

December 16, 1939

Memorandum:

Information on John Henry Kirby, who supported Dies and who owns approximately 5 counties of the 11 that Dies represents, may be obtained from the following sources:

Hearings of the Black Committee on the Southern Committee to uphold the Constitution. Kirby himself testified on 4/15/36.

He contributed \$500 to this committee. This information is available in the Lobby Committee Report on contributions to 17 organizations classified as illiberal.

The Beaumont, Texas, papers during the dampaign in 1930 during which Dies ran for office and was supported publicly by Kirby.

The Southern Committee to Uphold the Constitutional Government was exposed by the Black Committee as the organization circulating photographs of Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt being escorted by two negroes.

Kirby is also alleged to have appeared before the Texas legislature early in the 1900's at a hearing at which he testified that land he intended to purchase was intended for agricultural purposes. Kirby stripped this land of all its timber and the land is now waste. He never intended to use it for agricultural purposes and never did. He allegedly is attempting to sell this land to the U. S. Government now for \$25 an acre. Mike Strauss of the Department of the Interior says there is no record of the Department's considering the purchase of this land.