

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**Precedence:** ROUTINE

**Date:** 06/20/1996

**To:** Atlanta  
 Baltimore  
 Charlotte  
 Cincinnati  
 Columbia  
 Jacksonville  
 Louisville  
 Memphis  
 Miami  
 New Haven  
 New York  
 Norfolk  
 Philadelphia  
 Pittsburgh  
 Richmond  
 Tampa  
 WMFO

**From:** Miami

Squad W-1

**Contact:** SA [redacted] (305) 787-6450 OR  
 SA [redacted] (305) 787-6217

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b7C -1

**Approved By:** [redacted]  
**Drafted By:** [redacted]

**Case ID #:** 196D-MM-79121 (Pending)

**Title:** EAST EUROPEAN IMPORTS, INC.,

[redacted]

ANTHONY RODHAM;  
 FBW  
 OO:MM

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**Synopsis:** Leads set at receiving offices to contact and interview car dealership owners who deposited monies with Subjects for the purchase of American franchises to sell Rumanian four-wheel drive vehicles known as the "ARO".

**Reference:** 196D-MM-79121 Serial 130

**Enclosures:** Enclosed for each receiving office is a "Letter of Intent" between EAST EUROPEAN IMPORTS, INC., and individual

[redacted]

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6/20/96

*updated to change lead #19 from Philadelphia to BALTIMORE.*

117 [redacted] 62.EC

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"Dealers" within their respective territories, and/OR copies of any supporting documentation for the dealer's proposed purchase of an ARO franchise.

**Details:** Captioned matter is an investigation involving the solicitation by Subjects [redacted] and [redacted] of auto dealers throughout the United States. [redacted] and [redacted] own and operate **EAST EUROPEAN IMPORTS, INC. (EEI)**, a U.S. Company, from corporate offices located in Coral Gables, Florida. They have allegedly made claims to prospective dealers that EEI has the exclusive American rights for the importation of two models of a Rumanian four-wheel drive vehicle, known as the "ARO".

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Questions have now arisen as to whether, in fact, EEI ever had a legitimate contract with the Rumanian government, and/or with the Rumanian manufacturer or exporter of the ARO, to import these vehicles to the U.S. The investigation has assumed sensitive political aspects because it has been determined that **ANTHONY "TONY" RODHAM**, a brother of **HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON**, may have played a role in securing the alleged ARO importation rights on behalf of EEI. RODHAM travelled to Romania with [redacted] and [redacted] and met with Rumanian officials in this regard. There are credible allegations RODHAM was directly told that [redacted] and [redacted] had submitted fraudulent and inflated financial statements to Rumanian authorities in order to support EEI's credibility as a viable importer of the ARO. Despite this notification, RODHAM has purportedly continued to promote EEI to the Rumanian government as a legitimate importer of the vehicles.

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It is also believed [redacted] and [redacted] distributed fraudulent and inflated financial documents to prospective U.S. auto dealers as a means of inducing them to invest in an ARO franchise. Investigation at Miami has revealed that, between November 1994 and May 1995, EEI representatives solicited at least 37 auto dealers and offered them the opportunity to purchase an ARO franchise. Many dealers readily agreed to the EEI proposal, because [redacted] and [redacted] advertised and promoted the fact that the four-wheel drive ARO vehicles could be mass marketed to the U.S. consumer market at a price of less than \$10,000.

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In March 1996, EEI successfully won a civil lawsuit in a South Florida federal court against a Maine competitor who had also been granted "exclusive" rights by the Rumanians to import the ARO. In a "Settlement Stipulation", the Maine company was

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ordered by the Court to cease and desist from representing that they had distribution rights for ARO vehicles. The federal judge would not render an opinion on the legitimacy of EEI's "exclusive" importation contract with the Rumanians, noting "if this Court determines that the 10/14/94 agreement between EEI, ARO ... [and others] has been terminated, expired, or rendered void, the Order shall no longer be binding on the Parties." Shortly after this Court Order was issued, EEI again commenced the solicitation of auto dealers throughout the U.S.

To obtain an "exclusive" franchise for the sale of ARO vehicles within a specific geographic territory, EEI representatives have solicited deposits of at least \$30,000 from each prospective ARO dealer. These monies were provided to EEI as partial payment for an ARO "Parts, Special Tools and Sign Package", with the balance of monies [\$39,900] for full payment of the franchise (a total cost of \$69,900) due to EEI upon the company's acceptance of the dealer's application.

It should be noted that, to date, NO ARO vehicles have ever been imported by EEI from Romania for sale in the United States. Miami investigation has revealed, in fact, that there is very little likelihood an ARO vehicle will ever be imported to America by EEI. Miami is also aware Subjects [redacted] and [redacted] were involved during 1986 through 1987 in a virtually identical scheme as the one described herein to import the ARO vehicle from Romania to the U.S. and to the Caribbean. At that time, their business was known as ROMAN MOTORS CORPORATION. Many dealers in Texas (as well as other cities) were solicited by [redacted] and deposits for ARO franchises were received by ROMAN MOTORS. Again, no ARO vehicles were ever imported by the company, and the dealers were unsuccessful in civil suits against [redacted] for the return of their deposit monies. FBI Miami conducted investigation of [redacted] and ROMAN MOTORS during this time; however, the matter was closed without prosecution because of difficulties in obtaining necessary documents from the then-Communist Rumanian government.

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ALL receiving offices should contact the auto dealers identified in the "LEADS" section, following, and conduct an in-depth interview to determine the nature and extent of the dealers' business contacts with [redacted] and/or any other representatives of EEI. Any documentation concerning business transactions between the dealers and EEI, including contracts, canceled checks, or other correspondence, should also

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be obtained. Identify any other employees at the dealer's business who had contact with representatives of EEI, and interview these employees for additional pertinent information.

Due to the sensitive political nature of this investigation, [redacted]

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[redacted] At this time, Miami does not believe RODHAM's alleged support for EEI in Romania has extended to personal contacts with individual auto dealers. However, dealers should be specifically asked [redacted]

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[redacted] Any voluntary response which includes **TONY RODHAM's** name should then be thoroughly explored. Should information about **RODHAM** be developed, interviewing agents are requested to immediately contact Miami case agents.

Reports of interviews should specifically include responses to the following questions:

[Large redacted area]

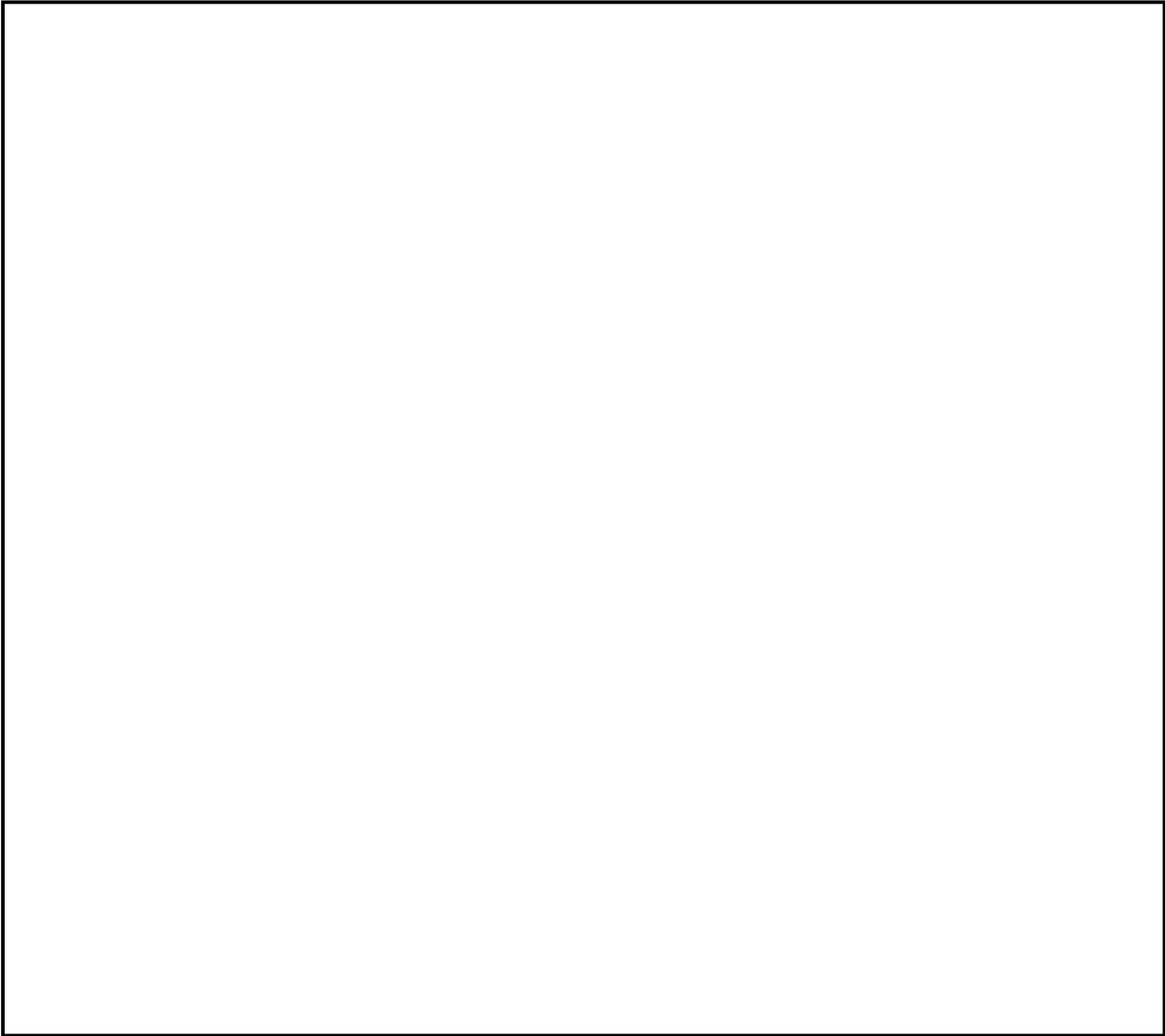
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## Descriptive Data:

Main Subject

Race: W  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last:   
First:   
Middle:   
DOB: 

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Alias(es):  
First:

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Main Subject

Race:  
Sex:  
Name -  
Last:  
First:  
Middle:  
DOB:

W  
M

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Main Subject

Race:  
Sex:  
Name -  
Last:  
First:  
Middle:  
DOB:  
Alias(es):  
First:

W  
M

**RODHAM**  
Anthony  
D.  
8/8/54  
"Tony"

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

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**LEAD(s) :**

ATLANTA

**Set Lead 1:**

AT CHAMBLEE, GA

Contact and interview [redacted] **MITCHELL MOTORS, INC.**, 5675 Peachtree Ind. Blvd., Chamblee, GA 30341; telephone [redacted] Approved as "Dealer" 2/14/95.

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**Set Lead 2:**

AT MACON, GA

Contact and interview [redacted] **MACON CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH**, 2110 Eisenhower Pkwy., Macon, GA 31206; unknown phone.

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**NOTE:** "Letter of Intent" not signed by EEI; "no check" received as of 5/8/95.

**Set Lead 3:**

BALTIMORE

AT BALTIMORE, MD

Contact and interview [redacted] **BUD SCHMIDT BUICK, INC.**, 6000 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, MD 21215; telephone [redacted] Check received 4/25/95.

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**Set Lead 4:**

AT PASADENA, MD

Contact and interview [redacted] **WOOTTON ENTERPRISES**, dba **WOOTTON MOTOR CARS**, 8065 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena, MD 21122; telephone [redacted] Check received 4/25/95.

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**Set Lead 5:**

CHARLOTTE

AT FAYETTEVILLE, NC

Contact and interview [redacted] **CUMBERLAND**  
**CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH, INC.**, 5421 Raeford Road, Fayetteville, NC  
28304; telephone [redacted] Check received (**copy attached**)  
5/11/95.

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**Set Lead 6:**

CINCINNATI

AT FRANKLIN, OH

Contact and interview [redacted]  
**GUYLER BUICK**, 3456 S. Dixie Hwy., Franklin, OH 45005; telephone  
[redacted] Approved as "Dealer" 3/8/95.

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**Set Lead 7:**

COLUMBIA

AT COLUMBIA, SC

Contact and interview [redacted] **SECOND CHANCE**  
**MOTORS**, 3011 Two Notch Road, Columbia, SC 29204; telephone [redacted]  
[redacted] Approved as "Dealer" 12/1/94.

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**Set Lead 8:**

JACKSONVILLE

AT JACKSONVILLE, FL

Contact and interview [redacted] **RAY**  
**CARTER AUTO SALES, INC.**, 6373 Blanding Blvd., Jacksonville, FL  
32244; telephone [redacted] Approved as "Dealer" 11/25/94;  
check for \$79,800 (**copy attached**), "Balance Due on ARO  
Dealership" received and dated 5/11/95.

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**Set Lead 9:**

AT PENSACOLA, FL

Contact and interview (FNU) [redacted] **DIAMOND AUTO EXCHANGE**, 801 New Warrington Road, Pensacola, FL 32506; telephone [redacted]

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**NOTE:** No "Letter of Intent" located. Check 1095 made payable to EEI and dated 5/11/95 (**copy enclosed**), in the amount \$30,000, received.

**Set Lead 10:**

AT PENSACOLA, FL

Attempt to locate, contact and interview [redacted] PO Box [redacted] (only available information).

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**NOTE:** "Letter of Intent" not signed by EEI.

**Set Lead 11:**

LOUISVILLE

AT NEWPORT, KY

Contact and interview [redacted] **ROBKE CHEVROLET CO.**, 33-37 East 11th Street, Newport, KY; telephone [redacted] Approved as "Dealer" 2/9/95.

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**Set Lead 12:**

MEMPHIS

AT MEMPHIS, TN

Contact and interview [redacted] **SHELBY DODGE, INC.**, 2691 Mt. Moriah Road, Memphis, TN 38115; telephone [redacted] Approved as "Dealer" 2/16/95.

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**Set Lead 13:**

MIAMI

AT STUART, FL

Contact and interview [redacted] **FISCHER**  
**OLDS-CADILLAC INC.**, 3555 S.E. Federal Highway, Stuart, FL 34997;  
(unknown telephone).

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**Set Lead 14:**

NEW HAVEN

AT RIDGEFIELD, CT

[redacted] Contact and interview (**signature illegible**),  
**RIDGEFIELD EUROPEAN MOTORS, INC.**, 746 Danbury Road,  
Ridgefield, CT 06877-2792.

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**NOTE:** "Letter of Intent" not signed by EEI.

**Set Lead 15:**

NEW YORK

AT BRONX, NY

Contact and interview [redacted] **F & S**  
**MOTORS, INC.**, 3737-3739 (possibly 3751) Boston Road, Bronx, NY  
10466; telephone [redacted] Check for \$60,000 received (for  
two dealership franchises) on 5/18/95.

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**Set Lead 16:**

NORFOLK

AT CHESAPEAKE, VA

Contact and interview [redacted] **GREENBRIER OF**  
**VIRGINIA, INC.**, 1414 S. Military Highway, Chesapeake, VA 23320;  
telephone [redacted] Approved as "Dealer" 12/15/94.

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Set Lead 17:

BALTIMORE

AT WILMINGTON, DE

Contact and interview [redacted]  
**SMITH VOLKSWAGEN LTD** 4304 Kirkwood Highway, Wilmington, DE  
19808; telephone [redacted] Check received 4/18/95.

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Set Lead 18:

PHILADELPHIA

AT EMMAUS, PA

Contact and interview [redacted]  
[redacted] **VINART DEALERSHIPS**, and doing business as **LEHIGH VALLEY HONDA**, 675 State Avenue, Emmaus, PA 18049; telephone [redacted]  
[redacted] Check "Bounced" notation in EEI records.

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NOTE: See enclosed copies of two checks and letter from [redacted] and note that "Letter of Intent" for "Four Locations" within Philadelphia area may have been signed by [redacted] (see "Lead 19", below.)

Set Lead 19:

AT PHILADELPHIA, PA

Locate, contact and interview [redacted] identified in EEI records as the "Contact Person" for **PHILADELPHIA HONDA** (6935 Essington Ave., Philadelphia, PA), **READING HONDA-ACURA** (1001 Lancaster Avenue, Reading, PA), and **WEST CHESTER ACURA** (1330 Wilmington Pike, West Chester, PA); (unknown telephone numbers).

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NOTE: Also see enclosed copies of two checks and letter from [redacted] **VINART DEALERSHIPS** (see "Lead 18", above). [redacted] may have signed the "Letter of Intent" for the four ARO franchises.

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**Set Lead 20:**

AT MONTOURSVILLE, PA

Contact and interview [redacted] **MANOS, INC.**, RR 5  
Old Route 220. (P.O. Box 3089), Montoursville, PA 17754;  
telephone [redacted] Check received (unknown date).

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**Set Lead 21:**

PITTSBURGH

AT WHITE OAK, PA

Contact and interview [redacted] **JOHN NARETTO**  
**BUICK, INC.**, 2900 Jacks Run Road, White Oak, PA 15131; telephone  
[redacted] Approved as "Dealer" 2/21/95.

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**Set Lead 22:**

RICHMOND

AT RICHMOND, VA

Contact and interview [redacted] and [redacted]  
[redacted] **HAWTHORNE MOTOR COMPANY**, 9001 West Broad Street,  
Richmond, VA 23294; telephone [redacted] Check received  
4/19/95.

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**Set Lead 23:**

AT SALEM, VA

Contact and interview [redacted] **HART MOTOR**  
**COMPANY**, 1341 East Main Street, Salem, VA 24153; telephone [redacted]  
[redacted] Approved as "Dealer" 3/13/95.

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**Set Lead 24:**

TAMPA

AT NEW PORT RICHEY, FL

(06/01/1995)

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Contact and interview (**signature illegible**), **NEW PORT LINCOLN MERCURY**, 4727 U.S. 19, New Port Richey, Pasco County, FL 34652; unknown telephone.

**Set Lead 25:**

AT ST. PETERSBURG, FL

Contact and interview [redacted] (spelling of last name???), **TYRONE MOTOR CORPORATION**, 3300 Tyrone Boulevard, St. Petersburg, FL 33710; unknown telephone.

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**Set Lead 26:**

AT SANFORD, FL

Contact and interview [redacted] **ARISTOCRAT VOLKSWAGEN, INC.**, 4175 South Orlando Drive, Sanford, FL 32773; telephone [redacted] Approved as "Dealer" 1/25/95.

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**Set Lead 27:**

WMFO

AT FAIRFAX, VA

Contact and interview [redacted] [redacted] **MGB ENTERPRISES, INC.**, 11165 Main Street, Fairfax, VA 22030; unknown telephone.

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**NOTE:** [redacted] sent a "cancellation" letter TO EEI, dated 2/18/95 (copy enclosed).

**Set Lead 28:**

AT MANASSAS, VA

Contact and interview [redacted] (spelling of name??), **WRIGHT'S BUICK INC.**, 8651 Centreville Road; Manassas, Virginia 22110; unknown telephone number.

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