

MM

In this connection, it should be noted that SOMERSETT has been involved in union activities on a continual basis since his being discontinued in 1961, as well as being an informant for the Miami PD. He has developed considerable information during this time and, of course, this Bureau would have no control or interest in what he may have told COLLINS in connection with his association with the Miami PD.

From the information received, it appears that SOMERSETT and his union, the National Federation of Labor, are experiencing some difficulties with the National Labor Relations Board, which SOMERSETT feels are unjust and are also involved in the question of fair labor practices in connection with employment of Negro mechanics in the Miami area. It is rather apparent that SOMERSETT is fighting for the existence of his union, which he feels the National Labor Relations Board is attempting to discredit and disestablish. There is no question but what he has strong feelings in this regard and undoubtedly this has been one of the motivating forces which led him to contact COLLINS.

As stated above, SOMERSETT has been called to task on two occasions regarding his having divulged his previous association with this Bureau, and informed again of matters discussed with informants at the time they are discontinued.

It is not believed that SOMERSETT's contact with COLLINS will in any way embarrass the Bureau, noting that SOMERSETT informed upon his return to Miami, that he did not intend to divulge this past relationship to anyone else.

This whole matter has been reviewed in the Miami Office and there is no indication of any dereliction of duty on the part of any Agent personnel in connection with this matter, since SOMERSETT was fully informed in accordance with Bureau regulations at the time he was discontinued. There is no question but what he has not, in this particular instance, honored the Bureau's desires in this matter; however, this action on his part is in no way attributable to any shortcomings on the part of the Agent personnel who formerly handled SOMERSETT.

PAGE TWO

GAVE SOMERSETT NINE LEAFLETS WHICH HAD BEEN PREPARED BY ABOVE PARTY. TWO COPIES OF EACH LEAFLET WERE FORWARDED TO BUREAU AS ENCLOSURES TO REFERENCED AIRTEL. LEAFLETS DEALT PRIMARILY WITH MEETING AT MARIOTT HOTEL, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, ON OCTOBER NINETEEN AND TWENTY NEXT, WHERE RIGHT WING GROUPS THROUGHOUT ALL AMERICAE WOULD FORMULATE PLANS TO PUT AN END TO KENNEDY DASH KING DASH KHRUSHCHEV DICTATORSHIP OVER THE NATION. FURTHER, TO MAKE PLANS TO STOP THE MOVE TO THE LEFT.

ACCORDING TO MILTEER, AT THIS MEETING A BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL BE PICKED FROM THE GROUP TO SUPERVISE AND DIRECT QUOTE UNDERGROUND ARMY UNQUOTE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS. PURPOSE OF THIS ARMY, ACCORDING TO MILTEER, IS QUOTE NEXT YEAR THERE IS TO BE A LOT OF KILLING AND IT MAY EVEN BE NECESSARY TO GO RIGHT INTO THE STATE DEPARTMENT

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

AND PLACE SEVERAL OF THE TRAITORS PAREN NOT IDENTIFIED
BY MILTEER END PAREN UNDER CITIZENS ARREST. IF THESE TRAITORS
RESIST THEY WILL KILL THEM RIGHT ON THE SPOT UNQUOTE.

MILTEER IDENTIFIED [REDACTED]
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, AS ONE [REDACTED] IN THE ABOVE
PARTY. SOMERSETT IDENTIFIED [REDACTED]

EXACT NAME NOT RECALLED, HOWEVER, BELIEVED TO BE QUOTE
CITIZENS FOR ARREST OF TRAITORS UNQUOTE.

MILTEER INFORMED SOMERSETT THE REASON HE WAS CONTACTED
WAS THAT SEVERAL OF THE LEADERS IN ABOVE PARTY WANTED HIM
AT THE MEETING BECAUSE OF HIS PAST KLAN ACTIVITIES.

SOMERSETT RECONTACTED TELEPHONICALLY BY MILTEER
FROM VALDOSTA, GEORGIA, ON OCTOBER THIRTEEN LAST AND ASKED
TO BE IN VALDOSTA ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER SEVENTEEN NEXT.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

MILTEER STATED HE WOULD GIVE SOMERSETT A RIDE TO MEETING,
NOTING THAT HE WAS ALSO PICKING UP OTHERS IN ATLANTA,
GEORGIA, EN ROUTE.

SOMERSETT STATES HE WOULD BE WILLING TO ATTEND THIS
MEETING AND FURNISH ALL INFORMATION EXCLUSIVELY TO THE BUREAU, HOWEVER,
HE COULD NOT AFFORD EXPENSES AT THIS TIME, HE STATED HE WOULD
MAKE THIS TRIP IF HIS EXPENSES WERE PAID. HE IS OF THE
OPINION IF HE ATTENDS INDIANAPOLIS MEETING HE WILL SOLIDIFY
HIS POSITION WITH MILTEER AND OTHER LEADERS IN ABOVE PARTY WHO
ALONG WITH OTHERS HE WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH AT MEETING
AND MAYBE OBTAIN INFORMATION RE BAPBOMB.

FURTHER, HE WOULD ALSO STOP IN BIRMINGHAM FOR A WEEK
OR TWO ON RETURN TRIP TO MIAMI FROM MEETING AND ATTEMPT
TO DEVELOP INFO THROUGH CONTACT WITH [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] RE BAPBOMB, FURNISHING INFO DEVELOPED ONLY TO BUREAU.
END PAGE FOUR

N/A 6:30 PM
6/8/63
W

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 8 1963
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

URGENT 6-8-63 3-49 PM EST JWD
TO DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM SAC, MIAMI /137-363/
WILLIAM SOMERSETT, RACIAL MATTERS.
RE BUREAU TELETYPE INSTANT.
SUBJECT ADVISED [REDACTED]

McArthur

W

[REDACTED] MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT, OF THREAT AGAINST HIS
LIFE PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FROM MIAMI TODAY.
END AND ACK PLS

4-51 PM OK FBI WA WS

TU DISCV

68 JUN 13 1963

cc - Callahan

EX-114

REC-73 66-16458-325

JUN 11 1963

6-19

PAGE TWO

IT IS NOTED NSRP IS NOT ACTIVE IN MIAMI AND ACCORDING TO SOMERSETT, [REDACTED] BLAMES HIM FOR HIS FAILURE WITH NSRP, MIAMI.

[REDACTED] HAS ALSO ACCUSED SOMERSETT OF BEING AN FBI INFORMER. SOMERSETT STATED HE IS DEPARTING MIAMI BY TRAIN THIS A.M. AND WILL ARRIVE COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA ABOUT MIDNIGHT. WILL MEET WITH [REDACTED] AND RETURN TO MIAMI BY TRAIN SUNDAY NEXT. SOMERSETT STATES HIS CONTACT AT MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT ADVISED OF HIS TRIP TO COLUMBIA. AIR MAIL COPY BIRMINGHAM AND ATLANTA. M

END ACK PLS

WA 12-35 PM OK FBI WA JS

SV 11-32 OK FBI SV DLH

TU DISCVL

0

1 - Mr. Woodcock
1 - Mr. Peelman

July 29, 1963

pid 10-1

WILLIAM SOMMERSSETT
Miami, Florida

MAILED
JUL 31 1963
NAME CHECK

William Sommersett - Summary

A review of FBI files reveals the following information which may relate to the subject of your inquiry.

One William A. Sommersett, born March 27, 1903, at Wilmington, South Carolina, furnished information on a voluntary basis to the FBI from late 1956 until late 1961 concerning various Ku Klux Klan type organizations. He was never a Special Agent of the FBI. However, he was compensated for the afore-mentioned services.

This information should not be construed as a clearance, nonclearance or recommendation regarding Sommersett by the FBI.

(66-16458)

NOTE: Substance of this memorandum was prepared by SA [redacted] Civil Rights Section.

JSP:bep
(5)

ORIGINAL & 1 - ABWY
Request Received: 7-2-63

REC-28

66 16-158-326
19 AUG 1 1963
CHS
OKR

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI, and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency. This is in answer to your request for a check of FBI files.

62 AUG 6 1963
272

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION

OCT 15 1963

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

[Handwritten signature]

URGENT 10-15-63 3-46 PM EST MSB

TO DIRECTOR, FBI /66-16458/ AND
SACS, BIRMINGHAM /157-356/
INDIANAPOLIS

FROM SAC, MIAMI /137-363/ 5 P

WILLIAM SOMERSETT, ~~REDACTED~~

RE BUTEL THIS DATE TO MIAMI AND BIRMINGHAM AND
MIAMI TEL TO BUREAU AND BIRMINGHAM OCTOBER ELEVEN
LAST ENTITLED BAPBOMB, BUFILE ONE FIVE SEVEN DASH ONE ZERO
TWO FIVE, AND MIAMI AIRTEL TO BUREAU OCTOBER FOURTEEN
LAST ENTITLED CONSTITUTION PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES,
IS DASH X, BUFILE ONE ZERO FIVE DASH TWO SIX SEVEN NINE
THREE.

REFERENCED AIRTEL ADVISED THAT J. A. MILTEER,
VALDOSTA DASH QUTMAN, GEORGIA, OF THE CONSTITUTION PARTY
OF THE UNITED STATES, UNEXPECTEDLY APPEARED AT RESIDENCE
OF WILLIAM SOMERSETT AT SIX AM OCTOBER TEN LAST. MILTEER

END PAGE ONE

REC-55 66-16458-328

OCT 25 1963

Poster & Belmont 10/16
"Bapbomb"
Rad & Ehrig, 10/16/63
RBT: NRC

6- [Handwritten mark]

PAGE FIVE

AS THE BUREAU IS AWARE, SOMERSETT IS A PAID INFORMANT OF THE MIAMI, FLORIDA, POLICE DEPARTMENT, HOWEVER, HE REGULARLY, TELEPHONICALLY, ADVISES THE MIAMI OFFICE OF ALL INFO COMING TO HIS ATTENTION WHICH WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO THE BUREAU. MIAMI PD IS AWARE SOMERSETT IS FORMER BUREAU INFORMANT, HOWEVER, NOT AWARE THAT HE CURRENTLY FURNISHES INFO TO BUREAU. SOMERSETT, EVEN THOUGH DISCONTINUED AS AN INFORMANT, HAS ALWAYS EVIDENCED A FIRST LOYALTY TO THE BUREAU. MIAMI IS NOT AWARE OF INFORMANT COVERAGE THE BUREAU HAS AT BIRMINGHAM OR WILL HAVE AT INDIANAPOLIS MEETING MENTIONED ABOVE.

SOMERSETT WILL HAVE TO KNOW WHETHER HE WILL MAKE THIS TRIP BY THE EVENING OF OCTOBER SIXTEEN NEXT IN ORDER TO ADVISE MILTEER IF HE WILL ATTEND MEETING AND MEET HIM IN VALDOSTA, GEORGIA, ON OCTOBER SEVENTEEN NEXT. UACB, HE WILL BE ADVISED ON SIXTEENTH INSTANT TO MAKE THE TRIP TO INDIANAPOLIS AND BIRMINGHAM AND HE WILL BE PAID ACTUAL EXPENSES NOT TO EXCEED THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS

END AND ACK PLS

5-02 PM OK FBI WA OS

BH 3-02 PM OK FBI BH DLR

IP 4-01 PM OK FBI IP TTI

TU DISCV

FBI

Date: 11/13/63

Transmit the following

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (157-900) (P)

J. A. MILTEER
RACIAL MATTERS
(OO: ATLANTA)

Re Miami teletypes to the Bureau, 11/10 and 11/63 and Miami airtel, 11/12 /63, captioned "THREAT TO KILL PRESIDENT KENNEDY BY J. A. MILTEER, MIAMI, FLA., 11/9/63."

Enclosed for the Bureau are 4 Xerox copies, for Atlanta 2 copies, and for other Offices 1 copy of a recorded conversation between WILLIAM SOMERSETT, formerly [REDACTED] and J. A. MILTEER at Miami, Fla., 11/9/63.

This information must be treated as confidential and is being labeled "OBSCENE" in view of the language used during the conversation between SOMERSETT and MILTEER.

- 4 - Bureau (Enc-4) (AM) (RM)
(1 - 66-16458)
- 2 - Atlanta (Enc-2) (AM) (RM)
- 1 - Baltimore (Enc-1) (RM) (Info)
- 1 - Birmingham (Enc-1) (RM) (Info)
- 1 - Denver (Enc-1) (RM) (info)
- 1 - Jacksonville (Enc-1) (RM) (Info)
- 1 - Knoxville (Enc-1) (RM) (Info)
- 1 - Savannah (Info) (Enc-1) (RM)
- 1 - Washington Field (Info) (Enc-1) (RM)
- 3 - Miami (1-157-900) (1-137-363Sub A) (1-157-New-THREAT TO KILL PRESIDENT KENNEDY)

LCP:jit
(16)

66-16458-
NOT RECORDED
199 NOV 18 1963

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-106825-180

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

66 NOV 22 1963

1/10/62

Airtel

To: SACs, Charlotte
Jacksonville
Miami

From: Director, FBI

66-16458-323

SECURITY OF RACIAL INFORMANTS

EX-113

Re Miami airtel 1/5/62.

[redacted] contact [redacted] to determine whether he has been requested to obtain the original letter from the FBI as William Somerset claims he was told by [redacted]

[redacted] contact appropriate informants to determine whether they have received any information indicating [redacted] has received such a request.

Handle promptly.

NOTE: Several months ago allegations were allegedly made by [redacted] that a letter which he had written to [redacted] had been furnished to the FBI. Various versions indicate that either [redacted] William Somerset (a former Miami racial informant) made this letter available to the FBI. According to Somerset some Klan members now suspect that [redacted] may be a Bureau informant and that he is working with [redacted]. Somerset claims he was told by [redacted] the Association of South Carolina Klans, that [redacted] had been requested to obtain original of letter from FBI to determine postmark.

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 137-1759

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Malone _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

FCW: jam
(11)

MAILED 27
JAN 20 1962
COMM-FBI

63 JAN 25 1962

[Handwritten initials]

EX-101
JAN 24 1962

[Handwritten signature]
CHRISTY

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

FBI

Date: 1/5/62

Transmit the following in AIRTEL
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRMAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, MIAMI (137-363) (P)

13
110

SECURITY OF RACIAL INFORMANTS

[REDACTED]

CONF. INFT.

For the info of all offices, WILLIAM SOMMERSETT (formerly [REDACTED] is no longer a Bureau informant and Miami is not contacting him or directing his activities in accordance with Bureau instructions; however, info voluntarily furnished by SOMMERSETT is being recorded and disseminated where pertinent.

SOMMERSETT telephonically advised on 1/4/62 that he arrived by train in Atlanta, Ga., on 12/20/61, and took a cab to the home of his sister-in-law. While en route, the cab was hit from the rear by another vehicle resulting in personal injuries to SOMMERSETT's leg, and left eye as well as several body bruises. SOMMERSETT advised that during his stay in Atlanta he made a one-day trip to Columbia, S. C., where he contacted [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Association S. C. Klans (ASCK). He did not elaborate on the purpose for making this trip, but furnished the following information:

66-11147-323

[REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] United Fla. Ku Klux Klan (KKK) New Smyrna Beach, Fla., has put out several conflicting stories re SOMMERSETT and has tried to confuse everyone. In the beginning, [REDACTED] related that [REDACTED] identified by name) had stolen certain info from [REDACTED] and turned it over to the FBI. [REDACTED] is now saying that while he, [REDACTED] was in Chattanooga, Tenn. in 6/61, he wrote a

- 4 - Bureau (66-16458) (1 - 157-168) (AM + RM)
- 2 - Atlanta (1 - 157-60) (NKKK) (AM + RM)
- 2 - Birmingham (1 - 105-469) (NKKK) (AM - RM)
- 3 - Charlotte (1 - 137-1467) (1 - 157-193) (NKKK)

5 JAN 8 1962

- 2 - Jacksonville (am + RM)
- 2 - Savannah (157-210) (NKKK) (AM - RM)
- 3 - Miami (2 - 137-363 Sub A) (1 - 157-268)

Approved: [Signature] Special Agent in Charge

Sent [Stamp] M Per [Signature]

C C - Wick

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 137-1759-

FBI

Date: JAN 27 1962

Transmit the following in _____

A I R T E L

(Type in plain text or code)

A I R M A I L

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (157-93) (P)

RE: [REDACTED]
RACIAL MATTERS
(OO: ATLANTA)

CONF. INET. [REDACTED]

On 1/24/62, WILLIAM SOMMERSETT (protect) telephonically advised the Miami Office that [REDACTED] had just contacted him regarding the whereabouts of [REDACTED] Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. [REDACTED] said he was working with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] informed him the information published in the "Florida States Righter" was

- 4 - Bureau (AM)(RM)
(1 - 66-16458)
- 2 - Atlanta (105-942)(AM)(RM)
- 2 - Birmingham (AM)(RM)
(1 - 105-477)
(1 - NSRP)
- 1 - Jacksonville (RM)
- 1 - Tampa (RM)
- 4 - Miami
(2 - 157-93)
(1 - 157-97)
(1 - 137-363 Sub A)

166-16458-
NOT RECORDED
201 JAN 31 1962

LCP:bam
(14)

CARBON COPY

64 FEB 2 1962

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

ORIGINAL FILED IN 157-93-77

F B I

Date: November 20, 1963

PLAIN TEXT

Transmit the following in

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRMAIL

AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI ATTENTION: CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

FROM SAC, MIAMI (157-905) (P)

RE CONSTITUTIONAL AMERICAN PARTIES OF THE
UNITED STATES
RACIAL MATTERS

OO: Atlanta

Re Miami airtel and letterhead memorandum dated 11/15/63.

On 11/19/63 WILLIAM SOMERSETT telephoipally advised the Miami Office as follows:

- 4 - Bureau
(3) - 157-CAP (AM) (RM)
(1 - 66-16458)
- 3 - Atlanta
(2 - 157-CAP) (AM) (RM)
(1 - 157-J. A. MILTEER)
- 3 - Birmingham
(1 - 157-CAP) (AM) (RM)
(1 - 157-BAPBOMB)
(1 - 157-██████████)
- 1 - Charlotte (157-CAP) (AM) (RM)
- 2 - Jacksonville (157-CAP) (AM) (RM)
- 2 - Knoxville
(1 - 157-CAP) (AM) (RM)
(1 - 157-██████████)
- 2 - Savannah
(1 - 157-CAP) (AM) (RM)
- 6 - Miami (21-30427-905)
(1 - 157-900) (J. A. MILTEER)
(1 - 137-363) (Sub. A)

157-16458-
NOT RECORDED
78 NOV 29 1963

ORIGINAL FILED IN 157-1167-2

LCP:pb
Approved (21)

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE ATLANTA	OFFICE OF ORIGIN ATLANTA	DATE 1/22/64	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 1/13 - 14/64
TITLE OF CASE JOSEPH ADAMS MILTEER		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	TYPED BY :saa
<p style="text-align: right; margin-right: 50px;"><i>encl made 1/31/64 +2k</i></p>		CHARACTER OF CASE RACIAL MATTERS	
		<p>7- d</p>	

REFERENCE: Bureau airtel to Atlanta, 12/12/63, entitled "Constitutional American Parties of the U. S., RM."

- P -

ENCLOSURES: TO BUREAU

One photograph of subject.

LEADS:

BALTIMORE, BIRMINGHAM, DALLAS, HOUSTON, JACKSONVILLE, KNOXVILLE, SAVANNAH AND WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

One copy each of this report is being furnished the above offices inasmuch as MILTEER has visited or contacted persons living within these divisions.

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE: 5- Bureau (Enc. (RM)) 3- Atlanta (156-608)	157-1223-2 REC-12 11 JAN 24 1964 copies made
ADDITIONAL COPIES COVER PAGE B 58 FEB 5 1964	For review at FBIHQ by RSC - [Signature] 1-11-64
DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT	NOTATIONS <i>rec. Photograph - 4555</i> <i>12/17/64</i> <i>OHBJ/jaw</i> STAT SECT. <i>[Signatures]</i>
AGENCY..... REQUEST RECD..... DATE FWD..... HOW FWD..... BY.....	[Table with columns for tracking dissemination]

1 cc sent to Cim bin by 6-94 1/3/64 rbt-hf

AT 157-608

ADDITIONAL COPIES

- 1- Baltimore (Info) (RM)
- 1- Birmingham (Info) (RM)
- 1- Dallas (Info) (RM)
- 1- Houston (Info) (RM)
- 1- Jacksonville (Info) (RM)
- 1- Knoxville (Info) (RM)
- 2- Miami (RM)
- 1- Savannah (Info) (RM)
- 1- WFO (Info) (RM)

LEADS: (Continued)

MIAMI

AT MIAMI, FLORIDA

Will maintain contact with WILLIAM SOMERSETT,
former Miami [REDACTED]

ATLANTA

AT QUITMAN AND VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

Will follow activities of JOSEPH ADAMS MILTEER
in connection with his forming the Constitutional American
Parties of the United States.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2 Is WILLIAM SOMERSETT

2 copies made
for review at INHQ by
HSC-A Committee
JTB 5/27/77
Re: Somerset

AT 157-608

Records of the [REDACTED] Police Department show MILTEER was arrested on January 29, 1955, on suspicion of burglary and was released. He was fingerprinted on January 29, 1955, by the [REDACTED] Georgia, Number 1153.

The Identification Division, on December 2, 1963, advised its records contained a duplicate of the above fingerprint card and has no additional identification record for MILTEER.

G. Employment

MILTEER has no known employment at the present time. [REDACTED] Georgia, advised MILTEER allegedly operated concessions in the vicinity of military reservations in the past. She could furnish no specific information concerning this employment.

Confidential Informant AT T-2, on November 9, 1963, advised MILTEER claimed to have been employed for three and one-half years around the United States Supreme Court, Washington, D. C. T-2 could furnish no specific information concerning this alleged employment.

[REDACTED] Valdosta, Georgia, on January 7, 1964, advised that around 1962 J. P. COFIELD, Valdosta, Georgia, had a contract to haul mail from the Municipal Airport, Valdosta, Georgia, to the Valdosta Post Office. COFIELD was ill for two or three months during 1962 and had MILTEER substitute for him in hauling the above mail. COFIELD no longer has the above contract.

H. Residence

1. Corner of Clay and Lafayette Streets,
Quitman, Georgia
2. In care of Mrs. C. C. COFIELD
212 South Troupe Street
Valdosta, Georgia

AT 157-608

CONFIDENTIAL 11.5
National Chairman, Constitution Party of the United States, as stating that several hundred representatives at the above meeting indicated that they would prefer United States Senator BARRY M. GOLDWATER for their Presidential nominee. A movement against STROM THURMOND appeared when the National Committee started a move to kick out J. A. MILTEER, Quitman, Georgia, for declaring himself Regional Chairman for THURMOND in the Southeastern states. MILTEER had driven a truck plastered with signs advocating the nomination of THURMOND from Georgia. He spoke freely to the press. This rankled Colonel DALL, who considers himself spokesman.

After the threat to expel MILTEER from the party, an executive committee was held. This committee meeting was attended by MILTEER. At the conclusion of the meeting MILTEER said that [REDACTED] and the Executive Committee informed him that he could stay within party ranks but he would have to confine his activity to the State of Georgia. [REDACTED] said that MILTEER was dejected and disgusted with the above meeting of the Constitution Party of the United States.

Confidential Informant T-2, on November 9, 1963, advised that MILTEER visited Miami, Florida, on that date. While in Miami, MILTEER advised that plans were in the making to kill President JOHN F. KENNEDY at some future date. MILTEER suggested JACK BROWN, Chattanooga, Tennessee, as the man who could do the job and indicated that he would be willing to help. While being questioned concerning the plan, MILTEER stated he was familiar with Washington and the job could be done from an office or hotel in the vicinity of the White House by using a high powered rifle. MILTEER also advised that JACK BROWN had made attempts to follow MARTIN LUTHER KING in an effort to kill KING but never did get an opportunity.

T-2, on November 12, 1963, advised MILTEER is forming a new political party as opposed to the Republican and Democratic Parties. MILTEER suggested that he is naming his new party the "American Constitutional Party" or a name similar to this. This organization will be composed of a hard core underground whose identity will be secret. [REDACTED] Anniston, Alabama, and [REDACTED] Tennessee, are to be invited to join as underground members. The organization will be used as a front and the only individual to be exposed will be MILTEER.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Atlanta, Georgia
January 22, 1964

Title Joseph Adams Milteer

Character

Reference Report of Special Agent [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] January 22, 1964, at
Atlanta, Georgia.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

T-2, WILLIAM SOMERSETT, [REDACTED]
is a source who has furnished reliable information in the past and has furnished some information that could not be verified or corroborated.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- E F T O
- CLEAR

Date 5/31/77

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-117290)
 FROM: SAC, MIAMI (62-6603) (C)
 SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

Re Bureau telephone call to Miami, 5/25/77, requesting information as to whether or not Miami file concerning WILLIAM SOMERSETT, [redacted] indicates he has been publicly identified as a Bureau informant.

Enclosed for Bureau is a xerox copy of a memorandum to the SAC, 6/15/76, from Supervisor [redacted] containing information pertinent to this matter.

Additionally, review of Miami file regarding SOMERSETT reveals the following:

SOMERSETT's services as an informant were discontinued in 1961 at Bureau direction due to continuing evidence of indiscretion and use of poor judgment, as well as indications he was under suspicion as an informant by various state and union officials. Following his discontinuance, SOMERSETT was used as an informant by the Miami Police Department for several years, during which time he maintained periodic contact by telephone with SA [redacted] of this office, furnishing unsolicited information concerning local activities of interest to the Bureau. His contacts with this office were in no way encouraged.

According to SA [redacted] who was also in regular contact with the Miami Police Department during this time, the local police were well aware of SOMERSETT's former association with the Bureau as an informant, obviously due to his having revealed his past activities on behalf of the Bureau. The

ENCLOSURE
 2-Bureau (Enc. 1)
 2-Miami (62-6603)
 (4)

66-16451
 NOT RECORDED
 47 JUN 20 1977
 Per ASINE
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Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ (Number) _____ (Time) Per _____

70 JUN 20 1977

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-117290-132

MM 62-6603

local officers alluded to SOMERSETT's past role as an FBI informant as a matter of established fact and under the circumstances SA [REDACTED] saw no reason to deny it although the direct question was never raised.

As the Bureau is aware, in 1964 SOMERSETT related in great detail to former Florida Governor LEROY COLLINS his past activities as an FBI informant from 1947 to 1961, as well as his continuing voluntary contacts with the Miami Office. Additionally, he revealed his status as a source for the Miami Police Department and the Florida State Attorney's Office.

While SOMERSETT's identity as a former informant has not been publicly disclosed by the Bureau, it would appear from the above that SOMERSETT himself has revealed his past relationship to the extent that it is widely known, particularly in official circles, and Bureau should no longer attempt to conceal his past Bureau association.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MIAMI (170-1)

DATE: 6/15/76

FROM : SUPERVISOR [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

This is to record that on 6/14/76, DON CHRISTIANSON, reportedly a writer for the "Miami Magazine", telephonically contacted the writer to inquire about a tape recording made by the Miami Police Department. He stated that he had been in contact with the Miami Police Department and had heard this recording between WILLIAM SOMERSETT, which he identified as a former police informant and a former informant for the FBI, and J. A. MILTEER from the State of Georgia. He reported that MILTEER made the statement to SOMERSETT a week or 10 days prior to the assassination of President KENNEDY in Dallas, Texas, in which MILTEER related plans to assassinate the President, which plans were similar to those actually utilized in the assassination of President KENNEDY. CHRISTIANSON wanted to confirm that SOMERSETT was an informant for the FBI and additional information regarding MILTEER. He was advised that this office could make no comment regarding his inquiry and that any such information would have to come from the Bureau in Washington.

It is noted that previous inquiry has been made regarding this matter by CBS News and other news media and the Bureau is aware of the situation.


This matter is set forth for information purposes only.

① - 170-1
 1 - 89-35
 LCP:jkj
 (2)



170-1-79

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUN 5 1976	
FBI-MIAMI	



ENCLOSURE

66-16158

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



- 1 - Mr. Pehl
1 - Criminal Invest. Div.
1 - Mr. Peelman
1 - Mr. Lawn
2 - Mr. Mintz (Attn: Mr. Daly)

June 30, 1977

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

RE: MARCH 9, 1977, REQUEST OF HSCA FOR INFORMATION IN POSSESSION OF THE FBI PERTAINING TO WILLIE AUGUSTUS SOMERSETT

Reference is made to a letter dated March 9, 1977, to the Attorney General from U. S. Congressman Louis Stokes, Chairman, HSCA. This letter requested access to certain material in possession of the FBI.

As result of a meeting on April 14, 1977, between Steven J. Fallis and representatives of the Department of Justice and FBI, it was agreed that the FBI, in partial response to the March 9, 1977, request of HSCA, prepare for HSCA access all information retrievable in FBI Headquarters files concerning Willie Augustus Somersett (true name William Augustus Sommersett),

[REDACTED] FBI memorandum dated May 11, 1977, processed that pertinent material regarding [REDACTED] was available for HSCA review and that information concerning Sommersett was being processed.

On June 24, 1977, Mr. Robert L. Kouch, Special Counsel to the Attorney General, advised that, through consultation with Robert J. Lehner, Deputy Chief Counsel, HSCA, it was agreed that HSCA access to information on Sommersett would be limited to the period 1959 to present.

Based upon a review of FBI Headquarters indices, information regarding Sommersett has been processed in accordance with the above limitation, and is available for HSCA review at FBI Headquarters. References to Sommersett in the FBI's investigations into the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. (44-38861), and John F. Kennedy (62-109060), have already been available for HSCA review.

- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legislative Affairs

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

66-16458

1) - 66-16458 (William Augustus Sommersett)

JTA/gjw (11)

NOT RECORDED

192 JUL 26 1977

70 AUG 1 1977

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

NOTE: Sommersett was a Bureau informant from 1949-1961, reporting on criminal and racial activities. He was discontinued at the Bureau's direction due to evidence of indiscretion and poor judgment, and that he was under suspicion as an informant by various state and union officials. Following his discontinuance, Sommersett was used as an informant by the Miami Police Department for several years during which time he maintained periodic contact with the Miami Office, furnishing unsolicited information of interest to the Bureau. Sommersett is deceased.

In the King case, Sommersett furnished information regarding threats by white hate groups to kill King. After King was assassinated, Sommersett told our Miami Office that, as an informant for local law enforcement officials in Florida, he was directed to Memphis to develop information concerning the killing. Sommersett, as a Miami police informant, figured into the Kennedy case when the police recorded a conversation between Sommersett and J. A. Milteer wherein Milteer discussed killing Kennedy. This conversation took place prior to the assassination.

The informant file of Sommersett consists of five volumes, but with the 1959 cutoff date, HSCA access will involve only about 1 1/2 volumes. Except for normal excisions such as third and foreign agency material and identity of informants other than Sommersett, only Sommersett's symbol number will be excised from HSCA's access.

Articles appearing in the Fall 1976 issue of "The Miami Magazine" disclosed Sommersett worked as an informant of the FBI for about a decade. These articles advised that sources of information regarding Sommersett's relationship with the Bureau were Miami police officials [REDACTED]. Sommersett was also identified as a Bureau informant in a "Washington Post" article by Jack Anderson on 1/19/77. Sommersett was known as a Bureau informant to the Florida State Attorneys Office and in 1964 Sommersett related in great detail his activities as an FBI informant to former Florida Governor Leroy Collins, who at that time was associated with the Community Relations Service, Department of Commerce.

It has not been our policy to permit HSCA access to informant files. However, in the case of Sommersett this can be done without establishing an undesirable precedent because, as illustrated above, he has been publicly identified.

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

as an FBI informant. By airtel dated 5/31/77, the Miami Office agreed that Sommersett's identity could be disclosed to the HSCA because Sommersett himself has widely revealed his past relationship with the Bureau.

This matter has been coordinated with [REDACTED] of the Criminal Informant Unit, Criminal Investigative Division.

[REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Atlanta has no Bureau approved Thumbnail Sketch of the Constitution Party of the United States or the Constitutional American Parties of the United States. WILLIAM SOMERSETT, former Miami [REDACTED] advised MILTEER became disillusioned with the Constitution Party of the United States after attending a convention of this party at Indianapolis, Indiana, during October, 1963. Because of this MILTEER allegedly stated he was forming the Constitutional American Parties of the United States.

C* -
(COVER PAGE)

2 copies made
for review at FBIHQ by
HSC-A Committee
JTA: [Signature]
le: Somerset

I. BACKGROUND

A. Birthdate

MILTEER, on November 27, 1963, advised he was born on February 26, 1902, at Quitman, Georgia. Records, Brooks County Health Department, and Brooks County Ordinary, Quitman, as examined on January 7, 1964, contained no record of MILTEER's birth. Records, Quitman High School, Quitman, Georgia, contain no birth data for MILTEER.

B. Citizenship Status

born at Quitman, Georgia

C. Education

Graduated from Quitman High School, Quitman, Georgia, in 1921.

D. Marital Status

Single

E. Military Service

MILTEER not known to have been in the Armed Forces of the United States.

F. Credit and Identification

[REDACTED]

Quitman, Georgia, on September 24, 1962, advised she is personally acquainted with JOSEPH ADAMS MILTEER, who lives at the corner of Lafayette and Clay Streets, Quitman. MILTEER is considered to be an eccentric person and very little is known concerning his activities. He is approximately sixty years old and lives alone in a large run-down house. Very little is known concerning his background, but he was brought up in Quitman. His parents are deceased and he has no other relatives living in this area. It is rumored that MILTEER has lived in California and in the vicinity of Washington, D. C., where he operated some kind of concession around military reservations.

MILTEER has never bought anything on credit and does most of his buying in Valdosta, Georgia. MILTEER is a very frugal person and his net worth is estimated to be in excess of \$200,000. His father died approximately one year ago, leaving him a substantial amount of money and property. It has been rumored that MILTEER has made large deposits of money at banks in Jacksonville, Florida. During May, 1962, MILTEER sold the city of Quitman property for which he received \$20,000 in cash.

[REDACTED] advised a short time ago she visited the Municipal Airport at Valdosta, Georgia. During this visit, she observed MILTEER hauling mail from the airport to the Post Office in Valdosta. She did not know whether he was an employee of the Post Office or whether he had a contract to haul mail. Other than the above, he is seemingly unemployed.

During the past few years, MILTEER has been a constant fault-finder in the management of the City of Quitman. He digs up insignificant things that have not been done properly by city officials and publishes a small leaflet criticising the city administration. He does not have any close friends and she had never heard of him meeting with any group or organization.

[REDACTED] advised MILTEER is single and lives alone. There have been rumors that he was an associate of a woman in Valdosta, Georgia, but [REDACTED] did not know the identity of this woman. She also heard that MILTEER was once arrested by the Valdosta, Georgia Police Department. Apparently nothing ever came of this arrest since MILTEER has never served a prison sentence to her knowledge. [REDACTED] did not know the nature of the above arrest.

Records of the Credit Bureau [REDACTED] Georgia, and the Credit Bureau [REDACTED] Georgia, as examined on January 7, 1964, revealed nothing in addition to the above information.

[REDACTED] Police Department on September 24, 1962, and January 7, 1964, advised MILTEER has no identification record with this department.

I. Physical Description

The following is a physical description of MILTEER as obtained by interview and observation on November 27, 1963:

Name	JOSEPH ADAMS MILTEER
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'4"
Weight	160 pounds
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Gray, partially thinning
Complexion	Ruddy
Characteristics	Wears glasses with metal frame; heavy waistline, small, round shouldered; nearly always unshaven, short gray stub with about two days growth, shabby dresser, wears old-fashioned clothes; tan hunting type cap; short legged; most of height from waist upward
Relatives	None known
FBI Number	None

J. Make and Model of Automobile

1. 1962 gray Volvo, 1963 Georgia license 61-D 226

Records of the Brooks County Tax Collector, Quitman, Georgia, show 1963 Georgia 61-D 226 was issued February 22, 1963, to J. A. MILTEER, North Clay Street, Quitman, Georgia, for use on a 1962 Volvo, two-door sedan, Vehicle Identification Number 141502678.

2. 1963 Volkswagen station wagon, 1963 Georgia license 11D 2762

Records of the Lowndes County Tax Collector, Valdosta, Georgia, show 1963 Georgia license 11-D 2762 was issued on August 15, 1963, to JOE MILTEER, 212 South Troupe Street, Valdosta, Georgia, for use on a 1963 Volkswagen station wagon, model 221. Vehicle Identification Number 1043319. This Volkswagen was purchased on August 15, 1963, from Pipkins Motors, Inc., North Ashley Street, Valdosta, Georgia.

AT 157-608

[REDACTED] Pipkins Motors, Inc., North Ashley Street, Valdosta, Georgia, on January 8, 1964, advised that MILTEER, on November 26, 1963, traded the above 1963 Volkswagen station wagon for a 1964 Volkswagen station wagon, Vehicle Identification Number 1185675, Motor Number 0312846. At the time of this trade MILTEER listed his address as 212 South Troupe Street, Valdosta, Georgia. The Volkswagen which is turquoise and white in color, bore no license place when observed by FBI Agents on November 27, 1963.

K. Photograph

MILTEER was photographed by FBI Agents on November 27, 1963, and copies of this photograph are maintained by Atlanta.

L. Special Abilities

MILTEER is a prolific writer and is the author of numerous pamphlets which he distributes himself.

MILTEER reportedly carries a .38 caliber revolver in his car when travelling.

M. Associates

[REDACTED] advised MILTEER is well known to all persons in Quitman. MILTEER is considered eccentric and has no close associates in this city.

MILTEER is closely associated with a known prostitute, Mrs. C. C. COFIELD, 212 South Troupe Street, Valdosta, Georgia, and spends a great deal of his time at the above address.

II. CONNECTIONS WITH HATE-TYPE ORGANIZATIONS

[REDACTED] on May 18, 1962, made available to Atlanta a leaflet captioned "The Last Days of the Republic, Urgent Call to All White Christian Voters in Georgia" signed "G. Seals Aiken, Chairman and Founder, Constitution Party of Georgia, 1104-5 First National Bank Building, Atlanta, Georgia" and "J. A. (JOE) MILTEER, Organization Director, Constitution Party of Georgia, Quitman, Georgia."

This pamphlet urged persons to attend a meeting at the Red Barn, Highway 80, Macon, Georgia, on May 20, 1962. It urged "White Christians, Believing in White Supremacy, Believing Communism Is the Work of the Anti-Christian, and Believing It Is Entirely Up to White Christians to Recapture Control Of Our State and Return to Solvency" to attend and organize a "White Christian American Grass Roots Movement."

[REDACTED] on July 17, 1962, advised the above meeting was attended by approximately fifteen unidentified persons from Quitman, Georgia. Approximately eight persons from Macon, Georgia, attended. The meeting was a flop. [REDACTED] White Citizens Council for the Betterment of America, Macon, Georgia, sent word to this meeting of the Constitution Party that the people of Macon were organized and that this party was not necessary and was not wanted in Macon.

[REDACTED] on September 24, 1962, advised he has been acquainted with MILTEER for approximately ten years. He described MILTEER as being an "agitator" who spends his time finding fault with the administration of the City of Quitman. MILTEER makes a big to-do about his criticism and prints a leaflet which he distributes among the residents of Quitman. MILTEER has no close associates and [REDACTED] has never known him to meet with any group of people. His father and mother are dead and he has no relatives in this area. He lives alone in a large run-down house and is considered eccentric.

MILTEER is considered to be well off financially although he is very frugal in his living habits. He generally drives a foreign made automobile and visits Jacksonville, Florida, frequently. During city elections in Quitman MILTEER talks about a third party but very few people pay any attention to him. MILTEER has been defeated on several occasions in his efforts to become a City Commissioner in Quitman.


Confidential Informant AT T-2, on October 11, 1963, advised MILTEER visited Miami, Florida, on October 10, 1963, distributing the following leaflets:

End of Kennedy, King, Khrushchev Dictatorship;
Operation Survival; David Goes Forth to Meet Goliath; Why?;
Defender or Defector; Liars and Easter; War Time Emergencies;
Is Term "Cold War" A Lie?; and When They Take Over.

The above leaflets were critical of the United States Supreme Court and of the Government of the United States. They criticized the liberal element in the United States and championed the "Right Wing" conservatism.

AT T-2 advised MILTEER was distributing the above pamphlets to a number of trusted people throughout the United States in an attempt to have them participate in a meeting to be held at the Marott Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 19 - 20, 1963, to formulate plans to put an end to the Kennedy, King and Khrushchev Dictatorship over the nation. At this meeting a Board of Directors was to be picked to supervise and direct an "underground Army" in their respective areas. MILTEER stated "next year there is to be a lot of killing and it may be necessary to go right into the State Department and place several of the traitors (not identified by MILTEER) under citizen's arrest. If these traitors resist, they will kill them right on the spot." The above was the purpose for forming the "Underground Army."

MILTEER described MILLER GRUBBS, Louisville, Kentucky, as being a leader of the Constitution Party of the United States. T-2 identified GRUBBS as being a constitutional lawyer who also heads an organization believed to be "Citizens For Arrest of Traitors."

 on October 15, 1963, advised the Constitution Party of the United States would hold a national committee meeting at the Marott Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana, from October 19 - 21, 1963. Dr. ARTHUR G. BLAZEY, Indiana state chairman of the Constitution Party of the United States was quoted in the Indianapolis Star as stating the party was organized in Indianapolis in 1960 to "correlate the efforts of conservative votes in all states who have finally realized that we have been denied a two party system for the past thirty years." Lieutenant General Padro A. del Valle, United States Marine Corps (Retired), Annapolis, Maryland, was to be the main speaker. Dr. BLAZEY described General del Valle as being one who has not retired from the battle to serve this country from

AT 157-608

such enemies as the United Nations and current administration collaborators who want to strip our Republic of all defense arms and resources in order to subject our people to one-world tyranny.

Confidential Informant AT T-2, on October 30, 1963, advised that on the evening of October 18, 1963, approximately thirty individuals met at the Marott Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana.

[REDACTED] spoke against KENNEDY, the Government, and said that the Government is full of Communists and indicated he was not satisfied with the Constitution Party of the United States. MILTEER spoke along the same lines as [REDACTED] and suggested having a hard core group formed to prevent the United States Government from being taken over by Communists.

On October 18, 1963, MILTEER, [REDACTED] WILLIAM SOMERSETT met in Room 222 of the Marott Hotel. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss and take appropriate action to prevent [REDACTED] Klansman from Atlanta, Georgia, from addressing the Constitution Party of the United States. It was believed that [REDACTED] would be identified with the Ku Klux Klan and that this would go against their choice for President [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] on November 4, 1963, advised that on October 18 - 20, 1963, MILTEER [REDACTED] roomed together in Room 220, Marott Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana. Both were attending the convention of the Constitution Party of the United States. From a conversation between MILTEER and [REDACTED] learned that [REDACTED] admired [REDACTED] Tennessee. [REDACTED] described [REDACTED] as being a Klansman, and stated that he admired him more than any Klansman he had ever met. [REDACTED] was of the opinion that [REDACTED] met [REDACTED] while en route to Indianapolis.

[REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] stated the United States Government was spending \$10,000 monthly protecting someone in his neighborhood in Atlanta, Georgia. This person had been visited by MARTIN LUTHER KING [REDACTED] MILTEER commented that he could kill this individual by Tuesday. MILTEER did not relish killing but he could do it. MILTEER stated he would first have to see this individual so that he would not kill the wrong man. [REDACTED] learned that this individual was [REDACTED] the Student Non-Violent Committee, Atlanta, Georgia.

2 copies 10/16
For review at FBIHQ by
HSC-A Committee
JTB/WE 12/17/77
Re: Somerset

[REDACTED] Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, on October 25, 1963, advised that there is no one named [REDACTED] employed by the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee. [REDACTED] could possibly be identical with [REDACTED] Negro male student of Morehouse College, Atlanta.

[REDACTED] Quitman, Georgia, [REDACTED] on October 25, 1963, advised the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee has not been active in the Quitman area. He knew of no one named [REDACTED] in this area that could be the object of MILTEER's threat.

[REDACTED] advised MILTEER claimed he ran for Governor of Georgia under the Constitution Party of Georgia. MILTEER also claimed he was the Regional Director of the southeastern states of the Constitution Party of the United States.

On October 20, 1963, MILTEER was advised by the national committee of the Constitution Party that he was not entitled to use the above designation since such a title did not exist in the party. MILTEER was advised that [REDACTED] was [REDACTED] of the Constitution Party of Georgia. MILTEER claimed that [REDACTED] was not active. MILTEER was then advised to contact [REDACTED] and work it out with him to get himself elected to the National Committee by the Georgia delegation. After MILTEER left the closed session of the National Committee it was indicated that the members of this committee did not trust MILTEER.

[REDACTED] learned that MILTEER [REDACTED] were enemies and that MILTEER indicated that [REDACTED] was to be eliminated when the time comes. U.S.

It has been ascertained that [REDACTED] is [REDACTED] in the National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and is [REDACTED] of the Defensive Legion of Registered Americans, Inc., which is described as an anti-Semitic and anti-Negro organization.

An article entitled "Constitutionists Develop Split" appeared in the October 23, 1963, edition of the "Indianapolis Star", Indianapolis, Indiana. This article quoted CURTIS B. DALE

AT 157-608

T-2, on November 14, 1963, made available the principles and objectives of the Constitutional American Parties of the United States as furnished by MILTEER:

"PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMERICAN PARTIES (C A P) OF THE UNITED STATES.

- "1. Uphold and defend the United States Constitution and State Rights.
2. Keep State and Church separate; Uphold right of Prayer and reading of the Holy Bible in Public Schools.
3. Demand and support a strong, well trained, armed National Armed Forces commanded by tried and proven real, red-blooded, dedicated, patriotic Americans.
4. Restore and enforce The Monroe Doctrine.
5. Uphold and defend individuals' rights to have and bear arms to protect their homes, (their castles).
6. Uphold and support Free Enterprise, - (Right to work Law).
7. Protect business in whom it may hire and fire, serve and not serve.
8. Stop Foreign Aid to all Communist Countries and their Satellites.
9. Return control of our money to Congress.
10. Cut Federal spending and reduce taxes, balance the budget.
11. Limit powers of United States Supreme Court to decisions only.

AT 157-608

12. Limit Executive Powers of the President.
13. Seek out and remove any and all Traitors in every branch of the Federal Government wherever found.
14. Defend and support individuals' right to vote for Free Electors.
15. Work for and urge all Americans to register and vote.
16. Get the United States out of the United Nations and get the United Nations out of the United States.

For more detailed information write and send donations to

J. A. Milteer, National Chairman,
Constitutional American Parties,
(C A P), (The Constructive Parties)
P. O. Box 873
Valdosta, Ga."

T-2, on November 26, 1963, advised MILTEER departed from Jacksonville, Florida, on November 23, 1963, by automobile en route to Columbia, South Carolina. During this trip MILTEER stated he had been in Houston, Fort Worth and Dallas, Texas, as well as New Orleans, Louisiana, Biloxi and Jackson, Mississippi, and Tuscaloosa, Alabama. MILTEER said he was acquainted with [REDACTED] Dallas, Texas, whom he described as a "good man." He did not indicate on what days he was in the above cities except for Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

While in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, MILTEER contacted [REDACTED] United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, on the evening prior to the bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, Birmingham, Alabama, on September 15, 1963. MILTEER described [REDACTED] as being against violence and stated he was not dependable.

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MILTEER stated that MARTIN LUTHER KING and Attorney General ROBERT KENNEDY are now unimportant. He stated their next move would be against "Big Jew" noting that there is a Communist conspiracy by the Jews to overthrow the United States Government.

T-2 advised on the morning of November 24, 1963, while at the Wade-Hampton Hotel, Columbia, South Carolina, MILTEER stated that they did not have worry about LEE HARVEY OSWALD getting caught because he "doesn't know anything" and that the "right wing" is in the clear. MILTEER stated "The patriots have outsmarted the Communists and had infiltrated the Communist group in order that they could carry out the plan without the right wingers becoming involved."

T-2, on November 26, 1963, advised MILTEER, on November 24, 1963, held a meeting in the Wade-Hampton Hotel, Columbia, South Carolina. Attending this meeting were [REDACTED] members of the Association for South Carolina Klans, [REDACTED] South Carolina, and [REDACTED] South Carolina, also attended. MILTEER discussed the Principles and Objectives of the Constitutional American Parties of the United States. Prior to the arrival of the above persons MILTEER made notes on hotel stationery captioned, "Notice to All Christians." On these notes MILTEER stated "The Zionist Jews killed Christ two thousand years ago and on November 22, 1963, they killed President KENNEDY. You Jews killed the President. We are going to kill you." The note was signed "International Underground."

MILTEER advised the above persons that he was preparing a pamphlet which he wanted to disseminate throughout the country. In view of the recent events in Dallas, Texas, he would have to alter the information he was setting out in his pamphlet.

[REDACTED] in a private conversation with T-2, questioned T-2 indicating that he was not too familiar with MILTEER's activities.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 1, 1963

JOSEPH ADAMS MILTEER, Quitman, Georgia, was interviewed November 27, 1963, at which time he advised that during April, 1963, he attended a national meeting of the Congress of Freedom, New Orleans, Louisiana. He described this organization as one that believed in Americanism and he attended this meeting as the result of an invitation by [REDACTED] the organization, Omaha, Nebraska. He stated during this meeting neither he nor anyone in his presence discussed the assassination of President KENNEDY.

MILTEER stated further that in June, 1963, he went to Dallas, Texas, to attempt to persuade [REDACTED] to run as Vice-President on the Constitution Party ticket in the election in November, 1964. He stated he had no other business in Dallas.

MILTEER further stated that on October 18-20, 1963, he traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana, with BILL SUMERSETT of Miami, Florida, and [REDACTED] Georgia. They attended the National Convention of the Constitution Party. He stated he attended this meeting as the result of an invitation by [REDACTED]

MILTEER described himself as a non-dues-paying member of the White Citizens Council of Atlanta, Georgia, the Congress of Freedom and the Constitution Party.

MILTEER emphatically denies ever making threats to assassinate President KENNEDY or participating in any such assassination. He stated he has never heard anyone make such threats. He also denied making threats against anyone subsequent to the assassination of President KENNEDY. He stated he does not know, nor has he ever been in the presence of LEE HARVEY OSWALD or JACK RUBY to his knowledge.

MILTEER denied any knowledge of the bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, on September 15, 1963.

- 15 -

On 11/27/63 at Quitman, Georgia

by [REDACTED]

File #

Date dictated

12/1/63

For review at FBIHQ by

HSC-A Committee
J. E. [REDACTED]
12/1/63Re: Somersett

AT 157-608

T-2, on December 1, 1963, advised he met with [REDACTED] of the Association for South Carolina Klans at Columbia, South Carolina, on November 23, 1963. They discussed the assassination of President KENNEDY, the Constitutional American Parties of the United States and MILTEER. [REDACTED] expressed their regrets over the assassination of President KENNEDY and questioned T-2 as to whether MILTEER could have been involved. [REDACTED] was concerned over a statement made by MILTEER that the "Right Wing" had nothing to worry about. [REDACTED] questioned T-2 concerning the relationship between MILTEER [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was concerned as to whether MILTEER had actually formed an underground group unknown to the Klan. MILTEER and [REDACTED] both stated they had agreed to join with MILTEER in a campaign to blame President KENNEDY's death on the Jews. They also indicated that they would assist MILTEER in forming the Constitutional American Parties of the United States.

T-2, on December 1, 1963, made available the following pamphlet which was prepared by MILTEER:

"WAKE UP - - CHRISTIANS"

"The Jews had Jesus killed nearly 2000 years ago. They have not changed in all this time. They, the Zionist Jews, Communists, had President JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY killed in Dallas, Texas, by LEE OSWALD, November 22, 1963. LEE OSWALD, in turn, was killed by JACK RUBINSTEIN. All violence committed by left wing groups.

"It now becomes the solemn duty of every true, red-blooded American to seek, find, expel, drive out from our country every traitor be he a Zionist Jew, Communist, or what have you.

"Give us liberty or we'll give you death.

"International Underground"

AT 157-608

T-2, on December 10, 1963, furnished the following letter, which was mailed from Valdosta, Georgia, on December 9, 1963, from MILTEER:

"CONSTITUTIONAL AMERICAN PARTIES OF U. S.
Post Office Box 873
Valdosta, Georgia
J. A. Milteer, National Chairman

"Dec. 9, 1963.

"Due to recent events which have taken place within our American borders that may, in time, change the course of history, and the usual holidays before us, it is deemed advisable to curtail any contemplated meetings of our Constitutional American Parties of the United States movement until early in the new year of 1964. You will be advised of any meeting which may be called for early in January, 1964.

"Since we are 'Right Wing' and it is our aim and intention to uphold and defend our United States Constitution against all enemies, both within and without our borders, we may be called before the F. B. I. for questioning relative to many things. You are advised to cooperate fully but do so on your Constitutional American Parties rights. Do not go alone for any conference or to answer any questions to any F. B. I. office. Be interviewed in your own home or office with some one present or with others present with you. Do not at any time be interviewed alone with any F. B. I. Agent or Agents.

"If a telephone call comes to you any where, your home, office or any other place requesting you to meet with some one at any certain place, street corner, building, home, business place, church, synagogue or any where, wait a few minutes and call the person who called you to arrange any such meeting to see if it is authentic and for further detailed instructions. This will verify the call and make it

clear in your mind whether it is a frame-up or not. Then to further keep yourself in the clear, remain in your home or business place, do not go any where and do not meet with anybody. Frame-ups to involve any and all 'Right Wing' followers may be in the making by none other than the F. B. I. Be very cautious.

"I extend to you and your family a warm, hearty and Merry Christmas, followed with a Happy, Prosperous New Year with blessings from our LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST throughout the entire 1964 year.

"Yours for the return to GOD ALMIGHTY, the BIBLE and our United States Constitution in 1964.

"/s/ J. A. Milteer."

[REDACTED] on December 8, 1963, advised he is acquainted with [REDACTED] members of the Association of South Carolina Klans, and [REDACTED] South Carolina. [REDACTED] could furnish no information regarding any meeting of members of the Association of South Carolina Klans held at the Wade-Hampton Hotel, Columbia, South Carolina, on November 24, 1963. [REDACTED] are members of Klavern 335, Association of South Carolina Klans, West Columbia, South Carolina. [REDACTED] have never given indication of advocating violence in connection with the racial issue. [REDACTED] advised there is no group known as the Constitutional American Parties of the United States at Columbia, South Carolina.

III. STATEMENTS MADE BY SUBJECT CONCERNING VIOLENCE AND ACTIVITY IN RACIAL SITUATIONS.

Confidential Informant AT T-2, on October 11, 1963, advised MILTEER was in Miami, Florida, on October 10, 1963, distributing leaflets urging people to attend a meeting of the Constitution Party of the United States at Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 19 - 20, 1963. At this meeting MILTEER claimed that a Board of Directors was to be picked to supervise an "Underground Army." MILTEER stated

AT 157-608

"next year there is to be a lot of killing and it may even be necessary to go right into the State Department and place some of the Traitors, not identified by MILTEER, under citizens arrest. If these traitors resist, they will kill them right on the spot."

[REDACTED] on November 4, 1964, advised MILTEER, on October 18 - 20, 1963, attended the convention of the Constitution Party of the United States held at the [REDACTED] Indianapolis, Indiana [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] in a conversation with MILTEER, stated the United States government was spending \$10,000 monthly protecting someone in his neighborhood in Atlanta. This individual had been visited by MARTIN LUTHER KING and [REDACTED] MILTEER commented that he could kill this individual by Tuesday. He did not relish killing but he could do it. He would first have to see this individual so that he would not kill the wrong man. The individual referred to was [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the Student Nonviolent Committee, Atlanta, Georgia.

[REDACTED] Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, on October 25, 1963, advised that there is no one named [REDACTED] employed by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. [REDACTED] could possibly be identical with [REDACTED] Negro male student at Morehouse College, Atlanta.

[REDACTED] on October 25, 1963, advised the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee has not been active in the Quitman, Georgia, area. He knew of no one named [REDACTED] in this area that could be the object of MILTEER's threat.

Confidential Informant AT T-2, on November 9, 1963, advised MILTEER was visiting in Miami, Florida, on that date. MILTEER talked about plans in the making to kill President KENNEDY at some future date. He suggested JACK BROWN, Chattanooga, Tennessee, as being the man who could do the job and indicated that he would be willing to help. MILTEER stated he was familiar with Washington and the job could be done from an office or hotel in the vicinity of the White House by using a high powered rifle.

AT 157-608

T-2, on November 20, 1963, advised that MILTEER, on November 9, 1963, told him that he was forming a new political party as opposed to the Republican and Democratic Parties. This Constitutional American Parties of the United States was to be comprised of a hard core underground whose identity will be secret.

are to be invited to join as underground members. The organization is to be used as a front and the only individual to be exposed will be MILTEER.

T-2, on November 26, 1963, advised that MILTEER was in the Union Train Station, Jacksonville, Florida, on November 23, 1963. MILTEER stated he was very jubilate over the death of President KENNEDY. MILTEER stated "Everything ran true to form. I guess you thought I was kidding you when I said he would be killed from a window with a high powered rifle."

When questioned as to whether he was guessing when he originally made the threat regarding the President, MILTEER stated, "I don't do any guessing."

MM 157-896; 157-918

The tape was reviewed on 3/11/64 and the following pertinent portions were noted:

During the first portion of the tape, SOMERSETT turned over to [redacted] the carbine rifle he had obtained and instructed [redacted] to be careful.

Robert

MM 157-896
157-918

Los Angeles should attempt to arrange for appropriate coverage of [REDACTED] particularly concerning his future travel plans in view of the remarks made by [REDACTED]

Mobile is requested to expedite leads set forth in Miami airtel, 12-14-63.

Miami will prepare appropriate LHMs for dissemination purposes regarding the information set forth in this airtel, except for the information concerning BAPBOMB.

[REDACTED]

MM 157-896
157-918

anti-Semitic and said there is only one solution and that is to kill the leaders of the "big Jew organizations" and specifically referred to the ADL as one of the organizations. SOMERSETT said he questioned [redacted] regarding an article [redacted] concerning a plot to assassinate Chief Justice EARL WARREN. [redacted] said he had not heard any plans to assassinate WARREN as WARREN is nothing but a "stooge" for the "Communist Jews".

Regarding the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY, [redacted] said that this should never have happened but that the "big Jews" around him should have been killed. [redacted] did not elaborate as to the identity of the "big Jews".

Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING

[redacted] said that after the Birmingham church bombing, MARTIN LUTHER KING threatened to come to Mobile, Alabama, to integrate and to put on demonstrations as he did in Birmingham. He said "we" were waiting on him to come and had he come to Mobile, they were going to kill him, even if it meant killing Government officials who were protecting KING.

[redacted] said that [redacted] are moving east in California. He stated they have formed a group known as the Christian Defense League with the main purpose of raising funds for the use of "patriots". While discussing [redacted] predicted there will be some killings of "big Jews", which will take place at the same time in various parts of the United States. [redacted] did not elaborate on this statement.

MM 157-896; 157-918

LOS ANGELES:

If not previously handled, will prepare a letterhead memorandum on [REDACTED] for U. S. Secret Service, noting [REDACTED] reportedly has a carbine rifle.

MOBILE:

If not previously handled, will prepare a letterhead memorandum on [REDACTED] for U. S. Secret Service, noting [REDACTED] reportedly has a Springfield rifle and made a trip to Birmingham for the alleged purpose of killing MARTIN LUTHER KING.

Information copies are being furnished to Memphis and New Orleans since [REDACTED] has indicated he may go to Mississippi.

SINCE [REDACTED] IS NOW KNOWN TO HAVE A CARBINE RIFLE, HE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

March 9, 1977

The Honorable Griffin B. Bell
Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

I appreciate the opportunity to meet with you and propose to discuss the following items:

1) To continue even a threshold investigation, it is necessary that our staff have access to the unclassified materials in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Consequently, we would appreciate your removing any impediments to these materials.

2) So that we might continue our investigation as expeditiously as possible when reconstituted, it is important that we discuss the procedures for security clearances of our staff, so that we might obtain access to classified materials at the appropriate time.

3) Certain materials are extremely vital which are presently in the custody of the Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, pertaining to the investigation into the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Accordingly, we would respectfully request that you provide our staff with the following information:

- a) Reports, memoranda, statements, etc.
concerning Miami Police Intelligence and
WILLIE AUGUSTUS SOMERSETT

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ENCLOSURE

MM-1

There was absolutely no question but that SOMERSETT fully understood the confidential nature of his relationship and acknowledged that he did understand same and that he did not intend to divulge this relationship anytime in the future.

As the Bureau is aware, after being discontinued as a Bureau informant, SOMERSETT became an informant for the Miami Police Department and developed considerable information regarding matters which were of interest to both the Miami PD and to the FBI.

At no time was SOMERSETT encouraged to continue to contact this Bureau; however, he did continue to furnish information on a strictly voluntary basis, which was accepted in accordance with Bureau instructions, and he in no way was persuaded to continue such voluntary contacts. Normally, these contacts were by phone and the information was accepted as any other information would be accepted from persons contacting this Office.

In discontinuing this informant, the Bureau instructions contained in Bureau airtel of 11/13/61 were fully complied with and this Office has had no indication since that time that SOMERSETT was in any way divulging the fact that he was formerly an informant of this Bureau. In fact, this incident with COLLINS came as a surprise to the Miami Office and at the time SOMERSETT called from Washington, the confidential nature of his former association with this Bureau was again forcefully pointed out to him.

As set out in Miami airtel of 12/23/64, this information was again brought to SOMERSETT's attention, at which time he stated he was fully aware of the confidential nature of his past association with this Bureau and had informed no one of this except COLLINS, because he felt it was necessary to brief Mr. COLLINS in order that he could have the benefit of all of the facts.