

Des Moines Sunday Register

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SECTION A

THE WEATHER — Scattered thunderstorms today clearing tonight with highs in upper 60s to low 90s. Lows tonight in mid-60s. Mostly sunny Monday with highs in mid-80s to 90. Sunrise 5:41; sunset 8:45. Details 10D.

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Psychic Greta says she 'sees' murders but can't explain why



'If a person has committed a crime and are sad in their heart and they no longer have the desire to be free, then their thoughts are transmitted — not to me, but to the person who has suffered from their deed'... and thence to Greta. Here, Greta concentrates on the Lisa Peak case.

PHOTO BY ROBERT J. MODERSOHN

By CHUCK OFFENBURGER

Register Staff Writer

DELAVAN, ILL. — Greta Alexander is 45 years old, weighs 270 pounds and uses the handle "Big Mama" on her citizen's band radio. That may be the last bit of this story you find easy to understand.

Here's why: Greta Alexander is psychic. She knows things, feels things, says things that are inexplicable.

Many lawmen, professionals and just ordinary folks believe in what she does. So does virtually anybody who's talked to her, asked her hard questions, checked her stories.

But nobody, including Greta, claims to understand how she does it. It just doesn't make good sense.

But, then, neither did the Iowa murders that brought us here. Julia Benning, Lisa Peak, Arlene Gehrke, Kathleen Holliday. Those killings prompted visits or phone calls here from Iowa lawmen, because Greta Alexander is the heretofore unidentified psychic who helped Iowa officers on those cases, who has worked equally baffling cases for authorities in other states, who interrupted our grim discussion to look a Chicago redhead in the eye and tell her that yes, the marriage is bound to end.

"It's been bad the past two years," said the psychic to the redhead, who nodded, "and you've had a health problem in that time, too."

"Health problem?" said the startled redhead. "I had a little bit of Montezuma's revenge when I came home from Mexico, but..."

"That," interrupted one of the psychic's friends, "is a health problem!"

Her Fee: No Charge

It wasn't murder. It wasn't rural mail carrier Kathleen Holliday being found dead in the Saylorville Reservoir after being missing two months; it wasn't church organist Arlene Gehrke being shot to death in a rural church near Iowa Falls; it wasn't Wartburg College co-ed Lisa Peak or cocktail waitress Julia Benning being mysteriously slain, perhaps by the same man, near Waverly.

But to the Chicago redhead, it was

NIXON INSISTS ON HIS VIEW OF AUTHORITY

Presidents must be able to 'adapt the law,' he says

By LYLE DENNISTON

© 1977 Washington Star

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Richard M. Nixon, defining anew his view of power, insists that presidents must be able to "adapt the law" so that it fits their idea of the nation's needs in times of stress.

When he sees an "emergency," a president may not be bound by "the strict letter of the law," Nixon says in a lengthy defense of his much-criticized view of White House authority.

His new statement, submitted to the Washington Star Saturday, goes considerably beyond the remarks he made in the third television interview with David Frost last month.

Basically, he contends that presidents have about the same authority as judges to interpret the laws.

"Every day," he writes, "courts are required to interpret the written law in light of experience. Presidents have a comparable responsibility."

His statement speaks of laws which seem, to a president, to be out of date because they were "written in other times and for other circumstances."

But nowhere does he suggest that the remedy for out-dated law is amendment or new legislation, by Congress. Rather, his thesis is that it is within a president's discretion to find flexibility in the law that will permit him to protect the nation.

Conceding that a president "is not an autocrat," "does not rule by fiat" and does not have "unlimited power," Nixon then adds:

"But neither can he be powerless to go beyond the strict letter of existing law — in a limited way, and at times of special need."

His two "guideposts" at such times, the former president says, may be conflicting: "the letter of the law and the light of experience."

He also comments: "This is quintessentially an area in which he must follow the dictates of common sense, recognizing that faithful execution of the laws is not always literal execution of the laws."

"... Faithful execution sometimes requires finding ways to adapt the laws to the circumstances at hand."

Nixon offered the statement because, he said, there had been "widespread misinterpretations" of his comments on TV May 19.

It was then that Nixon, asked by Frost why he had authorized wiretapping, burglaries and other illegal actions against dissenters to the Vietnam war, said that a president could make an illegal action legal merely by ordering it to be done.

When he made that remark, Nixon says in the new statement, "I was speaking within a very limited context of emergency actions, and I

NIXON

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GRAIN REFORM SETBACK FEARED

By JAMES RISSE

The Register's Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The House Appropriations Committee has approved a bill that would effectively block many of the reforms in grain inspection procedures ordered by Congress last year.

The bill is considered likely to be approved by the full House.

The reforms were designed to tighten government control over the grading and weighing of grain, in response to a scandal in which more than 70 individuals and companies in the grain business were convicted of crimes.

However, as the result of spending limitations that the Appropriations Committee has voted to impose on the Agriculture Department's new Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS), federal supervision of grain and weighing at all inland grain elevators would have to be cut off.

Agriculture Department officials, in documents obtained by The Register, said they view the House panel's action with "extreme alarm," warning that it would "reinstate the acute shortage of supervision which made possible the malfeasance" in grain inspection.

Additional budget cuts ordered by the committee for the FGIS headquarters here would, according to department officials, delay adoption of inspection and weighing rules, hamper enforcement of the tougher inspection laws, and "adversely

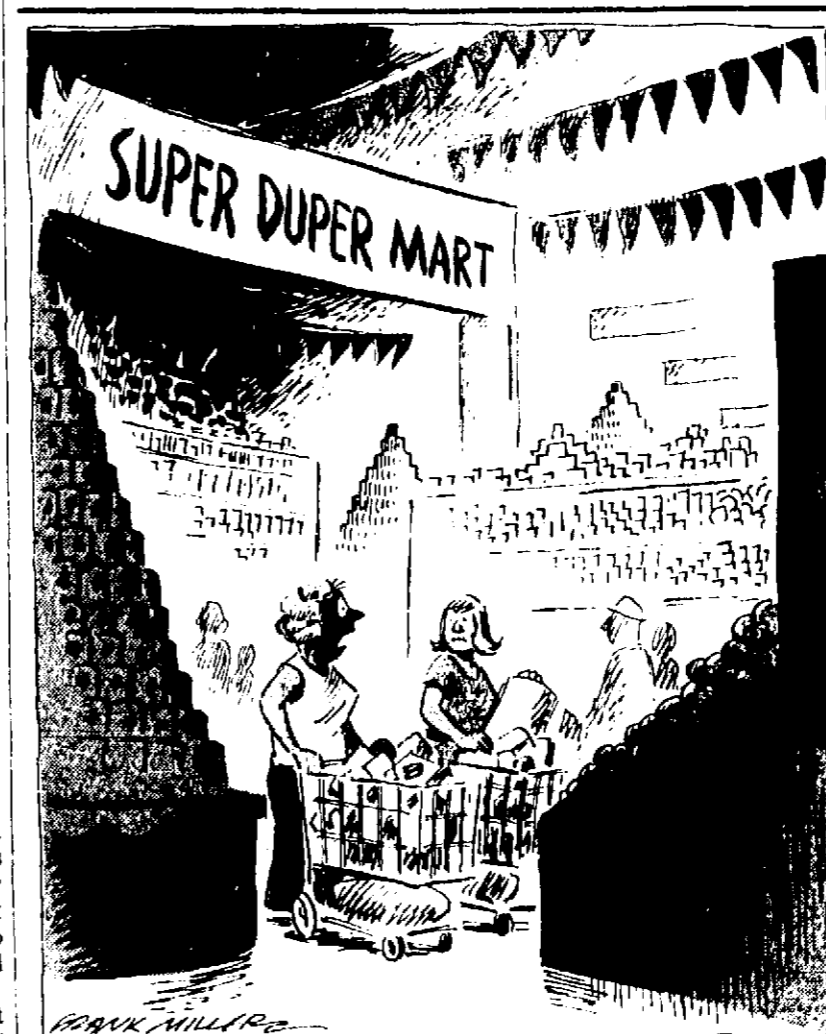
PSYCHIC

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INSPECTION

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JUST WHAT IS A FARM? SOME CITY BOYS KNOW



"Everything is junk food, dangerous food, imitation food, non food, or too expensive food."

Drive-in church plan: Where'd the money go?

By WILLIAM SIMBRO

Register Religion Writer

It makes Hannah Harberts, an 85-year-old Grundy Center widow, "very sad" to say so, but if she had any money to invest "I sure wouldn't put it in a church."

She said she invested \$7,400 — more than half her life's savings — in the ill-fated Valley Community Drive-In Church of San Dimas, Calif. And now it's gone.

The Valley Community Drive-In Church, conceived by Reformed Church minister David Ray, blossomed through the late 1960s. It grew from a notion of a worship-from-your-car church into a project to build a sprawling housing-worship-recreation complex.

Faithful from around the country — drawn by the desire to contribute to the tidy 8.5 per cent return on their money that was promised in the advertisements they'd seen in church publications — sent their dollars in.

In 1973, it all fell to pieces. The story of the lavish plans, high-powered salesmanship, elaborate fund-raising and the eventual disaster has smoldered in the 354,000-member denomination (the oldest Protestant denomination in the United States) ever since.

Then, last fall, disgruntled note-holders in Michigan formed the "San Dimas Noteholders Association" and

began demanding that denominational officials do something to help people who were hurt and to maintain the good name of the denomination. The association threatened a lawsuit.

Forty-nine Iowans recently met at the Meredith Drive Reformed Church in Des Moines to swap stories of their losses, discuss tactics for recovery and to debate the distasteful question of whether Christians should take a church scandal to court.

"Moral Obligation" Seen

The plight of Hannah Harberts and the others, centered on demands that the Reformed Church assume a "moral obligation" for the debacle, will form what is expected to be the most emotional issue when the denomination holds its General Synod meeting at Sioux Center June 13 to 17.

The Church Herald, the official magazine of the denomination, finally carried its first article in the San Dimas investments in the May 27 issue. A series of 44 advertisements in the magazine from 1966 to 1973 had lured 1,000 or more investors to put their money in the plans for the church and related enterprises.

The Sunday Register has obtained a list of 108 Iowans — members of the newly formed association say there

REFORMED

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LOW RURAL TAX ON URBAN SITES OF DEVELOPERS

By ARNOLD GARSON

Register Staff Writer

Land developers and speculators in urban areas across Iowa are saving millions of dollars a year in property taxes through a series of tax breaks intended to benefit working farmers.

In Polk County alone, there are 10,750 acres of "agricultural" land owned by 125 companies that clearly are not in business for the purpose of farming. In most cases, the land is within or near incorporated cities and is viewed as having a prime development potential for commercial, residential or industrial use. Some of the land is not even being farmed.

But the working-farmer tax breaks reduce the property taxes on such land by more than 80 per cent, on the average, according to a study by The Sunday Register.

The result is that the tax on development land worth hundreds of thousands of dollars is often less than the tax on a modest home.

To be sure, the 1977 Legislature wrote a law aimed at "recapturing" those tax breaks on a retroactive basis when land is officially converted to non-agricultural use. But the impact of that recapture law appears to be almost negligible; it will cost the speculators and developers practically nothing, assuming it can be implemented at all.

The tax breaks afforded to agricultural land in Iowa begin with a preferential valuation system, which sets the tax value of such land far, far below the true market value. Then, there is a reduced tax levy, which virtually eliminates a city's power to tax agricultural land within its corporate limits. And on top of it all, there is the agricultural land tax credit, which cuts the resulting tax bill still further, perhaps by several hundred dollars.

The argument in behalf of such tax breaks traditionally has been that they are needed to aid the average farmer. But in fact, the tax breaks also mean that speculators and developers may pay next to nothing in property taxes on land that is worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Developers, however, note that they, too, need such tax breaks to encourage the maximum development of land, and to assure that substantial property taxes someday will be due.

But Steven Gold, Drake University economist and property tax expert, disagrees.

"The system is subsidizing the very, very well-to-do," Gold said.

"It's staggering, really," said Larry Arnel, real estate supervisor in the city assessor's office in Des Moines.

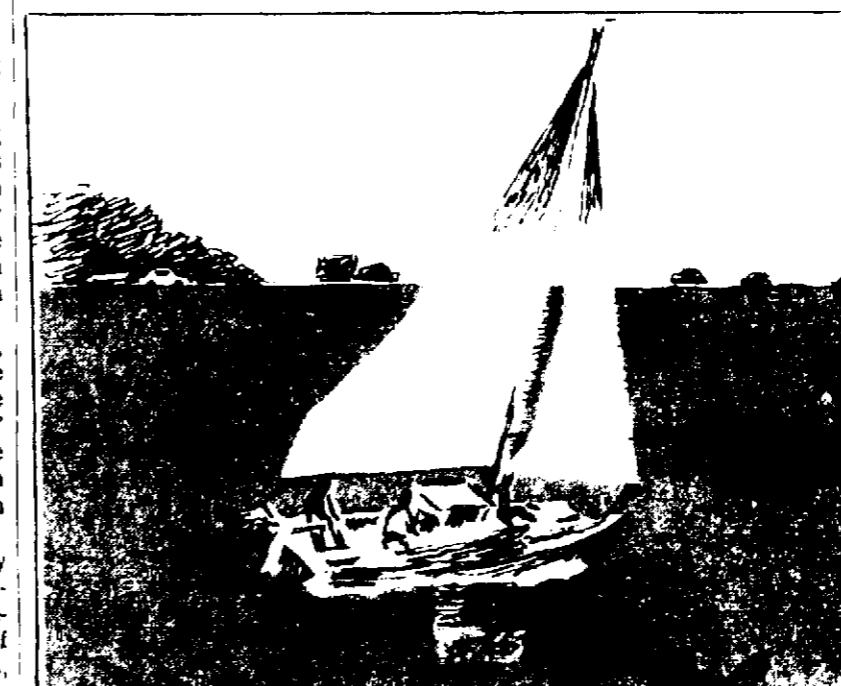
As an example of just how staggering the situation can be, take a look at a 20-acre parcel of "agricultural" land in West Des Moines, at the southwest corner of Thirty-fifth Street and University Avenue — just across the street from Valley West Mall.

A company called Allied Develop-

LAND

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THE INDEX... and some political(?) analysis by Bob Nullihan



See the map of Lake Rathbun recreation areas in today's Iowa Living section.

The Iowa Poll in today's Iowans at Home section queries Iowans on their view of life after death and of heaven and hell. Columnist Robert Nullihan noted that the answers had been broken down by political party. He asked if he, rather than James Flansburg, could write the political analysis. This is the last political analysis he will be allowed to write.

By ROBERT NULLIHAN

Register Staff Writer

God would defeat Gov. Robert Ray in a race for governor of Iowa, if the election were to be held this week.

It would be a landslide. God would get at least 67 per cent of the total vote. Ray, despite his great popularity, would even lose 74 per cent of the Republican vote.

This outcome becomes apparent with interpretation of a recent Iowa Poll which reveals that 70 per cent of Iowans believe in some form of life after death.

Of this group, 96 per cent believe in

HULLIHAN

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In two predictions of fire, Greta bats .500 . . .

PSYCHIC

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"Everyone's a little psychic, but my abilities are more developed than most people's."

There are such people among us, most everyone agrees. But is Greta Alexander really one of . . . those?

Actress Believes

Actress Debbie Reynolds, who spoke through her personal secretary from San Francisco, Calif.: "I and others believe Greta Alexander does have God-given psychic senses, and she has been a great help to a number of us.

"I had a severe pain in my shoulder (in 1974) which was diagnosed by doctors as being caused by a pinched nerve. I was told I'd have to live with it as long as I danced. I met with Greta, we prayed together and she touched nerves in my foot. I haven't had pain since."

Jan. 9, 1974, Methodist Medical Center of Illinois, a 600-bed hospital located in Peoria. Hospital records indicate Greta Alexander received minor surgery that day and was placed in bed six in the recovery room. A man Greta had never seen before was brought in and placed in bed three.

Ruth Van Winkle, the recovery room's head nurse: "Mrs. Alexander had been out of surgery for about an hour and was quite awake when the man was brought in.

"She looked up at me and said, 'You better watch that man over there because he's got something wrong with the left side of his heart.'

"She was discharged from the recovery room a few minutes later, and couldn't have gotten much farther away than the elevator when the man did have a cardiac arrest. We were right there and brought him back, and he did very well.

"A little later, one of my nurses went to Mrs. Alexander's room to visit her. Mrs. Alexander asked about the man, and the nurse told her he was doing well. Mrs. Alexander told the nurse we better watch him closely, that he's not out of the woods yet.

"He died about a week later."

Described Scene

Feb. 24, 1977, officer Gilbert Bacca of the New Mexico State Police finds the body of 18-year-old Airman Gregory Langley, shot in the chest and face, along an interstate highway.

"A couple of weeks later, I hadn't come up with anything to go on," says Bacca. "No tire prints, no footprints, no fingerprints, no witnesses, no nothing."

Relatives of the victim put officer Bacca in touch with Greta.

"I interviewed her by telephone," he says. "She told me exactly where the body was found — described the interstate exit and the area — and told me the Langley boy had picked up a hitchhiker. She described a suspect and said he'd taken the boy's car."

"She gave us a direction where the suspect might be, and that's where we found the car and later the suspect. It was really incredible how accurate she was."

Bacca says Jerry Lee Glasenapp, 39, a Nebraska man, is now being held on a charge of murdering young Langley.

Visualized Fire

Christmas season, 1976, downtown Chicago. Greta, shopping with friends, makes a purchase at the A. Tenner Fabric Shop and leaves. "When we sat down to eat later, I had this horrible vision of that store burning," she says. "I called them and asked them to please check around the vent in the back of the store."

"That's not exactly right, says Sam Tenner, the shop owner.

"She came back in the store and said if we turned the exhaust fan on, we would definitely have a fire. I went back, turned it on and watched it very closely. Nothing happened."

On inspection of the fan, though, Tenner says a short was found, "but we've probably used it 50 times since with no problem."

He said he intends to have an electrician come and go over it just the same.

January, 1976. Greta is speaking on the telephone to a friend, Richard Blodgett, who is at the ski lodge he owns in Winter Park, Colo. Greta has never been there.

"She predicted that we would have a fire in the lodge, an electrical fire in the connection box in a basement hallway," Blodgett, who is now working as interim city manager of Billings, Mont., says.

"An electrician had just worked on that. I asked him about it, and he said he hadn't completed the job, that he hadn't installed a circuit breaker there where one was supposed to go. He fixed it."

"A month later we had a light failure for about an hour, but the

Ali Bhutto accused of torturing foes

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — An opposition leader just released from prison by the government of Pakistan accused Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Saturday of torturing opposition demonstrators detained during Pakistan's bloody political crisis. Retired Air Marshal Asghar Khan also said many of the protesters were still being held despite the government's agreement to free them.



Gordon Snow, a friend of Greta, eases her aches and pains by applying pressure to points on Greta's feet.

lights came back on. We checked the wiring again, and it was all right. Then in March, we had a small fire, exactly where she said it would occur."

About 8 p.m. on a night in 1974, Greta is on the phone with A. H. Mosrie, a Washington, D.C., police officer who has worked with her on several cases.

"She said one of my men was going to be involved in a shooting," Mosrie, 35, a veteran of 14 years in police work and now a captain, says.

"She said my man would shoot another man in the stomach, but that the wounded man would get away. She said he would go to a hospital the next day, and that we would arrest him there."

About 2:30 that next morning, one of my undercover agents was making a narcotics buy and he ended up shooting the guy in the stomach. The guy got away, but we arrested him later in the day at a hospital. It was exactly like she said."

Mosrie says in the four or five years he's worked with Greta, "she's

been right about what she tells me between 85 and 90 per cent of the time."

Love Affairs

Greta says that estimate of her accuracy is "about right for all the work I do." But daughter Julie, 19, says "she doesn't predict as well for the family as she does for total strangers. I don't know if it's because she's afraid of it or she just can't do it."

Most of what Greta does, she says, involves love affairs. She makes it clear that she doesn't much care for them, but says that whatever problems people have, she'll try to help.

"I don't think God intends that I work only for the Debbie Reynoldses and not for the average people," she says.

The two phones in the 105-year-old Alexander home here begin ringing as early as 7 a.m. each day, and someone's on them almost ceaselessly until after 11 p.m., maybe later.

A paid secretary, Greta's daughters and several friends help. They

schedule personal appointments, take long and detailed messages of problems. Greta will return some of the calls, building a phone bill that in a recent month was \$254.

A gravel parking lot outside is nearly always full of cars that bear license plates from all over the nation.

Stymied Lawmen

Greta Alexander is hardly a well-kept secret.

And so it was that Iowa lawmen heard of her and came seeking help with the murders of Arlene Gehrke, Julia Benning, Lisa Peak, and Kathleen Holliday.

The body of Gehrke, 58, was found Sept. 5, 1976, in a rural church near Iowa Falls where she was cleaning and where she was the organist.

"We reached a point where we were at a dead end," says former Hardin County Sheriff Bob Callaway. Typically, it is when they are stymied that lawmen consult Greta.

"An investigator friend of mine who had used Greta on a case suggested I call her," Callaway says. "She didn't break the case for us, but she provided us several new roads to explore."

"Probably most important, she told us we should be looking at a multiple homicide long before we knew that's what we had."

In November, a man from Washington state who had been arrested in California for murder also was charged with the Gehrke slaying. Authorities say Allen Anderson is under investigation in connection with eight deaths that occurred in six states over a four-month period. He currently is being tried in Florida.

Provided Names

Callaway says Greta "described the scene of the Gehrke murder better than I could have. She gave us names of farmers who lived in the area who might know something about the case."

"I asked her where we could find the gun, and she gave me specific directions to a barn about a quarter-mile from the church. We didn't find the gun, but we did find spent slugs in the wall like someone had been taking target practice."

Callaway says that in his second phone conversation with Greta, "She said we had a runaway from our county I said we didn't, but one of the deputies was on the phone with me and said that we did have a runaway and that I hadn't been told about it."

"Greta said this young girl was in trouble. Later, we found out that about one hour after Greta told us that, this runaway was involved in a high-speed chase in Kentucky in which she and two boys were hurt."

Bremor County Sheriff William Westendorf, of Waverly, said he decided to consult Greta about the still-unsolved Benning and Peak slayings "after talking to Callaway about how he used her on the Gehrke case. He was so sold on her."

Benning, 18, disappeared on Nov. 28, 1975, after last being seen walking to work at a Waverly cocktail lounge. Her body was found in March, 1976, in a ditch near Shell Rock.

Peak, a 20-year-old sophomore at



Three of the four Iowa victims for whom Greta helped search were, clockwise: Kathleen Holliday, Lisa Peak, and Julia Benning. Arlene Gehrke, who was shot to death near Iowa Falls, is not shown.

Wartburg College in Waverly, was last seen on Sept. 6, 1976. Her body was found the next morning in a ditch north of Waverly.

Because of many similarities in the deaths of the young women, investigators have suggested the same person may have killed them. They have not ruled out, however, the possibility of the killings being unrelated.

"Profile" of Killer

The lawmen took one long-shot even before consulting the psychic. They took the case files to the FBI's Behavioral Sciences Unit in Virginia where a computer produced a "psychological profile" of the kind of person capable of the crimes.

Officials made only one part of that profile public — that the person could be a "holiday killer," presumably since Benning disappeared the day after Thanksgiving and Peak on Labor Day.

Meanwhile, private investigator Jim Ahrens of Grinnell, talked with Greta Alexander about the Benning and Peak cases, "one time after I had finished consulting her about an arson case I was working on."

"I was interested in the murder cases because of what I'd read about them and because I have relatives in Waverly," he says.

Ahrens, who says he was already familiar with the FBI profile, said he was "shocked" when Greta "ticked off several of the same things I've heard are on that profile, when I knew she could have no knowledge of it."

But when Sheriff Westendorf and agents of the state Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) drove here to talk to Greta about the cases, she bombed.

A Failure for Greta

"The information we received from her has not materialized in any evidence being obtained by us," Westendorf says. "Most of what she told us could have been obtained from newspapers, although she did come up with things that hadn't been in the



papers. She said some of it might help us, but it hasn't so far."

Greta says one of the officers who visited her "seemed hostile toward me, and I think that made me unable to help them more."

But if Greta bombed on the Benning and Peak cases, she delivered "in an almost unbelievable way" in the case of Kathleen Holliday, according to Detective John Hampel of the Polk County sheriff's office.

It is probably not coincidental to her high accuracy that Greta did at least some of her work in person. The sheriff's office paid for her to fly here in April.

Holliday, 38, of Grimes, had last been seen Mar. 12 on her rural mail route. Authorities found her pickup truck with her purse still in it. They found several hundred dollars in cash and all her clothing at her home. They could not find about \$25,000 in negotiable bonds she'd purchased with money from a recent divorce settlement.

When the investigation slowed, detective Hampel got Greta's name from his friend, Ahrens, and called her on Mar. 24.

Naming Names

"I gave her the name, date of birth and the fact that there was a divorce," Hampel says. "I gave her a brief outline of what we knew, and it

PSYCHIC

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REGISTER PHOTO BY ROBERT J. MODERSOHN

... but she impresses Polk County officers

PSYCHIC

Continued from Page Four

wasn't 30 to 40 seconds later she hit on a key name associated with Kathy Holliday. Right away she said Kathy was dead."

Hampel said that after Greta correctly named, or gave parts of names, of 10 of 11 people investigators felt were associated with the case, he sought permission of Sheriff Bob Rice to have the woman flown to Iowa.

"When they first sprang it on me, I looked at them and laughed," says Rice. "They asked if I'd listen to a tape of their phone conversations, and I did. I heard some of what she'd come up with and told them to go ahead."

Hampel said investigators pieced together "100 points of information" Greta had provided over the phone and during her visit here about where Holliday's body might be found. He said 68 of those points described locations or objects in the Saylorville Reservoir area.

"These were specific things," he says. "For example, she told us one name was very important. We did some checking and found that there had been a bridge called by that name in the area, and there was also a family by that name living out there."

She also said she kept seeing a windmill. That didn't seem to fit, but then when we were driving her in the area, she saw a sign for Windmill Estates and she said that was it — that she wasn't seeing a real windmill, but just the word. The location was right down the road from where we think Kathy Holliday was abducted."

Seemed Scared

Hampel said during the tour of the area, he parked the patrol car "as close to the exact location where we thought the abduction occurred as I could."

"Greta was just sitting there and all of a sudden, she just jumped. She seemed really scared, and she said she sensed someone tapping on the passenger side window."

Ultimately, says Hampel, "Greta told us we'd have to get our feet wet and do some probing to find the body. She told us Kathy would be found by three persons, one of them wearing black boots."

The officers concentrated their search in the area of the reservoir that most closely matched the cumulative description Greta had given.

Three boaters (none of them wearing black boots, incidentally) found Holliday's body in that area on May 10.

Greta has been working on murder cases for years and has no idea how many of them lawmen have consulted her on.

"I intentionally block them out after I'm through," she says. "You have to do that. They're very disturbing, and I have to go on with my own life, too, you know."

Fears Retaliation

She is uncomfortable discussing such work. She frankly fears retaliation and previously has asked officers to protect her anonymity.

"It's very important that people understand that what I do is reach the dead person, particularly the dead person that has not been found and desires to be," she says.

"I allow myself to become the channel between the person who no longer lives in the physical body and the family or police."

She customarily asks officers to provide basic information about the victim — name, age, description. She likes to have an article of the victim's

clothing, or a posed photograph.

What then happens is unfamiliar to many lawmen who've used her abilities, since in many cases the work is done over the telephone.

Greta drops into a trance-like state. Her fingers roll against each other, her eyes flutter. Her voice changes.

"I take on the characteristics of the victim," she says. "Their emotions become my emotions. Sometimes, I feel their wounds, their pains."

What it frequently leads to, she acknowledges, is almost a replay of death.

Guilt Transferred

But the murderer? Can Greta finger the murderer?

"Sometimes some of the characteristics," she says. "Usually not."

"If a person has committed a crime, and if they are sad in their heart and feel they no longer have the desire to be free, then their thoughts are transmitted — not to me, but to the person who has suffered from their deed," and thence to Greta.

Greta's fee is the same for helping lawmen and others, as it is for lectures and other personal appearances, including a twice-monthly radio phone-in show in Springfield, Ill. Whatever is offered, if anything. She says she will not set any prices because she doesn't want to be accused of being a huckster.

"I live by my reputation," she says. "I am very humbled by the abilities I have, and it will never turn into a situation where I put a neon sign in my yard and all that."

She refuses to make her finances public. She says the money that comes in from her psychic work "is all written down and I try to stay square" with the Internal Revenue Service.

"God Has Been Good"

People in Delavan say Greta's late husband (Ed died of cancer last September) had a large, financially successful insurance business and that Greta "is probably set for life," in the words of one, because of it.

"God has been good to me," Greta says. "He put a good roof over my head and he puts good food in my belly."

She is deeply religious, a member of the Methodist Church here; it's not unusual for her also to attend services at the Unity and Catholic churches.

She says her abilities are based in Christianity. "God's mystical, and the Bible is full of prophecy," she says.

Greta stresses the importance of free will. "If people are aware something could happen, they can take action to change their behavior so it isn't as likely," she says.

She does not pretend to comprehend fully all she comes up with. "I wish I had a better education," she says. She finished high school, but went no further.

The most important thing in her life, Greta says, aside from her family, is her involvement with what she calls the Star of Hope Kidney Research Dialysis Center. The cancer that killed her husband centered in his kidneys.

Vision of Building

She says that five years ago, she had a vision of a star-shaped building that would incorporate the principles of solar energy and the mysterious powers attributed to pyramid shapes, none of which she says she understood.

She says she was led "by God" to East Peoria, Ill., architect George Zima, who, after drawing sketches and checking the feasibility of the design, discovered that "Architectur-

ally speaking, for this kind of facility, what she's come up with is a very good layout."

What has resulted is a tentative alliance on the project between Greta and St. Francis Hospital-Medical Center in Peoria, which already is a regional center for kidney treatment, says Edward McGrath, an associate administrator at the hospital.

Greta is attempting to raise money for the center, which preliminary estimates say will cost \$2.5 million to \$3 million, McGrath says.

"Ground will be broken in 17 months. I know it will I see it that way," Greta declares, although her efforts so far have been less than spectacularly successful.

Greta's hope for the kidney center is the reason she agreed to her first in-depth interview on her psychic abilities, particularly in the area of murder.

This article, she said, "will result in the basement of the Star of Hope being built."

Greta's psychic efforts and the pace and complexity of her life are physically, mentally and emotionally draining.

"Sometimes I'd just like to be Marna," she says. "I miss Eddie so. He'd hold my hand and write things down when I had visions and then comfort me. I'll never find someone like him again."

"Let's face it, I'm a big gal and I never will be thin. How many men fall in love with a fat gal? And then throw in what I do...."

"It's lonely."

Bob Rice, Polk County Sheriff, "Anyway I can solve a crime. I'd do it. Some law enforcement agencies feel it's degrading or embarrassing to go to these extremes (consulting a psychic) on a case. I don't know if I believe or don't believe in what they can do, but I'm certainly willing to accept their help."



Greta on the phone to the White House (above)...and crying after the call (below).



White House treats psychic's warning to Carter as nut call

DELAVAN, Ill. — Greta Alexander says she often has visions of incidents on the international level.

She says when the nuclear-powered U.S. submarine Scorpion was lost at sea in May, 1968, she accurately predicted where the Navy would find the ship and its 99 men on the ocean floor months later.

She says she has no idea whether the Navy used the letters she wrote to officials about the sub.

And recently, she says she had a vision that a treaty Vice-President Walter Mondale will sign "this summer or fall" could mean trouble for the U.S. "I hear explosions and

crying five years from now because of the treaty," she says.

So, during an interview, she took time to call the White House.

"This is Greta Alexander calling from Delavan, Ill. The other night I was in Rochester, Minn., and I had this feeling about our country. I love our country very, very much. I wanted to pass on this information."

She did and hung up. "You know how far that information went?" she said. "Right to the end of my telephone."

They'd dismissed her as a nut, she cried.

HIGH UGANDA OFFICIAL DEFECTS

LONDON, ENGLAND (AP) — Henry Kyemba, Uganda's minister of health, has defected and applied to stay in Britain, a Home Office spokesman said Saturday night. The disclosure followed publication by the London Sunday Times of what it said was Kyemba's full account of killings in his African nation under President Idi (Big Daddy) Amin.

The newspaper article included what it described as Kyemba's account of "The Killing of Dora Bloch," the British-Israeli grandmother who disappeared after the Israeli commando raid on Entebbe last July, and the deaths of Archbishop Johan Luwum and two arrested cabinet ministers Feb. 16. Amin claimed the Anglican clergyman and the two officials died in an automobile crash.

"We know he (Kyemba) is here and we will be interested in anything he says that throws light on events in Uganda," a Foreign Office spokesman said.

"This story may add another nail in the coffin of Amin coming here, as regards public opinion," the spokesman added. This was a reference to widespread opposition in Britain to Amin's coming to London for the Commonwealth conference next week and the observance of Queen Elizabeth II's jubilee.

The Times said Kyemba had headed the Ugandan delegation to the World Health Organization conference in Geneva.

"I knew it was only a question of time before I was due to be killed," the newspaper quoted Kyemba, 37, as saying.

"I was determined to escape before it was too late, and I wanted to ensure that what I knew about what is happening in Uganda would not die with me."

The World Health Organization had its annual meeting in Geneva last month and Kyemba was elected a vice-president.



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Use psychic? FBI never, BCI maybe

Police officers vary in their opinions of whether the work of psychics has any merit.

Edward J. Krupinsky, agent in charge of the Omaha, Neb., office of the FBI. "In the 25 years I've been in the bureau, I've never known the FBI to use a psychic, and I doubt we would in the future."

"In the past, when we have been on an important case and when we've been absolutely stumped, we have taken all our information and given it to psychologists or psychiatrists who

analyze our material and suggest what kind of person we may be looking for. But even then, we only go to the foremost authorities in the U.S."

Craig Beek, director of the Iowa Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI). "When it comes to solving murders, we'll take help from anybody. We're not so proud that we demand that every method be scientifically sound."

"I wouldn't spend \$10,000 of the taxpayers money to get a psychic's

opinion, of course, but if it's free, hell yes. We'd look at what one came up with, evaluate it and put it in the larger pool of information we're developing."

Bob Rice, Polk County Sheriff, "Anyway I can solve a crime. I'd do it. Some law enforcement agencies feel it's degrading or embarrassing to go to these extremes (consulting a psychic) on a case. I don't know if I believe or don't believe in what they can do, but I'm certainly willing to accept their help."

Pot plant on display too tempting

RATON, N.M. (AP) — When state police decided a large marijuana plant they had confiscated would go nicely in the front window, they were simply tempting fate.

Officers found the plant at a Raton home while checking a prowler call. It was seized as evidence and put on display in the window.

A group of teen-agers apparently couldn't resist temptation. Police said the plant had been in the window for several weeks when the youths hurled a brick through the window in the early morning and made off with the plant.

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