

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 9/8/65

Mr. KIRBY SHELL, Franklin County Deputy Sheriff, advised that he is acquainted with DALE MC LEMORE, a resident of the Meadville, Mississippi, area who is in the Mississippi National Guard. He stated he saw MC LEMORE at about 8:30 or 9:00 p.m., August 14, 1965, at Meadville. MC LEMORE said he was going coon hunting above CHARLEY JONES' house in the McCall Creek area. SHELL stated he thereafter saw MC LEMORE when he came back through Meadville about 11:00 p.m. the same night, alone, in his old olive drab pickup truck. He thought this was peculiar at the time inasmuch as in his opinion MC LEMORE could not possibly have done any coon hunting between 9:00 and 11:00 p.m.

SHELL said he saw CLYDE SEALE about dark on August 14, 1965, going east through Meadville toward Bude, Mississippi. SEALE was alone in his gray Volkswagen.

SHELL advised he got a tip from a confidential source Saturday morning, September 4, 1965, as to the existence of a Klan meeting house located off the McCall Creek Road about six miles southeast of Eddiceton, Mississippi. He stated that according to his source this was definitely a Klan meeting house and may possibly be the house where EARL HODGES was beaten.

Deputy SHELL thereafter accompanied the interviewing agents to the above-described house which was determined to be an abandoned frame house with asbestos siding located six miles southeast of Eddiceton on the McCall Creek Road. SHELL advised that to the best of his knowledge this house was the property of Mr. GRAHAM HERRING, owner of the Herring Gas Company, Meadville, Mississippi, whom he stated has a good reputation in the community.

On 9/6/65 at Meadville, Mississippi File # Jackson 174-27
Jackson 157-3830
 by SAs J. L. MARTIN and
WILLIAM F. DUKES/WFD:elw

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
Date dictated 9/8/65	
SEP 10 1965	

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.

157-3830-16

JN 174-27

2

SHELL advised he had developed information that one BILL CAMPBELL, a Negro male, who found EARL HODGES' body, was terrified for some reason. SHELL stated CAMPBELL's wife told MURRELL SCOTT, maintenance man at the Meadville High School, and A. J. SCOTT that an unknown white man had come to CAMPBELL's residence to see him on August 31, 1965. CAMPBELL was not home and this man told his wife that she and CAMPBELL should not leave their place day or night until September 7, 1965.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 9/7/65

1

W. H. MC INTOSH was interviewed at Meadville Pure Oil Station. He was advised that he did not have to make a statement, that any statement he made could be used against him in court, that he had the right to an attorney and that no force, threats or promises of reward would be made to him to induce him to make a statement. He advised as follows:

He is not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan or the United Klans of America. He has never been asked to join either of these organizations and does not know any persons who are members. He advised that he does know JAMES and GLYDE SEALE of the Bunkley Community. They used to trade at the Meadville Pure Oil Service Station but do not trade there any longer.

He advised that he does not know GEORGE METCALFE and had no information to furnish which might be helpful in solving this case.

He knew EARL HODGES. There was no meeting of any kind at the Meadville Pure Oil Service Station on Friday night, August 13, 1965. There was a meeting at the Lodge Hall across the highway and people who attended that meeting parked their cars in the Pure Oil Service Station.

He had no information to furnish regarding the killing of EARL HODGES. He denied having anything to do with this killing. He advised that he would furnish any positive information he ascertained about this incident to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

He advised that he had heard that the Klan and the Americans for the Preservation of the White Race were

On 9/6/65 at Meadville, Mississippi File # Jackson 174-27
Jackson 157-952
Jackson 157-3830

by SA's THOMAS E. O'CONNOR AND CHARLES P. AHART/mrk

Date dictated 9/6/65

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.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 17 1965	
FBI - JACKSON	

157-3830-45

strong in Franklin County.

The following background information and description was obtained from MC INTOSH:

Name:	W. H. (initials only) MC INTOSH
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date of birth:	July 2, 1927
Place of birth:	Gravelly, Arkansas
Height:	6' 0"
Weight:	180 pounds
Build:	Medium
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Blue
Complexion:	Ruddy
Education:	Completed two years at Arkansas A & M College.
Military Service:	U. S. Navy 1945 - 1946 January, 1951 - October, 1954. USN #6316542
Employment:	Meadville Pure Oil Service Station, operated by ARTHUR B. CRIMM, brother-in-law.
Occupation:	Pipe Fitter by trade
Drivers License:	Mississippi Operator's License
Marital status:	Single
Parents:	Mr. and Mrs. JOHN W. MC INTOSH, Warren, Arkansas.
Automobile:	1964 light green Chevrolet El Camino, 1965 Mississippi License Number F/5 25619
Weapons:	.12 gauge Winchester Shotgun; .22 Caliber Remington Automatic Rifle.
Residence:	Eddiston, Mississippi (no phone).
Arrest Record:	None admitted.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 9/5/65

WILLIAM B. WATSON, who lives two houses from the residence of EARL HODGES in Eddiceton, Mississippi, advised that about 7 - 8 A.M., on the morning of August 15, 1965, BILL CAMERON, a Negro who lives across the railroad track behind HODGES's residence, knocked on his front porch. WATSON stated that CAMERON told him when he went to the door, "Mr. EARL is lying in his back yard with no clothes on. Will you help me put him in the house?" He stated he and CAMERON walked to the HODGES house and EARL was lying on his back with his right forearm in the air. He stated that he thought EARL was drunk but when he looked closer at him he told CAMERON, "This man is dead." He told CAMERON that they had to do something and that he was going to telephone the Sheriff and CAMERON should go after EARL HODGES's father who was nursing a sick person in the vicinity of Brookhaven, Mississippi.

WATSON stated that he then went home and telephoned the Franklin County Sheriff WAYNE HUTTO and told HUTTO about HODGES. He stated he told the Sheriff that he would telephone Dr. JACK HOLLINGSWORTH, the coroner, but the Sheriff told him that he would telephone the coroner.

WATSON stated that he walked down the street a short distance to the residence of Mr. A. GROOM who is about 75 years of age and whose wife is a bed patient. He stated that he told him about HODGES and he knew that Mr. GROOM would be unable to help him, consequently, he used Mr. GROOM's telephone and called WILLIE LYONS who lives in Eddiceton and told him, "I need you," and that LYONS immediately came to HODGES's house.

He stated when LYONS arrived at HODGES's house, he went into the house and got a bed spread and placed over HODGE's body.

On 9/1/65 at Eddiceton, Mississippi File # Jackson 174-27
 by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS & SA BENJAMIN F. GRAVES: bkb 157-569
 SEARCHED INDEXED 157-3830 EARL HODGES
 SERIALIZED FILED
 SEP 17 1965
 FBI JACKSON 9/4/65

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

157-3830-14

JN 174-27

2

He stated that people began to come to the HODGES's house and he told them not to go into the house or near the crime scene. He stated the Sheriff and the Coroner arrived after a few minutes and he returned home.

He stated the Sheriff told him that it had been 7:50 A.M., when he, WATSON, had telephoned him.

WATSON stated that he had heard no unusual noises during the night of August 14 or the early morning hours of August 15, 1965, in the vicinity of EARL HODGES's home. He stated he had no suspects as to who might have beaten and murdered HODGES.

Date 8/28/65

1

Mr. PERCY KENT, Route #3, Meadville, Mississippi, advised that he has been married the past twenty years to Mrs. PEARL THORNTON KENT. Mr. KENT advised that he knew nothing whatever as to any marital infidelity on the part of his wife and had no information to the effect that she had ever been beaten by anyone. In Mr. KENT's words, "She don't ever tell me nothing about nothing."

Mr. KENT advised his wife is employed at the garment factory at McComb, Mississippi, commuting daily. He stated, however, that she left Meadville on the morning of August 28, 1965, and drove to Jackson, Mississippi, to be with her father, SIDNEY THORNTON, whom he stated is gravely ill in a Jackson hospital following surgery on his hip. Mr. KENT was unable to advise the identity or location of this hospital.

Mr. KENT denied having any knowledge whatever of the identity of the person or persons responsible for acts of violence in the area and specifically denied any information concerning the death of EARL HODGES or the bombing of a Negro's car at the Armstrong Factory in Natchez on August 27, 1965.

On 8/28/65 at Meadville, Mississippi File # Jackson 174-27
by SA J. L. MARTIN & SA WILLIAM F. DUKES:bkb Date dictated 8/28/65
157-3830
62-5

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.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 17 1965	
FBI - JACKSON	

OK

157-3839-13

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC, JACKSON [redacted]

DATE: 9/13/65

FROM SA WILLIAM F. DUKES

SUBJECT: [redacted]

FOIA (b) 7 - (D)

AT MEADVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

[redacted] contacted SAS WILLIAM F. DUKES and J. L. MARTIN on a confidential basis on 9/8/65, and furnished the following information with the request that his identity be kept confidential, and that the information not be disseminated outside the Bureau or WESP Investigators:

[redacted] in contact with LINK CAMERON, a Negro male who lives in the Bunkley Community, and who apparently has some information of possible value both as to the EARL HODGE killing, and also re the MOORE-DEE murders in the Meadville area. [redacted] advised he had talked with CAMERON very briefly, that CAMERON is literally terrified, but that he had agreed to meet with SA DUKES and [redacted] that date in a swamp southwest of Meadville at a point known to both [redacted] and CAMERON.

CAMERON LINK ~~XXXX~~ was thereafter contacted by [redacted] and SA DUKES on 9/8/65, and the results being submitted separately on FD-302, as are results of contact 9/9/65.

[redacted] that she had been an eyewitness to the picking up of HENRY DEE and CHARLIE MOORE near Meadville in May, 1964. [redacted] advised he had not developed the name of this woman yet, but he would immediately advise when successful in doing so.

[redacted] he did not trust either Franklin County Sheriff WAYNE HUTTO or LENOX FORMAN with the above information. He stated that after several days had lapsed following the killing of EARL HODGE, when it became evident that Sheriff HUTTO intended to take no action, [redacted]

2: [redacted]
1: 62-5
1: 157-3830
(4)
WFD:

157-3830-9
SEP 14 1965
FBI - JACKSON

FOIA(b)7 - (D)

[REDACTED]

HUTTO was sworn out of the Klan some time ago, so far as he knows, but stated that HUTTO is still in sympathy to some extent with the Klan, and in addition is personally afraid of the Klan. He added, however, that since the EARL HODGE killing, public opinion in the Meadville area has swung against the Klan, and HUTTO is getting considerable pressure from the citizens in the area to solve the HODGE killing.

RECOMMENDATION:

[REDACTED]

SAC, JACKSON (174-27)

8/28/65

SA WILLIAM F. DUKES

UNSUB; BOMBING OF GEORGE
METCALFE's AUTOMOBILE,
8/27/65, Natchez, Mississippi
BM

The following investigation was conducted 8/28/65
at Meadville, Miss., by SAs WILLIAM F. DUKES and J. L. MARTIN
accompanied by MHSP Investigator DONALD BUTLER:

Mr. CARL SCHULTZ, U. S. Soil Conservation Service,
contacted the above-named officers at the Franklin County
Court House. Mr. SCHULTZ advised that since his conversation
with SAC ROY K. MOORE at Jackson concerning the murder of
EARL HODGES, he has developed some additional information of
possible value.

SCHULTZ advised he had been informed by a source
whom he believed to be reliable but whom he declined to
identify, that a "Top Echelon Meeting" was held by some
Klansmen on the night of 8/13/65 at the Pure Oil Service
Station in Meadville, operated by ARTHUR P. GRIMM. Allegedly
GRIMM left Meadville with his family on a vacation trip to
Arkansas on the morning of 8/14/65 in order to avoid being
in the area when EARL HODGES was to be beaten.

SCHULTZ stated that according to his source, on
the night of 8/14/65, another Klan meeting was held at
Meadville at which approximately 75 men attended. SCHULTZ
said his source told him he had received this information
from a crippled man who lives in the McCall Creek area in
Franklin County. According to SCHULTZ's source, this crippled
man warned the source that if he should be contacted and told
to go to a meeting, that he should go or risk getting killed.

2 - 174-27
① - 157-3830
1 - 62-5
WFD:bkb

(4) *bpe*

157-3830-8

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 31 1965	
FBI - JACKSON	

SNA

GRAVES *KELLY* *JTC*

INDEX

①, 2