

Mr. Bishop

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M. A. Jones

H. PAUL JEFFERS
FORTHCOMING BOOK ON FBI FUGITIVES
BUFILE 94-44312

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a brief progress report on the book concerning fugitives apprehended by the FBI under the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitive Program" which is being written by H. Paul Jeffers.

BACKGROUND:

H. Paul Jeffers is a radio news editor in New York who has written several books -- primarily for young people. Last year the Director approved our furnishing material to him for a book he planned to write concerning outstanding "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" investigations.

By memorandum dated June 21, 1971, I advised that background data concerning a number of closed "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" cases (in which prosecutive action was completed) had been furnished to Jeffers, and that he planned to begin writing the manuscript for his book about July 1st so that he could have it in the hands of his publisher, Hawthorn Books, by December 1st.

RECENT ACTION:

Jeffers has contacted us to advise that his work on the manuscript is progressing considerably faster than he originally anticipated. He attributes this primarily to the fact that he has "never enjoyed writing a book as much as this one" and that this project has given him "an even greater admiration for the FBI than I had when I undertook the book."

At this point, Jeffers has completed first (or rough) drafts of chapters dealing with eight "Top Ten" fugitive cases (those involving Joseph Corbett, Jr.; John Thomas Freeman; Joseph Levy; Florencio Mallong and Victor Bono; Nick Montos; Albert Nussbaum and Bobby Wilcoxson; Richard Lee Tingle; and George Zavada). Material has also been furnished him for chapters on police killer George Edward Cole, bank robber Joseph Lloyd Thomas, and bank robber Edward Owen Watkins.

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Gale

- ① - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - J. B. Engelstad
- 1 - M. A. Jones

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M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo
RE: H. PAUL JEFFERS

In addition, Jeffers wants to include detailed accounts of the Willie Austin Bryant case (killer of two FBI Agents in Washington, D. C., in 1960), the Richard Marquette case (vicious killer who became the first "11th member" of the "Top Ten Fugitives" in 1961) and the James Earl Ray case.

While Bryant, who is serving life, as well as additional sentences, has filed appeals, the fact remains that Bryant made admissions in open court at the time of his sentencing (including a statement that he was not sorry) which clearly document his guilt. Marquette also made admissions of guilt following his arrest in 1961 and is serving a life term for murder. With regard to James Earl Ray, however, despite the fact that he pleaded guilty in the 1968 murder of Martin Luther King, and has been unsuccessful in subsequent appeals, nonetheless a Federal civil rights charge is still outstanding against him in the King case. Thus, we cannot furnish Jeffers details of our investigation.

Jeffers also advises that he plans to include a chapter entitled "The Radical Fugitives" which will highlight Angela Davis, the four "Wisbomb" subjects, and other extremists who have been named to the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives." We, of course, can furnish Jeffers no information regarding these fugitives aside from that released in connection with their being named to the "Top Ten" list.

Jeffers has reiterated that his manuscript will be submitted for our review and observations prior to publication and, in fact, he intends to begin sending the first chapters of the manuscript to us next month.

RECOMMENDATION:

As noted above, background details of the Bryant and Marquette fugitive investigations will be sent to Jeffers; and our inability to provide material in the James Earl Ray case, as well as in the "radical fugitives" cases, will be explained to him.