

CONFIDENTIAL RECORD SHEET  
DIVISION OF PERSONNEL  
B.S.A.

DATE December 9, 1969

Full Name Thomas E. Putnam  
(No initials if you can possibly get full name)

Address HOME: 422 E. 4th St., Canton South Dakota  
Army: HQ & Co. 71 Maint. Bn.

City APO State NY

Age 20 (This is important and should be exact)

Approximate age \_\_\_\_\_ (To be used ONLY when exact age is not known)

Religion Protestant Nationality \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation Soldier (medical clerk)

Education High School

Weight 170 lbs. Color white Height 6'

Color of hair brown Color of eyes brown

Outstanding characteristics or interests Indian Lore & dancing (mother is an Indian)

Married or single single Children \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number, ages, and names, if possible)

Wife's name \_\_\_\_\_

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

<u>Unit #</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Date Reg'd.</u>	<u>Date resigned</u>
TR 68	Schwabach	Germany	SA	7/68	12/68
TR 122	Zirndorf	"	"	12/68	11/69

Special recognition Claims to be an Eagle Scout and Active in Oof the Arrow

Recommended for Confidential File for following reasons:

Indecent liberties with Boy Scouts in his troop.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Scout Executive

GC-294-31

TSBSA008487

DYKES\_I\_009599



**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

National Office  
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane  
P.O. Box 152079, Irving, Texas 75015-2079  
972-580-2000

September 7, 2001

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Longwood, FL 32752

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your email message of September 1, 2001.

The Boy Scouts of America deeply regrets any unfortunate incident which may have occurred to you in Scouting.

Please be advised that the individual you name in your email was permanently removed from the Scouting program in 1969.

Very truly yours,

David K. Park  
National Legal Counsel

hr

From:  
David PARK  
9/7/01

*[Handwritten signature]*

TS/MS/KS v. BSA  
Produced Pursuant to Protective Order  
Case No. 03-23727-9

Mark Dama - FW: Worth Retelling

From: Jon Halter <jhalter@netbsa.org>  
To: <pbevins>  
Date: 09/04/2001 8:56 AM  
Subject: FW: Worth Retelling

FYI-

CC: ED WEISSHAAR

From: website@scouting.org  
Date: Sat, 1 Sep 2001 21:14:13 -0600 (MDT)  
To: jhalter@netbsa.org  
Subject: Worth Retelling

The following message was sent from a Web-based form:

Sir, after reading on MSNBC about a Scout leader molesting someone in I believe in Maryland; I recall what happened to me when I was in the Boy Scouts in the late 1960's. I too was a victim of foul play, I was what about 12 years old and had a scout leader take advantage of me out in the woods in Germany. I was terrified to say anything to anyone especially my father. I remember his name, Tom Putnam, and will probably never forget it. It made such an impact on me that I would never allow my two sons to join the Boy Scouts of America or my daughter to join the Girl Scouts. I hope that any parent will investigate whoever has any type of control of their children.

Thank you for your time!

Longwood Fl 32752  
Telephone: [REDACTED]

Source: <http://www.scouting.org/mags/scouting/current/d-tel.html>  
Timestamp: Sat Sep 1 21:14:13 MDT 2001

Sept. 7, 2001

Checked -- put on  
eligible file Dec. 1969

*EDW.*



**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

National Office  
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane  
P.O. Box 152079  
Irving, Texas 75015-2079

9-6-01

TO: ED WEISSHAAR

FYI

FROM MARK DAMA

Linda Wismer  
972-580-2146  
S402

TS/MS/KS v. BS  
Produced Pursuant to Protective Order  
Case No. 03-237274-9

TSBSA008490

DYKES\_I\_009602

December 9, 1969

Mr. Howard R. Seitz  
Scout Executive  
Transatlantic Council, No. 802

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL  
Re: Thomas E. Putnam

Dear Mr. Seitz:

Thank you for your letter of December 2 and the enclosed correspondence, most thoroughly compiled, concerning Thomas E. Putnam, Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 122. We have placed this information in our file and have taken steps to have his name deleted from our records.

This information will enable us to identify Mr. Putnam, should he ever again attempt to register in the Scouting program.

Sincerely,

Earl L. Krall, Director  
Registration and Fulfillment Service

ek

TSBSA008491

DYKES\_I\_009603



TRANSATLANTIC COUNCIL  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

2 December 1969

802

Mr. Earl L. Knall, Director  
Registration and Fulfillment Service  
National Council  
Boy Scouts of America  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

Dear Mr. Knall:

Attached is information submitted to me relating to the personal history of Thomas Putman. Upon receipt of attached information, he was seperated as Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 122.

Sincerely,

Howard R. Seitz  
Scout Executive

HRS/dz

Mail Address: APO New York (US Forces) 09102  
Phone: Heidelberg Hosp Mil 611 or 775  
Council No. 802

TSBSA008492

DYKES\_I\_009604

Thomas Putman

Home Address: 422 East 4th St.  
Canton, South Dakota 57013

Military: HQ & Co. 71 Maint Bn  
APO 09070

Age 20  
Protestant  
High School Education  
Weight: 170 lbs.  
Height: 6 ft.  
Color: White  
Brown Hair  
Brown Eyes  
Present occupation: Soldier US Army

Claims to be a Eagle Scout, active in O.A, very much interested in  
Indian Lore.

TSBSA008493

DYKES\_I\_009605

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY  
95TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION  
APO 09696

25 November 1969

SUBJECT: Character of Thomas Putnam and his Association with  
Boy Scouts of America

Whom It May Concern

1. The following statements are made in order to bring to the attention of all concerned the suspicions, concerning the character of Thomas Putnam, currently registered as an Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 122, Frankenwald District, Transatlantic Council, Boy Scouts of America.
2. I have been associated with Thomas Putnam for approximately one year. I became acquainted with him when I accepted a position as a member of the Troop Committee for Troop 122 in November 1968. In May 1969 I became Scoutmaster of the troop and became even more closely associated with him. During the major portion of this time I considered him as a good scout leader and a close friend, even though his conduct during scouting activities did not always reflect the highest ideals as a leader and an example to the young boys.
3. His lack of character was first evidenced by telling a lie when he originally registered with the troop, stating he was 21 years of age. After becoming involved in a vehicle accident in December 1968 and the subsequent investigation, it was discovered that he was only 20 years of age when he registered with the Troop. When confronted with the falsification he stated that he had given his age as 21 because he wanted to become a Scoutmaster.
4. According to Putnam, his mother is Apache indian, which I have no reason to doubt. He is well versed in indian lore, dancing, etc, and as such was very popular with the boys who desired to learn more about indians, their habits, customs, dances, etc. He formed an indian dancing team in the troop which was very popular and performed many exhibitions at public activities such as carnivals, Courts of Honor, Cub Scout Pack meetings, Army organizational day activities, etc. In his role as an indian, he became the idol of many of the boys in the troop. Some of his indian stories and experiences which he related to the boys left a doubt in my mind as to their credibility. However, not being as well versed as he in

TSBSA008494

DYKES\_I\_009606



25 November 1969

SUBJECT: Character of Thomas Putnam and his Association with  
Boy Scouts of America

Indian lore, I was at a disadvantage in questioning the validity of his statements.

5. Thomas Putnam's patience and understanding in working with boys leaves much to be desired. On many occasions I have seen him lose his temper and act more like a boy than an adult leader, demanding almost impossible tasks from the boys, threatening them with elimination from the troop activities and in some instances, even threatening physical punishment for not having done as he demanded. I made it quite clear to Putnam on several occasions that I could not and would not tolerate abusive actions or language toward the members of the troop and he assured me he would make efforts to control himself.

6. At the present time, as I reflect on some of Putnam's activities during our camp outs, I can more readily see that he was not acting in the capacity of a good assistant scoutmaster. He was very, very friendly toward a select group of the younger boys, devoting the major portion of his time to them, rather than sharing his time equally among all the members of the troop. This select group, I finally discovered, had been given special privileges in many instances which created both jealousy and animosity among the troop members. In counseling Putnam on his lack of mature leadership he became quite emotional, explaining to me that he was only a boy himself and should be expected to act as such. In view of his promises to try to act more mature, both I and the Troop Committee, with whom I discussed the situations, agreed to give him the opportunity to try and improve himself in scouting. On every camp out that I can recall with the troop he has managed to find some plausible excuse to have one of the boys sleep with him, together, in the same sleeping bag. The excuses included: The boy is homesick and scared, the boy is sick and he was concerned about him becoming seriously ill, the boy gets too cold by himself and, he had promised the boys parents he would act as "baby sitter" over the week end and felt a responsibility toward the boy and his parents which he could only fulfill by keeping the boy close to him at all times.

7. During the latter part of September of this year Putnam proposed an "Indian Camp Out" to the troop and they readily accepted the proposal. It being a boy's program and in keeping with the policy of letting them decide on their program I went along with the idea even though I had doubts as to whether the program for the week end was wise considering the cold weather. Based on Putnam's suggestions, the boys would hike to the camp site on Friday afternoon in Scout uniforms, change in to indian clothing (loin cloths) upon arrival and stay dressed as such until the hike back on Sunday afternoon. The sleeping gear consisted of two blankets. The boys were to build indian type shelters in which to sleep which were to be constructed

25 November 1969

SUBJECT: Character of Thomas Putnam and his Association with  
Boy Scouts of America

with brush in the form of a "lean to". The construction of the shelters presented a problem due to the lack of loose brush in the area which was known prior to the camp out. The weather turned quite cold during the week end and I told the boys to put on sufficient clothing to keep them warm. Putnam was very much against my directions, preferring to see the boys run around in a state of semi-nudeness it seems. I had received many calls from parents prior to the camp out concerning their son's welfare and I had assured them that I would take any action necessary to prevent their sons being unduly exposed to the elements and becoming sick.

8. During the month of October I was talking with a group of boys, including one, [REDACTED], who had formerly been a member of the troop until he quit to participate in sports. During the course of the conversation he told me that Putnam had been taking unnatural liberties with several of the boys, including himself, in one instance. Questioning other boys in the neighborhood and in the troop I heard the same stories from several boys. This disturbed me considerably and I discussed the situation with the Chairman of the Troop Committee. It was mutually agreed that, in view of the stories, which established a very definite suspicion, Putnam would have to be removed from Troop 122 and action taken to eliminate him from further association with Boy Scouts. It was decided to confront him with the accusations on October 17, prior to a scheduled Scout Leader's Conference.

9. The troop had planned a week end camp out for the 25th and 26th of October and we decided to let Putnam stay with the troop on the camp out in order to allow Mr. Bernhard Frenkel, who has since taken my place as Scoutmaster, and I to more closely watch his activities and determine if the boys tales were valid. On the night of October 25th Mr. Frenkel, Putnam and I went to sleep in a tent set up for the leaders. However, during the night, while Mr. Frenkel and I were asleep, Putnam got up and went to one of the boy's tents and got in the sleeping bag with [REDACTED]. The following morning there seemed to be a general feeling of animosity toward Putnam from the troop boy leaders especially. They had given him a nickname of "Mrs. Magoo" and refused to cooperate with him in any activity. In pursuing the matter I discovered that some of the boys had mentioned his homosexual activities with them to other boys and such a hatred for him had been generated that they wanted to gang up on him and give him a beating. I managed to prevent any violence during the outing, but Putnam became so aware of the situation that he gave me his resignation from the troop on Sunday, October 26 which I accepted and invited him to attend the meeting on the following evening which he promised to attend. He did not attend the meeting and the scout leaders present were informed of our suspicions by Maj T.A. Todd, Chairman of the Troop Committee for Troop 122 and Asst. District Commissioner,

25 November 1969

SUBJECT: Character of Thomas Putnam and his Association with  
Boy Scouts of America

Frankenwald District.

10. I contacted two parents, whose son's had been molested (according to the boys) and asked them to question their son's and, if the stories were true, to provide either myself or the Troop Committee with statements which could be submitted to the Scout Executive and Putnam's Commanding Officer to initiate whatever action might be deemed appropriate. The parents involved are [redacted], 4th Armored Division Support Command, who has two sons, [redacted] and [redacted] in the troop and [redacted], 130th General Hospital who has two sons, [redacted] and [redacted] in the troop. I have talked to both parents since they talked to the boys and they inform me that they are convinced that Putnam has had homosexual relations with their sons. However, to date, they are reluctant to make statements. Whether this is to avoid embarrassment to them and their son's or merely "not wanting to get involved", I cannot determine.

11. I am convinced, in my own mind, that Thomas Putnam does have homosexual tendencies and should be prevented from further participation in the Scouting program and action should be taken by his commanding officer to refer him to medical personnel for evaluation and help.

12. I wish to emphasize that my statements are in no way intended to be construed as an accusation since I have not personally observed any overt acts. My statements merely relate to my observations of his activities and heresay from scouts and their parents.

[redacted]

MSG, U.S. ARMY

Copies Furnished:

Chairman, Troop Committee, Troop 122  
Mr. Robert Kreidler, Scout Executive  
CO, 71st Maintenance Bn, APO 09070

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

OIC, Nbg Field Ofc, Det C., 9th MP Group (CI), APO 09696

TS/MS/KS  
Produced for

TSBSA008497

DYKES\_I\_009609

# DISPOSITION FORM

(AR 340-15)

REFERENCE OR OFFICE SYMBOL

SUBJECT

~~ACTSAC-OB~~

Sp/4 Thomas E. Putnam

TO Major Todd  
14th Finance  
APO 09696

*To Scout  
Master*

FROM Ch (MAJ)  
HHC, 95th S&S Bn

DATE November 1969 CMT 1

To whom it may concern:

In mid-August 1969 Lt. Col. Lee C. Dickson and I were examining some old fork trucks and obsolete equipment at Johnson Barracks. We saw an American car parked near this equipment. As we drew near to the car we saw a soldier on the front seat. On closer inspection we observed that another person was also laying on the front seat with the soldier. This person turned out to be a Boy Scout. The soldier was Sp/4 Thomas E. Putnam. Lt. Col. Dickson opened the door of the car and asked the soldier to get up and out. I observed that his shirt was unbuttoned and as he spoke to Lt. Col. Dickson, he buttoned his shirt.

The above account is as true and accurate as I can remember.

Chaplain (MAJ), USA

DA FORM 2106

REPLACES DD FORM 96, EXISTING SUPPLIES OF WHICH WILL BE EXHAUSTED UNLESS SOONER EXHAUSTED

TSBSA008498

DYKES\_I\_009610

# APPLICATION FOR ADULT REGISTRATION

## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
<b>BOYS' LIFE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <p>Check box at right for subscription to <i>Boys' Life</i> magazine. Half-price membership for registered Scouters is \$1.50 a year or 12½ cents a month. See reverse side.</p>			
REGION NO.	COUNCIL NO.	DISTRICT NO.	TR. (Type of unit)
13	802	55	TR. NATIONAL NO. 68
<p><i>Note to Den Mothers:</i> Where both husband and wife are registered, both receive <i>Scouting Magazine</i>. If you would rather that we leave your name off the mailing list, please check box at right. The registration fee is the same in either case. <input type="checkbox"/></p>			

THIS APPLICATION MUST BE FILLED OUT PERSONALLY BY EACH ADULT WHO IS NOT LISTED ON THE UNIT CHARTER APPLICATION OR COUNCIL ROSTER AND WHO:

- |   |            |                                     |
|---|------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Registers for the first time, regardless of position.  | (New)      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Has been separated and is reregistering.   | (Sep.-Re.) | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 3. Is now registered in this council, separating from current position and transferring to new position. Please submit Separation Notice (No. 6108) for position individual is leaving. | (Transfer) | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 4. Is now registered in another council.  | (Transfer) | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

PLEASE USE APC ADDRESSES AND MILITARY TITLES

Name Putnam, Thomas E. (Please print or type full name)

Street or R.F.D. address Hq. & Co. A. 71st Maint Bn. APO N.Y. Business phone 835 Home phone 817

City NEW YORK (APO) State NEW YORK ZIP code 09070

To serve as assistant scoutmaster (Position in unit or council)

For unit Scouters only TROOP 68 (Type of unit) (Local No.) Schwabach, Germany (City and State)

From 1 JAN 1968 (Registration date) To 31 Dec 1968 (Expiration date of unit or council)

Council name TRANS ATLANTIC District name FRANKENWALD

Age 19 U.S. citizen: Yes  No  OR Declaration of Intention Yes  No  Sex MALE

Occupation U.S. Army (medical clerk) Marital status single

Have you been registered in Scouting in any adult capacity? Yes  No  Give position \_\_\_\_\_

Give dates, duration, location N/A

Do you have an unexpired registration card? Yes  No  Where paid? \_\_\_\_\_ (Council)

Religious preference (See other side, Article III) Baptist

I hereby make application for registration with the Boy Scouts of America and subscribe to its Scout Oath or Promise and Scout Law and its declaration of religious principle as stated on the reverse side of this application. I agree, if a registration certificate is granted, to be guided by the Charter and Bylaws and other regulations of the Boy Scouts of America and the local council.

I transmit herewith \$1 registration fee for 1 year (or a pro rata fee), a portion of which is to cover subscription to *Scouting Magazine* for the period of my membership. For a subscription to *Boys' Life* I will add \$1.50 (or a pro rata amount) as indicated above.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: Thomas E. Putnam DATE 15 JUL 25 1968

CHECKED BY  
JUL 16 1968  
S. FAVARA

APPROVED BY Robert L. Powell TITLE Chairman Comm. SUBSCRIPTION B.C.

(See "Approval" on other side)

LOCAL COUNCIL APPROVAL		Check Adult Registration Fee Paid				
We hereby approve this person and recommend certificate be issued.		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 mo. 10¢	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 mo. 50¢	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 mo. 80¢		
Date <u>2 JUL 1968</u>	Signed <u>[Signature]</u> (Scout Executive)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 " 20¢	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6 " 50¢	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 " 90¢		
		<input type="checkbox"/> 3 " 30¢	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 " 60¢	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 " \$1.00		
		<input type="checkbox"/> 4 " 40¢	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 " 70¢	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 " 1.00		

\*FOR UNIT SCOUTERS ONLY: A visiting adult alien must indicate country of citizenship on an attached note giving last address there and previous Scouting record, if any. An institutional representative must be a U.S. citizen or have declared his intention.

1-1.00

# APPLICATION FOR ADULT REGISTRATION

## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
REGION NO.	COUNCIL NO.	DISTRICT NO.	(Type of unit) NATIONAL NO.
13	802	3	122
Expiration date <u>12/69</u> Boys' Life term _____			
Registration term <u>6</u> Boys' Life start issue _____			
Unit leader fully trained <input type="checkbox"/>			
BOYS' LIFE			
Check box for subscription to Boys' Life magazine. <input type="checkbox"/>			
Half-price membership rate to registered Scouters is \$2 a year or 17 cents a month. See reverse side.			

THIS APPLICATION MUST BE FILLED OUT PERSONALLY BY EACH ADULT WHO IS NOT LISTED ON THE UNIT CHARTER APPLICATION OR COUNCIL ROSTER AND WHO:

- STATUS
- Registers for the first time, regardless of position. (New)
  - Has been separated and is reregistering. (Sep.-Re.)
  - Is now registered in this council, separating from current position and transferring to new position. Please submit Separation Notice for position individual is leaving. (Transfer)
  - Is now registered in another council. (Transfer)

Name SP4 Thomas Putnam (Please print or type full name)

Street or R.F.D. address HQ 8 Co A, 71st Maint. Bn. Business phone \_\_\_\_\_

City Zurich APO NY State NY ZIP code 09070

To serve as SA or \_\_\_\_\_ (See other side) (Position in council)

Sex M Age 21 U.S. citizen: Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_ OR Declaration of Intention: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ OR visiting adult alien\* Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Religious preference (See other side, Article II) \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Marital status \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been registered in Scouting in any adult capacity? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Give position \_\_\_\_\_

Give dates, duration, location \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have an unexpired registration card? Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_ Where paid? \_\_\_\_\_ (Council) Tn. 68 (Unit No.)

Unit Scouters only: Type of unit Tn. Local No. 122 Unit location Zurich, Germany (City) (State)

Council name \_\_\_\_\_ District name \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby make application for registration with the Boy Scouts of America and subscribe to its Scout Oath or Promise and Scout Law and its declaration of religious principle as stated on the reverse side of this application. I agree, if a registration certificate is granted, to be guided by the Charter and Bylaws and other regulations of the Boy Scouts of America and the local council.

I transmit herewith \$2 registration fee for 1 year (or a pro rata fee), a portion of which is to cover subscription to *Scouting Magazine* for the period of my membership. For a subscription to *Boys' Life* I will add \$2 (or a pro rata amount) as indicated above.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

(See "Approval" on other side)

### LOCAL COUNCIL APPROVAL

We hereby approve this person and recommend certificate be issued.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Scout executive)

### Check Adult Registration Fee Paid

- |                                       |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mo. \$ .20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 mo. \$ 1.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 9 mo. \$ 1.60 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 " .40      | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 " 1.00      | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 " 1.80     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 " .60      | <input type="checkbox"/> 7 " 1.20      | <input type="checkbox"/> 11 " 2.00     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 " .80      | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 " 1.40      | <input type="checkbox"/> 12 " 2.00     |

\*FOR UNIT SCOUTERS ONLY: A visiting adult alien must indicate country of citizenship on an attached note giving last address there and previous Scouting record, if any. An institutional representative must be a U.S. citizen or have declared his intention.