

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

Section 18, Pages 511 - 540

The Kansas State Penitentiary case file on Perry Edward Smith, inmate number 14747. Smith and his accomplice, Richard Hickock, were convicted of first degree murder for the brutal 1959 killings of Herb and Bonnie Clutter, their daughter, Nancy, and son, Kenyon, in Holcomb, Kansas. The murders inspired the non-fiction novel "In Cold Blood" by Truman Capote. Smith was executed by hanging on April 14, 1965. Please note that some images have been removed in accordance with K.S.A. 45-221(a)(29) and have been labeled with pages indicating their removal.

Creator: Kansas State Penitentiary

Date: 1959 - 1965

Callnumber: State Penitentiary, Inmate Files, Executed Prisoners, Box 1

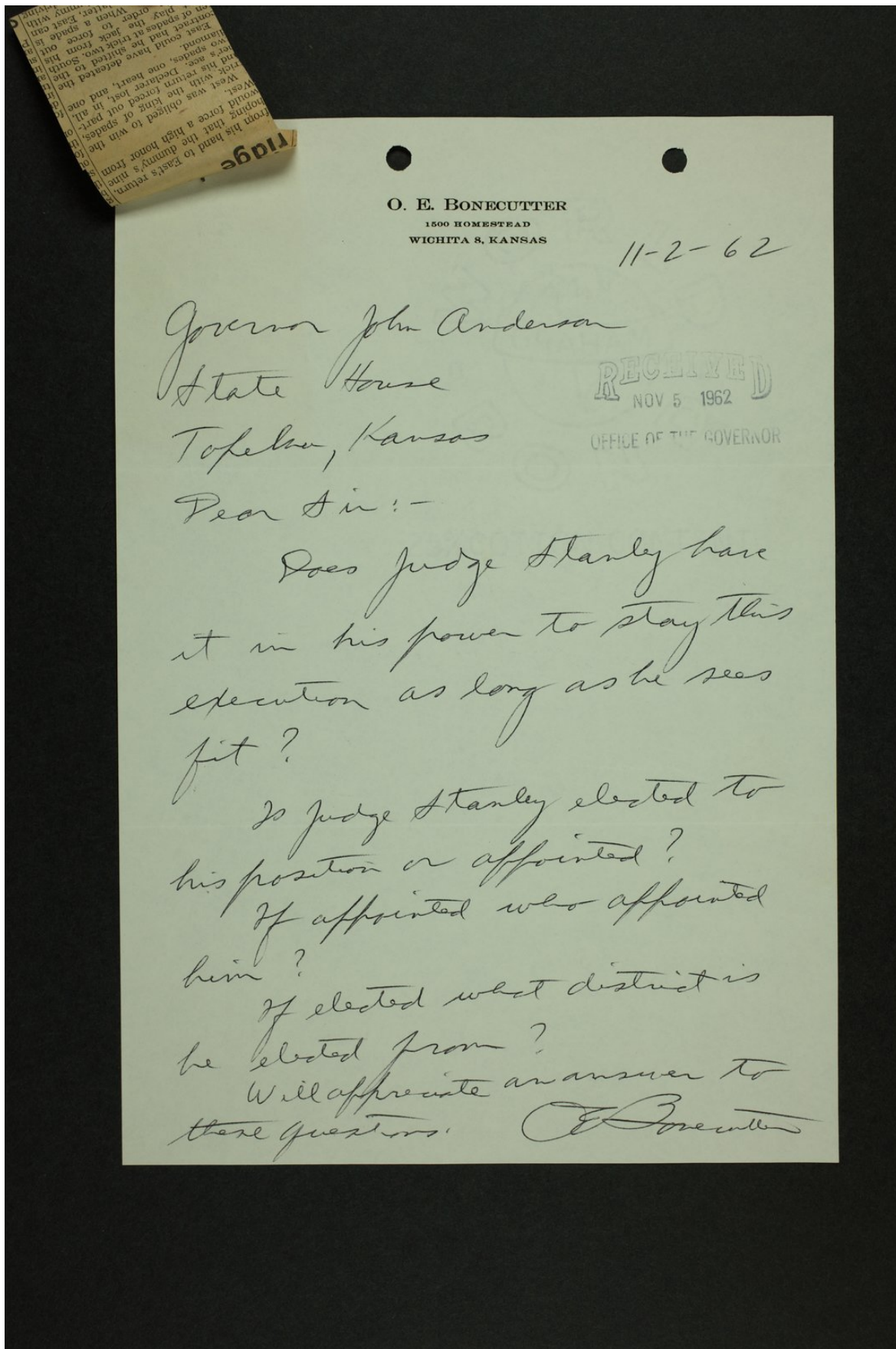
KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 208964

Item Identifier: 208964

www.kansasmemory.org/item/208964

KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

JOHN ANDERSON, JR.
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
STATE OF KANSAS
TOPEKA

March 3, 1961

Mrs. Esther P. Stein
3104 Humboldt Street
Topeka, Kansas

In re: Perry Smith

Dear Mrs. Stein:

This will acknowledge your letter of February 22, 1961, and the enclosed copy of a letter you sent to the Topeka Daily Capitol concerning a recent news story in said paper about the illness of Perry Smith.

I want to take this opportunity of thanking you for your letters and to commend you for showing an interest in the inmates of our penitentiary.

Very truly yours,

Fred W. Rausch, Jr.
Acting Pardon Attorney

FWR:ss



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

The Honorable John Anderson
Governor of Kansas
Topeka, Kansas

Sir:

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter which I have sent to the Editor of the Topeka Daily Capital, concerning a recent test employed by Warden Tracy Hand and Deputy Warden Sharman Crouse in substantiating their opinion that Perry Smith was "feigning weakness".

It is my sincere hope that you use the position of your office to prevent any future repetition of such an unscientific and callous test upon any prisoner in our state institutions.

Very truly yours,

Esther P. Stein

Esther P. Stein
(Mrs. Robert B. Stein)

*Thank her for letter
and interest in the
welfare of the inmates
of KSP*

RECEIVED
FEB 24 1961

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

3104 Humboldt St.
Topeka, Kansas
February 22, 1961

Editor
Topeka Daily Capital
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Sir:

I was very concerned and deeply disturbed by the information on Perry Smith which you reported on Page 1 of the Saturday, February 18, 1961 issue.

The article mentioned the criteria and test employed by Warden Tracy Hand and Deputy Warden Sharman Crouse in substantiating their opinion that Perry Smith was "feigning weakness". Smith, after having lost over 25% of his total body weight from fasting (whatever his motives may have been) was left alone in his cell "on a cool fall day" with the window open and an electric fan turned on.

Two hours later, when Smith was next checked, the window was closed and the fan was turned off. Only Smith could have done it! Thus Messers Hand and Crouse wish us to believe that if Smith could summon the strength to accomplish this, he was obviously faking weakness.

This conclusion just doesn't make sense. People who have been seriously debilitated from illness or starvation have been known to accomplish astounding feats, under the circumstances (e.g. the convalescing frail Florida mother who lifted an automobile by herself to free her son trapped beneath; the victims of Nazi POW and concentration camps).

What type of reaction (or lack of reaction) would Messers Hand and Crouse accept to believe Smith may not have been faking. If the window had remained open and the fan on, would that have satisfied them! I doubt it. Perhaps Smith should have obliged them by contracting pneumonia or some other respiratory infection. It is well known that malnourished person are more susceptible to infections, if subjected to additional physical stress (e.g. chilling).

I do not write this with the thought of saving Smith's life. Most likely he will be executed for his crime (not because he is sane and should be punished, but because he is so severely disturbed emotionally that society probably will choose not to tolerate his existence much longer). We fear him - not without cause. However, I do object to the erroneous conclusions foisted upon our community by an illogical, inconclusive, callous, unscientific test of questionable morality, as to whether or not Smith is feigning weakness.

My criticism concerns neither Smith's guilt or innocence, "sanity or "insanity", pretended or actual physical weakness, nor my personal view for or against capital punishment. The first two are for Jurists, the third for Doctors to decide. The last is a decision for my own conscience. However I am concerned about decency towards a living being, even if he is not to live for long.

Much as I disliked the facts reported in your article, I feel it may yet do some service by giving Kansans a brief glimpse of what goes on in



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

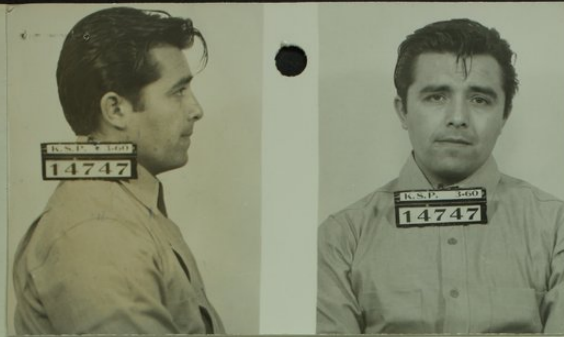
22

prison. We chastized the Germans who denied knowing what went on in their concentration camps. How many Kansans know what goes on in our prisons.

Esther P. Stein

Esther P. Stein

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file



RECORD OFFICE

EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY HEARING
July 28, 1960

No. 14747 - Perry Edward Smith

CRIME:

Murder 1st Degree (4 Counts)

TERM:

Hang

PLACE:

Finney County

SENTENCED:

4-4-60; Rec'd 4-5-60; He has served 3 months 24 days.
Advertised in the Garden City Daily Telegram.

TIME:

Minimum: xx xx xx

Maximum: Hang

NOTE:

Execution stayed 4-11-60 pending appeal to the Kansas Supreme Court, and until otherwise ordered by the Court.

NOTE:

Court also granted stay to co-defendent (Richard Eugene Hickock) pending appeal.

INSTITUTIONAL RECORD: Subject has been confined in the Segregation & Isolation Unit on Death Row since commitment.

NOT ADVERTISED 47

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

KSP No. 179

t/a
4-19-60

KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY
Lansing, Kansas

ADMISSION CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY

Committed Name:	SMITH, Perry Edward	Register Number	14747
True Name:	(As Committed)	Age:	31
Alias:	Bob Henry Turner	Color:	White
Place of Birth:	Elko, Nevada	Birthdate:	10-27-28
Offense:	Murder 1st, 4 counts Gone.	Sentenced:	4-4-60
Term:	Hang	Received:	4-5-60
County:	Finney	Minimum:	XXXXXX
Parole Eligibility:		Maximum:	5-13-60
G. T. Release Date:			

Place	Name & Number	Offense	Disposition
	F.B.I. Report Number	975 887 B	
6-13-52, SO, Tacoma, Wash.,	Perry Edward Smith # 5651	Ct. 1 reckless driv ct 2 resist arrest:	
7-5-55, PD, St. Joseph, Missouri	Perry Edward Smith # 14325	SW GL	Rel to Sheriff Phillipsburg, Kans
11-23-55, PD, Worcester, Mass.,	Bob Henry Turner # 11955	Vag VMVL	12-2-55 \$10 pd
1-15-45, Comm 12th ND.,	Perry Edward Smith # 12281224-012-1	Applicant	
5-21-45, PMO, Army	Perry Edward Smith # 109-SEP-4	Applicant	
4-10-47, Interior Div of Territories & Island Possessions Wash., D.C.,	Perry Edward Smith # 30073-ARR		
9-11-47, PMG, Army	Perry Edward Smith # Code XCS	Applicant	
6-3-48, Comm, 13th ND.,	Perry Edward Smith # En-3-10	Grt Rec:	
10-8-48, CSC-A	Perry Edward Smith # 11-49-6024		
11-19-48, Army	Perry Edward Smith # RA-10730139	Fort Richardson, Alaska	
2-24-56, USM, NY., NY.,	Perry E. Smith # - - - -	Unlawful flight to avoid prosecution	



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

KSP No. 264
4-19-60

Page _____

KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY
Lansing, Kansas

CLASSIFICATION STUDY
SMITH, Perry E.

14747

Committed Name

Register No.

2-24-56, Fed Det. Hdqtrs, NY 14, NY.,	Perry Edward Smith # H-6157	Unlaw flight (Burglary)	disk & to New York City Police
2-23-56, FBI, NY, NY.,	Perry Edward Smith # 88-NEW	UFAP-Burglary	remanded custody of USM SD, NY., 2-24-56 lieu of \$2500 bond;
3-7-56, PD, NY, NY.,	Perry E. Smith # B-371519	Warrant FOA (Burglary)	
3-14-56, SP, Lansing, Kansas	Perry Smith # 12649	Burglary 2nd Ct. 1 GL Ct-2, brk J1 Ct-3 (All Conc)	5-10 yrs: (GL 1-5, Brk J1 1-2) (All Concurrently) Cond rel on chg of Burglary 2nd 7-6-59
12-30-59, PD, Las Vegas, Nev.,	Perry Edward Smith # M-31878	Fugitive Kansas	
1-11-60, PD, Garden City, Kans.	Perry Edward Smith # B-11729 # 19720	4 otd 1st deg murder	
1-5-60, SP, Lansing, Kansas	Perry Edward Smith # 14747	Murder 1st Degree 4 counts conc.	Hang



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

KSP No. 264
t/d
4-19-60

Page.....

KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY
Lansing, Kansas

CLASSIFICATION STUDY

SMITH, Perry Edward

14747

Committed Name

Register No.

DETAINEES:

None

CO-DEFENDANTS:

14746, Richard Eugene Hickock

PRIOR INSTITUTIONAL RECORD:

12649, Kansas State Penitentiary,
Lansing, Kansas:

ESCAPES:

1956, Phillips County Jail, Kansas:

CIRCUMSTANCES OF OFFENSE:

Case No: 2322
Judge: Roland H. Tate
County Attorney: Duane E. West
Defense Attorney: Harrison Smith

Count I

"..... On or about the 15th day of November, 1959, in said County of Finney, and the State of Kansas, one Richard Eugene Hickock and one Perry Edward Smith, then and there being, did then and there unlawfully, feloniously, willfully, and with deliberation and premeditation, and while being engaged in the perpetration of a felony, kill and take the life of Herbert W. Clutter: Contrary to the form of the Statutes in such cases made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Kansas."

Count II

"..... On or about the 15th day of November, 1959, in said County of Finney, and the State of Kansas, one Richard Eugene Hickock, and one Perry Edward Smith, then and there being, did then and there unlawfully, feloniously, willfully, and with deliberation and premeditation, and while being engaged in the perpetration of a felony, kill and take the life of Bonnie Mae Clutter: Contrary to the form of the Statutes in such cases made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Kansas."

Count III

"..... On or about the 15th day of November, 1959, in said County of Finney, and the State of Kansas, one Richard Eugene Hickock, and one Perry Edward Smith, then and there being, did then and there unlawfully, feloniously, and willfully, and with deliberation and premeditation, and while being engaged in the perpetration of a felony, kill and take the life of Nancy Mae Clutter: Contrary to the form of the Statutes in such cases made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Kansas."

Count IV

"..... On or about the 15th day of November, 1959, in said County of Finney, and the State of Kansas, one Richard Eugene Hickock, and one Perry Edward Smith, then and there being, did then and there unlawfully, feloniously, willfully, and with deliberation and premeditation, and while being engaged in the perpetration of a felony, kill and take the life of Kenyon Neal Clutter: Contrary to the form of the Statutes in such cases made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Kansas."



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

KSP No. 264
t/d
4-19-60

Page _____

KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY
Lansing, Kansas

CLASSIFICATION STUDY

SMITH, Perry Edward

14747

Committed Name

Register No.

COUNTY OFFICIAL'S STATEMENT:

None

INMATE'S VERSION:

Subject stated he doesn't want to put anything down../s/ Chet Moorehead, Inmate Class. Officer

DEFENSE ATTORNEY:

No statement.

ADMISSION & ORIENTATION REPORT:

Not available.

SOCIAL HISTORY:

Family Background Father: Tex John Smith, age 66, last known place of residence Reno, Nevada..V. Is a trapper and prospector by trade and occupation, no previous marriages and no known arrests..V.

Mother: Florence Julia Smith, died in 1948 at the age of 50..V. Had no prior marriages and no known arrests..V.

PARENTAL HOME:

Subject came from a home of below average economical circumstances, family frequently moving from one locale to another..V. During subject's childhood family had no permanent home and they had to seek welfare assistance often..V. Parents divorced when he was quite young, mother getting custody of the three older children, subject remaining with father..V. It is reported that subject and father were not on a congenial basis during subject's formative years..V.

SIBLINGS:

1. Dorothy Marchant	Age 33	Alberquerque, N.M.	Sis..V.
2. Subject	31	KSP	

PERSONAL HISTORY:

This 31 year old, Protestant, white male was born Oct. 27, 1928 in Elko, Nev., youngest of four children, two deceased..V. His birth was normal and subject has been healthy all his life..V. Subject was raised in rural areas under marginal circumstances and never had the usual childhood advantages..V. Home was never a stable one and father never provided an adequate living..V.

Subject began school at the age of 6, did not make a good adjustment and quit school in the 10th grade to join the Merchant Marines..V. Subject was raised by his father after the parents divorced and evidently father was an inadequate parent in as much as proper training and guidance during formative years was concerned..V.

Subject spent two years in the Merchant Marines and after leaving there enlisted in the Army and was discharged in 1952 after about 4 years service..NV. From 1944 until his enlistment in the



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

KSP No. 264

mh

5-16-60

Page _____

KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY
Lansing, Kansas

CLASSIFICATION STUDY

SMITH, Perry Edward

14747

Committed Name

Register No.

PERSONAL HISTORY: (cont'd)

Army in 1948 subject worked in Alaska..V
Due to two motorcycle accidents subject
was hospitalized nearly two years. From 1954 to 1955 subject worked as a
trucker in Billingham, Wash..V. Subject made friends easily and found employ-
ment readily..V. He returned to his home town of Elko, Nev. in 1955 and he
and a friend burglarized a sales-barn, 1955..V. They were apprehended and
later escaped from the County Jail and later recaptured in New York state..V
He has a prior term in this institution, being committed in 1956 on burglary
charge and given a conditional release July 6, 1959..V. He was later in-
volved in the current offense with Hickock, #14746, and is presently under
a death sentence..V.

RESOURCES:

States he has no funds, owns no prop-
erty and has no debts..NV

EMPLOYMENT & OCCUPATIONAL RECORD:

driver, among other jobs..V.

Subject lists no employment record, how-
ever, records show he worked as a truck

MARITAL HISTORY:

Has never married..NV

MILITARY HISTORY:

Enlisted in the Army in 1948 and was
honorably discharged in 1952..NV

MEDICAL HISTORY:

Subject is a 31 year old, white male
64" in height, weighing 160 lbs., of
short build and fair complexion. Fracture of left acetabular joint and
left humerus, 1952. Right tibia fractured in 1953, also skull fracture.
Was shot in left lateral part of chest while in Korea. He has no physical
complaints, however, he has only 50% use of his left leg. Serology -
reactive.

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY:

data available...

Quit school in the 10th grade to enter
Merchant Marines..no institutional

RELIGIOUS HISTORY:

States he is Protestant.

IMPRESSION:

A wanton antisocial who planned a crime
while confined in the institution that
resulted in wholesale murder. Subject is dangerous and capable of any
commission that will accomplish his desires.

PROGNOSIS:

The sentence imposed makes prognostica-
tion uncertain.

CWM/mh



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

KSP No. 177

25, 1960

Page.....

KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY
Lansing, Kansas

SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name

SMITH, Perry Richard

Register No.

14747

REVISED INMATE'S VERSION: (Verbatim) July 1960 Board

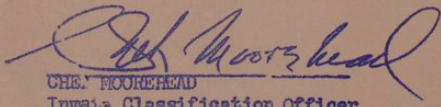
This subject was presented with a form for "Pre Clemency Inmate's Version" and subject refused to write or sign a statement but made an oral version that: "I was the victim or circumstances." This statement was taken by Mr. Chet Moorehead, Inmate Classification Officer and Officer H. C. Nantz who is assigned to the Isolation Unit.

PRE CLEMENCY SUMMARY: July 1960 Board

Subject was received at this institution in April, 1960, to be hung for the charge of Murder, 1st Degree (4 Counts Concurrent). This inmate is a two time loser. He has served one prior sentence in this institution.

Subject does not have a work record as he is presently on Death Row.

May 5, 1960
GMM:edc


CHET MOOREHEAD
Inmate Classification Officer



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

KSP No. 177 . . .

Page

KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY
Lansing, Kansas

SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

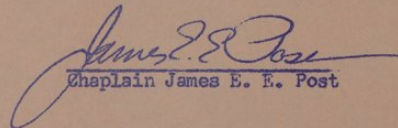
Committed Name SMITH, PERRY RICHARD

Register No. 11747

RELIGIOUS SUMMARY:

I have had many chances to counsel the subject before his present predicament and since he has been on death row. I find him to be a terribly confused person--the victim of an unfortunate childhood filled with adversity. I believe he can be reached--as he is bearing heavily the enormity of his crime.

May 23, 1960


Chaplain James E. E. Post

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

May 17, 1960

Mr. & Mrs. Verlin Kuhns
Protection,
Kansas

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Kuhns:

Thank you for your letter to Governor Docking re-
garding Richard Eugene Hickock and Perry Smith.

Be assured it will be carefully considered when
their cases are reviewed by this office.

Very truly yours,

Dale A. Spiegel
Pardon Attorney

cf

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

KSP No. 1

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION
Kansas State Penitentiary

From Office of: KSP - Record Clerk Date: May 11, 1960

To: SMITH, Perry Edward KSP # 14747 Subject: Stay of Execution

Be advised that an Order Staying Execution, dated April 11, 1960, and issued by Chief Justice Jay S. Parker, Kansas State Supreme Court, has been received in this office.

This is your official notice of this order.

cc: Director, Penal Institutions
Director, Probation and Parole
Warden
Pardon Attorney ✓
Director, FBI
Deputy Warden
File

William R. Barker
WILLIAM R. BARKER, Record Clerk



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

KSP NO. 50

KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY PRISONER'S INTERVIEW

Reg. No. 14747 Name SMITH, Perry Edward Date Received 4-5-60
 Alias _____ County Finney Sentence Hang years
 Crime: Murder 1st Degree
 Industrial school as No. _____
 Reformatory as No. _____ as _____ Date _____ received at _____
 State Industrial Reformatory _____ From _____ to a term of _____
 years for the crime of _____ Paroled _____ Discharged _____
 Penitentiary as No. 12649 as Same Name Received '56 at Kansas
 State Penitentiary Lansing, Kansas from Phillips Co. to a term of 5-10
 years for the crime of Burg 2nd
 Paroled '59 Discharged _____

 Penitentiary as No. _____ as _____ Received _____ at _____
 State Penitentiary _____ from _____ to a term of _____
 years for the crime of _____
 Paroled _____ Discharged _____
 Penitentiary as No. _____ as _____ Received _____ at _____
 State Penitentiary _____ from _____ to a term of _____
 years for the crime of _____
 Paroled _____ Discharged _____
 Nativity Elko, Nevada How long have you lived in this state? ever Weight 165
 Age 31 years. Color white Religion None Occupation Operating Engineer
 Grade of education 8th Drink no Smoke yes Chew no Use dope no
 Are you married? Sgl If so, number of children _____
 Wife _____ Address _____
 Mother None Address _____
 Father Tex J. Smith Address Unkown
 Children's names _____ Addresses _____

 Have you any brothers or sisters? 1-Sis Give names and addresses Dorothy Marchant, Unkown



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

In case of death notify George Amers RR#3 Ferndale, Washington.

Have you now or have you ever had any relatives in prison? If so, give particulars None

Is there any insanity in your family? If so, give particulars None

Your age when you left home 16 Why did you leave home Work

Were your home surroundings pleasant or unpleasant Unpleasant

At what age were you first arrested? 25

Give particulars of the crime for which you are now committed "I was found guilty by a jury Trail
Nothing to say at this time

Are you a naturalized citizen? Native Born

Port of entry to U.S. If foreign born _____ By what steamship and line _____

Were you in the Army #10730139 If so, place and date of enlistment Anchorage, Alaska, '48
Hon Disch '52 Ft. Lewis Wash.

Place where crime was committed Holcomb, Kans How long were you in jail before trial 3 months

And where Finney Co. Jail Did you plead guilty? No

Resident No (No Redance) Transient Yes

Give place you have lived during past six years, if outside of state _____

What do you consider the main cause of your downfall Victim of Circumstances

Were you employed when crime was committed No

I have truthfully answered the questions asked of me, and hereby direct the Warden of this prison to open and examine all letters and other mail that may come addressed to me, while I am an inmate of this institution.

Perry Edward Smith

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

File

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

THE STATE OF KANSAS

APPELLEE (PLAINTIFF)

VS.

NO. 42,068

RICHARD EUGENE HICKOCK

APPELLANTS (DEFENDANTS)

AND

PERRY EDWARD SMITH

ORDER STAYING EXECUTION

Now on this 11th day of April, 1960, comes the defendant, Perry Edward Smith, by his attorney, A. M. Fleming, and makes application for a stay of execution of the judgment and sentence of the District Court of Finney County, Kansas, pronounced against such defendant on the 4th day of April, 1960, during appeal to the Supreme Court, and it appearing that such defendant has filed and served notice of appeal and complied with the statute requisite to taking such appeal, IT IS ORDERED that the execution of such judgment and sentence be stayed during the pendency of his appeal and until otherwise ordered by the Supreme Court.

Jay L. Parker
CHIEF JUSTICE

A true copy ATTEST
W. H. [Signature]
Clerk Supreme Court

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

December 26, 1957

Mr. Perry E. Smith
Box 2
Lansing, Kansas

Dear Mr. Smith:

Your letter to Mr. Cain has been referred to this office
for reply.

You are advised that your case is being given continued
consideration.

Very truly yours,

Dale A. Spiegel
Pardon Attorney

DAS:tw

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

In resp
your letter
You are about your
case is being given
consideration.

Mr. Dan O. Cain
Director of Probation & Parole Board
Capital Building
Topeka, Kansas

check
New File

Referred to
Judge Spiegel

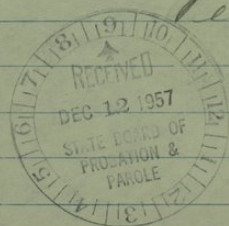
December 8, 1957
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Cain,

I am writing to you
in reference of my Sept Plenary hear-
ing, in which I was referred to the
Probation & Parole Board at their next
regular meeting. I wish to inquire
as to what action (if any) has been
rendered since I had been referred
in Sept? I would appreciate any in-
formation you can supply me with to
enlighten on the matter. Trusting to
hear from you soon.

Respectfully yours

Perry E. Smith #12649



Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

November 12, 1957

Mr. Tex J. Smith
c/o General Delivery
Reno, Nevada

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you for your letter of October 31, 1957, in
regard to Perry E. Smith.

His case is being given consideration, but no definite
date is in view.

Very truly yours,

Dale A. Spiegel
Pardon Attorney

DAS:w

I have been interested in the
 case of Perry E. Smith #12649 at Lansing Kansas
 Can you employ him on my
 mineral claims, he is a
 good man with machinery etc
 In my opinion Perry has no
 bad intentions on his mind
 his down fall was mostly the
 story he listen to from so called
 friends, he now realizes his mis-
 take and has admitted such
 he is my only living son any
 assistance you may render to
 wards an early release on parole
 will be highly appreciated. I
 also wrote to Mr Gardner asking
 his consideration on a early release.
 appreciate your cooperation.
 Yours Truly
 Rex J Smith
 Gen. Del. Reno Nevada

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

Sept

September 13, 1957

Mr. Perry E. Smith #12649
Box 2
Lansing, Kansas

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am in receipt of your father's letter along with a letter
you wrote to Mr. Barker.

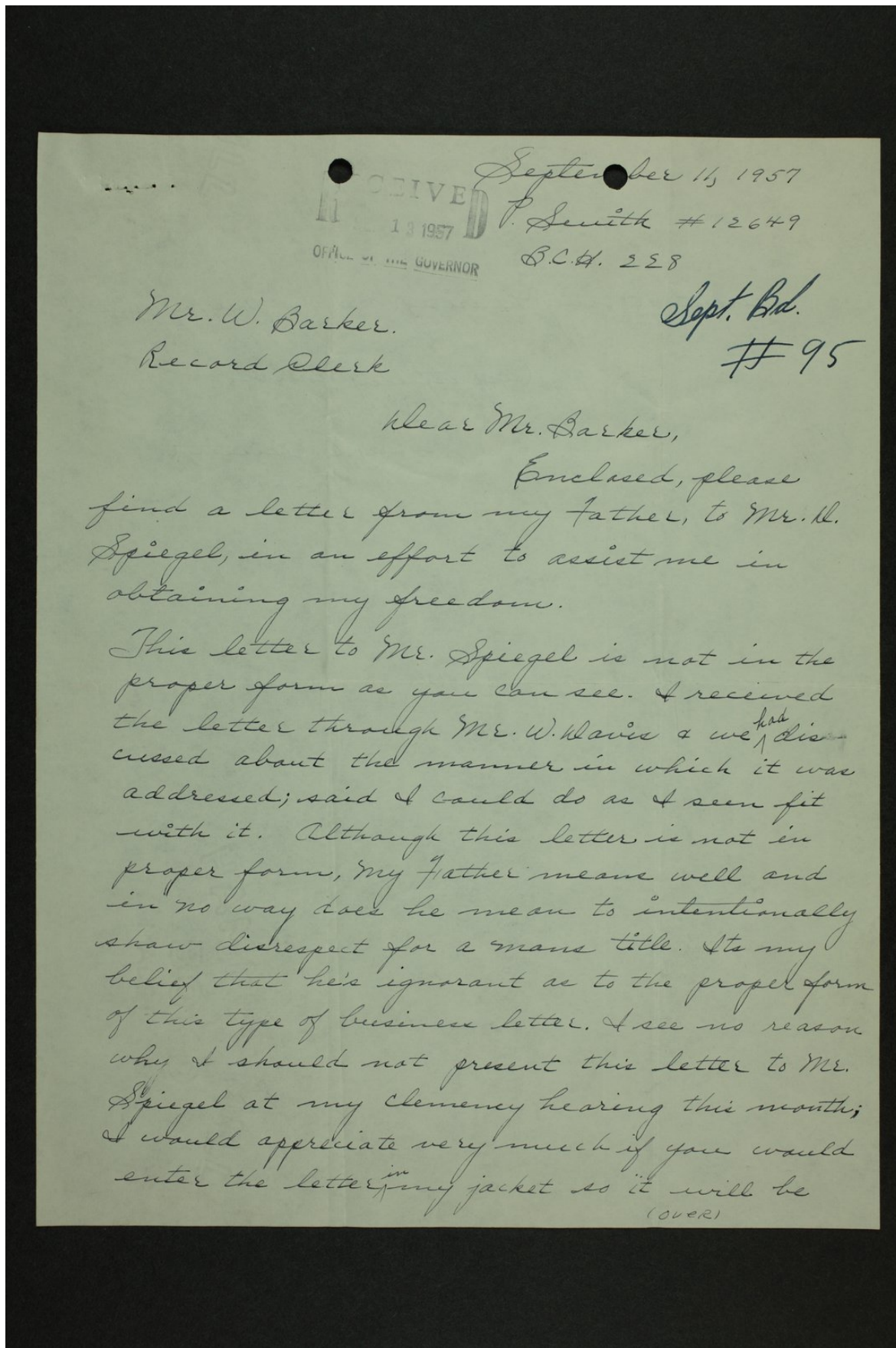
Every consideration will be given to your case.

Very truly yours,

Dale A. Spiegel
Pardon Attorney

DAS:w

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file





Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

present at my hearing. Thank you very much!

Respectfully yours,

Perry E. Smith.
#12649

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

Parole attorney
Dear Sir

Sept 4
1957

Reno
Nevada

I wish to state I will
sponsor my son Perry E.

Smith when he can be paroled
I can employ him to help me do
asessment work on my claimer also
I am a carpenter and painter and
except small contracts I can employ
Perry and pay him wages of \$100 ^{ea}
a month Room-Board. my home is
on wheels my home can comfort two
poeple. Im sure Perry will not get
into trouble again. he by now realises
what freedom means to him.

appreccate your attention
in helping him back
to Freedom.

Yours Truly
Tex J Smith
"Father"

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

Sept 11
1957

Dear Mr Spiegel

I wish to sponsor my
son Perry E. Smith
#12649 and employ
him untill he can
get work otherwise
I have my home on
wheels and can house
2 people anywhere
we should be mining
on my claims or
doing other work.
when ever perry is
eligible for parole
Perry has learned a lesson
and is sure to take the
right place in Society -
appreciate your
attention in his
behalf

Yours Truly
Tex Smith

Father 95 Gen Del Reno
nes

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

RECORD OFFICE:

No. 12649 - Perry Smith

EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY HEARING

June 27, 1957

Crime: Burglary 2nd Degree, Ct. #1.

Term: 5 to 10 years, Ct. #1. (Ct. #2 Grand Larc. 1-5 yrs. Ct. #3 Jail Break,
(1-2 yrs. all concurrent.

Place: Phillips County.

Sentenced: 3-13-56; received 3-14-56. He has served 1 year, 3 months and 14 days.
Advertised in the Phillips County Review, Phillipsburg, Kansas.

Time: Minimum 5--3-60 Maximum 4-16-64
New Min 12-25-59 New Max 12--8-63
He has earned 4 months and 8 days good time.

Note: He will see the June 1959 Parole Board.

Note: 2nd application for Executive Clemency. Last hearing 11-29-56 - Denied.

General History:

He is white; born in Nevada; transient; single; age 28; Oper. Engineer; 5th grade; no Religion; uses liquor and tobacco; attributes downfall to "Circumstantial evidence."

Arrests: SO Tacoma, Wash; Perry Edward Smith #5651; 6-13-52; reckless drive & resist arrest. No disp.
PD St. Joseph, Mo; Perry Edward Smith #14325; 7-5-55 SW GL; rel to Sheriff Phillipsburg, Kansas.
PD Worcester, Mass; Bob Henry Turner #11955; 11-23-55; vag VMVL; 12-2-55 \$10.
Fed Det Hdqtr NY 14 Ny; Perry Edward Smith; #H 6157; 2-24-56; unlaw flight (burg)

Offense: No specific information given.

County Officials statement at time of conviction:

Judge and County Attorney: "Perry Smith, was born in Elko, Nevada on October 27, 1928. His parents were Tex John Smith and Florence Smith. Mrs. Smith died in San Francisco, Calif. in 1948 or 1949. Mrs. Smith and Mr. Smith were estranged in 1938. Mr. Tex John Smith presently resides at Elko, Nev. Perry Smith lived with his father at Elko, Nev. until he was sixteen years of age, at which time he enlisted in the Merchant Marine. Perry Smith enlisted in the Merchant Marine approximately October or November, 1942 and ceased to work as a member of the Merchant Marine in January of 1944. During the remainder of 1944, Perry Smith performed various odd jobs at Seattle, Wash. in the first part of 1945, Perry Smith went to Alaska and remained there until November, 1948. In November, 1948, Perry Smith enlisted in the U.S. Army at Anchorage, Alaska, and he remained in the U.S. Army until June, 1952. About a month after he was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army, he was involved in a motorcycle accident, and as a result thereof, he spent approximately one year in Cushman hospital, Tacoma Wash. After being released from said hospital, Perry Smith remained on crutches for about nine months, and thereafter he returned to Trappers Den Lodge on Glen Highway, Alaska. Thereafter, he while in Anchorage, Alaska, sustained another broken leg as a result of another motorcycle accident. He was hospitalized at the U.S. Air Force Hospital, Anchorage, for approximately four months, and thereafter remained on crutches for about six months. Thereafter, Perry Smith returned to Trappers Den Lodge until he was again able to walk. In November, 1954, He went to Bellingham, Wash. where he remained until April, 1955, working for a trucker. Thereafter he returned to Elko, Nev.

In July, 1955, Perry Smith and William Smith burglarized the Chandler Sales Barn, Phillipsburg, Kansas, and were apprehended several days later at St. Joseph, Mo. A few days later, he and William Smith escaped from the County Jail, Phillips County, Kansas where they were being held for 2nd degree burglary and grand larceny.

In March, 1956, Perry Smith was apprehended in New York City, New York, and waived extradition to Kansas. Perry Smith was returned to Phillips County, Kansas by Leslie D. Lanman, Sheriff of Phillips County, Kansas.

We have found Perry Smith to be very cooperative and desirous of paying his debt to society for the offenses committed in Phillips County. We do not know of any prior prison record had by Perry Smith."

Prisoner's Statement: "Plead guilty and have nothing more to say."

CONTINUED

172

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

RECORD OFFICE:

June 27, 1957

No. 12649 - Perry Smith (Continued)

County Officials wrote under date of 4-26-57:

Judge: "I know of no reason why this man should receive Executive Clemency. My feeling is that Executive Clemency should only be granted in exceptional cases. However, my impression of this young man was fairly good. He seemed to cooperate after he was arrested the second time and brought up before me for sentencing, and do not feel that I would oppose a parole, if same came up in the usual course."

County Attorney: "No objections. Mr. Smith was very cooperative when he was in Phillips County subsequent to his apprehension."

Institutional Record: 3-14-56 CCH Quarantine. 3-27-56 BCH Tag Factory.

Conduct Record: 3-7-57, Contraband in cell. Isol. and 30 days restriction. Suspended for 90 days. He has One (1) report.

Doctor's Report of 6-1-57: Medical history is essentially negative. Serology: Negative.

Court Officials: Hon. Robert W. Hemphill, Judge. County Attorney: Stephen S. Sage

Perry Edward Smith inmate case file

