

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-1067)

DATE: 10/2/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

SUBJECT: BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT, aka
Invaders
RM

On 9/18/68 Lt. O. B. HOLCOMB, Intelligence Unit, Memphis Police Department, furnished SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE with a copy of his memorandum dated 9/13/68 re "Activities of Invaders, 9/12/68," as received by him on 9/13/68 from Police Department undercover [REDACTED] (code name [REDACTED]). A Xerox copy of this memorandum is attached hereto to each copy of this communication.

- 1 - 157-1067 (BOP)
- 1 - 157-556 (Possible Racial Violence, Major Urban Areas)
- 1 - 157-1277 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-1116 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 170-1024 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-166 (SCLC)
- 1 - 157-DEAD [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-DEAD [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-4528 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-1230 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-967 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-1263 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-1061 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-1341 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-1312 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-1258 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 157-1423 (Black United Front)

WHL:gmh
(17)

157-1067-475

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DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

ASD 94

TO: Inspector G. P. Tines,
Inspection Bureau

FROM: Lt. O. D. Holcomb,
Intelligence Bureau

SUBJECT: Activities of Invaders,
9-12-68.

DATE: September 13, 1968

At 5:00 PM, 9-12-68, there was very little activity among the Invaders due to the fact that most of them were locked up in jail. Present at that time were ERIC HOUSE, MORRIS Mc CULLOUGH and VERDELL BROOKS. HOUSE and BROOKS were trying to borrow \$10 because they said that WILLARD locked about \$10 to get out of jail. He did not have the money, so they went downtown to the SCLC office at Beale and Danny Thomas to see if they could get the money from them. They met and talked to RISE HEALER, female white, 20, SCLC employee, who is presently working on the recall Leeb petition and lives with ~~WALTER HEATER~~, female colored about 19, who lives in the Hollywood area and also works for SCLC. They were unable to get any money from them so they then talked to PICKETT and told him they needed money to get their lunch out of jail and he said that he had already sent the money down by CATRON. They then went to talk with CATRON about this (he has a picture of him on 16 mm. film that was taken at Election Commission meeting 9-10-68. He is a light complexioned male colored in his 20's and works for PICKETT.) CATRON said that PICKETT was mistaken, that the money he had given CATRON had gone to Marks, Mississippi, to pay the bond on 23 that had been arrested there. No one in SCLC seemed interested in the Invaders that were locked up in jail, nor did HOUSE and BROOKS seem interested, as they stayed in the car while McCULLOUGH was trying to get this money.

These three left SCLC headquarters and went down on Beale St. where they talked to CHARLES CARRAGE. CARRAGE stated he had the money to get them out of jail (which is unbelievable), but is waiting to see if the NAACP is going to give them any money from Luk Ford. He also wants them to stay in jail to show the city what can still happen with the Invaders in jail.

These same three left the Beale St. area and went to 1844 Hanauer where they picked up MELVIN SMITH and went to the Playboy Villa where ERIC HOUSE borrowed \$10 from DUEE (owner of Playboy) to get WILLARD out of jail. They left there and were followed back to Beale St. ERIC HOUSE and VERDELL BROOKS got out on Beale and MELVIN SMITH and McCULLOUGH continued on to the Minimum Salary Bldg. to get a typist to type up a recommendation slip for SMITH to go to work for Guardmark Detective Agency. They were unable to get anyone to type this up but they talked to a male colored there named JIM TROTTER (not Bishop or his brother) who promised that he would talk to someone he knows at Guardmark today and after this conversation, MELVIN SMITH would be able to go to work for them.

At 6:30 PM they were seen to leave, go back to Beale St., and picked up BROOKS and HOUSE. They left there going south and after they left Beale St. BROOKS and HOUSE started getting high, but they were not seen to take anything. They stopped at the apartments on the northeast corner of Fourth and McLenore and HOUSE went in looking for marijuana, but was unable to find any. They then went to the Dupas House (restaurant).

At 7:00 PM they were seen to leave there and go to Florida and Trigg where they went inside the poolrooms and shot pool until 8 PM.

At 8 PM EMMITT HOUSE, VERDELL BROOKS, MORRELL MCCULLOUGH and MELVIN SMITH left there and went to some brick duplex units at S. Main East. and Utah. It is unknown who the two girls are, but one of them is EMMITT'S girlfriend. When they left there they were trailed to 1644 Hanauer where EMMITT HOUSE, VERDELL BROOKS and the two girls got out and went into the house and SMITH and MCCULLOUGH continued on to the Playboy Villa, but were supposed to be back at 1644 Hanauer at 9 PM.

At 10 PM they went back to 1644 Hanauer and picked up EMMITT HOUSE, but VERDELL BROOKS had already gone. They went to the apartment house just west of Herace on Trigg on the east side to Apt. 2, building number unknown, to buy some marijuana. The occupant of this apartment is supposed to be named JAMES CARR and was supposed to have gotten some marijuana from the Black Panthers. A male colored was in the apartment believed to be CARR along with his wife, drinking beer. He is described as a male colored, 35, 5'10", 170 lbs., regular haircut, dark brown complexion. CARR is not believed by the writer to be a Panther sympathizer, as he was arguing with MELVIN SMITH and saying that he was for Dr. King's philosophy of nonviolence, mainly because they had nothing to do violence with. HOUSE then said the best way to get guns is to attack places and get them. They did not get any marijuana.

At 10:30 PM they were seen to leave and go back to 1644 Hanauer and it is noted that HARRINGTON and BROOKS were there along with two other male coloreds. No. 1, 21 to 22, 5'11", 175 lbs., real light complected, looks almost Caucasian, with wavy hair. He has been seen around the Invaders before, but not lately. The other male colored had no outstanding characteristics.

At 10:45 PM MORRELL MCCULLOUGH went to the Playboy Villa to pick up MELVIN SMITH. CHARLES CAB BAGE was there along with ARTHUR HOWARD and LARRY DAVIS. CHARLES CABBAGE and ARTHUR HOWARD were telling everybody to lay low because they had so many members in jail now they could not get any money together to get anybody out on. CHARLES CABBAGE is planning to write up some guide lines for the Invaders and BBT. They want to get in touch with ISAAC HAYES and WILLIE WINE and try to have a BBT meeting sometime Saturday, 9-14-68. BURT was giving the Invaders beer to drink at the Playboy Villa and all during the night MELVIN SMITH was trying to get the Invaders that are on the street to do something and BROOKS was advising everybody not to start anything.

At 11:30 PM MCCULLOUGH took CABBAGE to 1644 Hanauer and went back to the Playboy Villa where the rest of them sat around and drank until about midnight and MCCULLOUGH was seen to take MELVIN SMITH home and the rest of them went home.