

FBI

Date: 10/1/64

Transmit the following (Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL (Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (66-16458)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (170-1) (P)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM SOMERSETT

[Redacted subject line]

*Gray*

*3/10*

On 9/30/64, WILLIAM SOMERSETT furnished the following information:

SOMERSETT related that he has been following, through the local Mobile and New Orleans newspapers, the racial problems in Alabama and Mississippi, and in particular the bombings and church bombings in McComb, Miss., and vicinity. SOMERSETT said one reason the FBI is experiencing difficulty in identifying individuals responsible for acts of violence is due to the fear for the lives of anyone who furnishes information to the Bureau. SOMERSETT also noted the fact that small towns are involved makes it even more difficult to obtain information.

SOMERSETT advised he wanted to go on record with the Bureau and the Jackson Field Office that he is available and willing to assist the Bureau anywhere, any time, and in any way possible in connection with investigations of violations within the Bureau's jurisdiction. SOMERSETT noted he is familiar with the territory and is

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - Jackson (RM) (Info)
- 1 - Miami
- LCP:rm
- (5)

*in ch...*  
*REC 66-16458-331*  
*10 OCT 2 1964*

66-16458-331

18 OCT 2 1964

Approved: *[Signature]*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

*INT. SEC.*

JAN 21 1965

MEMORANDUM

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. Gray

66-16458-

Honorably LeRoy Collins  
 Director  
 Community Relations Service  
 U. S. Department of Commerce  
 Washington, D. C. 20230

Dear Mr. Collins:

Reference is made to your letter dated January 14, 1965, regarding the interview you had with William Somerset.

Concerning my memorandum dated December 21, 1964, which you referred to in your letter, I wish to advise that this memorandum was sent to you inasmuch as Somerset had informed our Miami Office that he had contacted you and told you of his previous relationship with this Bureau. This memorandum was purely for your information and was not meant to question the propriety of your contact with Somerset.

For your confidential information, William Somerset was associated with this Bureau as a confidential source, but was discontinued on November 13, 1961, because certain information furnished by him was found to be inaccurate.

Any action you may take concerning Somerset's allegation of unfair labor practices will not interfere with any of the activities of this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

JGD:jmw/sew  
 (9)

NOTE: See cover memorandum captioned "William Somerset" dated 1/19/65, prepared by JGD

8-5897-657  
 RECD - COMM. ROOM  
 JAN 21 9 26 AM '65  
 ORIGINAL FILED IN

Mr. Tolson  
 Mr. DeLoach  
 Mr. Mohr  
 Mr. Bishop  
 Mr. Casper  
 Mr. Callahan  
 Mr. Conrad  
 Mr. Felt  
 Mr. Gale  
 Mr. Rosen  
 Mr. Sullivan  
 Mr. Tavel  
 Mr. Trotter  
 Tele. Room  
 Miss Holmes  
 Miss Gandy

79 FEB 3-1965

12/28/64

AIRTEL

- 1 - Administrative Division
- 1 - Mr. Freund

To: SAC, Miami (157-1195)

From: Director, FBI (66-16458)

WILLIAM SOMERSETT

[REDACTED]

CONF. ENFT.

*mjr* 3/10

ReMMtel December 21, 1964, captioned "National Federation of Labor, Inc., Racial Matters, 00:MM."

Retel indicates Somerset has advised Leroy C. Collins, Jr., Community Relations Service, Department of Commerce, concerning his former association with the Bureau. Apparently Somerset has either not been fully informed concerning keeping his relationship with the Bureau a confidential matter or he is not honoring the Bureau's desires in this matter.

*J*

Immediately submit explanations from personnel handling Somerset together with your recommendations for administrative action, if any, deemed necessary in this matter.

REC-55 66-16158-332

FHF:gem

(5) gem

JAN 4 1965

NOTE:

Miami advised William Somerset former racial informant, who had furnished both reliable and unreliable information in the past and who was discontinued because of his unreliability, contacted the Miami Office from Washington, D. C. Somerset stated he had been in contact with Leroy C. Collins, Jr., Community Relations Service, Department of Commerce, regarding National Federation of Labor, Inc., Miami, Florida, being harrassed by National Labor Relations Board in connection with colored mechanics on construction jobs. Somerset said he told Collins he formerly assisted FBI as well as Miami Police Department in racial matters and was responsible in solving the Donald Shoemaker bombing, February 18, 1962. Miami being requested to submit explanations from personnel involved together with recommendations as to whether Somerset has been properly handled and controlled in connection with his relationship with the Bureau.

DEC 23 1964  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Loach \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

68 JAN 7 1965 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

*asst* 1/3/65 *gem*



F B I

Date: 12/30/64

Transmit the following \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (66-16458)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (170-1)

WILLIAM SOMERSETT

[REDACTED]

Re Miami teletype to Bureau, 12/21/64, and Miami airtel to Bureau, 12/23/64, captioned "NATIONAL FEDERATION OF LABOR, INC., RACIAL MATTERS, OO: MIAMI," and Bureau airtel to Miami, 12/28/64.

Referenced Bureau airtel requests that explanations be submitted regarding the handling of this informant, since the informant advised LEROY C. COLLINS, JR., Community Relations Service, Department of Commerce, regarding his former association with the Bureau.

At the time this informant was discontinued, on instructions of the Bureau on 11/14/61, he was being handled by SA [REDACTED] with SA [REDACTED] acting as the Alternate Agent.

As the Bureau was advised in Miami airtel dated 11/17/61, SOMERSETT was contacted and advised that he was no longer an informant of this Bureau and was no longer acting in our behalf. He was further informed of all matters pertaining to the discontinuance of an informant, as prescribed by Bureau regulations. In this connection, he was advised specifically regarding the confidential nature of his relationship with this Bureau and he stated that he did not intend to inform anyone of his past relationship with this Bureau, including newspapers, publishers, reporters, etc.

REC-9 66-16458-33

3 - Bureau (Am) 1 cc  
2 - Miami  
(1 - 157-1195)

23 JAN 2 1965

Approved: HAN:jlt

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

INT. SEC.

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
Burgess  
1/12  
30

*Handwritten letter 'L'*

*Handwritten signature/initials*

*Vertical handwritten notes:*  
1-8-65

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. Sullivan *[Handwritten initials]*

FROM : F. J. Baumgardner *[Handwritten initials]*

SUBJECT: WILLIAM SOMERSETT  
*[Redacted]*

DATE: January 8, 1965

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. Deegan

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

*[Handwritten signatures and notes]*  
*[Handwritten: 10/3]*

William Somerset, a former racial informant who was discontinued on November 13, 1961, because of his unreliability, contacted the Miami Office on December 21, 1964, advising he had informed Leroy C. Collins, Jr., of the Community Relations Service, Department of Commerce, that he had formerly assisted the FBI as well as the Miami Police Department in racial matters and was responsible in solving the Donald Shoemaker bombing which occurred on February 18, 1962. Miami was requested to submit explanations from personnel involved together with recommendations as to whether Somerset had been properly handled and controlled in connection with his relationship with the Bureau.

Somerset had furnished both reliable <sup>information</sup> and information which could not be verified prior to his discontinuance. He had furnished information to the Miami Police Department and also the FBI in connection with the Donald Shoemaker bombing.

The Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of Miami informed that at the time Somerset was discontinued he was being handled by Special Agent *[Redacted]* and Special Agent Alternate, *[Redacted]*. In November, 1961, Somerset was contacted and advised he was no longer informant of Bureau, and he was no longer acting in our behalf. He was informed of all matters pertaining to discontinuance of informant according to Bureau regulations and specifically advised regarding the confidential nature of his relationship with the Bureau. At this time, Somerset said he did not intend to inform anyone of his past relationship with this Bureau, including newspapers, publishers, reporters, etc. SAC, Miami stated there is absolutely no question but that Somerset 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.

December 23, 1964, when Somerset advised of his contact with Collins, it was again brought to Somerset's attention the confidential nature of his past association with the Bureau, and Somerset said he had informed no one except Collins of this association.

SAC, Miami, stated the whole matter had been reviewed and there is no indication of any dereliction of duty on the part of any Agent personnel in connection with this matter. It was the opinion of

FHF:jmw

EXPED 1965

CONTINUED - OVER

JAN 26 1965

*[Handwritten signatures and notes]*  
 REC-9 66-16458-307  
 3/11

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: January 19, 1965

FROM : F. J. Baumgardner *8/15*

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. Gray

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: WILLIAM SOMERSETT

[REDACTED]

The Director stated in connection with a letter concerning William Somerset from LeRoy Collins, Director of the Community Relations Service, United States Department of Commerce, "I want to know identity of Agent Somersett complained about and Collins can certainly look into it. H"

The "serious problems and antagonisms" of Somersett referred to in Mr. Collins' letter were apparently Somersett's explanation of difficulties he experienced in his labor union activities while operating as an FBI informant and it does not appear he was complaining about any Special Agent of the FBI.

Somerset was a racial informant of the Miami Office who was discontinued on 11/13/61 because he was unreliable. Somersett's contact with Collins first came to our attention when the Miami Office advised by teletype dated December 21, 1964, that he telephonically contacted the Miami Office from Washington, D. C., advising of his contact with Mr. Collins. He stated he told Mr. Collins that he had formerly assisted the FBI as well as the Miami Police Department in racial matters. A letterhead memorandum concerning Somersett's advising our Miami Office of his contact with Mr. Collins was furnished to the Office of Community Relations Service for its information. There was no question raised concerning Somersett's relationship with Collins or the organization in this. It was purely an informative-type memorandum.

Immediately upon being advised of Somersett's contact with Mr. Collins and the disclosure of his former relationship with the Bureau, Miami was requested to submit explanations from personnel involved, together with recommendations as to whether Somersett had been properly handled and controlled in connection with his relationship with the Bureau.

Miami Office advised that at the time Somersett was discontinued he was being handled by Special Agent [REDACTED] and alternate Special Agent [REDACTED]. The SAC advised that the whole matter had been reviewed and there is no indication of any dereliction of duty on the part of any Agent personnel in connection with this.

Enclosure *sent 1-21-65* CONTINUED-OVER

JGD:jmw  
(8)  
FEB 4 1965

JAN 25 1965

SEC

*page 10-*

*157-1047 NFL*

*JA*

*L*

1 - J.G. Deegan

September 17, 1965

Airtel

To: SAC, Miami (170-1) REC-23  
From: Director, FBI (66-16458) -- 336

WILLIAM SOMERSETT  
[REDACTED]

Reurairtel 9-13-65.

Keep Bureau advised of all pertinent developments in the matter concerning Somerset's possible appearance at the hearing to be held in the near future called by the National Labor Relations Board. Bureau's interest in this matter concerns Somerset's possible public disclosure that he was formerly an informant for the FBI. The Bureau must be advised of the date Somerset will appear as a witness prior to the time he appears. Do not contact Somerset in connection with this matter, but in the event he contacts your office, again caution him not to publicly disclose his former confidential relationship with the Bureau. If he should specifically ask what he should do in the event he is called as a witness before the National Labor Relations Board, he should be told that the Bureau cannot furnish him any instructions in this regard; however, he should be reminded that the prior relationship was confidential.

JGD:jmw  
(4)

NOTE: Somerset was a criminal and racial informant of the Bureau who was discontinued on 11-13-61 because of unreliability. He presently is active in union activities and is associated with the National Federation of Labor in the Miami area. Miami advised that [REDACTED] the NAACP, contacted the office and stated [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the National Federation of Labor. He advised that a hearing is to be held in the near future called by the National Labor Relations Board concerning this organization. Somerset is the National Organizer of this organization, and according to [REDACTED] considerable pressure has been brought about by Miami AFL-CIO labor unions to force Somerset and the National Federation of Labor out of business. It would appear from [REDACTED] inquiry that Somerset indicated to him that he was an informant for the FBI on Klan matters. It is believed we should be advised when this hearing takes place prior to the time of Somerset's appearance in this matter.

SEP 17 1965  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

JGD  
JGD



FBI

Date: 9/13/65

Transmit the following

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (66-16453)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (110-1)

RE: WILLIAM SOMERSETT

CONF. INFT.  
Re Miami airtel to Bureau 12/30/64.

*Handwritten notes:*  
110  
10  
3  
DM

[Redacted] NAACP, Miami, contacted the Miami FBI Office 9/9/65 and stated as follows:

[Redacted] the National Federation of Labor, Inc. (NFL) at a hearing to be held in the near future, called by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to determine if the NFL is a successor to the United Southern Employees Association. He was contacted several months ago by WILLIAM SOMERSETT, national organizer of the NFL and has learned considerable about the NFL and SOMERSETT. Because of SOMERSETT's determination to provide equal employment in all crafts, regardless of race, creed or color, considerable pressure has been brought about by the Miami AF of L-CIO, Labor Union, to force the NLRB to take steps to put SOMERSETT and the NFL out of business. Consequently, there is considerable bad blood between the NLRB and SOMERSETT.

Information has recently come to his attention that the NLRB will attempt to expose SOMERSETT's past criminal record and to show that SOMERSETT is or was a member of the Ku Klux Klan. In addition, the local press has been invited to attend the forthcoming hearing to report this fact and to show that the president of the NAACP is defending a Klan member.

[Redacted] stated publicity of this kind represents a serious threat to him. [Redacted] said that if he could show that even though SOMERSETT was a member of the Klan, he was

3 - Bureau  
1 - [Redacted]  
LCP:m  
(4)

REC-23  
MCT-47  
66-16453-336

16 SEP 15 1965

Approved: *[Signature]*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

*Handwritten:* 9-17-65

*Handwritten:* [Signature]

F B I

Date: 10/8/65

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

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (66-16458)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (170-1) (C)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM SOMERSETT  
[REDACTED]

Re Bureau airtel to Miami, 9/17/65, and Miami airtel to Bureau, 9/21/65.

WILLIAM SOMERSETT telephonically advised on 10/6/65 that he had received leg and head injuries in an accident in Miami about three weeks ago.

SOMERSETT stated the hearing regarding the NFL before the NLRB, has been continued and scheduled for October 12 and 13, 1965.

SOMERSETT advised that [REDACTED] an attorney for the NFL.

However SOMERSETT was again cautioned not to publicly disclose his former confidential relationship with the Bureau.

SOMERSETT did not request any instructions as to testifying before the NLRB.

3-Bureau  
1-Miami  
LCP:mr  
(4)

EX-112 OCT-15 66-16458 338  
REC-69 OCT 20 1965

[REDACTED] Wick

Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FBI

Date: 9/13/66

Transmit the following (Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL REGISTERED MAIL (Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (66-16458)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (170-1)(C)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM SOMERSETT

CONF. INFT.

Re Miami teletypes to Bureau, 9/6, 9/7 and 9/9/66, captioned, "UNSUBS; Theft of 400 Pounds of Dynamite, 111 Blasting Caps, 600 Feet of Primer Cord, Homestead, Florida, Between 9/3 - 5/66. BOMBING MATTERS."

On 9/6/66, information was received from local authorities regarding the theft of 400 pounds of dynamite and other items during the Labor Day weekend, 1966.

On the same date, WILLIAM SOMERSETT, formerly telephonically advised the Miami Office that he had been contacted by who wanted to sell him some dynamite. (This contact was a result of a discussion between SOMERSETT and some six months earlier when they were talking about a theft of dynamite in Dade County and SOMERSETT led to believe he would be interested in buying some.)

Information furnished by SOMERSETT appeared to tie in to the theft of 400 pounds of dynamite during the Labor Day weekend and was immediately furnished to

immediately contacted

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Miami
LCP:
(4)

REC-50

66-16458-339

EX-103

SEP 15 1966

Approved: Special Agent in Charge

Sent M Per

INT. SEC

Handwritten signature and initials

10

C.C. Wick

1 - Mr. Rosen (Attention Mr. Martindale)  
1 - Mr. Deegan  
9/19/66

SAC, Miami (170-1)

Director, FBI (66-16458) - 339

EX-103

WILLIAM SOMERSETT

Reurairtel dated 9/13/66.

Authority is not granted to pay Somerset the \$100 requested in referenced airtel. It appears from review of this matter that Somerset's services were performed primarily for the benefit of local authorities; therefore, if he is paid for his services, it should be by the local authorities.

In addition, you are again reminded that, as a discontinued source of this Bureau, Somerset's activities should not be directed and he should definitely understand that he is not acting in behalf of the Bureau.

JGD:lam  
(5)

NOTE:

Miami advised that Somerset, a former racial informant of that office, furnished information to the FBI which was then furnished to local police which enabled them to recover two cases of dynamite, which was part of a theft involving 400 pounds of dynamite, 111 blasting caps, 600 feet of primer cord. Miami recommended that Somerset be paid \$100 for this information. Miami pointed out that the local police authorities advised that their respective departments do not have funds to pay Somerset for the information he furnished. Somerset was discontinued on 11/13/61 because of unreliability. Civil Rights Section of Division 6 advised that the matter Miami referred to as a bombing matter was not a Bureau bombing case and it was simply a matter of police cooperation. The Civil Rights Section does not believe Somerset should be furnished the \$100 requested.

MAILED 3  
SEP 18 1966  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Wick \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SEP 27 1966

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

B/M JH  
R/S

FBI

Date: 8/17/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (66-16458)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (170-1)

WILLIAM SOMERSETT

CONF. INFO

WILLIAM SOMERSETT telephonically advised today that he was leaving Miami for Mobile, Alabama, by train via Birmingham, Alabama. He stated he was making the trip at the request of \_\_\_\_\_

SOMERSETT is to contact \_\_\_\_\_ and a potential bombing suspect of the Mobile Office. The purpose of contacting \_\_\_\_\_ is to advise him that if he cares he can purchase property in Miami belonging to \_\_\_\_\_ and in addition to prevent \_\_\_\_\_ from discrediting \_\_\_\_\_ SOMERSETT said he expected to arrive in Mobile on 8/19/68 and that if any information comes to his attention of interest to this Bureau, he will contact the nearest FBI Office.

For the information of all offices, the activities of SOMERSETT are not being directed by

- 3 - Bureau
  - 1 - Atlanta (Info)
  - 1 - Birmingham (Info)
  - 1 - Charlotte (Info)
  - 1 - Jackson (Info)
  - 2 - Mobile
  - 1 - New Orleans (Info)
  - 1 - Miami
- LCP/kmm  
(11)

REC 36

66-16458-340

14 AUG 21 1968

*Handwritten signature*  
RACIAL INT. SECT.

61 SEP 4 1968 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
NOV 28 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 11/28/63 12-43PM EST LG  
TO DIRECTOR, AND SAC-S DALLAS AND BIRMINGHAM  
FROM SAC, ATLANTA

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, NOVEMBER  
TWENTYTWO, SIXTYTHREE, DALLAS TEXAS.  
JOSEPH ADAMS MILTEER, RACIAL MATTERS.

RE BUREAU TELEPHONE CALL TO ATLANTA ELEVEN TWENTYSEVEN  
SIXTYTHREE.

JOSEPH ADAMS MILTEER, QUITMAN, GA. INTERVIEWED TONIGHT AT  
VALDOSTA, GA., RA. ADVISED DURING APRIL SIXTYTHREE HE ATTENDED  
NATIONAL MEETING OF QUOTE CONGRESS OF FREEDOM ENQUOTE AT NEW  
ORLEANS, LA. HE DESCRIBED THEME OF ORGANIZATION AS AMERICANISM  
AND HIS PRESENCE WAS BY INVITATION FROM MR. PAREN FNU ENPAREN  
THOMAS, CHAIRMAN, OMAHA, NEBRASKA. MILTEER DENIES HE OR ANYONE  
IN HIS PRESENCE AT NEW ORLEANS DISCUSSED THE ELIMINATION OF  
PRESIDENT KENNEDY BY ASSASSINATION.

MILTEER STATES ON OCT. EIGHTEEN THROUGH TWENTY LAST HE,  
BILL SOMERSETT OF MIAMI, FLA. AND LEE MC LEOD, ATLANTA, GA.,  
END PAGE ONE

*Handwritten notes:*  
State  
Trans  
Lester  
JS

*Handwritten initials:* CJ

EX-108

REC-3

62-109010-12425  
cc. [Handwritten]

22 DEC 8 1963

LBI

REC'D - CIVIL RIGHTS

53 DEC 9 1963

PAGE TWO

TRAVELED TOGETHER TO INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION OF QUOTE CONSTITUTION PARTIES ENQUOTE. MILTEERS PRESENCE WAS BY INVITATION OF <sup>CURTIS B. DAWL</sup> ~~CURTIS B. DAWL~~, FORMER SON IN LAW OF PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT. WALLY BUTTERWORTH, DESCRIBED BY MILTEER AS VIOLENTLY ANTI-SEMITIC, AND JAMES R. VENEABLE, ATTORNEY ATLANTA, GA., BOTH MADE SPEECHES.

MILTEER DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS NON DUES PAYING MEMBER OF THE WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL, ATLANTA, GA., CONGRESS OF FREEDOM AND CONSTITUTION PARTIES. STATES ATTENDS MEETING AND USUALLY TAPES SPEECHES.

MILTEER VISITED DALLAS, TEXAS IN JUNE SIXTYTHREE ATO ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE DAN SMOOT, AUTHOR OF DAN SMOOT-S REPORT, TO RUN AS VICE-PRESIDENT ON CONSTITUTION PARTIES TICKET, IN NATIONAL ELECTION IN NOVEMBER SIXTYFOUR.

MILTEER EMPHATICALLY DENIES EVER MAKING THREATS TO ASSASSINATE OR PARTICIPATE IN ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY OR ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL AND HAS NEVER BEEN IN THE PRESENCE OF ANYONE ADVOCATING SUCH ACTS. DENIES MAKING THREATS AGAINST ANYONE FOLLOWING PRESIDENT KENNEDY-S ASSASSINATION. MILTEER  
END PAGE TWO

MM 89-35  
FPG:ggz/ds

1

Re: Threat to Kill President  
KENNEDY by J. A. MILTEER,  
Miami, Florida  
November 9, 1963

On November 10, 1963, a source who has furnished reliable information in the past and in addition has furnished some information that could not be verified or corroborated, advised SA LEONARD C. PETERSON that J. A. MILTEER on November 9, 1963, at Miami, Florida, made a statement that plans were in the making to kill President JOHN F. KENNEDY at some future date; that MILTEER suggested one JACK BROWN of Chattanooga, Tennessee, as the man who could do the job and that he (MILTEER) would be willing to help. MILTEER reportedly said that he was familiar with Washington and that the job could be done from an office or hotel in the vicinity of the White House using a high-powered rifle.

U. S. Secret Service was advised of the foregoing information.



Re: THREAT TO KILL PRESIDENT KENNEDY  
BY J. A. MILTEER, MIAMI, FLORIDA,  
NOVEMBER 9, 1963

On November 26, 1963, a source who has furnished reliable information in the past and in addition has furnished some information that could not be verified or corroborated, advised SA PETERSON as follows:

*Joseph A. Milteer, 1111 N. ... 26 Nov 63*

On November 23, 1963, J. A. MILTEER was in the Union Train Station, Jacksonville, Florida, and at about 4:25 p.m. on that date stated he was very jubilant 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 President KENNEDY, MILTEER is quoted as saying, "I don't do any guessing." GR  
INI

On the evening of November 23, 1963, MILTEER departed Jacksonville, Florida, by automobile en route to Columbia, South Carolina. During this trip, MILTEER stated that he had been in Houston, Ft. Worth, and Dallas, Texas, as well as New Orleans, Louisiana, Biloxi and Jackson, Mississippi, and Tuscaloosa, Alabama. MILTEER said he was acquainted with one R. E. DAVIS of Dallas, Texas, whom he described as a "good man," but did not indicate he was personally acquainted with DAVIS. MILTEER did not indicate on what dates he was in the above cities, except for Tuscaloosa, Alabama. DC

MILTEER related that he was in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and contacted ROBERT SHELTON of the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (United Klans), on the evening prior to the bombing of the

MM 89-35

2.

16th Street Baptist Church, Birmingham, Alabama, which occurred on September 15, 1963. Regarding SHELTON, MILTEER said SHELTON was against violence and could not be depended upon.

A characterization of the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (United Klans), follows. Sources therein have furnished reliable information in the past.

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

MILTEER arrived in Columbia, South Carolina, about midnight and registered at the Wade Hampton Hotel, Columbia, South Carolina. On the morning of November 24, 1963, MILTEER advised that they did not have to worry about LEE HARVEY OSWALD getting caught because he "doesn't know anything" and that the "right wing" is in the clear. MILTEER further related that, "The patriots have outsmarted the communists and had infiltrated the communist group in order that they (communists) could carry out the plan without the right wingers becoming involved."

Later, on the morning of November 24, 1963, four individuals arrived at the Wade Hampton Hotel and conferred with MILTEER. These individuals included BELTON MIMS and A. O. BOLEN, members of the Association of South Carolina Klans; JACK HENDRICKS described as a white male, 35, 5' 7" from Denmark, South Carolina, and WILL ULMER, from Orangeburg, South Carolina. ULMER was described as a white male, 35, 155 pounds, yellow complexion, large eyes.

B Approx A27

MM 89-35

3.

A characterization of the Association of South Carolina Klans follows. Sources therein have furnished reliable information in the past.

After their arrival, MILTEER stated that there was no point in discussing President KENNEDY, and again stated, "We must now concentrate on the Jews." MILTEER advised that he was preparing a pamphlet which he wanted to disseminate throughout the country. Prior to concluding their discussion, information was received that JACK RUBY had killed LEE HARVEY OSWALD. In view of this, MILTEER said he would have to alter the information he was setting out in his pamphlet.

The source advised that based on his contact with MILTEER, he could not definitely state whether MILTEER was acquainted with either RUBY or OSWALD.

MM 89-35

FPG:ggr

1

Re: Threat to Kill President KENNEDY  
by J. A. MILTEER, Miami, Florida,  
November 9, 1963

J. A. MILTEER is also known as JOSEPH ADAMS MILTEER. He was born February 26, 1902, at Quitman, Georgia, and lives at Quitman and Valdosta, Georgia. He reportedly is a wealthy bachelor who inherited an estimated \$200,000 from his father. He is reported to have no family, no employment and to spend a great deal of time traveling throughout the Southeastern United States. He has been unsuccessful in city politics in Quitman and publishes a weekly pamphlet criticizing the operation of the Quitman City Government. MILTEER has associated himself with the Constitution Party of the United States and attended a convention of this party held at Indianapolis, Indiana, during October, 1963. He was reprimanded by this party for describing himself as being the party regional chairman for the Southeastern states. MILTEER reportedly became disillusioned with the Constitution Party of the United States and has attempted to form a party known as the Constitutional American Parties of the United States. MILTEER allegedly intends to use the Constitutional American Parties of the United States as a front to form a hard core underground for possible violence in combatting integration.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of:



Office: Atlanta, Georgia

Date:

January 22, 1964

Field Office File #: 157-608

Bureau File #:

Title:

JOSEPH ADAMS MILTEER

Character:

RACIAL MATTERS

Synopsis:

JOSEPH ADAMS MILTEER was born 2/26/02, at Quitman, Ga., and presently lives at Quitman and Valdosta, Ga. MILTEER is a wealthy bachelor who inherited an estimated \$200,000 from his father's estate. He has no family, no employment, and spends a great deal of time travelling throughout the Southeast. MILTEER has been unsuccessful in city politics at Quitman and publishes a weekly pamphlet criticizing the operation of the Quitman City Government. MILTEER has associated himself with the Constitution Party of the U. S. and attended a convention of this party held at Indianapolis, Ind., during October, 1963. He was reprimanded by this party for describing himself as being the party regional chairman for the Southeastern states. MILTEER became disillusioned with the Constitution Party of the U. S. and has attempted to form a party known as the Constitutional American Parties of the U. S. MILTEER allegedly intends to use the Constitutional American Parties of the U. S. as a front to form a hard core underground for possible violence in combating integration. MILTEER, on 11/3/63, was in a conversation concerning the possible assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY. MILTEER, on interview, admitted being a member of the White Citizens Council, Atlanta, Ga., Congress of Freedom, and the Constitution Party of the U. S. He denied making threats to assassinate the President of the U. S. or participating in the President's assassination. MILTEER REPORTEDLY CARRIES A .38 CALIBER REVOLVER IN HIS CAR WHEN TRAVELLING AND CAUTION SHOULD BE USED IN EVENT MILTEER IS CONTACTED.

- P -

DETAILS:

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.

*2*  
*SEARCHED*  
*INDEXED*  
*FILED*  
*HSC-A Committee*  
*W.A.W. 5/22/77*  
*Re: Somerville*

DECODED COPY

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

Radio

Teletype

URGENT 11-7-61

8:06 PM EST

EEF RGT

TO DIRECTOR

FROM SAC MIAMI

072225

CONF. INFT.

SECURITY OF RACIAL INFORMANTS, [REDACTED] RE CHARLOTTE AIRTEL TO BUREAU NOVEMBER 3 LAST CAPTIONED SECURITY OF RACIAL INFORMANTS, [REDACTED] REBUREAU AIRTEL TO MIAMI AND SAVANNAH NOVEMBER 6 LAST AND SAVANNAH AIRTEL TO BUREAU, NOVEMBER 2 LAST BOTH CAPTIONED "KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, INC., AKA-RM", BUFILE 100-356570; MIAMI AIRTEL TO BUREAU, AUGUST 30 LAST, CAPTIONED "DESEGREGATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLA.-CR" CI ADVISED INSTANT DATE HE HEARD [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ARE TRYING TO COME UP WITH A CHARGE, REAL OR FAKE, TO BRING AGAINST HIM. THE REASON FOR THIS IS SO THAT HIS CRIMINAL RECORD MAY BE CIRCULATED, WHICH WOULD BREAK UP THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF LABOR INDEPENDENT TRADE UNION, MIAMI, WITH WHICH CI IS AN ADVISOR TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ORGANIZER. THIS POSITION UTILIZED BY CI AS COVER TO REPLACE FORMER COVER WITH UNITED SOUTHERN EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION UNION. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE, CI STATES [REDACTED] WHO IS AN EX-KLANSMAN, ALSO TOLD HIM SOMEONE IN THE [REDACTED] INFORMED HIM CI WAS "WORKING WITH THE FBI." CI HAS CONTACTED A FRIEND IN THE [REDACTED]

66 NOV 17 1961

REC-17

EX-115

22 NOV 14 1961

66-16458-317

cc: Truman

# DECODED COPY

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

Radio

Teletype

PAGE TWO FROM SAC MIAMI 07225

[REDACTED] FLA., ON UNION MATTERS WHO TOLD CI THAT AN INVESTIGATOR FROM HER OFFICE HAD CONFERRED WITH SOMEONE IN THE [REDACTED] WHO IDENTIFIED CI AS A "COUNTER SPY!"

[REDACTED] THE UNITED FLORIDA KKK. CI SUSPECTS [REDACTED] AND CONSIDERS POSSIBILITY THAT [REDACTED] IN HIS RABBLE ROUSING TALK, MIGHT HAVE CRITICIZED CI AND OTHERS TO [REDACTED] WHO MENTIONED THE MATTER TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CI STATES HE WAS WORKING FOR THE BUREAU ON WSTA IN MIAMI AT THAT TIME AND POSSIBLY [REDACTED] MIGHT HAVE SUSPECTED CI WAS COOPERATING WITH BUREAU. CI STATES NO TRUE KLANSMAN, PARTICULARLY THE IMPORTANT KLANSMEN CORE [REDACTED] ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA KLANS, [REDACTED] DIXIE KLANS, CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, AND [REDACTED] DIXIE KLANS, ANNISTON, ALABAMA, ARE MEMBERS, WOULD EVER BELIEVE CI AN INFORMANT OR CONSIDER ANY STATEMENTS MADE BY [REDACTED] AS BEING RELIABLE. IN VIEW OF CI'S STATEMENTS REGARDING [REDACTED] IT IS SUGGESTED CONSIDERATION STILL BE GIVEN TO CI ATTENDING NATIONAL KLAN MEETING AT SAVANNAH, GEORGIA, <sup>NOV</sup> 11 AND 12 NEXT. FURTHER DETAILS FOLLOW WITH COPIES TO INTERESTED OFFICES.

RECEIVED: 8:31 PM EJJ

11/9/61

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SACS MIAMI  
SAVANNAH REC-75  
CHARLOTTE

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI

66-70458-318

SECURITY OF INFORMANTS. RE CHARLOTTE TEL NOVEMBER SEVEN LAST;  
RE MIAMI TELS NOVEMBER SEVEN AND EIGHT LAST; RE BUAIRTEL TO  
MIAMI AND SAVANNAH NOVEMBER SIX LAST UNDER KNIGHTS OF THE  
KU KLUX KLAN, INCORPORATED CAPTION. IN VIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS  
SET FORTH IN REFERENCED MIAMI AND CHARLOTTE TELETYPES, AUTHORITY  
IS WITHDRAWN FOR [REDACTED]  
PARENTHESIS TO ATTEND CONSOLIDATION MEETING, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA,  
NOVEMBER ELEVEN AND TWELVE NEXT. THERE WILL BE ADEQUATE  
COVERAGE WITHOUT INFORMANT AND HIS SECURITY AND JUDGMENT ARE IN  
SERIOUS QUESTION.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
NOV 9 1961

TELETYPE

NOTE: Informant is William Somersett who is a member and officer  
of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Incorporated, aka. He was  
authorized to attend an important consolidation meeting of various  
Klan groups to be held at Savannah, Georgia, November 11 and 12,  
1961. However, information has been received which indicates he  
may have [REDACTED] informant who will also attend the  
same meeting. Somersett is not aware this individual from

[REDACTED]  
Information has also been received that  
Somersett may be under suspicion as a Bureau informant  
by an ex-Klansman, [REDACTED]  
as well as by [REDACTED]  
Under the circumstances and since ade-  
quate coverage of this meeting exists it is believed  
Somersett should not attend this meeting.

FCW: jam  
(5)

6 NOV 17 1961

1 - J. S. Johnson

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

Handwritten notes and initials on the left margin, including a large 'A' and 'B'.

Handwritten signatures and initials at the bottom of the page, including 'Ruw' and 'Jew'.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
NOV 9 1961

TELETYPE

URGENT 11-9-61 12-18 GXXX PM HFL

TO SACS MIAMI & SAVANNAH & CHARLOTTE  
FROM DIRECTOR 1 P

SECURITY OF INFORMANTS. RE CHARLOTTE TEL NOVEMBER SEVEN LAST-  
RE MIAMI TELS NOVEMBER SEVEN AND EIGHT LAST. RE BUAIRTEL TO  
MIAMI AND SAVANNAH NOVEMBER SIX LAST UNDER KNIGHTS OF THE  
KU KLUX KLAN, INCORPORATED CAPTION. IN VIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS  
SET FORTH IN REFERENCED MIAMI AND CHARLOTTE TELETYPES, AUTHORITY  
IS WITHDRAWN FOR [REDACTED]  
PARENTHESIS TO ATTEND CONSOLIDATION MEETING, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA,  
NOVEMBER ELEVEN AND TWELVE NEXT. THERE WILL BE ADEQUATE  
COVERAGE WITHOUT INFORMANT AND HIS SECURITY AND JUDGMENT ARE IN  
SERIOUS QUESTION.

END ACK PLS

9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> FBI CE LAH

TU SDISC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
NOV 9 1961

7

TELETYPE

URGENT 11-9-61 12-09 PM HFL

TO SACS MIAMI & SAVANNAH & CHARLOTTE  
FROM DIRECTOR 1 P

SECURITY OF INFORMANTS. RE CHARLOTTE TEL NOVEMBER SEVEN LAST-  
RE MIAMI TELS NOVEMBER SEVEN AND EIGHT LAST. RE BUAIRTEL TO  
MIAMI AND SAVANNAH NOVEMBER SIX LAST UNDER KNIGHTS OF THE  
KU KLUX KLAN, INCORPORATED CAPTION. IN VIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS  
SET FORTH IN REFERENCED MIAMI AND CHARLOTTE TELETYPES, AUTHORITY  
IS WITHDRAWN FOR [REDACTED]  
PARENTHESIS TO ATTEND CONSOLIDATION MEETING, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA,  
NOVEMBER ELEVEN AND TWELVE NEXT. THERE WILL BE ADEQUATE  
COVERAGE WITHOUT INFORMANT AND HIS SECURITY AND JUDGMENT ARE IN  
SERIOUS QUESTION.

END ACK PLS

.MM OK FBI MM RM

SV OK FBI SV JAL

TU DISC

NA-41 (Rev. 3-61)  
11:40  
WAS

# DECODED COPY

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

*[Handwritten signature]*

*Woodward*

Radio

Teletype

URGENT 11-8-61 6:17 PM EST RGT

TO DIRECTOR

FROM SAC MIAMI 082200

*CONFIDENTIAL*

SECURITY OF RACIAL INFORMANTS, [REDACTED] RE MIAMI  
TEL NOVEMBER 7 LAST. CI PLANS TO DEPART MIAMI EARLY AM  
NOVEMBER 10 NEXT FOR NATIONAL KLAN MEETING AT SAVANNAH,  
GEORGIA, NOVEMBER 11 AND 12 NEXT (BUFILE 100-356570).

[REDACTED] ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIA  
KLANS, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA; HAS REQUESTED CI ATTEND MEETING.  
CI WILL MEET WITH [REDACTED] MENTIONED  
IN RETEL AT SAVANNAH. UACB, CI WILL ATTEND MEETING. COPY  
SAVANNAH, AIRMAIL.

RECEIVED: 6:22 PM EJG

*TD to SACs MM, CF, SV  
FCW:jim 11-9-61*

REC-75

*100-46458-310*

11 NOV 15 1961

*G. Row*

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

*cc: Woodward*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: 11/13/61

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: MIAMI RACIAL INFORMANT  
WILLIAM SOMERSETT

CONFIDENTIAL  
ENCLOSURE

3-1  
10-1

The purpose of this memorandum is to recommend that captioned racial informant be discontinued.

### BACKGROUND

William Somerset has been operating as a Bureau informant in the criminal and racial fields since late 1949. He has served in the New Orleans, Charlotte and Miami Divisions at various times and is currently being operated by Miami. He is an honorary member of the Association of South Carolina Klans and a temporary officer of the National Ku Klux Klan, an organization recently formed through the consolidation of a number of other Klan groups. He has been an extremely productive informant and has been able to cover meetings in many areas of the South from the local to the national level. Miami is currently authorized to pay him up to \$60 per week for services plus up to \$25 per week for expenses. He has long been associated with union activities in the South and has used such connections, which enable him to travel widely, as cover for his informant activities.

### CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

Information has been received which indicates Somerset, in an apparent effort to enhance his importance in the eyes of associates, has been making various statements to the effect that the FBI has interviewed him on a number of occasions concerning certain bombings and other acts of violence. Various informants have also reported that Somerset has been making efforts to discredit South Carolina Klan [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] This apparently stems from a personality clash between Somerset and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Somerset reportedly has made [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is reported to be using such statements as a basis for attempting to "smoke out" Bureau informants.

Enclosure

REC-36 66-16458-319

FCW:jam  
(6)

1961

64 NOV 21 1961

[Handwritten signature]

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont  
RE: MIAMI RACIAL INFORMANT

In addition, Somerset has reported that he has heard that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] are attempting to come up with some sort of charge against him in an effort to break up an independent trade union with which the informant is connected and which is his cover. It is noted [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is a former Klansman and alleged to be a friend of [REDACTED]. Furthermore, [REDACTED]

was active [REDACTED] involved in prostitution around 1955. At that time Somerset was furnishing information to Miami Office on White Slave Traffic Act matters and informant feels the [REDACTED] may suspect he was cooperating with the Bureau.

ACTION

In view of the above indications of indiscretion on the part of the informant, as well as the possibility that he is under suspicion and may become involved in a union squabble, it is felt that he should be discontinued.

*sent*  
An airtel to Miami is attached ordering such action.

*Lee*

*207*

*Chm*  
*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*

*V.*

*[Signature]*

F B I

Date: 11/17/61

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

Via AIR MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (66-16458)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (137-363) (C)

*CONFIDENTIAL*  
[Redacted]

ReBuairtel, 11/13/61.

On 11/14/61, captioned informant was contacted by  
SAS [Redacted]

He was advised that he was no longer an informant of this Bureau and was no longer acting in our behalf.

He volunteered that after his many years of associating with the Bureau, he realized that when he received information that he was suspected of being an FBI informant, that it would jeopardize his association with the Bureau if he reported these suspicions; however, he did not believe it was fair to the Bureau not to report them, particularly if he should be questioned in a legal proceeding about his associations with the Bureau.

He noted that it was possible that after many years of this association that someone might suspect his cooperating with the Bureau, but that he has never informed anyone of this confidential relationship and he does not intend to inform anyone of his past relationship with the Bureau, including newspapers, publishers, reporters, etc. Further, that he did not want to testify at any proceeding on information which he has furnished the Bureau, and desired that his association with this Bureau be maintained as confidential.

3 Bureau  
1 - Miami  
FJM:mfm  
(4)

*Wick*

66 NOV 27 1961

*EX-105*  
*[Signature]*

REC-3366-16458-321

NOV 20 1961

Approved: *Wesley H. Trapp*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_

FBI

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Via \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plain text or code)

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

MM 137-363

He further stated that he still maintains his high personal regard and respect for the Bureau and its Agents and he wanted the Bureau to know that if anything came to his attention that would be of interest to the Bureau, he would immediately furnish this information the same as he has in the past.

Final payment has been made to captioned informant and it was again pointed out to him that payments received from the Bureau were income to be reported as such when filing income tax returns.

The measures to control informant as set out in No. 8 of Section 107Q of Manual of Instructions have been considered and recommendations will be made where it appears that such are warranted.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

FBI

Date: 11/13/61

Transmit the following in

PLAIN TEXT

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: Director, FBI (66-16458)

FROM: SAC, Miami (137-363)(P)

RE: SECURITY OF RACIAL INFORMANTS

CONF. INFT.

Re Miami teletypes to Bureau 11/7, 8, and 9/61, and Bureau teletypes to Miami 11/9/61.

An information copy of this communication is being designated for each of the above offices in view of their interest in this matter.

[Redacted] advised SAs [Redacted] on 11/7/61 at Miami Fla. that [Redacted] told him to watch himself and watch what he said because the [Redacted] are trying to come up with a charge, real or fake, to bring against him. The reason for this is so that his criminal

- 3 - Bureau (AM)(RM)
- 1 - Charlotte (Info)(RM)
- 1 - Jacksonville (Info)(RM)
- 1 - Savannah (157-210)(Info)(RM)
- 1 - Tampa (Info)(RM)
- 3 - Miami

FJM:cms  
(10)

REC-28

66-1645-52  
NOV 15 1961

Approved: [Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per



MM 137-36

record may be circulated, which would break up the National Federation of Labor Independent Trade Union, Miami, with which CI is an advisor to the Board of Directors and supervisor of organizers. CI stated this position is utilized by him as cover to replace his former cover of the United Southern Employees Association Union, which is inactive at this time.

In addition to the above, CI stated that one [REDACTED] who is an ex-Klansman, also has informed him that someone in [REDACTED] had informed him that CI was "working with the FBI." CI stated he has contacted [REDACTED] Fla., on union matters and that [REDACTED] informed him that [REDACTED] had conferred with someone [REDACTED] Miami, who identified CI as a "counter spy." [REDACTED] who CI identified as a former Klansman and an alleged friend of [REDACTED] United Florida KKK. CI suspects [REDACTED] Miami, as the one who is talking about him and considers the possibility that [REDACTED] and his "rabble-rousing talk" might have criticized CI and others to [REDACTED] who in turn mentioned the matter to [REDACTED]

CI noted [REDACTED] Miami, approximately 1955 and was [REDACTED] involved in prostitution activities. CI noted he was working for the Bureau on WSTA matters in Miami at that time and possibly [REDACTED] might have suspected that he was cooperating with this Bureau. CI further stated that approximately 3/29/60, [REDACTED]

MM 137-363

along with one VERNON MC CALL, a business agent of the USEA Miami local, framed a charge against him which resulted in his arrest by local authorities. MC CALL had told authorities that CI had pulled a gun on him and threatened to kill him. Officers arrested CI in his office of the USEA and found Klan literature in the office. They charged him with assault with intent to kill with a deadly weapon. CI was incarcerated in the Dade County Jail approximately an hour, and after being fingerprinted and photographed, made bond. At a later date when the matter was tried in local court, CI was acquitted with a directed verdict after proof that MC CALL had lied when he stated CI had threatened him, because CI was out of the state at the time the alleged crime was committed.

CI stated that no true Klansman, particularly the important Klansmen, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] are members who would never believe that he was an informant or consider any statements made by [REDACTED] as being reliable.

CI advised S [REDACTED] on 11/9/61, that [REDACTED] of Association of Georgia Klans, Savannah, Ga., telephonically contacted him on the night of 11/8/61, and requested that he be in Savannah for the National Klan meeting on the night of 11/10/61, for a special meeting for select Klansmen. CI noted that he suspected that possibly the meeting was relative to [REDACTED] United Florida KKK. In this regard he noted that he was contacted in Miami late on 11/8/61, by [REDACTED] who is a member of the United Florida KKK. He stated [REDACTED] had made a special trip to Miami to inform CI that [REDACTED] had told some associates that [REDACTED] United Florida

MM 137-363

KKK Klansman, and [REDACTED] are all Bureau informants and [REDACTED] further stated that there was no telling how many others he has labeled as informants to different associates. CI noted at this time he believed the Klans are through with [REDACTED] which possibly the special meeting [REDACTED] referred to was to discuss [REDACTED]. He noted [REDACTED] is constantly stirring up all kinds of trouble, pointing suspicion on others so that he can further himself with Klan members and cover up his use of Klan money and heavy drinking.

On 11/13/61, CI advised SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that on 11/9/61, he received a notice from the office of [REDACTED] advising him that he was an essential witness for the State of Florida in the pending criminal case of [REDACTED]. The notice further advised that it was necessary for [REDACTED] office to know his whereabouts at all times until the case is disposed of.

[REDACTED] CI noted there was no indication as to when the trial of [REDACTED] would take place. CI stated that on 11/10/61, he sent a telegram to [REDACTED] mentioned above, in which he informed [REDACTED] he would be unable to attend the National Klan meeting in Savannah on 11/10, 11, and 12/61. He further noted that he talked to [REDACTED] on the night of 11/12/61, and [REDACTED] informed him that [REDACTED] the Association of Georgia Klans, read CI's telegram at the meeting and that one man, who CI suspects was [REDACTED] stood up and informed the members present that he knew that CI had hit "some Niggers" in the head at Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., in 8/61, when they were having

MM 137-363

integration problems, and [REDACTED] probably would not let CI leave the State of Florida. [REDACTED] informed CI that the National Klan meeting started at 9:00 a.m. on 11/12/61, and lasted until the afternoon. The following Klans were represented:

United Klans of Georgia and Alabama

United Florida KKK

Association of South Carolina Klans

Association of Georgia Klans

Dixie Klans of Tennessee

CI also informed that a new Klan, name not recalled, from North Carolina, located near Monroe, N.C., was also present at this meeting.

[REDACTED] and he informed CI he knew a lot of the members present did not like it, but that he did not care. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated they made good progress at their meeting and that no one at this time knows where the next meeting will be held, and will be advised a short time ahead of the meeting due to a new security policy. [REDACTED] informed CI that he wanted him to visit with [REDACTED] and himself in Savannah some week-end because they had lots of things they wanted to tell CI.

In addition to the above, CI further advised on 11/13/61, that he had been informed that [REDACTED]

MM 137-363

[REDACTED] National Labor Relations Board,  
Miami, has told several people over the phone, one of  
whom is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CI  
noted that [REDACTED] some time around July or 8/60, made  
a statement during a recess at a hearing before the  
[REDACTED] that the FBI was investi-  
gating CI as a Communist and CI would be in the penitentiary  
in a short time. This statement was made in the presence of  
[REDACTED]

The Miami Office maintains discreet, almost daily,  
contact with CI and pertinent information developed or ob-  
tained relative to CI will be immediately furnished to the  
Bureau.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

DATE: November 22, 1961

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (66-16458)

FROM : SAE MIAMI (137-363)(C)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM AUGUSTUS SOMERSETT  
[REDACTED]

Re Miami airtel dated 11/17/61.

Captioned informant was contacted 11/14/61  
by SAs [REDACTED] and was advised he was no longer an  
informant of this Bureau.

Bureau please cancel symbol number. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] has been submitted  
separately.

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
  - 1 - Miami
- FJM:cq  
(4)

REC-19

66-16458-320

8 NOV 27 1961

NOV 30 1961

6/8/63

CODE

TELETYPE

URGENT

REC-75

66-16458-324

TO SAC, MIAMI (137-363)

EW-117

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI

pr

WILLIAM SOMERSETT; RACIAL MATTERS

SUTEL WHETHER APPROPRIATE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AWARE OF  
INFO ██████████ DESIRES SOMERSETT KILLED.

JGK:ees

(3)

*[Handwritten signature]*

NR.	081825
ENC.	1
CK.	1
APPROVED BY	<i>[Signature]</i>
TYPED BY	<i>[Signature]</i>

COPIES SENT

VIA TELETYPE  
 JUN 8 1963  
 2:45 PM WS  
 ENCIPHERED

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

F192

62 JUN 14 1963 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

*[Handwritten mark]*

FBI

Date: 2/6/64

Transmit the following

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (66-16458)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (170-1) (P)

WILLIAM SOMERSETT

Re Miami teletype to Bureau dated 2/5/64, captioned "BA PBOMB; [REDACTED] RACIAL MATTERS," Miami files 157-918 and 157-876; Bufiles 157-1025 and 157-1263.

For the information of the Bureau, the Office of Labor Management Reports, U. S. Department of Labor, Miami, Fla., advised they are conducting a routine investigation of the National Federation of Labor, Inc., Miami, Fla.

[REDACTED] Miami Office of Labor Management Reports, advised that he had talked to [REDACTED] who advised that they had an interest in Mr. WILLIAM SOMERSETT, who is national organizer of the National Federation of Labor, Inc. According to [REDACTED] informed him that possibly the FBI might have an interest in SOMERSETT.

- 3 - Bureau (AM) (RM)
- 2 - Miami
- HAN:jlt
- (5)

REC-44

66-16458-329

FEB 10 1964

Approved: [Signature] Special Agent in Charge

Sent [Signature] M Per [Signature]

64 FEB 17 1964



MM 170-

[REDACTED] was advised that this Office has no official interest in Mr. SOMERSETT and that as far as this Bureau is concerned, the Bureau of Labor Management Reports should handle any inquiry they might be making in their established procedures. [REDACTED] explained that their inquiries into the operations of the National Federation of Labor, Inc., were strictly routine and they are making the same inquiries as they make in other local unions.

[REDACTED] the Miami Office of Bureau Labor Management Reports, routinely contacted the Miami Office on 2/6/64, and advised that he was conducting the investigation previously brought to the attention of this Bureau by [REDACTED] and inquired as to whether or not the Miami Office had any information reflecting an arrest record for the following persons, all in some way connected with the National Federation of Labor, Inc.:

Mr. WILLIAM A. SOMERSETT  
1336 North Miami Avenue  
Miami, Florida

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] was advised that the files of the Miami Office would not be conclusive as to whether or not an individual had a criminal record, and that we had no information relative to or identifiable with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] indicating that they have a criminal record.

MM 170-

As far as a criminal record for WILLIAM A. SOMERSETT, the Bureau of Labor Management Reports has been advised that the information they desire might possibly best be obtained through a local check for criminal record either at the Miami PD or the Miami Beach PD.

WILLIAM SOMERSETT telephonically contacted the Miami Office, 2/6/64, to advise that the Bureau of Labor Management Reports have been conducting a routine investigation regarding his union and that he has cooperated fully with their investigation. SOMERSETT stated he knows of nothing concerning the National Federation of Labor, Inc., that would be a violation of Federal or state law.

The above is being furnished for the information of the Bureau.

F B I

Date: 2/12/64

Transmit the following

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (66-16458)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (170-1) (P)

WILLIAM SOMERSETT

Re Miami airtel to Bureau 2/6/64.

SOMERSETT telephonically advised the Miami Office on 2/11/64 that he has cooperated fully with the office of Labor Management Reports, U. S. Department of Labor, Miami, in their investigation of National Federation of Labor (NFL). He stated the investigation should be completed and knows of no violations committed on his part or the part of any official of NFL.

SOMERSETT noted this investigation is reportedly routine, however, believes this investigation may have been instituted at the request of other labor unions in the Miami area. SOMERSETT noted that during the last several months he has, through the NFL, encouraged and advocated equal job opportunity, regardless of race, creed or color. SOMERSETT advised that he has negotiated several contracts with various contractors in the Miami building trade business and all of his contracts specifically call for equal opportunity to everyone. SOMERSETT said many of the contractors have been receptive to this type of contract and presently employ a number of skilled colored employees who are members of the NFL. He noted at the present time there are approximately 700 members in the NFL, 50 of which are Negroes. SOMERSETT noted

3 - Bureau (AM)  
2 - Miami  
LCP/jls  
(5)

RECEIVED REC-23

66-16458-330

FEB 14 1964

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

57 FEB 20 1964

FBI

Date: 9/21/65

9-24

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (66-16458)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (170-1)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM SOMERSETT  
[REDACTED]

Re Miami airtel, 9/13/65 and Bureau airtel, 9/17/65.

On 9/20/65, [REDACTED] telephone call was made to the National Federation of Labor, Inc., Miami, Fla. An unknown female answered the phone and stated the hearing, referred to in re Miami airtel, had been held and results were unknown to her. In addition, she reported that WILLIAM SOMERSETT was in the Conway Hospital, Conway, S. C. His condition was not known except that he was having difficulty breathing.

For the information of the Bureau, it is noted SOMERSETT had a mild heart attack in May, 1965 and was in the Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, for a short duration.

There has been no information reported in the local press regarding the hearing by the National Labor Relations Board as referred to in Miami airtel.

No additional inquiry will be made by Miami UACB. Any pertinent information coming to the attention of the Miami Office will be furnished to the Bureau.

- 3 - Bureau
- 1 - Miami
- LCP:lcc
- (4)

EC-16

66-16458-337

25 SEP 23 1965

X 109

INT. SEC.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

51 SEP 30 1965

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

TELETYPE

URGENT 6-8-63 11-30 AM EST BAW

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, SAVANNAH

FROM SAC, MIAMI /137-363/ 2 P

WILLIAM SOMERSETT, RACIAL MATTERS.

RE MIAMI TELETYPES TO THE BUREAU CAPTIONED "DESEGREGATION UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA, RACIAL MATTERS" DATED MAY TWENTY TWO AND JUNE FIVE LAST CONCERNING INFORMATION FURNISHED TO SOMERSETT REGARDING MEETINGS BEING HELD AS REPORTED BY [REDACTED] ASSOCIATION SOUTH CAROLINA KLANS.

SOMERSETT FORMERLY [REDACTED] TELEPHONICALLY AND VOLUNTARILY ADVISED THIS A.M. THAT HE RECEIVED CALL FROM [REDACTED] COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, LATE LAST NIGHT. [REDACTED] STATED A REPRESENTATIVE OF [REDACTED] NATIONAL STATES RIGHTS PARTY ATTENDED MEETING IN COLUMBIA. THIS REPRESENTATIVE STATED [REDACTED] WANTS SOMERSETT KILLED IN ORDER THAT [REDACTED] CAN ORGANIZE NSRP IN MIAMI. [REDACTED] INVITED SOMERSETT TO COME TO COLUMBIA FOR DETAILS.

END PAGE ONE

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
[Signature]  
[Signature]  
[Signature]  
[Signature]  
[Signature]

REC-73

66-16458-324

JUN 11 1963

EX-117

*Handwritten notes:*  
Tel to Miami  
6/8/63  
JGR:664

*Handwritten signature:*  
[Signature]

FBI

Date: 2-20-64

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_

AIRMAIL - REGISTERED MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-1025; 157-1263)  
 Attention: Civil Rights Section-General Investigative Division

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (157-896; 157-918)

SUBJECT: BAPBOMB  
 (OO: Birmingham) (P)

[REDACTED]

RACIAL MATTERS  
 (OO: Miami) (P)

CARBON COPY

It is noted that on 2-7-64, WILLIAM SOMERSETT, formerly [REDACTED] was advised by [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] would be unavailable for the next few days.

- ⑦-Bureau (AM) (RM)
  - (3-157-1025 - Bapbomb)
  - (3-157-1263 - [REDACTED])
  - (1-66-16458 - Somerset)
- 1-Atlanta (AM) (RM) (Info.) (157-Martin Luther King)
- 4-Birmingham (AM) (RM)
  - (2-157-352 - Bapbomb)
  - (1-157-298 - [REDACTED])
  - (1-157-642 - [REDACTED])
- 5-Los Angeles (AM) (RM)
  - (1-157-Bapbomb)
  - (2-157-571 - [REDACTED])
  - (1-157-248 - [REDACTED])
  - (1-157-Christian Defense League)
- §-Mobile (AM) (RM)
  - (1-157-Bapbomb)
  - (2-157-494 - [REDACTED])
  - (2-157-[REDACTED])
- 4-Miami (1-157-896 - Bapbomb; 2-157-918 - [REDACTED])  
 (1-170-1-Sub-A)

*Lab 1/6/68*

NOT RECORDED  
162 FEB 26 1964

ICP/al  
(24)

157-1025-879 ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

Approved: [Signature]  
 60 MAR 3 1964 Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

MM 157-896  
157-918

At 9:50 A.M., on 2-14-64, [REDACTED] telephonically contacted SOMERSETT. No pertinent information discussed and SOMERSETT was unable to determine whether or not this was a long distance call.

On 2-16-64, SOMERSETT received a local call from [REDACTED] requesting SOMERSETT to come to his [REDACTED] home to listen to tape recordings. SOMERSETT declined the invitation in view of previous commitment and invited [REDACTED] to meet with him at his office at 7:00 P.M., on 2-17-64.

On 2-17-64, [REDACTED] met with SOMERSETT in SOMERSETT's office at the Dolphin Hotel, 10th Street and N. E. 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida.

Based on Bureau authority and with the consent of SOMERSETT, a tape recorder was concealed in SOMERSETT's desk and using a long screw, the portion of the desk containing the tape recorder was locked and could not be opened. ✓

[REDACTED] was observed entering the Dolphin Hotel at 7:00 P.M., and his car [REDACTED] was observed parked in front of the hotel (it is noted that licenses are due to expire 2-20-64.)

The meeting lasted until 8:30 P.M., at which time [REDACTED] left for home. The tape recorder along with the power supply were removed from the desk at 8:50 P.M., and the tape, good for two hours' running, was three-quarters used. A check of the tape disclosed that only the test portion, which was made at the time the recorder was placed in the desk, was readable. A check of the power supply was made and a small fuse was found to have burned out, causing a failure of the tape to record the conversation. ✓

The above is furnished for information of Birmingham,

MM 157-896  
157-918

Mobile and Los Angeles in order that these offices can better evaluate the information furnished by SOMERSETT on 2-18-64.

It is further noted that a small switch concealed on SOMERSETT's desk was turned on by SOMERSETT prior to entering the office, which activated the tape recorder.

Re: BAPBOMB

During conversation between SOMERSETT and [REDACTED] related the following:

Prior to integration at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, [REDACTED] met with Governor GEORGE WALLACE at Montgomery, Alabama. [REDACTED] proposed a plan to stop integration in Alabama, saying he could put 50,000 armed men in Alabama. Governor WALLACE rejected this plan, telling [REDACTED] that he had one of his own. According to [REDACTED] Governor WALLACE and former President JOHN F. KENNEDY agreed to a plan for integration at the university during President KENNEDY's visit to Alabama, at which time President KENNEDY and Governor WALLACE were together in a helicopter. [REDACTED] did not further elaborate on how he obtained this information.

[REDACTED] said that prior to the September 15 church bombing in Birmingham, a secret meeting was held in Alabama, location not specified. Attending this meeting were [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The alleged purpose of this meeting was to make plans for things to be done. [REDACTED] did not further elaborate on this remark. [REDACTED] said he agreed with the plan but that he [REDACTED] did not participate in the church bombing. He stated that [REDACTED] were involved but again did not elaborate as to the extent of their involvement. [REDACTED] stated that he was "hot" in



MM 157-896  
157-918

Alabama and had to leave. He also stated that after the secret meeting, [redacted] told him that he preferred [redacted] for any action over [redacted] due to the fact that [redacted] likes to talk and drinks excessively.

[redacted] stated [redacted] left Alabama, date not specified, but is planning to return to Alabama as [redacted] has a lot of unfinished business. He said that when [redacted] returns to Alabama, there will be plenty of action. [redacted] did not further elaborate on this remark.

[redacted] referred to [redacted] Alabama, [redacted] and referred to these men as "good men". [redacted] did not indicate that either of these men were involved in the Birmingham bombing.

[redacted] did not discuss any of the other bombings in Birmingham.

When [redacted] came to SOMERSETT's office, he had a Miami, Florida, newspaper clipping relating to the recent arrest of JAMES KEATHLEY, who is being charged with the bombing of the DONALD SHOEMAKER residence in Miami, 2-18-62. [redacted] stated he was extremely sorry to see this happen and said [redacted] should have been killed prior to [redacted] the men involved in the SHOEMAKER bombing.

[redacted] advised that he has a 15 shot carbine which he had obtained through Fort McClelland in Alabama. He said he would like to get another carbine, a 30 shot carbine for a friend in Alabama. SOMERSETT asked [redacted] if this was [redacted] and [redacted] replied that it was not, since [redacted] does too much talking.

During the conversation [redacted] was extremely

MM 157-896; 157-918

They then discussed the bombing of the Negro home in Jacksonville, Fla., as related to [REDACTED] who had been arrested for this bombing. [REDACTED] said he did not think [REDACTED] did the bombing as no one in his right mind would admit to it.

[REDACTED] noted that he had not been able to have SOMERSETT come to his home.

At this point the lights went out. (It is noted a transformer supplying electricity to the central Miami area was out of order for some time on the evening of 3/7/64.)

[REDACTED] made reference to Albany, Ga., or Savannah, Ga., where Negroes picketed a restaurant and the police refused to do anything about it. He said this may have taken place in Savannah, Ga., as he could not recall where it happened. [REDACTED] said he could not understand what was the matter with the people in Ga.

[REDACTED] commented that the Governor of Miss., reportedly was to obtain a special police force in Miss., to cope with any uprisings.

SOMERSETT stated, "You got the WALLACE deal figured (?) good."

[REDACTED] said things are getting ready to pop.

At this point, [REDACTED] referred to MARTIN LUTHER KING, who was active in the Birmingham area, and said that if white people did as KING did, they would get arrested. [REDACTED] also reported that plans are being made by the NAACP to march on Easter Sunday.

[REDACTED] noted that he was going to keep out of Ala., as much as possible. He also referred to [REDACTED] who came down from Birmingham. He said he did not intend to hang around Mobile, Ala., as "They are on to me."

██████████ said he checked with some of his sources. He indicated he did not join anything and did not put his name on anything but that he had joined the Christian Defense League. ██████████ indicated he planned to go to Miss.

SOMERSETT stated, "When you are fooling with people like WALLACE and that bunch..." He (SOMERSETT) figures that ██████████ interrupts and states, ██████████ is too prominent and they took a lot of pictures of him." SOMERSETT stated, "You fellows are on the spot and you know more than I do. But ██████████ went to this Governor, I don't know what proposition he put to the Governor." ██████████ interrupted, stating, "I can only tell you what he ██████████ told me and it is not to go any further."

SOMERSETT said, "The Governor listened to ██████████ and took everything in, according to what you ██████████ say, then he turned you down."

SOMERSETT inquired as to "how long it was after he turned you down that..." Telephone rings.

██████████ stated that they went up to see ( ? ) in June. SOMERSETT said, "WALLACE." ██████████ said, "No." ██████████ At this point ██████████ refers to the Ala. State Police and commented regarding that he and others, including ██████████ had gone to Birmingham. ██████████ had a rifle and he ██████████ had his carbine. ██████████ then discussed ██████████ rifle, stating that it did not shoot fast enough. He said ██████████ is all right but that they have him spotted. ██████████ stated, ██████████ took the target, he took the main lead."

At this point, ██████████ further discussed ██████████ activities and referred to ██████████ who ██████████ described as a "phoney."

MM 157-896; 157-918

SOMERSETT again pointed out, "You guys are on the spot like I told you. After the Governor turned [redacted] down, he went on with integration. Then it was not long until the church was bombed?".....

SOMERSETT stated, "WALLACE has you in mind even if he is a hypocrite, but he is no damn fool either." [redacted] stated, "WALLACE is not going to get far." SOMERSETT stated, "WALLACE has it in his mind that you fellows bombed the church to really hurt him and just as sure as ---- that if he gets you in the right place he will have that LINGO (Alabama Highway Patrol) kill you."

[redacted] said, "As a matter of fact they know who knocked the church off."

SOMERSETT stated, "They will kill you...and [redacted] had better be careful."

At this point in the conversation [redacted] and SOMERSETT discussed union matters. They also discussed how they could contact each other in the event [redacted] leaves the Miami area. [redacted] stated that he wanted to, "get the heads of B'nai B'rith." It is noted his remarks were interrupted by various noises but according to SOMERSETT, [redacted] wanted to obtain hand grenades to throw through the windows of the homes of ADL leaders.

The conversation was terminated at this point. It is again pointed out that the above information is not all conclusive in view of all of the interruptions by outside interferences, [redacted] could not be heard, and the fact that [redacted] and SOMERSETT often interrupted each other.

Information set forth above relating to Bapbomb is not being set forth in the enclosed letterhead memo since the Birmingham Office is actively investigating this matter.

MM 157- 157-918

The source used in the letterhead memorandum by  
[REDACTED] is WILLIAM  
SOMERSETT, [REDACTED]

For the information of the Bureau, the Miami Office in no way participated, acquiesced or was otherwise involved in the making available of this carbine rifle to [REDACTED] by SOMERSETT. This Office was not consulted on this matter and it was handled entirely by [REDACTED] on their own initiative.

For the further information of the Bureau, the Miami Division is handling SOMERSETT in accordance with previous Bureau instructions, that is, we are accepting information voluntarily telephonically furnished by him, however, this Office is not initiating any contacts with him.

- LEADS -

ATLANTA:

Copies are being furnished Atlanta in view of the threats by [REDACTED] on the life of MARTIN LUTHER KING. Any information furnished to KING should be in accordance with previous Bureau instructions. #

BIRMINGHAM:

As soon as available, a copy of the taped conversation between [REDACTED] and SOMERSETT will be furnished Birmingham for their review, as relating to the Bapbomb case.