

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-1067)

DATE: 7/12/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

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

On 6/25/68 [redacted] orally advised SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE as follows:

Informant went to 1644 Hanauer, Apt. 2, apartment of BOP leader JOHN BURRELL SMITH, on the night of 6/24/68 about 8:00 p.m. Present were DONNEY DELANEY, JAMES E. PHILLIPS,

- 1-157-1067 - BOP
- 1-170-1019-Sub - [redacted]
- 1-157-556 - Possible Racial Violence, Major Urban Areas
- 1-157-957 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1023 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1000 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1173 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1116 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1277 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1275 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1190 - Poor People's Campaign
- 1-157-166 - SCLC
- 1-100-4528 - [redacted]
- 1-170-1024 - [redacted]
- 1-157-953 - Black Power Infiltration, Memphis War on Poverty Committee
- 1-157-1242 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1263 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1027 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1061 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1126 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1274 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1230 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1070 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1229 - [redacted]
- 1-157-1124 - [redacted]

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JOHN B. SMITH, OREE MCKENZIE, VERDELL BROOKS, EMMITT HOUSE, and "LARD." All were sitting in the yard in front. Someone said some of the younger ones were sitting inside the apartment having a meeting, planning something to do in retaliation because some policeman had "jumped" one of the younger Invaders the previous Sunday at Riverview Park and now the younger ones are trying to decide whether to do something in retaliation.

JOHN B. said he would let them make their own decision. Then "LARD" went inside with them.

JAMES E. PHILLIPS said he had gone to Washington, D. C., 6/19/68, to participate in the SCLC Resurrection City mass march. He had gotten arrested while there. He and some other Negroes went into a fancy Washington, D. C., restaurant, ordered \$4 to \$5 steaks, and after being served they could not pay. They told the proprietor the steaks were only worth 6 cents each and that is all they offered to pay. The proprietor had someone call the police and they were all arrested.

JOHN B. and HOUSE said they would soon have to make another trip into West Tennessee to buy the codine-based cough syrup Robittusin to sell and to drink.

[REDACTED] left about 10:00 p.m. Before leaving, JOHN B. was complaining that CHARLES CABBAGE and JAMES PHILLIPS had gone to Washington, D. C., and had used BOP and Invaders money to help pay for the trip. He said he is about to throw CABBAGE out of the movement.

CHARLES BALLARD came in and said he had a job with the Memphis War on Poverty Committee, and would try to get the other Invaders jobs on the WOPC.

EMMITT HOUSE said that some of the Invaders had gone to see Mayor HENRY LOEB on 6/23/68. They do not like LOEB and said they hoped he stayed in office as he is one person all Negroes are unified against. They plan to teach against LOEB all summer. EMMITT HOUSE and JOHN B. SMITH were among those seeing the Mayor.

On the night of 6/24/68 Captain JEWELL RAY, Intelligence Bureau, Memphis Police Department, called [REDACTED] writer, saying the Police Department informant, code name [REDACTED] had just reported that some of the young Invaders planned that night to burn a service station at Swift and South Parkway West and to stone a city bus at a turn-around

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in South Memphis, and that ARTHUR NORWOOD and WOMAX LEE STEVERSON were two who allegedly were to be involved.

On the morning of 6/25/68 Lt. E. H. ARKIN, Intelligence Bureau, Memphis PD, furnished a copy of his interview with PD undercover informant, code name [REDACTED] which reads as follows:

On 6/25/68 [REDACTED] advised SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE that on 6/25/68 PAUL JACKOCK, male Negro, residence 1515 Swift, just south of South Parkway West, who works at Kimco, said he knew who set the fire at the Texaco Service Station, Swift and Parkway, on the night of 6/24/68. He said that those who did it asked him for a match at the Log Cabin Inn, South Parkway West, about 11:15 to 11:30 p.m., 6/24/68. He would not name any names but said it was young Negro males who did it.

(NOTE: On 6/25/68 Lt. ARKIN advised that on the night of 6/24/68 someone threw kerosene-filled bottles, molotov cocktails, into Texaco Service Station at 337 South Parkway West, Parkway at Swift, around 11:30 p.m. The station is operated by C. L. JONES of 3818 Burr, Memphis. A brick first broke the window and the cocktail went in. It did some fire damage, burning a wastebasket, and did a lot of heat damage. The #10 pumper arrived and extinguished the fire. The fire alarm was turned in by an unknown white male who told firemen he saw two unknown males who ran south.)