

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 1264175-1

Total Deleted Page(s) = 4  
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UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

NO 157-3290

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

(COPIES CONTINUED)

- 1 - ICG, New Orleans, Louisiana
- 1 - Secret Service, New Orleans, Louisiana
- 1 - Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, New Orleans, Louisiana
- 4 - New Orleans (157-3290)

AT HOMER, LOUISIANA

Will maintain contact with leaders of the Deacons of Defense and Justice in order to be aware of activities of that organization in that area of Louisiana.

AT JONESBORO, LOUISIANA

Will re-contact PERCY LEE BRADFORD and obtain a copy of the by-laws of the Deacons of Defense and Justice. Will maintain contact with officers of the Deacons of Defense and Justice in order to be aware of any additional chapters authorized by the Deacons of Defense and Justice in any other area of Louisiana or in any other state.

INFORMANTS:

IDENTITY OF SOURCE

LOCATION OF INFORMATION

NO T-1 is

NO T-2 is

NO T-3 is

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b7E

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Copies of this report are being furnished to listed offices for information inasmuch as there is a possibility that additional investigation will be requested by these offices.

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Copies are being furnished to ICG, Secret Service, and Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, New Orleans, Louisiana, in view of their interest in this organization.

It is noted that the date of typing of the FD-302's in this report has been delayed which is due to the fact that rough draft inserts were submitted for incorporation into this report.

The following interviews with [ ] and [ ] are being set forth on the administrative pages inasmuch as they specifically requested that their information be kept confidential.

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NO 157-3290

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The following investigation was conducted by SA's  
ROSS D. WOLCOTT and ROBERT A. HESS at Jonesboro, Louisiana:

✓ [ ] (Protect Identity), [ ]  
[ ] Louisiana, on August 3, 1965, advised  
that he is currently a member of the Deacons Of Defense and  
Justice, Inc., but he is not an officer nor is he a member  
of the Board of Directors. He requested that before he made  
any statement regarding the Deacons Of Defense and Justice  
(DDF) he be assured that all information supplied by him be  
held in the strictest confidence.

b7D

[ ] stated that two incidents which occurred in  
Jonesboro during the summer of 1964 indicated to him and other  
members of the Negro community a need for some sort of protection.  
He related that early in 1964 the Congress of Racial Equality  
(CORE) set up an office in Jonesboro at Congo and Cedar  
Streets, and members were visiting previously segregated  
restaurants and other public places, thereby creating considerable  
racial tension. Several white CORE workers were employed  
in Jonesboro and this led to a visit to CORE Headquarters by  
three young white males who threatened to bring 150 Klan  
members to the Quarters (Negro section of town). [ ], who  
at that time was employed as [ ], alerted Chief  
of Police ADRIAN PEEVY who, knowing the identities of the  
boys, immediately had them taken into custody and gave them  
a good talking to. [ ], unaware of PEEVY's action,  
requisitioned a couple of logging trucks and blocked the  
streets leading past CORE Headquarters. As the word spread  
through the Quarters about the Klan coming, [ ] noted that  
several Negroes began arming themselves. They apparently had  
no definite plans but stood ready to protect their individual  
property. [ ] pointed out that fortunately the three boys  
never returned with the Klan members and therefore any chance  
of violence was averted. This sudden readiness on the part  
of individual Negroes revealed that violence could be expected  
from any Negro or white source at any time but in order to  
avoid bloodshed, some direction or organization would be needed

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to guide the Negroes into avoiding any conflicts with the whites.

The second incident occurred during August, 1964, when a motorcade of approximately 40 cars filled with hooded Klan members drove through the Quarters. There was no display of weapons by either side; however, it was the opinion of most Negroes that they had to be ready to ward off any activities directed against them by the Ku Klux Klan.

✓ [ ] continued that it was decided at this point, August through October, 1964, by PERCY LEE BRADFORD, EARNEST THOMAS, FREDERICK DOUGLAS KIRKPATRICK, ELMO JACOBS, ALLEN SCHERRAH (no longer a member) and himself that an organization be formed which would aid in civic improvement by educating the Negroes in the responsibilities of good citizenship and leadership. It was also felt by this group that the organization should be dedicated to the defense of civil rights by honorable and legal means. It would not be a secret organization and violence would not be tolerated except as a defensive act. It was the general feeling of the group that the local citizenry of Jonesboro would immediately brand them as a Negro Klan type outfit and their initial ideas were directed toward proving they were not a radical organization and through peaceful efforts would attempt to gain recognition. It was, therefore, decided that they would permit no influence by outside groups, especially Black Nationalist groups and similar organizations. [ ] mentioned that this desire to prevent being termed "radical" has kept them from being more active than they are.

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[ ] commented that during the summer of 1964 he was a member of the Bi-racial Committee in Jonesboro and through this committee approached L. O. TATE, Mayor of Jonesboro, in an effort to organize a general cleanup of the slum areas of Jonesboro. He further stated that Mayor TATE was enthusiastic about the idea; however, the proposed project was killed by the City Council or someone else and was never developed. The DDJ took this idea as one of their first

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projects of civic improvement and under the direction of FREDERICK KIRKPATRICK they proceeded to physically clean up not only the slum areas but the entire city as well. They felt this would help them sell themselves and the DDJ to the townspeople.

At the initial organizational meetings, [ ] was [ ] When the time came to apply for a corporation charter it was decided that he would step down as [ ] [ ], as he was employed by the school board and his position as an officer might jeopardize his job. EARNEST THOMAS was elected to the position of Vice President and placed on the Board of Directors in his place. It was generally understood by all members that THOMAS would be a figurehead only but he, THOMAS, assumed more power than was originally anticipated. They had no official spokesman, and THOMAS elevated himself to this position on his own, at which time he made public statements regarding the use of firearms and in general advocates violence.

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THOMAS has repeatedly emphasized in meetings of the DDJ that weapons and ammunition be purchased, but the more level-headed members have killed any motions along these lines. [ ] stated that THOMAS has never revealed that he, THOMAS, has a source for automatic weapons in either Houston, Chicago or any other place. [ ] readily admitted that nearly all members of the DDJ possess personal firearms, as does everyone else throughout the community. [ ] is of the opinion that THOMAS saw an opportunity to propel himself into a position of importance and is using the DDJ for that purpose. He added that the DDJ has internally developed a "Release Committee" of which THOMAS is Chairman. It is the function of this group to supervise and approve all public statements concerning the DDJ and their activities. THOMAS, through contact with the public in this position, has located and been approached by several people who have indicated both moral and financial assistance to the organization. As of this

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time, however, all monetary contributions have been refused. [ ] confided that THOMAS is the only "radical" thinker in the DDJ, and it is anticipated that he will be removed from all offices at the next election, date unknown.

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[ ] stated that the DDJ originally met at 3100 North Cedar Street in Jonesboro but now meet every Tuesday evening at various locations throughout the Quarters. He said there are between 50 - 60 members in the Jonesboro Unit and a monthly assessment of \$2.00 is collected from each member. [ ] was unable to recall the initiation fee but indicated it was either \$5.00 or \$10.00. The monthly assessment is noted on a financial card carried by the members, and this designates him a member in good standing only if his dues are in a current status. This card carries a round-shaped seal with scale insignia and words "DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE" and the signature of an officer, and is the only proof of membership. Inside this card is a column indicating "Local Dues" and a column indicating "G. C. Dues." [ ] explained G. C. means "Grand Chapter" referring to the Jonesboro group. He added that other chapters such as Bogalusa and Homer are required to submit 10 per cent of local dues to Jonesboro to defray cost of literature, mailing, telephone and other expenses.

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[ ] stated his business address is [ ] [ ] Louisiana, and that this has been used as the only mailing address by the Deacons.

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[ ] said that local chapters of the DDJ have been organized in Bogalusa and Homer, Louisiana, and these chapters are chartered by the Jonesboro organization. He would not reveal the names of the other communities who have applied as proper screening and investigation have not been completed. He indicated that the applications were numerous and would advise when charters are granted. He further commented that there currently are no white members of the DDJ, but they would be admitted if their objectives were the same.

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In regard to patrols and guards, the DDJ have been readily available on tests of public accommodations, etc. He indicated further that they have served as lookouts on marches to City Hall and the Jackson Parish Courthouse; however, they did not consider themselves guards, as all they wanted to do was be in the area in the event mass rioting broke out. He said they have purchased six walkie-talkies for this purpose. On these occasions he readily admitted that some members were probably armed with personal sidearms.

The following investigation was conducted by SA's MICHAEL M. MC DONNELL and ANTHONY AMOROSO, JR.:

AT HODGE, LOUISIANA

[redacted]  
[redacted], Louisiana, was contacted, and he furnished the following information on a confidential basis (PROTECT IDENTITY):

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On 8/5/65, [redacted] advised that the Hodge Bank has an account in the name of "Deacons Of Defense and Justice", Drawer B, Jonesboro, Louisiana. This account was opened on 6/15/65, and at the present time this checking account has a balance of \$98.50. The account card contains five names of individuals who are authorized to sign checks. A combination of the names of any three of these five individuals must appear on a check issued for it to be valid. The five names on the account card are as follows:

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EARNEST THOMAS, COSETTA JACKSON, CHARLIE WHITE, ELMO JACOBS, and PERCY LEE BRADFORD.

[redacted] advised that a deposit of \$708.00 was made to this account on 7/29/65 but that on the same date he believes a check payable to Cash was written also in the amount of \$708.00. He could furnish no further information concerning this account.

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On 8/6/65, [ ] was contacted, and he advised his bank also has an account in the name "Jackson Parish Community and Charity Fund" which account was opened on 2/19/65 by PERCY LEE BRADFORD, [ ], Louisiana. As of 8/6/65, this account had a balance of \$265.05. There also appears on the account card the names of ALLEN SHEPARD, COSETTA JACKSON and FRED D. TALTON. The last name is not written clearly, so the exact spelling is not known. In order for a check to be issued against this account, three of the above four names, which includes BRADFORD, must appear as the maker of the check. [ ] advised that there has been little activity with this account. This account was opened as stated on 2/19/65 with a deposit of \$329.37. [ ] could furnish no further information concerning this account.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Copy to: 1 - ICG, New Orleans, Louisiana  
1 - Secret Service, New Orleans, Louisiana  
1 - Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, New Orleans, Louisiana

Report of: SA MAURICE A. KELLIHER  
Date: August 17, 1965

Office: NEW ORLEANS

Field Office File No.: New Orleans 157-3290

Bureau File No.: 157-2466

Title: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

Character: RACIAL MATTERS

Synopsis:

Deacons of Defense and Justice formed at Jonesboro, Louisiana, during the summer of 1964, following incidents involving racial activities which incidents created tension in the area. Organization formed by Negro leaders in Jonesboro for the announced purpose of protecting Negroes and whites from illegal acts and from acts designed to terrorize the Negro community. Organization chartered with main headquarters at Jonesboro, Louisiana. Associate chapters at Bogalusa and Homer, Louisiana, and inquiries received from other groups concerning movement but no action taken to approve additional chapters. Officers of Deacons of Defense and Justice assert that the organization is a defensive group with no intention to commit or encourage any offensive acts. Leaders of organization denied purchase of firearms for the group and further denied knowledge of any source of contacts for this purpose. President of Deacons of Defense and Justice disclaims any connection with or influence by subversive elements. Interviews with officers and members

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 R/L/H 7-17-8  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.20-2  
DATE OF REVIEW 8-17-85

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at Jonesboro, Louisiana, set forth. Identity of some leaders and members of Deacons of Defense and Justice at Bogalusa and Homer, Louisiana, set forth. No information developed to indicate Deacons of Defense and Justice have automatic weapons or hand grenades.

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DETAILS:

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This investigation was predicated upon receipt of information from CHARLES JOSEPH FENTON, a CORE representative at Jonesboro, Louisiana, who advised on January 5, 1965, that Deacons of Defense and Justice had been organized in Jonesboro, Louisiana, and that its purposes were similar to those of the Congress of Racial Equality, but that the organization was more militant than CORE and that it would be more inclined to use violence in dealing with opposition encountered in Civil Rights matters. FENTON stated that the organization was founded to promote Negro Civil Rights.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 8/17/65

~~Board~~

JONESBORO, LA

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PERCY LEE BRADFORD, [redacted]  
 Louisiana, President of the Deacons of Defense and Justice,  
 Jonesboro, Louisiana, and native of Jackson Parish, furnished  
 the following information: SOCIAL SEC # [redacted]

The Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ) was formed in the summer of 1964 at Jonesboro, Louisiana by a small group of Negroes during a period of extreme racial tension at Jonesboro, for the purpose of protection of Negro and white citizens from white extremists. He referred specifically to harassment type activities on the part of the Ku Klux Klan who had been driving caravans of cars through the Negro quarter containing hooded occupants and escorted by local law enforcement vehicles. He explained that these acts terrorized the Negro residents to the extent that they felt some type of defensive measures were necessary to protect their homes and families. Accordingly a group of approximately 10 to 15 responsible Negro citizens met and formed the DDJ naming the following officers:

PERCY LEE BRADFORD, President; EARNEST THOMAS, Vice President; CHARLEY LEE WHITE, Financial Secretary; COSETTA JACKSON, Treasurer.

~~BRADFORD~~ The group sought and obtained a charter through the Office of the Secretary of State of the State of Louisiana which charter was issued in March, 1964. BRADFORD informed that the purposes of the organization, other than the defense against harassment, are to promote responsible leadership and educate people to the duties and obligations of good citizenship in the community. Other objectives of the DDJ include equal rights for all and elimination of discrimination and violence. BRADFORD was hopeful that the objectives of the organization could be derived through discussions with city officials and other interested parties. BRADFORD stated emphatically that the DDJ is a defensive organization with no intentions of instituting violence or offensive action of any type in seeking its objectives. He further stated applicants for membership must be American citizens, age 21 or over and approved by the membership.

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8/3/65

Jonesboro, Louisiana

File # 157-3290

SA ROSS D. WOLCOTT and

SA NORMAN W. PROPST/cem

Date dictated 8/4/65

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Individuals of poor reputation, troublemakers and the like are not accepted. Group meetings are normally held once a week at various homes or meeting places in the Negro community.

With regard to patrols, BRADFORD stated no assignments are made to accompany any type of demonstration, however, quite often some of the members of the DDJ are present as spectators at such activities just as any other citizen might be.

BRADFORD stated currently there are approximately 25 to 35 members of the DDJ who are considered inactive due to no payment of dues and other causes. He stated voting privileges are extended to active members only. The initiation fee is \$1 and the monthly dues are \$2. BRADFORD furnished the following list of members who are currently active in the Jonesboro, Louisiana chapter:

*258 35*  
MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

*inlet*  
*ALL*  
*LA*  
PERCY LEE BRADFORD, HENRY C. AMOS, E. L. PATTERSON, HARVEY BARNES, CHARLEY L. WHITE, JR., OLEN SATCHEL, JR., COSSETTA JACKSON, EDD BARNES, JESSE LEWIS, RUDOLPH PATTERSON, HOSEY BARNES, W. C. FLANAGAN, J. B. BOLDS, EARNEST THOMAS, OTIS MARTIN, DAVE GLASS, ELMO JACOBS, MORLEE ANDERSON, FRED FALTON, F. D. KIRKPATRICK, ARMEY JOHNSON, JOHN JACKSON, JOHNNY BONIER, ASPER REED, FRANK BOLDS, JOSEPH DOYLE, EDGAR JOE, HARVEY JOHNSON and Reverend SANDERS THOMPSON. *297*

BRADFORD stated the Jonesboro group maintains no official office and that records are maintained by the present Recording Secretary F. D. KIRKPATRICK and HENRY C. AMOS. He stated the official mailing address for the local organization is [redacted] Louisiana, which is the address of HENRY C. AMOS, a member of the group.

BRADFORD stated the organization has no application form for use by prospective members.

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BRADFORD advised that similar DDJ groups have been formed in Bogalusa and Homer, Louisiana which were granted certificates by the parent Jonesboro organization. The certificates grant authority for those groups to use the name DDJ and operate under the provisions of the charter granted the Jonesboro group. BRADFORD stated the parent group furnishes advice and assistance concerning policy to those chapters. He stated no other groups have been authorized to use the name DDJ in Louisiana or any other state although he has received inquiries concerning the formation of similar groups at Monroe, Ferriday and New Orleans, Louisiana. He stated careful consideration is given to granting certificates to other groups in order to insure that the policies and objectives of the parent group are adhered to. BRADFORD stated that CHARLIE SIMMS is the President of the Bogalusa Chapter and that CHARLES DODD is President of the Homer, Louisiana Chapter of the DDJ. He stated he did not know the current membership of the Bogalusa and Homer groups.

MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

BRADFORD was questioned concerning statements made by EARNEST THOMAS, Vice President of the Jonesboro DDJ and others, which have appeared in national periodicals, concerning the organization. BRADFORD stated much of the information attributed to these people is false and exaggerated particularly in reference to alleged secrecy of the organization, purchase of firearms in Chicago and Houston, the number of chapters which have been created and other statements indicating the DDJ has offensive motives. He stated he had not seen any of the publications referring to the DDJ or read any of the statements attributed to THOMAS and other DDJ leaders but that he definitely plans to seek an explanation from THOMAS and CHARLIE SIMMS, President of the Bogalusa Chapter of DDJ, concerning statements attributed to them. BRADFORD stated he is very concerned about the effects that irresponsible publicity might have on DDJ and he plans to make every effort to correct the situation through talks with those responsible for such publicity.

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BRADFORD stated he believes the statements made recently by THOMAS were made to exploit the DDJ for his own personal publicity and financial gain. He stated THOMAS is presently in California, however, he is not representing the DDJ and his purpose there is unknown to BRADFORD. He states he has repeatedly admonished THOMAS about his public statements concerning the DDJ which seems to have had little effect to date.

BRADFORD stated the Jonesboro DDJ owns eight walkie-talkie radio units which are presently distributed among the membership which are to be used in the event of an emergency which would require the group to assemble on short notice. He stated the chapter owns no other technical equipment or arms.

BRADFORD stated there are no persons, to his knowledge, in the DDJ who are sympathetic with or influenced by Black Nationalist or any other subversive group.

BRADFORD made available a blank identification card which is carried by all DDJ members upon acceptance into the organization. It may be noted that an official card which is issued to a particular member also bears the imprint of a seal which is not affixed to the card until it is issued.

BRADFORD stated by-laws for the DDJ are presently under preparation and it is hoped that within a week same will be submitted to the membership of the organization for approval after which a copy will be made available to the FBI.

He stated the DDJ chapter at Bogalusa and Homer, Louisiana, each paid a \$100 entrance fee to join the organization and they are supposed to pay a sum equal to ten percent of their collected monthly dues to the parent organization to defray expense of supplies, etc. which are provided by the Jonesboro chapter.

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BRADFORD stated when the organization was first begun, group leaders were appointed for the purpose of rallying membership in the event of a racial incident. The stated this practice has been abandoned and the organization no longer has group leaders or similar functionaries.

It was tactfully pointed out to BRADFORD that he should exert his influence to discourage any arming or other illegal acts on the part of DDJ members. BRADFORD stated he desires to cooperate fully with the FBI and that he planned to encourage his subordinates, including members of other chapters, to do likewise.

Following is a description of PERCY LEE BRADFORD:

Race	Negro	
Date of birth	[REDACTED]	b6
Place of birth	Jonesboro, Louisiana	b7C
Height	5' 9"	
Weight	230 pounds	
Build	Muscular	
Complexion	Dark	
Social Security	[REDACTED]	
United States	July 12, 1950 to October 29, 1952	
Army		
Employment	1956 to present; Continental Can Company, Hodge, Louisiana (bag stacker and department shop steward)	
Education	Two years Grambling College, Grambling, Louisiana	
Wife	JOHNNIE BELLE BRADFORD; nee BOYER; [REDACTED] Louisiana.	

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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1

Date June 16, 1965

Mrs. DOROTHY CASHIO, Administrative Assistant, Corporations Division, Secretary of State, State of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, made available a true and correct copy of the charter of Decons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated.

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On 6/11/65 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290

SA ELMER B. MITCHELL/dcs

6/11/65

by \_\_\_\_\_ Date dictated \_\_\_\_\_



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
State of Louisiana

WAIDE O. MARTIN, JR.

*I, the undersigned Secretary of State, of the State of Louisiana*

DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the annexed and following is a True and Correct copy of the Charter of

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.,

A Louisiana corporation domiciled at Jonesboro,

As shown by comparison with document filed and recorded in this Office on March 9, 1965.

*In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set  
my hand and caused the Seal of my Office  
to be affixed at the City of Baton Rouge on,  
June 11, 1965.*

*Waide O. Martin Jr.*  
Secretary of State

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ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF OUACHITA

BE IT KNOWN, That on this the 5th day of the Month of March, in the Year of Our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Five:

BEFORE ME, a Notary Public, in and for this Parish and State, personally came and appeared the several parties of full age of majority whose signatures are subscribed, who declared in the presence of the undersigned competent witnesses, that availing themselves of the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Sections 12:101 - 12:155, they do hereby organize a nonprofit corporation as defined in Revised Statute 12:101 (8) under and in accordance with these articles of incorporation.

ARTICLE I. "NAME"

The name of this corporation is "Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc."

ARTICLE II. "PURPOSES"

This corporation is organized for the following purposes and to carry on the following purposes: To instruct, train, teach and educate Citizens of the United States and especially minority groups in the fundamental principals of the republican form of government and our democratic way of life; to instruct, teach, train and educate said persons in the provisions of the constitution and laws of the United States and the State of Louisiana, as well as the

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Date August 17, 1965

1

X (U) B. APPROX 1911JONESBORO, LA

COSSETTA/JACKSON, c/o General Delivery,  
Jonesboro, Louisiana, furnished the following information:

He stated that he is the treasurer of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, a corporation which has its headquarters in Jonesboro. He said that the purpose of the organization is to protect the Negroes living in the Negro section of Jonesboro. He stated that his group would only resort to violence if they were attacked by a group such as the Ku Klux Klan. He stated that the group does not have a source of arms, but the individual members of the organization were armed. In addition, he stated that these guns were kept in the individual members homes and were not hidden in a cache somewhere. He advised that there was no actual training given to any of the members in the use of firearms.

He stated that there are about 15 to 20 active members in the Jonesboro chapter, and that the actual membership in Jonesboro amounted to approximately 50 to 75 persons. He stated that only two other chapters of the Deacons have been organized in Louisiana, and they are located at Bogalusa and Homer. To his knowledge, no other chapters of the Deacons have been formed anywhere in the United States. He stated that he did not know the number of members or the names of the officers in either Homer or Bogalusa.

JACKSON stated that the bylaws of the organization have not yet been drawn up and that this was one of the major problems facing the organization. He stated that once the bylaws were drawn up that each new chapter of the Deacons that was formed would be expected to follow the bylaws as proposed by the National Headquarters here in Jonesboro. JACKSON said that at present the group plans for the other chapters is to forward 10 per cent of their dues to the National Organization here in Jonesboro.

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On 8/3/65 at Jonesboro, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290

Special Agent VINCENT J. HORN, JR. and

Special Agent ROBERT S. STEWART/mrp

Date dictated 8/4/65

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NO (157-3290)

VJH:mrp

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JACKSON stated that the officers of the Deacons were as follows:

President

PERCY LEE BRADFORD

Vice-President

ERNEST THOMAS

Secretary

LA CHARLEY WHITE BORN [REDACTED]

Treasurer

COSSETTA JACKSON

MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

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He said that election of new officers would be held in the near future. JACKSON said that the Deacons have a bank account at the Hodge Bank and Trust Company, and that the balance in the account was \$98.00.

He said that ERNEST THOMAS is presently in California and that the Deacons are not paying for the expenses involved in the trip. JACKSON said that the Deacons did pay for the plane fare of THOMAS on one occasion when he went to New York. He stated that the statements being made to the press by THOMAS have not been approved by the membership. He did state that some of the talk concerning the weapons and number of members in the Deacons has been exaggerated in order to deceive the Ku Klux Klan, and the local Sheriff's Office.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name  
Address

COSSETTA JACKSON  
General Delivery,  
Jonesboro, Louisiana  
Negro  
Male  
5'-6"  
160 pounds

Race  
Sex  
Height  
Weight

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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NO (157-3290)  
VJH:mrp

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

3

Eyes  
Hair  
Age  
Place of Birth  
Marital Status  
Occupation

Maroon  
Gray-Black  
54  
Jonesboro, Louisiana  
Single  
Self-employed  
Taxicab owner

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 17, 1965

1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

FREDERICK DOUGLAS KIRPATRICK, General Delivery, Grambling, Louisiana, was contacted and he furnished the following information: BORN

b6  
b7C

Haynesville, LA  
KIRPATRICK advised he is a member of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Jonesboro Chapter, and is presently the Recording Secretary. He advised that during the summer of 1964 several CORE workers come to Jonesboro to aid the Negroes. The white people in the community became alarmed at their presence in Jonesboro and shortly afterwards an auto caravan containing Ku Klux Klan members drove through the Negro quarters of Jonesboro throwing out Ku Klux Klan literature and telling the residents to get rid of the CORE workers. KIRPATRICK advised the Negroes became so alarmed at this incident they decided that since local law enforcement was not protecting them they would get together and form a group to defend their homes and property in the event the Ku Klux Klan returned. As a result, a large number of Negroes went to their homes and returned with firearms. They returned to the CORE headquarters area in Jonesboro to await the return of the Ku Klux Klan. The latter did not return. KIRPATRICK advised this was the start of the idea to form the Deacons.

KIRPATRICK advised he is an Evangelist. In an effort to come up with a name that would indicate their organization was for the good of all people they decided on the name Deacons of Defense and Justice. The name Deacons denotes something religious as the name was taken from the Deacon of the church. The word Defense would indicate they were not an offensive group, but would protect and defend themselves when necessary.

KIRPATRICK advised he is also on the News Release Committee. This is a group within the organization who have the power of making press releases and talking with people of the press and news media. He stated that at the present time PERCY LEE BRADFORD is the president, and

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)On 8/6/65 at Grambling, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290by Special Agent MICHAEL M. MC DONNELL and  
Special Agent ANTHONY AMOROSO, JR./mrpDate dictated 8/8/65

NO (157-3290)

MMM:mrp

2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

CHARLEY WHITE is the Financial Secretary. ERNEST THOMAS is the acting Vice-President and Fieldman. At the present time THOMAS is in San Francisco. His job as Fieldman is to raise funds and attempt to organize new Chapters. KIRPATRICK advised THOMAS is expected to return to Jonesboro sometime around the middle of August, 1965.

KIRPATRICK advised the Deacons have monthly dues of \$2.00 for each member. The Jonesboro Chapter also has an initiation fee of \$10.00 per member. He stated that when a new Chapter is organized the original Chapter fee is \$100.00, and this is sent to Jonesboro. Each Chapter itself can designate its own initiation fee and the Chapter keeps this money. Thereafter each Chapter must send 10 per cent of the dues collected each month to the headquarters in Jonesboro. KIRPATRICK stated he does not know how many Chapters or members there are at the present time. He advised CHARLEY WHITE as Financial Secretary would have this information. He also stated that ERNEST THOMAS has not made any reports to him on his trip so he does not believe the information concerning all the Chapters and members will be known until THOMAS returns.

KIRPATRICK advised to his knowledge the Deacons have two bank accounts, both of which are located at the Hodge Bank and Trust Company, Hodge, Louisiana. One account is under the name of the Jackson Parish Community and Charity Fund, and the other under the name Deacons of Defense and Justice. The first account he believes is used to purchase literature and for donations to charitable institutions. The other is used for the purchase of equipment for the Deacons such as two way radios. It is also used to assist people in obtaining a fair trial.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO (157-3290)  
MM:mrp

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

KIRPATRICK advised he has read some of the remarks made in the newspapers by ERNEST THOMAS. He advised the organization does not furnish weapons to its members as most of them have personally owned weapons. He does not know of any source of weapons or cache which the Deacons might have. He personally feels that if THOMAS made this remark it is possible he, THOMAS has developed a source for obtaining weapons in his travels.

KIRPATRICK related that not all the men in the leadership of the Deacons agree with THOMAS and his way of thinking. At the present time none of the Deacons in Jonesboro, to his knowledge, know exactly what he is doing or has accomplished in his travels, and they will probably not know until he returns.

KIRPATRICK stated that the Deacons is open to anyone over the age of 21 who satisfactorily passes a background check. This investigation is usually conducted by himself or another member of the Jonesboro Chapter. The main reason for this check is to keep undesirable people out of the organization such as those with criminal characteristics or those who have very poor credit records in the community. He also stated the Deacons prefer married men and they prefer all members to be registered voters.

It was tactfully pointed out to KIRPATRICK the dangers inherent in illegal arming and illegal acts which might result from encouragement of members to arm and carry firearms.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)



NO (157-3290)  
MM:mrp

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

The following description was obtained during interview and from observation:

Name	FREDERICK DOUGLAS KIRPATRICK
Residence	General Delivery, Grambling, Louisiana
Race	Negro
Sex	Male
Height	6'-3"
Weight	260 pounds
Date of Birth	[REDACTED]
Place of Birth	Haynesville, Louisiana
Occupation	School Teacher Grambling College, Grambling, Louisiana
Wife	ANNE P. KIRPATRICK
Children	Four
Military Service	None

b6  
b7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 8/17/65BORN 1-7-19 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

HARVEY JOHNSON, 309 Mitchell Street,  
Jonesboro, Louisiana, advised that his mailing address  
is P.O. Box 599, Jonesboro. Social Sec. # 434-05.9173

JOHNSON advised that he is a member of the Deacons of Defense and Justice. He stated that this organization first started as a club about the last part of Spring, 1964. He stated that this club did not have a name but consisted of Negro males residing in the "Quarters" section of Jonesboro, Louisiana. JOHNSON recalled that sometime in July or August, 1964, about 9:00 P.M. a caravan of about 35 cars containing from three to five members of the Ku Klux Klan, dressed in full Klan regalia, and lead by a Jackson Parish Sheriff's car, drove through the "Quarters." He stated that because of this incident, coupled with the fact that the caravan was lead by a Sheriff's Office vehicle, it was decided that the Deacons of Defense and Justice should be formed in order to protect the lives and property of those who lived in the "Quarters." He stated that the purpose of the Deacons of Defense and Justice is to protect the rights of all citizens, "black and white." He explained that the purpose of this organization was not to take the law into their own hands but the purpose was for civic improvement through negotiation and the protection of the rights of individuals through court action and legal means.

Concerning weapons owned by members of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, JOHNSON advised that the newspaper article appearing in the New York Times and in the Newsweek magazine were not true or accurate. He related that the Deacons have no machine guns or other similar automatic weapons. He stated that the only weapons owned by Deacons were "house protection" weapons. He related that "house protection" weapons were ordinary rifles and pistols

On 8/3/65 at Jonesboro, Louisiana File # 157-3290

by SA L. STANLEY HARBESON and  
SA CLARK S. MILLER/mln

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U) 8/3/65

NO (157-3290)/mln

2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

that one keeps to protect his home. He advised that he personally owns a .28 caliber revolver which he carries on the front seat of his car when he is out at night. He stated that this weapon is not concealed and therefore not in violation of the law. He added that this weapon is carried strictly for protection.

LA  
\* Concerning the membership of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, JOHNSON related that PERCY L. BRADFORD was President, ERNEST THOMAS, Vice-President, CHARLIE WHITE, Secretary, and COSSEHA JACKSON, Treasurer. He stated that at the present time the Jonesboro LA Chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice consists of about 25 active members. He related that there are numerous other members who do not take an active part in the meetings or other activities of the organization. JOHNSON stated that to his knowledge the only other chapter of the Deacons was located in Bogalusa, Louisiana. B. APPROX 1911

JOHNSON advised that he is not an officer of the Jonesboro Chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, however, he assists the Treasurer. He stated that the initiation fee is \$10.00 and the dues are \$2.00 per month. The Jonesboro Chapter maintains a bank account at the Hodge Bank and Trust Company, Hodge, Louisiana, and all drafts drawn on the account must be signed by three members of the Deacons, he, JOHNSON being one of them.

JOHNSON advised that meetings of the Deacons of Defense and Justice are normally held every Tuesday night at the Masonic Lodge located on Leon Street, Quarters Section, Jonesboro, Louisiana.

At this time JOHNSON furnished the following description of himself:

Name:	HARVEY JOHNSON
Sex:	Male
Race:	Negro

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO (157-3290)/mln

3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

Date of Birth:	January 7, 1918
Hair:	Black
Eyes:	Brown
Height:	5'4"
Weight:	155-
Social Security No.:	434-05-8173
Wife:	MILDRED BAKER JOHNSON
Employer:	Continental Can Co. Hodge, Louisiana

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 8/17/65~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

OLEN SATCHER, JR., [REDACTED],  
Louisiana, advised that he is presently employed with  
the Office of Economic Opportunity working on  
Operation Headstart.

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SATCHER stated that he is not a member of  
the Deacons of Defense and Justice, but he has  
attended some of their meetings to see what their  
aims are and the direction they are headed. He  
stated that if he likes the aims of the organization  
he may join it.

SATCHER stated that from his observations  
of the Deacons for Defense and Justice he feels they  
want to work with the law, and want to assist  
anyone being treated unjustly in a legal manner.  
SATCHER stated that he felt that the national publicity  
concerning this organization is so much propaganda  
put out to fool the Klan. He advised that he knows  
nothing about any guns or firearms in the possession  
of the Deacons of Defense and Justice.

The following description was obtained by  
observation and interview:

Name:	OLEN SATCHER, JR.
Race:	Negro
Sex:	Male
Height:	5' 8"
Weight:	205 lbs.
Build:	Heavy
Hair:	Black, graying
Complexion:	Medium
Eyes:	Brown
Scars & Marks:	None
Education:	Graduate of Grambling College, field of Physical Education
Parents:	Mother-BENNIE TAYLOR,

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

On 8/4/65 at Jonesboro, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290

by SA VINCENT J. HORN, JR. AND  
SA ROBERT S. STEWARD/mln Date dictated 8/4/65

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NO (157-3290)/mln  
2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

Houston, Texas  
Father-OLEN SATCHER, SR.  
Jonesboro, Louisiana.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 8/17/65~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

BORN [REDACTED] LA

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ELTON LEE PATTERSON, [REDACTED]  
Louisiana, was contacted and he furnished the  
following information: SOCIAL SEC. # [REDACTED]

PATTERSON advised he is presently a member of the Deacons of Defense and Justice and that he was one of the original founders. He stated that the Deacons was founded to give the Negroes protection in the community. This group has as its objective "Justice for all men no matter what their color." PATTERSON stated that he was a patrol leader and as such would be in charge of two or three cars of Deacons who would patrol the Jonesboro Negro areas to see that no churches or homes were bombed or burned. He advised that he patrolled these areas all last winter and that this was stopped a few months ago.

PATTERSON stated the dues are \$2.00 per month but he refused to divulge the amount of the initiation fee. The Deacons do not furnish weapons to its members although most members own their own guns and usually keep them in their car or at home. He advised he owns a .22 caliber rifle and a .22 caliber revolver. He stated the Deacons do not have a source of weapons nor do they have any cache hidden anywhere to his knowledge.

PATTERSON was reminded of the dangers of this group arming illegally and committing illegal acts.

PATTERSON advised he does not know how many members are in the Deacons. The most men he observed at any meeting was between 50 and 75 and this was approximately three or four months ago. He advised PERCY LEE BRADFORD is the President,

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

On 8/4/65 at Jonesboro, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290

by SA ANTHONY AMOROSO, JR.  
SA MICHAEL MC DONNELL/mln Date dictated 8/6/65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO (157-3290)/mln

2

HENRY AMOS is the Vice-President and ELMO JACOBS is a member of the Board of Directors.

PATTERSON stated that to his knowledge the Deacons of Defense and Justice is a defensive organization. As such they will defend themselves or their fellow members to any degree necessary. The Deacons do not go out looking for trouble, but will not run from it if and when it comes.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name:	ELTON LEE PATTERSON
Date of birth:	[REDACTED]
Place of birth:	Louisiana
Sex:	Male
Race:	Negro
Height:	5' 11"
Weight:	176
Eyes:	Brown
Hair:	Black
Social Security:	[REDACTED]
Drivers License:	[REDACTED] La.
Relatives:	Wife-HELEN Children- 4 Two boys and two girls 1957 Chevrolet, black, 1965 Louisiana license [REDACTED] 1953 Ford, White, 1965 Louisiana license [REDACTED]
Automobiles:	

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 8/17/65~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

ELMO JACOBS, Post Office Box 124, Jonesboro, Louisiana, was contacted and he furnished the following information:

JACOBS advised he is presently a member of the Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ) and has been a member since the organization was formed. He is a member of the Board of Directors and is also on the committee which is allowed to make press releases. He advised the prime objective of the Deacons is to see that everyone, no matter what their color, gets Justice. They make inquiries when they are advised of arrests of their members and they arrange for attorneys and attempt to see that the people get a fair trial.

JACOBS advised the Deacons do not furnish weapons to their members, but that the majority of the members own their own weapons. He advised he knows of no source of weapons available to the Deacons. JACOBS advised the organization as such is a defensive type group and they do not go looking for trouble, but he stated if trouble comes to them they will protect themselves to any degree necessary.

JACOBS further stated the organization has no set dues and he knows of no fee which must be paid to get into the organization. He believes there are 18 to 25 active members in the Jonesboro Chapter. The Deacons also have chapters in Bogalusa and Homer, Louisiana.

The dangers of members illegally arming themselves and committing illegal acts was brought to JACOBS' attention.

The following description was obtained during

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

On 8/5/65 at Jonesboro, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290  
by SA MICHAEL M. MC DONNELL and  
SA ANTHONY AMOROSO, JR./mln Date dictated 8/8/65

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO (157-3290)/mln

2

interview and from observation:

Name:	<del>ELMO</del> JACOBS
Race:	Negro
Sex:	Male
Height:	5' 9"
Weight:	172
Eyes:	Brown
Hair:	Black
Date of birth:	March 22, 1917
Place of birth:	Muscogee, Oklahoma OR 3-27-17
Employment:	Mechanic at Continental Can Company, Hodge, Louisiana, for past 20 years.
Relatives:	Wife-LOMA LEE JACOBS
Army Serial No.:	38224160
Children:	1 boy, age 9

SOCIAL SEC #  
734-09-9476

JACOBS stated that F. D. KIRPATRICK would be able to furnish information concerning the membership as KIRPATRICK is the Secretary.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)Date 8/17/65

The following investigation was conducted by SAs MICHAEL M. MC DONNELL and ANTHONY AMOROSO, JR. at Hodge, Louisiana:

On August 3, 1965, M. M. BOONE, Personnel Director, Continental Can Company, Hodge, Louisiana, furnished the following information on the below listed individuals who are members of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, which information was contained in the files of Continental Can Company.

OTIS MARTIN, [redacted] Louisiana, has been an employee of Continental Can Company since 6/11/43, and is presently a Tool and Equipment Handler (a), at the Hodge Plant. His wife's name is listed as MARTIEL MARTIN. The file reflects he served in the U. S. Army from 8/9/43, until 6/5/47, Army Serial [redacted]. He has Social Security [redacted]. His date of birth is listed as [redacted] education 4th grade. No other information available. b6 b7C

ELTON LEE PATTERSON, [redacted] Louisiana, was formerly employed by Continental Can Company from 4/22/55, until 10/8/55. He was rehired 1/9/56, and left 9/1/56. On both of these occasions PATTERSON was employed as an attendant at the Advance Service Station which is located in Hodge and operated by the Continental Can Company. He was again rehired 4/19/58, and he left around April, 1960. The file reflects PATTERSON was born [redacted], is 5'11", weighs 185 pounds, has brown eyes, black hair, parents ELLEN and LEROY PATTERSON, graduated from high school, Jonesboro. References listed as being employed by Continental Can Company are ERICK BROOKER, brother-in-law, and HENRY COTTONHAM, also a brother-in-law. His Social Security Number is listed as [redacted]. b6 b7C

ELMO JACOBS, Box 124, Jonesboro, Louisiana, is presently employed as a Boiler Maintenance Helper at the Hodge Plant. He has been employed at Continental Can Company since 4/20/64. His date and place of birth are listed as 3/27/17 at Danville, Louisiana. His Social Security Number is 434-09-9476. He served in the U. S. Army from 8/25/42, until 11/23/45. His wife's name is listed as LOMIA JACOBS. He is listed as being 5'9", 160 pounds, brown eyes, black hair, parents EDMON JACOBS and PEARLIE MOORE, education 11th grade.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

On 8/3/65 at Hodge, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290

by SAs MICHAEL M. MC DONNELL & ANTHONY AMOROSO /mnw Date dictated 8/5/65

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO 157-3290 /mnw

2

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
OLEN SATCHER, JR., [redacted], Louisiana, was employed on and off from June, 1948, until he was fired on 11/27/54. During this time he served in the U. S. Army from 8/2/48, until 8/11/49. The file reflects he was born [redacted] at Jonesboro, Louisiana, and he has Social Security Number [redacted]. His wife's name is listed as NELLIE ANN CURRY. He is described as being 5'8", 189 pounds, brown eyes, black hair, education two years Grambling College, Father OLEN SATCHER, Mother BENNIE DEADWYLER. The file further reflects he again served in the U. S. Army from 11/1/50, until 10/10/51. References listed in file are BENNIE BUCKANAN, father-in-law, employed by Continental Can Company and another relative, FRANK MITCHELL, relationship unknown, also employed by Continental Can Company.

b6  
b7C

BOONE stated OLEN SATCHER, JR. was terminated by Continental Can Company on 11/27/54, as a result of complaints received from other employee's at Continental Can Company concerning the behavior and actions of SATCHER. The incident that caused his dismissal from the plant happened during the latter part of November, 1954. At this time SATCHER was

[redacted]  
[redacted]. SATCHER had been observed [redacted]

b6  
b7C

This resulted in an investigation and it was determined SATCHER

[redacted] and had also [redacted]

[redacted]. It was finally determined SATCHER [redacted]  
[redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

1~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

4/27/65

Mr. MARION M. BOONE, Personnel Manager, Continental Can Company, Hodge, Louisiana, supplied the following information:

He stated that the personnel record of EARNEST THOMAS contained the following:

THOMAS was born on [redacted] at Jonesboro, Louisiana, and he has a Social Security Number [redacted]. At the time of his employment, THOMAS listed his address as [redacted], Louisiana, and his wife's name was EVE THOMAS. The file reflects that his father is W. T. THOMAS and THOMAS' description was listed as 5'11" tall, 197 pounds in weight, brown eyes and black hair. The file also reveals that THOMAS had military service with the U. S. Air Force as of December 29, 1954. THOMAS was first hired on July 18, 1960, as an extra and was subsequently laid off due to the curtailment of the work force on November 10, 1960.

b6  
b7C~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

34

On 4/21/65 at Hodge, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290  
by SAs, EARL COX & JOHN D. BRADY /mh Date dictated 4/22/65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

LOUISIANA IS IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE HEADQUARTER  
CLUSTER — JONESBORO, LOUISIANA

#0

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

### DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

IS A MEMBER OF D. D. J. COOPERATION

Chapter

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS — JONESBORO, LOUISIANA — Drawer B

President

Secretary

19....	Local Dues	G. C. Dues	When Paid	Sec'y
JAN.				
FEB.				
MARCH				
APRIL				
MAY				
JUNE				
JULY				
AUGUST				
SEPT.				
OCTOBER				
NOV.				
DEC.				

19....	Local Dues	G. C. Dues	When Paid	Sec'y
JAN.				
FEB.				
MARCH				
APRIL				
MAY				
JUNE				
JULY				
AUGUST				
SEPT.				
OCTOBER				
NOV.				
DEC.				

There is being set forth a reproduction of the official identification papers which is carried by members of the Deacons of Defense and Justice as furnished by Percy Lee Bradford.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 8/5/65

~~CHARLES R. SIMS~~, [REDACTED], was advised of the identity and official capacity of interviewing Agents.

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SIMS stated the Deacons for Defense and Justice is an incorporated organization and has received a charter from the State of Louisiana. He said National Offices for the Deacons for Defense and Justice are located at Jonesboro, Louisiana. He stated, (first name unknown) BRADFORD is the National President and HENRY AMOS is the National Vice President. Both BRADFORD and AMOS live in Jonesboro, Louisiana.

SIMS advised that he is the president of the Bogalusa Chapter of the Deacons for Defense and Justice and ROYAN BURRIS, Bogalusa, Louisiana, is the vice president of the Bogalusa Chapter.

SIMS stated the Deacons for Defense and Justice have a rule against divulging any information relating to the strength of membership, the activities of the Deacons for Defense and Justice, and the ownership of arms kept by the members of this organization. He said he, therefore, could not furnish any further information regarding the Deacons for Defense and Justice and any other information concerning this organization would have to be obtained from the National Offices in Jonesboro, Louisiana. He added that for members to give any other information would be "like cutting off your nose to spite your face."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

36

On 8/5/65 at Bogalusa, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290

by SAs A. RAYMOND SWITZER & ALVIN LEE KING:JJ Date dictated 8/5/65

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)Date 8/5/65

ROYAN BURRIS, Proprietor, Burris Barber Shop, East 4th Street, and in charge of the pickets for the Bogalusa Civic and Voters League, was advised of the identity and official capacity of interviewing Agents.

At the outset of the interview BURRIS was advised that we wished to talk to him about the organization, Deacons for Defense and Justice. BURRIS said he would give no information at all regarding the organization, Deacons for Defense and Justice, nor would he admit being an officer or member of this organization. He said any information obtained concerning the organization would have to be given in the presence of the entire assembly of the Deacons for Defense and Justice.

BURRIS reiterated that he would provide no information at all regarding this organization, its officers, members, activities, purpose or method of operation.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

32

On 8/5/65 at Bogalusa, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290  
by SAs A. RAYMOND SWITZER & ALVIN LEE KING:jj Date dictated 8/5/65



1Date 8/4/65~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

LEMUEL BROWN, [redacted] Louisiana, Bogalusa Voters League (BVL) worker, telephonically advised SA FREDERICK J. WALLACE that the Deacons for Defense and Justice originated in Jonesboro, Louisiana, with seven original members. He said ERNEST JOHNSON is the Regional Head for the Deacons for Defense and Justice. He stated that the Bogalusa Chapter of the Deacons for Defense and Justice was chartered through the parent chapter at Jonesboro and that part of the dues collected from the members of the Bogalusa Chapter is supposed to go to the Jonesboro Chapter. *7/11/65*

*3/15/65*  
Brown advised that CHARLES SIMS is financial secretary for the BVL and is also head of the Bogalusa Chapter of the Deacons for Defense and Justice. He stated that the BVL had been receiving numerous complaints regarding SIMS' financial status. He stated people are questioning where he obtains his money as he has no visible means of support and numerous people have observed him buying alcoholic beverages in the surrounding areas of Bogalusa. *6/2*

He stated at the last executive meeting of the BVL a motion was brought before the floor to remove SIMS from his position in the League, but A. Z. YOUNG, President of the BVL, managed to table the motion. BROWN stated he believes the BVL is checking the finances handled by SIMS, but as yet has not made any statement.

BROWN further advised that ERNEST JOHNSON is presently in Northern California attempting to raise money for the Jonesboro area and that SIMS has stated he wishes to go back to Southern California and attempt to raise more money in that area.

*48*  
*65*  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

On 8/4/65 at Bogalusa, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290

by SA FREDERICK J. WALLACE:11 Date dictated 8/4/65

NO 157-3290

MAK:mnw

1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

On August 12, 1965, NO T-1 who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that ALBERT DAVIS, [redacted] Louisiana, is the Treasurer and acting Secretary for the Deacons of Defense and Justice; and that BERTRAM WYRE, [redacted] and THEODORE NEWMAN, [redacted] are members of the Bogalusa Chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice. (S) (U)

According to NO T-1 the Deacons of Defense and Justice are presently trying to find a place and date for fire-arms practice as in the past this training has been on an individual basis. He further reported that the present cost of joining the Deacons of Defense and Justice is \$10. and there is a \$2. monthly dues assessment. (S) (U)

The organization outlawed automatic rifles but automatic pistols are allowed. According to the informant, the organization has obtained M-1's (not specified as whether rifles or carbines) along with 30.0 rifles.

On August 10, 1965, the same informant furnished the following information concerning Bogalusa Deacons of Defense and Justice:

6/5  
12/8  
1/7

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO 157-3290

MAK/mnw

1

The following is a partial list of members of the Bogalusa Deacons for Defense and Justice (DDJ):

*LA*  
*LA*  
CHARLES SIMS, President  
ROYAN BURRIS, Vice-President  
JOSEPH WHITE, former Secretary  
ANDREW SMITH,  *LA*  
LUKE VARNADO,  *LA*  
MILTON JOHNSON  
ELMER BARNER, aka Duppie  
SAM BARNES  
BILL CRAWFORD  
MIZELL BUTLER  
O. J. NELSON, aka Candy

b6  
b7C

JOSEPH WHITE, Negro male, was recently employed by the Bogalusa Police Department as a police officer. WHITE formerly owned or had in his possession a 30.06 rifle. Upon his employment with the Police Department, the Bogalusa DDJ loaned him one of their .38 caliber revolvers until he obtains one of his own. WHITE, up to his appointment, was secretary for the Bogalusa DDJ.

It is believed that Bogalusa DDJ does not possess any machine guns, M-14 rifles, or grenades. CHARLES SIMS has purchased military surplus arms at Roland's Store on South Rampart Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. These purchases are believed to be 30.06 rifles and side arms. The only other equipment presently known to be possessed by the Bogalusa DDJ are walkie talkies.

The Bogalusa DDJ is presently maintaining a curfew of one-half hour after Negro rallies in the Negro community of Bogalusa. Any Negro on the streets after the curfew is ordered to go to their homes immediately. The recognition signal when approaching DDJ members at night in a vehicle is to turn the vehicle's headlights off and on once.

- 40 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO 157-3290

MAK/mnw

2

Some of the expenses of the Bogalusa DDJ are reimbursed by the Bogalusa Voters League (BVL) and for this reason CHARLES SIMS was made financial secretary for the BVL. All deposits for the Bogalusa DDJ are made at the Washington Bank and Trust Company, Bogalusa, Louisiana, in the name of the Courtesy Club.

It is further believed the only person with an honorary DDJ membership card is VIRGINIA BURTON, Berkeley, California, and representative of Western Division of Congress of Racial Equality (CORE). ERNEST JOHNSON, also known as Chilly, president of the Jonesboro DDJ, is presently in Northern California attempting to raise money for the Jonesboro DDJ and is staying at BURTON's residence.

JOHNSON  
Negroes in Plaquemine, Louisiana, recently asked for help in forming a Plaquemine Chapter of the DDJ and on August 1, 1965, CHARLES SIMS and ROYAN BURRIS went to Plaquemine in order to help in this endeavor.

Monroe, Louisiana, and Ferriday, Louisiana, have also requested assistance in forming DDJ chapters.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO 157-3290

MAK:mnw

1

On July 15, 1965, NO T-2 advised that ~~ERNEST LNU~~, who is alleged to be the Vice President of the Deacons in Bogalusa, Louisiana, was in New York City and was reported to be living with one FNU ~~KOCHIYAMA~~, a Chinese female, who was photographed as being at MALCOLM X's side-immediately after he was shot in February, 1965. According to the ~~6.8~~ informant, ERNEST was in New York trying to talk to various militant organizations and to gain some support for the "Deacons" in Louisiana. According to the informant, ERNEST was attempting to raise funds for the Deacons. ~~(C)~~ (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)Date August 12, 1965Records of the b6  
b7C  
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The above information can be made available only  
upon the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum directed to

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

On 8/12/65 at Bogalusa, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290

by SA FRANK A. SASS, JR./pm Date dictated 8/12/65

- 43 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

1

NO 157-3290  
FAS:pm

Information provided concerning records at the  
[redacted]  
was made available to SA FRANK A. SASS, JR. [redacted]  
[redacted]

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO 157-3290

MAK:mnw

1

On June 10, 1965, George Dodd, Negro male of [redacted] [redacted] Homer, Louisiana, an individual active in Civil Rights activity in the Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, area, indicated that a Chapter of the Deacons for Defense and Justice had been formed in Homer, Louisiana. Dodd indicated that the organization, exclusively composed of local Negro males, had originally been formed by Negroes in Bogalusa and Jonesboro, Louisiana, as a self-protection group. Dodd continued to explain that the organization was active in areas where Civil Rights activity had either actually or was presumed to potentially precipitate violence against Negroes by local white segregationists.

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Mr. Dodd said that the specific purpose of the group was to arm themselves and to "meet force with force" in such instances as local white men employed force or "terror tactics" against Negroes. Mr. Dodd was emphatic in stressing that the organization intended no aggressive or violent action against any individual or group, and that no member of the organization would employ any type of force unless such action was initiated against him first.

Mr. Dodd furnished a list of Negro male individuals who are currently members of the Homer, Louisiana Chapter of the organization and the positions they occupy as follows:

*DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE*

<u>George Dodd</u>	<u>Homer, Louisiana</u>	<u>President</u>
<u>Fred Lewis</u>	[redacted], Louisiana	<u>Vice President</u>
<u>Otis Chatman</u>	<u>Homer, Louisiana</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
<u>Joe Lester Green</u>	<u>Homer, Louisiana</u>	<u>Financial Secretary</u>
<u>Roy Smith</u>	<u>Homer, Louisiana</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
<u>Bill Pitts</u>	<u>Homer, Louisiana</u>	<u>Member</u>
<u>Emerson Banks</u>	<u>Homer, Louisiana</u>	<u>Member</u>
<u>Grant Banks</u>	<u>Homer, Louisiana</u>	<u>Member</u>
<u>Napoleon Green</u>	<u>Homer, Louisiana</u>	<u>Member</u>
<u>Othar Lewis</u>	<u>Homer, Louisiana</u>	<u>Member</u>
<u>Willie James Morris</u>	<u>Homer, Louisiana</u>	<u>Member</u>
<u>James Bennett</u>	<u>Homer, Louisiana</u>	<u>Member</u>

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO 157-3290

MAK:mnw

1

Mr. Joe Lester Green, Owner, Green's Grocery Store, Homer, Louisiana, advised on August 3, 1965, that in addition to the members of the Homer, Louisiana, Chapter of the Deacons for Defense and Justice, previously furnished by the President of the organization, George Dodd, the following persons have now become members:

- copy*
- 1) Otha Lewis, [redacted]  
[redacted], Louisiana
  - 2) George Lewis, Jr., [redacted]  
[redacted], Louisiana
  - 3) Fred Hayes  
Junction City, Louisiana
  - 4) Rurel Hayes  
Junction City, Louisiana
  - 5) Tommy Ford, [redacted]  
[redacted], Louisiana
  - 6) Melvin Tims, [redacted]  
[redacted], Louisiana
  - 7) James Buggs,  
Homer, Louisiana
  - 8) Fred Jones  
Homer, Louisiana

b6  
b7C

Green advised that he, Green, is the finance secretary of the organization, and the organization has almost \$100. in the treasury. He stated the organization has not purchased any weapons of any type and there are no plans in the immediate future to purchase weapons. He said the organization does not own any weapons of any kind, although individual members do own various types of hunting shotguns and rifles.

- 46 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO 157-3290

MAK:mnw

2

Green advised the organization has not been active although several of the members have been meeting each Tuesday night at the Masonic Hall in Homer. He said there are usually 10 or 12 members in attendance. He said the group is waiting for someone from the Jonesboro, Louisiana, Chapter of the Deacons for Defense and Justice to come to Homer to advise them as to what activity they are to undertake. He advised that until someone from Jonesboro explains how the organization works, there will be no activity of the Homer, Louisiana, chapter.

Sheriff R. W. Wasson, Homer, Louisiana, furnished the following information on August 3, 1965:

He is familiar with the Negroes who make up the Homer, Louisiana, Chapter of the Deacons for Defense and Justice. All of the members are long time residents of that parish and none of them have a record for violence. He has no information the organization is gathering firearms. He has not seen any activity from the organization until this time.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO 157-3290

MAK:mnw

1

The Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, California, dated June 13, 1965, carried a story concerning the Deacons for Defense and Justice in which the writer stated that the Deacons claimed that they had machine guns and hand grenades for use in racial warfare. ERNEST THOMAS, 32, of Jonesboro, who was described as an official and full-time organizer for the Deacons, according to this article, told newsmen that there were 50 to 55 chapters of the Deacons in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, and fund-raising units were being established in San Francisco, New York, and other large cities.

This article further stated that at interviews with members of the Deacons, indications were made that this group was armed with pistols and rifles, and THOMAS stated, "We have contacts in Chicago and Houston for automatic weapons--for .50 caliber and .30 caliber." THOMAS additionally stated that they had machine guns and hand grenades for use in racial strife.

Investigations conducted at Chicago and Houston have not developed any information that would indicate that any large quantity of weapons has been sold to any individuals or group in the Jonesboro, Bogalusa, or New Orleans area of Louisiana.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NO 157-3290

MAK:mnw

1

On June 16, 1965, NO T-3 advised that a meeting of the Fox and Wolf Hunt Club was held, Detroit, Michigan, on June 13, 1965, at which time RICHARD HENRY, President, indicated that he had recently been in contact with the "Deacons" at Bogalusa, Louisiana, and had been invited by the "Deacons" to come to Louisiana. According to NO T-3, HENRY requested the club and the club membership to contribute funds to defray the cost of his trip, however, he did not indicate when he contemplated leaving nor was any decision made by the club regarding defraying the necessary expenses in this trip. (S) (U)

HENRY suggested that the club should consider holding a rally sometime during July to raise funds for the club and that they could invite representatives from the "Deacons" from the Louisiana area as guests and speakers at the affair. (S) (U)

It is to be noted that the Fox and Wolf Hunt Club is affiliated with the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM). A characterization of RAM is contained in the appendix section of this report.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 17, 19651~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(U)

CHARLEY LEE WHITE, Financial Secretary, Deacons of Defense and Justice, was interviewed at his residence located the [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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WHITE stated he did not wish to furnish any information concerning the Deacons of Defense and Justice until he had spoken to some of the other members of the Deacons of Defense and Justice.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name  
Race  
Sex  
Date of Birth  
Height  
Weight  
Eyes  
Hair  
Employment

LA

CHARLEY LEE WHITE

Negro

Male

[REDACTED]  
6'-1"

160 pounds

Maroon

Black

Continental Can Company  
since November 29, 1961,  
as a woodhandler.

LLIE RING WHITE

Mother

b6  
b7C~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(U)

On 8/3/65 at Jonesboro, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290

by Special Agent L. STANLEY HARBESON and  
Special Agent CLARK S. MILLER/mrp

Date dictated 8/3/65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

personal and mixed property, to borrow money, to issue, negotiate, sell and pledge evidences of indebtedness and to secure same by pledges, deeds of trust or mortgage, of both the whole or any part of the property of this corporation; and to receive, collect and pay out money for the accomplishment of its corporate purposes.

ARTICLE IX. "OFFICERS"

The Board of Directors shall elect the following officers:

A President, who shall be chairman of the Board of Directors, a Vice-President, who shall be Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The board shall regulate and collect dues from all members according to its by-laws made for said purpose.

The Board of Directors may create new offices and regulate the duties of the officers as it may deem advisable. The first officers are:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>OFFICE</u>
1. Percy Lee Bradford	President
2. Earnest Thomas	Vice-President
3. Charlie White	Secretary
4. Cosetta Jackson	Treasurer

ARTICLE X.

The Board of Directors shall have the power to make, amend and replace by-laws to govern this corporation provided they are in accordance with and do not conflict with these articles.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, said Incorporators have hereunto signed their names at Monroe, Louisiana, in the presence of

Barbara L. Sharp and Geraldine Williams, legal and competent

witnesses, and me, said Notary Public, on this the 5th day of March,

in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-five.

/s/ Barbara L. Sharp

/s/ Percy Lee Bradford  
PERCY LEE BRADFORD

/s/ Geraldine Williams

/s/ Earnest Thomas  
EARNEST THOMAS

/s/ Elmo Jacobs  
ELMO JACOBS

/s/ James Sharp, Jr.  
NOTARY PUBLIC

/s/ Charlie White  
CHARLIE WHITE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

are accepted as members by a majority of the members of this corporation present and voting at a regular meeting.

ARTICLE VII. "BOARD OF DIRECTORS"

The affairs of this corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of five (5) members of this corporation from the time of incorporation until said number is changed by an amendment to the article or by-laws of this corporation and the following shall constitute the first Board of Directors:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Percy Lee Bradford                    | P. O. Box 95, Jonesboro, Louisiana     |
| 2. Earnest Thomas                        | P. O. Box 492, Jonesboro, Louisiana    |
| 3. <del>Charlie White</del><br>B-7-13-41 | P. O. Box 733, Jonesboro, Louisiana    |
| 4. Cosetta Jackson                       | General Delivery, Jonesboro, Louisiana |
| 5. Elmo Jacobs                           | P. O. Box 124, Jonesboro, Louisiana    |

The qualification, term of office, manner of election, compensation, powers and duties of the directors, the time and place and manner of calling, giving notice and of conducting directors meetings and number of directors which shall constitute a quorum, shall be proscribed by the by-laws.

ARTICLE VII. "POWER AND CAPACITY"

This corporation shall have the capacity to act possessed by natural person and shall have authority to perform those acts which are necessary and proper to accomplish the purposes expressed or implied in these articles or that may be incidental thereto and shall have all the power, authority and capacity of a nonprofit

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

~~corporation as provided for in the Louisiana Statutes of 1950, shall have the power and authority to acquire, hold, lease, mortgage, sell and receive by donation or otherwise, real property in trust as provided by law, to sue and be sued in the corporate name, to make and use a corporate seal, to hold, purchase, lease, mortgage, sell and receive by donation or otherwise, real,~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

duties of the citizen to the community and the obligation and duties of the community to the citizen: To further instruct, teach, train and educate said persons in the value of economic security and in the effective use of their spending power; to inspire in said persons a sense of responsibility and to develop leadership. This corporation has for its further purpose, and is dedicated to, the defense of the civil rights, property rights and personal rights of said people and will defend said rights by any and all honorable and legal means to the end that justice be obtained. This corporation may establish chapters and conduct its business at any place in this State and elsewhere as permitted by law.

ARTICLE III. "DURATION"

This corporation shall enjoy corporate existence for a period of ninety-nine (99) years from date hereof.

ARTICLE IV. "REGISTERED OFFICE"

The location and post office address of its registered office shall be: Amos Service Station, (rear), Beach Spring Road, Drawer B, Jonesboro, Louisiana.

ARTICLE V. "REGISTERED AGENTS"

The full names and post office addresses of its registered agents are:

1. Earnest Thomas, P. O. Box 472, Jonesboro, Louisiana.
2. Elmo Jacobs, P. O. Box 124, Jonesboro, Louisiana.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ARTICLE VI. "A" OF ORGANIZATION

~~This corporation shall have no capital stock~~  
~~and no dues or fees of membership. The~~  
~~signed incorporators and all persons hereinafter who apply for~~  
membership and satisfactory show that they are dedicated to the proposition of protecting through any and all legal means those rights granted by appropriate law to all citizens of the United States of America and particularly members of minority groups and

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 19 1965

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

FBI SANANTON

615 PM CST 8/19/65 URGENT LAL

TO DIRECTOR (157-2466)

FROM SAN ANTONIO (157-413)

THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS - RM

RE SAN ANTONIO AIRTEL AUGUST NINE LAST.

ALLEN R. HAMILTON, CHIEF OF SECURITY AND TRAFFIC, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, AUSTIN, TEXAS, ADVISED INSTANT DATE THAT UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUAL PLACED A LARGE NUMBER OF PLACARDS AT VARIOUS POINTS ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, WHICH PLACARDS READ AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS PRESENTS: MARK KLEIN SPEAKING ON ARMED SELF DEFENSE, THE NEXT STAGE IN THE NEGRO STRUGGLE. UNIVERSITY YMCA, THURSDAY, AUGUST NINETEEN, EIGHT P.M., ADMISSION FREE. UNQUOTE

PD IN AUSTIN AWARE OF MEETING. MATTER BEING FOLLOWED AND BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED. LHM FOLLOWS.

END

WA JRL

FBI WASH DC

TU CLR P

53 AUG 30 1965

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

*5-Boatright*  
*Johns*  
*Johnson*

*1 X-ray T sent to  
No by 0-7 8/20/65  
Jm: 69*

REC-76

18 AUG 23 1965

EX 105

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1801/f

*700-808RB*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 20 1965

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI WASH DC

FBI SANANTON

1027 PM 8/19/65 URGENT JEH

TO DIRECTOR /157-2466/

GROM SAN ANTONIO /157-413/

THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS. RACIAL MATTER.

RE SAN ANTONIO TEL TODAY.

MEETING HELD AS SCHEDULED, NO INCIDENTS, NO ARRESTS, LHM FOLLOWS.

END AND ACK PLS.

WA ... JXM

FBI WASH DC

CLRP

REC-76

EX-100

157-2466-43

18 AUG 23 1965

rec 808RB

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-81 BY SP182N/jk

100-30 15 AUG 23 1965

51 AUG 20 1965

FBI

Date: Aug. 20, 1965

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

**AIRTEL**

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

**TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)**  
**FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (157-413)**  
**RE: THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS RM**

Re San Antonio teletype dated 8/19/65.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are eight copies of LHM on captioned matter suitable for dissemination.

Copies of the LHM have been disseminated locally to OSI, ONI, 112th INTC and two copies to Secret Service.

The Special Agent at Austin, Texas, who received the information from HAMILTON, as set out in attached LHM, is JAMES C. KENNEDY.

LEADS

SAN ANTONIO DIVISION

At Austin, Texas

**AUG 24 1965**

Will follow and report the results of the meeting scheduled at the University YMCA, August 19, 1965.

**E. C. Wick**

**ENCLOSURE**

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.

DEPT: ISD, CRD, P

DATE FORW: 8/23/65

HOW FORW: RLS

BY: J. L. M. C. J.

3 Bureau (Enc. 8)

6 San Antonio

JJC:JMW

(9)

1cc & cc LHM

1cc & cc LHM

808 RB

Approved

**55 AUG 31 1965**

Special Agent in Charge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP182/H

*Handwritten notes:*  
5-5-65  
P. J. J. J.  
J. J. J. J.



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
San Antonio, Texas  
August 20, 1965

THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS

On August 19, 1965, ALLEN R. HAMILTON, Chief of Security and Traffic, University of Texas, Austin, Texas, advised a Special Agent of the FBI at Austin, Texas, that an unidentified individual had placed a large number of placards at various points on the university campus some time around 3:00 P. M., August 19, 1965. HAMILTON stated the placards were removed upon being discovered.

HAMILTON stated the placards are described as 14" x 24" and read as follows:

"The Committee to aid the Deacons present: MARK KLEIN Texas speaking on armed self-defense, the next stage in the Negro struggle, University YMCA, Thursday, August 19, 8:00 P.M., admission free."

On August 8, 1965, KLEIN described "The Deacons" as an armed Negro self-defense group."

HAMILTON stated that the Austin Police Department, as well as the Department of Public Safety, have been informed regarding these placards and the proposed meeting scheduled at the University YMCA, August 19, 1965, at 8:00 P. M.

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.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP18ph/jk

157-2466-44

ENCLOSURE

FBI

Date: 8/21/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via Airtel Airmail  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : Director, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, Albany (157-163) RUC

RE : DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RACIAL MATTERS

OO: New Orleans

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP184/jk

Re San Antonio airtel to Bureau 8/9/65.

Following information made available on 8/19/65, by  
Mrs. BERNETTA CRONK, Registrar's Office, Cornell University,  
Ithaca, New York:

AKA MARK KLEIN

MARK LEE KLEIN, born [redacted], Brooklyn, New York,  
registered in the College of Arts and Sciences in the Fall of  
1962. He was admitted from Erasmus Hall High School, Brook-  
lyn, New York. Residence at that time was [redacted]  
[redacted] Brooklyn. Current address is noted as [redacted]  
[redacted] New York. Parent or guardian is  
identified as JACK KLEIN of Brooklyn, New York.

cc: (3) - Bureau (RM)  
3 - San Antonio (Encl. 1) (RM)  
2 - New Orleans (157-3290) (RM)  
4 - Albany  
(1 - 157-163)  
(1 - [redacted])  
(1 - 100-19350)  
(1 - 100-19317)

C. C. Wick

CWR/bsp  
(12)

REC-31

EX-100

157-2466-45

4 AUG 23 1965

Approved: [signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

SUBV-CONTROL  
Per [signature]

87 AUG 20 1965

b6  
b7c

AL 157-163

Records of the Proctor, Cornell University, made available on 8/19/65 by LOWELL GEORGE, reveal MARK KLEIN was placed on disciplinary probation on 5/26/65, for the duration of the academic year by the Committee on Student Conduct. This action was the result of KLEIN's demonstration, along with 63 other students, on 5/17/65, at Barton Hall, Cornell University, of the ROTC Presidential Review. Stated purpose of the demonstration, according to the Proctor, was to protest the ROTC as an arm of the government for propagandistic subversion of the free education essential for the democratic process in the U. S. and as an arm of the U. S. military policy.

Albany indices show KLEIN is a member of the "Young Socialist League, Cornell University," and the "Ad Hoc Committee on Viet Nam at Cornell". Proctor GEORGE characterized the YSL at Cornell, according to their own published pamphlets, as "a political group organized around the viewpoint that the problems facing the world will be solved only through socialism, the transfer of economical and political power to the working class, and in basic opposition to capitalism and communism". GEORGE characterized the Ad Hoc Committee as a student group organized in the Spring of 1965, for the purpose of protesting U. S. intervention in Viet Nam. They have sponsored demonstrations on and off the campus, and KLEIN has been active in these demonstrations.

Photo of KLEIN, taken from the University yearbook, is enclosed to assist San Antonio in identifying this individual.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

DATE: 8/23/65

FROM : SAC, MOBILE (157-1017)(RUC)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC., aka  
RM  
(OO: New Orleans)

Reference is made to Bureau airtel, 7/19/65.

Investigation has been conducted in the Mobile Division consisting of contact with racial informants and sources, Negro liaison sources, logical criminal informants and appropriate law enforcement officials. No information has been developed which would indicate the existence of any chapter of subject organization in this Division.

Inasmuch as all of the contacts made are negative, no report is being submitted but the negative contacts are reflected in the Mobile file.

Mobile Agents have all been alerted to the possible formation of subject group in this Division and if any such information is received, it will be promptly brought to the attention of the Bureau and New Orleans.

2 - Bureau (RM)  
2 - New Orleans (157-3290)(RM)  
1 - Mobile  
JTB:gre  
(5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1 gcl/jr

REC 27/5 7-2466-46

15 AUG 25 1965

EX-101

70 AUG 31 1965 495

1 CC 808RB

INVEST:



F B I

Date: 8/14/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-5290)

DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RM

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of a letterhead memorandum captioned "EARNEST THOMAS, JONESBORO, LOUISIANA." Copies of this LHM being furnished to Chicago, Detroit, and New York for information.

Copies of this LHM are being disseminated to ICG and Secret Service, New Orleans.

O-17 to NO  
Copy to \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 8/23/65  
By JLM:CS  
Remarks Omission of "Prop. of FBI"  
Statement on LHM

- (3) - Bureau (Encls. 8)  
1 - Chicago (157-397) (Encl. 1) (Info)  
1 - Detroit (157-835) (Encl. 1) (Info)  
1 - New York (157-927) (Encl. 1) (Info)  
2 - New Orleans  
RDW:sab  
(8)

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.,

DEPT: ISD, CRD, ~~RM~~DATE FORW: 8/23/65HOW FORW: ASBY: JLM:CS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-8 BY SP18

REC-32

EX-104

AUG 21 1965

1cc &amp; cc LHM

808 RB

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

70 SEP 2 1965 Special Agent in Charge



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

New Orleans, Louisiana  
August 14, 1985

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE WHERE SHOWN  
CLASSIFIED

EARNEST THOMAS  
JONESBORO, LOUISIANA

47  
18  
APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF  
DATE

CLASS LT  
8/21/85

The following information has been obtained from  
the files of the New Orleans Office in connection with various  
civil rights and racial investigations which have been  
conducted:

On August 7, 1964, Earnest Thomas, his wife Eva Mae Thomas, and six children were evicted from the low rent  
housing unit, Jonesboro Housing Authority, Jonesboro, Louisiana,  
for non-payment of rent.

On January 1 and 4, 1965, Earnest Thomas was one  
of a group of Negro civil rights workers who entered the  
M & D Restaurant, Jonesboro, requesting service. They were  
shown to a separate room with curtains drawn over the windows  
and a folding-type door closed the area where they sat from  
the rest of the restaurant. The original prices which were  
on the menu had been considerably raised and the Negro group  
ordered and received the food they ordered and paid for it  
according to the priced indicated.

On January 2 and 4, 1965, Earnest Thomas was with  
a group who entered Nomey's Grill, Jonesboro, and was refused  
in the grill and was refused accommodations in the motel.

On January 2, 1965, Thomas and others entered the  
Blue Grill, Jonesboro, and were refused service.

On January 3 and 4, Thomas and a group attempted  
to obtain tickets to the downstairs area of the Palace  
Theater, Jonesboro, but were refused.

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP/SPH/4 7-17-80  
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.20-2  
DATE OF REVIEW 8-14-85

157-2466-47

ENCLOSURE ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

EARNEST THOMAS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

On January 4, 1965, Thomas and a group entered Guy's Cafe, Jonesboro, and were refused service in the absence of the owner who later stated her policy was to serve all customers regardless of race and color.

On January 5, 1965, the Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ) was reported to be organized and Earnest Thomas was reported to serve this organization as a group leader.

*LOUISIANA*

On January 30, 1965, Earnest Thomas was present at the arrest of Lee Gilbert, Negro, at the Minute Spot, Jonesboro, a Negro cafe in Jonesboro. Gilbert was arrested on a charge of displaying a dangerous weapon (shotgun) in public and intoxication. Gilbert later plead guilty to this charge.

On February 21, 1965, Earnest Thomas appeared at a meeting of Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) workers and Negro leaders at Bogalusa, Louisiana, to discuss organization of the DDJ at Bogalusa.

On March 5, 1965, a charter was granted to the DDJ at Monroe, Louisiana, reflecting Earnest Thomas as vice president of this organization, registered agent, and member of the board of directors.

On March 11, 1965, Earnest Thomas was arrested and charged with resisting arrest and threatening a police officer at Jonesboro, Louisiana. This arrest was occasioned during a road block imposed on the Negro quarter of Jonesboro by the Jackson Parish Sheriff's Office during Negro demonstrations at Jackson High School, Jonesboro. Thomas was arrested for attempting to pass the road block and for threatening one of the deputy sheriffs.

On March 20, 1965, Chief Deputy Sheriff James Van Beasley advised his office had been aware of the DDJ organization at Jonesboro for the past six months. He stated it was noted by members of his office that Earnest Thomas accompanied demonstrators and those who marched on picket lines along with other Negro leaders known to them.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

EARNEST THOMAS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

On April 21, 1965, Earnest Thomas was contacted by Hayward C. Quarles, Justice of the Peace, Jonesboro, who stated he desired to talk to Thomas and mentioned the possibility of a subpoena. Thomas agreed to meet Quarles at City Hall after refusing to meet him at his office or the sheriff's office. Thomas advised he went alone to this meeting and was surprised to find that Quarles had Mayor L. O. Tate, Sheriff Newt T. Loe, and Chief of Police Adrian G. Peevy sat in on the meeting, although Quarles was the principal spokesman. Thomas related a general discussion of the racial situation in Jonesboro was had, and he was cautioned by Quarles against the patrols by members of DDJ in the Negro section and against any preparation to defend with weapons in Negroes' homes against attack or invasion from outsiders. Thomas informed he told the Justice of the Peace, Mayor, Sheriff, and Chief of Police that there had been armed patrols in the Negro section and they were necessary because of failure of law enforcement to keep klan parade and cross burnings out of the Negro section and because of a lack of confidence in law enforcement by the Negroes. He said he pointed out in July, 1964, the Jonesboro Police Department led the klan parade through the Negro section of Jonesboro and the Sheriff's Office led the klan parade through the Negro section of the neighboring town of Hodge. He said the Sheriff had claimed he was unable to control the large number of klansmen and prevent the parade through the Negro section, and Thomas replied to him that it was for that reason that the Negroes found it necessary to arm themselves and help prevent that type of invasion from the klan-type groups.

Thomas claimed the DDJ was never meant to be anything other than defensive to prevent klan groups and others from invading the Negro section and perpetrating lawlessness on the Negroes. He said their weapons were of the type most commonly used in homes in the area.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

EARNEST THOMAS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

On July 2, 1965, according to the newspaper States-Item of New Orleans, Louisiana, on that date, Earnest Thomas was a speaker at the annual convention of CORE at Durham, North Carolina, and that Thomas was one of the speakers, along with James Farmer, Kenneth X, a Black Muslim leader from Durham, and Bayard Rustin of New York City who organized the civil rights march on Washington in 1963. It was reported that Thomas in his speech attacked the idea of non-violence. He said the Deacons was created to inform the klan that Negroes on the whole are not non-violent. Thomas was supported in this attitude by another speaker, Dr. Lonnie X, a Black Muslim minister of Washington, D.C., who also spoke, saying "It is better to spend 30 seconds in the glory of manhood than a 1,000 years in the news."

A characterization of the Nation of Islam is attached hereto in the appendix section.

On July 15, 1965, information was received that one Earnest (Last Name Unknown) who is vice president of DDJ in Bogalusa, Louisiana, on July 9, 1965, was in New York City at the Hotel Theresa and was reported to be trying to talk to various militant organizations and to gain support for the DDJ in Louisiana. A white male and a white female often accompanied Earnest.

On August 12, 1965, Mrs. Edna Zuber, Credit Bureau of Jonesboro, advised her files reflected that Earnest Thomas has a credit record since 1961 and that Thomas has two judgments entered in July of 1961 in the amounts of \$2,458.80 and \$155.09 and that he has an unsatisfactory account at a grocery store, owing a balance of \$50. He is self-employed as a bricklayer. His wife is Eva Mae and in 1961 he was 27 years of age.

On July 28, 1965, the Chicago Office of the FBI advised that Max Stanford, one of the leaders of the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM), a characterization of which is attached in the appendix section, mentioned in a letter as follows:

"Get anybody and everybody to send by postal or other money order to Earnest Thomas, [redacted] Louisiana. The brothers need bread." It was further advised that at a meeting June 6, 1965, of the Fox and Wolf Hunt Club (FWHC) in the office of Richard B. Henry, 13341 Livernois, Detroit, Michigan, Henry showed newspaper clipping of the Sunday edition of the Detroit Free Press datelined Bogalusa, (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U) 4

EARNEST THOMAS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

b6  
b7C

*Louisiana*  
Louisiana, referring to the DDJ and relating that Earnest Thomas of Jonesboro, Louisiana, [redacted], the vice president and full-time organizer of the DDJ said that the organization had 50 to 55 chapters in various stages of organization in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. The article stated that Thomas declined to discuss the number of members in the organization, but outsiders have guests from 5,000 to 15,000. The newspaper continued that Thomas visited in Bogalusa, Louisiana, Friday, in the wake of the murder of O'Neal Moore, one of Washington Parish's first Negro deputy sheriffs. He was interviewed in the home of Robert Hicks, a Bogalusa Negro leader, whose home has become headquarters of the Bogalusa Civil Rights movement. The article noted that Richard Haley of New Orleans, Southern Director for CORE, participated in the interview and noted that CORE and the DDJ are on friendly terms. The article noted that Haley stated CORE discovered that its members in Jonesboro were safer with the DDJ around. It related that Thomas hopes to standardize weapons to effect further savings. He prefers the .30 Army carbine and .30 Army pistols, and noted that some members have .30 carbine that fire rounds like a machine gun, although most members now use shotguns. The article stated that Thomas and Haley stated great concern that the DDJ may be painted as progressive and trigger happy. Thomas said they were organized strictly for defense and they were highly disciplined and that one of their main purposes is to protect civil rights workers and volunteers participating in civil rights activities. He noted a person knowingly exposes himself to violence when he walks a picket line. (S) (U)

Richard Henry suggested to members of the FWHC go to Louisiana to see what the DDJ is all about and said he would try to contact Percy Lee Bradford or Earnest Thomas of the DDJ by telephone. (S) (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

EARNEST THOMAS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

The following description of Thomas was obtained by personal observation and interview:

Race	Negro	
Sex	Male	
Birth data	[redacted] at	
	Jonesboro, Louisiana	b6
Height	5' 11"	b7C
Weight	211 pounds	
Eyes	Brown	
Hair	Black	
Scars and marks	½" scar above left side of mouth; ¼" scar on left nostril	
Marital status	Married, wife - Eva Mae Thomas, 7 children	
Residence	General Delivery, Jonesboro, Louisiana	
Social Security No.	[redacted]	
Employment	Self-employed brick mason	
Education	11th grade at Jackson High School, Jonesboro, Louisiana	
Military service	U. S. Air Force. U. S. Air Force No. [redacted] Undesirable Discharge	

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

## A P P E N D I X

1

NATION OF ISLAM, formerly referred to as the Muslim Cult of Islam, also known as Muhammad's Temples of Islam

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

### NATION OF ISLAM

In January, 1957, a source advised Elijah Muhammad has described his organization on a nationwide basis as the "Nation of Islam" (NOI) and "Muhammad's Temples of Islam".

On May 8, 1964, a second source advised Elijah Muhammad is the national leader of the NOI; Muhammad's Temple of Islam No. 2, 5335 South Greenwood Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, is the national headquarters of the NOI; and in mid-1960, Muhammad and other NOI officilas, when referring to Muhammad's organization on a nationwide basis, commenced using either "Mosque" or "Temple" when mentioning one of "Muhammad's Temples of Islam."

The NOI is an all-Negro organization which was originally organized in 1930 in Detroit, Michigan. Muhammad claims to have been selected by Allah, the Supreme Being, to lead the so-called Negro race out of salvery in the wilderness of North America by establishing an independent black nation in the United States. Members following Muhammad's teachings and his interpretation of the "Koran" believe there is no such thing as a Negro; that the so-called Negroes are slaves of the white race, referred to as "white devils," in the United States; and that the white race, because of its exploitation of the so-called Negroes, must and will be destroyed in the approaching "War of Armageddon."

In the past, officials and members of the NOI, including Muhammad, have refused to register under the provisions of the Selective Service Acts and have declared that members owe no allegiance to the United States.

## A P P E N D I X

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)



A P P E N D I X

2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

On May 5, 1958, the first source advised Muhammad had, upon advice of legal counsel, tempered his personal statements and instructions to his ministers concerning the principles of his organization in order to avoid possible prosecution by the United States Government; however, he did not indicate any fundamental changes in the teachings of his organization.

On May 7, 1964, a third source advised Muhammad had, early in July, 1958, decided to de-emphasize the religious aspects of the teachings of Islam and to stress the economic benefits to be derived by those Negroes who joined the NOI. This policy change, according to Muhammad, would help him acquire additional followers and create more interest in his programs.

A P P E N D I X

8

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

San Antonio, Texas  
August 20, 1965

The Committee to Aid the Deacons

Lieutenant BERT GERDING, Austin Police Department, CID, advised the scheduled meeting of the Committee to Aid the Deacons was begun at 8 p.m. at the University YMCA, Austin, Texas, on August 19, 1965, with approximately thirty people present. This group was predominately white and only one Negro girl who is a student at the University of Texas was present.

PAUL PIPKIN, member of the Students for a Democratic Society, introduced MARK KLEIN as program speaker.

ALL TEXAS

From 8 p.m. to approximately 9 p.m. KLEIN voiced Communistic propaganda and read from numerous books their contents all favorable to Communism. KLEIN also advocated that Negroes should all arm themselves and organize into groups who could then protect themselves against the Ku Klux Klan, racists, and law enforcement officers who attack peaceful demonstrations.

KLEIN specifically recommended that each Negro in addition to having the necessary firearms to defend his home, should have a loaded rifle and pistol in his car at all times and be ready "to defend the Negroes."

Following KLEIN's address, approximately one hour question and answer period followed. During this time, KLEIN was "hard put" to justify his position that armed deacons for defense and justice would not lead to positive open clashes between whites and Negroes. During this session, KLEIN defined his personal position as a "revolutionary socialist."

The meeting was adjourned just prior to 10 p.m. in order that KLEIN could watch the 10 p.m. TV news and determine if the meeting was on local television.

There were no incidents and no arrests were made.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1 gny/jk

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recommendations nor conclusions of  
the FBI. It is the property of the  
FBI and is loaned to your agency; it  
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distributed outside your agency.

157-2466-48

ENCLOSURE

## The Committee to Aid the Deacons

Texas Department of Public Safety Intelligence Officer OTIS KLAR advised that in addition to PAUL PIPKIN there were four other members of the Students for Democratic Society present.

EDWIN B. PRICE, Director of Student Activities, Office of Student Life, University of Texas, informed that the Committee to Aid the Deacons was not an approved University of Texas campus organization.

Mr. ED PRICE, Dean of Student Life Office, who is in charge of campus organizations, University of Texas, Austin, Texas, on November 2, 1964, advised:

Students for a Democratic Society is an approved organization of the University of Texas campus. He described it as "a political study and action organization. The purpose of the organization is to work toward a more democratic society." He described it as "an educational and social action organization that seeks to promote the active participation of students toward construction of a social order that is free from poverty, ignorance, war, exploitations, and inhumanity of man to man."

Mr. PRICE stated membership is open to students, faculty, and others who share the commitments of the organization to democracy as a means and as a social goal.

F B I

Date: 8/20/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **AIRTEL**

(Priority)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (157-413)

RE: THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS  
RM 157-2466

Transmitted herewith are eight copies of LHM reflecting results of the meeting held at Austin, Texas, at 8 p.m. on 8/19/65 at the University YMCA, Austin, Texas.

One copy each is being disseminated locally to OSI, ONI, 112th INTC, and two to Secret Service.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1 gcl/jr

ENCLOSURE

3 - Bureau  
2 - San Antonio  
JCK/fes  
(5)

C. C. Wick

12 copy ATTY 1 CCLHM sent  
to NO 8/23/65 by 0-7 for  
info. Jm: C.

REC-50

157-2466-48

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SERV.  
DEPT: ISD, CRD

DATE FORW: 8/23/65  
HOW FORW: RIS  
BY: Jm: C.

AUG 26 1965

1cc & LHM  
808 RB

76 SEP 1 1965

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:  
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
DATE 08-31-2018 BY:  

FBI

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b7C

Date: 8/25/65

**CONFIDENTIAL** (U)

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, Jackson (157-3465)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE  
AND JUSTICE aka  
RACIAL MATTERS

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
(P) 19 (S) OF  
DATE 8/31/85

Re report of SA MAURICE A. KELLIHER dated  
8/17/65 at New Orleans.

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of  
and LHM and for New Orleans are two copies of same. One  
copy each is being sent to INTC, OSI, ONI, and Secret  
Service. MHSP will also be advised of the developments  
in this matter.

 , first source, and  
 , second source, were interviewed by SA JAMES O.  
INGRAM on 8/24/65. (U)

LEADS:

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION

- ③ - Bureau (157-2466) (Enc 8) (RM)
- 2 - New Orleans (157-3290) (Enc 2) (RM)
- 5 - Jackson (157-3465)

(1 -  ) (U) REG 25

LHM (1 - 100-HUNTER MOREY)  
(1 - 157-452)

JOI/gjm  
(10) AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.;  
DEPT: ISD, CRD,

DATE FORW: 8/30/65

HOW FORW:

BY: Jhm: 69

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

**CONFIDENTIAL** (U)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP18L/17-178  
REASON - FCIM 11. 1-2. 4.2 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 8-25-85

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OTHERWISE

157-2466-49

8 AUG 27 1965

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803 RB

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b3  
b7D  
b7E

C.C. Wick

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

2008/11/15 E.C.  
I N

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

At Bogalusa, Louisiana

Will determine through sources if representatives of Deacons of Defense and Justice will travel to Jackson to assist in organizing a chapter. Determine identity and background of individuals who will assist in organization. Will attempt if possible to determine if HUNTER MOREY handled arrangements and if he inquired as to how to form corporation in State of Mississippi. (S) (U)

At Jonesboro, Louisiana

Will handle lead as set forth under Bogalusa.

JACKSON DIVISION

At Jackson, Mississippi

Will maintain contact with sources to obtain background concerning organization of Mississippi chapter. Will attempt to identify all participants and activities as well as arms acquired.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Jackson, Mississippi

August 25, 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

RE: DEACONS OF DEFENSE  
AND JUSTICE, INC.  
RACIAL MATTERS

A source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised on August 24, 1965, a meeting was held on the morning of August 24, 1965, at the Stevens Kitchen, a restaurant located at 604 North Farish Street, Jackson, Mississippi. The source explained Stevens Kitchen is a popular eating establishment frequented by civil rights workers. At the meeting were the following individuals:

b6  
b7C

Hunter ~~Morey~~, white, male, age ☐, Legal Coordinator, Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party;

Cephaus ~~Hughes~~, Negro, male, age ☐; B. APPROX. ☐

Robert ~~Bolton~~, Negro, male, age about ☐; B. APPROX. ☐

Mrs. Emma ~~Sanders~~, Negro, female, age about ☐; B. APPROX. ☐

Bill ~~Ware~~, Negro, male, age about ☐; B. APPROX. ☐

Sandra ~~Rudnick~~, white, female, in early ☐; B. APPROX. ☐

King Estus ~~Knight~~, Negro, male, about ☐; B. APPROX. ☐

Reverend (first name unknown) Harris, Negro, male, in early ☐; b6  
b7C

Braxton ~~Price~~, Negro, male, age about ☐; B. APPROX. ☐

All of the above are working for the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. (C) (U)

NOT CONTAINED

IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP/gh/7-17-89  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2-2  
DATE OF REVIEW 8-25-85

ENCLOSURE ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

The source advised several other individuals arrived at Stevens Kitchen, but they did not stay for the entire meeting. (C) (U)

Morey advised the group the local civil rights workers could not handle the situation and they needed protection. Mrs. Sanders and Ware also stated they needed a strong organization to protect their basic rights. (C) (U)

The source determined that Morey mentioned they could have the Deacons of Defense and Justice from Louisiana to come to Jackson and assist them in organizing a unit. The group present generally agreed with this view. The source learned that the group present wanted to have thirty trained men from Hinds County, Jackson, to organize and receive training from representatives of the Deacons from Louisiana. It was pointed out the men would arm themselves and they must be "good shots." They would attempt to keep the organization secret so as not to attract any publicity until such time it was necessary to protect individuals or their organizations. (C) (U)

The source learned the Negro element is very upset over the shooting of Reverend Donald Thompson, a white minister at Jackson who was shot on August 22, 1965, and they intend to retaliate in the future. No further information was obtained in this regard. (C) (U)

Morey went to the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party Headquarters, 507½ North Farish, to telephonically contact a Deacon in Bogalusa, Louisiana, but Jessie McGee, who was in charge of the office on August 24, 1965, refused to let Morey use the phone to call Bogalusa. She stated the officers of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party had not been consulted and she did not want others to feel the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party was endorsing the group's actions. The source (C) (U)



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

advised Mrs. Sanders then made available money for the phone call and Morey called Bogalusa on the morning of August 24, 1965. He was then referred to an individual in another city and source believes the city was Jonesboro, Louisiana. (S) (U)

Morey later advised the group arrangements had been made for representatives of the Deacons of Defense and Justice to come to Jackson to talk to the group at the Masonic Temple located on Lynch Street, Jackson, on Sunday, August 29, 1965. The representative would explain how to set up a chapter in Mississippi and explain how they would protect themselves. This meeting will not be opened to the general public. (S) (U)

[A second source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on August 24, 1965,] (S) (U) he had determined a meeting was held at Stevens Kitchen on North Farish Street, Jackson, on August 24, 1965, and a discussion was held regarding the forming of a chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice in the State of Mississippi. He could furnish no additional information. (S)

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.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 25 1965

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI WASH DC

FBI SANANTON

43XXX339PM CST URGENT 8/25/65 MRH

TO DIRECTOR 157-2466

FROM SAN ANTONIO 157 413

THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS. RM.

LIEUTENANT BERT GERDING, AUSTIN, TEXAS, POLICE  
DEPARTMENT, CID, ADVISED THE ABOVE COMMITTEE WILL MEET  
AT EIGHT P.M., AUGUST TWENTY-FIVE AT THE COMMUNITY  
CENTER, ONE ONE NINE TWO ANGELINA STREET, LOCATED IN THE  
NEGRO SECTION OF AUSTIN, TEXAS. MARK KLEIN WILL SPEAK ON  
"THE TRUTH ABOUT THE DEACONS". RESULTS OF THIS MEETING WILL  
BE FURNISHED THE BUREAU.

END

WA...L BMS

FBI WASH DC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP18a/fv

REC-50

157-2466-50

EX-101

9 AUG 30 1965

51 SEP 2 1965

cc - Bgmdru

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:  
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
DATE 08-31-2018 BY:  

FBI

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Date: 8/27/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_AIRMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-3465) (P)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.,  
aka  
RACIAL MATTERS

ReJNairtel 8/25/65.(U)

  (protect) advised  
SA JAMES O. INGRAM on 8/26/65, that a decision was made  
this date to telephonically contact Deacons at Bogalusa,  
La. PSI telephonically contacted residence of CHARLES  
SIMS,  , and talked with SIMS' wife. Wife stated  
SIMS will travel to Jackson for Sundays meeting. He was  
told to contact ROY BURRIS,  . BURRIS' wife advised  
BURRIS owns Roy's Barber Shop, Bogalusa and he and SIMS  
both plan to be in Jackson 8/29/65. (U)

b6  
b7C  
b7D

[PSI determined] SIMS allegedly president and  
BURRIS, vice-president of chapter at Bogalusa. (U)

Source advised ALVIN J. BRONSTEIN, attorney,  
Lawyer's Constitutional Defense Committee, Jackson, is being  
consulted concerning legality of chapter in Miss (U)

(3-Bureau (RM)

(2-New Orleans (157-3290) (RM)

3-Jackson

(1-  )  
(1- 157-452)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP18pk/4 7-17-80

REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2

DATE OF REVIEW 8-27-85b3  
b7D  
b7E

JOI:ish  
(8)

REC-50

AUG 30 1965

Approved: D. G. Wick

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

51 SEP 2 1965

JN 157-3465

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

LEAD

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION

AT BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA, AND JONESBORO, LOUISIANA

Will withhold contact with sources of Deacons of Defense and Justice until advised by Jackson to protect Jackson source, in view of fact he is one of the planning committee. (C) (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

# DEACONS COUNSEL MISSISSIPPI GROUP

## Defense Steps Explained by Negroes From Louisiana

By ROY REED

Special to The New York Times

JACKSON, Miss., Aug. 29

Several members of the Deacons for Defense and Justice came from Louisiana today to tell Mississippi Negroes and civil rights workers how to organize for defense against white terrorism.

The Deacons came in response to a buildup of racial tension in Mississippi. Several acts of violence have occurred during the last week.

The Mississippi Freedom Democratic party, which is militantly pro-civil rights and predominantly Negro, sponsored a forum in Jackson this afternoon for dissemination of information on the Deacons. The Deacons are a loosely organized defense league formed last year in Louisiana to protect Negroes against marauding and harassing whites. Louisiana has several chapters.

The Rev. Ed King, a teacher at predominantly Negro Tougaloo College at Jackson and a member of the executive committee of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic party, said the party was not taking a stand on the Deacons but was simply providing an opportunity for people to learn more about them.

### Bogalusa Delegation

Mississippi Negroes are "very interested" in the Deacons at the moment, he said.

Charles Sims, the president of the Deacons at Bogalusa, led a delegation of 10 from that recently embattled town to discuss organized defense at the Jackson meeting.

Mr. Sims walked into the Negro Masonic Hall on Lynch Street with his coat on his arm, in deference to the 99-degree weather, and was greeted warmly by several white and Negro civil rights leaders.

Another delegation of Deacons met with Negroes at Natchez today.

Negroes there have been angry and edgy since a bomb exploded in the car of George Metcalfe, president of the Natchez branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on Friday and injured him seriously.

Young Negroes have gathered on the streets the last two nights and shouted threats at passing white motorists. A few cars, including police cars, have been hit by bricks, bottles and tomatoes.

Negroes blame the Ku Klux Klan for most of the violence at Natchez and elsewhere in Mississippi.

### Evers War Klan

Charles Evers of Jackson, state secretary of the N.A.A.C.P. who hurried to Natchez and helped prevent an antiwhite outbreak after the bombing, said today:

"I want to say this to the Ku Klux Klan: Stay out of the Negro section at night. We're going to protect ourselves."

He had warned earlier that Negroes were armed heavily at Natchez and were ready to start using guns to stop harassment and terrorism.

A member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee said at Jackson that Deacons were meeting today with Negroes in at least two other Mississippi towns, Greenville, 150 miles up the Mississippi River from Natchez, and Columbia, in the south-central part of the state.

The week of violence and tension began last Sunday night when the Rev. Donald Thompson, a white Unitarian minister who has been active in civil rights work, was gunned down and seriously wounded by a shotgun attack outside his apartment house.

Mr. Thompson was shot two days after a shotgun attack in Lowndes County, Ala., killed a white Episcopal seminarian and critically wounded a white Roman Catholic priest.

A group of religious leaders at Jackson took a full page advertisement in the Sunday newspaper here today and denounced the attack on Mr. Thompson.

A member of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic party reported last night that three crosses were burned earlier in the evening at Philadelphia, Miss. He said gunfire had been reported near a house where civil rights workers were staying.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Handwritten signatures:*  
Rosen  
Trotter  
Mohr

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-81 BY SP1 gsk/jk

NOT RECORDED

167 SEP 2 1965

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times 18 C \_\_\_\_\_  
The Baltimore Sun \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 8-30-65

57 SEP 2 1965 364

File  
157-2466  
157-2466-A

8/27/65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

airtel

1 - Mr. Donohue  
1 - Mr. Bates

To: SAC, New York [REDACTED]

From: Director, FBI [REDACTED]

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP (S) 07  
DATE 8/27/80

b3  
b7D  
b7E

ReNYtel to the Bureau 8/26/65 and Bureau telephone call to New York 8/27/65. (U)

b7D  
b7E

Authority granted to pay [REDACTED] for expenses actually incurred in connection with travel to Jonesboro, Louisiana, and Detroit, Michigan. An itemized list of expenses incurred should be obtained from the informant and if expenses are less than [REDACTED], the balance is to be returned to the Bureau. (U)

- 1 - 157-2466 (Deacons of Defense and Justice)
- 1 - 100-442684 (Revolutionary Action Movement)
- 1 - 157-3022 (Organization for Black Power)

b3  
b7D  
b7E

1 - M. F. Row (Room 6221 IB)

NOTE:

Informant has been requested to drive Revolutionary Action Movement leaders to Jonesboro, Louisiana, for conference with a leader of the Deacons of Defence and Justice. Source also plans to drive Revolutionary Action Movement leaders to Detroit to attend a meeting of Organization for Black Power. Referenced NYtel requested sum of [REDACTED] be advanced the informant for expenses and that New York be advised in time for informant to be paid by 12 noon, 8/27/65. Section Chief F.J. Baumgardner telephonically contacted Special Agent in Charge D. E. Roney of the New York Office on 8/27/65 and authorized informant to be paid up to [REDACTED] for expenses actually incurred in connection with his travel. (U)

b7E

RFB:deh  
(9)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-8 JH/7-7-80  
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 8-27-85

DUPLICATE YELLOW

57-2466-  
NOT RECORDED  
128 AUG 31 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

ORIGINAL FILED IN

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

DATE: 8/27/65

FROM : SAC, CHARLOTTE (157-882) (RUC)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RACIAL MATTERS  
(OO: NEW ORLEANS)

Re Bureau airtel, 7/19/65. (U)

Informants and sources of the Charlotte Office contacted concerning captioned organization have advised they have no information relative to the Deacons of Defense and Justice or indicating that any chapters of this organization have been or are being formed.

The Bureau and New Orleans will be promptly advised upon receipt of any pertinent information concerning captioned organization.

10480  
② - Bureau (RM)  
2 - New Orleans (RM)  
1 - Charlotte  
CFW:jms  
(5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-81 BY SP1 gcl/jk

EX-107

REC-65

157-2466-52

AUG 31 1965

INDEXED  
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RECEIVED  
FBI  
SEP 1 1965

SEP 5 4 11 PM '65

238  
7 SEP 7 1965

F B I

Date: 8/26/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (157-413)

RE: THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are eight copies of LHM on captioned matter suitable for dissemination. Copies of the LHM have been disseminated locally to OSI, ONI, 112th INTC, and two copies to Secret Service.

The Special Agent who received the information from Lt. BERT GERDING as set out in attached LHM is JAMES C. KENNEDY.

1 *Key New Orleans*  
Copy to \_\_\_\_\_  
by routing slip for \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ info ☐ action  
date 8/30/65  
by J.M.C.

AGENCY: ~~ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC, SER~~ ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
DEPT: ~~ISD, CRD, ~~SEC~~~~ HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE FORW: 8/30/65 DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1821/W  
HOW FORW: RU  
BY: J.M.C.

O-17 to ALD  
Copy to \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 8/30/65  
By J.M.C.

Remarks: *Letter incorrectly carried. Character omitted. Copies not furnished to New Orleans - OO. Ref. omitted.*

3 - Bureau  
1 - San Antonio  
JCK/fes  
(4)

ENCLOSURE 8

C. C. WICE

50 SEP 1965

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

San Antonio, Texas  
August 26, 1965

RE: THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS.

On August 25, 1965, Lieutenant BERT GERDING, Austin, Police Department CID, advised a Special Agent of the FBI at Austin, Texas, that a meeting would be held by the Committee to Aid the Deacons beginning at 8 p.m. on August 25, 1965.

This meeting is to be held at the Community Center located 1192 Angelina Street, which is located in the Negro Section of East Austin, Texas.

The listed speaker for this meeting is MARK KLEIN and his topic will be "The Truth About the Deacons".

On August 8, 1965, KLEIN described the "Deacons" as an armed Negro self defense group.

On August 26, 1965, Lieutenant BERT GERDING, Austin Police Department CID, advised a Special Agent of the FBI at Austin, Texas, that the above Committee to Aid the Deacons met at 8 p.m., August 25, 1965, at the Community Center, 1192 Angelina Street, Austin, Texas.

This address is in east Austin and in the Negro section of Austin, Texas.

There were sixteen people in attendance, nine of which were Negro and seven whites.

MARK KLEIN was the speaker at this meeting and his publicized speech as reflected by more than 2,000 circulars distributed throughout Austin, Texas, on August 25, 1965, advertising this meeting was "The Truth About the Deacons".

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-80 BY SP182/8

ENCLOSURE

157-2466-53

## THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS

KLEIN practically repeated the same discussion he had previously given at the University YMCA on the night of August 19, 1965. KLEIN again advocated the Communist party line, read excerpts from various pamphlets and books, all of which were favorable to Communism. KLEIN again urged all Negroes to organize into groups and to arm themselves for their "own protection."

The meeting adjourned shortly before 10 p.m. without incident.

KLEIN voiced his disappointment at the small turnout in view of the publicity this meeting had been given.

The August 8, 1965, issue of the San Antonio Light, a daily newspaper in San Antonio, Texas, carried an article stating that MARK KLEIN, a Cornell University student, is responsible for the formation of the Committee to Aid the Deacons, the purpose of which is to aid "the Deacons for defense and justice." KLEIN described the "Deacons" as "an armed Negro self defense group."

N.J.

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.

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:  
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
DATE 08-31-2018 BY:  

b6  
b7C

FBI

Date: 8/24/65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, DETROIT (157-1063)(C)

CLASS. & EXT BY SP18N/H 7-17-80  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 8-24-85

APPEARANCE OF ROBERT HICKS,  
VICE-PRESIDENT, BOGALUSA (LA.)  
DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
SPONSORED BY GROUP ON ADVANCED  
LEADERSHIP (GOAL), 8/22/65,  
DETROIT, MICH.  
RACIAL MATTERS

PROPRIETARY AGENCIES  
class 1/17/80

Remyairtel with LHM dated 8/12/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of a letterhead  
memorandum. Two copies of the LHM are being furnished  
the New Orleans Office.

One copy of LHM being furnished G-2 and two copies being  
furnished U.S. Secret Service, both Detroit, Mich.

Source utilized in LHM is   (C) (U)

b7D

Detroit PD and Michigan State Police have been apprised  
of contents of the LHM.

LHM being classified "~~Confidential~~" since data furnished  
by the source utilized could reasonably result in the  
identification of a confidential informant of continuing  
value and compromise effectiveness thereof.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 8)
- 2 - New Orleans (Enc. 2)
- 3 - Detroit
- 1 - 157-706 (POSSIBLE RACIAL VIOLENCE)
- 1 -   (C) (U)

REC 157-2066-54

14 AUG 25 1965

b3  
b7D  
b7E

FJP:sal AGENCY: ACSI, CNI, OSI, SEC. SER.;

DEPT: ASD, GRD.

DATE FORW: 8/23/65

HOW FORW: RIS

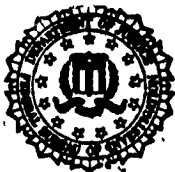
BY: J. H. H. H.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

50 SEP 8 1965



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CONFIDENTIAL

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Detroit, Michigan  
August 24, 1965

Re: Appearance of Robert Hicks, Vice-President,  
Bogalusa (Louisiana) Deacons for Defense  
and Justice Sponsored by Group on Advanced  
Leadership (GOAL), August 22, 1965,  
Detroit, Michigan 47

On August 23, 1965, a source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that on August 22, 1965, beginning at approximately 3:00 PM, a freedom dinner for the Deacons of Bogalusa, Louisiana, was held at 4472 Chene Street, Detroit, Michigan. Source advised that approximately 300 individuals were present at this affair and admission was by ticket at a cost of \$3.00 each.

According to the source, Henry King, who was an official in the GOAL when it was in existence, served as the Master of Ceremonies. He introduced Richard Henry, who was the president of GOAL, and Henry delivered the first speech. Henry talked of GOAL as having been strictly an all Negro organization except for a few Caucasians who happened to be married to Negroes. He said the Negroes struggle for freedom must continue and surmised that there would be other outbreaks of violence like the one which had earlier occurred in Watts, California. Henry said the United States of America is militarily powerful, nevertheless, Negroes will have to fight periodically even though they cannot win against the government's might. He said that violence at times was the only way of letting "Mr. Charlie" know that the black people were tired of being pushed around. Mich

As Henry was speaking, John Conyers, Jr., U.S. Congressman from the First Congressional District, Detroit, entered and Henry commented that he was glad to know Mr. Conyers could come to such a meeting. Henry also acknowledged the presence of Congressman Charles Diggs from the U.S. 13th Congressional District. Henry said he was a strict believer in the "co-op" system but would not fight with other Negroes who were coming together for the cause of the civil rights struggle. Mich

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED BY SP184/HK GROUP 1  
ON 7-17-80 Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

ENCLOSURE

157-2466-54

AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF 8/24/65  
DATE 8/24/65

Re: Appearance of Robert Hicks,  
Bogalusa Deacons for Defense  
and Justice Sponsored by GOAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Source advised that other speakers at this affair were Congressmen Conyers and Diggs. According to the source, Mr. Conyers stated he did not believe in violence but felt a man was less than a man if he would not defend himself, his property and his family. He said it was the constitutional right of every American to "take up arms in self-defense" if law enforcement agencies failed to provide said defense. Conyers spoke of police brutality in Detroit and said it had long been an issue with Negroes. He said Negroes must register and vote to defend the bigots who constantly support police brutality and deny the Negroes their basic rights. He said the Watts incident was a war between the "haves and the have nots". He said it was nothing but a class war fought by people who live in ghettos without jobs and decent houses. He stated "Hear me Mr. President, you had better take the money you are spending in Vietnam to fight an uncalled for war and spend it here on the big city slums or else you will have more class wars".

Conyers talked of the registrars presently in the South as being inadequate and he stated he would see the U.S. Attorney General on Monday and advise him that they will not settle for anything less than a registrar in every county in the South.

According to the source, Congressman Diggs stated he had heard of the Deacons for Defense and Justice in Louisiana and acknowledged that various situations in the civil rights movement called for new techniques and approaches. Mr. Diggs said he had talked with U.S. Attorney General Katzenbach on Friday and voiced dissatisfaction with the number of voting registrars presently supervising voting registrations in the South. He indicated his pleasure at seeing so many persons present at this dinner.

Among other speakers at this affair, according to the source, were Robert Hicks, President of the Voters League in Bogalusa and a charter member of the Deacons for Defense and Justice, and Charles Sims, another member of the Deacons from Bogalusa. *Ja* 11/16

According to the source, Mr. Hicks related the experiences and background of the civil rights struggle in

CONFIDENTIAL

Re: Appearance of Robert Hicks,  
Bogalusa Deacons for Defense  
and Justice Sponsored by GOAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Louisiana. He said the Deacons came into existence because the police of Bogalusa simply refused to protect Negroes and the whites who were trying to help. He said several northern white university students had come to Bogalusa to help them organize. He said the Deacons came about because one night the sheriff had appeared at his home and demanded that they turn over to the Klan the young white students who were in Bogalusa helping them. He said the police were ordered out of the home and when the Klan appeared and fired into the house they, the Deacons, returned the fire and that is how they came into existence. He said the Governor of Louisiana signed the charter legalizing the existence of the Deacons.

Hicks said the Negroes plight in Bogalusa was helped when the Klan refused to let Congressman Brooks Hays of Arkansas appear there. Hicks said that white persons from all over the country wrote letters of disapproval citing the issue of free speech. Consequently, the political leaders of the city declared an all Negro day which permitted the use of all facilities without discrimination. Hicks praised the efforts of Mr. John Doar, Assistant Attorney General in Charge of the Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice, and he commented that Mr. Doar had done much to help. Hicks said that their cause was also helped by the presence of 50 FBI agents. Hicks commented that one of the agents was taking pictures and a Klansman attacked him. Hicks said the Klansman was immediately arrested and later tried and sent to a Federal prison and that quieted the Klan for a while. Hicks said he looked forward to the day when whites and Negroes could live in peace together. He said he was disappointed by things in the North because he thought there was a different atmosphere here.

According to the source, Mr. Sims mentioned in his speech much of the same material which had been stated by Robert Hicks. Sims spoke of future harmony among the races and of the day when the whites and the Negroes could live peaceably together. He said the white man respects three things, namely: (1) money; (2) the vote, because he controls everything that way; and (3) power or force. He said white people have never hesitated to go to war when their freedom was in jeopardy.

CONFIDENTIAL

Re: Appearance of Robert Hicks,  
Bogalusa Deacons for Defense  
and Justice Sponsored by GOAL

CONFIDENTIAL

He said the Deacons intend to fight until they have the "whole hog" as they have "backed up to the river and will either drown or fight".

Source advised that \$509.00 was contributed during this affair to the cause of the Deacons in Louisiana. Source said this money was presented to Robert Hicks on the stage at this affair as soon as it had been counted. According to the source, Hicks and Sims stated they had to catch a plane back to Louisiana that same evening.

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.

CONFIDENTIAL

FD-36 (Rev. 12-13-56)

FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

Date: 8/28/65

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plain text or code)  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE  
(Priority of Method of Mailing)

AIRTEL

Via \_\_\_\_\_

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (157-413) (P)  
RE: THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS  
RM

Transmitted herewith are eight copies of LHM reflecting a meeting of the above organization held at Austin, Texas, beginning at 8:00 p.m., August 27, 1965. (U)

Copies of this LHM are being disseminated locally to OSI, ONI, INTC, and U. S. Secret Service.

The information furnished in this LHM was furnished by Bureau approved [redacted] who furnished this information to SA JAMES C. KENNEDY on 8/28/65. (U)

Two copies of LHM are being furnished Houston and San Francisco for information.

1 x LHM AT + LHM to NO  
8/31/65 by 0-7  
JLM: C-9.

- ENCLOSURE
- ③ - Bureau (Enc. 8) (RM)
  - 2 - Houston (Enc. 2) (RM)
  - 2 - San Francisco (Enc. 2) (RM)
  - 7 - San Antonio
  - (2 - 157-413) (1 - [redacted]) (1-66-1620) (1-157-310)
  - (1 - 157-941 Sub 2) (1-157-414)

JCK/dte  
(14) CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1/SP4/7-17-82  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 8-28-83

D. D. Wick

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER. 2b 1 2 12 24 36  
DEPT/ISD, CRD, RAO

DATE FORW: 8-31-65  
HOW FORW: [redacted]  
BY: [redacted]

1cc & cc LHM  
808 RB

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

51 SEP 13 1965





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
San Antonio, Texas

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

August 28, 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATE AGENCIES  
NOTIFIED

CLASS 4  
8/21/80

DATE

THE COMMITTEE TO AID  
THE DEACONS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

On August 28, 1965, SA T-1 advised a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that the Committee to Aid the Deacons held a "closed" meeting at the home of Adolphus Bracy,  , beginning at 8:00 p.m. on August 27, 1965. (S) (U) Austin, Texas

b6  
b7c

At this meeting Mark Klein appointed Bracy as call F permanent chairman of the Committee to Aid the Deacons in Austin, Texas. (S) (U)

At this meeting, in addition to Klein, Douglas Haenline, a member of the Students for Democratic Society, and Robert Casterol (a newcomer from Chicago, Illinois) were in attendance. Also John J. Sabasta and his wife Annie Aderholt Sabasta were also in attendance. (S) (U)

SA T-1 also stated that a Fort Hood soldier, a negro approximately  , tall, slender, believed to be Howard Woolfort, was also in attendance and very interested in the proceedings of this meeting. This same individual was one of the nine Negroes who attended a meeting of this same organization on the night of August 25, 1965, and following the meeting held a long discussion with Mark Klein. (S) (U)

APPROX  

b6  
b7c

Mark Klein and Douglas Haenline are both leaving Austin, Texas, Monday, August 30, 1965, for Houston, Texas, and Douglas Haenline and possibly Mark Klein also will go from Houston to Berkeley, California, where Haenline has stated he will organize a Spartacist group on the campus of the University of California. (S) (U)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gpl/jk 7-17-80  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 8-28-65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

ENCLOSURE 157-2464.55

## THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(U)

During the afternoon of August 27, 1965, Mark Klein and Douglas Haenline were practicing with a British 303 rifle and a Webley .45 caliber pistol which they had obtained in Austin, Texas. Both were exultant over the prowess with these guns. (S) (U)

The August 8, 1965, issue of the San Antonio Light, a daily newspaper in San Antonio, Texas, carried an article datelined Austin, Texas, stating that Mark Klein, a Cornell University student, is responsible for the formation of the Committee to Aid the Deacons, the purpose of which is to aid "the Deacons for defense and justice". Klein described the "Deacons" as "an armed Negro self defense group".

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.

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(U)



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

*In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.*

San Antonio, Texas

August 28, 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

Title            THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS  
  
Character  
  
Reference       San Antonio memorandum  
                 dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 2 1965  
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI WASH DC

5MSG

FBI BIRMGHAM

639PM CST URGENT 9-2-65 HEP

TO DIRECTOR (157-2466)

FROM BIRMINGHAM (157-1446) 1P

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, AKA. RM. OO NEW ORLEANS

U. S. DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEY BRIAN LANSBERG ADVISED BIRMINGHAM  
OFFICE HE HAD RECENTLY SPOKEN WITH A REV. (WILLIAM) BRANCH IN EUTAW,  
ALA. BRANCH REPORTEDLY INFORMED LANSBERG THAT THE DEACONS OF  
DEFENSE HAD BEEN ORGANIZED IN EUTAW, ALA., IN ORDER TO PROTECT  
THEMSELVES. EFFORTS BEING MADE TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW REV.  
BRANCH CONCERNING ABOVE. INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED IN ORDER  
TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER CAPTIONED GROUP HAS BEEN ORGANIZED IN ALABAMA.  
LHM FOLLOWS.

AIR MAIL COPY FURNISHED NEW ORLEANS.

END

FBI WASH DC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-80 BY SP182N/14

FBI

57 SEP 9 1965

REC-66

157-2466-56

EX 105

SEP 3 1965

502N

**FBI**

Date: 9/3/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_ (Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL - REGISTERED  
(Priority).

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (157-1446)(P)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.,  
AKA.  
RM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

(OO: NEW ORLEANS)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1 gch/lf

Re Birmingham teletype, 9/2/65.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are an original and seven copies of a letterhead memorandum containing information indicating that a chapter of captioned organization may possibly have been formed at Eutaw, Alabama.

New Orleans is being furnished copies of instant letterhead memorandum since it is office of origin in captioned matter.

Copies of this letterhead memorandum are being disseminated locally to Military Intelligence Agencies and Secret Service, Birmingham.

Investigation is currently being conducted within the Birmingham Division in an effort to ascertain whether any chapters of captioned group have been formed in the Birmingham Division.

(3) - Bureau (Enc. 8) AM-RM  
2 - New Orleans (157-3290) (Enc. 2) RM  
2 - Birmingham

MM: hss  
(7)

1pc & cc LHM  
ECS TB

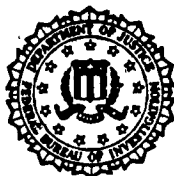
DATE REC'D: 7/10/65  
HOW FORN: 7/10/65  
BY: E.H.R.C.D.

16 SEP 9 1965

Approved: [Signature]

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

57 SEP 17 1965



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

1400 - 2121 Building  
Birmingham, Alabama  
September 3, 1965

RE: INFORMATION CONCERNING ALLEGED  
FORMATION OF CHAPTER OF "DEACONS  
OF DEFENSE" AT EUTAW, ALABAMA

A characterization of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc., is being attached to this letterhead memorandum.

U. S. Departmental Attorney Brian Lansberg advised the Birmingham Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that during the latter part of August, 1965, he had spoken with Rev. (WILLIAM) Branch in Eutaw, Alabama, and at that time Rev. Branch informed him that the "Deacons of Defense" had been organized at Eutaw, Alabama, in order to protect themselves. Mr. Lansberg furnished no further information concerning the alleged formation of a chapter of the "Deacons of Defense" at Eutaw, Alabama.

On September 3, 1965, Rev. William McKinley Branch, [redacted] Alabama, was interviewed in Birmingham, Alabama, by Special Agent Marvin M. Eubanks. *H2910*  
Rev. Branch advised that he is presently President of the Greene County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and is also President of the Greene County Civic Organization and Integration Organization.

b6  
b7C

Rev. Branch further advised that he does not know of any chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice located in the State of Alabama. He stated, however, that he and about twelve or thirteen other Negro men residing in Greene County, Alabama, had spread the word in and around Eutaw, Alabama, that the Deacons of Defense and Justice had organized a chapter at Eutaw, Alabama. He stated that he and the twelve or thirteen other Negro men, above-mentioned, had taken this action somewhat in the nature of a psychological retaliation to combat the parading and demonstrating of Klansmen in and around

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1826/kr

ENCLOSURE

157-2466-57

RE: INFORMATION CONCERNING ALLEGED  
FORMATION OF CHAPTER OF "DEACONS  
OF DEFENSE" AT EUTAW, ALABAMA

---

Greene County, Alabama. Rev. Branch advised that he and the twelve or thirteen other Negroes involved had agreed not to reveal the identities of each other for "security reasons" and that for this reason he had rather not divulge their names. He stated, however, that if he does hear of any chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice being formed in Alabama, he will immediately advise the Federal Bureau of Investigation and will also reveal the names of the above-mentioned twelve or thirteen men.

Rev. Branch further stated that he and the above-mentioned Negro men were not in any way affiliated with the Deacons of Defense and Justice, did not believe in violence in any form and did not have knowledge of any supply of guns or other weapons that might be used in regard to the racial situation in Greene County, Alabama.

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.

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc., was formed at Jonesboro, Louisiana, during the Summer of 1964, following incidents involving racial activities, which incidents created tension in the area.

The organization was formed by Negro leaders in Jonesboro for the announced purpose of protecting Negroes and whites from illegal acts and from acts designed to terrorize the Negro community, and was chartered with main headquarters at Jonesboro, Louisiana. Associate chapters are located at Bogalusa and Homer, Louisiana, and inquiries were received from other groups concerning this movement, but no action has been taken to approve additional chapters.

Officers of Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc., assert that the organization is a defensive group with no intention to commit or encourage any offensive acts. Leaders of the organization denied purchase of firearms for the group and further denied knowledge of any source of contacts for this purpose.

The President of this organization disclaims any connection with or influence by subversive elements.

A P P E N D I X



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

DATE: 9/15/65

FROM : SAC, SAVANNAH (157-731)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC., aka  
RM

Rerep of SA MAURICE A. KELLIHER, 8/17/65, New Orleans.

Contacts made with all known sources including police departments, sheriffs' offices and state law enforcement agencies in both Georgia and South Carolina have failed to identify any persons being affiliated with the Deacons of Defense and Justice. Contacts with known and reliable informants have failed to produce any information concerning Deacons of Defense and Justice.

For information of Bureau and New Orleans, the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, Columbia, S. C., is conducting an investigation pertaining to this organization based on information received from newspaper publicity.

Chief J. P. STROM (NA), South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, Columbia, S. C., advised 9/7/65 that he had no information pertaining to this organization and had been unsuccessful in obtaining any indication that there were members of this organization in the State of South Carolina.

Savannah Division will maintain contact with informants and sources in an attempt to identify any activity in the Savannah Division.

- ② - Bureau
- 2 - New Orleans
- 1 - Charlotte (Info)
- 1 - Savannah

NLP/dkm  
(6)

REC-64

EX 105

157-2466-58

4 SEP 16 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1824/fk

INT. SEC.

SUBV. CONTROL



191  
SEP 22 1965

U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Jackson, Mississippi

September 3, 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS

A source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised on August 26, 1965 he had determined that CHARLES SIMS and ROY BURRIS, who operates ROY's Barber Shop, Bogalusa, Louisiana, had just been contacted to appear before a group at Jackson, Mississippi on August 29, 1965. (X)(u)

The source advised that SIMS is allegedly the president and BURRIS the vice-president of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc. (DDJ) Chapter at Bogalusa.

He advised that he had determined ALVIN J. BRONSTEIN, Attorney Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee, Jackson, is being consulted concerning the legality of a Chapter in Mississippi. (X)(u)

The source advised that a pamphlet is being distributed showing that the Deacons of Bogalusa will be at the Masonic Temple, Lynch Street, Jackson on Sunday, 3:00 p.m., August 29, 1965. The pamphlet was printed by the Hinds County Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP).

On August 27, 1965 it was determined that CEPHAUS HUGHES, HUNTER MOREY, Mrs. EMMA SANDERS, KING ESTUS KNIGHT and ROBERT BOLDEN met at the MFDP Headquarters to make the final arrangements for the meeting. HUGHES advised that 12 men would arrive (X)(u)

Negro

Negro

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP182/fv 7-17-80  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 9-3-85

DECLASSIFIED BY 9145 GJR  
ON 2/24/86  
#263837

ENCLOSURE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

157-2466-59

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

from Bogalusa and \$30 had been raised to date to pay for expenses. Fifty-five dollars would have to be raised from contributions to pay the rental for the Temple. (u)

On August 30, 1965, the source advised that he had determined at the meeting at the Masonic Temple started around 4:00 p.m. and the meeting was called to order by BOLDEN and there were approximately 175 to 200 people in the auditorium. BOLDEN introduced Reverend EDWIN KING, white male, Chaplain at Tougaloo College; Reverend BOB BEACH, white male from Hattiesburg, a special guest. He introduced the MFDP Delegation as HAZEL PALMER, ANNIE DEVINE and JOHNNIE MAE WALKER.

✓ The first Deacon introduced was (first name unknown) WYLIE, described in early 50's, height 5'8", weight 150 pounds, very dark complexion, who furnished background concerning the rise of the DDJ. He stated that all of the Deacons at the meeting were from Bogalusa and they were from the Fourth Street Chapter in Bogalusa.

ROY BURRIS, the vice-president of the Bogalusa Chapter, spoke and he related incidents that have happened in Bogalusa and the fact he believed the Federal Government will eventually support the actions of the DDJ in accordance with basic rights.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS

CHARLES SIMS, president of the Bogalusa Chapter, was introduced and he received a large ovation from the crowd. SIMS introduced the Deacons from Bogalusa who had made the trip and including SIMS and the other speakers, they comprised a total of 12. He introduced (first name unknown) THOMAS, Negro male in early 30's; (first name unknown) JOHNSON in early 20's; (first name unknown) GREEN, Negro male in early 20's, (first name unknown) JOHNSON, Negro male, 65 to 70; (first name unknown) SMITH, Negro male, age about 40.

During SIMS' lecture, he was asked by people in the crowd, How strong a chapter should they have in Jackson as well as in Mississippi? How much money as well as arms does the chapter at Bogalusa have? What are the qualifications to become a Deacon? SIMS stated he would not answer these questions before the group, but any of those interested in forming a chapter in the State would meet with him later and he would be happy to answer these questions.

The following persons were present at the meeting:

JESSIE HARRIS, Field Secretary for the Student Non-Violent Co-ordinating Committee (SNCC); WILLIE PEACOCK, associated with SNCC; BILL WARE, JOYCE BROWN, JESSIE MAGEE, JOHNNY ROSE, JAMES PHIPPS, CEPHAUS HUGHES (X) (M)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS

~~HUNTER MOREY~~, Legal Co-ordinator MFDP, and ~~MIKE HIGSON~~, Assistant Office Manager of MFDP, were present at the meeting. (X)(u)

SIMS, after the meeting, met with approximately 18 to 20 individuals who were interested in forming a chapter in Mississippi. Among those individuals present were ~~BOB SMITH~~, Hattiesburg; ~~DOUG SMITH~~, Hattiesburg, both Negroes; ~~RON WEISS~~, white male from Brooklyn, New York; ~~ROBERT BOLDEN~~, Negro male, Hinds County Chairman MFDP; Mrs. ~~EMA SANDERS~~, Negro female, MFDP; (first name unknown) ~~BROADWATER~~, Negro male, Hinds County executive secretary MFDP; ~~HUNTER MOREY~~; ~~CHARLES HORWITZ~~, white male MFDP; ~~SANDRA RUDNICK~~, white female, student from California; ~~KING ESTUS KNIGHT~~, Negro male, MFDP; ~~LYN ALEXANDER~~, white female, [redacted] Mississippi; and ~~CHARLES HOLMES~~, Student from Rust College. There were two unknown Negro males from McComb who were interested in organizing DDJ units in McComb and Hattiesburg, Mississippi. (X)(u)

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b7C

It was determined that SIMS had stated to the above individuals that to organize chapters of Deacons in Mississippi they must have money, brave men, fast cars, and dependable individuals. He suggested the individuals at the meeting attempt to raise money for cars, arms, and organize a group; and he would return to assist them in setting up their chapters. It was generally agreed that SIMS would not return until after September 15 upon completion of the "Washington Challenge" concerning the lobby in Washington, D. C. by MFDP. SIMS stated that if properly organized, the Negroes would not have the incidents thrust upon them as they are now in Mississippi. (X)(u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS

The source advised that it was determined that SIMS and BURRIS had stated that they each had a .32 or a .38 caliber gun on them at all times. They stated they are also equipped with high powered rifles and submachine guns in Bogalusa. (S)(u)

WICK  
MISS  
The source advised that PHILLIP LAPSANSKY, white male, associated with MFDP, carried a tape recorder throughout the meeting and he understands that he taped the entire meeting at the Masonic Temple. (S)(u)

[On April 4, 1965, a second source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised] that PHILLIP SANDERS (S)(u) LAPSANSKY is a member of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP), Seattle Branch.

MIKE HIGSON, Assistant Office Manager, MFDP, [redacted], advised on July 16, 1965 DAPSANSKY resides in Jackson and is employed in the Communications Section of MFDP.

b6  
b7C

The SWP has been designed by the Attorney General of the United States Pursuant to executive order 10450.

The Seattle Branch of SWP is set forth in the appendix section.

[A third source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised] on August 3, 1965 that he had determined (S)(u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS

the DDJ held a meeting at the Masonic Temple, Lynch Street, Jackson, on August 29, 1965. The meeting started around 4:00 p.m. and had several speakers who spoke concerning the impending trip to Washington on August 16, 1965 concerning the "Lobby on Washington, D. C." The source advised that there were 12 Deacons from Bogalusa, Louisiana at the meeting and SIMS was their leader and he spoke on the necessity of organizing a Chapter in Mississippi. The vice-president of the Chapter in Bogalusa also spoke. He furnished a description of the harassment that took place by police in Louisiana and how their children were not protected by school authorities.

The source advised that SIMS had stated that a Deacon Chapter may not be allowed by the State of Mississippi, but they would have to do something regardless of what the State of Mississippi did or did not do. (S)(u)

M. B. PIERCE, Chief of Detectives, Jackson, Mississippi, Police Department advised on August 1, 1965 that the following Louisiana and Mississippi license tags were obtained by his Department in the vicinity of the Masonic Temple, Lynch Street, on the afternoon of August 29, 1965. PIERCE advised that the license

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS

numbers have been checked with the Mississippi Highway Patrol and the person to whom registered and address has been obtained.

The following license and background was furnished by Chief PIERCE.

<u>STATE</u>	<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>TO WHOM REGISTERED</u>	
Louisiana	[REDACTED] <i>MISS</i>	1964-1965 Louisiana [REDACTED] issued to H. M. <del>JONSON</del> , [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Louisiana, for 1955 Pontiac fordor, ID # [REDACTED].	b6 b7C
Louisiana	[REDACTED] <i>Roy BURRIS</i> <i>MISS</i>	1964-1965 Louisiana [REDACTED] issued to ROYAN <del>BURRIS</del> , [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Louisiana for 1961 Dodge, ID # [REDACTED].	b6 b7C
Louisiana	[REDACTED] <i>MISS</i>	1964-1965 Louisiana issued to BERNICE HARRY, [REDACTED] Louisiana for 1961 Chevrolet fordor, ID # [REDACTED].	b6 b7C



DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
RACIAL MATTERS

<u>STATE</u>	<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>TO WHOM REGISTERED</u>	
Louisiana	49L028	1964-1965 Louisiana 49L028 issued to Hertz Corporation, Highway 10 East, POB 519, Bogalusa, Louisiana for 1965 Pontiac fordor, ID # 252395X121181.	
Louisiana	<input type="text"/>	1964-1965 Louisiana <input type="text"/> issued to SAM BARNES, <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> , Louisiana, for 1963 Chevrolet Coupe, ID # <input type="text"/> .	b6 b7C
Louisiana	<input type="text"/>	1964-1965 Louisiana <input type="text"/> issued to CLARENCE JEFFERSON, Angie, Louisiana for 1957 Ford Tudor, ID # <input type="text"/> .	b6 b7C
Mississippi	<input type="text"/>	1965 Mississippi <input type="text"/> issued to Chrysler Leasing Corporation, <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> Mississippi for 1965 Dodge, ID # <input type="text"/> .	b6 b7C

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
RACIAL MATTERS

<u>STATE</u>	<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>TO WHOM REGISTERED</u>	
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi HD6242 issued to ERNEST ELLIS, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Mississippi for 1960 Buick, ID # [REDACTED]	b6 b7C
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi [REDACTED] issued to R. L. BOLDEN, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Mississippi, for 1962 Chevrolet Belair, ID # [REDACTED]	b6 b7C
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi [REDACTED] issued to D. T. MASON, [REDACTED] Mississippi for 1953 Cadillac, ID # [REDACTED]	b6 b7C
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi H9383 issued to SCOTT TENNON, [REDACTED] Mississippi for 1955 Pontiac, ID # [REDACTED]	b6 b7C
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi [REDACTED] issued to EDWARD SEAVER III, [REDACTED] Mississippi, for 1956 Chevrolet, ID # [REDACTED]	b6 b7C

*Robert Bolden  
negro*

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

<u>STATE</u>	<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>TO WHOM REGISTERED</u>	
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi [REDACTED] issued to MABEL GRAY, [REDACTED] Mississippi, for 1954 Chevrolet, ID # [REDACTED]	b6 b7C
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi [REDACTED] issued to CHARLES HORWITZ, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Mississippi, for 1960 Chevrolet, ID # [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	b6 b7C
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi [REDACTED] issued to CLYDE DENSON, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Mississippi for 1955 Dodge, ID # [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	b6 b7C
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi, [REDACTED] issued to REBECCA JONES, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Mississippi for 1955 Ford, ID # [REDACTED]	b6 b7C
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi, [REDACTED] issued to Delta Ministry, C/O ROBERT BEACH, [REDACTED] [REDACTED], Mississippi for 1965 Chevrolet Carryall, ID # [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	b6 b7C

*Bob [REDACTED]*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

<u>STATE</u>	<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>TO WHOM REGISTERED</u>	
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi [REDACTED] issued to JULIE N. BARROWS, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Mississippi, for 1960 Buick, ID # [REDACTED].	b6 b7C
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi [REDACTED] issued to B. R. DUNLOP, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Mississippi for 1959 Volkswagon, ID # Not given.	b6 b7C
Mississippi	KB5154	1965 Mississippi, KB5154 issued to Chrysler Leasing Corporation, Travel Inn Motel, Laurel, Mississippi, for 1965 Dodge, ID # 2353619971.	
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi, [REDACTED] issued to MYRON COOK, [REDACTED], Mississippi, for 1954 Ford, ID # [REDACTED].	b6 b7C
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi, [REDACTED] issued to CALVIN HALL, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], for 1960 Pontiac, ID # [REDACTED].	b6 b7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
RACIAL MATTERS

<u>STATE</u>	<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>TO WHOM REGISTERED</u>
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi [REDACTED] issued to L. RODGERS, [REDACTED], [REDACTED] Mississippi, for 1965 Chevrolet, ID # [REDACTED].
Mississippi	[REDACTED]	1965 Mississippi [REDACTED] issued to ROBERT A. LANDU, [REDACTED], [REDACTED] Mississippi, for 1964 Volkswagon, ID # [REDACTED].

b6  
b7C

b6  
b7C

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.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPENDIX

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY - SEATTLE BRANCH

In May, 1941, a source advised that during the month of May, 1941, the Seattle Branch of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) was reorganized and received official recognition as a branch of the Party from the national office of the SWP in New York, New York.

On May 6, 1964, another source advised that the Seattle Branch, SWP, with headquarters at 3815 5th Avenue N. E., Seattle, Washington, is a present active affiliate of the National SWP. According to source, membership in the Seattle Branch includes RICHARD FRASER, who is a member of the SWP National Committee and his wife CLARA FRASER, who is an alternate member of the SWP National Committee.

The Socialist Workers Party has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FBI

Date: 9/3/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Type in plaintext or code)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
(Priority) OTHERWISEVia AirtelAPPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICESBY ROUTING  
(S) OF 0066 LtDATE 8/21/65

REC-35

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP/86/11.7.17.8  
REASON - FCIM 11 1-2.4.2 DIV 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 7-3-85-11

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-3465) (P)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC., aka

RM

OO: NEW ORLEANS

Re Jackson airtels 8/25/65 and 8/27/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of an LHM and two copies are submitted for New Orleans. One copy each is being forwarded to INTC, OSI, ONI, and Secret Service, Jackson. MHSP and Jackson Miss. PD have been advised of results in LHM.

\_\_\_\_\_, (Protect) is the first source in the LHM and he was interviewed by SA JAMES O. INGRAM. (X)(u)

b7D

EX 110

REC-35 157-3466-59

- ③ - Bureau (157-2466) (Enc. 8) (RM)
- 2 - New Orleans (157-3290) (Enc. 2)
- 4 - Jackson (157-3465)

Z SEP 9 1965

C C - Wick

(1 - \_\_\_\_\_)  
(1 - \_\_\_\_\_)  
(1 - 157-452)

1) (X)(u)

JOI/jls  
(9)

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.

DATE: 9/14/65

HOW FORW: R/S

BY: REF: C-2

ENCLOSURE

DECLASSIFIED BY 115 CRTS  
ON 2/24/86Approved: 191

Special Agent in Charge

1cc &amp; cc LHM

808 SB

M Per \_\_\_\_\_

66 SEP 22 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~b3  
b7D  
b7E

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

M. B. PIERCE, Chief of Detectives, Jackson PD, was interviewed by SA JAMES O. INGRAM and the detectives who obtained license numbers at the Masonic Temple and vicinity are SAMMY MAGEE and J. P. BLACK. JACK HUTCHISON, Investigator MHSP, made available the information to whom license tags were registered.

[ ] is the second source in LHM. [ ] is the third source in the LHM and he was interviewed by SA ERNEST M. COCHRANE (S)(U)

b7D

KENNETH DEAN, Mississippi Council of Humane Relations, Jackson, who attended the Deacon's Meeting, mentioned to SAs COCHRANE and INGRAM on 8/30/65 that he ~~attended meeting~~ with ROY REED, a news correspondent of ~~the~~ "New York Times." He said the "Times" reporter was the only representative of the news media in the meeting. DEAN did not discuss in detail what went on at the meeting.

It is noted [ ] is on the committee to form chapters of Deacons and was instrumental in obtaining speakers from Louisiana. Jackson will follow this matter closely with informant. (S)(U)

b7D

LEADS:

~~NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.~~

AT BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA.

LHM sets forth six license tags as well as to whom registered, address, and make of car. Four of these cars are registered to Bogalusa residents, one to Monroe resident, and one to Angie, Louisiana, resident. The LHM also sets forth names of the alleged Deacons in the meeting in Jackson from Louisiana. Will through sources conduct appropriate investigation to

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

identify individuals from Bogalusa who attended meeting unless already known to New Orleans.

Will attempt to determine CHARLES SIMS and ROBERT BURRIS' future plans for assisting in the organization of Chapters in Mississippi.

JACKSON DIVISION

AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

Will maintain contact with sources to obtain background concerning organization of DDJ. If Chapter in Mississippi organized, will attempt to determine leadership, strength of members, activities, as well as arms acquired. Attempt to determine potentiality for violence, any subversive or outside influence placed upon the Chapters.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FBI

Date: September 13, 1965

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-81 BY SP18K/jk

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, MOBILE (157-1017 (P))

RE: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC., aka

"The Deacons"

RM

OO: NEW ORLEANS

Dr. JACQUELINE JACKSON, Department of Sociology, Howard University, Washington, D. C., who is presently in Tuskegee, Alabama, at the residence of her parents, on 9/9/65, advised that she has been conducting a study on the social processes in Negro protest movements in the South, dealing particularly with the structure and function of various Negro protest groups. Previously, she wrote a book entitled "These Rights They Seek". During the course of her research she has interviewed numerous leaders connected with various civil rights action groups in Southern States.

*0-1 to Charlotte 9/23/65  
Revised 9/13/65 captioned  
"Organized Labor Organization  
Demonstrations, Plymouth,  
Washington County, N.C. 8/4/65  
State let well be submitted  
Status of  
to verify presence  
of "Deacons"  
allegedly sent  
to Plymouth  
N.C. from  
Atlanta, Ga.  
SEP 15*

During a recent interview with Professor BEN-ZION WARDY, white male, political science department, Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama, their conversation turned to the captioned organization. She had heard that letters had been sent out to various residents of Tuskegee, requesting their attendance at a meeting on or about August 15, 1965, at Tuskegee, and soliciting membership in this organization. Professor WARDY informed her that he had attended this meeting but he declined to discuss the organization with her and did not admit actual membership.

- ③ - Bureau  
2 - New Orleans  
2 - Mobile  
CBC:iwd  
(7)

D. C. Wick

REC-68

157-2466 -

PLM  
SEC.  
GAT. N

4 SEP 15 1965

67 SEP 11 1965

EX-101

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

SUB CONTROL  
INT. SEC.

MO 157-1017

He did appear to have a sympathetic interest in the organization. WARDY told her to leave "the Deacons" out of her report on the results of her survey.

The Bureau has been advised previously of the activities of Professor WARDY in connection with the Tuskegee Institute Advancement League, a civil rights action group at Tuskegee, Alabama, which has engaged in picketing and demonstration for the past several months. A summary letterhead memorandum on WARDY's connection with this organization and his background has been submitted recently also.

Efforts are being made through established sources and reliable informants to verify whether or not a chapter of the Deacons is in existence in the Tuskegee community. Since this has not been established no LHM is being submitted at this time.

New Orleans Office, will advise if informants have knowledge of a formation of a chapter of the Deacons at Tuskegee, Alabama.

F B I

Date: 9/14/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

Via AIRTEL

DECLASSIFIED

**CONFIDENTIAL**

ON 2-12-91

(Priority)

3/2/10/7

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (157-1542) (P) REC-24

SUBJECT: THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RMRe Newark airtel to New York, dated 9/10/65 and  
New York telephone call to Newark, 9/13/65.Information copies are being supplied to Jackson  
and New Orleans as New York is of the opinion the captioned  
and "The Deacons for Defense and Justice" (DDJ) are one  
and the same.This is to confirm re telephone conversation  
between New York Supervisor RAYMOND J. RUCKEL and Newark  
Supervisor WALTER MC VEY during which Newark was requested  
to send [ ] to the party to be held for the benefit  
of the captioned at "The Place", 100 West 82nd Street,  
NYC, on 9/18/65, at 10:00 p.m. (X)UFor the information of the Bureau, Jackson and  
New Orleans, [ ], who has furnished reliable information  
in the past, advised SA JAMES R. LAUGHLIN on 9/8/65, that on  
9/6/65, while at Camp Midvale, Ringwood, New Jersey, he  
purchased a \$2.00 ticket to the affair from JUANITA LNU, a  
Negro female, 5'2", 110 lbs., age 35 - 40, black hair and  
dark brown complexion. The ticket bore the statements  
"Meet a Deacon". (X)U

- 3-Bureau (RM)
- 2-Newark (157-New) (RM)
- 1-Jackson (INFO) (RM)
- 1-New Orleans (INFO) (RM)
- 1-New York

GAJ:pam  
(9)CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1/SL/4 7-17-80  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 9-14-85

DATE OF REVIEW

1 SEP 15 1965

INSEC.

SEP 17 1965

568-1000-22 1965

Sec **CONFIDENTIAL** M Per

Special Agent in Charge

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-442668

NY 157-1542

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

For the information of the Bureau and other receiving offices, though there is no information to indicate the organization is sponsoring this affair, the current New York City Address-Telephone Directory reflects the West Side Unified Action Council, phone 362-4954, is located at 100 West 82nd Street, NYC.

On 1/2/65, [redacted], reliable, advised the (X)u West Side Unified Action Committee (WSUAC), 100 West 82nd Street, NYC, was formerly known as West Side CORE.

b7D

The WSUAC has sponsored or co-sponsored demonstrations, rallies and/or fund-raising affairs during 1965 with one or more of the following organizations:

The Upper West Side Du Bois Club  
The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee  
The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party

NYO is of the opinion this affair could possibly be the result of the trip to NYC in July, 1965 by ERNEST THOMAS, a representative of the DDJ, and the meeting on 8/31/65 between 3 NYC Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM) members and THOMAS in Jonesboro, Louisiana, during which time the merger of the Deacons, RAM and the Organization for Black Power was discussed. MAX STANFORD, NYC RAM representative, told THOMAS, JESSE GRAY, the leader of the Organization for Black Power, is supposedly going to obtain \$30,000.00 and that THOMAS could obtain \$10,000.00 of this money. STANFORD did not say when or how GRAY is to obtain this money. (X)u

BSS, NYCPD, advised.

#### LEADS

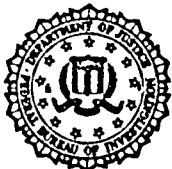
##### NEWARK

AT NEWARK, NEW JERSEY. Will submit LHM suitable for dissemination to Bureau with copies to Jackson, New Orleans and New York, re informant's attendance. (X)u

##### NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK. Will cover through sources and submit LHM re source's attendance. (X)u

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Washington, D.C.  
September 9, 1965

ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER (OBP)

On September 8, 1965, a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as follows concerning the OBP meeting held in Detroit, Michigan, on September 4 and 5, 1965:

*Mich*  
The meeting was originally planned to be a meeting of the OBP "steering committee" and would have been for a small group. However, Jesse Gray, National Director, OBP, on his own initiative, decided to extend an invitation to the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM) of New York City. RAM is described in the appendix section. The end result was a meeting of several hundred persons present at the Detroit meeting of OBP at 5028 Joy Road. Jesse Gray presided at the September 4, 1965, meeting. A copy of the program is attached. Among those present were members of: RAM from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Detroit, Michigan; Chicago, Illinois; Cleveland, Ohio; Dayton, Ohio; and Portland, Oregon; Northern Student Movement represented by Mr. Strickland of *MLCP* Detroit, and some from New York City; Deacons For Defense and Justice represented by Ernest Thomas of Bogalusa, Louisiana; Associated Community Teams (ACT) represented by Nahaz Rogers *ILL* and wife of Chicago, and Julius W. Hobson, Washington, D.C. *TULIUS* Others present were: William R. Davis, of the Freedom *HOBBSON* Action Committee, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, OBP member *James Boggs* and wife Grace Boggs, Detroit, Michigan. *Lawrence* *Landry* of the Chicago ACT did not attend. Reverend Albert B. Cleague, Jr., a Detroit minister who is campaigning for Detroit councilman, was also present. There were many young Negroes present who were reportedly members of RAM. Many individuals present refused to divulge their identity, especially among those reported to be RAM members. The RAM members had no visible leaders at the meeting. *DBT 2017*

*Mich*  
The Saturday, September 4, 1965, evening session was called to order by James Boggs. Registration for delegates was \$1 per person. Boggs welcomed those present, and extended his greetings to all.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-18-80 BY SP1/gh/ll

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ENCLOSURE

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## ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER

Jesse Gray, National Director, OBP, then spoke about the present poor economic conditions of Negroes in the United States (US). Gray also stated many Negroes were against fighting in the present conflict between South Viet Nam and North Viet Nam in which the US is involved. Gray attempted to counsel against the tearing-up and destruction of Selective Service cards carried by young men eligible for duty in the armed forces of the US. This suggestion had come from an unidentified man.

Ernest Thomas of the "Deacons For Defense and Justice" of Bogalusa, Louisiana, was a guest speaker. He talked about "Self Defense" as practiced by the "Deacons" in Louisiana. Thomas voiced his opposition to the refusal to fight for the US in Viet Nam. He stated the "Deacons" hoped to protect themselves and other Negroes against any attacks by "white people" in the South. Thomas stated the "Deacons" have obtained guns for self-defense and have established "ham" radio stations to provide quick communication for the "Deacons". He also urged those present to refrain from becoming involved in any riots or acts of violence.

Two unidentified male Negroes from Los Angeles reported concerning the recent riot and destruction of a great portion of Los Angeles. These men reported as follows: The looting and shooting in Los Angeles was done by organized gangs, not named, who had been ordered to shoot but not hit anyone. One policeman was hit accidentally. This occurred as a result of 40-50 young "kids" shooting in the destroyed area. The looting was also done by organized gangs who looted block by block. The organizers were not mentioned.

During the September 4, 1965, meeting, persons reportedly members of RAM urged that Negroes called for induction into military service, go to the local boards and tear up their Selective Service cards. These RAM members also indicated they believed the OBP was much too mild in dealing with the problems of housing, jobs, education, and police brutality as they concern the Negroes in the US.

RAM in Detroit reportedly has assembled 50 to 60 young Negroes eligible for induction into the US Armed Forces at the Wayne County, Michigan, induction center. They are

## ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER

reported to be ready to tear up their Selective Service cards when called for induction at the induction center. These men were located by an announcement made from an automobile which had been driven around in the "ghetto" area of Detroit. RAM people also suggested that Negroes in the armed forces should refuse to follow orders of officers.

The first confidential source stated on September 8, 1965, that a Negro named General Baker, Jr. of Detroit, is to be inducted into the US Army on September 10, 1965, in Detroit. Plans for sympathy demonstrations protesting Baker's induction are planned for Cleveland, Ohio, and New York City, but none will be held in Washington, D.C.

Julius W. Hobson, Chairman of District of Columbia (DC) ACT spoke concerning his desire to attend the future conference President Lyndon Baines Johnson wants to hold with leaders of the "Civil Rights" movement. Hobson stated his position would result in maintaining a line of communication with representatives of the US Government interested in eliminating poverty, and providing for the essential needs of the under privileged. The general feeling of those present in many instances was that the OBP should not attend any conference called by President Johnson, as they feared further containment in the present Negro "ghettos" of the large cities in the United States. Hobson told the meeting he would attend any conference called by President Johnson if Hobson is invited.

Unidentified persons present criticized the United States Government's poverty program and called it a failure.

The OBP meeting on Sunday afternoon, September 5, 1965, was presided over by Julius W. Hobson. The afternoon was devoted to arguments for and against serving in the US armed forces in Viet Nam, opposition to fighting in the Viet Nam conflict, refusal to fight in Viet Nam when ordered to do so, and opposition to the present US poverty program.

During the afternoon session about ten young Negro males carrying "M-1" type rifles attempted to enter the meeting place. The first one was refused admission unless he



## ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER

disposed of his rifle. That man and the other rifle bearers placed their rifles in a nearby automobile and came to the meeting. There was one policeman directing traffic on a nearby corner during the "rifle" incident. It was not learned whether the rifles were loaded and who carried them.

The Sunday afternoon meeting adjourned at about 3:30 p.m. and about ten persons went to dinner at the James Boggs' home, [redacted], Detroit.

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Later that afternoon a street rally sponsored by RAM was held on 12th Street in eastern Detroit. Several thousand people attended, apparently from the nearby slum area. The speakers at the rally were Julius W. Hobson, James Boggs, Jesse Gray, and Reverend Albert B. Cleage. Hobson spoke about police brutality, poverty program needs, and the need for adequate employment.

An unidentified male Negro of RAM stated at the rally that no disturbance was desired and he urged all to attend the September 10 rally planned as a protest demonstration at the Fort Wayne Induction Station at Livernois and Jefferson Streets in Detroit. He passed out handbills advertising the rally. A copy of the handbill is attached. Unidentified men also passed out copies of the following:

1. Booklet, 16 pages, entitled "The Los Angeles War Cry", "published by RAM. Black Liberation Front of the USA".

2. Booklet, 32 pages, captioned "Black America Arm Yourselves For a War of Self Defense and Survival", "published by RAM. Black Liberation Front of the USA".

3. "Black Vanguard, August 1965", a 59 page book, which can be subscribed to at Black Vanguard, P.O. 502, Detroit 21, Michigan.

Also available during the OBP meetings was a copy of a newspaper published by The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee of California, entitled "The Movement", dated July, 1965.

The first source also advised that Mr. Strickland, Detroit, Northern Student Movement was very opposed to the

## ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER

RAM comments. This caused RAM members to try to get Strickland evicted from the meeting.

Comments by an unidentified RAM member at the OBP meeting indicated that RAM is the same as an organization known by the letters ARM. This individual stated that RAM is known as ARM in some cities. He did not name the cities.

The first source also learned that Julius Hobson and William R. Davis, OBP members, had indicated during private conversations, that they believed Jesse Gray made a big mistake by inviting RAM to the OBP meeting in Detroit. Their concern was based on the fact that RAM is not a member of the OBP and, therefore, should not have been invited to a meeting which was to be a "steering committee" gathering. Hobson and Davis were rather alarmed at the comments and attitude of the RAM members present at the OBP meeting. Hobson and Davis are afraid that the OBP may be taken over and dominated by RAM.

The first source advised further that the OBP will not participate in any acts of destruction of Selective Service cards or advocate insurrection by members of the US armed forces.

The source also stated that William R. Davis teaches in the Philadelphia schools, and is in close contact with Negroes in the Philadelphia slum areas. Davis is well regarded by these Negroes and has good relations with some Negro gangs in Philadelphia. Davis has arranged to hold a fund-raising rally inside a Philadelphia church on Saturday, September 11, 1965. Davis has organized a group known as "Gangs Incorporated" and hopes to raise money to enable the group to help destitute Negroes. Davis has invited Jesse Gray, Dick Gregory, and Julius W. Hobson to attend the rally and make speeches.

P.A.

## REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

On November 3, 1964, a source made available a document entitled "The Revolutionary Action Movement Manifesto," the document having been obtained by the source from an individual known to be a member of the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM).

*NIC*  
This document stated, in part, that RAM was officially organized in the Winter of 1963 by Afro-Americans who support the revolutionary objectives of Robert F. Williams, now residing in Cuba, and his concept of organized violence to achieve the liberation of the Afro-American people in the United States. This Manifesto disclosed that RAM had oriented its program to one of education and political revolution and the organization of a "black" political party with revolutionary objectives, having recognized the need for a "black revolution" that could and would seize power. RAM philosophy is described in this document as one of revolutionary nationalism, that is, one involving the struggles of the nonwhite races of the world against exploitation and enslavement by the white capitalist and imperialist nations.

Regarding Williams, it should be noted that on August 28, 1961, a Federal warrant was issued at Charlotte, North Carolina, charging him with Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution for the crime of kidnapping. Subsequent to the issuance of this warrant, Williams fled the United States to Cuba, where he now publishes a monthly newsletter entitled "The Crusader" from Havana.

This source in September, 1964, advised RAM is dedicated to the overthrow of the capitalist system in the United States, by violence if necessary, and to its replacement by a socialistic system oriented toward the Chinese communist interpretation of Marxism-Leninism. RAM is entirely nonwhite in membership, clandestine in nature, and owes its primary allegiance to the "Bandung World," that is, the nonwhite races of the world rather than to any national entity, as such.

On November 16, 1964, a second source advised he learned recently from an RAM member that the organization began in Detroit, Michigan, largely under the impetus of Don Freeman, described as the "Father" of RAM and referred to as RAM's "Black Stalin." Freeman served as RAM Chairman, with Maxwell Stanford, now of New York City, formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, serving as RAM Field Chairman.

This source stated in May, 1965, there has been no formal headquarters, as such, for RAM but that headquarters have been with Freeman since he has played such a dominant role in the leadership of and has directed the policies and activities of the organization.

Within recent months, according to the second source, dissension within RAM has become evident and some dissatisfaction with Freeman's leadership has arisen. So far as is known, however, he remains the titular leader of RAM.

To date, according to the second source in May, 1965, RAM has organized units and membership in several of the larger cities in the United States east of the Mississippi River and the organization is currently active in attempting to recruit new members and expand its sphere of influence.

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.

Conference: NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER

5028 Jig Road, Ground Floor  
Phone No. 233 0525

Registration 6 p.m. \$1.00 per delegate

Called to order  
September 4, 6 p.m.

Saturday evening Session  
Chairman, Brother James Boggs

1. Opening remarks by the National Director, Brother Jesse Gray
2. Self-Defense.  
Special Guest Speaker, Brother Ernest Thomas  
"Deacons for Defense and Justice"
3. "Negro" Conference of U.S.A. President Lyndon Baines Johnson

#### INFORMATION

1. Breakfast will be served where you are staying.
2. Sunday morning session will be held at above address at 10 a.m. sharp  
chaired by Brother Nahaz Rogers, Chicago, Ill.
3. Afternoon session will be chaired by Brother Julius Hobson, Washington, D.C.
4. Dinner will be served at the home of Brother James Boggs, [redacted]  
3:30 p.m. sharp

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157-3022-156  
ENCLOSURE

157-2466-  
ENCLOSURE

# DAMN <sup>the</sup> DRAFT TO HELL with Whities ARMY

The white racist decision makers (Johnson and the other thugs), must take us for stone fools if they think black people will serve as cannon fodder for the Hitler type war machine designed to mercilessly slaughter Asians in Vietnam.

Especially in the light of the atrocities committed by the racist beast in Los Angeles. In Los Angeles they called the Bloody slaughter of our people operation "clean sweep". In Vietnam they called the same operation "search and destroy". The victims are the same "the world over, dark people fighting white racist imperialism and oppression.

We are serving notice to the white racist that we will fight a nitty gritty, toe to toe head whupping struggle in raceland U.S.A. to liberate our people rather than play a ignominious slave role on this earth again.

JOIN 50,000 ANGRY BLACKS IN A PROTEST DEMONSTRATION ON SEPT. 10 AT FORT WAYNE INDUCTION STATION AT LIVERNOS AND JEFFERSON.

Join The

Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>  
Movement

157-3022-156

ENCLOSURE

157-2466 -

ENCLOSURE

Texas

## Group Formed To Help Arm Negroes

AUSTIN — (AP) — Mark Klein, Cornell University student, said today a group is being organized to aid the Deacons for Defense and Justice, which he described as an armed Negro self-defense group.

He said the Deacons have chapters in Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi.

The Austin group will be called "The Committee to Aid the Deacons," Klein said. He said it will raise money for the Deacons.

Klein, who is in Austin for the summer, is the spokesman for the group.

*... of Committee  
TO Aid the Deacons*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-80 BY SP182L/PA

157-2466-62

ENCLOSURE

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-3022)

SEP 19 1965

FROM: SAC, WFO (157-583)

HY  
ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER (OBP)  
RACIAL MATTERS  
(OO:NY)

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 8)  
5 - Chicago (157-678) (Enc. 5) (RM)  
    (1 - ) (LAWRENCE LANDRY)  
    (1 - ) (RAM)  
    (1 - ) (ACT)  
    (1 - ) (NAHAZ ROGERS)  
2 - Cincinnati (Enc. 2) (RM)  
    (1 - 157-628) (RAM)  
2 - Cleveland (Enc. 2) (RM)  
    (1 - 157-393) (RAM)  
5 - Detroit (Enc. 5) (RM)  
    (1 - 157-958) (GRACE BOGGS)  
    (1 - ) (JAMES BOGGS)  
    (1 - ) (RAM)  
    (1 - ) (Rev. ALBERT CLEAGLE)  
2 - Los Angeles (Enc. 2) (RM)  
3 - New Orleans (Enc. 3) (RM)  
    (1 - ) (OBP)  
    (1 - ) (ERNEST THOMAS)  
    (1 - ) (Deacons for Defense and Justice)  
2 - New York (Enc. 2) (RM)  
    (1 - 157-1469) (JESSE GRAY)  
4 - Philadelphia (Enc. 4) (RM)  
    (1 - 157-1508) (WILLIAM DAVIS)  
    (1 - ) (RAM)  
    (1 - ) (Freedom Action Committee)  
2 - Portland (Enc. 2) (RM)  
    (1 - ) (OBP)  
    (1 - ) (RAM)  
4 - WFO  
    (1 - 157-583) (OBP)  
    (1 - )  
    (1 - 157-461) (RAM)  
    (1 - 157-425) (ACT)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE  
AND JUSTICE, INC.

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157-2466-  
NOT RECORDED  
150 SEP 22 1965

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HHK:wjj  
(34)

50 SEP 19 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-15-80 BY SP/8pk/br

In Comp# 84,266

ORIGINAL FILED IN 157-3022-156



WFO 157-583

ReNYtel, 9/1/65; reWFOairtel and LHM, 9/2/65;  
reWFOtel, 9/2/65; reCGtel, 9/8/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of an LHM regarding an OBP meeting attended by [redacted] in Detroit, Michigan, on 9/4,5/65. LHM copies being sent as follows: Chicago, 5; Cincinnati, 2; Cleveland, 2; Detroit, 5; Los Angeles 2,; New Orleans, 3; New York, 2; Philadelphia, 4; Portland, 2.

b7D

[redacted] furnished the LHM information to SA HILMER H. KREBS on 9/8/65. On 9/8/65, [redacted] furnished SA KREBS the copies of the booklets and attachments. Inasmuch as WFO has no knowledge whether New York may have copies of the booklets and SNCC newspaper, no copies were made due to the large number of pages which would need to be copied. WFO will maintain these booklets in the 1A serial of WFO 157-583.

b7D

The confidential source in the LHM is [redacted]  
[redacted] It is believed that [redacted] identity as a source should be treated as confidential in view of the possible danger existing if [redacted] were disclosed as having helped the FBI.

b7D

[redacted] expressed great concern regarding the future of the OBP. He was disgusted, and voiced it, regarding JESSE GRAY's action in having invited RAM to the Detroit meeting. [redacted] stated he was shocked at the arrogant attitude displayed by the reported RAM members at the OBP meeting. He advised that the attempt by the group of about ten men, each carrying an "M-1" Army rifle, to enter the meeting frightened [redacted]. He was blaming JESSE GRAY for showing poor leadership in the OBP. [redacted] stated WILLIAM R. DAVIS of Philadelphia is also very concerned about JESSE GRAY's apparent lack of leadership qualities. [redacted] stated that [redacted] is giving serious consideration to terminating his affiliation with the OBP as he is afraid that some irresponsible individual or individuals may do something which could touch off a riot at some future date. Such an act would give the entire "Civil Rights" Movement a most unfavorable reputation, one that would destroy most of the progress made to the present. [redacted] stated he wants to work for "rights" for Negroes but not where there may be a chance of violence.

b7D

WFO 157-583

[ ] stated that he hopes to discuss the future of the OBP with DAVIS and JESSE GRAY on 9/11/65 in Philadelphia. [ ] will then decide whether he will continue to work with the OBP. He hopes to convince GRAY that [ ] method of moving slowly is desirable. [ ] praised the efforts of President LYNDON B. JOHNSON in attempting to obtain for all Negroes the rights that have been denied them in the past.

b7D

Copies of the LHM being disseminated locally to Secret Service, OSI, MDW, DIO-NDW.

On 9/8/65, [ ] made available a copy of a resolution submitted by the OBP at the 9/5/65 meeting in Detroit. Only three or four were given out by the OBP leaders. [ ] stated he objected vigorously to the contents of the resolution but was not able to have more moderate language used. In view of the limited distribution it was deemed advisable to omit it from the LHM. A copy of the resolution is attached to this airtel.

b7D

WFO has no characterizations for:

Northern Student Movement  
Freedom Action Committee  
Deacons for Defense and Justice

The war in Vietnam is a counter-revolutionary war of the United States Government, seeking to dominate the political, social and economic structure of all Vietnam and ready to destroy the whole world if it cannot bully, beat or bomb it into submission. This counter-revolutionary war has nothing to do with which president has been, might have been or may be elected, whether this be Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Goldwater, or someone yet unheralded, but stems from the structure of the American system itself which is based upon exploitation and therefore cannot co-exist with the liberation struggles of the peoples of the 3rd world whose present state of underdevelopment is the direct result of their super-exploitation yesterday and today.

There is no negotiation with counter-revolution; it is not sufficient to protest against it. There is only one way to combat counter-revolutionary power and that is with revolutionary power.

Today it is Vietnam, Santo-Domingo and Cuba - Asia and Latin America.

Tomorrow as the peoples of the African continent <sup>unite</sup> begin to establish their own revolutionary power in head-on clash with the counter-revolutionary forces of South Africa and Rhodesia, it will be Africa. But everywhere it is colored

peoples who are the emerging forces of world revolution in head-on clash with the government of the United States because it is the colored peoples of the world who have been

damned by super-exploitation.

in the United States

The Organization for Black Power/declares its solidarity with those

emerging revolutionary forces and its determination to work with these forces

in theory and in practice. We declare that ~~whenever~~ the sons of black

mothers shall not risk their lives to spread the KKK in ~~South Vietnam~~ Vietnam

or any part of Asia, Africa or Latin America and call upon our people to

Freedom

join the ~~International~~ Army for Black People in ~~the~~ and the struggle for

black power on this continent.

San Antonio, Texas.

August 31st., 1965

To Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Encl  
P1

Dear Mr. Hoover;

The enclosed clipping is alarming because of the seeming laxity of the law in permitting this Organization of Negroes to arm.

For self - defense? Never in the history of our country has so much progress for the Negro been accomplished as now.

Anti - Castro Communists refugees from Cuba, endeavoring to accumulate arms for the purpose of regaining their country, have been arrested and their arms confiscated by the law, and, there have been accounts in the Press of Anti-Communists Organizations being arrested for having a cache of arms, yet, this Negro Organization openly arms without restraint.

Copies of this clipping have been sent to President Johnson and Texas Governor Connally with the above comments, excusing anonymity, by stating that, one fears to sign their signature since 'our sweet land of liberty' has come to such a sad state of affairs, one may have their tongue cut out for expressing an honest opinion.

Thank you Sir, for having given the matter your attention.

United States Citizen.

P1

P. S. Suggestion to our President to quell riots was deportation for the Leaders and Killers.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1/SEA/11

REC-60 157-2466-62

EX-105

2 SEP 17 1965

ENCLOSURE

File  
157-2466  
5/1/66

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

DATE: 9/22/65

FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008)

SUBJECT: THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE  
RM

Re Newark AT and LHM dated 9/20/65.

Reference to all available publications, maps, postal guides, etc. fails to disclose a Harpers Ferry, Maryland. Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, is just across the Maryland line and source in referenced airtel could have meant the affair in honor of John Brown to be held at the West Virginia location. (U)

Enclosed for Pittsburgh office is a copy of referenced airtel and letterhead memorandum.

- ② - Bureau
  - 1 - Newark (157-1992)
  - 2 - Pittsburgh (Encl. 2)
  - 1 - Baltimore
- BFN:ers  
(6)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP7-821/11-17-80  
REASON: FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 9-22-85  
DATE 7-17-80

PROPERTY AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF  
DATE 9/21/80

REC-74

EX-117

157-2466-63

18 SEP 23 1965

26 SEP 8 52 AM '65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)



SEP 28 1965

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Newark, New Jersey

September 20, 1965

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE  
RACIAL MATTERS

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF *2055 4*  
*6/01/80*

A source advised on September 20, 1965, that on Saturday, September 18, 1965, a party to benefit the Deacons for Defense was attended from about midnight, September 18, 1965, to about 4 a.m., September 19, 1965. The party was held at 100 West 32nd Street, first floor, New York City. (C) (U)

About 200 - 250 persons were at the party which consisted of drinking and dancing. The only persons known by name were Juanita (last name unknown), who is a Negro female, 5'2" tall, 110 pounds, age 35-40, black hair, dark brown complexion; Bill (last name unknown), the bartender, male, of Cuban or Puerto Rican descent, 5'10" tall, 160 pounds, dark brown hair, near olive complexion, clean-shaven, angular face; and Bertha (last name unknown), Negro female, age around 30, height 5'8", 135 pounds, medium brown complexion. (C) (U)

A group of women appeared to be sponsoring this party. The group consisted of five white women and eight Negro women. They had various duties. One of them announced that the party had made a profit of over \$400. (C) (U)

After the party broke up, a group of nineteen men and seven women went to  , New York City. This appeared to be the apartment of Bill (last name unknown), the bartender, and one of the women who was in charge of the party. (C) (U)

At the apartment, Bill remarked that parties are held every Saturday at 100 West 82nd Street, New York City, to raise money for various causes. The impression was received that money was raised mainly for civil rights activity. (C) (U)

Bill also remarked that he intended on September 19, 1965, to go to Harper's Ferry, Maryland, to arrange for (C) (U)

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SP1 GJK/jw 7-17-8*  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW *9-2-88*

ENCLOSURE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE  
-----

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

some affair to be held there on December 4, 1965, in honor of John Brown. Bill indicated he would make this trip later in the week. (C) (U)

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)



FBI

b6  
b7CDECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:  
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
DATE 08-23-2018 BY:  

Date: 9/20/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEWARK (157-1992) (RUC)

SUBJECT: THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE  
RACIAL MATTERS

CLASS. & EXT. BY: SP8/gh 7-17-8

REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 2

DATE OF REVIEW 9-20-85

Re New York airtel to the Bureau dated 9/14/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of letterhead memorandum captioned as above. Enclosed for Baltimore and New York are two copies of letterhead memorandum. Enclosed for Jackson and New Orleans is one copy each of letterhead memorandum.

No copy of referenced communication was sent to Baltimore.

The source referred to in the letterhead memorandum is  , who has furnished reliable information in the past. A written report was obtained from the informant by SA JAMES R. LAUGHLIN on 9/20/65, which report will be filed in Newark File  . This was the first time this informant attended any affair at 100 West 82nd St., New York City, and, consequently, did not know any of the individuals by their complete name. (C) (U)

For the information of Baltimore, The Deacons for Defense and Justice (believed to be identical with captioned organization) are a militant Negro civil rights group who have vowed to fight the Ku Klux Klan with physical violence, if necessary.

- 3 - Bureau (Encs. 3)
- 2 - Baltimore, (Encs. 2)
- 1 - New Orleans (Enc. 1) (Info)
- 1 - Jackson (Enc. 1) (Info)
- 2 - New York (157-1542) (Encs. 2)
- 3 - Newark

REC-67 101  
cc & cc LHM 1 SEP 21 1965  
808 RB

Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

60 SEP 21 1965  
C C - Wick (12)

Sent

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~b3  
b7D  
b7Eb3  
b7D  
b7E

NK 157-1992

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

For the additional information of Baltimore, New York in re airtel advised that the West Side Unified Action Council (WSUAC) is located at 100 West 82nd St., New York City, according to the current New York City Address Telephone Directory. The WSUAC was formerly known as West Side CORE. (Source: [redacted] on 1/2/65 - reliable) (U) b7D

The WSUAC has sponsored or co-sponsored demonstrations, rallies, and/or fund-raising affairs during 1965 with one or more of the following organizations:

The Upper West Side Du Bois Club

The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee

The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party

LEADS

BALTIMORE

At Harpers Ferry, Md.: Identify the planned affair on 12/4/65 in honor of JOHN BROWN, mentioned in enclosed LHM and advise the Bureau. (U)

NEW YORK

At New York City, New York: Attempt to identify BILL (LNU), mentioned in enclosed LHM and advise Bureau, Baltimore, Jackson, New Orleans and Newark.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

F B I

Date: 9/22/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM : SAC, SAVANNAH (157-731) (P)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.,  
aka  
RM

REC-68

Re Savannah letter, 9/15/65.

On 9/14/65 ALAN HURDUS and LEONARD DAVIDMAN, CORE field workers at St. George, S. C., advised that no chapters of this organization have been formed in the St. George, S. C., area but that if harassment of civil rights workers in this area does not come to a halt, they believe a chapter will be formed.

They claimed that several people whom they refuse to identify have asked questions concerning this organization. The questions they claimed were asked of HENRY DISUVERO, ACLU lawyer in St. George, S. C., on 9/13/65. They also claimed they were not at liberty to divulge the advice given these people by DISUVERO.

This matter will be followed closely to determine if a chapter is formed in this area.

3- Bureau (RM)  
1- Savannah

HCB:elh  
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP184/11 157-2466-65

REC-68

3 SEP 24 1965

EX-117

C. G. Wick

SUPERVISOR CONTROL

Approved: 50 OCT 1 1965  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (Your file 157-1184) DATE: 9/23/65 927

FROM : Director, FBI (Bufile and Serial 157-2466) ☐ Post in file and  
~~destroy 0-1~~  
(For SOG use  
only)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RACIAL MATTERS

Room No. 808-R.H.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

- ☐ 1. Bufiles indicate this case is delinquent. Give specific reason for delinquency. DATE 7-17-8 BY SP/86/fv

☒ ReBulet 8/17/65

- ☒ 2. DATE ☐ airtel ☐ letterhead memo ☐ submitted LHM will be sub-  
☐ report mitted by 10-1-65  
☒ letter ☐ 90-day progress letter ☒ will be submitted

Reporting employee \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ 3. If valid reason exists for not submitting report at this time, state reason specifically and when report will be submitted \_\_\_\_\_

- ☒ 4. Status of ☐ Appeal ☐ Inquiry ☒ Investigation ☐ Prosecution
- ☐ 5. Submit ☐ airtel ☐ letterhead memo ☐ letter ☐ 90-day progress letter by Feb 5: 1 184

(Place reply hereon and return to Bureau. Note receipt and acknowledgment on top serial in case file.)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

From: SAC, CHARLOTTE (Your file 157-482) DATE: 9/23/65

TO: Director, FBI (Bufile and Serial 157-2466) ☐ Post in file and

Room No. 808-R.B. ~~destroy 0-1~~  
(For SOG use only)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RACIAL MATTERS

*letter will be submitted 10-1-65*

☐ 1. Bufiles indicate this case is delinquent. Give specific reason for delinquency.

☒ Reurtel 9/13/65 captioned PROPOSED VOTER REGISTRATION  
DEMONSTRATION, PLYMOUTH, WASHINGTON COUNTY, N.C., 8/14/65  
CR - EL RM

☒ 2. DATE ☐ airtel ☐ letterhead memo ☐ submitted  
☐ report ☐ 90-day progress letter ☒ letter

Reporting employee \_\_\_\_\_

☐ 3. If valid reason exists for not submitting report at this time, state reason specifically and when report will be submitted \_\_\_\_\_

☒ 4. Status of ☐ Appeal ☐ Inquiry ☒ Investigation ☐ Prosecution  
☐ airtel ☐ letterhead memo to verify presence of "Deacons"  
☐ 5. Submit ☐ report allegedly sent to Plymouth N.C.  
☐ letter ☐ 90-day progress letter by from Atlanta, Ga.  
(Date)

(Place reply hereon and return to Bureau. ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1 gcl/h)

*letter dictated 9/27/65*

FBI

Date: 9/16/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)  
 FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (157-413) (RUC)  
 RE: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RACIAL MATTER

Re San Antonio Airtel to the Director  
 8/28/65.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are 8  
 copies of Letterhead memorandum on captioned matter  
 suitable for dissemination.

Copies of this Letterhead memorandum are  
 being submitted locally to OSI, ONI, INTC, and U.S.  
 Secret Service.

SA T-1 is [redacted]

[redacted], Austin,  
 Texas, who had requested that his name be kept confidential,  
 inasmuch as the information furnished by him was obtained  
 from a confidential informant.

AGENCY: ACS, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER REC-18  
 DEPT. ISD, CRD, RAO

LEADS

DATE FORW: 9/27/65  
 ALBANY HOW FORW: 9/27/65  
 BY: [redacted]  
 AT ITHACA, NEW YORK

12 SEP 23 1965

Verify residence of MARK KLEIN and DOUGLAS  
 HAINLINE.

One copy of this Airtel and LHM designated  
 for Houston for information inasmuch as DOUBLAS HAINLINE  
 resides within the Houston Division.

ENCLOSURE  
 ③-Bureau (Encl 8)  
 1-Houston (Encl 1)

2-New Orleans (Encl 2) (157-3290)  
 2-Albany (Encl 2) (157-163)  
 2-San Antonio (1-157-413) (1-157-414) GWHC/cjh (10)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1821/jk

Approved: 55 OCT 1 1965  
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

b6  
 b7c



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

San Antonio, Texas

September 16, 1965

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

YOUNG SOCIALIST LEAGUE

On August 19, 1965, the registrar's office, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, revealed the following information concerning MARK LEE KLEIN. MARK KLEIN

Records reveal that KLEIN was born on [redacted], [redacted], Brooklyn, New York, registered in the College of Arts and Sciences in the fall of 1962. He was admitted from Erasmus Hall High School, Brooklyn, New York. His residence at that time was [redacted]. Current address was noted as [redacted] New York. Parent or guardian is identified as JACK KLEIN of Brooklyn, New York. *TBRAS*

b6  
b7C

Records of the Proctor Cornell University reveal that MARK KLEIN was placed on [redacted] on May 26, 1965 [redacted]

b6  
b7C

[redacted] This action was a result of KLEIN's demonstration, along with 63 other students, on May 17, 1965, at Barton Hall, Cornell University, of the ROTC Presidential Review. Stated purpose of the demonstration, according to the Proctor, was to protest the ROTC as an arm of the Government for propagandistic subversion of the free education essential for the democratic process in the United States as an arm of the United States military policy.

The records of the Albany Office reveal KLEIN is a member of the "Young Socialist League, Cornell University" and the "Ad Hoc Committee on Viet Nam at Cornell". The Young Socialist League at Cornell University, according to their own published pamphlet, is described as

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP1 gph/lfr

157-2466 - 66  
ENCLOSURE

## DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

"a political group organized around the viewpoint that the problems facing the world will be solved only through socialism, the transfer of economical and political power to the working class and in basic opposition to Capitalism and Communism."

Mr. LOWELL GORGE, Proctor, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, characterized the "Ad Hoc Committee on Viet Nam at Cornell" as a student group organized in the spring of 1965 for the purpose of protesting U.S. intervention in Viet Nam. They have sponsored demonstrations on and off the campus and KLEIN has been active in these demonstrations.

On September 14, 1965, San Antonio T-1 informed that MARK KLEIN, accompanied by DOUGLAS HAINLINE, left Austin on or about August 31, 1965, to return to Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. T-1 advised that it was understood that KLEIN and HAINLINE were to reside at [redacted] [redacted], New York. *TEXAS*

b6  
b7C

T-1 also advised that while KLEIN was in Austin, Texas, KLEIN purchased a .765 millimeter Argentina Mauser Rifle, serial number [redacted] T-1 stated that he assumed that this rifle was still in KLEIN's possession.

b6  
b7C

The August 8, 1965, issue of the San Antonio Light, a daily newspaper in San Antonio, Texas, carried an article datelined Austin, Texas, stating that Mark Klein, a Cornell University student, is responsible for the formation of the Committee to Aid the Deacons, the purpose of which is to aid "the Deacons for defense and justice." Klein described the "Deacons" as "an armed Negro self defense group."

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.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

San Antonio, Texas

September 16, 1965

Title DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

Character

Reference Letterhead Memorandum dated and  
titled as above

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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.

FBI

Date: 9/21/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466) 3-30-90  
 FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (157-573) 29112  
 SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC., aka  
 RM

Re New Orleans airtel to Bureau dated 8/4/65.

Investigation on 8/9/65 determine that telephone No. 567-5929, the number set forth in re airtel where THOMAS could be reached until 8/6/65 is listed to the San Francisco Chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

A telephone call to the CORE office determine that EARNEST THOMAS was not in town and further that THOMAS was not expected back in the San Francisco Area for some unknown time. This time was stated to be some months in the future. THOMAS' present whereabouts are unknown to San Francisco. San Francisco was unable to interview THOMAS as it is believed that he left the Bay Area prior to receipt by San Francisco of referenced airtel.

Enclosed is an LHM with eight copies for the Bureau and three copies for New Orleans which set forth THOMAS' known activities in the San Francisco Bay Area. Sources used in the LHM are as follows:

1cc & LHM  
 808 RB

- ③ - Bureau (Encls. 8) (RM)
- 3 - New Orleans (Encls. 3) (RM)
- 2 - San Francisco
- 1 - 100-24927 (CORE)

JD/bjd  
 (8) ENCLOSURE

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER., WICK  
 DEPT: ISD, CRD, RAO

DATE FORW: 9/27/65  
 HOW FORW: R/S  
 BY: EDR:W

Approved: [Signature]  
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

157-2466-67  
 14 SEP 29 1965  
 ST-113  
 275 52 1 10 34 11  
 5 SEP

SF 157-573  
JD/bjd

First

[redacted] who furnished information to SA RICHARD A.  
MC INTOSH

Second

[redacted] who furnished information to SA BURNEY  
THREADGILL, JR.

b7D



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

San Francisco, California

September 21, 1965

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF DATE 9/21/65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY SP1/KC/um  
ON 3-30-90 291829

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

[A source advised on July 26, 1965,] that Earnest Thomas (X) Vice President and Chief Organizer of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, spoke at a reception held on July 24, 1965, at 3219 Ellis St., Berkeley, California. This meeting was sponsored by the Berkeley Chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

[This source advised] that Thomas said he was in the area (X) to raise funds. Further, that the current principal aim of the Deacons is to bring full time membership into their organization.

He indicated that the Deacons are a non-political organization and that the organization has been briefed by other civil rights groups to avoid any political organization of any type. The Deacons as individuals or as a group do not participate in civil rights demonstrations in the south but patrol Negro areas of towns to protect Negroes when troublemakers come into those areas. Thomas indicated that an effort was made by the Deacons to screen out "hotheads" who would be apt to cause unnecessary trouble. The San Francisco Chronicle, a daily newspaper published in San Francisco, set forth an interview of Ernest Thomas in its July 25, 1965 issue. Copies of this article are attached for information.

[A second source advised on July 24, 1965,] that Earnest Thomas (X) was on a regional tour to raise funds. Further, that he was in the San Francisco Bay Area on July 25, 1965, and spoke at a rally.

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1/KC/um  
REASON - FCIM 11.1.2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 7-21-85

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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ENCLOSURE 57-2466-67

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

held at the Macedonia Baptist Church, 2135 Sutter Street, San Francisco, on this date. This source reported that the purpose of this tour is to set up "Friends of the Deacons."

The "Sun Reporter", a weekly newspaper published in San Francisco, which is directed toward the Negro population, in the San Francisco Bay Area, set forth in its August 7, 1965 issue that a fund raising reception for Earnest (Chilly Willie) Thomas, Regional Vice President and Director of Organization of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, was held at the "Sun Reporter" Building, 1366 Turk Street, San Francisco on August 5, 1965.

The sponsors were set forth as a group of concerned Bay Area Negro citizens to raise funds in order to furnish bail in the amount of \$13,000 for 18 persons who are now in jail in Jonesboro, Louisiana.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

# Rights Army -- The Angry 'Deacons'

The civil rights battle in the South may soon turn into a war fought with weapons of violence if Negroes there are not given protection by local law enforcement agencies, an angry young man warned here last week.

The prevalent philosophy of non-violence, said Ernest Thomas, is not shared by those Negroes who have joined together in an armed brotherhood known as the Deacons for Justice and Defense.

"We don't intend to turn the other cheek," Thomas said. "Only a fool does that."

Thomas, 32, is a vice president and one of the founders of the Deacons, which was quietly formed some 14 months ago in Jonesboro, La., and today claims "a substantial membership."

"We don't give out any exact figures," he said. "The less the other side knows about us the better."

The "other side," he explained, is composed of "the rednecks and the Klu Klux Klansmen . . . and the state police and sheriffs and city cops in the South who either protect them outright or look the other way."

He said that every member of the Deacons owns, or has access to, a gun of some sort; ranging from .22 caliber target pistols to high-powered hunting rifles and shotguns.

It is not true, Thomas said, that their arsenals include

such weapons of warfare as machine guns.

"I wish they did," he said.

## OWN WAY

Asked if the Deacons would lay down their arms if requested to by the many other Civil Rights groups which preach and practice a different method of achieving equality, Thomas said:

"They can come down and play non-violence with those rednecks all they want . . . we who live down there have our own way of handling things."

But the Deacons would never start a war, Thomas asserted.

"We are not violent people, as some Southerners might have you think . . . we believe in live and let live--so long as we are left alone to live."

"But if we are attacked we will defend ourselves, either individually or as a whole . . . even if it means dying."

## ARRESTS

"We will submit peacefully to legal arrest, but if you think one of us is going to be peacefully hauled off to some jail to get beat up or killed you'll be making the same mistake some Southern sheriff will."

The Deacons claim their right to bear arms and defend themselves is contained in the United States Constitution.

"We hope it won't be necessary to have an organization such as the Deacons in the future," Thomas said. "If we get the protection we hopefully might be able to disband in a couple of years or sooner."

Thomas will speak here at 4 p.m. today at the Macedonia Baptist Church at a fundraising rally sponsored by various San Francisco civil rights organizations.



ERNEST THOMAS  
"We'll defend ourselves"

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

2

S.F. Chronicle

San Francisco, Calif.

Date: 7-25-65  
Edition: Final  
Author:  
Editor: Chas. deYoung

TATERTOT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-17-80 BY SP18201/jk

3-30-90 SP1 ACW

291029

ENCLOSURE

157-2466-67



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.*

San Francisco, California

September 21, 1965

Title: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

Reference: San Francisco memorandum dated  
and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

DATE: 10/1/65

FROM : SAC, CHARLOTTE (157-882)

SUBJECT: DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RACIAL MATTERS

Re Bureau Form 0-1 dated 9/23/65, Charlotte teletype 9/13/65 and Charlotte airtel 9/15/65, both directed to the Bureau.

In Charlotte teletype 9/13/65 and LHM submitted by Charlotte airtel 9/15/65, both captioned "Proposed Voter Registration Demonstration, Plymouth, Washington County, N.C., 8/14/65, CR- ELECTION LAWS - RACIAL MATTERS," it was reported that the Deacons for Defense and Justice had telephonically contacted GOLDEN A. FRINKS on 9/10/65 and asked if he needed help in Plymouth and that FRINKS replied that no help was needed and that they were not needed in Plymouth.

No information has been received that there is any chapter of the Deacons for Defense and Justice in Plymouth or anywhere in North Carolina.

The Charlotte Office has just recently contacted racial informants and sources concerning the Deacons organization and no information was received indicating this organization is active within the Charlotte Division.

Any information received concerning the Deacons for Defense and Justice will be furnished the Bureau and appropriate offices immediately.

cc-8052B  
② - Bureau  
2 - Charlotte (1 - 157-882)  
(1 - 56-255)

CFW/jb  
(4)

REC-70

157-2466-68

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-17-8 BY SP/SPH/jk

1 OCT 6 1965

INT. SEC.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Los Angeles, California  
September 29, 1965

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
also known as "The Deacons";  
CHARLES SIMS, President,  
Bogalusa, Louisiana  
RACIAL MATTERS

A source advised in August, 1965, that a member of the Los Angeles Local - Socialist Workers Party (LAL-SWP) (see appendix), stated that James Garrett of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) had told him that SNCC is out-fitting a secret Negro army under the guise of self defense. (X)u

On August 31, 1965, this source advised that he had received no information in addition to that previously reported regarding the secret Negro army of SNCC, the source of donations for this army, or any ties between the "Deacons" and this army of SNCC. He does not know of any contact by Charles Sims with the LAL-SWP. (X)u

This source advised that the information concerning the secret army of SNCC is all strictly hearsay, having been overheard in a conversation between unknown persons, and may well stem from the fact that Frank Greenwood is training a group of actors at the SNCC Freedom House, in the Watts area, to perform in a play of his. (X)u

A source advised in February, 1964, that Frank Greenwood was Director of the Touring Artists Group.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Group 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gpk / 11-7-85  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 9-29-85

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF  
DATE 8/31/85

ENCLOSURE

157-2466-69

#251,951  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 TAP/ahr  
ON 7-29-85

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
also known as "The Deacons";  
CHARLES SIMS, President,  
Bogalusa, Louisiana  
RACIAL MATTERS

In September, 1965, Clifford ~~Vaughn~~, Regional Coordinator and Director, Los Angeles Friends of Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (LA-SNCC) advised a Special Agent of the FBI that James Garrett is no longer associated with LA-SNCC. *cal*

In June, 1965, Charles Sims appeared on the Louis Lomax television show in Los Angeles where he discussed the aims of the Deacons of Defense and Justice.

A source advised in September, 1965, that Sims had received an unknown amount of money as a result of his appearance on the Lomax show through a collection and that the donations were made by many unknown persons.

Sources have advised in August and September, 1965, that they know of no contact Sims may have had with the LAL-SWP of LA-SNCC while he was in Los Angeles in June, 1965.

A source advised that at a July 16, 1965 meeting of the LAL-SWP that the subject of discussion was violence versus non-violence in the civil rights movement. Frank Greenwood was in attendance and stated, in answer to a question, that he believed in socialism. He has a preference for violence and feels that it is the only way that freedom can be acquired. He restated this many times during the meeting. (A) u

An unknown female in the audience asked how she could donate arms and ammunition to the Deacons and she was told by Greenwood to see him after the meeting. (A) u *cal*  
*na*

A source advised on September 22, 1965 that Charles Sims, President, Deacons of Defense and Justice, Bogalusa, Louisiana, and A. Z. Young, President, Bogalusa Voter's League departed for Los Angeles on September 22, 1965, where Young is to appear on a Los Angeles television show.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
also known as "The Deacons";  
CHARLES SIMS, President,  
Bogalusa, Louisiana  
RACIAL MATTERS

A source advised on September 23, 1965, that Sims and Young had arrived in Los Angeles.

The following article appeared in The Press newspaper, Riverside, California, City Edition, September 23, 1965 issue:

"LOMAX CHARGES JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY TRIES TO  
BLOCK 'FREEDOM FESTIVAL'

CAL  
"The John Birch Society has brought 'incredible pressure' to bear on sponsors of the Dick Van Dyke and Robert Vaughn television programs to keep the two stars from appearing in a 'Freedom Festival' tonight in San Bernardino, according to Louis Lomax.

"Lomax, author and television commentator, speaking to a capacity audience at Riverside Universalist-Unitarian Church last night, said that as of last night Van Dyke, star of the comedy show that bears his name, and Vaughn, star of 'The Man From U.N.C.L.E.' are still slated to appear tonight in the show at Swing Auditorium on the National Orange Show grounds in San Bernardino.

"'We are fighting to the last ditch on this', he said.

"Lomax has been a principal organizer of the benefit show, with funds going to help civil rights fighters in Bogalusa, La., and residents of the Watts area in Los Angeles who suffered financial loss in the recent rioting.

CAL  
"Entertainers scheduled to appear in addition to Van Dyke and Vaughn include Negro comedians Dick Gregory, Bill Cosby and Godfrey Cambridge, singer Sally James, San Bernardino

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
also known as "The Deacons";  
CHARLES SIMS, President,  
Bogalusa, Louisiana  
RACIAL MATTERS

CAL "folk singers Sally Thomas and Clabe Hangan and the San Bernardino combo 'The Fasadés'."

"Lomax cited the Birch Society pressure as an example of the fact that the civil rights fight is not confined to the South.

"As another example, he told the audience last night that at a memorial service for Adlai Stevenson held in Bogalusa, a stocky white man with a Confederate flag-styled vest stood across the street and shouted, 'You better pray, you black niggers, 'cuz you're gonna die.'"

"The man was Connie Lynch, Lomax said, 'And guess where he's from.'"

"Lynch, a self-styled fundamentalist preacher and active racist, lists himself as a San Bernardino resident. CAL

"On the same point, that civil rights problems are not confined to a few areas in other parts of the country, Lomax said, 'I've never been in this city before in my life, but I'll bet 15 cents I could get in my car, cross the railroad tracks and find a Watts right here. Am I right?'

"The civil rights struggle, he said, is no longer just a moral matter, 'It's a survival matter.'

"The very survival of our civilization and our moral lives is involved.'

"The looters in the Watts area, he said, were people from whom our society has failed to provide for their daily needs. He told of a man carrying a sofa out of a furniture store and said, 'The tragedy is the Los Angeles economic society does not provide that man a way to get that sofa any other way.'

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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also known as "The Deacons";  
CHARLES SIMS, President,  
Bogalusa, Louisiana  
RACIAL MATTERS

"While the national unemployment rate among whites is the lowest it has ever been, at 4.6 per cent, the rate for Negroes is 13 per cent and the rate in Watts is 34.9 per cent, Lomax said.

"What we once called the Negro revolt is becoming a class revolt, a struggle between the haves and the have nots," he said.

"The present struggle is a great challenge, Lomax said, because ours is a great country.

"The experiment we are making is the noblest man has ever conceived. We can lead the whole world to a Periclean age. No one man can do it. No one woman can do it. But each must do what he can."

"Lomax introduced A. Z. Young, a leader of the Bogalusa civil rights movement, who, he said, has had his home shot into, acid poured on his car and has been physically abused, but now works side by side in a box factory with the Klansman who shot at him.

"Young told the audience of determined efforts of the Klu Klux Klan to halt the civil rights movement in Bogalusa, which, he said, were not successful.

"The Klan is on the way out," he said. "They still ride, but now they are careful when they ride and where they ride."

A source advised on September 24, 1965, that approximately 600 persons attended the "Freedom Festival" on September 23, 1965, at the San Bernardino, California, Orange Show Auditorium. Entertainment was provided by Dick Gregory, Sally Jones and San Bernardino local talent.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
also known as "The Deacons";  
CHARLES SIMS, President,  
Bogalusa, Louisiana  
RACIAL MATTERS

This source said that Charles Sims and A. Z. Young were introduced by master of ceremonies Louis Lomax as members of the Deacons of Defense and Justice. Sims did not take active part in the functions but Young gave a five minute talk concerning how badly the people of Bogalusa, Louisiana, need money. He stated that the money collected at this affair would be used for the purchase of clothing for the children of Bogalusa and for the payments of fines and bail for civil rights workers in Bogalusa.

This source advised that no announcement was made as to the total amount of money collected. The tickets originally sold for \$5.00 but several days prior to this affair, tickets were sold throughout San Bernardino for \$2.00 for adults and 50¢ for children. Certain patrons contributed more than \$5.00 but that these individuals or how much they gave is not known. The affair was not a success.

This source advised that no comments were made concerning future travel of Sims or Young.

A source advised on September 27, 1965 that neither Sims nor Young appeared on the Louis Lomax television show on September 26, 1965, and that he knows of no other appearances scheduled for Sims or Young.

Sources utilized above have furnished reliable information in the past.

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.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
also known as "The Deacons",  
CHARLES SIMS, President,  
Bpgalusa, Louisiana  
1 RACIAL MATTERS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPENDIX

LOS ANGELES LOCAL - SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY (LAL-SWP)

On May 18, 1965, a confidential source advised that the LAL-SWP has been in existence since the 1930's and continues to exist. The source further advised that the LAL-SWP is a local branch of the National SWP with aims and purposes identical to those of the National SWP.

The SWP has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

APPENDIX

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
M E M O R A N D U M

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-442684)

DATE 10/6/65

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (157-927)(P)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

SUBJECT: REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT  
IS-RAM  
(OO: New York)  
ReNYairtel to Bureau, dated 8/27/65.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are eight copies of a letterhead memorandum, dated and captioned as above, pertaining to a meeting in Jonesboro, Louisiana between some individuals affiliated with the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM) in New York City and ERNEST THOMAS of the Deacons for Defense and Justice (DDJ). Copies of this letterhead memorandum are also being enclosed for the listed offices as follows: Jackson, 2; New Orleans, 5. (X)

The sources mentioned in enclosed letterhead memorandum are as follows:

First Source: [ ]  
Second Source: [ ]  
Third Source: [ ]

b7D

- ENCLOSURE
- 2-Bureau (Encl. 8)(RM)
  - 2-Jackson (Encl. 2)(RM)
    - (1- ) (DDJ)
  - 5-New Orleans (Encl. 5)(RM)
    - (1- ) (ERNEST THOMAS)
    - (1- ) (FNU)SIMS)
    - (1- ) (UNSUB; Female Secretary to ERNEST THOMAS)
    - (1- ) (DDJ)
  - 1-New York [ ] (MAXWELL STANFORD)(43)
  - 1-New York [ ] (AL HAYNES)(43)
  - 1-New York [ ] (JESSE GRAY)(42)
  - 1-New York (157-1469) (ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER)(43)
  - 1-New York (157-1542) (DDJ)(43)
  - 1-New York [ ] (43) (X) (U)
  - 1-New York [ ] (43) (X) (U)

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b6  
b7C  
b7D  
b7E

JJE:lmf  
(16)

1cc & LHM  
808 RB

REC-54

12 OCT 7 1965

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.;  
DEPT: ISD, CRD, RAO

DATE FORW: 10-13-65

HOW FORW: R/S

BY: [ ]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

INT. SEC.

ORIGINAL FILED IN

445

100-442684-475

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-6/64 6-16-80  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 10-6-85



NY 157-927

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

The enclosed letterhead memorandum is classified "Secret" due to the fact that [ ] is a highly placed source in RAM in New York City and this source maintains a close relationship with RAM members in New York City. Any unauthorized disclosure of the information furnished by [ ] might impair his future effectiveness, and, such impairment could have an adverse effect on the national defense interests of the United States. (C) (U)

b7D

Field Offices receiving a copy of this letter and letterhead memorandum will also be sent a copy of the informant report of [ ], pertaining to his trip to Jonesboro, Louisiana. (C) (U)

b7D

It is to be noted that the individuals affiliated with RAM in New York City who visited and conferred with ERNEST THOMAS in Jonesboro, Louisiana, in addition to MAXWELL STANFORD, were AL HAYNES and [ ], and the date on which they visited and conferred with THOMAS was 8/31/65, however, this information was not specifically set out in enclosed letterhead memorandum so as to more fully protect [ ]. (C) (U)

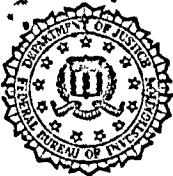
b7D

Also, the information furnished by [ ] was suitably paraphrased and the letterhead memorandum is indicated as having emanated from New Orleans, Louisiana, so as to more fully protect [ ]. (C) (U)

b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana  
October 6, 1965

~~SECRET~~

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Bufile 100-442684

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Revolutionary Action Movement  
Internal Security - RAM

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on September 8, 16, and 30, 1965 that he learned that during the latter part of August, 1965, some individuals affiliated with the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM) in New York City, visited and conferred with Ernest Thomas of the Deacons for Defense and Justice (DDJ) in Jonesboro, Louisiana. (X)

A characterization of RAM is attached hereto and the sources mentioned therein have furnished reliable information in the past.

MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

This source further advised that the spokesman for the RAM individuals from New York City was Maxwell Stanford. (X)

Maxwell Stanford is described in the characterization of RAM attached hereto.

This source further stated that he also learned of the following:

Stanford and Thomas discussed bringing RAM, the DDJ, and the Organization for Black Power (OBP) together. Stanford informed Thomas that if he, Thomas, would agree to bring the DDJ into RAM and the OBP, Thomas would have the support of RAM and the OBP. Stanford and Thomas discussed (X)

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CLASS. & EXT. BY SRT/gk/4 7-18-85  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 10/6/85

Group 1  
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157-2466-

445

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CONFIDENTIAL

Revolutionary Action Movement

financial problems and their need for money and Stanford told Thomas that Jesse Gray, the leader of the OBP, is supposedly going to obtain \$30,000 and Thomas could obtain \$10,000 of this money. Stanford did not say when or how Gray is to obtain this money. (S)

[A second confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on November 20, 1958,] that Jesse Gray had been (S) (U) Organizer for the Harlem Region of the Communist Party (CP), but this position terminated during November, 1958.

A third confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on January 24, 1964, that according to William L. Patterson, Chairman of the New York District CP, Jesse Gray is no longer a member of the CP, but is friendly to the CP. (S)

Stanford told Thomas that it would be beneficial for him, Thomas, to attend an OBP meeting scheduled to be held over the Labor Day weekend, 1965, in Detroit, Michigan, Stanford adding that it would afford an opportunity for Thomas to meet some of the people involved in "their cause". According to Stanford, Thomas would be furnished money for his expenses in making the trip to Detroit, but Stanford did not indicate who would furnish the money. (S)

Stanford told Thomas that he, Stanford, wants unity between RAM, the OBP, and the DDJ, and Stanford believes that they can assist one another. Stanford indicated that if harm should come to any members of their groups they will retaliate and "pressure" would be put on individuals responsible for the harm. According to Stanford, someone could possibly get killed if harm came to any members of their groups. (S)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

# Revolutionary Action Movement

Stanford and Thomas conferred about First Name Unknown (FNU) Sims, of Bogalusa, Louisiana, who is affiliated with the DDJ and there appeared to be a division or misunderstanding between Thomas and Sims. (S)

Thomas indicated that he had a training camp some place in the State of Mississippi, but did not give the exact location, and Thomas said that possibly RAM and OBP members could be sent there for guerilla-type training or guerilla warfare training. Thomas made the statement that "the man has got to go", and by this he was referring to the white man. (S)

Thomas indicated that he needed some Carbine rifles for the DDJ and Stanford said he probably could obtain some for him. Stanford said that he needed some hand guns and Thomas indicated he could possibly obtain some for Stanford. (S)

Stanford and Thomas discussed the possibility of setting up a communications system between RAM, the OBP, and the DDJ, and they talked about obtaining short wave radio sets. Stanford and Thomas also discussed the need for Negroes to arm themselves. (S)

Thomas informed Stanford that he, Thomas, has a white female secretary, originally from Los Angeles, California, who is working with the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) in Jonesboro, Louisiana, as a medical worker and Thomas indicated that this girl was his "girl friend". This girl is described as a white female in her early 20's, 5 feet 6 inches, 125 pounds, medium build, dark hair, and she is attractive. (S)

When Stanford and Thomas concluded their visit, they left with the understanding that they would see each other in Detroit over the 1965 Labor Day weekend at the scheduled OBP meeting. The other individuals affiliated with RAM in New York City who accompanied Stanford, also indicated they would see Thomas at the scheduled OBP meeting in Detroit. (S)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

1.

APPENDIX

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

On November 3, 1964, a source made available a document entitled "The Revolutionary Action Movement Manifesto," the document having been obtained by the source from an individual known to be a member of the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM).

This document stated, in part, that RAM was officially organized in the Winter of 1963 by Afro-Americans who support the revolutionary objectives of ROBERT F. WILLIAMS, now residing in Cuba, and his concept of organized violence to achieve the liberation of the Afro-American people in the United States. This Manifesto disclosed that RAM had oriented its program to one of education and political revolution and the organization of a "black" political party with revolutionary objectives, having recognized the need for a "black revolution" that could and would seize power. RAM philosophy is described in this document as one of revolutionary nationalism, that is, one involving the struggles of the nonwhite races of the world against exploitation and enslavement by the white capitalist and imperialist nations.

Regarding WILLIAMS, it should be noted that on August 28, 1961, a Federal warrant was issued at Charlotte, North Carolina, charging him with Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution for the crime of kidnapping. Subsequent to the issuance of this warrant, WILLIAMS fled the United States to Cuba, where he now publishes a monthly newsletter entitled "The Crusader" from Havana.

This source in September, 1964, advised RAM is dedicated to the overthrow of the capitalist system in the United States, by violence if necessary, and to its replacement by a socialistic system oriented toward the Chinese communist interpretation of Marxism-Leninism. RAM is entirely nonwhite in membership, clandestine in nature, and owes its primary allegiance to the "Bandung World," that is, the nonwhite races of the world rather than to any national entity, as such.

On November 16, 1964, a second source advised he learned recently from an RAM member that the organization began in Detroit, Michigan, largely under the impetus of DON FREEMAN, described as the "Father" of RAM and referred to

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APPENDIX

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

as RAM's "Black Stalin." FREEMAN served as RAM Chairman, with MAXWELL STANFORD, now of New York City, formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, serving as RAM Field Chairman.

This source stated in May, 1965, there has been no formal headquarters, as such, for RAM but that headquarters have been with FREEMAN since he has played such a dominant role in the leadership of and has directed the policies and activities of the organization.

Within recent months, according to the second source, dissension within RAM has become evident and some dissatisfaction with FREEMAN's leadership has arisen. So far as is known, however, he remains the titular leader of RAM.

To date, according to the second source in May, 1965, RAM has organized units and membership in several of the larger cities in the United States east of the Mississippi River and the organization is currently active in attempting to recruit new members and expand its sphere of influence.

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 9/30/65

FROM : SAC, BOSTON (157-372)

SUBJECT: PUBLICATION "REBELLION"  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

Deacons For Defense and Justice

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of  
a letterhead memorandum concerning captioned matter.

Copies of this letterhead memorandum are being  
disseminated locally to the 108th Intelligence Group and  
to Secret Service in view of the militant tone of the  
newspaper as displayed by its masthead which states  
"Better to Right on Your Feet Than to Live on Your Knees."

The sources mentioned in the letterhead  
memorandum are identified as follows:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(Interviewed by New York Division  
in May and June, 1965)

b6  
b7C  
b7D

10 OCT 1965

~~INT. SEC.~~

This letterhead memorandum is being classified  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ since it contains information furnished by  
confidential informants of continuing value whose

ENCLOSURE

2 - Bureau (Encl. 8) (RM)

2 - Boston

JFN:map

(4)

1cc & cc LHM

808-RB

OCT 21 1965

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 [REDACTED] 7-18-83

REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2

DATE OF REVIEW 9-30-85

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

157-2466-

NOT RECORDED

OCT 20 1965

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-444724-

BS 157-372

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

identities could logically be disclosed from this information which could compromise their future effectiveness and be detrimental to the national interests of the United States.

The Boston Division will continue to follow this matter and report any pertinent developments.

- 2 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)



F B I

Date: 9/29/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Via AIRTEL ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED AIR MAIL - REGISTERED

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(Priority)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 JH/11-18-80EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

REASON - FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2-2

DATE OF REVIEW 9-29-85

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (157-1184)(P)

RE : DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
RACIAL MATTERS

OO: NEW ORLEANS

# 251,951

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 TAP/11-18-80  
ON 7-29-85

ReBulet to Los Angeles dated 8/17/65 and New Orleans teletype to Los Angeles dated 9/22/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau is an original and seven copies of a letterhead memorandum (LHM) setting out information concerning captioned organization. Three copies of the LHM are enclosed for New Orleans.

Copies of the LHM are being sent to Region II, 115th INTC, Pasadena, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, Los Angeles, and Secret Service, Los Angeles.

This LHM is being classified ~~confidential~~ because information from sources utilized in the LHM could result in the identification of sources of continuing value and compromise future effectiveness thereof.

Sources utilized in this LHM are as follows:

- ③ - Bureau (Encls. 8)(RM)
- 2 - New Orleans (157-3290)(Encls. 3)(RM)
- 2 - Los Angeles

RNT:scs  
(7)

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC: SER.

DEPT: ISD, CRD, RAG

DATE FORW: 10/13/65HOW FORW: 125BY: SP2 TAP/11-18-80

REC-56

157-2466-

14 OCT 4 1965

cc & cc LHM  
808 RB

B.C. McN

Approved: W. H. G.  
Special Agent in Charge

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ M

Per

SEC.

54 OCT 1 1965  
229

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF 130155 OK  
DATE 7/30/85

LA 157-1184

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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(X)

[redacted]  
[redacted] (protect). [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted] (Protect per  
request)  
[redacted] an [redacted]  
[redacted] and as such is not contacted  
by Bureau personnel. The Los Angeles Office  
acts only as a collecting agency.

LEAD

LOS ANGELES

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA: (1) Will attempt to determine if FRANK GREENWOOD is training a Negro army in the Watts area and the extent of his involvement with the Deacons of Defense and Justice.

(2) Will advise Bureau and New Orleans of any other activity in Los Angeles on part of SIMS and YOUNG.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



**CONFIDENTIAL** (U)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
Boston, Massachusetts

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

October 6, 1965

FRIENDS OF THE DEACONS, also known as  
DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
DEACONS

On August 20, 1965 Deputy Edward Blake, Intelligence Division, Boston, Massachusetts Police Department, advised that Chief Phillip Purcell, Newton, Massachusetts Police Department, had telephonically advised him that he had received a rumor that a meeting of some militant Negro group was to be held at the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), Huntington Avenue, Boston, on August 22, 1965.

Deputy Blake advised that he had contacted the Huntington Avenue YMCA and determined that they were unaware of any such meeting to be held there. On investigating further, Deputy Blake advised that he had learned through Captain Paul Sullivan, Division 9, Boston, Massachusetts Police Department that a group calling themselves the Deacons was to meet on August 22, 1965 in the afternoon at the new YMCA, 401 Warren Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts. As far as Captain Sullivan could determine, this was a Negro group and Deputy Blake believed that it was probably the one referred to by Chief Purcell.

On August 21, 1965, a source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that there exists in the South an organization known as the Deacons. The source described this organization as an armed Negro vigilante group, organized for the purpose of protecting the wives and children of the Negroes in the South.

The source advised that on Sunday evening, August 22, 1965 at 3:00 P.M. a group calling themselves the Deacons was to meet at the YMCA on Warren Street, Roxbury. The source

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REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2. 4. 20 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 10-6-85

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) 2  
DATE 10-6-85

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~~GROUP 1~~

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declassification

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ENCLOSURE

157 - 2466 - 70

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stated he was not aware of whether this group was actually an extension of the Southern Deacons or whether they had assumed this name on their own.

On August 23, 1965 this same source advised that approximately fifty to sixty persons attended the meeting mentioned above. About twenty-five of this group were members of the white race and the remainder members of the Negro race. About half way through the meeting the white persons in attendance were requested to leave and they all rose and left without any question. The source stated that the purpose of the meeting was to raise funds to aid the Deacons organization in the South. It was announced at this meeting that a second meeting would be held at the headquarters of the Boston Action group on August 30, 1965 at [redacted] [redacted], Massachusetts. The source advised that he does not believe that the Deacons are sponsored by the Boston Action group but that that group is undoubtedly sympathetic and lending its support. The source stated that the Boston Action group is a legitimate Civil Rights organization whose membership is made up of persons both in the white and Negro race. (C) (U)

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On August 31, 1965 this same source stated that the meeting of the Deacons held on August 30, 1965 at Boston Action group headquarters was attended by only approximately seven persons. The source stated that a person whom he believes to have been introduced as Ronald Costa from New York City was to be the principal speaker. Locally, Arthur Finch of the Boston Action group was in charge. The source is not aware of what took place at this meeting. (C) (U)

On August 23, 1965 Deputy Edward Blake, previously mentioned, advised that on August 22, 1965 at 3:00 P.M., Patrolman Frank McLean, a plainclothes officer of the Boston Police Department, was present at the YMCA building, 401 Warren Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts, and observed a small group of persons, both Negro and white, most of whom were men, in attendance at a meeting at the YMCA hall. Officer McLean stated that the meeting had no sooner started than the young Negro whose identity is unknown to Patrolman McLean and who was officiating at the meeting, requested the white persons to leave. At this point, Colonel Thomas

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Wright, Executive Secretary of the YMCA, stopped the meeting and told the speaker that the meeting would have to come to a close if people were excluded from the meeting because of their color. The Negro officiating at the meeting told the Colonel that the white persons present who were known to him were sympathetic to the purpose of the meeting and were in accord with his request that they leave.

Colonel Wright stated that no white person would have to leave but the group of white persons present left the hall remaining in the lobby of the YMCA until the meeting was over.

Officer McLean stated that donations were asked for at this meeting and several speeches were made stressing the difficulty under which the Negro race live in the South and the necessity groups such as the Deacons in the South receive financial support to enable them to continue to operate. These speeches were interspersed with entertainment by a Calypso band.

Deputy Blake stated that the permit for use of the hall was taken out in the name of the Deacons by Hugh Guilderson, 399 Columbus Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts.

Deputy Blake stated that several days prior to the meeting, flyers were distributed in the Roxbury area of Boston, Massachusetts which announced a rally sponsored by the Boston Friends to Support the Deacons for Defense and Justice. According to the flyer, the rally was sponsored by the Boston Action group and "Rebellion". The flyer announced that speakers would consist of a representative of the Deacons, a Roxbury victim of police brutality and the editor of "Rebellion".

Deputy Blake stated that "Rebellion" is a militant type newspaper published in mimeographed form by a Boston group of Civil Rights workers. Deputy Blake stated that the Boston Action group is a regularly organized Civil Rights group located in the Roxbury area of Boston, Massachusetts.

At the meeting at the YMCA, a second mimeographed flyer was distributed announcing a meeting of "Deacons for Defense". The subject of the meeting was to be the Los

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Angeles riot. The meeting was to take place on August 26, 1965 at 8:00 P.M. at the Boston Action group headquarters, [redacted]. The flyer stated that additional information could be obtained by calling telephone number [redacted].

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The listing service of the Roxbury Business Office of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company identified the above number as being listed to Arthur Weeks/Finch, [redacted], Massachusetts.

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Deputy Blake advised that Arthur Weeks/Finch was investigated by the Boston Police Department on April 17, 1965 relative to the purchase by him of a gun at Kittery, Maine on March 5, 1965. Finch admitted the purchase of the gun and surrendered a .38 caliber Smith and Wesson revolver to the Boston Police Department.

On August 25, 1965 a second source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that he had been present at a meeting held to support the Deacons at the YMCA on August 22, 1965. The source stated the speakers were rather militant in tone and drew attention to reported atrocities committed in the South against Negroes. The source stated that the advertised exposure of brutality by the Boston Police Department did not take place. (S) (U)

The source stated that he knew that the second meeting of this group was held at Boston Action group headquarters, [redacted], on August 26, 1965. The source stated that he understands only six persons were present but he is not aware of what took place at the meeting. (S) (U)

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On September 15, 1965 the source stated that he had learned that penny postcards had been sent through the mail to various persons announcing a meeting of "Deacons of Defense and Justice" was to be held at 8:00 P.M. on September 16, 1965 at Boston Action group headquarters. At this meeting the announced program was to be a discussion of the role this group might play to benefit the Roxbury community, to plan for defense measures and discuss the (S) (U)

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increasing number of white hate groups functioning in the Roxbury area. These cards were signed by Jackie Guilderson, Representative. (C) (U)

On September 16, 1965 a third source who has furnished reliable information in the past, but with whom insufficient contact has been had to properly evaluate his reliability, advised that he is aware of a group who called themselves Deacons for Defense and Justice, Friends of the Deacons, and are normally referred to just by the name Deacons. This source stated that although the Deacons for Defense are a militant group originally formed in the South, he has no information to believe that the small group at Boston are in any way officially connected with the group in the South. He believes that this group has taken upon itself to organize in the hope that it may more readily increase its membership by using a name which is well known among members of the Negro race. The source stated he believes that the nucleus of this group are Hugh Guilderson and Jackie Guilderson, husband and wife, and Ron Bedford. (C) (U) *MAS*

The source stated that Mr. and Mrs. Guilderson have been active in Civil Rights groups such as the Boston Action group and Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and have participated in picket lines and other demonstrations in support of various Civil Rights matters. Ronald Bedford has likewise participated in organized Civil Rights demonstrations and was one of a group of students who travelled to Cuba in 1964 in violation of State Department orders against such travel.

According to the source, Arthur Finch is a very active member of the Boston Action group and although his name has been connected with the Deacons, he does not believe that Finch is a member of this small group because of the fact that Finch is a member of the white race and the Deacons reportedly allow only Negroes to be members. (C) (U)

This source stated that Ron Bedford and the Guildersons in his opinion are the heart of the Deacons and he doubts if there are more than three or four other people interested in the group. The source stated that he has heard that the group is contemplating trying to re-organize the group under (C) (U)

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the name "Fathers For Defense" feeling that the Deacons are a failure and that possibly a change in the name might attract new members. The source also stated that in his opinion the Guildersons and Bedford together with William and Karen Sacks are instrumental in publishing a mimeographed newspaper known as "Rebellion". The source stated that this is a very militant type publication which attacks police methods and police brutality and plays up atrocities committed against Negroes. The source stated that William and Karen Sacks were also among the group of students who travelled to Cuba in violation of the State Department decree (S) (U)

On September 17, 1965 Colonel Thomas Wright, Executive Secretary, YMCA, 401 Warren Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts, stated that the YMCA meeting hall was made available for a meeting advertised as a rally to raise funds to support the Deacons for Defense. Colonel Wright stated that he went into the meeting hall just at the moment when an unidentified Negro speaker had requested the white members of the audience to leave the hall.

Colonel Wright immediately interrupted the meeting and stated that the meeting would be dissolved if any one was excluded because of race or religion. He told the white persons that they need not leave but in spite of this all the white members of the group left the hall and waited around in the lobby of the YMCA until the meeting concluded. The members of the white group seemed to be in complete sympathy with the Negro speaker and made no protest about leaving the meeting.

Colonel Wright stated that he only remained a short period at the meeting and while the speaker discussed Negro problems in the South in a rather militant tone, he believed that the speaker was being factual in what he said.

On August 23, 1965 a source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that Bill Epton, Vice President of the Progressive Labor Party, had stated that he and David Douglas of the Progressive Labor Party had been up to Boston. In Boston, they had been at an intown rally in a black community in a new YMCA. Everyone at the meeting was black except forty-five whites who were all Trotskyites and the whites were all asked to leave. This (S) (U)

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was brought out in a discussion between Douglas and an unknown male who made a speech at this intown rally. (C) (U)

The source stated that Epton during the discussion with the unknown male, asked "Are we going to do that 'Rebellion' paper from Boston"? The unknown male replied that they had agreed to do it a long time ago once a month and they would train one of their people to paste it up, write headlines, design and so forth. This unknown male then stated that a meeting had been held with Jackie and her husband while they were in New York City and arrangements were made at that time to do it in the shop (Tri Line Offset Company, 132 Nassau Street, New York City, the Progressive Labor Party print shop). (C) (U)

Epton asked the unknown male if Jackie's husband was in the Progressive Labor Club that was formed and the unknown male advised he did not know but had spoken to Jackie and her husband about it and they said they were prepared generally. The unknown male added that he had met with Jackie and her husband the outcome of which was that "We'll help them out financially; we'll train them; we'll print and we will help them out financially". (C) (U)

The source stated that he believes the unknown male to be Bill McAdoo. (C) (U)

*Advised*  
David Douglas identified himself as a member of the Harlem Progressive Labor Party Club during a speech he made on August 6, 1964 at a Progressive Labor Party demonstration at 100th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, New York City.

A source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised on March 2, 1965 that Bill McAdoo was Chairman of the Committee to Defend Resistance to Ghetto Life which is commonly known as CERGE.

A characterization of CERGE is attached hereto.

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A characterization of Student Committee for Travel to Cuba is attached hereto.

A characterization of the Progressive Labor Party is attached hereto.

It is believed that the meeting mentioned by the source above is the meeting held at the new YMCA, 401 Warren Street, Roxbury on August 22, 1965 since the circumstances described by the above source coincide with what took place at this meeting. (S) (U)

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

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1.

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE TO DEFEND RESISTANCE  
TO GHETTO LIFE (CERGE)

A source advised on February 3, 1965, that CERGE was formed on November 1, 1964, as a front of the Progressive Labor Movement (PLM), presently known as Progressive Labor Party (PLP). All personnel which comprise the committee are PLM members. CERGE was organized to raise finds for the PLM in order that the PLM will have money for bail when it becomes necessary. The people connected with CERGE hope to build it into a national organization.

A second source advised on March 5, 1965, that it is the plan of the PLM to recruit people into CERGE and use CERGE as a recruiting front for PLM members. The PLM plans to give instructions in Marxist philosophy and those who respond will be advanced from CERGE to PLM membership.

A third source advised on February 3, 1965, that CERGE receives mail through Abbott Business Service, a legitimate business operation, 147 West 42nd Street, New York, New York.

The first source advised on May 5, 1965, that CERGE maintains its office at Room 617, One Union Square, New York, New York.

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APPENDIX

1.

STUDENT COMMITTEE FOR TRAVEL TO CUBA

"The Columbia Owl," weekly student newspaper of Columbia University, New York City, December 12, 1962, issue, page one, contained an article entitled "Students to Visit Cuba During Holidays." This article stated in part that the Ad Hoc Student Committee for Travel to Cuba was formed October 14, 1962, by a group of students from New York City universities, the University of Wisconsin, Oberlin College, and the University of North Carolina, who stated that as students they would like a chance to see and evaluate the situation in Cuba for themselves and had received an offer of transportation and two weeks' stay in Cuba from the Federation of University Students in Havana, as guests of the Federation. The Committee accepted the offer and applied to the State Department of the United States for passport validation which was refused; however, over fifty students planned to defy the State Department ban and go to Cuba.

A source advised on December 6, 1962, it was learned the Ad Hoc Student Committee for Travel to Cuba had recently been formed by the Progressive Labor Group.

A second source advised on September 13, 1963, that during the summer of 1963, fifty-nine individuals traveled to Cuba; the leaders of the group were members of the Progressive Labor Movement; and the trip was planned and organized by Progressive Labor Movement members.

A third source advised on October 9, 1963, the Student Committee for Travel to Cuba was utilizing Post Office Box 2178, New York, New York, as its mailing address.

On March 12, 1965, Philip Abbott Luce, [REDACTED], New York, New York, a self-admitted member of the Student Committee for Travel to Cuba Executive Committee and the Progressive Labor Movement National Coordinating Committee, advised as follows:

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The Student Committee for Travel to Cuba (SCTC) was formerly known as the Ad Hoc Student Committee for Travel to Cuba and the Permanent Student Committee for Travel to Cuba.

Luce was a leader and participant of the 1963 trip to Cuba and an organizer of the 1964 trip to Cuba and both trips were sponsored by the SCTC.

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APPENDIX

2.

STUDENT COMMITTEE FOR TRAVEL TO CUBA

By the Spring of 1964, the Executive Committee of the SCTC was considered to be members of the Progressive Labor Movement.

No trip to Cuba or China was being planned by the SCTC for 1965.

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APPENDIX

PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY (PLP)  
PROGRESSIVE LABOR MOVEMENT (PLM)

A source advised on April 20, 1965, that the PLP, formerly known as the PLM, held its first national convention April 15-18, 1965, at New York City, to organize the PLM into a PLP. The PLP will have as its ultimate objective the establishment of a militant working class movement based on Marxism-Leninism.

"The New York Times," City Edition, Tuesday, April 20, 1965, page 27, reported that a new party of "revolutionary socialism" was formally founded on April 18, 1965, under the name of the PLP. The PLP was described as an outgrowth of the PLM. Its officers were identified as Milton Rosen, New York, President, and William Epton of New York and Mort Scheer of San Francisco, Vice Presidents. A 20-member National Committee was elected to direct the party until the next convention.

According to the article, "The Progressive Labor Movement was founded in 1962 by Mr. Rosen and Mr. Scheer after they were expelled from the Communist Party of the United States for assertedly following the Chinese Communist line."

The PLP publishes the "Marxist-Leninist Quarterly," a theoretical magazine; "Progressive Labor," a monthly magazine; "Challenge," a New York City newspaper; and "Spark," a west coast newspaper.

The June 1, 1965, issue of "Challenge," page 6, states that, "this paper is dedicated to fight for a new way of life - where the working men and women own and control their homes, factories, the police, courts, and the entire government on every level."

The source advised that the PLP utilizes the address of General Post Office Box 808, Brooklyn 1, New York, but also utilizes an office in Room 622, 132 Nassau Street, New York City, where PLP publications are prepared.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

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DATE: 10/6/65

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, BOSTON (157-387)

SUBJECT: FRIENDS OF THE DEACONS, aka  
DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
DEACONS  
RACIAL MATTERS

CLASS. & EXT. BY: SP1 [redacted] 7-18-83  
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2.1  
DATE OF REVIEW: 10-6-85 [redacted]

Re New York letter to Boston dated 8/26/65  
captioned "PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY, IS-PLP".

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of a  
letterhead memorandum concerning captioned subject. Copies  
are being sent to New Orleans and New York for their  
information and copies are being designated locally to  
the 108th INTC Group and Secret Service due to their  
possible interest in this group because of its apparent  
important nature.

The sources mentioned in the LHM in the order  
mentioned are [redacted] confidential source. [redacted]

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[redacted] and [redacted] and [redacted] (U)

The LHM is being classified ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ since the  
information furnished by [redacted] and [redacted]  
could logically result in the identification of informants  
of continuing value, jeopardize their future effectiveness  
and could be detrimental to the defense interest of the  
United States. (U)

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The information in referenced New York letter to

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 1) (RM)  
1 - New Orleans (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)  
1 - New York (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)  
3 - Boston (157-387)

[redacted] (U)  
JFN/cap  
(7)

REC-61

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b7E

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.:  
DEPT: ISD, CRD, RAO

DATE FORW: 10/19/65  
HOW FORW: [redacted]  
BY: [redacted]

MCT-41  
EX-109

3 OCT 11 1965

SUBV CONTROL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

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66 OCT 22 1965

BS 157-387

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Boston is believed to refer to a meeting of the Deacons at Boston since the YMCA where the Deacons' meeting was held is new and the circumstances of the white group being asked to leave the meeting fits with the group mentioned in referenced letter.

The paper, "Rebellion" mentioned in the LHM has been previously brought to the attention of the Bureau.

Boston will continue to follow the activities of this group and report any pertinent information.

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