UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorantium

: SAC, Memphis (157-1067)

OM : Director, FBI (157-8460)

BJECT: BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT RACIAL MATTERS

Reurairtel and letterhead memorandum (LHM) 8/13/68.

PERSONAL ATTENTION

ReLHM and previous LHM on captioned group show thorough and penetrating investigation of the Black Organizing Project (BOP) and a well-organized reporting job. The BOP, with its several subunits and muddled organization, is a difficult group on which to report, but Memphis has made the structure of BOP clear.

In view of the highly violent and extremist nature of this group, the Bureau wishes you to continue affording BOP concentrated attention. Those members of BOP who have planned and/or advocated violence and obtaining firearms should be targeted for special attention. Members of the Invaders, which appears to be the most militant subunit, should be afforded special attention. Informant coverage should be expanded to afford reportage of these individuals on almost a daily basis.

An analysis of the activities of each BOP member should be made immediately so that all appropriate members are recommended for Security and Agitator indices. Insure that local authorities and appropriate Federal agencies are kept advised of pertinent developments in this case. Continue to submit data re BOP involvement in Federally-financed anti-poverty programs in a form suitable for dissemination.

Also, Memphis should continually be alert for violations of the new Anti-Riot Law in connection with BOP activity. Handle investigations under this law pursuant to Manual of Instructions provisions. In addition to violations of law, consider possible counterintelligence measures to neutralize this group.

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Letter to SAC, Memphis
Re: BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT
157-8460

It appears the BOP is one of the most violent black nationalist extremist groups of a local nature. In addition, the Invaders' subunit has received national publicity. Memphis should keep the Bureau fully advised of BOP activity and reports should be submitted regularly. In your next communication on BOP advise the Bureau of your informant coverage in this group.

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: SAC, Memphis (157-1067)

DATE: 10-2-68

Director, FBI (157-8460)

SUBJECT: BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT

RACIAL MATTERS

Reurairtel and LHM 9-23-68 captioned "Womax Lee Stevenson; John Gary Williams; Ben Heard Berry, Racial Matters," urfile 157-1428.

Reairtel notes that future information in this matter will be reported under the Black Organizing Project (BOP) caption. You should insure individual cases are open on the above individuals and they are considered for Security and Agitator Indices.

Reairtel concerns violence on the part of the BOP, particularly the Invaders Unit of the BOP. Bulet 8-23-68 instructed you to advise the Bureau of your informant coverage in the BOP, in your next communication on the BOP.

The most recent violence by the Invaders raises a question you should comment on. As informants learn of violations of the law on the part of Invaders or BOP members, they may be needed to testify, losing their value as informants. This points out the need to provide continuing, in-depth, coverage of the BOP with live informants.

In advising the Bureau of the coverage in BOP, set out specifically what informants are members of what BOP subunit, their position and whether they can report on potential violence. Set out your plans to correct any gaps in our coverage, and your plans to provide continuing coverage if informants are lost through court appearances.

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