

44-38861

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10/1/68

AC, JN

MURKIN

INDICES CHECK AT JACKSON REFLECTS JAN SARTOR IS GREENVILLE REPORTER FOR "COMMERCIAL APPEAL" AND WRITES FREE LANCE FOR MAGAZINES, AND ATTENDED A CONFERENCE OF SCLC IN JN. SHE HAS BEEN RECEIVING CALLS FROM INDIVIDUAL REFUSING TO GIVE NAME. THE INDIVIDUAL HAS ASKED HER WHY SHE WAS AT SCLC CONFERENCE AND WHETHER OR NOT SHE WAS A MEMBER. MRS. SARTOR ADVISED SHE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE HARASSING NATURE OF THE CALLS AND WAS UNABLE TO DETERMINE PURPOSE OF SAME. -P-

FBI

Date: 10/1/68

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

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Memphis and Jackson, dated 9/26/68, with attached interview of Mr. BILL SARTOR.

Indices check at Jackson disclosed the following:

A review of Jackson file [REDACTED]

disclosed that on 5/3/67, one JAN SARTOR contacted the Greenville, Mississippi, Resident Agent of the FBI where she provided the following information:

She is (at that time) the Greenville reporter for the Memphis "Commercial Appeal" (a daily newspaper from Memphis, Tennessee) and also writes free lance for other papers and magazines. She has written articles under the name of JAN SCUDDER for Sepia, a Negro magazine produced at Fort Worth, Texas. Her husband, WILLIAM SARTOR, writes free lance for Time and Life Magazines.

In August, 1966, she attended a conference of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in

C. C. - Bishop

3-Bureau (RM)

2-Memphis

3-Jackson

2-157-9586

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Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

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Jackson, Mississippi, and later wrote an article for Sepia Magazine concerning this conference. During the period she covered this conference, she was not accompanied by her husband and registered at the King Edward Hotel in Jackson as JAN SCUDDER.

Shortly after her return to Greenville from Jackson, she received a telephone call from an individual who said he was calling long distance from a pay telephone which she assumed was in Jackson, Mississippi. This individual furnished his name as either ED or JAMES FLEMING. He said he had attended the SCLC Conference at Jackson and had seen a man taking a photograph of her standing in front of the King Edward Hotel with two Negro males. He stated he was trying to determine the identity of the photographer, as his picture had also been taken at that time. This individual asked her several times why she was there and asked her whether or not she was a member of SCLC.

A few days later she received another long distance telephone call and the operator said the unidentified caller was trying to reach ED HAMLETT. Mrs. SARTOR said she was not aware of it at that time but later learned that ED HAMLET is a Negro who is a member of the Southern Student Organizing Committee (SSOC), which is a branch of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

Mrs. SARTOR alleged that the man's voice in the background sounded similar to the same man who had called her previously.

She received no further telephone calls until last week (5-10-67) when she received another telephone call wherein the operator asked for BILL SARTOR. During this incident the operator said she was trying to reach ED HAMLETT through Mr. SARTOR. She heard the same man's

voice giving the number to the telephone operator. This was also a long distance telephone call, city not known.

Prior to 5/17/67, the telephone operator called and told her they were trying to locate Mrs. SARTOR's mother and the operator requested the name of her mother, and where she could be reached. During this call the same man came on the telephone and said he was calling from Nashville, Tennessee. He indicated his name was JAMES MASON and that he was calling for JAMES FLEMING. He stated he thought they might be related and he was trying to locate relatives.

Mrs. SARTOR alleged that she did not give this man any information. Later, the same day, she received another telephone call wherein the operator said she was trying to locate Mrs. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mrs. SARTOR inquired from the operator the identity of the calling party and she heard a man say that he did not want to give his name. The operator then told her the telephone call was from a public telephone in Memphis, Tennessee.

Since the last incident, her maid, her neighbor, and her employer, the "Commercial Appeal" have all received telephone calls inquiring about her relatives, husband, type of work, and other personal information. She said the telephone call at the "Commercial Appeal" was concerning her association with Sepia Magazine, which she had not told her employer at the "Commercial Appeal" about, and whether or not her husband wrote articles for Ebony Magazine.

During the above interview, Mrs. SARTOR said she was concerned about the harassing nature of the telephone calls and that she was unable to determine the purpose of such calls. She said she felt that someone

may be mistakenly identifying her as a civil rights worker because she attends numerous civil rights functions in an official capacity for her employers. She indicated she does not and never has belonged to any civil rights organizations. She said that one of the editors of the "Commercial Appeal" suggested to her that the originator of these telephone calls could be one EDGAR DOWNING a self-styled investigator [REDACTED] known to the Memphis area.

The following description and background data was obtained through observation and interview:

Name.	Mrs. WILLIAM G. SARTOR
Aliases	Jan Sartor Jan Scudder Johnna Lou Scudder
Sex	Female
Race	White
Date of birth	[REDACTED]
Place of birth	[REDACTED]
Height	5' 11"
Weight	115 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Marital status	Married (WILLIAM G. SARTOR)
Parents	CHARLES and LULA SCUDDER Spur, Texas
Employment	Reporter, "Commercial Appeal" Memphis, Tennessee; free lance writer:
Residence	[REDACTED] Greenville, Mississippi.

The file further reflected that on 5/19/67, EDGAR DOWNING contacted the Jackson FBI Office in person seeking information concerning JAN SARTOR. DOWNING indicated

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he has been making an investigation concerning the activities of this woman. No information was furnished to Mr. EDGAR DOWNING.

LEADS:

MEMPHIS

Will conduct indices check concerning EDGAR DOWNING. It should be noted that referenced Bureau airtel instructs that no interview of SARTOR should be conducted until the Bureau advises to do so.