the only ones miss-spelt in the Harden decrypt (THEN should have read "THAN). The numbers 3,6,5 translate alphabetically as C,E,F

B 11 alternative. See A5 later for explanation.
IN ACTION ONCE AGAIN AFTER REST UP

B 13

99.84.5 ZUNEP LSE UCRSE AOI 7 SENS KSE DSE

DANGEROUS LEISURE ROADS LAKE PARADICE ZE

Or **DANGEROUS THROUGH FORRESTS IN PARADICE**

Two other links to FORREST (and PARADICE) However the third alternative is rather different;

DR CRIPPEN SWINGING- SENSELESS- HEADLESS

And if one takes a block of 7 from glyphs 13-19 this reads;

USELESS thus completing Z's opinion of Crippen although

"headless" was wishful thinking but a good clue to Z's third level decrypt "crib sheet".

The leisure roads round Lake Paradise are dangerous as Z must have discovered, and a headless Crippen may well have been denied entry to Paradise.

A 11

PR+SEPRSEONREDE 75 NCBE

THE WRONG DRIVER ZE

Referring to the Paul Stine murder. One has to assume that the "right" driver was probably a drug dealer that drove the same cab.

Sitting in the back, it was only after (lone) Stine had been shot, that Z may have had doubts.

The alternative decrypt reads;

DRAGON RIDER BELLI

Alternate links with B 7

KJ LOW E(-)W PARADICE ROAD ZE

The location where Z left mother and baby by the road-side.

Probably wishing he had never gone to Tracy in the first place.

The unfortunate Stine did not fit the bill either. He had been in the right place at the right time.

Another alternative to A11 reads;

BLACK TERN KING EIDER ZEE

Presumably during a bird-watching venture –see next group.

A 5.

WLDRCB RNSN7 O6 NENTKSE . CPSLE-CLTRSE WLDNCDE
**STOMACH CANCER SO NEED FAST RUNNING TO RECOVER
ZE**

Or **EAST GREENLAND SNOW GOOSE BEEN WONDERFUL
SIGHT Z**

B 2.

YLSEMTSE-CTSE-WSE-FRTSE
GOOSANDER ROADRUNNER COOT

B 15.

MNMSE NRSE 1 N 2 NTRLERCBRNSENTSRONC

GAME IN THE FORREST BECA RENCE IT IS EVEN

A section from the Harden decrypt first published 9 Aug 1969.

B 16.

LSPNSE NGRSPSE MKSE KBSE NCBE MVXLR
NBETTER THAN EIHAVE KILLE ROCKS OFF

Another section from the Harden decrypt.

B 17

**HNLRNENMRELBE 1 / 2 MUNDDLSE
E IT IS EVEN BETTER THAN GETT Z**

A third section from the Harden decrypt.

HARDEN in plain sight (1=A)

Note. There are three other decrypts linked to this split line that will be detailed later.

Fifth Group of linked decrypts.

A 9.

FLRSEPRSEONDE 71 NCBE
A NEW GREEN DRAGONFLY Z

Or **LOVE GREEN PARADICE ZE**

A 13.

(194WLDSNCBE) (GRFXL)

THE WRONG DRIVER ZE

Or **DRAGON RIDER BELLI**

This pair refer to the Green Dragon card of 1970 where Z was sitting on a wingless Dragon and Belli was sitting on an Ass and also refers to a Green Paradice and DRAGON. The "Wrong Driver" refers to the Stine murder.

Sixth Group of linked decrypts.

There now follows comprehensive reports of unsolved murders. (five cases). These rely entirely on the Zodiac's cryptic messages.

The Ewing/Quinn case.

The infamous shooting in broad daylight of two drug dealers, Donald Ewing and Doniel Quinn.

Many of the details and images of this case are available from "The Kansas City Star" website and elsewhere and there is no point in repeating all the gruesome details here.

Note. One of KCPD officers involved is mentioned by Z in a decrypt of line B18.

B 8.

SAE6NSESENMRSE

SANE 6 SENSES MR Z

Only one of 2 straight anagrams in any of the complete 31 lines.

Location Met% AN14 6E =Half way down Hutchings St.

Also an anagram (6E not E6). Sane???

B 12

651MTCSE HTLSE NCU TC TRSNMRE

HUTCHINGS STREET Z SHOT Q AND E

B 1

Line beginning ALPNTEGLSC-SEER+E

HUTCHINGS ST AREA ZE

Or **TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE Z**

Using only the last 14 glyphs of B 1 TEGGLSC-SEER+E reads:

RATTLESNAKES Z

B 12

Line beginning 651MTC

THE DONS LOT GOING GONE GANG ZE

Notes.

Z may have met Doniel Quinn, a drug dealer and bouncer in a bar. who it transpires, was in trouble with major players, as was his cousin Donald Ewing. Two young trouble-makers known to the police and "rattlesnakes" represents Z's opinion of drug dealers. Would any *sane* potential murderer be so stupid as to walk down Hutchings Street in broad daylight, use a single shot gun that had to

be re-loaded, and walk (not run) back the way he had come, in full view of witnesses? Shades of the Shepard/Hartnell case.

If it were a gang-land killing as many later claimed, surely they would have gone mob –handed, driving a stolen car straight along the road with all guns blazing?

Within 24 hours the police announced they had solved the crime. A young semi-literate coloured youngster was identified by witnesses, arrested, (identified as the killer by Quinn’s cousin), and found guilty on trumped up evidence.

Because the murder site was in the State of Kansas, the trial was held in Wyandotte County District Court. 26 September 1994. The trial lasted only 3 days and the 17 year old (charged as an adult) received 2 life sentences. Z was not pleased.....

A 6

Line beginning ALNIPN;

ENRANGED ZE BLASTED DQ DE MCINTYRE IS INNOCENT

The lad’s name was Lamonte McIntyre. What was not mentioned at the time, was the fact that McIntyre’s mother Mary was a prostitute who was being given a hard time (sex or I arrest you) by the police chief in charge of the case.

The alternative decrypt of the entire 38 glyph line ALNIPN reads;

MASTER PIECE EN MASSE ALMOST OK FOR MAILING ZE

Metric % EN/54 = Geo 32'26" ALM = Metric% 123= Geo 07'23"

Location Effingham Illinois. Site of current USPS building.

This implies that Z was intending to post his master copy to someone. Who? On page 4 of the November 9 1969 letter to SFC, Z mentions his "master piece" and the word **masterpiece** in this ALNIPN line, all 11 letters represent themselves “in clear sight” but not in a block.

B 5

DUMLTJ* TUNSENCBEXW (J* reversed)

JUSTICE NOT FOR LM ZE

Apart from being annoyed for someone being credited with “his” murders, it is a mystery as to why Z should be upset.

After years of public protest and hundreds of hours of pro bono work, McIntyre was released in October 2017..... 23 years later!

He was also awarded a considerable (but not enough) sum in compensation. This case is still “on-going”.

As usual there are apposite alternatives to B 5;

MY ONLY MASTER CODE ZE

Z’s “master code” has nothing to do with “Justice not for LM” but refers to the reverse “J”.

This reverse letter J (representing J or X) first appears in line 2 -part 2 of the 408 block (representing the letter X in the miss-spelt word “experence” and in line 5 of the 340 block.

A block of 11 from this line reads **APOLLO TEN ZE**

Apollo Ten experienced problems with control of its Lunar Module. whilst searching for a suitable landing site for Apollo Eleven. LM also co-incidentally being the initials of Lamonte McIntyre.

Another block of 12 reads; **BETTY L JENSEN** and there most certainly was “no justice” for her, poor girl.

In the 4 year gap between his first murders and the following 1998 case, it would seem to confirm that he spent long days bird-watching.

The Rhoda Tribue Easley murder.

B 3

Line beginning PURTRS ... All 20 used reads;

RHODA E BIRD O PARADICE Z

Or **N MOCKING BIRD STARLING**

Note the Mocking bird link.

B 10

36MLSE94SPRKSE29KENOOOLE175RTRSE decrypted reads;

SOLVE MY CODE MESSAGE WITH ANAGRAMS ZE

The “code message with anagrams” refers to more than one.

B10

Or **RHODA EASLEY DEALT BLOWS AT PARADICE ZE**

Taking the first 2 sets of numbers **36** and **94** =

Metric 94=56’42”geo and 36 =21’ 36”.

The south-west corner of PARADISE PARK MO.

Her body was dumped across the State line in Kansas. Regardless as to whether Rhoda was ever driven to Paradise Park and murdered there (in the State of Missouri), she was certainly dead in the State of Kansas. It is possible that Z had an accomplice as two persons were apparently seen near the body dump site. If so Ricky McCormick could have been that second person. Why so far from Paradise Park? The nearest suitable dump site that matched Z's CA era double Minutes only method in **Kansas** was at **(39) 05'00"N and (94) 48'00"W** a few hundred yards from where the poor woman's body was (quickly) discovered. As Z's modus operandi way back when, had not included the use of a hammer or rock, one assumes this was carried out by an accomplice.

Note the date of the following FBI comments, some 23 years after the 2 documents were discovered on Ricky McCormick's body and exactly why the unfortunate Rhonda Tribue Easley was a perfect "fly" for Z the spider.....

On Tuesday March 30 2021 the FBI Kansas City Division along with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation was seeking information to identify the unknown individual(s) responsible for the 1998 murder of Rhonda Tribue. According to a media release from the agency.....

"FBI Special Agent in Charge Timothy Langden announced Monday that the FBI is offering up to \$50,000 for information leading to the arrest, prosecution, and conviction of the individual(s) responsible for the murder. Rhonda Tribue, may also have been known by her maiden name Rhonda Easley.

Rhonda, 34-years old and a mother of 6 children, living in Kansas City, Kansas was found dead from apparent blunt force trauma at approximately 4.30 a.m. on October 8, 1998. Her body was discovered in the roadway at the 500 block of S 94th Street, near Edwardsville Kansas and a short distance from the Kansas Avenue/Interstate 435 interchange.

*In the early morning hours of that same day Rhonda had been seen at the Firelight Lounge. She was known to frequent the lounge and the area of 7th Street and Quindaro Blvd. in Kansas City, Kansas. At the time of her death she was wearing a High Sierra brand dark purple corduroy jacket, over a gold lace top, **pumpkin**-colored jeans, and brown sandals.*

*Rhoda was described as follow (s) 5-foot-5 inches tall. 145 pounds, medium build, light-skinned black female with brown eyes and dark brown hair with **deep orange** and yellow highlights.*

The cold case investigation was initiated in 2020, based on new information developed during this investigation, law enforcement is asking for the public's assistance."

However 17 days earlier The Kansas City Star and KCUR had requested from the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department, the reports and investigative records of Tribue and several other Black women who had been murdered in Wyandotte County but whose cases remain unsolved.

The KCKPD released only the autopsies of Tribue and the other women but denied access to further information, citing an exemption under Kansas open records laws that keeps files related to on-going investigations off limits from public view.

The KBI referred questions about the Tribue case to the FBI "*why has the agency revived the investigation, and is it related to any previously announced investigation?*"

Bridget Patton, an FBI spokeswoman, said that new information had come up, but she couldn't discuss specifics.

"We are working with the KBI. During the course of the year new information has come to light...during the course of this matter, which is causing us to seek the public's assistance to see if anybody can remember anything," she said. (An autopsy showed Tribue died from multiple blows to her head and extremities. The autopsy also said there were indications that her body may have been dragged.)

B 18

Line beginning **D-W. M / Y**

GOLUBSKI DOOMED

Apposite alternative **DOOMS DAY LOOMING** No comment

A 5

Line beginning **WLDRCB**

EAST GREENLAND SNOW GOOSE BEEN WONDERFUL SIGHT

Z

Not sure how he knew the bird flew down from East Greenland rather than the Baffin Island group. Again, perhaps this was what he was doing in his spare time.

Or **STOMACH CANCER SO NEED TO RECOVER FAST
RUNNING ZE**

Ditto and hope his running was of no help. But the question is this. His first documented Mid-West murder was in 1993 when Z would probably have been in his 60's. Now in the 1998/9 documents, he admits he is dying of cancer but obviously had not yet done so. How did he discover this?

The most obvious explanation is "during a hospital visit" and where might that have been in St Louis? The Barnes-Jewish Hospital on the edge of Forest Park would have attracted him to his own web surely.

A 12.

TFNGCMSDSOLEMRDELUSETOTEWCDNWLDNCBE

ZODIAC IN PARADICE COME HELL OR HIGH WATER

An ambition of sorts that had long been in Z's thoughts. Crippen, obviously a loser in Z's opinion prompted him to produce the following alternative, despite his own claimed murders were in every case far more vile. Ungrateful too in that his own encryption system was partially based on Crippen's misfortune,

HC MORSE CODE S O S VILE KENTISH TOWN MURDER

B 15/16/17

Three consecutive lines beginning MNMSEN All 86 letter/numerals read (in any order):

**LOVE BRIDGES TO BABYLON JAGGER GUN FACE
ALREADY OVER ME LOW DOWN SAINT OF ME
TOO TIGHT NEED STEEL WHEELS Z**

December 12 1997 The Rolling Stones "Bridges To Babylon" tour was performed in St Louis MO. A year later in late December 1998 a DVD of that particular performance was put on sale.

The lyrics in "Bridges To Babylon" had obviously been especially attractive to Z and perhaps he had been filmed somewhere in the crowd; if so he would have purchased a copy out of curiosity. From this DVD Z constructed an encrypted message from the last 6 letters of the title **BABYLON** and the first 6 letters from the Flip The Switch lyrics **A SCRAP** of blood.

The decrypt reads; **HAWLEY CRAP ON** Not as subtle as **HOT SASSIE LASSIE IS MELVA** a decrypt on the 1970 Dragon card, or by publicly referring to SFC crime reporter Robert Avery as

AVERLY on envelopes; or probably the best of all to Clint Eastwood as **CLINT LEAST ILL** who will no doubt enjoy the jibe when he reads this.

Exactly what prompted Z to visit the UK early in 1999 following the Rhoda Tribue murder ?

The Rolling Stones were on the point of a “Bridges To Babylon” European revival that included five shows in the UK; Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh, 4 June 1999, Sheffield 6 June, Shepherds Bush Empire London on 8 June and Wembley Stadium 11 & 12 June.

The Zodiac maniac’s encrypted messages to the media beginning 30 July 1969 were influenced by his morbid fascination with Dr Hawley Harvey Crippen. Crippen had rented a house at 39 Hilldrop Crescent, Kentish Town London in 1909.

Z (probably) took a plane from St Louis (or even Quebec) to London. From there Z could visit Hilldrop Crescent, Pentonville Jail, or Islington Cemetery in East Finchley.

Then he could have inspected the Shepherd’s Bush venue, taken a train to Sheffield ditto to Edinburgh, and a boat trip to the Island of May where he knew the ferry docking location was **56.11.00N, 02.33.00W** and might even have visited Montrose just up the coast.

Then be in the audience for “Bridges To Babylon” at Murrayfield Stadium and back down to London following the tour south to Sheffield (6 June) Shepherd’s Bush London (8 June) and Wembley Stadium 11/12 June before flying back to St Louis MO.

B 14.

NSREONSE PU7SE WLDNCBE (3XORL)

ISLE OF MAY DELIGHTFUL WEEKS Z

Or **WORK IN LONDON SEAS EDINBURGH**

He probably did put in some work in London, enjoy a delightful week in Edinburgh, Montrose and at sea over at the Isle of May.

Back in St Louis, Z made use of 5 dashes in a line that appears to have been altered at the last minute.

Or maybe he invented the entire trip and never went anywhere. If so why include it in his “memoirs”

The murder of Ricky McCormick

A 1.

MNDMUNE+MRSC-N-S-M - -UNARE
TO KILL ONE DRUG MULE ALL ALONE

A 1 A. MNDMUNE+MRSC-N-S-M - -UNARE (ALSM).
TO KILL ONE SICK DRUG MULE ALL ALONE
Or THE 31 LINES ARE MY MASTERPIECE TOO
Or MEND CEROUS AMMO ON A M MOONLESS RUN
This last alternative is an anagram. All 29 letters/glyphs in plain sight.

“AMMO” is referred to in Z’s first letter to the media 31 July 1969.
“I am mildly cerous as to how much money you have on my head now.”
from line 5 of letter sent to SFC April 20 1970.
The anagram refers to a night drive rehearsal to a possible body dump site near an old favourite, a golf course.

Z’s plan, presumably, was to transport Ricky McCormick, a drug carrier he may have met earlier at the Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St Louis MO, and possibly elsewhere, across the State line to a location along a quiet road near a golf course **55’48”N, 07’12”W (anagram of last 4 (bracketed letters **ALSM** converted to metric% numerals).**

But as usual, things did not go to plan. Z had lured the dope Ricky into his car with an offer of dope, expecting this to keep Ricky occupied whilst he drove in the dark across the State line to the golf course where he intended push Ricky out of his car, shoot or knife him and drive home.

Unfortunately Ricky died soon after the expedition had begun.

Late at night Z could not risk being stopped with an obviously dead person slumped across the passenger seat if he drove the rest of the way to Illinois. Instead of a live but docile “victim” about to be dumped at the golf course, he now, as so often in the past, had a problem.

So RM together with Z’s manuscripts were dumped somewhere the body would be found the next morning.

Maybe Z phoned it in himself (not for the first time), but only after listening in on police radios and discovering the body had not been found.

Anyway, who really cares how it all went down.

Z had successfully sought one last suitable murder victim and the conclusion of his plan to become immortal by leaving his story for

posterity on the body; rather like a dying ichneumon fly injecting an egg into a caterpillar.

Note. Our body count totals 11 (or + DeLeon, 12). Z had solved the 11 or 12 Zodiacs by backing both ways.

Note. The medical examiner classified McCormick's death as undetermined after an autopsy and toxicology tests had been completed. This suggested he died from a drug overdose.

Further information from that **March 29 2011** FBI press release;

“McCormick's body was found on June 30, 1999 in a cornfield near West Alton, Missouri by a woman driving along a field road near Route 367.

The reason this was 15 miles (24 km) away from his then-current address is another mystery, as he did not own a car and the area was not served by public transportation. Though the body had already somewhat decomposed, authorities used fingerprints to identify McCormick. There was no indication that anyone had a motive to kill McCormick and no one had reported him missing. As such, the authorities initially ruled out homicide; however, no cause of death was officially determined at the time. McCormick was last seen alive five days earlier, on June 25, 1999, getting a check up at St. Louis' Forest Park Hospital.

The two notes found in McCormick's pockets are written in an unknown code consisting of "a jumble of letters and numbers occasionally set off with parentheses" and are believed by the FBI to possibly lead to those responsible for the killing.”

B17. The curved line with a very large gap in the middle and includes the word **HARDEN** in plain sight; already mentioned.

HNLRNENMKELBE 1 / 2 MUNDDLSE

LIVE FROM NEON PARK MND DEATH

Note. *Live from Neon Park* is the second live album by the American rock band *Little Feat* released in 1996. The cartoonist Neon Park died from Motor Neurone Disease in 1993.

B 17. Decrypting only the first section reads;

MND B ANDERSON Z

Note. Billy Anderson died from MND April 11 1996 aged 55 and was a very good College football quarter back.

B 17. Decrypting only the second section reads;
MND A KILLER Z

A 3A.

(**ALSM**) end of A1 (TFXLETCXLNLBE) end of A3
MND NOT ABLE TO FLEX Z

Notes. **ALS** is an alternative name for **MND**.
ALS, FLEX and ABLE are all in clear sight.
Many MND sufferers are unable to flex throat or write legibly.
Compare 408 block (2) with the 2 pages of CAPITAL letters found of
the body of Ricky McCormick (20/21).

B7 earlier read; **Now to go to a Forrest for a long rest Zee**).

IF the FBI does not already know Z's real name, they now have a
good opportunity to discover this, or at least procure hospital body
scans. Hospitalized for 2 different illnesses, one advanced stomach
cancer and the other only just diagnosed (a trip to UK and still able
walk and drive).

Concluding group.

A 2. Line beginning TFRNEN All 31 used.

PARADICE PARADICE VETO PARADISE

Insistent that his Paradise was always spelt with a C.

Or **I WILL GO ALONE FOR A REST IN PARADICE Z**

B 13. Line beginning 99.84.5Z All 34 used.

DANGEROUS LAKE PARADICE LEISURE ROADS ZE

Another double/treble meaning and an indication of an another "dry
run".

Dangerous because, like the Johns' kidnapping case, there were two
Paradise Roads round Lake Paradise and the very shallow lake was
used for swimming in or sailing on (spectators in daytime).

A 4. AL-RRPPTJXLYPPOYN CBEMGXSEINLDR CBRNSEPRSE

4 2 4 8

MOST ILL IN ILLINOIS CANCER MADNESS PAPER TRAIL

Again using the entire line, the search reveals that location. A block
of four letters **NLDR** that are in plain sight (positions 27-30) in this
line on a 1 to 10 alphabetic count **4248 metric = Geo 25' 29" x 2 =**
Lake Paradise Illinois. One assumes the "paper trail" is the 4248 in
clear sight location.

Note. "Plain or Clear sight" means NLDR were not decrypted letters but they were then converted alpha-numerically on the standard 1 to 10 and then repeating English 26 letter alphabet. N=4, L=2, D=4, R=8.

MADNESS more likely because of the advancing effects of MND; all 3 letters in clear sight.

This is the fifth metric to geo single solution doubled. (the first four being the various clock and Zodiac crosses cases back in the CA era.).

An apposite alternative reads;

THE ONLY ZODIAC REMAINS LIE IN THE PARADICE LAKE

Remarkably there is a third decrypt;

**MA PA IN BOTANICAL GARDEN UNDER POPPY FLOWERS
ZE**

Thus suddenly he tells us where to find his body and those of his parents, although there is no way of telling when he composed this triple coded confession.

How did he enter the SF Botanical Garden and bury his parents (or their remains)?

He could one supposes, have been employed there way back. The location of the entrance to the Botanical Garden happens to be **46' 00"N** and **28'00"W**.

To fit three alternative key decrypts into this one line is a code-setters dream. How he managed is a mystery but displays a skill sadly wasted.

At exactly 39 deg **25' 30" N** 58 deg **25' 30" W'** on a moonless night, lit only by the glow from distant street lights, an old man wearing sack-like headgear, walks across Paradise Road, over the grass bank and settles, with some difficulty, his feet in water of Lake Paradise Illinois. A large bundle is tied around his waist, giving the impression that his worldly possessions are closely guarded therein. His eyes are closed and he is muttering to himself.

He is either re-living some recurring trauma or chuckling about how he outfoxed the pigs 30 years ago.

He hunches his shoulders, flexes his neck muscles before suddenly pushing his hands down and springing up and into the dark water, then struggling as the stones in his bag drag him into the mud and to his death, leaving nothing but widening ripples, strings of bubbles and an odd piece of headgear drifting out from the bank.

THE END

Afterwords.

**Illinois is the official State song and the opening words are “Illinois,
By thy rivers gently flowing..”**

**The Little Wabash river flows gently into Lake Paradise that at the
time and location of Z’s death was only 4 feet deep in water plus
another 9 of silt and mud. If he did truly drown himself his remains
should be recoverable.**

Where is Z’s car?

**Possibly the FBI can now tell us what his real name was if they can
locate any bones.**

**Like CA decrypts of his original coded messages that (the pre-
planned locations) would convict him of premeditated murder, the
Mid-West decrypts could do likewise if he was still alive.**

**Find to whom he posted documents from Effingham USPS
Metric % **EN/54** = Geo **32'26"** **ALM** = Metric% 123= Geo **07'23"**
(a signed confession to a lawyer or law enforcement agency perhaps?)
and find his body in Lake Paradise. Only spend time trying to locate
bones in the San Francisco Botanic Garden if the Lake Paradise
search is not fruitful.**

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