

11/9/64

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

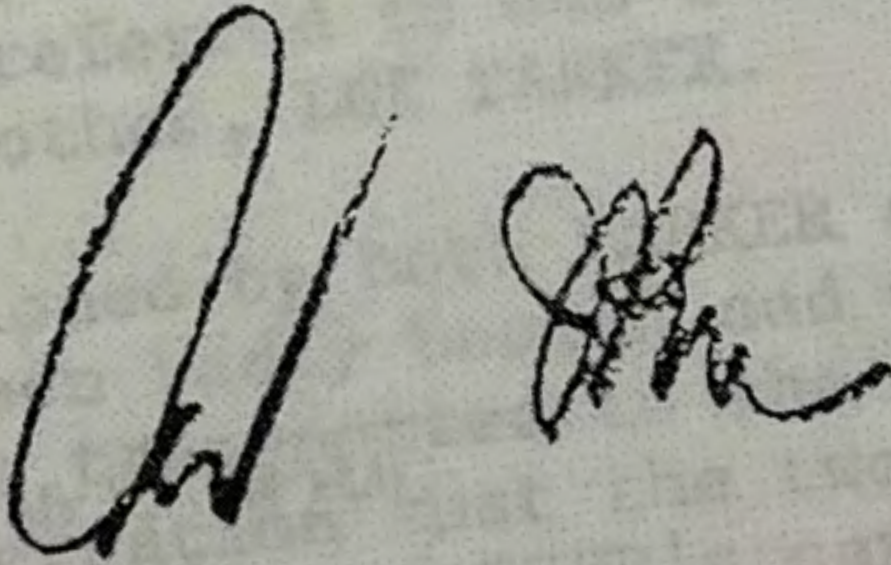
General Investigative Division recommends authority be granted to pay \$1,500 to the informant mentioned in attached communication as recommended by the Jackson Office. Informant furnished valuable information leading to the solution of the case involving the murders of Henry Dee and Charlie Moore.

Ernest Parker and Jack Seale mentioned in attached, according to informant, took victims from Franklin County, Mississippi, to the Mississippi River where they were placed in a boat, taken out into the river and thrown overboard.

If approved, the Jackson Office will be promptly advised.

FPS/nkr

CLM
R
DD

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first is a large, stylized signature, and the second is a smaller, more cursive signature.

FBI

Date: 11/7/64

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

ATTENTION: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
ALEX ROSEN

FROM: SAC, JACKSON

JN 30-R (Prob)
(JNfile 170-77)

HENRY HEZEKIAH DEE;
CHARLIE EDDIE MOORE
MISCELLANEOUS
(JNfile 62-5)

Reference phone call of SAC ROY K. MOORE to Assistant Director A. ROSEN 11/7/64, and JNairtel to Bureau 9/17/64 captioned "JN 30-R (Prob)."

On 9/14/64 JN 30-R (Prob) advised that he had been advised by ERNEST PARKER and JACK SEALE, both of Natchez, Miss., that they had "put two niggers in the river." In this conversation, PARKER and SEALE said one of the Negroes was anchored to a Jeep motor block. It appeared from the conversation that the boat referred to was a boat owned by ERNEST PARKER and his brother, LEE PARKER.

It was also mentioned by both PARKER and SEALE that the two Negroes had been badly beaten and were bloody prior to the time they were transported to the river. It was apparent from the conversation that the two Negroes had been hauled in the trunk of ERNEST PARKER's car from Franklin County, Miss., to the Old River near Tallulah, La.

Bureau
Jackson NOV 20 1964
44-27298-33

GGP/mea (7)

Special Agent in Charge

UN RECORDED COPY FILED IN 171-122

On 9/14/64 JN 30-R (Prob) also furnished information he had obtained from two other independent sources who described how the two Negroes were picked up near an ice cream stand on Highway 84 West near Meadville, Miss., and were taken into the Homochitto National Forest near Meadville, where they were beaten. The following three individuals were named by JN 30-R (Prob) as being involved in the picking up and beating of the two Negroes:

CLYDE SEALE; his son JAMES SEALE; and CHARLES EDWARDS

On 10/31/64 a Jeep motor was located in the Old River across from Palmyra Island and very near the private boat dock of ERNEST and LEE PARKER at the spot described by JN 30-R (Prob). This Jeep block was recovered by Navy personnel who were directed by Bureau Agents present at the scene. Attached to this block was a T-shirt containing human bones and, in addition, in the immediate area, a skull was located which had the four front upper teeth missing. One of the victims had four such teeth missing.

On 11/6/64 JAMES FORD SEALE and CHARLES MARCUS EDWARDS were arrested by local authorities in company of Bureau Agents. EDWARDS, upon interview 11/6/64, admitted that he and JAMES FORD SEALE had picked up captioned DEE and MOORE and took them into the woods.

In line with referenced phone call 11/7/64, the Bureau is requested to sutel approval of immediate payment of \$1,500 to JN 30-R (Prob) for information leading to arrest of JAMES FORD SEALE and CHARLES MARCUS EDWARDS. Should additional arrests be made in captioned MOORE-DEE case, Bureau will be requested by subsequent communication to approve additional payment to JN 30-R (Prob). At the time JN 30-R (Prob) was requested to work on the MOORE-DEE case, he was told that information supplied by him leading to the arrests of the people responsible would be worth substantial reimbursement.

FBI

Date: 11/7/64

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(Type in plaintext or code)

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(Priority)

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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

ATTENTION: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
ALEX ROSEN

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Bureau
Jackson NOV 20 1964
44-27298-33

GGP/mea (7)

Special Agent in Charge

UN RECORDED COPY FILED IN 171-122

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: JAMES FORD SEALE, ET AL.

The informant's information was furnished to the Mississippi State authorities and based upon this information, murder warrants for subjects were issued. The Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP) arrested subjects James Ford Seale and Charles Marcus Edwards, both of Meadville, Mississippi, on November 6, 1964. Edwards, a self-admitted Klansman, and Seale have continued to deny any guilt.

The Department deferred prosecution to the State of Mississippi for the more serious crime of murder, however, the Department desired to keep abreast of the matter in the event the State of Mississippi fails to take prosecutive action.

District Attorney Lenox Forman, Meadville, Mississippi, advised that based on conversations with MHSP investigators, he believes there is insufficient evidence at this time to present this matter to a Grand Jury. He expressed the belief that if more evidence could be developed to strengthen the case, it would be more advantageous to present the matter to a Grand Jury at a later date. He stated in view of the above, he had the charges dismissed against subjects Seale and Edwards on January 11, 1965. District Attorney Forman advised in mentioning more evidence, he had in mind Ernest Parker (a wealthy farmer) of Parker's Landing, Madison Parish, Louisiana.

In connection with our investigation, we thoroughly pursued Parker's implication in the crime. The informant advised that Parker told him that he is afraid that the serial number on the Jeep motor block could be traced to him as it was removed from a Jeep he once owned. (This is the same motor block mentioned above in which extensive investigation was conducted to trace with negative results.) This information was furnished to the Mississippi State authorities.

ACTION:

Information set forth above is being furnished the Civil Rights Division of the Department.

clm
BR
AS

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HC



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reply, Please Refer to
No.

Jackson, Mississippi
January 12, 1965

JAMES FORD SEALE,
CHARLES MARCUS EDWARDS;
HENRY HEZEKIAH DEE - VICTIM
CHARLIE EDDIE MOORE - VICTIM

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past has furnished the following:

On September 14, 1964, he reported that he had received information pertaining to the murders of two colored males by the names of Moore and Dee, date unknown but indications were that it had at least occurred on a Saturday.

On a Monday following the particular Saturday on which these activities were supposed to have happened, he determined that a Ernest Gilbert was contacted at Natchez, Mississippi, by Ernest Parker and Jack Seale. Gilbert met Parker and Seale at James Amoco Service Station in Natchez, which is a known meeting place of Klansmen. At the James Amoco Station, Jack Seale was seen to take Gilbert off to the side and was overheard telling Gilbert that he had something to tell Gilbert. Parker and Seale were heard to tell Gilbert that they "had put two niggers in the river." In this conversation Parker and Seale said one of the Negroes was anchored to a Jeep motor block. Later on Parker was heard to say he was afraid of the serial numbers on the motor block and both Parker and Seale stated at this time they had been having difficulty sleeping at night thinking about this matter.

Gilbert was heard to ask Parker and Seale why they were telling him this to which Parker and Seale replied that Gilbert was the only one that could be trusted and in

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James Ford Seale, et al.;
Henry Hezekiah Dee - Victim
Charlie Eddie Moore - Victim

Following the finding of the body, or parts of the bodies, James Seale spent most of three days with Ernest Gilbert and even made a trip to Brookhaven, Mississippi, with Gilbert. Seale was extremely nervous. He was heard making the statement that he himself had put the tape over the wrists and mouths of both the Negroes and that he, James Seale, was afraid his fingerprints were still on the tape or on the underneath side or sticky side of the tape. James Seale was heard admitting that he was the one who did most of the questioning of the two Negroes. He was also heard making the statement that he wanted to kill the colored Preacher Briggs, whom he thought was stirring up the Negroes in the Franklin County area.

It appeared that James Seale had been trying to get information from the two Negroes as to who was in charge of the Negro agitation in Franklin County. Also, the rumor had gotten out that the Negroes were bringing guns into Mississippi. The Black Muslims were supposedly getting the guns and were going to start an insurrection.

He said it had been determined that James Seale and others kept beating the Negroes until one of them finally said the guns were in a church and it appeared this had probably been said by one of the Negroes to stop the beating. It was determined that one of the Negroes that was being beaten was from Chicago and information was received that James Seale said they asked him why he had gone to Chicago and the Negro replied that it was because he could obtain a better education in Chicago.

It was apparently the opinion of James Seale that the two Negro boys probably were part of the agitation that was going on in Mississippi, particularly since one of them had recently come down from Chicago.

James Ford Seale, et al.;
Henry Hezekiah Dee - Victim
Charlie Eddie Moore - Victim

James Seale had said they had been picked up at an ice cream stand or near an ice cream stand where they were hitchhiking on United States Highway 84 just west of the downtown section of Meadville, Mississippi.

James Seale was heard to state that he did this by himself in his Volkswagen and apparently prior to this, from the conversation, it appeared that James Seale had had someone else in the Volkswagen with him. It appeared that James Seale had made this individual who had been riding with him get out of the Volkswagen after which James Seale drove out on Route 84 to pick up the two Negroes. James Seale also stated he had given instructions for whoever was with him to follow him in a pickup truck.

Clyde Seale, who resides on the Bunkley Road approximately eight miles out of Meadville, Mississippi, told the following story:

The two Negroes were at the ice cream place on the outskirts of Meadville, Mississippi, when James Seale drove out into the highway which passes by the ice cream place. The two Negroes had been thumbing a ride but they did not thumb James Seale. After Seale had driven past the two Negroes, he stopped and motioned to them that he was going down the road and asked them if they wanted a ride. They shook their heads indicating that they did wish to ride with him. James Seale then came to a complete stop and picked up the two Negroes after which he proceeded west on United States Highway 84. The Negroes evidently became suspicious of James Seale because he told them that he was a Revenue agent hunting for bootleg whiskey stills in Franklin County and wanted to know if they knew anything about any stills. The two Negroes said they knew nothing of any stills. Clyde Seale then stated that one of the Negroes asked to get out of the car and he was told by James Seale that he could not as there were some

James Ford Seale, et al.;
Henry Hezekiah Dee - Victim
Charlie Eddie Moore - Victim

more agents that he wanted the two Negroes to talk to. At this time James Seale took a walkie-talkie radio and called the people in the pickup truck that was following him and told them that he wanted to bring these two Negro boys down and let them talk to them. James Seale then turned off of Highway 84 into Homochitto Forest. Clyde Seale did not describe which road was used as they turned off of Highway 84 into Homochitto Forest.

Clyde Seale then stated that after taking them into the Forest, James Seale stopped and the two Negroes got out of the car. The pickup then drove up immediately behind the Volkswagen. As James Seale got out of his car, he got out with his carbine in his hand and got the drop on the two Negroes. The two Negroes were then tied to a tree and were beaten severely with bean sticks. During the beating, the two Negroes were questioned repeatedly and consistently about who was causing all the Negro trouble in Franklin County. The name that the boys kept using was Briggs, a Negro preacher at Roxie, Mississippi.

The only ones known for sure that were in on the actual picking up of these two Negro boys were Clyde Seale, James Seale and Charles Edwards.

Clyde Seale made the statement that Charles Edwards has a bad case of conscience and that the wife of Charles Edwards had been running her head too much. Clyde Seale stated he had gone and talked to Edwards and told him that he did not think the Klan had enough money to raise his kids and support his wife and he did not know if he could or not. Clyde Seale advised Charles Edwards that it might pay him to not say anything else and make damn sure that his wife did not either.