

"Fat man" Mc Donald marked  
in 4460

Unlinked after 4460 ob-  
viously altered; not in  
word sheets. 3 photos stopped.

11/19/68 ←

~~No 4552 - 4545~~

~~4523 - 1st page on - no page 2~~

~~4521 - 5 pp of 6/7 not provided. in  
of 4pp, 6-6, is here~~

Mumzell marked 4515

name card. office - press inf.

~~No 4505 - 01 may 4504 - it is~~

~~6/17/68 Parents DeLoach - no  
attachments~~

Ray not in LA 2/68?

See with

Budgerman, Paul

In 3873 Section 47  
is <sup>Mississippi</sup> ~~Memphis~~ Report of  
5/23/68

# GAO Flays U.S. Fight On Rackets

3/18/77  
By John M. Goshko  
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Justice Department has spent 10 years and \$800 million to combat high-level racketeering but has had little success in halting the nationwide activities of organized crime, according to a General Accounting Office study.

The study is especially critical of the 12 strike forces that are front-line units of the federal campaign. It argues that these forces have been hobbled by lack of a coherent national strategy and failure to agree "on what organized crime is and, consequently, on precisely whom or what the government is fighting."

A copy of the GAO report, which has not yet been made public, was obtained yesterday from congressional sources.

GAO's findings are likely to exacerbate a bitter struggle that has been under way within the Justice Department over the future direction, control and structure of the drive against organized crime.

Since 1967, that campaign has been controlled by the strike forces—teams of Justice Department attorneys and investigators from other federal law enforcement agencies set up in major cities to gather evidence for the prosecution of rackets leaders.

In the final months of the Ford administration, former Assistant Attorney General Richard L. Thornburgh, then head of the Criminal Division, had been attempting to downgrade the strike forces and shift many of their functions to the U.S. attorneys' offices in certain cities.

Before leaving office, Thornburgh shut down the strike forces in Manhattan, New Orleans, Pittsburgh and St. Louis and put the one in Newark under control of the U.S. attorney there. The new Attorney General, Griffin B. Bell, and Thornburgh's successor in the Criminal Division, Benjamin V. Civiletti, have not said whether they plan to continue this trend.

The GAO report did not recommend that the strike forces be abolished. But it

See JUSTICE, A7, Col. 1

## JUSTICE, From A1

charged that they "are not getting the job done" and warned that they will not become more effective unless there are extensive changes in their planning, organization, direction and methods of operation.

To back up its contention, the GAO study attempted to measure the results of the \$80 million spent annually by the strike forces to investigate and prosecute racketeers.

As a gauge, the study analyzed the 2,967 indictments obtained from 1972 through 1975 by strike forces in six areas: Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Manhattan and Brooklyn.

The GAO analysis found that, although a large number of convictions were obtained, they had little apparent effect on impeding the organized-crime figures involved. Fifty-two per cent of the sentences imposed did not require the persons convicted to serve time in prison; and only 20 per cent of the sentences calling for confinement were for two years or more.

In another major criticism the study noted that, because of legal restrictions and interagency rivalries, the Justice Department attorneys nominally in charge of the strike

forces have little actual control over the personnel assigned to them.

As a result, the study said, "there is no coordinated federal effort to fight organized crime. In practice, each participating agency fights organized crime as it sees fit and uses strike-force attorneys only for advice and prosecution."

The report noted that in 1970 the Justice Department defined organized crime as "all illegal activities engaged in by members of criminal syndicates . . . and all illegal activities engaged in by known associates and confederates of such members."

It added, though, that department personnel say this definition is so broad and imprecise that there has been constant confusion about the scope of the strike forces' jurisdiction. Although several other definitions have been suggested by various federal agencies, the report said, none has been formally adopted or greeted with wide acceptance.

The report also was critical of the costly computerized intelligence system built up by the Justice Department over the years to keep tabs on rackets leaders. Despite the considerable effort and expense lavished on this system, the study contended, it has failed to meet its objective of pro-

viding federal, state and local police with a centralized source of accurate data on organized crime.

To overcome these problems, the GAO said, the Justice Department should take steps to "identify what and whom the strike forces are combating," develop a uniform national strategy and priorities for the campaign, centralize the responsibility and authority for the program and set up systems to evaluate the effectiveness of the strike forces.

To bring about better interagency cooperation, the study recommended that the Attorney General seek a presidential order requiring "the other agencies' cooperation and commitment, should he not receive satisfaction from these agencies."

Dear Sir,

Re: Levi to Shaboon 4/26/76

I have enclosed the copy you got from Shaboon so that I can use it in writing and discuss it with you when you want to. I've started an O&I file in the new file I am creating for writing and have it filed there.

We are so grateful for bureaucrats who create phony records and write them self-servingly!

The first three matters in his graf three we can address definitively and other than the O&I report done, append it, and best of all in giving us a handle from the good records. All the work I've done for them is appropriate to this.

I can see the bureaucrats' answer, but appropriate as a handle is the third "matter," "whether there is any new evidence which has come to the attention of the Department concerning the assassination of Dr. King which should be dealt with by the appropriate authorities."

This has the traditional built-in conclusion that all was honest and thorough in the original investigation.

Limiting it to "new evidence" is the cop-out. This means in the files only and after the guilty-plea only.

WFO also explains what has other explanations, the absence of any reference to Freedom and the evidentiary hearing and the civil suits. Among the latter there is "new evidence" in C.A. 73-1995 and with the AFSA there and in the defendant it is said to mean that it "has come to the attention of the Department."

There is the Harris matter, never referred to. In their minds it is "new."

There is the AFSA "business" in terms of the Department's pretense, that there are victims of the crime and were other suspects. The FBI told the lawyers and since is aware that it had neither, hence both are "new" to the Department.

etc.

Also now is what I have spotted that I have filed under "hot paper." You know I have always had that in mind, from the very first. They had come to look into it. This one has no serial, naturally. I also do not recall - and could have missed - the basis for Mason writing Belmont about this and other matters which bury it 4/22/68, p.3.

- We've got for Hall what Levi pretended to want.

astily.

Dear Jim, 75-1996 - impressions after examining thru Serial 1050; future 12/13/76

We are in accord in agreeing to let this take its course now and where we might be able to do something, as with Green, letting that ride a while long. We really have no choice from time alone and it will build a better, an incredible record.

At some point we can file quite an affidavit. I am not certain what specifics I would now want to include. We will have to take some time to think through many aspects, priorities, possibilities and developments as best we can anticipate them.

I am certain of some things. One is to press for the files other than those ~~relevant~~ in the FBI HQ index/files. Not only in terms of the evidence I have sought but also in pressing for what is in three field offices in particular, Memphis, Atlanta and Birmingham. Of course Washington and probably Los Angeles. In this order.

These records reflect what the bums are withholding, did not let into the central FBI HQ files and what we can be sure are in the field office files.

Before I forget, I think it may be significant that you had no request to see Ray from ORR at DJ until the morning of the day the Supreme Court refused cert. Almost like they were wired in.

Except for archival value, which is fantastic, most of what we have gotten is junk. Do not object to this not only because it will make a remarkable archive but because it is buried in junk that I have found jewels. Kind of like beauty in the eye.

The two larger operations were laundry marks and Galts with all possible spellings.

Bill has been helpful in doing most of the recopying for me. I have not taken any copies from the working set. Those I want to have readily available I have a separate copy of now. I'll review and mark today's tomorrow. I'm a little tired now. Not from the 14.9 miles on the exercycle (the missing .1 because Lil called me to supper) but from the hours. I've been getting up earlier than my usual early. In a few minutes I'll relax with a broadcast of the Preservation Hall band from N.O. and then bed.

We will also want to see who makes what moves now, like the committee and DJ. I would guess that until the time in which you can go back to the Supreme Court expires you are still the only counsel of record.

With the committee you now have a record as with DJ, if that is not written.

There are many things we cannot control, sometimes influence. No point in knocking heads for nothing. We do better to stick to what we can do.

12/14. I took in some of the decisions coverage. I'll write you about it and a few things I spotted in going over the records after I take in the early part of the ABC-TV a.m. news to see if they used Garcia's interview with you.

I feel good and hope you do. We knew the odds were this way. And that experience with the Preservation Hall TV broadcast gave me a lift. It was at Wolf Trap and it is the kind of popular music I have always liked. And the kind of musicians, ordinary people who probably began as stevedores, even cotton-pickers or cane-cutter. All but one were at least my age. They have finally integrated it - one white musician who did well with a tuba that could barely accommodate him. I enjoyed ~~that~~ those young people all participating, marching and dancing all over the place onto the stage and around the musicians, hugging and kissing them to where the old boys whose instruments are portable were marching all around while they tootled. It got to Lil, who was in her office working. She came out to watch as well as listen.

The Rays do not change so don't expect anything and if there is any change let it be a pleasant surprise. I got an Amas card from Jerry yesterday. We have already made the correct shifts and if our timing has not been good on some of what we should have done we do have a good record with a good potential, one good enough to offset the anticipatable evils ahead.

Best,

From the records released only after appeal, those initially withheld, it appears that the FBI actually considered a post-midnight raid on the Atlanta rooming house of Jimmie Delton Garner. Its concerns seems to have been over the "hippies" rather than the reported inherent dangers.

C.L. McGowan wrote Assistant Director Rosen on April 13, 1968 of having instructed Atlanta SAC Hitt to "to send some agents to survey the situation at 113 14th Street, Northeast."

McGowan wrote that "SAC Hitt advised the Bureau at 2:15 a.m. ~~4/14/68~~ that a survey of the neighborhood had been conducted and it would be practically impossible to conduct a raid at this time." It "is a four-storey house with 30 to 40 rooms. It adjoins a house which is approximately the same size. ...in the middle of the 'hippie' section and there is a nightclub next door which is the hangout for the hippies. ... He stated that as of 1:30 a.m., it was as busy as the middle of the day with about 50 to 100 people milling around the house."

Instead of a search warrant being ordered "SAC Hitt was authorized to use surveillance truck to observe the residence in question."

With no conspiracy and the desperado wanted the FBI could not have used a search warrant? And did it expect to cover all entrances with one surveillance truck?

There is no content of this or the other records that falls within any of the exemptions of the Act. They were withheld to hide what the FBI does and does not do, did and did not do while investigating the King assassination. (Serial 809)

Two days later (Serial 927) Hitt wrote Hoover that Garner had promised to notify the Bureau that he would report immediately if Walt returned for his TV. But the FBI, not improperly, had planted agents there: "It is noted that SA \_\_\_\_\_ is staying at address 113 Fourteenth Street under pretext." (Not an exemption under the Act.)

Actually, there were two agents "in Garner's rooming house ~~xxxx~~ in an undercover capacity," according to a headquarters memorandum, Serial 1293. "One is in Room 2. ~~4/14/68~~ By taking the hinges off the connecting door from Room 2, the Agent examined Room 4." He found Ray's tv and other lead there.

(Serial 1393, a teletype originally suppressed, also refers to the "undercover agents." It says they had been "withdrawn." Serial 2324 reports this operation began April 13 and was still in place four ~~six~~ days later.)

The effort to suppress normal police practise, watching the building, and to suppress the fact of the entry into an adjoining room was long after thorough exposure of actual FBI burglaries. But the FBI is hangup on phoney image considerations. So it violates the law in a futile effort to keep them secret.

1 Mustang from: ser. 1916 4/23/68 WFO + under  
Lorraine - studying Tucker at Mtg at which  
police told of Meats. No such in any  
Serial ( have seen to 3/2/77)

12/18/75 unrecorded

DENIALS

1. If before 12/18/75 there had recently been a "serial-by-serial review" of the entire MURKIN file, why has compliance with so old a request been delayed so long?
2. Cuckoldry as motive and no reference in all the MURKIN files:

This is an old trick, of searching the wrong files. The one in which that was certain not to be found is MURKIN. Aside from personal files on King there was a series of Cointelpro, Cominfil, Racial Matters and similar files.

Added comment: these files contain false affidavits possible because they were executed by officials lacking first-person knowledge. They also contain the proof of the falsity.

Serial 6013X dates this rushed MURKIN review at 12/5/75.

See also under "Leads" and escape names subject  
for such things as with improbability they would  
have left such a trail if he planned assassination  
character FB investigation, how it informed  
false case & failed to follow leads, etc.  
See also Crime, internal records - for price  
Ray left