

OHIO MANHUNT PERSISTS

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Friday, July 20, 1984

Author: Free Press staff, Associated Press and, ted Press International

Police and FBI agents continued to search the Dayton, Ohio, area Thursday for a young woman and two children who disappeared after spending three days with fugitive **Alton Coleman**, sought in a six-state spree of murders, rapes and beatings.

"We've got not one idea on her," said FBI Special Agent Timothy O'Neill of the Dayton office. "And we've had nothing since noon on Tuesday" on the whereabouts of **Coleman** and his companion, 21-year-old Debra Brown, O'Neill said.

Added Special Agent David Upchurch of the FBI's Cincinnati office, "We do not have him in our grasp or even near grasp." He said, however, that agents believe that the two -- on the run since mid-May -- are still in southern Ohio and most likely in the Dayton area.

FBI AGENT John Heck of the Dayton office said the unidentified woman, a three-year-old boy and a four-year-old girl accompanied **Coleman** and Brown when they stayed in the Dayton home of the Rev. Millard Gay, 79, and his wife, Kathryn, July 7-9. The woman and children have not been seen since July 9, the day the Gays drove Brown and **Coleman** to Cincinnati.

Coleman and Brown used aliases, and the Gays didn't know who they were, police said.

Authorities said **Coleman** and Brown returned alone to the Gays' home Tuesday, tied up the couple and stole their car.

The car, a 1975 tan Buick station wagon, was recovered late Wednesday at a parking lot in downtown Dayton, O'Neill said. He said the car had been at the lot for more than a day and a half.

Dayton Police Chief Tyree Broomfield said he was concerned for the safety of the woman and children because **Coleman** is wanted in the rapes of four children, two of whom were killed. **Coleman** also has been linked to four other slayings.

But the FBI's O'Neill disagreed. "The last we know, she and the kids left" the Gays' house by themselves, he said.

MEANWHILE, in U.S. District Court in Dayton, an unemployed Lexington man was ordered held in lieu of \$100,000 bond on federal kidnapping charges for allegedly helping **Coleman** and Brown abduct a Kentucky college professor.

Thomas Harris, 33, told the judge he "was forced into" the kidnapping by **Coleman** and Brown, who also have been charged in the abduction.

Police said **Coleman** , Harris and Brown apparently drove to Dayton from Lexington after kidnapping Oline Carmical Jr., a 45- year-old history professor at Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Ky. Carmical was found unharmed in the trunk of his car in a Dayton park.

Doug Domin, FBI special agent in Toledo, said his office has launched a search for a yellow, four-door Chevrolet Biscayne that **Coleman** and Brown allegedly stole Tuesday from an elderly Dayton couple.

Domin said the FBI made an unsuccessful aerial search of the farmland and expressways between Toledo and Dayton.

Caption: Photo

Edition: METRO FINAL

Section: NWS

Page: 12B

Index Terms: MULTIPLE ; MURDER ; INVESTIGATE

Record Number: 8401250725

Copyright (c) 1984 Detroit Free Press