

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-1067)

DATE: 10/2/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

SUBJECT: BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT (BOP), aka
Invaders
RM

On 9/20/68 Lt. [REDACTED] Intelligence Unit, Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department, furnished to the writer a copy of his Police Department memorandum dated 9/20/68 re Invaders activities 9/19/68, based on a report from Police Department undercover [REDACTED], code name [REDACTED]. A Xerox copy of same is attached to each copy of this memorandum.

1 - 157-1067
1 - 157-566 (Possible Racial Violence, Major Urban Areas)
1 - 157-1277 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1116 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1019 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-967 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1263 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-957 [REDACTED]
1 - 170-1024 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1312 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1230 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1173 [REDACTED]
1 - 157- [REDACTED]
1 - 170-1040 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1350 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1351 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1341 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1258 [REDACTED]
1 - 157- [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1292 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-DEAD [REDACTED]
1 - 157- [REDACTED]
1 - 100-4528 [REDACTED]
1 - 157-DEAD [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1399 [REDACTED]
1 - 157- [REDACTED]
1 - 157-1398 [REDACTED]
WHL:gmb (27)

(17)

157-1067-477

RV

Lawrence

The above information re the Rosewood deal was corroborated on 9/20/68 to SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE [REDACTED] He added the following:

The affair was a dance sponsored by Black Knights to raise money. About 2,000 were present off and on. It was packed. Various Negro bands, primarily those recording for Stax Records, performed, gratis.

They were as follows:

WILLIAM BELL and band
The Mad Lads
The Soul Children
"BOWLEG" MILLER's band
BARKEY's
Two new fellows from California
SAMMY and JIMMY
The ISAAC HAYES combo (HAYES plays the accordion and piano.)

JOHN GARY WILLIAMS, member of the Invaders and under indictment for shooting Police Department Officer WADDELL, on 8/23/68, sang with the Mad Lads.

CHARLES NOBLE of the Black Knights was there but said he has dropped out of the Black Knights.

CHRIS A. TURNER, who with COLLINS is dropping out of the Black Knights to form a group called TIGER, was there.

WINE or LANCE BALLARD also said that "We burned Ingle Street but the authorities will never find out specifically who did it."

[REDACTED] said that he was referring to the Tuesday night, 9/10/68, burning of two homes in the 100 block of Ingle, being financed by Supreme Mortgage Company, in which Negro Attorney A. W. WILLIS has an interest.

DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

ASD 94

TO: Inspector G. P. Tinea,
Intelligence Bureau

SUBJECT: Report from [REDACTED] for
4-19-68.

FROM: Det. [REDACTED]
Intelligence Bureau

DATE: September 20, 1968

for 9-14-68 Activities

On 9-20-68 at 9:30 AM [REDACTED] called in his report at which time he stated that at 4:45 PM information was received that HANSELL MCCULLOUGH went to 276 Bond, apt. 7, looking for EMMITT HOUSE and a female colored came to the door, which was either HOUSES' sister or wife, but HOUSE was not at home, so MCCULLOUGH was seen to leave this address and go downtown and then leave downtown and go to the Playboy Villa and he arrived there approximately 5:15 PM, and those present were MCCULLOUGH, BROOKS, HARRINGTON, NORMOOD and the owner of the Playboy Villa, DUKE, who is LOY FOSTER. BROOKS, HARRINGTON and NORMOOD were sitting around reading the newspaper and they were commenting on the bond that had been raised on SMITH and the other invaders.

At 5:30 PM MCCULLOUGH was observed along with BROOKS and HARRINGTON to leave the Playboy Villa and go to the city jail and talk to CHARLES BALLARD. It was overheard that BROOKS was telling BALLARD about the Afro Cleaners and told him that he \$300 that they had invested into it had been thrown away, that the owner had spent it. Also BROOKS was joking with BALLARD about getting him out. He also stated that he was going to try and get BALLARD out of jail today. It was also overheard that DUKE is going to give dances at the Playboy Villa Friday, Saturday and Sunday night to raise money to get the invaders out.

At 6:45 PM MCCULLOUGH, BROOKS, HARRINGTON left the jail and went down on Beale St. looking for EMMITT HOUSE, at which time MCCULLOUGH dropped off BROOKS and HARRINGTON and went to the Inspection Station, but his car failed.

At 7 PM MCCULLOUGH and HARRINGTON picked up HOUSE at Beale and Hernando and then picked BROOKS at the Avalon Pool Room. EMMITT HOUSE had a five dollar bag of marijuana and it is believed that this male colored by the name of BIG TOM, dark complexioned and very big, hangs around the Beale St. area, might be responsible for his marijuana, that he goes out of town and brings it back.

At 7:10 PM MCCULLOUGH, HARRINGTON, HOUSE and BROOKS was observed driving on the way to Orange Mound. EMMITT HOUSE rolled a joint and handed it to MCCULLOUGH. It was about Danny Thomas and Crump Blvd. where this took place. The reason that they were going to Orange Mound, they went to the Harlem House at Park and Archinail looking for FRANKIE LANE to perform at the Playboy Villa for Friday, Saturday and Sunday night, but did not locate him. NOTE: FRANKIE LANE did perform at the Rosewood Club last night, a male colored, 35 years old, a shaved bald head with a beard, 6'1", 200 lbs., brown complexion.

At 8:15 PM MCCULLOUGH, HARRINGTON, HOUSE and BROOKS were observed to go back to the Playboy Villa and they just sat around and talked. There was a male colored, 26, BU jacket, low haircut, and looked like he was just growing a beard, similar complexion, sat around and talked to them, then he drove his car to the Rosewood Club.

At 9:30 PM MCCULLOUGH, BROOKS, HARRINGTON, HOUSE and OREE MCKENZIE's cousin,

LOIS, were seen to leave the Playboy Villa and MCCULLOUGH was seen to drop LOIS off at Main and McLeure and then continue on to the Rosewood Club at Lauderdale and Rosewood. They stayed outside the Club until 10 PM.

At 11 PM they all went inside and information was received that all the Invaders got in free. They were MELVIN SMITH, HOUSE, MCCULLOUGH, REGINALD JERUSALEM, a male colored by the last name of TAYLOR, BROOKS, HARRINGTON, JOSEPH FRIERSON, MAURICE LEWIS and a friend of FRIERSON. They all sat together near the stage. Approximately 10:30 PM the band started playing and also this male-colored that was seen at the Playboy Villa earlier in the evening sat with them and bought a bottle of wine and tipped the waitress.

At 2 AM ISAAC HAYES, who is a member of the Black Knights, started talking and stated that, "we, the Black Knights, gave this benefit to address a large crowd. We have been to the churches, and now we are in the clubs trying to reach everybody, and you people have got to wake up. This is a black revolution going on among the black people in the world. He said Amer Ican Negroes were behind the other black people, especially Negroes in the Memphis community. "You Negroes are sleeping." He was having a problem in getting the audience's attention. The reason for the people talking and not listening to his speech was because they have been brain washed. He urged the people to join some type of organization. He meant any black organization. He mentioned that the Nunkies had given the Invaders a bad name and that some of the "house niggers" had given the Invaders also a bad name. He also said all the progress the Negroes have made has been in the last three years, "because you have the white man scared." He said, "One day a Brother found a bottle, poured a little gas into it and stuck a rag into it and lit it and found this was not schard to to. I am not telling you to go out and burn something down, but this is the only way that progress has been made." He told the black guys to leave Miss Ann, which is all white women, alone, because, "All you Sisters look good in the Afro hairdo."

The next speaker was SWEET WILLIE WINE. He said that the Negroes of Memphis are not doing ^{anything}. He said he went to D. C. and closed the schools, and when he got back to Memphis, he still found that the Negroes are not "going shit." He stated Dr. King was killed here and "You still haven't done shit." He said he was ready to die, and "I know I am going to get killed, but I dont care but I want you to get off of your ass and do something. Revolution is here and I am going to be the first one to start it. I came to Memphis to win freedom or die. While I am in Memphis there will be no rest, because I am an agitator." Also he didn't care about the house nigger, police or the FBI, because the FBI is looking for me right now. Some people want Stokely Carmichael or H. Rap Brown to come to Memphis, but the people here are not ready for them because, "You're not even ready for me, SWEET WILLIE WINE." He says he is not scared of anything because if he gets killed there would be a riot. He said the white man would get a pleasure out of seeing a horse fall on the rocks and that the white bitches who would use logs to have intercourse with. He says he used to be hung up with the NXX Nunkie bitches but he has said that he would like to hear that 10,000 white whorons would die with syphilis of the brain than to hear that one black woman had a toothache.

Information was received that there were approximately 500 people at the Rosewood Club and some of the known people there were WARREN LEWIS, ROOSEVELT GREEN, L WALTON of the Black Knights, some SCLE members, one known as BISHOP FROSTER, also CHARLES CABBAGE along with a male colored named GIGGS, ROBERT and RICHARD CABBAGE were also seen about 2 AM there along with MARION COLLINS and SIA-DAD. SIA-DAD was seen to talk to some of the Invaders.