

## FUGITIVE WIFE OF ALLEGED DRUG KINGPIN CAUGHT

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**Portia Sturdivant Jones**, fugitive wife of reputed Young Boys Inc. chieftain Milton (Butchie) **Jones**, was arrested in Brownsville, Tex., on charges in connection with a May torture- slaying in her Troy home, the FBI said Wednesday.

**Jones**, 30, was arrested without a struggle at her apartment Tuesday, said Brownsville's senior resident FBI special agent, Robert Nixon. **Jones**, using the name Lenett Bell, had been living there with her two children since Nov. 1, Nixon said.

**Jones**, wanted on a first-degree murder charge for the May 30 slaying of Ricky Gracey, was declared a federal fugitive in July. She was held in Cameron County Jail pending attempts to extradite her to Michigan.

Her children -- Kim, 5, and Milton, 10 -- were in school when their mother was arrested, and they were put in the custody of the Texas Child Welfare Department, Detroit FBI spokesman John Anthony said.

MILTON **JONES** is serving a 12-year drug sentence at the Bastrop Federal Correction Facility in Texas, about 300 miles from Brownsville. Believed to have been one of the founders and kingpins of Young Boys Inc., Milton **Jones** was among the more than 40 reputed members and associates of the ring indicted by a federal grand jury in 1982.

**Portia Jones** also was among those indicted. She was convicted in March 1983 of two conspiracy charges and served a nine-month prison sentence.

Until Gracey's slaying and other killings linked to the "A-Team" hit squad, police thought the federal roundup had crippled the gang. But investigators now say there are indications the ring was not as seriously injured as thought.

According to investigators and court testimony, Gracey, 26, was killed in retaliation for a bungled robbery at **Jones**' Troy ranch-style home on Adams near Bloomfield Township. **Portia Jones** allegedly wounded Gracey with a shotgun as his companions escaped, and then telephoned the A-Team.

MEMBERS of the A-Team, whose trademark has been Israeli- built Uzi submachine guns, tortured Gracey to learn the identities of his companions before killing him, investigators said.

Gracey, his body riddled with 15 Uzi slugs and five slugs from two different .38-caliber pistols and covered with a plastic bag, was found in an alley behind Emery, between Cardoni and Russell on Detroit's north side.

Alleged A-Team member Charles Victor Obey, 18, is awaiting trial in Oakland County on a first-degree murder charge for Gracey's slaying.

Another alleged member, Spencer Tracy Holloway, 20, of Southfield, also has been charged with the killing and is being sought on a federal fugitive warrant. Anyone with information about Holloway's whereabouts is asked to call the Detroit FBI office at (313) 965-2323 anytime.

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