

Michigan Department of State Police

**ORIGINAL INCIDENT
REPORT**

ORIGINAL DATE	MON, APR 15, 1996	INCIDENT NO.	090-0000754-96
TIME RECEIVED	1400	DEPT CLASS	09001
WORK UNIT	CALUMET POST	COUNTY	Houghton
ADDRESS STREET AND NO.		TELEPHONE NO.	4966137-2346
ITEM ST		STREET	
PATIENT STATUS	CLOSED	ZIP CODE	49937
CRIMINALIST CHIEF GENE THORNTON			
ADDRESS STREET AND NO.		CTY	CALUMET
ITEM ST		ZIP	49937

Murder/Nonnegligent Manslaughter (voluntary)

VENUE:

HOUGHTON COUNTY CALUMET TWP AT OR NEAR CENTENNIAL LOCATION

SUSPECT:

NAM: JAMES PAUL ARDU S	RAC:	SLX
NBR:	OPS:	
CTY:	DOB:	
ST:	HGT:	WGT
ZIP:	HTH:	EVE

CRIMINAL HISTORY:

On 04-15-96, I ran a criminal history on JAMES ARDU S, which was

INFORMATION:

On 03-14-96, Sergeant VANDENBU SCH at the Calumet Post had a conversation with Calumet Village Police Chief, LT. GENE THORNTON about information THORNTON received from [REDACTED] owner of the [REDACTED] reported that [REDACTED] told him JIM ARDU S and his wife JAN had told GLINN they were involved in cult activities some 17 to 14 years ago and were involved in the killing of a young boy in the Houghton area and the burying of the body in a Houghton area gravel pit.

Sergeant VANDENBU SCH and Chief THORNTON speculated that if there was anything to this information it may somewhat coincide with the disappearance of KAREN THIRKELL on 10-14-81. Parts of THIRKELL'S remains and clothing were discovered in a wooded area north of L'Anse in October 1992. The crime has never been solved.

PAGE 1	INVESTIGATED BY DESGT. REBERT BRIAN THE HARRY A. KELLY	APR 15 1996 10:00 AM 1996	SEARCHED INDEXED FILED SERIALIZED FILED
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ORIGINAL INCIDENT
REPORT

LAWRENCE DAB	PERMIT NO.
Mon, Apr 15, 1996	(900)0000354-96
TIME RECEIVED	FILE CLASS
1:40P	(900)

WITNESSES:

NAM: TXH.
 NBR:
 STR:
 CITY: ST. ZIP:

INTERVIEW

On 04-15-96 at 2:45 p.m., Trooper KOJONEN and I initiated an interview with _____ at her residence. I advised her of the nature of our investigation, specifically that we had information that supposedly came from her husband that their neighbor JIM ARDUS and his wife may have been involved in some cult activity and the murder of a young boy in the Houghton area.

_____ said from the onset that this is news to her. She said she did recently make a complaint against JIM ARDUS who she described as weird and said she suspected him of being involved in some window peeping approximately eight years. Within the last two months, she made a complaint after seeing ARDUS leave the home of an elderly neighbor for whom she and her husband are caretakers.

_____ contacted the neighbor and discovered that ARDUS, who is unemployed and not known to work, had been trying to get the neighbor to give him money. She then called ARDUS and told him to have no further contact with the elderly people. Following this, she received a threat to the effect that he was going to shoot her and reported it to the State Police.

_____ said she has never heard any information to the effect that ARDUS and his wife were involved in any cult-type activity or in the murder of a young boy. _____ said her husband is away on business but she will have him call me when he returns in the event he may have information.

INTERVIEW

At approximately 3:30 p.m. on 04-15-96, I received a telephone call from _____ who had returned home and had spoken with his wife _____ who appeared to be very cooperative in giving information.

_____ said they have had problems with JIM ARDUS over the year. He generally feels ARDUS is a little weird but did not necessarily consider him dangerous until he recently threatened his wife at the picnic.

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ORIGINAL DATE	INVESTIGATOR
Mon. Apr 15, 1996	DEA/MDR/MSA/96
TIME RECEIVED	TYPE
1400	100000

said he has never received any information to the effect that ARDI S. and his wife were involved in cult activity or in the murder of a young boy in the Houghton area. I then told him this information had come from [REDACTED] acknowledged knowing [REDACTED] and his wife from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and said he has talked with him but never mentioned anything that could be even remotely construed as an allegation they were involved in cult activity or murder [REDACTED] said he simply does not know where received the information.

REMARKS:

[REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] is known to me. He was involved with a family in Ontonagon over the last couple of years whose daughter disappeared and has never been located [REDACTED] contacted the family claiming to have psychic powers and subsequently obtained several hundred dollars in cash from the family for services in helping them locate their daughter. The ultimate result was that [REDACTED] provided no useful information to the family of the missing woman but continued trying to obtain more money from them to provide further services. His credibility at best is questionable.

STATUS:

Closed

PAGE	ONE
SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 16 1996	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	