

Dear Jim, CA75-1996; Conitalpro-Invaders; Jensen/FBI

1/8/75

This is an encapsulation of what you should know, whether or not we have a chance to really talk about it, prior to the calendar call of 1/21/76.

My strong belief is that you should not use it. At least not disclose it while making strong hints. As of now, as always, I'm trying to work with people who have facilities we do not and I do not want that ruined, as a story from the courtroom (which could also be pre,ature) could do.

There was an FBI plant in the Invaders. Young, black Memphis cop. This one is certain. I think there were more.

Kay finally called just a few minutes ago. We spoke for 45 minutes. She knows about this one, not whether or not there were others.

My hunch that Jensen could have known so fast and have gotten SOG's approval for extra-legal intervention in 5 minutes paid off, too. There were FBI agents at the scene of the crime, before and during it.

There were also agents at the AME church, where King was to have spoken. Kay knew them and was with them.

There were three in particular who covered black activities. She knows them well and considers them personally not the kind of men who would on their own - as distinguished from under orders - to be capable of violence or implementing it.

Jensen was SAIC. But he was not the man in active charge within the Memphis FBI office. The man in charge was Joe Mester. He, says Kay, ran it all. I'm not clear that this was after the assassination.

Kay has agreed to work with Les if his paper clears him.

Because there didn't seem to be anything I could do for her in return, I did give her the tip that although Foreman was in the prosecution's pocket he was bugged, specifically at the Peabody. I know he was. I think I told you my unimpeachable source, Beyer's bother. I could not tell her. But I gave her all the tips without pinpointing.

You didn't get to know her. She is a southern white woman who is not a racist and was persecuted by the MFD and other officials because she is not racist. She is capable of some extremely masculine language and when the cops baited her on this it was pointed enough for them never to have suggested again that she was a nigger-fucker.

But back to the beginning: we now have knowledge that the FBI had penetrated the group that was responsible for the violence that was responsible for King's return to Memphis where, whether or not it would have happened elsewhere (as I believe it would have), he was ~~himself~~ killed.

This is between us only. You are, please, not to tell Bud or Bill or anyone connected with Congress or anyone else. It is so you will be better able to decide what you want to do - and whatever it is I agree - at the hearing. I'm simply not going to run any risks with the strange types who have accused everything us, of whom Bud is only one.

Excuse the haste and errors. All this caught me by surprise. Although it is bitter cold and later in the afternoon, I must try some walking therapy.

Best,

After dark P.M. It was cold and the wind cut but I not only enjoyed the walk and used the time for thinking but I walked farther up the mountain than since before the prohibition but when I realized it forced myself to walk farther. It was good! My hands froze through the gloves but not the legs! They were feverish.

Ray's belated call could not have come at a better time. I was sorely disappointed by Mill's Philadelphia-Inquirer letter so far below his, so dishonest and so entirely false from what he knows. I felt the need to make a record and that was not pleasant.

I was almost euphoric that my analysis of what was behind the FBI's deception of the Church committee seems to be paying off. At first all I could think of is the possibility if Ray had ever kept his word, if I could have just gone to Memphis and Thailand, establishing contacts and sources and really going beyond Peace-Up. How my not remember it but the first time we were there together I established a relationship with the hotel captain at the motel and picked up the first class on this. Only class.

But let us leave the alone for poor Yovich and look ahead.

Insofar as I could think it through it seems to me that we are, as I think I've already indicated, not in a position to take the non-evidence route with 6th circuit because we are far from ensuring this as far as we ought be able to expect to. I now think that before we go non-evidence we should exhaust all the possibilities and let the case rest where it is with the exception of strengthening the constitutional issue. When you and Bud see Jimmy (you've just called) I think you should get him to draft an affidavit and if I understood him despite his reluctance he has been keeping a record of mail opening even during the evidentiary hearing and giving my complaints to both Rose and "Aile."

I'm glad we have kept this FOIA action separate from the Ray defense, you personally representing me personally because there can be no inhibition now and I do think that when we go the non-evidence route it should first be public (save for me, as you should know) and all put together. We do that and go back to Memphis with some procedures, which we'll have if the public effort succeeds (with no real loss if it doesn't) and there will be a different Memphis political situation. (By the way, I was gobsmacked at Helen, saying this decision was completely out of character for him and she can't imagine his being bought.)

The Albany police guard never sent me anything, including my own records back. But I do have a copy of Adams' prepared statement from Schneider. I'll read it when I'm resting up long the first time I don't have packages to make.