

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

SAC: (157-1067)

DATE: 9/18/68

TO: SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

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

On 9/9/68 Lt. O. B. HOLCOMB, Intelligence Bureau, Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department, furnished SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE a copy of Memphis Police Department memorandum dated 9/9/67 re "Activities Invaders 9/6-7/68."

One Xerox copy of same is attached to each copy of this memorandum.

- 1 - 157-1067 (BOP)
- 1 - 157-556 (Possible Racial Violence, Major Urban Areas)
- 1 - 157-957 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1173 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1116 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 170-1024 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1277 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1258 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1263 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1114 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 100-4528 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 25-14636 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1181 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1173 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1019 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 170-1035 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1264 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1312 (Black Knights)
- 1 - 100-662 (NAACP)
- 1 - 157-166 (SCLC)
- 1 - 157-1229 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1242 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157- ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1125 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1372 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157-1230 ([REDACTED])
- 1 - 157- ([REDACTED])

WHL:gmh

(27)

Lawrence

157-1067-454

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With regard to MERT and MYRTLE, there is no 1395 Texas shown. It is believed [REDACTED] will know their identity.

With regard to (FNU) JONES, he is undoubtedly identical with (FNU) TATE, son of ELLIS TATE, who was shot by officers of the Police Department 4/4/68 while looting a liquor store and whose wife died a few days thereafter. As recently as 9/5/68 [REDACTED] advised SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE that TATE is staying at the Lorraine, is emaciated looking, and has been working for SCLC.

TO: Inspector G. P. Thies,
Inspectional Bureau.

SUBJECT: Activities Invaders 9/6-7/1968

FROM: Lt. O. P. Holcomb,
Intelligence Section.

DATE: September 9, 1968.

At 6:30PM 9/6/68 the following persons were seen at 1044 Hanauer Apt. 2, OREO MC
KENZIE, JOHN B. SMITH, VERDELL BROOKS, MARRELL MC CULLOUGH, CHARLES BALL
ARD, EMMETT HOUSE, SWEET WILLY WINE, ARTHUR NORWOOD. At 6:40PM MARRELL
MC CULLOUGH was seen to leave with VERDELL BROOKS & EMMETT HOUSE. They pro-
ceeded to the apartments on Bond just west of Latham where EMMETT HOUSE resides.
They went there to get EMMETT HOUSE's wife to give them some money. While there a
Male Negro 20, named PERCY HUGHES who is supposed to be a WOL from [redacted]
talked by and waved at them. He is supposed to be a cousin of EMMETT HOUSE.

At 7:20PM these three went down at Beale Street and HOUSE separated from them to go
and some Dilaudid. MC CULLOUGH and BROOKS met CABBAGE, and CABBAGE said
that they now run the whole City. He said ATTORNEY WILLIAM B. INGRAM, has even
come to him to ask him how to run his campaign for the legislature. CABBAGE then asked
BROOKS how they were coming along with Career High and BROOKS stated they planned
to use something besides picketing to boycott the cafeteria and schools supplies. CABBAGE
then talked about the Afro American Teachers Union, and asked how it was going. During
his time DON NOBLE was also seen walking down Beale Street with his beard shaven.
At this time EMMETT HOUSE came back to them with the Dilaudid. It is unknown where
he bought it, though one of the STREETER boys was seen on Beale Street.

At 8PM 9/6/68 these three were seen back at 1044 Hanauer, along with JOHN B SMITH,
and CHARLES BALLARD. JOHN B. SMITH was talking about their new program BOSE.
and it was decided that EMMETT HOUSE, JOHN B. SMITH, VERDELL BROOKS, BALLARD
and MC CULLOUGH would be the ones that worked on this program. VERDELL BROOKS
job is to print up leaflets with the names of the Business Houses that donated to BOSE
along with a list of the ones who did not. The Invaders will take this list and contact the
businesses that did not by making them take out their Pepsi Cola Machines, or run them
out of business.

At 8:45PM EMMETT HOUSE Left along with MC CULLOUGH, JOHN B. SMITH, BALLARD,
BROOKS, MC KENZIE and NORWOOD, and they went by HARRINGTON'S house to get him
and his car. It is worthy of note that the HARRINGTONS, have bought a white 1966 Oldsmobile
edan, no other description at this time, although they kept their 69 Olds. At 9:00PM
EMMETT HOUSE, JOHN B. SMITH and BALLARD, got in the 1959 Olds with HARRINGTON
and VERDELL BROOKS, McKENZIE & NORWOOD got in the car with MC CULLOUGH.
They proceeded to 1915 Hubert, #4, where a girl who had been working with WOL was
having a party. There were only 2 or 3 people there and at 10:15PM they left and some
people got in the same cars and proceeded toward South Memphis, but they separated at
Homes and Chelsea and MC CULLOUGH and his party proceeded around Riverdale and
HARRINGTON and his party proceeded to the Downtown Area. At Parkway and Hanauer
Male Negro 22, called MON JAW (possibly ROY ADAMS), is known to have given
MC CULLOUGH 50 cents to carry him to Florida and Trigg, because he was scared to

be on the streets by himself with all the fire trucks in the area. After letting him out they proceeded to 1644 Hanauer where they let ERICONS & MC KENZIE out and MC CULLOUGH & NORWOOD then proceeded to the Hungry Eye, Snack Bar, on S. 1st where NORWOOD got out and MC CULLOUGH proceeded on. NORWOOD talked to VAN CABBAGE & THOMAS CLARK at this location but their conversation is not known.

While they were talking to CHARLES CABBAGE carrier on Leale Street, he told them that there was to be a secret meeting in the Lorraine Motel by delegates of S. C. L. C., Black Knights, NAACP, and the Invaders. WILLY WINE, and CHARLES CABBAGE were to be the delegates of the Invaders, and the primary reason for this meeting was to see if they could BEN BERRY and WOMAX STEVENSON out of Jail.

At 11:30AM September 7, 1968 ARTHUR NORWOOD, MARRELL MC CULLOUGH, were seen to leave 1644 Hanauer, after they had gotten the word that JOHN B. SMITH had been arrested, and they were supposed to have a copy of the arrest warrant. They went by BALLARD'S HOUSE with the warrant looking for CABBAGE and parked across the street from BALLARD'S HOUSE, was the 1966 Elain Chev. Convertible, Tenn. KR 6491, previously reported as KA 6491. A Male Colored, owner and driver of this vehicle is believed to be named JOHN WHITE. BALLARD asked him where he dropped CABBAGE off, and he said he carried him home. (believed to be WHITE'S home). NORWOOD & MC CULLOUGH were seen to leave and go by MC KENZIE'S house where they picked up MC KENZIE and VERDELL BROOK and went to 1644 Hanauer, #2, where they picked up BALLARD'S brief case and carried it to him.

BALLARD, NORWOOD and ERICONS then got in NORWOOD'S car, and MC KENZIE & MC CULLOUGH got in MC CULLOUGH'S car, and both cars went to the brick apartments just East of the Grocery Store at McLemore and Wellington, but on the way they used evasive tactics to lose what they thought was a Police tail. This apartment is believed to be where ERICONS lives. They pulled into the driveway and soon afterwards MC CULLOUGH & MC KENZIE left, to draw off a possible tail. They then went to 1395 Texas, and picked up two Female Negro twins, believed named MERTON, alias MERT, and KIKKLE. These girls are supposed to be students at Carver High, and one of them made the statement that she and JOHN FERGUSON were responsible for the Arson fire on Texas Friday night, and stated they had to set it twice, and was talking about how the rats ran out of the building. She also said that JOHN FERGUSON was one of the group that beat up the Wrecker Driver, near Carver High. They took the girls to 1644 Hanauer where they were supposed to be getting some papers together for a meeting Saturday Evening at the Playboy Villa, to talk about Carver High.

MC CULLOUGH & MC KENZIE got into the car to ride around the neighborhood and tell everyone about the meeting, and they were even telling the 10-13 year

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old group, in the area who call themselves the BLACK DEVILS to be at the meeting.

They went back to the apartment at 1644 Hancock #2, where the ladies were just sitting around talking and a male Negro was there described as: about 23, 5'10", 175, Afro Am. type haircut, with points cut in front, and ducktails on the side, wears green fatigue shirt, has been in service, and lives in Mississippi Trigg area, who kept saying he had a job to do and needed some help, at the Laundry on the S. Side of Trigg at Mississippi, because they had lost his laundry. (JOE refers to burning.)

JEWEL DAVIS and her sister came over to the apartment and they called HELEN BRIDGES, at the Afro Cleaners where she now works and told her BALLARD had been arrested with JOHN B. SMITH, and Helen walked over to the apartment.

At 2PM 9/7/68 JOHN B. SMITH, and MELVIN SMITH went out, and MARCELL MC CULLOUGH and JOHN B. SMITH LEFT in search of WHITE and CABLAGE. At 3rd and Jefferson they picked up EMMETT HOUSE, and A Male Negro believed to be called JONES. This Male Negro JONES is a scrawny Negro Male with a beard and wears a necklace made of teeth. He hangs around the LORRAINE Motel, and is believed to be connected with S. C. L. C. These five then continued to Little Eobe still searching for CABLAGE, and JONES made the statement that S. C. L. C. is coming back to Memphis. JONES also discussed a gang, he called the BLACK AVENGEERS, whose territory is supposed to be the Southside School area, and are supposed to have a bout 100 members, and their leader has money. This group is supposed to go along with S. C. L. C. on their policies, and they are supposed to collect funds from the breadbasket program S. C. L. C. is supposed to institute in this city. This breadbasket campaign will be in direct conflict with the Invader program BOSH. JOHN B. SMITH made the statement that if S. C. L. C. came back to town they had better bring plenty of money with them, indicating that the Invaders would shake them down again. JONES also stated that S. C. L. C. owed him \$500.00 because either his father or mother had had a heart attack and died while they were participating in the S. C. L. C. riots in the City. They dropped JONES off at the Lorraine Motel and went back to 1644 Hancock #2, where HOUSE and MELVIN SMITH got out and JOHN B. SMITH & MC CULLOUGH proceeded to JOHN B. SMITH's mother's house where JOHN B. SMITH explained to his mother about being arrested and released. Because someone that has been arrested had implicated SMITH as his accomplice, but after confronting SMITH did not know him, and SMITH did not know him.

They then went by SMITH's Sister's house in the 1700 block of Riverdale where she gave him a couple of dollars, and they then went by the Playboy Villa at about 3PM when the meeting was supposed to start, but it was locked up and there was no one around and they proceeded on to 1644 Hancock.

CC: