

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-1067)

DATE: 8/12/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

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

INFO FOR JAMES H. P. [REDACTED] & INVADERS

On 8/7/68 [REDACTED] orally advised
SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE was [REDACTED]:

A few days ago Invader and Black Organizing Project (BOP) follower and member JOHN HENRY FERGUSON said he had just returned to Memphis from New York City. He indicated he will be working for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He said the story re the fist fight on 7/30/68 at the Neighborhood Organizing Project (NOP) field office, 1310 Florida, operated by Memphis War on Poverty Committee, involving an attack by Invader leader JOHN B. SMITH, EMMETT HOUSE and MELVIN SMITH, who fought WOPC supervisor GEORGE R. HUNT, had been grossly exaggerated. He indicated he had been present. (This fight has been reported in a separate detailed memo for instant file.)

- 1 - 157-1067 (BOP)
- 1 - 170-70-Sub [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157- [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-New [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-4528 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 25-14636 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-1070 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 134-493 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 134- [REDACTED]
- 1 - 134-511 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-1114 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-1326 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-4518 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 170-98 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-Dead [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-1238 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-953 (BLACK POWER INFORMATION WOPC & NOP)
- 1 - 134-511 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 66-1687 Sub (Dissemination)

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157-1067-328
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
AUG 14 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS
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(19)

FERGUSON has recently been running with a 10th grade male Negro, MUMFRESS as High student, (FNU) GARNER, son of Negro radio announcer ROBERT "MONSIEUR" GARNER.

FERGUSON said "I can make more money running the streets than by being tied down to a regular job."

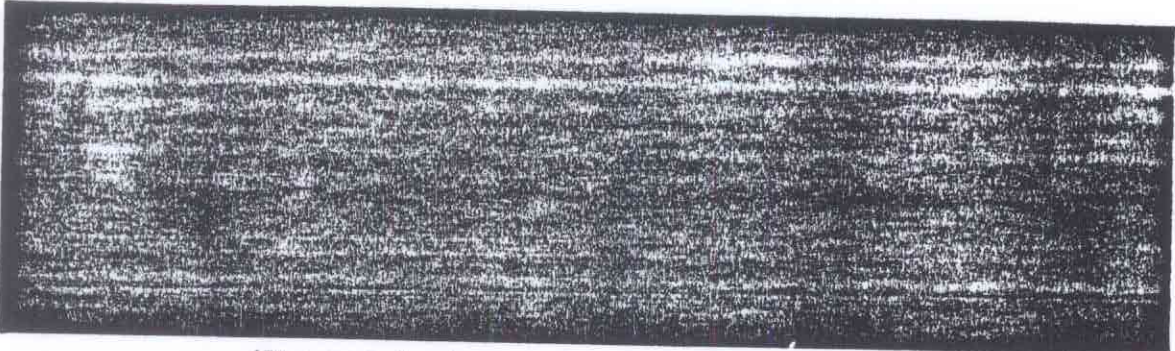
INFO RE LEGAL DEFENSE & MATRIMONIALS OF CHARLES L. CABBAGE, HIS INVOLVEMENT WITH PROSTITUTE AND SHOP-LIFTER HELEN WASHINGTON

Source added that during the past week BOP leader and founder CHARLES L. CABBAGE, currently under Federal indictment for refusal to report for armed forces induction, has been desperately trying to raise money through legal or illegal means to take a trip to Atlanta, Georgia, and New York, New York, to contact "Draft Resistance groups" in an effort to try to win acquittal when his case comes up in Federal Court. For example, he is milking his girlfriend, EDWINA HARRELL, BOP leader and clerk-typist of NOP-WOPC, for money. She has recently been living with him out of wedlock at Trumpet Motel, South Second Street. She has recently moved some of her "light housekeeping goods - skillets, coffee pot, etc." to a new location in South Shelby County, possibly into home of RICK HENRY TAYLOR, an associate of BOP. TAYLOR was last known to live at 368 McFarland, in Lakeview Gardens Subdivision.

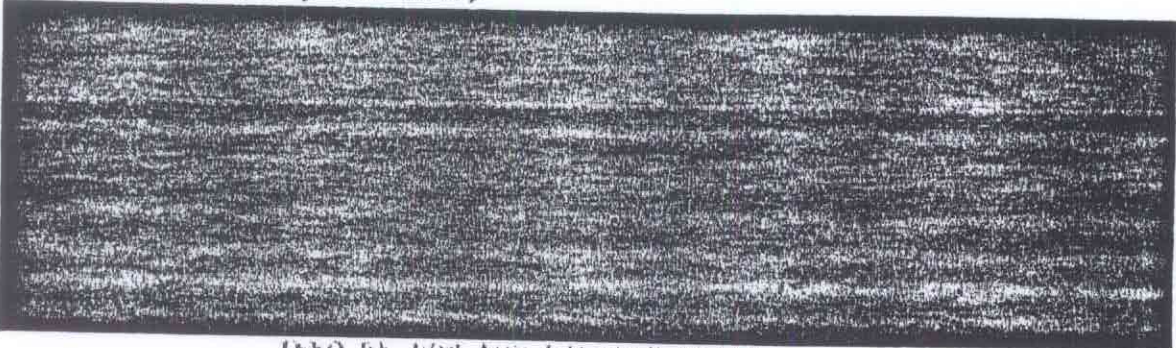
Two young Negro reporters for Tri-State Defender, Negro paper, namely EDWARD JAMES HARRIS, II, and WHITTIER SENGSTACKE, JR., recently drove EDWINA and her goods to the area near TAYLOR's house. Circumstantially, CABBAGE and EDWINA and DON NEELY, BOP member, believed to be AWOL from the Army, may be staying together.

CHARLES CABBAGE has for the past week been courting HELEN WASHINGTON, female Negro, described by informant as a well known [redacted] currently on State parole for shoplifting. CABBAGE told informant he hopes to "con" WASHINGTON into giving him enough money, from her [redacted] earnings, to finance his trip and all or part of his legal defense.

Informant furnished two good photographs of HELEN WASHINGTON, taken in 1967. He said she is about 5 feet 5 inches tall, 112 pounds, about 26 years old, attractive, hair is medium length. CABBAGE is trying to force her to develop a black power "natural hairdo".



(She was last arrested in 1968 with one LINDA RUTH DAVIS in connection with shoplifting. She is now on State parole for shoplifting. She was born 6/12/44, is female Negro, 5'5", 112 lbs.)



INFO RE DON AND RICHARD NEELY

Informant added that DON NEELY and RICHARD NEELY, both of 531 East McLemore, are still in BOP and close followers of CHARLES L. CABRAGE. They are now calling their group the "DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION". It basically consists of the two NEELYS, EDWINA HARFELL, HERMAN PREWITT, and REUBEN WATTS.

DON NEELY recently made multiple copies of a one page mimeographed sheet in form of: "News Release" dated July 12, 1968, referring to this element of BOP as "Downtown Association". Informant furnished copies thereof. One Xerox copy of same is attached to each copy of this memo.

DON NEELY is still AWOL from the Army. He still frequents the Beale St. haunts of BOP, namely Harlem House, Henry's Pool Room, and Avalon Pool Room, and New Daisy Theatre.

RICHARD NEELY has quit his job at KB Photos; still drives his late model yellow Buick - it has what appears to be two bullet holes in the windshield.

RICHARD NEELY now claims he can make more money hustling. Both DON and he were raised in Beale Street area, have a strong affinity for same, and many vice prone contact in the area. RICHARD NEELY is a paradox in this regard. He worked regularly at KB photos for six years and still attends Progressive Baptist Church on Vance Avenue; yet a "Beale Street character" who should be in the "know" recently told informant that RICHARD NEELY has turned to the pimping of at least two Beale Street prostitutes, for a living. Possible corroboration of this is the fact that on the night of 8/1/68 informant saw RICHARD NEELY with two female Negroes who have reputations as prostitutes and dope pushers. One is a very attractive girl who did work at RCA, always wears blacks, and frequents Beale Street; the other is a continuing prostitute. She has a sister who dates a male Negro who works for PAUL VESCOVO at Paul's Tailor Shop, 3rd at Beale.

COMMENTS OF EDWIN CLIFTON SANDERS, III AND RICHARD NEELY RE VIOLENCE

On or about July 28, 1968, EDWIN CLIFTON SANDERS, III, Male Negro, native Memphian, currently theological student at Wesleyan University in Connecticut and a summer interne at Rev. JAMES M. LAWSON's Centenary Methodist Church, was talking with RICHARD NEELY. They both asserted that the Black man can only gain his rights and material possessions through violence and the engagement in guerilla warfare.

EDWINA HARRELL'S LETTER FROM PENAL FARM

A few days prior to 8/2/68 EDWINA HARRELL got a letter from a former BOP associate, "CHARLIE MAN", who used to hang out with EDWINA and CABBAGE at Clayborn Temple during Spring 1968 sanitation strike. "CHARLIE MAN" is now an inmate in Shelby County Penal Farm. He is trying to get EDWINA's help in getting a release. In his letter to her he commented that he was sorry to hear that JOHN BURRELL SMITH was breaking away from Invader and BOP leadership, not elaborating. CABBAGE who is now jealous of JOHN B. SMITH, showed obvious resentment at EDWINA's exhibiting this letter to some of her acquaintances.

ME 157-1067

CABBAGE ATTEMPTING TO GET MONEY FROM REV. NEAL
OF WARNER TEMPLE

CABBAGE commented he had recently tried to get Rev. NEAL of Warner Temple, a Negro minister, to get him financial support for his legal defense.

On 8/1/68 above information was orally furnished to Lt. JERRY DAVIS, Intelligence Bureau, Memphis, Tennessee Police Department.