



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. _____

Newark, New Jersey
November 25, 1963

NATION OF ISLAM

On November 24, 1963, two sources, who have furnished reliable information in the past, advised that John Nash, Captain of the Fruit of Islam (FOI) at Muhammad's Mosque (MM) #25, Newark, New Jersey, telephoned all members of the FOI at MM #25 whom he could reach between 2:00 a.m. and 3:45 a.m. on November 24, 1963, and advised them to be at MM #25 at 4:00 a.m. that day. Upon arrival at MM #25, FOI members were advised that Nash was expecting a telephone call from Elijah Muhammad, national leader of the Nation of Islam (NOI), and shortly after 4:00 a.m. a telephone call was received by Nash. Following this telephone call Nash advised FOI members that they had been called there to see how many members were really "with" Messenger Muhammad. Nash said he and all NOI ministers and members had been instructed by Muhammad to make absolutely no comments about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Nash said that the "devil" (white race) was very upset over the assassination of President Kennedy and might become violent at the slightest provocation. Nash also advised that Muhammad had stated his scheduled address in New York, New York, on December 1, 1963, had been cancelled because of unsettled conditions.

Characterizations of the FOI, MM #25, and the NOI are set forth in the appendix hereto.

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FRUIT OF ISLAM

On July 10, 1963, a source advised that the FRUIT OF ISLAM (FOI) is a group within the NATION OF ISLAM (NOI) composed of male members of the NOI. The purpose of the FOI is to protect officials and property of the NOI, assure compliance of members with NOI teachings and to prepare for the "War of Armageddon". Members of the FOI are required to participate in military drill and are afforded the opportunity to engage in judo training. The FOI is governed by a military system wherein the members are controlled by general orders similar to those issued by regular military organizations.

APPENDIX

NATION OF ISLAM
Formerly referred to as
Muslim Cult of Islam, aka.
Muhammad's Temples of Islam

Muhammad's Temple of Islam (MTI) #25,
Eka. Muhammad's Mosque (MM) #25,
Newark, New Jersey

On November 7, 1961, a source advised that MTI held meetings in Newark as early as April, 1958, and became MTI #25 on December 14, 1958. During October, 1961, MTI #25 moved into a building they purchased at 257 South Orange Avenue, Newark.

On November 25, 1961, records of the Secretary of the State of New Jersey, State House, Trenton, New Jersey, reflected under Corporation File #S18611 that a Certificate of Incorporation had been filed and recorded on April 3, 1961, for "Muhammad's Mosque #25", a religious corporation of the City of Newark. These records reflected MUHAMMAD'S MOSQUE #25 is affiliated with MUHAMMAD'S MOSQUES OF ISLAM, INC., Chicago, Illinois.

On December 6, 1961, Deed Book #3819, pages 261-263, at the Essex County Hall of Records, Newark, reflected MM #25 purchased property on September 27, 1961, which is known by street number as 257-259 South Orange Avenue, Newark.

On May 1, 1963, a second source advised that MM #25 was then located at 257 South Orange Avenue, Newark. This source advised that MM #25 is directed and controlled by ELIJAH MUHAMMAD, national leader of the NATION OF ISLAM (NOI), and its aims and principles are the same as the NOI.

APPENDIX

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**NATION OF ISLAM, formerly referred to as the
Muslim Cult of Islam, also known as
Muhammad's Temples of Islam**

In January, 1957, a source advised ELIJAH MUHAMMAD has described his organization on a nationwide basis as the "NATION OF ISLAM" and "MUHAMMAD'S TEMPLES OF ISLAM".

On July 10, 1963, a second source advised ELIJAH MUHAMMAD is the national leader of the NATION OF ISLAM (NOI); Muhammad's Temple of Islam No. 2, 5335 South Greenwood Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, is the national headquarters of the NOI; and in mid-1960, MUHAMMAD and other NOI officials, when referring to MUHAMMAD's organization on a nationwide basis, commenced using either "Mosque" or "Temple" when mentioning one of "Muhammad's Temples of Islam".

The NOI is an all-Negro organization which was originally organized in 1930 in Detroit, Michigan. MUHAMMAD claims to have been selected by ALLAH, the Supreme Being, to lead the so-called Negro race out of slavery in the wilderness of North America by establishing an independent black nation in the United States. Members following MUHAMMAD's teachings and his interpretation of the "Koran" believe there is no such thing as a Negro; that the so-called Negroes are slaves of the white race, referred to as "white devils", in the United States; and that the white race, because of its exploitation of the so-called Negroes, must and will be destroyed in the approaching "War of Armageddon".

In the past, officials and members of the NOI, including MUHAMMAD, have refused to register under the provisions of the Selective Service Acts and have declared that members owe no allegiance to the United States.

On May 5, 1958, the first source advised MUHAMMAD had, upon advice of legal counsel, tempered his personal statements and instructions to his ministers concerning the principles of his organization in order to avoid possible prosecution by the United States Government; however, he did not indicate any fundamental changes in the teachings of his organization.

On July 10, 1963, a third source advised MUHAMMAD had early in July, 1958, decided to de-emphasize the religious aspects of the teachings of Islam and to stress the economic benefits to be derived by those Negroes who joined the NOI. This policy change, according to MUHAMMAD, would help him acquire additional followers and create more interest in his programs.

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APPENDIX