

FBI

Date: 9/16/69

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL - REGISTERED

Via _____

(Priority)

*let with...
file letterhead of J...
...
9/16/69 at San Francisco*

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (173-65)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO: MEMPHIS

Re Bureau letter, dated 9/11/69.

Enclosed for the Bureau are six copies of a letter-head memorandum captioned [redacted]. Two copies of the letter-head memorandum are enclosed for the Memphis Office.

San Francisco is of the opinion that no additional investigation should be conducted in this matter in view of the fact that BOBBY SEALE at the time of KING's death appeared to be involved in some type of quarrel with his attorney.

*Rec: Adm. Serv. Div. 100
Form 501 (5-65)*

SEP 23 1969
FBI - CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

- 2 - Bureau (Encs. 6) (RM)
 - 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encs. 2) (AM) (RM)
 - 1 - San Francisco
- MTG/sms #11
(5)

ENCLOSURE

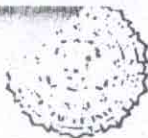
REC-65

44-1987-5823

Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

[Handwritten initials]



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

San Francisco, California

September 16, 1969



The files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C., contain the following letter:

"9/5/69

"Attorney General MITCHELL:

"Now that there is evidence that Black Panther, BOBBY SEALE, is able to take part in or direct activities involving murder all the way across the country from San Francisco, I wonder if the following strange and unusual fact has been brought back to the attention of Federal or other authorities.

"Some time ago SEALE had been arrested in this area and was supposed to appear in court on a certain day. He did not appear and both his attorney and his wife indicated they did not know where he was...that nobody had seen him in this entire area that day. About five hours later on that same day the news flashed across the country that...MARTIN LUTHER KING had been killed.



San Francisco, Cal.

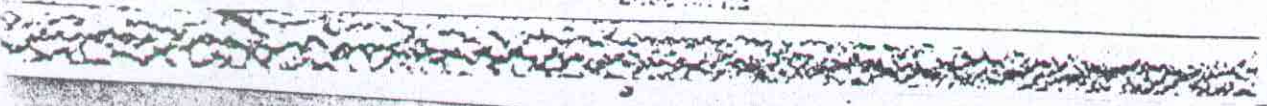
"cc: Mr. J. EDGAR HOOVER"

The files of the San Francisco Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation do not contain any information identified with

The Jack Tar Hotel is located in the block bounded by Van Ness Avenue, Franklin Street, Geary Boulevard, and Post Street, and is one of the most recent hotels built in the City of San Francisco and is considered to be a first-class hotel.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ENCLOSURE



1

BLACK PANTHER PARTY, aka
Black Panther Party for
Self Defense

According to its official newspaper, the Black Panther Party (BPP) was started during December, 1966, in Oakland, California, to organize black people so they can take control of the life, politics, and the destiny of the black community. It was organized by Bobby George Seale, BPP Chairman, and Huey P. Newton, BPP Minister of Defense. Newton is presently serving a sentence of 2 to 15 years on a conviction of manslaughter in connection with the killing of an Oakland police officer.

The official newspaper, "The Black Panther," which further describes itself as the "Black Community News Service," states that the BPP advocates the use of guns and guerrilla tactics in its revolutionary program to end oppression of the black people. Residents of the black community are urged to arm themselves against the police who are consistently referred to in the publication as "pigs" who should be killed.

"The Black Panther" issue of September 7, 1968, contains an editorial by BPP Minister of Education, George Mason Murray, which ends with the following:

"Black men. Black people, colored persons of America, revolt everywhere! Arm yourselves. The only culture worth keeping is a revolutionary culture. Change. Freedom everywhere. Dynamite! Black Power. Use the gun. Kill the pigs everywhere."

Included in the introduction to an article appearing in the October 5, 1968, edition of "The Black Panther" is the statement, "...we will not dissent from American Government. We will overthrow it."

Issues of "The Black Panther" regularly contain quotations from the writings of Chairman MAO Tse-tung of the People's Republic of China and feature MAO's statement that "political power grows out of the barrel of a gun."

The national headquarters of the BPP is located at 3106 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, California. Branches have been established at various locations throughout the United States.

APPENDIX

T. WAYNE

The "San Francisco Chronicle," a daily newspaper published in San Francisco, California, in the edition dated April 5, 1968, carried an article captioned "No Show--Warrant For BOBBY SEALE." This article stated that a bench warrant for the arrest of Black Panther leader BOBBY SEALE was issued yesterday (April 4, 1968) after he failed to appear on an old charge of carrying a loaded shotgun in the Oakland Hall of Justice. SEALE had been scheduled to appear before Alameda County Superior Judge REDMOND C. STAATS at 9:30 a.m. SEALE's counsel explained that he had seen SEALE approximately one-half hour before "tying his tie--and he was supposed to be here." Counsel requested a postponement of SEALE's hearing.

The "San Francisco Chronicle" in the edition dated April 9, 1968, entitled "SEALE In Court. . .Attorney Trouble," stated that BOBBY SEALE, Chairman of the Black Panthers, appeared with his attorney in an Oakland court yesterday thus abrogating a bench warrant for his arrest.

SEALE stated in court that he was actually en route to the court when he "got mad at his lawyer."

At this point in the proceedings, SEALE's new attorney took over saying it was indeed true that SEALE and his former counsel had a falling out but that it was an embarrassing matter to bring up in open court since it involved client-attorney relationships.

A characterization of the Black Panther Party is attached hereto.