

**July 14, 1965**

Chief  
 United States Secret Service  
 Department of the Treasury  
 Washington, D. C. 20220

Dear Sir:

The information furnished herewith concerns an individual who is believed to be covered by the agreement between the FBI and Secret Service concerning Presidential protection, and to fall within the category or categories checked.

1.  Has attempted or threatened bodily harm to any government official or employee, including foreign government officials residing in or planning an imminent visit to the U. S., because of his official status.
2.  Has attempted or threatened to redress a grievance against any public official by other than legal means.
3.  Because of background is potentially dangerous; or has been identified as member or participant in communist movement; or has been under active investigation as member of other group or organization inimical to U. S.
4.  U. S. citizens or residents who defect from the U. S. to countries in the Soviet or Chinese Communist blocs and return.
5.  Subversives, ultrarightists, racists and fascists who meet one or more of the following criteria:
  - (a)  Evidence of emotional instability (including unstable residence and employment record) or irrational or suicidal behavior;
  - (b)  Expressions of strong or violent anti-U. S. sentiment;
  - (c)  Prior acts (including arrests or convictions) or conduct or statements  indicating a propensity for violence and antipathy toward good order and government.
6.  Individuals involved in illegal bombing or illegal bomb-making.

Photograph  has been furnished  enclosed  is not available  
 may be available through \_\_\_\_\_

Very truly yours,

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
 John Edgar Hoover  
 Director

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
 1 - Special Agent in Charge (Enclosure(s))  
 U. S. Secret Service  
**Jackson**  
 ① - Jackson (157-950)  
 Enclosure(s) **1**

157-950-40  
 Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
 Serialized   
 Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Filed

(Upon removal of classified enclosures, if any, this transmittal form becomes UNCLASSIFIED.)

DIRECTOR, FBI

7/14/65

SAC, JACKSON (157-3372) (157-950)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
KLAN INVESTIGATIONS  
RM (KLAN)  
157-3372

JAMES SEALE  
RM  
157-950

Re Bureau airtel to all southern offices dated 7/8/65.

The available public source information on  
JAMES SEALE is set forth on the following thirteen pages.

2- Bureau  
2- Jackson  
CCP/sjw  
(4)

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

157-950-39

# Investigation Pushed On Topless Torsos

FEDERAL AGENTS — Federal agents in Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama probed deeper Tuesday into the case of the topless torsos found in a muddy offshoot of the Mississippi River near here last July.

Sources said officials from the two states teamed with FBI agents in investigating the apparent slayings.

The lower remains of two Mississippi Negroes — Charles Moore, 20, and Henry Dees, also 20 — were found one day apart July 12 and 13.

Sources Tuesday hinted action in the deaths was possible as the investigation was stepped up.

The torsos were found floating in what once was the Mississippi River, both with a cord known as hay rope on them.

An intensive search of the muddy stream, which flows rapidly during high water, failed to turn up the upper halves of the bodies.

Sources in Louisiana said a search for more clues was scheduled to resume this week.

There were these other items of racial news in Mississippi Tuesday:

### 13 GUILTY

At McComb, City Judge Harry Case found 13 civil rights workers guilty as a group Tuesday on charges they distributed food without a health department permit.

Afer Judge Case levied a \$100 group fine, attorneys for the 13 served notice of appeal to Pike County court.

Judge Case then set an appeal bond at \$200.

The Council of Federated Organizations' workers were charged last Friday with serving food in a "freedom house" without a permit.

The city argued Tuesday the COFO house was covered by a city ordinance pertaining to usage of a health department permit.

case, the 13 changed a plea of innocent to no contest.

The 13 were identified as Miss Ursula Junk, a Cologne, Germany, student at the University of Minnesota; Bill Dowell of Cambridge, England; John Wilkin, Junction City, Ark.; Marshall Ganz, Bakersfield, Calif.; Dennis Sweeney, Portland, Ore.; J. D. Smith and Lori Smith, Aurora, Ill.; Candy Brown, Los Angeles; Nancy Jervis, Long Beach, N.Y.; the Rev. Terry Bowie, Lawnside, N.J.; Karen Pate, Prairie City, Ore.; Jas. Harris, McComb; and Ernestine Bishop, McComb.

### DRAWS FINE

In Indianola, Jesse Milton of Indianola drew a \$50 fine Tuesday on charges stemming from an assault on a civil rights worker.

Milton entered a no contest plea to the charge he beat James Dan at his residence.

Milton had been free on a \$100 bond prior to the trial here, which was closed to the public.

At Magnolia, COFO said two more local Negroes and another white minister from out-of-state were arrested on trespassing charges when they went to the Pike County circuit clerk's office in an attempt to register to vote.

Monday, in a series of incidents, 27 persons were arrested when they refused to leave the clerk's office. The office is closed because of the current circuit court session, a normal procedure since the official is, in addition to voter registrar, clerk for the court. Told that the office was closed, the 27 refused to leave and were arrested.

COFO also reported that a white worker from New York, N. Y., was jailed at Columbus on charges of disorderly conduct and distributing leaflets without a permit.

### CAN'T DETERMINE

At Vicksburg authorities said Tuesday the FBI laboratory in Washington was unable to determine what type of explosive was used in the bombing of a building used by civil rights workers on Oct. 4.

A lab report revealed only that "some type of explosive" was used, but no explosive device was found, officers said.

The pre-dawn blast heavily damaged the building owned by the Warren County Baptist Association, a Negro group. A library established by civil rights workers in the building was damaged.

Fourteen persons were inside the building at the time of the blast, but only minor injuries were reported.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 10

Clarion-Ledger

Jackson, Miss.

Date: 10/28/64  
Edition: Daily  
Author:  
Editor: T.M. Hederman  
Title: Charles Moore, Henry Dees  
Character:  
or  
Classification: 62-5-2  
Submitting Office: Jackson  
 Being Investigated

## PROBE RENEWED

# Developments Seen In Torso Murders

TALLULAH, La. (AP) — Federal, Louisiana and Mississippi authorities confirmed today an investigation was stepping up in the case of topless torsos found in an arm of the Mississippi River near here.

Sources said the investigation has gained ground since the two lower halves of the bodies of two Mississippi Negroes were found July 12 and 13 in what was once a Mississippi River channel.

The remains were those of Charles Moore, 20, of Meadville, Miss., found on the Mississippi side of the offshoot, and Henry Dees, also 20, and of Meadville,

found on the Louisiana side the second day.

The FBI, Louisiana state police and Mississippi highway patrol identified the victims, whose conditions hinted of a double murder.

The same kind of cord, a woven material known as hay rope, was used on both bodies, prompting speculation — as yet unconfirmed — the youths were killed about the same time and possibly bound together.

An intensive search of the muddy stream, which flows rapidly during high water, failed to turn up the upper halves of the bodies.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

Jackson Daily News

Jackson, Miss.

Date: 10/27/64  
Edition: Daily

Author:  
Editor: James M. Ward  
Title: Charles Moore  
Henry Dees

Character:

or

Classification: 62-5-28

Submitting Office: Jackson

Being Investigated

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Charge two in Negro deaths

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — The FBI announced two Mississippi white men were arrested and charged today with the murder of two Negroes whose torsos were found in an arm of the Mississippi River.

The FBI identified the white men as James Ford Seale, 29, and Charles Marcus Edwards, 31-year-old Ku Klux Klansman, both of Meadville.

Roy Moore, head of the Jackson FBI office, said local and federal officers arrested the two at their homes during the morning. They were charged in the deaths of Charlie Eddie Moore and Henry Hezekiah Dee, whose bodies were found in Old River, an old arm of the Mississippi, in Madison Parish, La., in July.

Seale is married and has three children. He drives a truck for a lumber firm at Roxie.

Edwards is married with four children and is an employe of a paper company at Natchez.

Local sources said that neither of the two Negroes had been engaged in civil rights activities.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

Hattiesburg  
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Hattiesburg, Miss.

Date: 11/6/64  
Edition: Daily  
Author:  
Editor:  
Title: Torso Killings

Character:  
or  
Classification: 62-5  
Submitting Office: Jackson

Being Investigated

62-5-88

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SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 10 1964	
FBI - JACKSON	

# Pair Jailed In Killings

By WILLIAM L. CHAZE  
Clarion-Ledger Staff Writer

A pair of Meadville men were brought to the Hinds County Jail at Jackson Friday after they were charged with the murder of two Negro youths last Spring.

Arrested were:

James Ford Seale, 29, a truck driver; and, Charles Marcus Edwards, 31, a factory worker.

BY FBI AGENTS

The arrests were made by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents working with local law enforcement officers.

Seale, the FBI said, is an admitted member of the Ku Klux Klan.

Edwards and Seale are charged in the death of Charlie E. Moore and Henry H. Dee whose bodies were found in a swampy offshoot of the Mississippi River near Tallulah, La. (Madison Parish) last July.

The FBI released only a short statement about the arrests:

"Investigation by local officers and FBI agents determined that Moore and Dee were

last seen on May 2, 1964, hitchhiking near Meadville. Investigation later determined that Moore was a college student, and Dee was a local laborer."

Neither Negro was believed to have been involved in civil rights activity.

LARGE-SCALE SEARCH

The discovery of their bodies came in the midst of a large-scale search for three civil rights workers who dropped from sight last June near Philadelphia. Investigators thought at first that the bodies of Dee and Moore were those of the trio.

The bodies of the rights workers were found later buried beneath a clay dam southwest of Philadelphia. No arrests have been made in connection with the triple slaying.

Both Meadville men were arrested at their homes early Friday and charged before a justice of the peace.

They were brought to the Hinds County Jail shortly after noon and placed in the custody of Sheriff Fred Pickett.

The Hinds Jail has been used frequently during the past few months by the FBI to jail prisoners.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

Clarion-Ledger

Jackson, Miss.

Date: 11/7/64

Edition: Daily

Author: Wm. Chaze

Editor: T.M. Hederman

Title: Charles E. Moore  
Henry H. Dee

Character:

or

Classification: 62-5

Submitting Office: Jackson

Being Investigated

62-5-66  
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NOV 9 1964  
FBI - JACKSON

# Investigation Continues In Case Of Two Torsos

MEADVILLE, Miss. (AP) — off shotgun was found in Seale's home. The FBI wrote the latest chapter in the topless torso mystery Friday with an announcement that two white men had been arrested and charged.

The FBI office in Jackson said earlier that authorities picked up James Ford Seale, 29, and Charles Marcus Edwards, 31, at their homes in Meadville during the day.

They were charged in the death of two Meadville Negroes, Charles Eddie Moore and Henry Hezekiah Dee, whose lower portions were found floating in an off-shoot of the Mississippi River this summer.

The torsos of Dee and Moore, both 19, were found one day apart about 14 miles south of Tallulah, La., the first being located July 12.

James Bowles, a Tallulah man who was fishing discovered the first torso, a section of Moore from the waist down and bound in a hay rope.

The discovery led to searchers finding a second torso the next day.

At the time, the three civil rights workers who disappeared in Mississippi were still not located and immediate speculation prompted thoughts the torsos were the workers.

The civil rights trio, however, was found beneath an earthen dam near Philadelphia, later.

The FBI announcement gave no reasons for the slayings and no hint of how officers connected Seale and Edwards with the cases. During the arrests, a sawed-

When their bodies were found, relatives said they had been away from home for several days, presumably looking for work.

Justice of the Peace Willie Bedford in Meadville charged Seale and Edwards with murder.

Seale is married and has three children. He drives a truck for a lumber firm at Roxie. Edwards is married with four children and is an employe of a paper company at Natchez.

The FBI said investigation showed both victims were last seen May 2 hitchhiking near Meadville.

Special agent - in - charge Roy Moore of the Jackson FBI office said the investigation was continuing in the case.



MISSISSIPPIANS HELD — Arrested yesterday at Meadville and charged by the Justice Department with the slaying of two young Negroes whose bodies were found in the Mississippi River last July were Charles Marcus Edward, 31, shown at the left, and James Ford Seale, 29. The pair faces arraignment today. —UPI Telephotos

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

Meridian Star

Meridian, Miss.

Date: 11/7/64  
Edition: Daily  
Author:  
Editor: Jas H. Skew  
Title: Torso Killing

Character:  
or  
Classification: 62-5  
Submitting Office: Jackson

Being Investigated

62-5-9  
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SERIALIZED FILED  
NOV 10 1964  
FBI - JACKSON



# Meadville Pair Free On Bond

MEADVILLE, Miss. (UPI) — La., during a widespread search for three civil rights workers who disappeared earlier near Philadelphia. The bodies of the three integrationists were discovered later under an earthen farm pond dam outside Philadelphia.

The pair, one an admitted Ku Klux Klaner, walked away from the two-story Franklin County Courthouse less than 36 hours after their arrest early Friday by local officers and FBI agents.

They were arrested on a warrant issued by Justice of the Peace Willie Bedford charging them with "willfully, unlawfully, and without any just cause or any other legal authority" killing two teenage Negroes whose decomposed bodies were found floating in the back waters of the Mississippi River in mid July.

The white men, arrested at their homes, were Charles Marcus Edwards, identified by the FBI as a "self-admitted Klansman", and James Ford Seale, 29, both of Meadville. Edwards was employed by a Natchez paper mill and Seale worked as a truck driver for a mill at the little town of Roxie.

The headless bodies of the two Negroes — Charles Moore and Henry H. Dee, both 19 — were found in the river near Talullah,

Authorities said there was no evidence Moore or Dee had been engaged in civil rights activities. Officials declined to speculate on the motive for their slayings.

The topless torsoes were identified by various items found on the bodies as Moore and Dee, last seen hitchhiking near Meadville May 2. Moore's legs were bound with hay-binder twine.

Moore was a student at Alcorn A&M (Negro) College and Dee worked as a yard hand at a lumber mill in Roxie.

Edwards and Seale were brought to Meadville from Jackson, about 90 miles north of here, early Saturday after undergoing lengthy interrogation. Their bond was set by Sheriff Wayne Hutto and a formal arraignment was postponed until shortly before the preliminary hearing in early January.

The men were met at the sheriff's office by members of their families and friends.

They chatted quietly, showing little outward sign of emotion, while the bond arrangements were made. Then they left by a side door to return to their homes.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

Meridian Star

Meridian, Miss.

Date: 11/8/64  
Edition: Daily  
Author:  
Editor: Jas H. Skewes  
Title: Torso Killings

Character:  
or  
Classification: 62-5  
Submitting Office: Jackson

Being Investigated

62-5-89

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 10 1964	
FBI - JACKSON	



