



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

February 26, 1968

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Cult of Druidic Practorians
Also Known as Black Druids

In response to his request on February 1, 1968, [redacted], was contacted by a Special Agent of the FBI on that date at his residence, [redacted] Los Angeles, California. [redacted] advised he is unemployed and the spiritual leader of a religious cult known as "Cult of Druidic Practorians", also more commonly known as the "Black Druids". Wall stated this organization was founded in New York City, October 15, 1965, as a religious-political group numbering approximately 13 young people. The religious aspect was centered in the belief in mystical occurrences and the political aspects were conservative aims. He said that the organization had no specific address or headquarters in New York City.

[redacted] advised that from October, 1966, to June, 1967, he was employed in New York City [redacted] with the Zurich Life Insurance Company, 156 Williams Street. Wall said that he left this employment to move with the Black Druids group to Los Angeles in June, 1967, where they established residence at [redacted]. He said that this move was also prompted by the fact that he suffered from asthma. He said that since the move to the Los Angeles area he has not been employed and subsists on the communal earnings of the young followers who now approximate 25 in number.

According to [redacted] the Black Druids dropped the political aspects of their organization and are now more religiously oriented with a more thorough belief in the validity of mystical experience. To this end, Wall, as leader of the group, desires to set up a corporation known as Intuitive Advice Incorporated, whose purpose will be to produce a television show illustrating the mystical beliefs of the Black Druids. This television production, however, will have satire aimed at the American Telephone and Telegraph, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), Moscow, President Lyndon B. Johnson, and California Governor Ronald Reagan.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] said that he felt that the CIA had determined the purpose of the television production and, in order to prevent its production or taping, had commenced a program of harassment. [REDACTED] said that he could not specifically substantiate that CIA was instigating this harassment but that he felt the neighboring residences at [REDACTED] Drive and [REDACTED] Los Angeles, were houses which were used as observation posts by the CIA to watch his movements. He inferred that CIA had possibly been instrumental in preventing him from being employed in Los Angeles and possibly was aware of telephone conversations that emanated from his residence.

According to [REDACTED] he had attempted to contact various law enforcement agencies concerning his allegations of harassment which he said had increased, particularly in the last month or so. He claimed that the law enforcement agencies did not respond to his complaints. He said that he, himself, personally did not make these complaints but had instructed members of his group to advise of the foregoing alleged harassments by CIA. In this connection, he said that on January 31, 1968, he had requested certain of his young male followers, who he did not name, to telephonically contact the "Chicago Tribune", the "New York Daily News" and relate the general substance of the alleged CIA harassment.

According to [REDACTED] sometime in the near future, he intends to take his group of 25 people to Hong Kong and there attempt to engage some firm to tape a television production concerning the Black Druids and their beliefs. In response to a specific inquiry as to how financing for such travel and production costs could be met, he indicated that his group had saved approximately \$8,000 and this should suffice. He stressed that he was not engaged in any "cheap publicity for the Black Druids".

[REDACTED] said that on Tuesday, January 30, 1968, he mustered his group of 25 followers and went to the British Consulate in Los Angeles, where he talked to a representative of the Consulate. [REDACTED] said that he wanted to ask the British Consulate if he could gain political asylum in Hong Kong and there produce his television taping. He indicated that this act was prompted by his feeling that harassment would never cease and that this was one good way to avoid CIA surveillance.

[REDACTED]

By way of background, Wall said that he was born July 22, 1931, at Sioux Falls, South Dakota and was originally raised as a Catholic, but as a young adolescent fell away from this religion and commenced to develop a philosophy as a result of his worldly experiences and failure to maintain a continuous status quo in the four colleges that he attended. He claimed that he was a "wordly person", that he liked good stories, good liquor and women. He said that just some 25 days ago he first began to believe in God again since his youth. He stresses that his group does not use narcotics in any form, and are solely banded together in a common belief in mystical events.

As concerns [REDACTED] subsequently identified as the wife of [REDACTED], it is noted that this person, a resident of [REDACTED] Los Angeles, directed a telegram, on February 3, 1968, to Mr. John Edgar Hoover, Washington D.C., which in essence requested that someone interfere on behalf of her husband as her husband was on a "hunger strike". This telegram indicated that the [REDACTED] had called the White House and were "disconnected, probably by the CIA".

On February 4, 1968, [REDACTED] telephonically contacted the Los Angeles Office of the FBI and advised that he was aware of some information that was to be taped on February 5, 1968, and was to be played on a local television station on February 9, 1968. He was non-specific in regard to this information.

At approximately 5:00 p.m. on February 10, 1968, [REDACTED] appeared at the Los Angeles Office of the FBI. At this time it was noted that he had under his coat a plastic superman doll and a deck of cards which he represented to be "a million dollars". [REDACTED] appeared to be under the influence of liquor and, at this time, said, "I am an Irishman that gets mad." He said he had been in a padded cell and, at this point, picked up a glass ash tray and intentionally broke it. He mentioned that he had been in a room that "was a giant light switch". He talked in a rambling manner, stating that he was going to be the next President of the United States and had information concerning the assassination of President Kennedy; that he had information

[REDACTED]

that was going to lead to the next Stock Market crash, "which would be worse than the Irish potato famine," and that every item in the Los Angeles Times, a local newspaper, of February 10, 1968, was really about him. Wall was subsequently escorted from the office and was then noted to immediately stand in the middle of the street challenging a bus driver to run over him.

Mr. Thomas Reed, 5 Sunnybrook Road, Bronxville, New York, telephonically notified the New York Office of the FBI on February 12, 1968, that he had learned that [REDACTED] had been sending threatening telegrams to President Johnson, and supposedly was doing this from Los Angeles, California. According to Reed, [REDACTED] was a mental case and is under the belief that he is being persecuted by the CIA. Reed was of the opinion that [REDACTED] had been arrested recently for assaulting a police officer in Los Angeles.

On February 13, 1968, SA Stuart Knight, United States Secret Service, Los Angeles, California, was advised of the foregoing information concerning [REDACTED]. SA Knight said that the name and general activities of Wall, as well as his general background, was already known to the United States Secret Service in Los Angeles.

On February 13, 1968, files of the Identification Division of the Los Angeles Police Department were reviewed concerning [REDACTED] and under Los Angeles Police Department Number [REDACTED] it is reflected that John Doe, Number 2, subsequently identified as [REDACTED] was booked under Number [REDACTED] on February 8, 1968, for battery against a police officer. [REDACTED] was described as a white male, 5 feet 7 inches in height, weighing 170 pounds, who refused to give his age and birth date.

Arrest report reflects, among other things, that during the booking, John Doe, Number 2, subsequently identified as [REDACTED] was completely irrational and refused information necessary to complete the booking record. One of his comments at this time was, "Whale is a bird. I am controlling all your minds."

On February 14, 1968, [REDACTED] appeared at the Los Angeles Office of the FBI.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that he had important information regarding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, which he had received from "unrevealed sources". He said that the CIA was responsible for the assassination and that Jack Ruby was a "Manchurian Candidate in the affair." He further advised that "two men that Director J. Edgar Hoover had second guessed" could give confirmation of the above statements. He named the men as Robert Welch of the John Birch Society, and General Walker.

[REDACTED] further advised that he was offering his services to the FBI as part of a committee to investigate the assassination without charge today; however, anytime after today, if his services are accepted, it will cost the FBI two million dollars.