



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE JACKSON	OFFICE OF ORIGIN JACKSON	DATE 1/11/65	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 11/17/64 - 1/6/65
TITLE OF CASE WHITE KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN OF MISSISSIPPI, Lauderdale County Klavern, Meridian, Mississippi		REPORT MADE BY SA JAMES D. DAY	TYPED BY mtl
		CHARACTER OF CASE RM	

REFERENCE:

Report of SA RICHARD A. HARRISON, dated 11/17/64, at Jackson.

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ADMINISTRATIVE:

In addition to dissemination to military intelligence agencies, copies of this report are being disseminated to offices covering headquarters of those agencies for information.

It will be noted that Jackson has prepared a separate report containing the information from informants concerning the plans of the Lauderdale and Neshoba Co. Klaverns of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi to eliminate MICHAEL HENRY SCHWERNER; the assault at and burning of the Mt. Zion Methodist Church near Philadelphia, Neshoba County, Mississippi, and activities of the Klavern concerning the abduction, murder, and burial of SCHWERNER, ANDREW GOODMAN and JAMES E. CHANEY. Since dissemination of the above information at this time may jeopardize successful prosecution in the MIBURN investigation,

APPROVED SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE COPIES MADE: 7 - Bureau (RM) 1 - INTC - 3rd Army, Ft. McPherson, Ga. (RM) 1 - ONI, 6th ND, Charleston, S.C. (RM) 1 - OSI, Barksdale AFB, La. (RM) 1 - Atlanta (Info)(RM) 1 - Charlotte (Info)(RM) 1 - New Orleans (Info)(RM) 1 - Savannah (Info)(RM) ③ - Jackson (2 - 157-343) ① - 157-63)	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW <div style="font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">157-63-668</div>
DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT	
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this report has been prepared for immediate dissemination. It necessarily contains no information concerning MIBURN and the events leading thereto.

Information furnished by [redacted] and [redacted] prospective witnesses in any trial as a result of the MIBURN investigation is concealed by T symbols to further protect these individuals until such time as a trial is had in this matter.

INFORMANTS:

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Location</u>
JN T-1 is [redacted]	
JN T-2 is [redacted]	
JN T-3 is [redacted], whose identity is protected herein in view of his potential as a witness in MIBURN.	44-1
JN T-4 is [redacted] [redacted] whose identity is protected herein in view of his potential as a witness in MIBURN.	44-1
JN T-5 is [redacted]	
JN T-6 is [redacted]	
JN T-7 is [redacted]	
JN T-8 is [redacted]	
JN T-9 is [redacted]	
JN T-10 is [redacted]	

LEAD:

JACKSON

AT MERIDIAN, MISS.

Will follow and report activity of Lauderdale County Klavern of

WKKKKOM.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - INTC, Ft. McPherson, Georgia
1 - ONI, 6th ND, Charleston, S. C.
1 - OSI, Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana

Report of: SA JAMES A. DAY
Date: 1/11/65

Office: JACKSON

Field Office File No.: 157-343

Bureau File No.:

Title: WHITE KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX
KLAN OF MISSISSIPPI, LAUDERDALE
COUNTY KLAVERN, MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI

Character: RACIAL MATTERS

Synopsis: The Lauderdale Klavern of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi was organized in early 1964 and grew to some 200 members by mid-summer. Members reportedly participated in church burnings, cross burnings and whippings and collected funds for Klansman arrested for shooting into Negro's house. Klan maintains black-list and had article printed in local newspaper telling people not to talk to FBI. Klavern has little or no funds. Klan members distrust each other and accuse each other of talking to FBI.

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DETAILS:

A characterization of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM) appears in the appendix attached hereto.

It will be noted that when the terms Klan and Klansmen are utilized in the course of this report they will refer to the WKKKKOM and members thereof.

I. ORIGIN AND PURPOSE

On November 28, 1964, JN T-1 advised that C. W. MILLER was the first member of the WKKKKOM in Lauderdale County. He was obligated into this organization during late March or early April, 1964, by EDGAR RAY KILLEN of Neshoba County.

During the course of the formation of the Lauderdale County Klavern, KILLEN advised individuals being encouraged to join and new members that the Klan was the strongest organization in the State, that it would keep the Negro in his place and that it could and would elect the next Governor of Mississippi, and had enough power to have laws passed. He stated that the organization had membership ranking from the Governor's Office down and one would be left out were he not a member. KILLEN also instructed people that membership in the Klan is secret for fear that Negro organizations would "get the FBI down on the Klan."

The day following MILLER's obligation into the Klan, FRANK HERNDON was approached at the request of KILLEN and he agreed to join the Klan and was asked to contact JIM JORDAN. On the following Wednesday night, KILLEN again came from Neshoba County and a meeting was held at a trailer . . . at Weaver's Service Station in Meridian, Mississippi, where BERNARD CLAY, DEWITT SMITH, PETE HARRIS, JOE EVERIDGE, FRANK HERNDON, ALGENE PRICE and JIM JORDAN attended.

It was agreed that there would be a meeting the following week to be held upstairs over the store of ALGENE PRICE at Key Field. At the next meeting, LEE ROBERTS attended and either ARTHUR or TOMMY HORNE. In a matter of a few weeks, 28 individuals had been obligated into the organization. At the fifth meeting held by the Lauderdale Klavern, the required forty members were obtained, enabling the Lauderdale Klavern to obtain a charter. Some of the individuals in attendance wanted to "whip some Negro", but KILLEN told them to burn crosses at the Negro churches.

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On October 10, 1964, JN T-2 advised that he first became interested in the Klan approximately one year before, through contacts with C. W. MILLER. He stated that he did not recall the exact dates but in early 1964 he indicated to MILLER his desire to join the Klan and a few days later was picked up by MILLER, FRANK HERNDON, and a Mr. HEDGEPEETH, and taken to a meeting place where all the persons wore hoods, with the exception of him and two other individuals, where they were sworn into the Klan by EDGAR RAY KILLEN.

On November 6, 1964, JN T-3 advised that he had been sworn into the Klan in the automobile of FRANK HERNDON by C. WALLACE MILLER, a Meridian, Mississippi Policeman, during May, 1964. He stated that the ceremony took place in FRANK HERNDON's automobile while it was parked at a service station in Meridian, Mississippi.

On November 19, 1964, JN T-4 advised that on April 16, 1964, TRAVIS BARNETTE drove to the Longhorn Drive-In, Tom Bailey Drive, where he was to meet JIM RUTLEDGE. TRAVIS and DOYLE BARNETTE discussed between themselves the possibility of their becoming Klan members. TRAVIS left the car and talked to MILLER for a while, then returned saying that it would be all right for DOYLE to go. They then proceeded to Key Field area of Meridian and went upstairs over PRICE's store. Approximately 35 to 40 people were present.

After the people were seated, four individuals entered the room wearing white robes, including WALLACE MILLER, PREACHER KILLEN and FRANK HERNDON. PREACHER KILLEN spoke on why individuals should join the Klan and then stated that it would be impossible for anyone to leave. Each person there who was not a member was required to pay an initiation fee of ten dollars (\$10) to one of the individuals wearing a white robe. After the fee was paid the new members were asked to come to the front of the room where they were required to repeat after KILLEN eight or nine paragraphs. After repeating these paragraphs the individuals wearing robes removed their robes.

At this meeting, the membership of the Lauderdale Klavern reached 57.

JN T-4 stated further that a meeting was held the following week at the same place, at which officers were elected. FRANK HERNDON was elected President or whatever term is used for the leader of the Klavern, and JERRY BARFIELD was elected Secretary.

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On November 12, 1964, JN T-5 advised that he was approached during March, 1964, concerning the possibility of his joining the Klan. He stated that on March 26, 1964, he was sworn in, at which time there were about thirty members. PREACHER KILLEN presided at the meeting.

During the lecture to new members, PREACHER KILLEN discussed the number of law enforcement officers in the Klan and stated that with this kind of protection, Klansmen need not fear arrest or punishment by local law enforcement. He emphasized the secrecy of the organization.

JN T-4 further stated that some members were pressured into joining, as they were tricked into attending one meeting and then felt obligated to stay. They were given the Klan oath and required to pay \$10 in dues.

On October 15, 1964, JN T-6 advised that permission had been obtained by the Lauderdale Klavern to form another unit which will be Unit 7. This unit will be composed of forty men each as are all units and will be headed by HERBERT C. BREWER.

The Lauderdale Klavern, according to JN T-6, is attempting to recruit 4000 members so that they will be able to place sufficient Klansmen on any jury trying any case in which Klansmen are involved to control the outcome.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

A. State Meeting

On November 10, 1964, JN T-6 advised that FRANK HERNDON had instructed that certain individuals were to attend a State meeting on November 15, 1964, with the location and time of the meeting unknown. Those individuals so instructed were to meet at the Longhorn Drive-In at 6 AM, November 15, 1964, prepared to attend a State meeting.

On November 16, 1964, JN T-6 stated that representatives of the Lauderdale Klavern attended a State meeting of the WKKKKOM near Harrisville, Mississippi, on November 15, 1964. Lauderdale County representatives were WALLACE MILLER, FRANK HERNDON, LESTER PRICE, B. L. AKIN, TOMMY HORNE, HERBERT BREWER and another individual. There were between 250 and 275 persons present at the meeting, including numerous guards. A small plane was observed flying over the area of the meeting place.

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A roll call of all units was made and it was determined that representatives were at this State meeting from all but nine counties in the State of Mississippi.

On November 16, 1964, JN T-7 advised that a State meeting of the Klan was held near Harrisville, Mississippi, on November 15, 1964. Four units of the Lauderdale County Klavern were represented at this meeting.

During the meeting a discussion was brought up concerning State approval for "fourth degree action" (elimination). A hypothetical question was brought up asking what a Klansman should do if he caught a Negro in the woods and had him tied to a tree. The questioner indicated it would be difficult to get permission to eliminate this Negro. The answer was that if the individual were a good Klansman he would not have to call anyone but an undertaker.

On November 19, 1964, JN T-1 advised that the Lauderdale County Klavern was represented at the State meeting of the Klan on November 15, 1964, near Harrisville, Mississippi. According to JN T-1 the Lauderdale Klavern was represented by LESTER PRICE, HERBERT BREWER, J. D. NEAL, FRANK HERNDON, C. W. MILLER, B. L. AKIN, and TOMMY HORNE.

JN T-1 stated there were numerous guards, and individuals attending the meeting had to be identified by a series of passwords and driving a roundabout way over seldom-traveled roads.

On September 29, 1964, JN T-1 advised that he had learned from SAM BOWERS, Imperial Wizard, that the State organization has only three names from each unit, these being the Exalted Cyclops Klan Bureau of Investigation man, and Secretary. All the rest of the individuals are only numbers. He stated that before a bombing can take place, the Province officer, namely, the Province Giant, must be advised. He further stated that if a unit desires to do something, the Exalted Cyclops of the unit must advise the Province Giant, who advises the State Officers in writing, whereupon the action is either approved or disapproved. Any kind of violence must be handled in this manner. He further stated that the State organization needed only the unit number but no names; however, the Province Giant needed to know the date, place, and unit number, but no names. He further stated that the Exalted Cyclops of any unit is not to participate in any such action.

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On November 12, 1964, JN T-5 advised that SAM BOWERS, Imperial Wizard, explained the organizational structure of the Klan in Mississippi, as having a State level and an intermediate group headed by the Province Giant, and the third or local Klavern.

On November 28, 1964, JN T-1, advised that when the Lauderdale Klavern was being organized, PREACHER EDGAR RAY KILLEN stated that it was not necessary for the Klavern to have approval for the Klan members to whip someone, but the State organization would have to approve an elimination. KILLEN stated that in the event the Klavern desired to eliminate a given individual, the President of the unit would have the unit officers sign their numbers on a piece of paper which contained the name of the individual the Klavern desired to eliminate, after which this paper would be given to KILLEN who would take it to the State organization for denial or approval.

On November 28, 1964, JN T-8 advised that the Klan in Mississippi has infiltrated every phase of legal political, social and economic life in Mississippi and that the membership ranges from common laborers and criminals to judges, lawyers, doctors, and political leaders. While many of these individuals do not actively participate in Klan activities, they are secret members and use their influence and aid Klansmen. An example is that it is generally known that supervisors who select juries use their influence to get Klan members onto the jury panel.

JN T-8 further stated that lawyers are trusted by the Klan and those who are close to the Klan are generally used and elevated to positions of influence.

On November 29, 1964, JN T-1 advised that he had learned that any action planned by any of the units in the Lauderdale Klavern must be approved by the unit and taken by the unit head to either B. L. AKIN or DELMAR DENNIS, both of whom are directly responsible to SAM BOWERS. In the event there is the desire to eliminate someone the President of the unit can go to either AKIN or DENNIS and then accompany them to meet with BOWERS for approval. In the event BOWERS agrees to the elimination, he will give those individuals seeking authority for the elimination, the name of a person to contact. This name will be the name of one of the six men assigned to each province who is responsible for eliminations. Either AKIN or DENNIS will then contact this individual who will in turn recontact BOWERS as a double

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check of the permission to eliminate someone. DENNIS or AKIN will be also responsible for contacting the unit head and relating that the elimination had been approved or disproved. In the event of approval, the individual whom AKIN or DENNIS had contacted will then recontact BOWERS, will not do the job himself, but will tell the other five men who are responsible for eliminations in his area what is to be done. However, he will not designate who is to carry out the job. BOWERS stated that if an elimination is carried out in this fashion only one man will actually do the job and no one for sure will know who did it except the one individual who actually does the job out of the five individuals who are told what is to be done.

B. Officers

On September 30, 1964, JN T-1 advised that there were at that time six units within the Lauderdale Klavern of the Klan. The unit leaders are as follows:

Unit 1	FRANK HERNDON
Unit 2	DEXTER TORRANCE
Unit 3	W. S. TORRANCE
Unit 4	TOMMY HORNE
Unit 5	(WILLIE C.) SIMS
Unit 6	ALGENE PRICE.

On October 10, 1964, JN T-2 advised that FRANK HERNDON is the head of the Meridian Klavern.

On October 15, 1964, JN T-6 advised that C. WALLACE MILLER had recently been designated Kleagle at large by SAM BOWERS, Imperial Wizard, WKKKKOM.

On September 29, 1964, JN T-1 advised that an election of officers was held for the Province on September 27, 1964 at which B. L. AKIN was elected Province Klan Bureau Investigator, B. C. LIDE, Province Giant, and ED FRASIER, Senator at Large. JAMES T. (PETE) HARRIS was made Klan Bureau Investigator of the Lauderdale Klavern. EARL AKIN was elected County Coordinator and CURTIS MILLER, County Bursar.

On November 10, 1964, JN T-6 advised that there would be a meeting of the officers and unit heads of the Lauderdale Klavern on Thursday, November 12, 1964. JN T-6 stated that he wished to say that HERBERT BREWER and LESTER PRICE were in attendance at this meeting

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and three former members of the Lauderdale Klavern were not to attend. These included B. C. LIDE, CHARLES R. BARFIELD and JAMES RUTLEDGE.

On November 13, 1964, JN T-6 advised that at approximately 7:30 PM, November 12, 1964, a meeting of the WKKKKOM was held at Room 509, Lamar Hotel, Meridian, Mississippi. Those present at this meeting included DELMAR DENNIS, TOMMY HORNE, WALLACE MILLER, B. L. AKIN, WALTER SIKES, PETE HARRIS, ALGENE PRICE, HERBERT BREWER, SAM BOWERS, and LESTER PRICE. BOWERS presided and DELMAR DENNIS gave an opening prayer. The purpose of this meeting was to determine who within the Lauderdale Klavern was furnishing information to the FBI.

JN T-6 determined that FRANK HERNDON had been invited to attend this meeting but was not there.

On November 18, 1964, JN T-5 advised that he had attended the above-mentioned meeting on November 12, 1964. He stated that those in attendance were SAM BOWERS, WALLACE MILLER, DELMAR DENNIS, TOMMY HORNE, B. L. AKIN, PETE HARRIS, ALGENE PRICE, HERBERT BREWER, Dr. ROBINSON, a dentist, and (W. C.) SIMS. At the meeting, BOWERS stated that DELMAR DENNIS was a personal representative in the area and that B. L. AKIN was to be in charge of all investigation. All investigative matters were to be brought to AKIN's attention and handled by him and all administrative matters were to be handled by DENNIS. All instructions from the State level would be sent through BOWERS to DELMAR DENNIS and then relayed to local units.

There was considerable discussion about who within the Lauderdale Klavern was furnishing information to the FBI.

On November 19, 1964, JN T-1 advised that on November 11, FRANK HERNDON stated that he was going to the Gulf Coast but that he would try to return for the Klan meeting on November 12, 1964.

On November 19, 1964, JN T-1 advised that on November 12, 1964, he attended a meeting of the Lauderdale Klavern at Room 509 of the Lamar Hotel, at which time the following individuals were in attendance:

SAM BOWERS
TOMMY HORNE
DELMAR DENNIS
W. C. SIMS
HERBERT BREWER
C. W. MILLER
CHARLEY MOSLEY
JAMES T. HARRIS

DEE SCITZ
B. L. AKIN
ALGENE PRICE
LESTER PRICE, and
a man named RAYMOND (Last name
unknown), but believed to be
RAWSON.

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Considerable discussion was had concerning who within the organization was furnishing information to the FBI. During the course of the meeting, TOMMY HORNE asked if the group did not have the right under the constitution to peaceful assembly, to which SAM BOWERS replied that they did have this right but not to abuse it nor should they hide behind the law.

BOWERS also stated that he was appointing DELMAR DENNIS as Titan. BOWERS also indicated that he would appoint more Kleagles to help C. W. MILLER handle the recruiting within the area. He further instructed MILLER to help DEXTER TORRANCE reorganize Unit 2 and also to help in Unit 1.

BOWERS instructed the group that if any unit needed help, C. W. MILLER was to assist them.

On November 28, 1964, JN T-8 advised that he had been a member of the WKKKKOM since April of 1964.

He stated there were six units within the Lauderdale Klavern and the unit leaders are: FRANK HERNDON, DEXTER TORRANCE, W. S. TORRANCE, TOMMY HORNE, W. C. SIMS, and JERRY BARFIELD.

JN T-8 further stated that FRANK HERNDON is the Exalted Cyclops of the Lauderdale Klavern.

On December 14, 1964, JN T-1 advised that SAM BOWERS had appointed GEORGE H. BIRDSONG (BILLY BIRDSONG) to the position of Imperial Investigator directly responsible to BOWERS.

JN T-1 further stated that B. I. AKIN stated that he was having no more to do with the Klan and was conducting no more investigation on anyone.

C. Membership

The following is a list of members of the Lauderdale County Klavern, including the dates that they were identified as members by confidential informants. All dates referred to were in 1964.

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<u>Name</u>	<u>T-1</u>	<u>T-2</u>	<u>T-3</u>	<u>T-4</u>	<u>T-5</u>	<u>T-6</u>	<u>T-10</u>	<u>T-8</u>	<u>T-9</u>
Willian Acy Agent	9/13								
Bernard L. Akin	9/13	10/10	10/23	11/19	11/12	10/15		11/28	11/10
Earl B. Akin	9/13		10/23			10/15			11/10
Charles William Alexander	9/13								
Gerald M. Alexander	9/13								
James Alexander	9/13								
(First Name Unknown) ALEXANDER	9/13								
Robert Franklin Alexander	9/13								
Kenneth Durwood Alsup	9/13		12/14	11/19					
Jimmy Arledge	9/13								
Lavelle Bane				11/19					
Charles Barfield	9/13	10/29	11/6		11/12				11/10
Gerald Frank Barfield	9/13	10/20	10/23	11/19	11/2	11/10	10/12	11/28	10/26
Ron Barfield, Jr.				11/19					
Horace Doyle Barnette	9/13		12/14						
Travis Maryn Barnette	9/13	11/10	10/23	11/19					
James T. Barnette	9/13		11/6						10/28
Tommy S. Beddingfield	9/18							11/28	
Herbert Brewer	9/18					10/5			

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<u>Name</u>	<u>T-1</u>	<u>T-2</u>	<u>T-3</u>	<u>T-4</u>	<u>T-5</u>	<u>T-6</u>	<u>T-10</u>	<u>T-8</u>	<u>T-9</u>
George H. (Billy) Birdsong	9/18	10/10	10/23	11/19	11/12	10/20	10/12	11/28	11/25
(First Name Unknown) Brown	9/13								
Louis J. Buckley	9/13								
Henry Burns		10/29							
Oscar Lavone Burt	9/18							11/28	
D. L. Caldwell	9/18								
Barnard Malone Clay	9/13								10/28
Morgan Cochran, Jr.	9/18								
James Vernon Cook	9/18							11/28	
Tommie Harold Crenshaw	9/18								
Paul Crice	9/18								
Joe Curry	9/18								
Clarence Anderson Dearman	9/13		11/6					11/28	
Rufus Tal De Cell	9/13							11/28	
Delmar Dennis	9/18	10/12	11/6	11/19	11/12	11/13	10/12	10/28	
Allen Dial	9/18							11/10	
David Dial	9/18							11/28	
Grady Dial								11/10	
Oscar Dial								11/10	
Tommie Clifford Dixon	10/15		10/23		11/12	10/5			
Joseph Harmon Eubanks	9/18								

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Name	T-1	T-2	T-3	T-4	T-5	T-6	T-10	T-8	T-9
Clarence Joseph Bvaredge	9/22								
Cicero C. Ferrill	9/18		10/23						
Ed Frasier	9/13		11/6		11/12	10/15			
Thomas Gaddis	9/13								
Riley Garret, Jr.	9/18								
J. D. Gartman	9/13		11/6						11/10
Bobby Gipson	9/18								
Horace L. Goodman	9/18								
Benton Gordon	9/18								
James Paul Grice	9/18								
Roy Phillips Griffin	9/18		11/6						
Jessie K. Hagemeyer	9/13								
Ben C. Hagawood	9/13					10/20		11/28	
First Name Unknown Hanner	9/13								
Walter Roy Harlin									11/10
Roland Warren Handy	9/13			11/19				11/28	
Billy Joe Harvin	9/18								10/28
James T. (Pete) Harris	9/13	10/19	11/6		11/12	10/15		11/28	
Augustus Nash Harris									
Charles F. Harrison	9/13								
Junior Harrison	9/13								
Archie Hester						11/20		11/28	
Joseph H. Hutto	9/18								

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<u>Name</u>	<u>T-1</u>	<u>T-2</u>	<u>T-3</u>	<u>T-4</u>	<u>T-5</u>	<u>T-6</u>	<u>T-10</u>	<u>T-8</u>	<u>T-9</u>
J. M. (Mike) Hatcher	9/13	10/29	11/6						
John P. Hedgepeth	9/13	10/10							
First Name Unknown Henderson	9/18								
Frank Herndon	9/13	10/12	11/6	11/19	11/12	10/15	10/12	11/28	10/28
Frank Filmore Hicks	9/13								
Darrell Hitt	9/18								
Dan Hollingsworth	9/18	10/21	10/20				10/21		
Arthur M. Horne	9/13								
Tommy A. Horne	9/13		10/6	11/19	11/12	10/15		11/28	10/23
John Hopper	10/15								
Richard Harold James	9/18								
Albert Lonnie Jones	9/18								
James Edward Jordan	9/13	10/29	11/6	11/19		10/19			
Jack Jordan	9/13				11/19				10/11
James Edward Jordan	9/13	10/29	11/6	11/19		10/19			
Harold Arnold Keller	10/24							11/28	
Konrad Kene	9/18								
Charles W. Kidd	9/13								
Cecil Killen	9/13 (Admitted membership)								
William Lewis Killen	9/13								
Carlton L. Lavender	9/13								
Garland L. Lavender	9/13								
Elmer Lewis	9/13					11/10			
William Ralph Lewis	9/13								
Bernard Clifton Lide	9/13	10/29	10/23		11/12	10/5	10/12	11/28	

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<u>Name</u>	<u>T-1</u>	<u>T-2</u>	<u>T-3</u>	<u>T-4</u>	<u>T-5</u>	<u>T-6</u>	<u>T-10</u>	<u>T-8</u>	<u>T-9</u>
Austin McCary	9/13								
Delmar C. McCormick	9/13		11/6						
Charles Wayne McGee	9/18					10/20			
Donald Russell Maddox	9/13	10/29	11/6						
Raymond Clyde Matheney	9/13							11/28	11/10
Reginald Miles	9/13								
C. Wallace Miller	9/13	10/12	10/23	11/19	11/12	10/5	10/12	11/28	
James Curtis Miller	9/13	10/29	10/23						
Clifton Moore						11/29			
Norman Charles Mosley	9/18								
A. D. Neal	9/13							11/28	
J. D. Neal	9/13							11/28	
William A. Nelson	9/22								
Hubert Clarke Odom	9/13			11/19					
William Martin Pace	9/13		11/6						
"Red" Parker			11/6						
Donald Partridge									
H. J. (Shorty) Partridge	9/18								
Owen Vastine Pratt	9/13	10/12	11/6	11/19				11/28	
Lester Price	9/13				11/12	10/24		11/28	
Joseph Algene Price	9/13		11/6	11/19	11/12	11/10		11/28	
William L. Rainer, Jr.	9/19								
(First Name Unknown) Richardson	9/19								
J. C. Rigdon	9/18								

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<u>Name</u>	<u>T-1</u>	<u>T-2</u>	<u>T-3</u>	<u>T-4</u>	<u>T-5</u>	<u>T-6</u>	<u>T-10</u>	<u>T-8</u>	<u>T-9</u>
Alton Wayne Roberts	9/13	11/29	12/14	11/19	11/12		10/12	11/28	11/10
Clyde C. Roberts	9/13								11/10
Lee Roberts	9/13	10/29	11/6					11/28	11/10
Raymond Roberts	9/13								
Curtis Samuel Robinson	9/13					10/24	10/12		
Edward Beauregard Robinson	9/13							11/28	
Billy Rogers	9/18					10/15			
M. E. Rogers	9/18								
Jim Rutledge	9/13	10/29	11/6			10/15		11/28	
Jerry W. Scipple	9/13		11/6						
Dee Scitz	9/22								
Chester L. Scott	11/11								
George Davis Scott	11/11								
Homer C. Scott	11/11								
James Franklin Sessions	9/13								
Roy Frank Sharp	9/18								
Walter Frank Sharp						11/13			
Claude Bryant Simmons	9/18								11/10
Victor Williams Simmons	9/18						10/12		11/10
Willie Copeland Sims	9/13				11/10			11/28	11/10
Aubrey (Snow) Smith	9/13								

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<u>Name</u>	<u>T-1</u>	<u>T-2</u>	<u>T-3</u>	<u>T-4</u>	<u>T-5</u>	<u>T-6</u>	<u>T-10</u>	<u>T-8</u>	<u>T-9</u>
Gary Smith	9/13					11/29		11/28	
Jimmie Snowden	9/13		10/23						
Fred G. Speed	9/29								
A. D. Thomas	9/18								
Marshall Fred Thomas, Jr.	9/13								
Dexter Torrance	9/13		10/23			10/15		11/28	
W. S. Torrance, Jr.	9/13		10/23					11/28	
James Turner	9/22								
Charles Vincent	9/13				11/12			11/28	
Oliver Richard Warner	9/13		11/6						
Ed Watkins			11/6						
Richard Wilson Watkins	9/13	10/29				10/10			
Paul Wilson			11/6						
Cicero Warren (Red) Woodricks	9/13		11/6			11/29			

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III. ACTIVITIES OF THE LAUDERDALE KLAVERN, WHITE KNIGHTS OF THE
KU KLUX KLAN OF MISSISSIPPI (WKKKKOM)

On November 19, 1964, JN T-4 advised that he attended a meeting of the Lauderdale Klavern on April 16, 1964, and thereafter on a weekly basis through May. He stated that meetings were held on April 16 and April 22, 1964, at PRICE's store in the Key Field area of Meridian, Mississippi, and were mostly for the purpose of recruiting and organizing the Klavern. He stated that he also attended a meeting on April 30, 1964, at a fish camp or club house on the Chunky River in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. At this meeting, TOMMY HORNE asked for volunteers for a Klan action at which time there were volunteers. They later learned that the purpose of this action was to observe the activities of Council of Federated Organizations (COFO) workers in Meridian, Mississippi. He stated he also attended a meeting during the middle of May, 1964, which was held at a location about two miles south of Meridian, Mississippi, on Route 45. At the end of May, 1964, there was a meeting of the Lauderdale Klavern held at the Harris Box Plant. He stated that the next meeting he attended was at JACK JORDAN's home and that the last meeting he attended was in June of July, 1964, at TRAVIS BARNETTE's trailer. He stated that the main purpose for all of these meetings was to initiate and obligate new members.

JN T-4 further stated that he knew of a Klan action at which time Lauderdale Klavern members led by BILLY BIRDSONG contacted a sixty year old bootlegger near Philadelphia, Mississippi, to warn him against discussing the Klan and Klan activities outside Klan meetings. These Lauderdale Klavern members told this bootlegger that if he were to continue discussing the Klan he would be killed.

JN T-4 further stated that BILLY BIRDSONG has made statements in his presence which makes him believe that BIRDSONG is the individual responsible for church burnings and church bombings by the Lauderdale Klavern. On one occasion, BIRDSONG explained the difference between dynamite and TNT and nitro and represented himself as an expert in the field of explosives.

On October 12, 1964, JN T-10 advised that he attended a meeting of the Lauderdale Klavern on June 3, 1964, at a fish camp on the Chunky River in Lauderdale County. He stated that there were thirty to thirty-five persons present and a collection was taken up to purchase a .38 caliber revolver for Reverend DELMAR DENNIS. A call

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was made for volunteers to make harassing telephone calls to civil rights workers. Individuals in attendance were advised that they should wear their side arms.

On October 5, 1964, JN T-6 advised that a group of individuals representing the Lauderdale County Klavern, went to DeKalb, Mississippi, where ten individuals were initiated into the Klan. Those individuals from Lauderdale County participating in this matter were C. W. MILLER, T. C. DIXON, B. C. LIDE, and HERBERT C. BREWER. MILLER presided over the meeting and obligated the new members.

JN T-6 further stated that there was a plan that Klaverns throughout Mississippi would operate under the guise of hunting and fishing clubs.

JN T-6 further stated that the following secret signs of the Klan were given to the newly formed Kemper County Klavern:

1. Hand signal utilizing the thumb, index and middle finger of the right hand extended forming a letter "K".
2. Drawing the right hand with the thumb, index and middle fingers across the mouth.
3. Using a handkerchief in the right hand and wiping down across the nose and across the face at the mouth forming a cross.
4. A hand shake whereby the index finger of the right hand is tapped three times against the wrist of the person with whom a Klansman is shaking hands and the countersign given the same way is the response that the other person is a Klansman.
5. By a hand shake with the index finger being drawn within the palm of the hand.
6. To draw a cross on the ground with the foot, stepping back a few feet, countersign by which a fellow-Klansman may be recognized by having this person come up and spoil the cross made in the soil. If no response is made, the Klansman drawing the cross is to destroy it himself and leave the area.

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JN T-6 further advised that he had learned of a Klan proposition whereby a prisoner from the State Prison would be released from prison in order to carry out a Klan action without the knowledge of anyone, after which he would be returned to the prison with the promise of a full pardon from the Governor. This proposition has allegedly been proposed to Governor PAUL JOHNSON who refused to participate in such an action.

JN T-6 further advised that during the October 4, 1964, meeting, the following was explained as a proper procedure in building a Klan-approved cross:

The cross is to be built from two by four lumber twelve feet long. A piece five feet in length is cut to stand upright and a three foot piece is cut to be used as the arm. It is nailed twelve inches from the top of the cross. One two-foot piece is used to form part of the stand, and two one-foot pieces used to complete the stand. The cross is then wrapped in burlap and attached with wire. It is then soaked in diesel fuel and a pint of gasoline is poured on it at the time it is ignited.

On October 1, 1964, JN T-1 advised that the Lauderdale Klavern had collected \$125 for CHARLES BARFIELD's defense.

It is noted that CHARLES BARFIELD was arrested in connection with his having attempted to shoot into the home of murdered civil rights worker, JAMES EARL CHANEY. BARFIELD did not know where CHANEY's family resided and shot into a house down the block.

On October 1, 1964, JN T-1 further advised that harassment calls had been made to the offices of the Chief and Assistant Chief of Police, as a civil rights case against Klansman LEE ROBERTS, a member of the Meridian Police Department was under investigation. JN T-1 stated that CLARENCE DEARMAN, LEE ROBERTS, DEXTER TORRANCE, and BILLY BIRDSONG made these calls.

On October 10, 1964, JN T-2 advised that Meridian Klansmen congregated at the Longhorn Drive-In on Tom Bailey Drive, the Shamrock Drive-In just off Highway 19 North, and Akin's Trailer Sales on Tom Bailey Drive.

FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

On October 24, 1964, JN T-1 advised that sometime during June, 1964, the Lauderdale Klavern approved the whipping of a white man whose name was RAINER because he was living with a Negro woman on 31st Avenue. At a subsequent meeting, JIM RUTLEDGE announced that this action had been taken care of. Preacher EDGAR RAY KILLEN was present at this meeting and told those in attendance that a completed action should not be discussed at meetings. Sometime in late June or early July, 1964, according to JN T-1, [redacted]

[redacted] all Lauderdale Klavern members, indicated that they wanted to kill an unnamed Negro who used his seniority rights to take over a white man's job at the Flintkote Plant at Meridian. Because [redacted] backed out of this job, the story was circulated that [redacted] was yellow and had "chickened out." [redacted] had been known to make the statement that the Klan group was too bloodthirsty for him.

On November 7, 1964, JN T-5 advised that there was a meeting of both the Lauderdale and Neshoba Klaverns on June 16, 1964, at which time DELMAR DENNIS was selected to go on a "job." Since he owns no gun he was not permitted to go and subsequently Klan members took up a collection to purchase him a pistol.

On October 21, 1964, JN T-4 advised that there was a plan within the Lauderdale Klavern to form a secret innergroup where all members wear masks and black uniforms. This group would carry out all Klan action for the Klavern and since all are masked and no one knows the exact identity of the men, no one would be able to testify to who actually participated.

It is noted that JAMES RUTLEDGE who has been previously identified as a member of the Lauderdale Klavern, was arrested in possession of dynamite by local authorities on October 8, 1964.

On October 15, 1964, JN T-1 advised that on October 9, 1964, a delegation from the Lauderdale Klavern was sent to Laurel, Mississippi, to discuss the arrest of RUTLEDGE with SAM BOWERS, Imperial Wizard, WKKKKOM.

BOWERS instructed the group to get a lawyer for RUTLEDGE, but to explain to him it would be sixty days before he would get his money.

JN T-1 further stated that on October 13, 1964, it became evident to the Klavern that RUTLEDGE had talked. It was then suggested that someone rent a room at the hotel across from the jail and as RUTLEDGE passed a jail window to shoot him with a high powered rifle.

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On November 5, 1964, JN T-6 advised that when JAMES RUTLEDGE was arrested and put in jail, the Lauderdale Klavern got \$5,000 from Laurel, Mississippi, for his defense and bail. When they learned that he had talked to law enforcement officials and named names they held up the money and decided that they would not help him. [redacted] is known to have said that even if it takes five years he will take care of RUTLEDGE and RUTLEDGE is "hanging on a rod and a thread."

On November 11, 1964, JN T-1 advised that a delegation from the Lauderdale Klavern had gone to Laurel, Mississippi, to meet with SAM BOWERS on November 4, 1964. The subject of JAMES RUTLEDGE was discussed and BOWERS stated that RUTLEDGE had talked and, therefore, would be taken care of, but not by anyone from Meridian or Philadelphia.

On October 24, 1964, JN T-6 advised that the Lauderdale Klavern had formulated a plan whereby a Klansman would approach JAMES RUTLEDGE, at which time he would be advised that if he would deny in court that certain individuals whom he is alleged to have named as Klansmen, were members of the WKKKKOM, then certain help would be extended to him. If he refused he would receive no assistance from the Klan.

On November 10, 1964, JN T-6 advised that in connection with a city-wide Lauderdale County Medical Association project, all individuals could get oral type polio vaccine by appearing at any of the Meridian Public Schools on designated Sundays.

JN T-6 stated that he had learned from FRANK HERNDON that the Lauderdale Klavern had received a list of all Negroes who had gone to white schools instead of Negro schools to get their polio vaccine on Sunday, November 8, 1964. Informant stated he did not know the purpose of obtaining this information.

On November 12, 1964, JN T-5 advised that the Auxiliary Police in Lauderdale and Neshoba Counties are actually covers for membership in the Klan. JN T-5 stated that a WILLIE DENNIS, a preacher at Philadelphia, Mississippi, had joined the Klan in Meridian, but later transferred to the Neshoba County unit. He did not like the Klan and left. He thought he might be able to join the Neshoba County Auxiliary Police, only to find that the same group who attended Klan meetings were members of the Auxiliary Police.

On November 19, 1964, JN T-1 advised that he had learned from ED FRASIER, Klan Senator, the following information:

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FRED HARRIS, a Lauderdale Klansman is a member of the Lauderdale County Grand Jury which indicted JAMES RUTLEDGE for possession of dynamite. There were three Klansmen on the Grand Jury and each of them made a speech before the Grand Jury attacking RUTLEDGE thus insuring his indictment. This was done because RUTLEDGE had allegedly told law enforcement officials everything he knew about the Klan and it was the Klansmen's plan to use this method to get even with RUTLEDGE.

On November 25, 1964, JN T-9 advised that there had been a meeting of the Lauderdale County Klavern on November 23, 1964.

On November 26, 1964, JN T-1 advised that he had learned through [redacted] participated in the burning of a church at Aberdeen, Mississippi. Birdsong also implied that he, [redacted] burned a church about five miles from Meridian, possibly the Mt. Moriah Church

On November 26, 1964, JN T-1 stated that all unit heads and officers of the Lauderdale Klavern were contacted on November 23, 1964, to meet immediately at Room 19 at the Valley Motel. DEWITT SMITH, W. L. HOLLINGTON, FRANK JAMES and FRANK HERNDON and a man by the name of SCOTT from the Scott's Service Station did not attend. ALGENE PRICE, BILLY BIRDSONG, C. W. MILLER, B. C. LIDE, TOMMY HORNE, DELMAR DENNIS, B. L. AKIN and J. H. HARPER attended the meeting. HARPER presided over the meeting and DELMAR DENNIS gave the opening prayer.

On November 28, 1964, JN T-8 advised that four individuals from the Lauderdale Klavern were aware of the burning of a church near Collinsville, Mississippi. On Friday evening prior to the burning of this church, several Klansmen conducted a surveillance of this church and believed that COFO workers and Negroes were meeting at this church for the purpose of voter registration. The following Tuesday at about midnight, the church was burned. This was not a State approved action but it was an independent act of Lauderdale County Klavern members.

When the details of this incident appeared in local newspapers the State Klan ordered no more church burnings without State approval.

JN T-5 further advised that [redacted] and an individual named [redacted], a college student, burned a church near Columbus, Mississippi during 1964, and that Birdsong has boasted about this in Klan circles.

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On November 28, 1964, JN T-1 advised that the Lauderdale Klavern burned several crosses throughout Meridian, Mississippi at exactly 9 PM on the date that BYRON DE LA BECKWITH was released through a mistrial.

On November 28, 1964, JN T-1 further advised that he recalled that the Lauderdale Klavern approved the whipping of a L. B. BARRETT formerly of Philadelphia, for living with a Negro woman in Philadelphia, Mississippi.

FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

On November 29, 1964, JN T-1 advised that [redacted] had boasted that he and a [redacted] had gone to Philadelphia, Mississippi, on a Klan action to intimidate a bootlegger believed to be named FANNIN and were going to kill him because he talked too much and did not properly care for his family. [redacted] related that after backing up this individual, they stopped at the Sheriff's Office to see Lawrence Rainey, Neshoba County Sheriff and his Deputy, CECIL PRICE, about where to take this individual. During the course of the time they were in the Sheriff's Office, a vote was held whether to kill this individual or not and PRICE told them they should not kill him.

On November 29, 1964, JN T-1 further advised that a group including JIMMIE SNOWDEN, [redacted], JIMMY ARLEDGE, and DOYLE and TRAVIS BARNETTE allegedly received permission from FRANK HERNDON to kill one BILL ROGERS, a used car salesman who allegedly belongs to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. At the time he authorized the action, HERNDON is alleged to have said that they could kill this individual and if they ran into any trouble, HERNDON would tell SAM BOWERS that the job had been authorized but the paper work was not completed.

IV. REORGANIZATION PLAN

On November 13, 1964, JN T-6 advised at an officers meeting on November 12, 1964, SAM BOWERS, Imperial Wizard, instructed the Lauderdale Klavern to disband and reorganize, accepting only members who could be trusted. BOWERS stated that the group present that night were the most trusted members of the Lauderdale Klavern and that from that group a new organization would be formed. BOWERS also stated that the Klavern should take no action toward obtaining new members and to dispense with all activities for a while.

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On November 21, 1964, JN T-6 advised that concerning the above reorganization plan, unit heads would start with two or three man meetings and that if the FBI does not interview them they will take in one other member to this group and continue this process until the FBI interviews one of the new recruits. At this time they will know who the informant is and would delete this member from their group. Then the unit will disband and start over again using the same procedure.

On November 26, 1964, JN T-1 advised that at the meeting at the Valley Motel on November 23, 1964, J. H. HARPER presided. The main message was a reorganizational plan. He stated that each unit should consist of twelve men with one President for each two units which should meet twice a month on opposite weeks and once each month together.

HARPER also stated that the State organization had now given permission to bring in any white Anglo-Saxons except Catholics, provided they would support the Klan, even an FBI Agent if he would pay his \$10 initiation fees and the affiliation dues. New members should be upstanding citizens in the community and regular in church attendance. He stated that the Klan desired 500 men in each county of Mississippi to be Klansmen, thereby permitting the Klan to elect State officials and that the Mississippi Klan would join in other State Klan groups and eventually would have the power to change the Constitution of the United States back to its original form and turn the Government back to the people. HARPER stated that there was to be no action on the part of the Klan for 90 days except concentrated recruitment. He further stated that all the recruits could be secret members and would not have to attend meetings but would have to pay initiation fees and dues.

On November 27, 1964, JN T-6 also reported that JESSE HARPER, Grand Dragon, had presided over a meeting on November 23, 1964, at the Valley Motel, with B. C. LIDE, BILLY BIRDSONG, WALLACE MILLER, PETE HARRIS, B. L. AKIN, and ALGENE PRICE in attendance. He stated that the Klan should be reorganized in Lauderdale County with each unit consisting of twelve men. JN T-6 also reported that any white Anglo-Saxons except Catholics were eligible to enter the Klan provided they would support the organization, even an FBI Agent provided he would pay initiation fees and dues.

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V. PUBLICATIONS OF THE LAUDERDALE KLAVERN

On November 12, 1964, JN T-5 advised that there is a black list prepared by the Lauderdale Klavern. ED FRASIER, Senator of the Lauderdale Klavern, originated this list which is aimed against those persons who are supposedly disloyal to the Mississippi way of life. It has been widely distributed and includes such names of persons who are known liberals such as BILLY NEVILLE who is a Liberal Democrat. These persons on this black list are targets for harassment. An example of the harassment is that Klansmen are assigned to repeatedly call an individual on the black list and then hang up.

On November 28, 1964, JN T-8 advised that he is aware of a Klan black list published by the Lauderdale Klavern. He stated that any individual sympathetic with the civil rights movement or integration is considered an enemy of the Klan and is placed on this list. An example is DON TODD, Superintendent of Education, Meridian, Mississippi.

On November 28, 1964, JN T-1 advised that TOMMY HORNE and ED FRASIER had participated in the publication and/or delivering of a Klan black list. B. L. AKIN stated that the Dement Printing Company, Meridian, Mississippi, printed this black list and EARL AKIN and J. T. BARNETT delivered the black list in a green 1957 Ford.

On November 11, 1964, JN T-1 advised that he had learned on November 4, 1964, that ED FRASIER had indicated that the Lauderdale Klavern owed him \$37.50 for an article which was published in the Sunday Meridian Star for November 8, 1964. This article informed the people what to do in the event that they were talked to by the FBI.

The November 8, 1964 issue of the Meridian Star contained the following article:

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"The following is being reproduced from the October 1, 1964, issue of The Southern Review, P.O. Box 426, Jackson, Mississippi, by the Lauderdale County Citizens' Council, Inc., as a public service, in order that citizens may know their rights. In so doing the Citizens' Council does not imply that information in any real criminal investigation should be withheld from investigation officers.

"On Being Investigated By
The F. B. I.

"Our Washington correspondent writes the following report. In view of the fact that an increasing number of white people are being questioned in Mississippi by F.B.I. Agents, as an outgrowth of the Mississippi Summer Project, and are being harassed to an extent never before known, it is of special importance to give his conclusions:

"a. When the FBI agent calls upon you, insist upon complete identification. They carry their credentials (plus a photograph), and you have a right to examine those credentials carefully and in detail. Copy down the name, address, and FBI number of the agent.

"b. The FBI agent is supposed to tell you that you are not required to answer his questions. Some agents tell you that, but others do not. If the agent does not make that introductory statement, ask him if you are under a court order to provide information.

"c. Say nothing to the FBI agent. When questioned, say 'no comment.'

"d. The FBI agents are given special training in regard to the silent subject who refuses to answer questions. They will try to make you angry, in order that your tongue may be loosened. They will play upon your sympathy ('I don't

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/amh

like this assignment, Mr. ---- I'm a Southerner, too-but I have been ordered by my Kennedy-appointed superior to question you. '), and they will try flattery as well. The best way to defeat such training is to apply the following three rules: (1) silence; (2) more silence; (3) still more silence,

"e. Be careful of the FBI man who calls you down to his automobile and opens a conversation with you at that location. There will most certainly be a tape recorder in the car, and your conversation will find its way to Washington via air mail.

"f. If meetings are held at your home, someone will check the numbers on the license plates in order to trace the name and address of the individual owner.

"g. Your telephone could be tapped, and your house could be 'bugged.' You can throw a legal monkey wrench into those practices by saying, at a meeting or over the telephone, 'If my conversation is being recorded, it is being done so without my permission.' By recording that statement, the FBI will be destroying the court value of the 'bug'. (As you know, a 'bug' is a small microphone.)

"h. If you are under a court order to provide information to the FBI, you do not have to say anything without first consulting your attorney. In other words, you are entitled to the presence of your attorney before you make a statement.

"i. FBI agents are graduates of law schools, i.e., they are lawyers. One of the weak points about the FBI is that its agents can frequently be spotted: A lawyer looks like a lawyer. The FBI uses persons other than lawyers, of course, and those persons frequently infiltrate organizations in order to engage in spy work."

On November 15, 1964, JN T-6 advised that he had learned that the article which appeared in Sunday's Meridian Star

JN 157-343
/amh

advising individuals of their rights and techniques used by the FBI during interview was paid for by the Lauderdale County Klavern and members have been requested to donate money to pay for this article.

On November 12, 1964, JN T-5 advised that he had learned that the advertisement concerning being questioned by the FBI which appeared in the Meridian Star on November 8, 1964, had been paid for by FRANK HERNDON, Exalted Cyclops, and other members.

On November 11, 1964, JN T-1 advised that on November 3, 1964, SAM BOWERS, Imperial Wizard of the WKKKKOM, Laurel, Mississippi, furnished to the Lauderdale Klavern a list of 37 questions with the instructions that these should be given to various police agencies including the FBI and distributed among Klan members.

On November 13, 1964, JN T-6 advised that at a meeting on November 12, 1964, the officers of the Lauderdale County Klavern gave to each person present "A Standard Examination Form" consisting of 37 questions to be distributed to other Klan members.

JN T-6 made available a copy of this Standard Examination Form which states as follows:

"STANDARD EXAMINATION FORM

"To be used by all Christian American Patriots as an aid in properly identifying all unknown Persons who may be seeking information. At least one other Christian American Patriot should be present when giving this EXAMINATION. Persons who refuse to take this EXAMINATION or who fail to answer the questions in a forthright and satisfactory manner should be regarded as ENEMIES of the Constitutional Republic of the United States of America and should be considered as Emissaries of the anti-Christ, Satan.

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- "1. Do you believe in Almighty God, the ONE Supreme Creator, Ruler and Judge of the Universe?
- "2. Do you believe in the Redeeming Spirit of the Christ, Jesus, Son of the Living God and the SOLE Intecessor for the Sins of Mankind, by Whom NONE cometh into the Kingdom of the Father, except by HIM?
- "3. Do you believe that the Holy Scriptures are the Greatest tangible asset which is possessed by man on this earth, and that the WORD contained therein must be the Prime Guide by which man must conduct himself here on earth?
- "4. Do you acknowledge the King James Version of the Holy Writ as the Prime Writ for Americans and recognize the attempts to 'revise' and 'standardize' and 'merge' this version with other texts as nothing but a deliberate attempt to degrade and profane the 'Word' into just another collection of religious writings?
- "5. Do you believe that any mortal man here on earth has the power to pardon or to redeem the sins of another, or that any mortal man can accumulate the power or ability whereby he could become an Advocate in the Court of Almighty God to intercede for the remission of the sins of another?
- "6. Do you believe that the Mercy and Advocacy of Christ is available to all those who humbly and honestly seek Him?
- "7. Do you believe that any Human Being has the power to cut another Human Being off from, and deny the Salvation of Christ to another?

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- "8. Do you believe that the most any True Christian can do for a fellow Human Being is to help his fellow to see the Path to the Living Christ and try to gently lead him Up that Path, but that no one may or can be FORCED to accept Christ, and each individual must accept or reject Christ according to his individual will?
- "9. Do you believe that a powerful, supernatural Force of Evil, called Anti-Christ or Satan does exist in the world?
- "10. Do you recognize the Fact that all men are continually being torn between the Force of Christ and the Anti-Christ Forces of Satan?
- "11. Do you recognize the Fact that man is absolutely helpless before Satan until he truly and humbly Accepts the Living Christ as his own Personal Savior; and that all of man's intelligence, and his material gifts: his education, his prestige, his property, his money, his good intentions and his works are worthless against Satan, UNLESS there is an Absolute, Primary Foundation of an undying Belief in, Acceptance of and Reliance upon The Living Christ at the root-center of each man's Being?
- "12. Do you accept the Living Christ, Jesus as your Personal Savior and your ONLY Hope against Satan?
- "13. Do you recognize that all good intentions and works which are not founded in Christ are either meaningless or EVil?
- "14. Do you believe that Satan impels some men to rule and control the earthly life and destiny of other men, and gives them power to do so?

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- "15. Do you believe that Almighty God so ordained man that he should live free of the control of the will of other men, and that no man has the right to initiate Trespass against another, or initiate by any means whatsoever anything to bring another man under the control of his will?
- "16. Do you recognize that a True Christian American Patriot will turn the other cheek to those who wrong him, but will destroy those who attempt to destroy him. and will seek to destroy those who seek to destroy him, because anything less would be suicide?
- "17. Do you believe that Christianity requires that a True Christian should not resist having his earthly life taken by a killer?
- "18. Do you recognize the fact that the United States of America is the only Governmental System ever built in the world with the announced intention and recognized purpose of protecting the Life, Liberty, and the RIGHT to pursue Happiness of each and every one of the Law-Abiding, responsible citizens under its jurisdiction, after FIRST recognizing the FACT that these Rights were God-given in the FIRST place and were therefore not within the province of any man, group of men, or government either to GRANT or to DENY?
- "19. Do you understand that this one point covered in Question #18 is the Basic and Fundamental point which makes the United States of America unique in the world and therefore absolutely different from, and therefore properly in opposition to every other governmental system in the world?

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/amh

- "20. Do you recognize that the fundamental, founding purpose and Spirit of all True Law in the USA is to implement the Will of God which obviously decrees: That man shall live free from the control of the will of his neighbor, and not trespass against his neighbor?
- "21. Do you believe that the preceeding principle is the True Spirit of American Law, which is of Divine Origin?
- "22. Do you recognize the fact that statutes and decisions must conform to this Spirit in order to be ranked as True American Law?
- "23. Do you recognize the fact that men under the influence of Satan are able to twist laws, enact laws and enforce laws under the material power of Governmental Authority which are contrary to the Spirit of American Law, and which, therefore, do not rank as True American Law?
- "24. If the Letter of the Law conflicts with the Spirit of the Law, WHICH will you adhere to, obey and enforce?
- "25. Do you acknowledge that those persons who cause or permit the Letter of the Law to conflict with the Spirit of the Law in America are the Prime Enemies of the Republic of the United States of America and of every innocent citizen and person under its jurisdiction?
- "26. Do you believe that your personal, physical survival is tied to the maintenance of a governmental administration in America which will continuously implement the Constitutional Spirit of American Law?
- "27. Do you regard an Enemy of the Republic of the United States of America and the Spiritual Ideals which are protected by its Constitution as YOUR personal enemy?

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/amh

- "28. Do you differentiate between the Government of the United States of America and the PERSONS who hold offices and positions under its Constitution?
- "29. If the minions of material governmental authority threaten, attempt to, or use physical force and violence to enforce compliance with some letter of law which is in clear conflict with the Constitution and the Spirit of American Law, do you believe that ~~the~~ Private Citizens of America have a right to oppose them with physical force, using the Constitution and the Supremacy of the Will of Almighty God as their Authority?
- "30. Do you believe in Democracy?
- "31. Do you believe in Plebescite Cannabilism?
- "32. How can demagogues be controlled in a Democracy?
- "33. Are man-made laws more useful when they are aimed at doing 'good', or when they are aimed at shackeling Satan?
- "34. What is your definition of "communism"?
- "35. What is the motivating force behind 'communism'?
- "36. Do you believe that the Spirit of American Law will be helped or be injured by becoming entangled in Foreign Affairs?
- "37. Do you believe that the International Bankers have anything worthwhile to offer America?"

On November 17, 1964, JN T-5 advised that the Klan Ledger is published irregularly by the State Organization of the Klan and distributed among Klan members in an effort to orient

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them as to the Klan philosophy. These publications are not to be distributed outside the Klan but are publications utilized as education material for Klan members.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

VI. FINANCES

On October 1, 1964, JN T-1 advised that when CHARLES BARFIELD was arrested for shooting into the house of a Negro in the neighborhood near the residence of JAMES E. CHANEY, efforts were made to collect funds for BARFIELD's defense and it was necessary for the Klan to borrow money due to a lack of finances.

On October 30, 1964, JN T-1 advised that all the money in the Klan Treasury was utilized in BARFIELD's defense and \$125 was borrowed from B. L. AKIN to go BARFIELD's bond.

On November 12, 1964, JN T-5 advised that each person obligated into the Klan was obligated \$10 initiation fees plus dues. A certain per cent of this money was to go to the State Organization and the rest to go to the local Klan.

He further stated that the local treasury of the Lauderdale Klavern has been depleted, although the State Organization may have some money. When CHARLES BARFIELD shot into someone's house it cost the local Klan \$500 to help him.

On November 19, 1964, JN T-1 advised that he had learned that the State Organization still owed the Lauderdale Klavern \$500 for legal fees as a result of a State approved Klan action.

On November 26, 1964, JN T-1 advised that at a meeting on November 23, 1964, Grand Dragon JESSIE HARPER announced that the State Organization was in bad shape financially and a \$2 accessment was being placed on each Klansman throughout the state. He stated that in addition

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/amh

to the \$10 initiation fee received from each new recruit in the current recruitment drive, the State should be able to meet its obligations.

HARPER was asked if the Lauderdale Klavern would get back its \$500 for the CHARLES BARFIELD defense fee and HARPER said as soon as the money was available.

(Lauderdale)
JN T-1 stated that at this meeting, individuals were fined \$5 for using the Lord's name in vain at this meeting and \$5 for cursing. It was at this meeting that HARPER announced that they were to take \$10 from any white Anglo Saxon Protestant who desired to support the Klan, even FBI Agents, as a method for raising funds.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

On November 27, 1964, JN T-6 advised that the Klan was in bad financial condition and that a \$2 accessment would be placed on each Klansman throughout the state.

VII. FACTIONALISM WITHIN THE LAUDERDALE KLAVERN

JN T-1 advised on October 21, 1964; October 24, 1964; November 11, 1964; November 26, 1964; December 12, 1964 and December 14, 1964, that the main topic of conversation and the main interest of the Lauderdale Klavern and Lauderdale Klavern members was to identify the individual who was talking to the FBI. He stated that conversations with individual Klansmen resulted in those Klansmen suspecting and accusing practically every active Lauderdale Klavern member of being an FBI informant and furnishing Klan secret information. He stated that without exception, every active Klan member was suspected and accused of being this informant and that information was leaked to various individuals, in an effort to identify who of the Lauderdale Klavern members were talking to the FBI.

In this regard, according to JN T-1, GEORGE H. (BILLY) BIRDSONG was appointed Imperial Investigator of the

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/amh

Klan, responsible only to province and state officials with the express purpose of identifying FBI informants.

On November 28, 1964, JN T-2 advised that during October, 1964, every conversation he had with another member of the Lauderdale Klavern and at every meeting between Lauderdale Klavern members, the major topic of conversation was how to identify an informant. In all of these conversations each individual would openly accuse other individuals of being informants causing distrust among the Klan members.

On November 5, 1964, and December 11, 1964, JN T-6 advised that in each of his conversations with other Klansmen and at Klan meetings one of the main topics of conversation was the effort to identify FBI informants and open accusations of each individual active in the Lauderdale Klavern of being an informant.

On December 11, 1964, JN T-6 advised that B. C. LIDE and "Preacher" EDGAR RAY KILLEN had been banished from the Klan because it was felt that they had furnished considerable information regarding Klan activities to the FBI.

On November 28, 1964 and again on December 8, 1964, JN T-8 advised that the main topic of conversation among Klan members was the effort to identify who is furnishing information to the FBI.

On November 28, 1964, JN T-8 stated that since the FBI started interviewing Lauderdale Klavern members, Klan activities have been completely disrupted and there are very few meetings. Klan members have been demoralized and distrust each other. The leaders live in constant fear of arrest because of their knowledge of Klan violence. Activities of the Klan have been brought to a stand still because of open accusations between Klan members where they accuse each other of being Klan informants.

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On December 12, 1964, JN T-8 advised that if an individual is believed to be talking about Klan secrets a warning in the form of a dead bird is placed near the entrance to the suspected talker's home. JN T-8 continued stating that on Tuesday, December 8, 1964, a chicken was decapitated and was thrown into the carport of B. C. LIDE warning that he was suspected of talking. After having put the chicken in LIDE's carport, [redacted] telephonically contacted LIDE and told him that the dead chicken was a warning and that the next action would be to kill him.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

INTERVIEWS OF KNOWN AND SUSPECTED KLANSMEN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/13/641

On November 12, 1964, Agents drove into the driveway of Akin's Mobile Homes. BERNARD L. AKIN was observed sitting at a desk in the trailer used as his office. Other unidentified individuals were also in the trailer and it appeared to Agents that AKIN was involved in a business deal.

AKIN and his son, EARL B. AKIN, were observed to run from the office and BERNARD screamed, "Hey you! What the hell do you want?" He was advised that Agents desired to interview him at which time he stated, "I am a white Anglo-Saxon Protestant. I am not a Catholic, Nigger, Jew or Turk. Why don't you leave me alone? We have local law enforcement to handle things here. If you amounted to anything, you would quit the FBI and get a decent job. All you and BOBBY KENNEDY listen to is Jews, Niggers and Communists." He then stated that an Agent's car had been observed following his daughter-in-law and following him. BERNARD L. AKIN then stated he was followed the night before and that if it happened again, he would, "Take my gun and shoot you and say you tried to rob us." He then stated he was 50 years of age and almost 51 and had lived the best part of his life and did not care what happened to him.

AKIN then stated they leased the property where Agents were and demanded that Agents leave. He stated that Agents should go to New York where all the "Niggers" are raping white women.

On 11/12/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# JN 157-1110
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA NELSON B. KLEIN, JR., &
SA JAMES A. DAY :bjm Date dictated 11/13/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 23, 19641

GERALD MORRELL ALEXANDER, Route 5, Box 62B, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents. He was advised by SA NELSON B. KLEIN, JR., that he did not have to furnish any information, that any information he did furnish could be used against him in a court of law, that he had the right to the services of an attorney prior to making any statements.

ALEXANDER was again questioned about his possible participation in Klan activities in the Meridian, Mississippi, area and he still does not desire to say anything about Klan activities. However, he did not deny being a member of the Ku Klux Klan but did not admit that he is a member of the Klan.

He advised that he does not believe in violence and does not condone violence in connection with segregation.

He advised that he drives a 1962 Chevrolet Impala, two door, turquoise, bearing 1965 Mississippi License L10048.

He advised that he would be glad for interviewing Agents to contact him at any time in the future.

JN 157-1382
 JN 157-343
 JN 44-1

On 11/17/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File #

by SA NELSON B. KLEIN, JR., and
SA JAMES A. DAY/amh

Date dictated 11/20/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 6, 1964

1

KENNY DURWARD ALSUP, 5916 Second Street, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the FBI Agents to whom he was talking. He was advised that he did not have to furnish any information to the FBI and that any information furnished by him could be used against him in a court of law. He was also advised of his right to counsel prior to making any statement by SA VAN RIPER.

ALSUP advised he is not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi and he has never been approached to join the Klan. ALSUP stated he may have been approached but if he was he did not recognize it. ALSUP advised he is not a violence prone person and would do "nothing to harm the niggers." ALSUP advised he does not go along with any of the activities of the Klan or klan type organizations operating in Mississippi and he does not know anyone in the Klan or any organization like the Klan. ALSUP advised he hangs around a lot of the "joints" in the Meridian area and knows many of the customers who frequent these places. ALSUP stated that he is a driver salesman for Magnolia Beverages in Meridian and among his customers are the Longhorn, The Shamrock, The Lamp Post, and The Spot and he states it is "good business to get to know the people who hang around these places."

ALSUP advised if he is approached to join the Klan in the immediate future, he would be happy to cooperate with the FBI if he is asked to join the Klan.

The following description of KENNY DURWARD ALSUP was obtained through observation and interview:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	36
Date of Birth:	May 16, 1928
Place of Birth:	Haleyville, Alabama
Height:	5' 7"

On 11/3/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1372
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA THOMAS VAN RIPER and
SA JOHN L. MARTIN/amh Date dictated 11/5/64

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1

Weight: 165 pounds
Hair: Light brown, balding
Eyes: Blue
Wife: OVIDA
Children: JUDY, Age 13
DENISE, Age 12
PATTY, Age 8
KENNY, JR., Age 4
Military Service: U.S. Marines
Number 571760
Dates of service October, 1945,
to October, 1948;
1950 to 1951
Present Address: 5916 Second Street
Meridian, Mississippi
Vehicle: Pink Cadillac with white
top, Mississippi License 1D 3095

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 12, 1964

LOUIE LAVELLE BANE, commonly known as Lavelle Bane, was interviewed at the B and S Garage, 718 46th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi. At the outset of the interview, he was told he need not furnish any information, that any information he furnished could be used against him in court and that he was entitled to consult an attorney before furnishing any information. He thereafter furnished the following information.

He is not now nor has he ever been a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan or any similar klan type organization. He has never attended nor been invited or asked to attend any similar meetings. He has been in partnership for about three months with TRAVIS BARNETTE in the B and S Garage, holding one-half interest. He did not know whether BARNETTE was a member of a klan nor did he know of anyone else who is or may be a member of a klan. He has never been present when any church burnings or beatings were planned and if he had, he would have had no part of it as he is opposed to violence. He knew nothing about the killing of civil rights workers SCHWERNER, GOODMAN, and CHANEY. He was surprised that his partner, TRAVIS BARNETTE, had been arrested in connection with this killing, as BARNETTE had never said anything about it and he would not have thought of BARNETTE as one who would become involved in such a thing.

The following description was obtained concerning BANE at the time of interview:

Name	LOUIE LAVELLE BANE, commonly known as LAVELLE BANE, also known as "92"
Birth Date	April 24, 1928
Birth Place	Neshoba County, Mississippi
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5' 8½"
Weight	172 pounds
Hair	Brown, crew cut
Eyes	Hazel
Scars	Appendectomy scar on right side; 2" vertical scar on back of head at neck; brown birthmark at left waist.

On 12/8/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157- (LAVELLE BANE)
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1
 by SAs HILBERT ARPS and HENRY RASK:mtl Date dictated 12/9/64

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(LAVELLE BANE)

Parents	JACK and LENNIE BANE, Route 2, Collinsville, Mississippi
Brother	BILLY JOE BANE Okalhama City, Oklahoma
Sister	Mrs. W. J. (BETTY JEAN) BURCH, separated, residing with parents
Marital Status	Married to and residing with MARY JANETTE BANE, nee CARNEY
Children	LARRY LAVELLE BANE, age 14; WILLIAM JACKSON BANE, age 12
Home Address	326 Brunson Drive, Meridian, Mississippi
Occupation	Mechanic
Employment	Co-owner, B and S Garage, 718 46th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi
Military Service	None - classified 4-F, reason unknown
Education	Eleventh grade
Automobile	1962 Corvair, light blue
Guns Owned	.22 caliber Browning automatic rifle
Organizations	Member of Westwood Baptist Church, Meridian, Mississippi

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 20, 19641

GERALD FRANK BARFIELD, Route 6, Box 88, Meridian, Mississippi, was contacted at his residence and was advised that the interviewing Agents were Special Agents of the FBI. He was advised by SA DONALD E. GODFREY that he was not required to make any statements, that any statements which he did make could be used against him in a court of law and of his right to an attorney prior to making any statements.

BARFIELD advised that he had thought over the statements of the Agents who had previously interviewed him regarding the significance of membership in the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi. He advised that he had no reason at this time to change his prior statements that he is not now or has he ever been a member of the Klan.

BARFIELD stated that the murder of the three civil rights workers was recently discussed at the church which he attends and the point made that, even laying aside the moral consideration of the murders, these actions must be stopped or the highways and homes of all the citizens would not be safe from violence. BARFIELD advised that he was in complete agreement with this and does not condone violence by any individual or group of individuals no matter what their belief or intent.

BARFIELD stated he has the greatest respect for the FBI and would be of assistance in any manner he could, however, he did not see what assistance he might offer inasmuch as he has no knowledge of the individuals or organizations responsible for the actions of violence occurring in the State of Mississippi.

He stated he would always be willing to be contacted by the FBI at any time in the future.

On 11/18/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1156
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA DONALD E. GODFREY and
SA STEPHEN L. HALPIN/amh Date dictated 11/19/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 20, 1964

1

JAMES TORRIS BARNETT, 5703 G Street, Meridian, Mississippi, was contacted at his residence and made aware that the interviewing Agents were Special Agents of the FBI. He was advised by SA DONALD E. GODFREY that he was not required to make any statements, that any statements which he did make could be used against him in a court of law and of his right to consult with an attorney prior to making any statements.

When questioned as to membership in the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi, BARNETT stated he was not a member, had never been approached for membership, and did not even know such an organization existed in the State of Mississippi. He advised that he does believe in segregation, however, he would not personally engage in any acts of violence in furtherance of this or any other cause. He stated he has no knowledge concerning any acts of violence occurring in the State of Mississippi or the identity of the individuals or groups of individuals responsible for these acts.

When questioned as to his reaction toward any group, if it were shown they were the group responsible for specific acts of violence, BARNETT stated that he would have no reaction either for or against since he does not feel that the actions of others are any of his concern.

The following description data was obtained through observation and interview:

Name:	JAMES TORRIS BARNETT
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	July 14, 1925
Place of Birth:	Philadelphia, Mississippi
Height:	6'
Weight:	220 pounds
Hair:	Brown - graying
Eyes:	Green

On 11/19/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1115
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA DONALD E. GODFREY and
SA STEPHEN L. HALPIN/amh Date dictated 11/19/64

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Scars and Marks: $\frac{1}{2}$ " scar left upper lip;
 $\frac{1}{2}$ " scar left side of forehead;
left forefinger has stiff
first joint, tip of finger per-
manently bent downward.

Residence: 5703 G Street
Meridian, Mississippi
(2 years)

Prior residence: Natchez, Mississippi
(12 $\frac{1}{2}$ years)

Marital Status: Married
Wife: GRACIE BARNETT, nee WADE
Children: 5 children ages 5 through 17
Occupation: Service Manager,
Akins Trailer Court
Meridian, Mississippi

Military Service: U. S. Army
December, 1944, through
November, 1946
Army Serial Number 44049439

Arrest Record: None Admitted

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 18, 1964

1

TRAVIS BARNETTE was contacted at his trailer home at Route 5, Meridian, Mississippi. He was reminded by SA HILBERT ARPS that he need not furnish any information, that any information he furnished could be used against him in court and that he had the right to consult an attorney before furnishing any information.

BARNETTE was questioned concerning membership in or association with the Ku Klux Klan. He denied being a member or being associated with the Klan in any way and claimed to have no knowledge of any Klan activities.

He said his disappearance in the early part of October, 1964, had nothing to do with any Klan activities. The situation had arisen at that time when, on a Saturday afternoon, instead of returning home, he had gone drinking with his garage business partner. He got drunk and did not return home until Sunday afternoon. In the meantime, his wife had telephoned the police on Saturday afternoon and reported him missing. A local radio station picked this up as a news item and publicized it before he had a chance to get home. There was nothing else involved in the incident.

As to relatives, his wife's maiden name is EVANGELINE ARLEDGE and she is the daughter of MACK and LESSIE (phonetic) ARLEDGE. He has a brother-in-law, W. C., also known as CHESTER SCARBOROUGH (phonetic), who is also married to an ARLEDGE. SCARBOROUGH's wife and his own wife are sisters. His step mother's name is EDDIE (phonetic) BARNETTE. He declined to furnish any other information concerning relatives.

11/14/64 Meridian, Mississippi

Jackson 157-1352
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1

On _____ at _____ File # _____

SAs HILBERT ARPS and

by HENRY RASK: mtl

Date dictated 11/16/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date December 7, 1964

TRAVIS BARNETTE was contacted at the B and S Garage, 718 46th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi, of which he is co-owner. He was reminded of the rights previously explained to him, that is, that he had the right to consult an attorney before furnishing any information, that any information he furnished could be used against him in court, and that he need not furnish any information.

BARNETTE, who was engaged in making engine repairs under the hood of a truck at the time, stated he had already furnished all the information he knew and had nothing more to add. He declined to discuss his association with the Ku Klux Klan further except to deny he was a member. He also declined to be interviewed at a later time in the day.

On 11/25/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1352
Jackson 44-1
 by SAs HILBERT ARPS and HENRY RASK:mtl Date dictated 12/1/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/15/64

1

GEORGE H. BIRDSONG was advised that he did not have to make any statement and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised that he could consult an attorney if he so desired before making any statement by SA STANLEY A. SPRING.

BIRDSONG was contacted at the Valley Motel Restaurant which he operates. Upon first contact, he was affable and invited interviewing agents to be seated in a booth in the restaurant which had approximately 25 customers, both male and female, who appeared to be mostly local residents, whereupon BIRDSONG immediately, in a loud voice, started to use profanity and vulgarity concerning his being deprived of his right of privacy stating that he knew his phones were tapped which was denied. Thereafter, BIRDSONG was invited outside the restaurant and he voluntarily accompanied the agents outside where the conversation continued. He advised that he is not a member of any Klan including the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM). He stated he did not know anyone who is a member of any Klan but may have associated with members of the Klan and would not turn his back on his friends. He stated that the only SAM BOWERS he knows is a Jewish man who runs a store in Mobile, Alabama.

BIRDSONG stated that he did not have anything to do with the murders of the civil rights workers in Philadelphia, Mississippi and does not condone what happened there. He stated that he has heard numerous rumors around Meridian which concerned the murders of the civil rights workers but refused to furnish any information concerning rumors he has heard. He stated that it is his belief that the people responsible for this should be punished.

On 11/10/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-450
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA STANLEY A. SPRING &
SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON :bjm Date dictated 11/11/64

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2

He stated that he does not believe in integration and wants Mississippi for Mississippi people and does not approve of those people who come to Mississippi from outside the state and try to tell Mississippi people how to run their business.

He advised that approximately two weeks before SCHWERNER was killed, he, BIRDSONG, had been at the Meridian Police Department as a witness to an accident in which a pregnant woman had been killed. He stated that while speaking to the desk sergeant in connection with this matter, SCHWERNER very rudely interjected himself between the desk sergeant and BIRDSONG and started pointing at the desk sergeant and demanding the release of some persons who had been arrested while demonstrating at Meridian. He stated that immediately upon this type of action by SCHWERNER, he told him never to put his, SCHWERNER's, body against him again and if he did, he would kill him. BIRDSONG stated that had SCHWERNER given him sufficient provocation subsequent to this incident, he would have killed him but he did not and knows nothing about his death other than rumors which he refused to discuss.

He stated he had determined from the Meridian Police Department that on one occasion of SCHWERNER being arrested at the Meridian Police Department, he was reported to have had a Communist Party membership card in his wallet.

He stated that he did not approve of deceit as used by the FBI in that several agents had interviewed PETE HARRIS and, according to PETE HARRIS, they backed HARRIS up against the wall and told him that BIRDSONG had told everything he knew about the civil rights workers' murders to the FBI. He further advised that he had found out about the FBI taking secret pictures of him which he did not approve of and that he would not cooperate with the FBI in future matters without a court order.

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JN 44-1
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BIRDSONG advised that he knows that a small white house across the road from his motel where he lives was being used by the FBI to spy on him up to several weeks ago. He further stated that he had driven to Hattiesburg, Mississippi yesterday with his wife and he was followed all the way there and all the way back by FBI Agents.

He stated he was going to have a picture of himself made and enlarged, and he is going to send it to Director J. EDGAR HOOVER of the FBI along with the names of the interviewing agents and request that this picture be furnished to all FBI Agents in Mississippi including the 150 who are working on the Philadelphia murder.

He further stated that he had determined that Detective LUKE SCARBROUGH of the Meridian Police Department was furnishing information to the FBI.

BIRDSONG stated that the reason he had used profanity and vulgarity was merely to attempt to anger the agents and by their anger make them look less gentlemanly.

BIRDSONG advised he has never participated in any church burnings, beatings or violence of any type and knows nothing about any such matters.

The following is a description obtained by observation and interview:

Name	GEORGE H. BIRDSONG
Alias	BILLY BIRDSONG
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'9"
Weight	220 pounds

JN 157-450

JN 157-343

JN 44-1

4

Build	Heavy
Hair	Black, bald on top
Eyes	Brown, wears horn-rimmed bifocals
Age	45 - 50
Residence	Valley Motel, Meridian, Mississippi
Occupation	Self employed - operator of the Valley Motel and Restaurant
Former employment	Constable, Meridian, Mississippi
Military service	World War II, U. S. Navy and U. S. Marine Corps, Serial Number 4978284(?)
Former residence	Mobile, Alabama
Vehicles	1964 Buick, 1965 Mississippi L10592; 1964 Corvair, red
Weapons	.12 gauge shotgun, .20 gauge shotgun, .357 magnum hand gun
Relatives:	
Mother	Mrs. ARTHENIS E. BIRDSONG, 419 56th Street, Meridian, Mississippi
Father	W. R. BIRDSONG, deceased
Wife	GOLDIE W. BIRDSONG
Son	(First Name Unknown) BIRDSONG, U. S. Navy stationed Viet Nam as flyer

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 29, 19641

GEORGE H. BIRDSONG was advised by SA STANLEY A. SPRING that he did not have to make any statements and any statements he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised that he could consult an attorney if he desired before making any statements.

GEORGE H. BIRDSONG was interviewed at his residence, Valley Motel Office, and advised that his name had been discovered on a list of klansmen in the possession of PETE HARRIS and that when HARRIS was apprehended he had "goof balls" in his possession which may be a violation of the law for which he may be arrested.

BIRDSONG advised that he knew nothing about the above and stated he knew nothing about the Klan although the men arrested by the FBI recently in connection with civil rights violations were his friends. He stated that he did not desire to discuss this matter any further. BIRDSONG stated that he would remain affable with the FBI, but would not answer any questions concerning the Klan or the civil rights murders at Philadelphia, Mississippi.

On 12/22/64 at Meridian, Miss. File # Jackson 157-450
 by SAs STANLEY A. SPRING and ALEXANDER JAMIESON:mtl Date dictated 12/22/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/17/641

LOUIS J. BUCKLEY was interviewed at his grocery store located at 1600 4th Street, Meridian. His wife was present during the interview. BUCKLEY was advised that the interviewing agents were Special Agents of the FBI and proper identification was exhibited to him. SA HALPIN advised BUCKLEY that he was not required to make a statement, that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law and that he was entitled to the services of an attorney before making any statement. No threats or promises were made to him.

Information previously furnished by BUCKLEY on October 14, 1964 when he was interviewed by SAs JOHN B. HARRINGTON and HARRY J. SARAZIN was reviewed with him. BUCKLEY said that all information furnished by him on the occasion of this previous interview was still true and that he had never been a member of a Klan-type organization or been approached for membership in an organization. He denied knowing any of his friends or acquaintances to be Klan members.

A general discussion was held with BUCKLEY and his wife concerning the role of the FBI in Mississippi and BUCKLEY and his wife stated they were of the opinion that acts of racial violence would not have occurred in Mississippi if the FBI would see to it that outside agitators desirous of breaking Mississippi laws and traditions were kept out of the state.

On 11/13/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1368
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA STEPHEN L. HALPIN &
SA DONALD E. GODFREY :bjm Date dictated 11/14/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 12/14/64

1

ODELL FRANKLIN BYRD, 1420 47th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi, was contacted at his residence and made aware of the identity of the interviewing agents. He was advised by SA GODFREY he was not required to make any statements, that any statements which he did make could be used against him in a court of law and of his right to an attorney prior to making any statements. BYRD furnished the following information:

He advised that he is not now nor has he ever been a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM). He further advised he has no knowledge concerning the organization or anyone who is a member of the organization. He stated he may be acquainted with someone who is a member of the Klan; however, he has no knowledge of their membership.

BYRD stated he is a segregationist; however, he does not believe in violence nor would he condone violence in the furtherance of the idea of segregation. He advised he has no knowledge concerning any of the acts of violence which have occurred in the State of Mississippi. He stated that should any information come to his attention concerning the murder of the civil rights workers near Philadelphia, Mississippi on June 21, 1964, or any of the other acts of violence or church burnings, he would bring this information to the attention of the FBI.

The following descriptive data was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	ODELL FRANKLIN BYRD
Alias	O. F. BYRD
Date of birth	September 1, 1912
Place of birth	Kemper County, Mississippi

On 12/8/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1407
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

by SA DONALD E. GODFREY & SA HARRY L. LEE :bjm Date dictated 12/8/64

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JN 157-1407

JN 157-343

JN 44-1

2

Height	5'11"
Weight	168 pounds
Hair	Gray
Eyes	Blue
Build	Medium
Scars and marks	3" scar right side of head in hair, ½" scar over left eye
Employment	Switchman with Southern Railroad, last 23 years
Military service	None, classified 4-F in January, 1944
Marital status	Married
Wife	MARY BYRD, nee JOYNER
Son	CHARLES NORMAN BYRD, age 30, Meridian, Mississippi
Arrest record	None admitted

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 9, 1964

1

MORGAN COCHRAN, JR., State Line, Mississippi, was interviewed at his residence located on Route 19 South near the Alabama - Mississippi border and was promptly advised of the identity of the interviewing agents and was advised by SA JOHN L. MARTIN that he need make no statement; that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law and that he had the right to consult with an attorney prior to making any statement.

COCHRAN denied any affiliation with the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM) or that he had any knowledge that any such organization existed.

He stated that he was acquainted with FRANK HERNDON of Meridian, Mississippi. He was advised that FRANK HERNDON was the Exalted Cyclops of the Lauderdale Klavern of the WKKKKOM. He stated that he and HERNDON never discussed any Klan activities or organization.

Upon being questioned, COCHRAN answered that he would not openly admit membership in a Klan organization if he was a member.

COCHRAN furnished the following descriptive information:

Name:	MORGAN COCHRAN, JR.
Address:	Butler Star Road State Line, Mississippi
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date Of Birth:	March 30, 1928
Place Of Birth:	Domino, Kentucky
Age:	36
Height:	5' 11"
Weight:	255 pounds
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Brown, receding
Complexion	Ruddy

On 11/28/64 at State Line, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-1290
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1

by SA THOMAS VAN RIPER and
SA JOHN L. MARTIN/amh Date dictated 12/3/64

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JN 157-1290
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
2

Arrests:	Admitted arrests for public intoxication, Meridian, Mississippi
Military Service:	None
Occupation:	Owner, State Line Bar
Wife:	Deceased
Children:	2
Weapons:	.38 Smith and Wesson pistol; .38 Smith and Wesson Colt .22 rifle .410 gauge shotgun
Automobile:	1964 Chevrolet station wagon, white and blue, license unknown.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 10, 1964

1

TOMMIE HAROLD CRENSHAW was advised that he did not have to make any statement and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised he could consult an attorney if he so desired before making any statement by SA STANLEY A. SPRING.

TOMMIE HAROLD CRENSHAW advised that he is not and has never been a member of any Klan including the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM). He advised that he is not acquainted with nor does he know anyone to be a member of any Klan in Mississippi. He advised that although he believes in segregation, he would not resolve to and abhors violence of any kind in this regard. He stated that he has no information or knowledge concerning any church burnings, beatings or murders in Mississippi.

CRENSHAW stated that he is a member of the Collinsville Hunt Club which is a hunting club composed of men residing in Collinsville, Mississippi. He stated the last president of this club was J. W. MIXON, a resident of Collinsville. He stated that there are approximately 50 members of this hunt club and it is strictly a social club formed for hunting only and he has never heard any political or racial discussions take place at the hunt club. He stated that he is positive that this hunt club is in no way connected with Klan activities and has never heard anyone discuss the Klan of any type at the hunt club.

The following description was obtained by observation and interview:

Name:	TOMMIE HAROLD CRENSHAW
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	November 26, 1929
Place of Birth:	Collinsville, Mississippi
Height:	6'
Weight:	180 pounds

On 11/7/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1308
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA STANLEY A. SPRING and
SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON/amh Date dictated 11/9/64

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JN 157-1308

JN 157-343

JN 44-1

2

Hair: Black, crew cut
Eyes: Green, wears black hornrimmed glasses.
Employed: Salesman, Mississippi Power Company, Meridian, Mississippi, 13 years, also self employed at home as farmer and small trucking business, independent
Education: Junior College, East Mississippi
Address: Collinsville, Mississippi
Across the street from CLYDE WALKERS store on Highway 19
Marital Status: Married
Wife: WINNIE, nee HATCHER
Children: RAY, Age 14
KEITH, Age 6
DONNA JO, Age 11
All reside at home
Vehicle: 1963 green four door Chevrolet,
1965 Mississippi Tag L12675
Firearms: .12 gauge Browning shotgun and
an old .22 target pistol
Father: T. L. CRENSHAW
Age 66
Collinsville, Mississippi

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/16/64

1

CLARENCE ANDERSON DEARMAN was advised he did not have to make any statement and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised that he could consult an attorney if he so desired before making any statement by SA STANLEY A. SPRING.

DEARMAN stated he is not a member of any Klan and knows nothing about any Klan including the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi. He stated he has never been approached by anyone to join any such group and that if he was approached, he is not sure whether or not he would advise the FBI. He stated he had no knowledge whatsoever nor did he have any dynamite or explosives or any items connected with explosives in his possession nor did he know where any might be. He advised he does not believe in violence and has no knowledge whatsoever concerning the murders at Philadelphia, church burnings or beatings. He stated that although he does not approve of integration nor of people coming into Mississippi from other states to promote integration, he has never participated in violence of any type against people interested in or active in integration.

The following description was obtained from observation and interview:

Name	CLARENCE ANDERSON DEARMAN
Birth data	December 20, 1924, Meridian, Mississippi
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	6'1"
Weight	210 pounds
Build	Heavy
Hair	Dark brown, wavy

On 11/10/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# JN 157-1206
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA STANLEY A. SPRING &
SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON :bjm Date dictated 11/11/64

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JN 157-1206

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2

Eyes	Brown
Address	4118 Royal Road, Meridian, Mississippi
Marital status	Married, wife - BARBARA
Former wife	Divorced - EMMA
Children	Two
Education	Tenth grade
Employment	Machine operator, Flintkote, Meridian, Mississippi
Social Security #	427-28-3502
Father	H. E. DEARMAN, Route 3, Meridian, Mississippi
Sister	Miss FAYE CAROL DEARMAN
Arrests	Meridian, Mississippi Police Department for drunk and disorderly conduct
Vehicles	1956 black and white Ford Sedan, 1965 Mississippi L11415
Former employment	1944 to 1946, Big Chief Drilling Company, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; 1946 to 1949, Killman Construction Company, Columbus, Mississippi; 1954, self employed, Meridian, Mississippi; 1954 to 1955, Auto Electric Service, Meridian, Mississippi; 1956 to date, Flintkote
Weapon	Has a .12 gauge shotgun
Organizations	Member of Simmons Hunt Club, Meridian - Flintkote property, president is Mr. ANDERSON, Meridian, Mississippi

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 9, 1964

1

PAUL LINNEVOLD, Personnel Manager, Flintkote Company, advised that RUFUS TAL DE CELL was formerly employed by his company but had recently left same to return to school at Mississippi Southern. He furnished the work record of DE CELL which gave the following information:

Name:	RUFUS TAL DE CELL
Date of Birth:	February 20, 1941
Place of Birth:	Meridian, Mississippi
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Height:	5' 10"
Weight:	168 pounds
Hair:	Blond
Eyes:	Blue
Marital Status:	Single
Social Security Number:	425-80-7783
Residence:	4818 5th Street Meridian, Mississippi
Telephone:	485-8342
Relatives:	Mrs. H. H. BUCHANNA (aunt) 4818 5th Street Meridian, Mississippi
Education:	Graduated from Washington Grade School; Kate Griffin Junior High School and Meridian Senior High School; Two years of college at East Mississippi Junior College, Scooba, Mississippi
Previous Employment:	1. Buchanna Electric Company from June, 1960, to August, 1960 2. Same company from June, 1961 to August 1961

JN 157-1389
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

On 11/6/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 44-1

by SA ARTHUR F. PITTENGER and
SA STEPHEN M. MILLER/amh Date dictated 11/7/64

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JN 157-1389

JN 157-343

JN 44-1

2

3. Landis Construction
Company, New Orleans, Louisiana
from June, 1962, to August, 1962

In addition, LINNEVOLD stated he was personally acquainted with DE CELL. He described him as a rough boy but one who had never been in any serious trouble to the best of his knowledge. He stated that DE CELL has a poor family life in that he believes that DE CELL's mother is an alcoholic and consequently that is the reason that DE CELL lives with his aunt. LINNEVOLD advised that DE CELL's mother works as a cashier at Gibsons in Meridian, Mississippi, to the best of his knowledge. He stated that DE CELL frequently comes home from school on weekends to stay with his aunt.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

December 1, 1964

Date _____

RUFUS TALBERT DE CELL III, was interviewed at Consolidated Motors, 48th and 8th Street, Meridian, Mississippi. DE CELL was advised by SA STEPHEN M. MILLER that he did not have to make a statement, and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was further advised that he had the right to speak with an attorney before making any statement, and that no threats, promises or duress would be used to induce him to make any statement whatsoever.

DE CELL stated that he was not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM), had never been one, and was not a member of any similar type organization. He stated that while working at the Flintkote Company in Meridian, Mississippi, he had picked up Klan literature that was lying in the shop where he worked. He stated he believed most of the literature was called the Klan Ledger. DE CELL advised he did not know who furnished the literature and was uncertain whether it was put there by employees of Flintkote or outside individuals. He said this literature was usually in the dressing room and cafeteria parts of the company. DECELL stated that he talked with a number of people about joining the Ku Klux Klan, but he declined to identify these individuals other than stating that they worked at the Flintkote Company. DE CELL added that he has no way of knowing if these people were in fact members of the Ku Klux Klan, as they never identified themselves to him as such, but he assumes that they are members.

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

Name	RUFUS TALBERT DE CELL III
Born	February 20, 1940, at Meridian, Mississippi
Height	5' 10½"
Weight	183 pounds
Build	Stocky
Hair	Blond
Eyes	Hazel

11/28/64 Meridian, Mississippi

JN 157-1389
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

On _____ at _____ File# _____

SAs STEPHEN M. MILLER and
ARTHUR F. PITTENGER:mtl

by _____ Date dictated 11/30/64

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JN 157-1389
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
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Home Address	4818 5th Street, Meridian
Employment	Student, University of Southern Mississippi
School Residence	In Care of University of Southern Mississippi, Box 2004, Hattiesburg, Mississippi
Arrests	A disorderly conduct arrest (approximately two years ago) in which he pleaded nolo contendere and was fined \$100.
Firearms Owned	None
Automobiles	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 1955 Ford convertible, blue in color, no license plates2. 1955 Ford, hardtop, blue in color, no license plates.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 4, 19641

RUFUS TALBERT DE CELL, III, was interviewed at Consolidated Motors, 48th and 8th Street Meridian, Mississippi. DE CELL was advised by SA STEPHEN M. MILLER that he did not have to make a statement and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was further advised that he had the right to speak with an attorney before making any statement and that no threats, promises or duress would be used to induce him to make any statement whatsoever.

DE CELL advised that he was personally acquainted with BILLY BIRDSONG but stated that he was not a particularly close friend of BIRDSONG and was more closely associated with BIRDSONG's step daughter. DE CELL was asked whether he had any information concerning any church burnings in the Mississippi area. He advised that he did not. DE CELL was then confronted with the information that the FBI had reason to believe he was involved in the burning of a Negro church with BILLY BIRDSONG. DE CELL was asked whether he would like to give the Agents any information on this church burning on a confidential basis, and he replied that he thought he had better "Stick to his guns."

On 11/29/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-1389
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1
 by SAs STEPHEN M. MILLER and
ARTHUR F. PITTEGER: mtl Date dictated November 30, 1964

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NW: 12580 D8&id: 70100089 Page 77

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/17/641

TOMMY CLIFFORD DIXON, 3834 42nd Street, Meridian, Mississippi, was reinterviewed at his residence after being advised of the identities of the interviewing agents. SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON advised DIXON he did not have to make any statements and any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law and that he had the right to counsel before making any statements.

DIXON again denied that he is a member of any Ku Klux Klan group in Mississippi. He stated he does not know anything about the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi and anybody who says he does is lying. DIXON further advised he does not appreciate the FBI bothering him.

DIXON declined to answer any further questions.

On 11/16/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# JN 157-1122
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA STANLEY A. SPRING &
SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON :bjm Date dictated 11/17/64

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NW: 12580 DocId: 70100089 Page 78

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date November 16, 1964

JOSEPH HARMON EUBANKS, of 1414 14th Street, upon reinterview furnished the following information:

EUBANKS stated that he had been advised of his Constitutional Right upon his first interview. He further insisted that he did not belong to any klan-type organization and did not know if a klan existed in Meridian; that he did not know if he would furnish any information if he did belong to a klan-type organization.

The following are the only persons by the name of EUBANKS that reside in the area:

Brother	WILLIAM HOUSTON EUBANKS (72) 1415½ 11th Avenue. He is (not sure of house number)
Brother	LONNIE HARPER EUBANKS (66) 11th Avenue
Nephew	RAY EUBANKS (40) 43rd Avenue (Near Highland Park) (Son of WILLIAM)

On 11/11/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-1322
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1
 by SAs HENRY RASK and
HILBERT ARPS: mtl Date dictated 11/12/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/30/64

1

ED FRASIER, 1115 60th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi, was contacted by agents who identified themselves to him. He was advised by SA DAY that he did not have to speak with the agents, that anything he might say could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised he had the right to consult with an attorney before making any statement. No threats or promises were made.

FRASIER stated that he had no comment to make to the FBI as he paid his income taxes. Agents remarked that the Klan ledger has stated that this is a proper comment to the FBI agents at which time FRASIER stated he had read an article in the Meridian newspaper stating that citizens did not have to talk to FBI agents and that they should reply "no comment".

SA DAY stated that since FRASIER was the Lauderdale Klavern Senator, he should be in a position to know that the Lauderdale Klavern had placed this article in the paper and that he, as Senator, should be able to furnish agents with considerable information regarding Klan activities in Meridian, Mississippi. FRASIER coughed, choked on his words, stated he had no comment and that he paid his income taxes and closed the door of his home thereby terminating the interview.

The following is a description of ED FRASIER as obtained by observation:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'10"

JN 157-1159
JN 44-1
JN 157-343

On 11/21/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# _____

by SA NELSON B. KLEIN, JR. & SA JAMES A. DAY :bjm Date dictated 11/25/64

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JN 157-1159

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2

Weight

175 pounds

Hair

Brown

Eyes

Brown

Complexion

Medium dark

Age

48

Automobile

1957 Oldsmobile, 1965

Mississippi License

L10150

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date December 3, 1964

ED FRASIER, 115 60th Avenue, telephone No. 483-1356, was telephonically contacted and advised that he did not have to speak with an Agent and anything he furnished could be used against him in a court of law and that he had the right to consult with an attorney prior to interview, by SA JAMES A. DAY.

FRASIER was advised that the purpose of this call was an attempt to make an appointment with him, as it was necessary to obtain certain background information concerning him. FRASIER stated that he did not desire to meet Agent personally, but furnished the following information:

He stated that he was born September 6, 1922, in Lauderdale County, Mississippi, that he had been employed for five years at Redd Pest Control, before which he had been self-employed. He stated that he had never been in the military service, had registered for Selective Service, and had been classified 4-F for "personal reasons."

He stated that he was married and had children although he did not identify his wife or children or any of his relatives by name. He stated that he had never been arrested.

FRASIER reiterated that he did not want to meet Agents to speak with them and asked if Agents had a warrant or court order to obtain information from him to which a negative reply was given. FRASIER was thanked for his cooperation, to which he replied, "You are not welcome."

On 11/25/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-1159
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1

by SA JAMES A. DAY:mtl Date dictated 12/1/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 28, 1964

1

RILEY M. GARRETT, JR., was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and of the fact that he did not have to make any statement and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. GARRETT was advised of his right to counsel with an attorney and that no threats, promises or duress would be used to make him make a statement.

GARRETT stated that he was not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM) or any similar organization and that outside of reading the newspapers, he had no indication that a Klan existed in the Meridian area. GARRETT stated he did not have time for organizations to any great extent inasmuch as his business keeps him quite busy. In discussing the recent arrest of 21 individuals by the FBI in conjunction with the slaying of three civil rights workers in Philadelphia, Mississippi, GARRETT stated he hoped that they would be convicted if they were guilty but added that he had heard rumors to the effect that the arrests were not based on actual evidence against these individuals but were the result of pressure executed on the FBI from outside forces. He added he did not know any of the 21 individuals personally.

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

Name:	RILEY M. GARRETT, JR.
Address:	2719 24th Street Meridian, Mississippi
Employed:	Garrett and Son Furniture 2308 Front Street Meridian, Mississippi

On 12/15/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1282
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA ARTHUR F. POTTENGER and
SA STEPHEN M. MILLER/amh Date dictated 12/21/64

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JN 157-1282

JN 157-343

JN 44-1

2

Height:	5' 11"
Weight:	185 pounds
Eyes:	Brown
Hair:	Brown
Marital Status:	Single
Military Service:	U. S. Air Force 1946 to 1951 Service Serial Number AF 24-900-125
Automobiles:	1964 Oldsmobile, black, Mississippi License L 7801
Firearms Owned:	.38 caliber Smith and Wesson Revolver.
Arrests:	None Admitted
Characteristics:	Wears Glasses

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 27, 1964

1

BOBBY EDMUND GIBSON, Route 7, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the FBI Agents to whom he was talking. He was advised that he did not have to furnish any information to the FBI and that any information furnished by him could be used against him in a court of law. He was also advised of his right to counsel prior to making any statement by SA THOMAS VAN RIPER.

GIBSON appeared to be under the influence of alcohol or some narcotic during the course of interview due to the fact that he had exhibited a glassy stare and dilated pupils. He was extremely nervous, exhibiting anger and a tendency toward violent outbursts.

GIBSON advised he is not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM), he has never been a member of the Klan or any klan type organization and he has never been approached to join the Klan. GIBSON further stated if he were a Klansman, he would not admit it to the FBI. GIBSON advised he knows of no one who is a member of the Klan or anything about Klan activity in the Meridian area. GIBSON stated he is employed by the Dixie Highway Express as a driver and his hours are 7:30 P.M. to 4 A.M. During the day he does "roofing jobs".

GIBSON refused to give his wife's name.

The following description of BOBBY EDMUND GIBSON was obtained by observation and interview:

FOIA(b)(6)	Age:	26
	Date of Birth:	
	Place of Birth:	
	Height:	Mississippi
	Weight:	6'
	Hair:	135 pounds
	Eyes:	Brown
		Blue

On 11/27/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# JN 157-1301
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

by SA JOHN L. MARTIN and
SA THOMAS VAN RIPER/amh Date dictated 11/27/64

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JN 157-1301
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

2

Military Service:

Air Force, 7 years active
reserve; 1 year active duty,
August, 1960 to August, 1961

Arrests:

One arrest admitted, drunk
driving, Meridian, Mississippi.

Children:

1, CYNTHA ANN, Age 3

Weapons:

.22 caliber pistol

Vehicles:

1963 Chevrolet, white, Impala,
four door, 1965 Mississippi
License L10565.

1951 Ford pickup truck, medium
green, no license, ladder
rack on top of bed.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 14, 1964

JAMES PAUL GRICE, also known as Paul Grice, was interviewed at his employment, the Magnolia Steel Company, Inc., 17 17th Avenue South, Meridian. GRICE was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents by SA PITTENGER and the fact that he need not make any statement, and the fact that any statement he might give could be used against him in a court of law. He was also told that he could contact an attorney before making any statement whatsoever.

GRICE advised that he is not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi. He stated he has never attended any meetings of this organization or any similar klan organization. He said that he was not personally acquainted with any Klan members and as far as he knows, none of his friends or associates are members of the Klan.

GRICE said he has no information concerning church burnings or the Philadelphia murders, stating that he does not condone this kind of activity on the part of Klan members or anybody else. He indicated that if he felt he had pertinent information on this or any other matter he would furnish same to the FBI.

The following description of GRICE was obtained through observation and interview:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	November 3, 1939, at Electric Mills, Mississippi
Height	5' 9½"
Weight	215
Hair	Blond
Eyes	Green
Build	Heavy
Complexion	Ruddy
Residence	Route 5, Meridian, Mississippi (Lakewood Sub-division)

On 11/10/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-1303
Jackson 44-1
Jackson 157-343
 by SAs ARTHUR F. PITTENGER and
STEPHEN M. MILLER:mtl Date dictated 11/12/64

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JN 157-1303

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JN 157-343

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Employment Shop Foreman, Magnolia Steel
Company, Inc.
Marital Status Married
Wife REBECCA
(GRICE declined to give names of
two minor children)
Military Service None
Arrests None except traffic violations
Firearms GRICE said he owns a .12 gauge
Remington shotgun;
single barrel 12 gauge Harrison and Richardson
shotgun
Automobiles 1956 Ford pickup truck, black in
color, license unknown;
1962 Ford Fairlane, 500, blue in
color, license unknown

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date November 28, 1964

On November 19, 1964, ROY PHILLIP GRIFFIN was interviewed at his residence on Route 3, Zero Road, Zero Community, Meridian, Mississippi. Mr. GRIFFIN immediately advised that he is aware of his rights and knew he did not have to make any comment to Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Mr. GRIFFIN said that he is an elected official of Lauderdale County, Mississippi and has served ten years as a Beat Supervisor. In this capacity he has limited powers of arrest and is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the community. His principal function has to do with the maintenance of roads in his area.

Mr. GRIFFIN said that he is not now and has not been a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi or any other Klan organization. He made the statement that he has been accused of many things in connection with his political activities but would not allow accusations of any sort to affect him unfavorably. GRIFFIN said he did not approve of violence on the part of any political organization but believed the people of Mississippi were "sitting on a powder keg" as regards racial matters. GRIFFIN said he believed that when the Ku Klux Klan was originally formed it was a responsible organization, but in recent years the Klan developed a poor reputation as a result of allowing a bad element to become a part of the membership. Mr. GRIFFIN said that if he obtained information regarding any proposed action on the part of Klan members living in his community, he would take action on his own to prevent violence. GRIFFIN would not say that he would notify the FBI or any responsible law enforcement agency.

Mr. GRIFFIN declined to furnish background data regarding himself or to admit that he had any direct knowledge of Klan activities in the Meridian, Mississippi, area.

JN 157-1349
JN 157-343

On 11/19/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # _____

by SAs HARRY L. LEE and HILBERT ARPS: mtl Date dictated 11/24/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 10, 1964

1

JESSE K. HAGEMEYER, after being informed as to the identity of the interviewing Agents, was advised by SA HENRY RASK that he did not have to make a statement without first consulting with an attorney and any statement made by him could be used against him in a court of law.

He stated that he was not a member of any klan-type organization and does not know any klan members; that he heard that years ago there was a klan in Mississippi, but does not know anything about present klan activities. He also stated that he was a founder of the White Citizens Council in Meridian in 1957, but that he has not been to a council meeting in three or four months. He also stated that he does not have any objections to Negroes except intermarriage of the races.

HAGEMEYER operates a radio-television shop at 2510 9th Street, Meridian. He stated that from 1941 to 1943 he was employed at Camp Shelley, Mississippi, as an essential worker and that it was his job to keep the juke box, pinball machines and other electrical equipment in operation. He stated that he had a heart attack several years ago and that he is presently semi-retired.

HAGEMEYER became quite upset during the interview when asked to furnish information with regard to his personal background and family. He would only partially answer a question and then divert to make a remark concerning the racial problem in the south.

The following description was obtained from observation and interview:

Name:	JESSE K. HAGEMEYER
Born:	1908
	Meridian, Mississippi
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Height:	6' 4"

JN 157-1364

JN 157-343

JN 44-1

On 11/5/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File #by SA HILBERT ARPS and
SA HENRY RASK/amb81Date dictated 11/5/64

JN 157-1364

JN 157-343

JN 44-1

2

Weight:	210 pounds
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Brown
Complexion:	Medium - reddish
Build:	Medium, little heavy in middle
Residence:	4506 Royal Road, Meridian, Mississippi
Business:	Radio and Television Repair Shop
Business Address:	2510 9th Street
Military Service:	None
Automobile:	1963 Pontiac, white, four door, 1965 Mississippi License L3988
Available Weapons:	1962 Chevrolet station wagon, light green Hunting rifle, (make and caliber unknown)
Associations:	White Citizens Council of Meridian; Masonic Lodge
Wife:	JUANITA H. HAGEMeyer.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 16, 1964

1

BEN M. HAGUEWOOD was interviewed at the place of his employment, Southland Oil Company, 22nd Avenue and B Street, Meridian, Mississippi. He was advised prior to the interview by SA STEPHEN M. MILLER that he did not have to furnish any information to the FBI and that any information furnished by him could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised of his right to counsel and the fact that no threats, promises or duress would be used to make him make a statement.

HAGUEWOOD denied that he was a member of the Ku Klux Klan or any similar organization. He stated that he had no idea how his name had come up in connection with the Ku Klux Klan as he has never attended any organizational meeting whose views paralleled that of the Klan and to the best of his knowledge, he knew of no Klan members. He stated that if he was a member of the Klan or had pertinent information regarding same that he would furnish same to the FBI. He added that he had no objection whatsoever to being re-interviewed by Agents of the FBI regarding any knowledge he might possess regarding the Ku Klux Klan.

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

Name:	BENNIE MORRIS HAGUEWOOD
Address:	314 26th Avenue Meridian, Mississippi
Date of Birth:	[REDACTED]
Place of Birth:	[REDACTED] Mississippi
Height:	6'
Weight:	175 pounds
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Light brown
Military Service:	None
Firearms:	None owned
Automobile:	None owned
Marital status:	Married

FOIA(b)(6)

On 11/11/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1230
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA ARTHUR F. PITTENGER and
SA STEPHEN M. MILLER/amh Date dictated 11/12/64

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JN 157-1230
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

2

FOIA(b)(6)

Wife:	CAROL JEAN HAGUEWOOD
Children:	1, Marty. 11 months
Social Security Number:	[REDACTED]
Arrests:	One arrest for drunk driving
Education:	Graduated from B-4 High School, Meridian, Mississippi
Scars and Marks:	4" scar on left side of chin

In addition, HAGUEWOOD advised that he is not familiar with anyone named SAM BOWERS and has no idea who this person is.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 20, 1964

1

BEN M. HAGUEWOOD was reinterviewed at his place of employment, Southland Service Station, Meridian. He was advised by SA STEPHEN M. MILLER that he did not have to make a statement, and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was also advised he had the right to consult with an attorney before he made any statement. No threats, promises, or duress were used to induce him to make the following statement.

HAGUEWOOD advised that he was not a member of the Ku Klux Klan or any other similar organization. He stated that he had no information to give the FBI that would differ in any way from his previous statement.

HAGUEWOOD was asked if he had ever attended any meetings of any nature at the Harris Box Factory in Meridian. He stated that to the best of his knowledge, he had never attended any meetings at same.

On 11/18/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-1230
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1

by SAs STEPHEN M. MILLER and
ARTHUR F. PITTENGER: mtl Date dictated 11/20/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 14, 1964

1

MARVIN HAGUEWOOD was interviewed at the place of his employment, Southern Pipe Company, Meridian. He was advised prior to the interview by SA STEPHEN M. MILLER that he did not have to furnish any information to the FBI and that any information furnished by him could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised of his right to counsel and the fact that no threats, promises or duress would be used to make him make a statement.

HAGUEWOOD stated that he is not or never has been a member of any Ku Klux Klan organization and he advised he had no idea who had given his name regarding same. He stated to the best of his knowledge, he knew no one who was a member of said organization or any similar organization and that as far as he knew, there was no klan organization in the Meridian area. He stated that if he was a member or had any pertinent information regarding the activities of any klan type organizations, he would give such information to the FBI.

He added that he had no objection to being re-interviewed by Agents of the FBI regarding the Ku Klux Klan.

The following information was obtained through interview and observation:

Name: WILLIAM MARVIN HAGUEWOOD
 Address: Route 5
 (Lakewood Subdivision)
 Meridian, Mississippi
 Date of Birth:
 Place of Birth: Mississippi
 Height: 6' 1"
 Weight: 200 pounds
 Eyes: Green
 Hair: Brown

FOIA(b)(6)

On 11/11/64 at Meridian, Mississippi

File #

JN 157-1231
JN 157-343
JN 44-1by SA ARTHUR F. PITTENGER and
SA STEPHEN M. MILLER/amhDate dictated 11/12/64

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JN 157-343
JN 44-1

2

FOIA(b)(6)

Social Security

Number: [redacted]

Marital Status:

Married

Wife's Name:

SANDRA HAGUEWOOD

Children:

STEVE, age 5

TONY, age 4

BRYAN, age 2½

MARLENE, age 8 weeks

Arrests:

None admitted

Scars and Marks:

5" cut on left wrist and
tattoo of a panther on
left arm.

Service:

None

Firearms:

1. .38 Smith and Wesson
Special revolver

2. Savage .22 Automatic

3. .16 gauge single barrel
shotgun (make unknown)

Automobiles:

1957 Chevrolet, red in
color, 1965 Mississippi License
plate, number unknown.

Employment:

Southern Pipe Company,
yard foreman,
(duration of employment
9 years).

In addition, HAGUEWOOD advised that he knew no one by the name of SAM BOWERS and was not familiar with that name.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 17, 19641

BILLY JOE HARRIS was interviewed at his residence, which is a house trailer in the community of Meehan, Mississippi. He was advised that the interviewing Agents were Special Agents of the FBI and SA HALPIN advised HARRIS that he was not required to make a statement, that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law and that he was entitled to the services of an attorney before making any statement. No threats or promises were made to him.

HARRIS was advised that he was to be interviewed about his possible membership in the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and he stated that he considered this to be his own business and no concern of the Government. He was then asked if it was his desire to go on record as refusing to deny membership in the Klan and he said he would deny such membership but would furnish no other information.

HARRIS refused to answer any other questions and would furnish no identifying information other than admitting his name was BILLY JOE HARRIS.

The following description was obtained by observation only:

Name:	BILLY JOE HARRIS
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Age:	Approximately 28
Residence:	Meehan, Mississippi
Height:	6' 2"
Weight:	220 pounds
Build:	Large
Hair:	Brown
Complexion:	Ruddy
Occupation:	Construction worker
Marital Status:	Married.

On 11/10/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1240
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA DONALD E. GODFREY and
SA STEPHEN L. HALPIN/amb **88** Date dictated 11/12/64

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 13, 1964

1

RAYMOND NOAH HARRIS, 920 70th Place, Meridian, Mississippi, was interviewed at his residence. At the outset, he was told he need not furnish any information, that any information he furnished could be used against him in court, and that he was entitled to consult an attorney before furnishing any information. He then furnished the following information:

He is not now nor has he ever been a member of any klan type organizations. A year ago last spring, however, an attempt was made to get him to join a klan. This came about when, in the spring of 1963, he received an anonymous telephone call from a man who asked that he drive his car to Key Field, near Meridian, Mississippi, to attend a meeting. Not long before this, he had joined the Masons. He has already gone through part of an initiation ceremony and thought at first this meeting may be more of the initiation. The man on the telephone laughed during the brief conversation but he did not recognize who the caller was.

That evening, he got into his car and drove alone to Key Field where he parked. Some men came up in the darkness, blindfolded him, took him to another car and put him in the back seat. One of the men got in the back seat with him and he assumed there must have been two in the front seat.

After about a 20 minute drive, they stopped and he was taken inside a building, apparently on the ground floor level. He was only inside this building about 5 to 10 minutes during which time he was asked if he wanted to join the "Klan". He replied "no" and that ended the conversation. He heard only about two or three voices inside the building and could not say otherwise how many people had been present. He overheard no others being asked if they wanted to join the Klan.

He was then taken back out of the building and driven back to Key Field where he was let out several

On 11/12/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1239
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA HILBERT ARPS and
SA HENRY RASK/amh Date dictated 11/13/64

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hundred feet from his own car. He drove home and that was the last he heard of the incident or the Klan.

He was blindfolded from the time he was put into the other car at Key Field until the time he was later let out near his car at Key Field. None of the men he saw were wearing masks or robes. He did not see any of the men's faces as it was too dark and he recognized none of the voices. He knows of no one else who may be Klan members or who may have been asked to join the Klan.

He is opposed to the Ku Klux Klan and violence of any sort and would immediately report to the FBI any information he may come across regarding any plans to commit violence or Klan activities. He, however, is a family man and does not personally intend to get involved in such matters.

The following is a description of HARRIS as obtained from him at the time of interview:

Name:	RAYMOND NOAH HARRIS
Date of Birth:	January 7, 1930
Place of Birth:	Meehan, Mississippi
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Height:	5' 11½"
Weight:	195 pounds
Eyes:	Brown
Hair:	Brown
Scars and Marks:	2" scar inside lower right leg
Residence Address:	920 70th Place, Meridian, Mississippi
Mailing Address:	Same
Occupation:	Night Foreman
Employment Address:	Dixie Contractors 2965 South 3rd Street Memphis, Tennessee Presently working on highway project at Enterprise, Mississippi

JN 157-1239

JN 157-343

JN 44-1

3

Education: 1½ years Scooba Junior College,
near Meridian, Mississippi,
taking mathematics.

Military Service: U. S. Air Force, June, 1950
to August, 1951, Serial Number
not known

Social Security
Number: 428-48-3484

Marital Status: Married, wife BETTY JEAN HARRIS,
nee BOARDMAN, 920 70th Street,
Meridian, Mississippi

Children: MELANIE KAY HARRIS
Age 5

Relatives:
Parents: NOAH HELTON HARRIS and
SARAH EVELYN HARRIS
Route 5
Meehan, Georgia

Brothers: JAMES MARTIN HARRIS,
also known as Martin
Newton, Mississippi

MACK WAYNE HARRIS
Mobile, Alabama

BILLY JOE HARRIS,
Meehan, Mississippi

LEROY HARRIS
With Parents
Meehan, Georgia

Sister: ELLA JEAN HAYES
Beat 4
Clarke County, Mississippi

Automobile: 1959 Ford, four door, tan,
1965 Mississippi License
Number L-6624

Weapons owned: .22 caliber 6 shot Smith and
Wesson target pistol;
30-30 Remington rifle.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 24, 1964

JOHN P. HEDGPETH was interviewed at his residence at which time he was advised prior to the interview by SA STEPHEN M. MILLER that he did not have to furnish any information to the FBI and that any information furnished by him would be used against him in a court of law. He was advised of his right to counsel and of the fact that no threats, promises or duress would be used to induce him to make a statement.

HEDGPETH advised that he has never been a member of the Ku Klux Klan or any similar organization and has no idea how his name was associated with such an organization. He stated that he did not even know a klan existed in the Meridian area and that, consequently, he certainly had no idea what people comprised the membership of said organization. HEDGPETH stated that if he were a member of the Klan, he would cooperate with the FBI and that he had no objection to further interviews with Agents of the FBI.

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

Name:	JOHN P. HEDGPETH
Residence:	213 Bonita Road Meridian, Mississippi
Date of Birth:	September 25, 1907
Place of Birth:	Lauderdale County, Mississippi
Employment:	Owner of J. P. Hedgpeth Logging Company, Meridian, Mississippi
Height:	5' 11"
Weight:	150 pounds
Marital Status:	Married, 2 children
Arrests:	one, reckless driving offense.
Hair:	Gray
Build:	Slim
Characteristics:	Wears Glasses
Service:	None

JN 157-1333
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

 at Meridian, Mississippi File#

ARTHUR F. PITTENGER and
STEPHEN M. MILLER/amh Date dictated 11/23/64

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Weapons Owned:

1. .12 gauge Ranger shotgun
2. Remington .22 Automatic
3. .32 caliber pistol, make of which is either Ivory Johnson or Harrington Richardson.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date December 29, 1964

FRANK J. HERNDON was advised by SA STANLEY A. SPRING that he did not have to make any statement and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised that he could consult an attorney if he desired before making any statements.

FRANK J. HERNDON was interviewed at his place of employment, the Rock Hill Club, Meridian, Mississippi, and advised that his name had been discovered on a list of Klansmen in the possession of PETE HARRIS and that when HARRIS was apprehended he had "goof balls" in his possession which may be a violation of the law for which he may be arrested.

HERNDON advised that he would not answer any questions and concerning such matters he had no comment.

HERNDON stated that he had no complaints concerning the FBI and had no objections to being contacted by the FBI, but would not answer any questions he did not desire to.

On 12/22/64 at Meridian, Miss. File # Jackson 157-1104
 by SAs STANLEY A. SPRING and ALEXANDER JAMIESON:mt1 **94** Jackson 44-1
 Date dictated 12/22/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/16/64

1

FILMORE FRANKLIN HICKS was contacted at his place of business, Hicks Barber Shop, 4613 8th Street, Meridian, and was made aware of the identity of the interviewing agents. HICKS was advised by SA GODFREY that he did not have to make any statements, that any statements which he did make could be used against him in a court of law and of his right to an attorney prior to making any statement.

HICKS furnished the following information:

He stated that he is not now nor has he ever been a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM). He advised he has never been approached to join this organization and has absolutely no knowledge concerning it. HICKS stated he does not condone the acts of violence which have occurred in opposition to the civil rights movement in the state of Mississippi and has no knowledge concerning any of these acts or the organization or persons responsible.

The following descriptive data was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	FILMORE FRANKLIN HICKS
Aliases	FRANKLIN FILMORE HICKS, FRANK F. HICKS, FRANK HICKS
Race	White
Sex	Male
Nationality	American
Date of birth	December 3, 1909
Place of birth	Kemper County, Mississippi

On 11/11/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# JN 157-1332
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA DONALD E. GODFREY & SA STEPHEN L. HALPIN :bjm **95** Date dictated 11/12/64

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Height	5'7½"
Weight	175 pounds
Hair	Light brown, balding
Eyes	Blue
Scars and marks	Question mark shaped tattoo on back of left little finger
Residence	511 41st Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi (since December, 1963)
Prior residence	5805 Bronson Drive, Meridian, Mississippi; and 515 40th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi
Occupation	Barber (self employed)
Social Security #	427-10-0444
Marital status	Married, present wife - WILLIE MAY HICKS, nee HUGGINS (married three years)
Ex-wife	MARGUERITE O. SMITH, 515 40th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi
Son	FRANKLIN LEWIS HICKS, age 2
Brother	ELBY B. HICKS, Meridian, Mississippi
Sisters	MAGGIE LANDRUM, Meridian, Mississippi; LINNIE HENDON, Meridian, Mississippi
Military service	U. S. Army, December 29, 1942 until December 10, 1945, honorable discharge, Army Serial Number 34613040

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Arrest record

None admitted

HICKS advised that the only other employee at his barber shop is HERSHEL SHEPARD, Meridian, Mississippi, who works chiefly on week ends.

HICKS advised that he has a 1964 Dodge four-door sedan, white in color, which bears 1965 Mississippi License L5861 and a 1955 Pontiac, green and white in color, bearing 1965 Mississippi License L5594.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 17, 1964

1

THOMAS DARRELL HITT was interviewed at his place of employment and was advised of the identity of the interviewing agents and was promptly advised by SA JOHN L. MARTIN that he need make no statement and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law and that he had a right to consult with an attorney prior to making any statement.

HITT denied that he was a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM) but stated that he had been approached at one time to join. He refused to identify the person who approached him concerning membership in the Klan.

Upon being questioned, HITT stated that even if he was a member he would not admit it.

He denied any knowledge concerning any acts of violence perpetrated by the Klan in the Meridian area.

He admitted knowing PETE HARRIS who is employed at Hardin's Bakery. He stated he was not aware that HARRIS was the investigator for the Klan Bureau of Investigation (KBI).

From observation and interview, HITT is described as follows:

Name:	THOMAS DARRELL HITT
Residence:	Little Rock, Mississippi
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	44
Eyes:	Brown
Hair:	Brown (graying)
Date of Birth:	February 21, 1920
Place of Birth:	Little Rock, Mississippi (Newton County)
Height:	6'
Weight:	185 pounds
Employment:	Warehouseman or receiving clerk,

On 11/5/64 at Meridian, Mississippi ⁹⁸ File# Jackson 157-1299
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1

by SA THOMAS VAN RIPER and
SA JOHN L. MARTIN/amh Date dictated 11/11/64

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Wife:	Hardin's Bakery
Children:	Meridian, Mississippi, since February, 1951
Arrests:	LUCILLE
Military Service:	THOMAS, age 12 JACQUELINE, age 10 Admits none
Weapons:	4 years, United States Army Air Corps, 1942 - 1946, Army Serial Number 34245498 .12 gauge shotgun .410 gauge shotgun .22 target pistol
Vehicle:	1960 Morris Minor

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 9, 19641

THOMAS DARRELL HITT was contacted at his place of employment, Hardin's Bakery, Meridian, Mississippi, and refused to be interviewed.

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On 11/28/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-1299
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1

by SA THOMAS VAN RIPER and
SA JOHN L. MARTIN/amh Date dictated 12/3/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 4, 1964

1

JOSEPH DANIEL HOLLINGSWORTH, JR., commonly known as DAN HOLLINGSWORTH, was interviewed at his residence. At the outset of the interview, he was told by SA HILBERT ARPS that he need not furnish any information, that any information he furnished could be used against him in court, and that he was entitled to consult an attorney before furnishing any information. He thereafter furnished the following information.

He is not now, nor has he ever been a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan or Mississippi, nor has he ever been asked or invited to attend such meetings. He knows of no one who is or may be a Klan member and knows of no Klan activity in the area except what he has heard of through newspapers or other news media.

His father is also known as DAN HOLLINGSWORTH; however, he felt certain his father would not have anything to do with the Klan as his father is 70 years old. It was pointed out to him by SA ARPS that the DAN HOLLINGSWORTH, on whom the FBI had information as being a Klansman, was the one who was employed by WDAL radio. He did not know how this information could have started as he definitely has had no association with the Klan.

He is very much opposed to acts of violence and should he hear of any acts of violence being planned he would not hesitate to report them to the FBI. He is a member of the Bonita, Mississippi, Methodist Church and acts of violence such as church burnings, beatings, and killings are certainly not tolerated by his church and he did not see how any Christian could commit such acts.

The following description was obtained from HOLLINGSWORTH at the time of interview:

Name	JOSEPH DANIEL HOLLINGSWORTH, JR., commonly known as DAN HOLLINGSWORTH
Date of Birth	[REDACTED]
Place of Birth	[REDACTED] Mississippi

On 11/28/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1309
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1
 by SAs HILBERT ARPS and
HENRY RASK:mtl **101** Date dictated 12/1/64

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JN 157-343

JN 44-1

2

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	6'
Weight	170 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Address	Box 21, Route 7, Meridian, Mississippi
Parents	DAN (SR.) and MARGURITE HOLLINGSWORTH
Wife	BEVERLY FAYE HOLLINGSWORTH, nee BROWN, Route 7, Meridian, Mississippi
Children	THERESA, 8; LAUREN, age 6; CHRISTY, age 5; JOE III, age 2
Brothers	RICHARD HOLLINGSWORTH Route 7 Meridian, Mississippi (resides in house next door on right); JIMMY HOLLINGSWORTH Amory, Mississippi
Sister	Mrs. JIMMY (VIRGINIA) HARRISON, both attending Mississippi State College. Mr. HARRISON is ministerial student.
Occupation	With Radio Station WDAL, Meridian since January, 1957. Presently Manager and Chief Engineer
Automobiles owned	1954 Chevrolet, light green, Mississippi license L9666; 1960 Chevrolet Station Wagon, blue, Mississippi license L9665
Guns Owned	.22 caliber pump rifle; 12 gauge shotgun; .45 caliber Colt automatic
Military Service	Member of U. S. Army Reserve, Serial No. ER 14455831(?) No active duty.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/17/641

ARTHUR M. HORNE, Oak Grove Drive, Bonita, Mississippi, was contacted at his residence and was advised by SA GODFREY he was not required to make any statements, that any statements he did make could be used against him in a court of law and of his right to an attorney prior to making any statements.

HORNE stated he would not furnish any information in addition to that previously furnished on prior interview. HORNE would not further engage in any conversation and finally turned around and went into his house.

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On 11/13/64 at Bonita, Mississippi File # JN 157-1345
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

by SA STEPHEN L. HALPIN &
SA DONALD E. GODFREY /bjm Date dictated 11/16/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/8/641

TOMMY A. HORNE, after being advised as to the identity of the interviewing agents, was advised by SA HENRY RASK that he did not have to make a statement before consulting with an attorney and any statement he made could be used against him in a court of law.

HORNE stated he had nothing to say. He declined to state whether or not he was a member of any klan-type group. He stated that "silence is golden."

HORNE stated he would like to have the FBI keep away from his home and not bother his wife. When asked how he could be contacted other than through his wife, he stated that he was a plumber and that he was working at different locations and that he would be unable to state his whereabouts in advance.

HORNE also stated he did not know where the FBI Agents were staying but heard they were staying in Holiday Inn #1, Holiday Inn #2 and the Travel Inn.

On 11/4/64 at Quitman, Mississippi 104 File# JN 44-1
JN 157-343
JN 157-1112
 by SA HENRY RASK &
SA HILBERT ARPS /bjm Date dictated 11/4/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 16, 19641

TOMMY A. HORNE, of 115 Lake Drive, Bonita, Mississippi, upon reinterview, furnished the following information:

HORNE stated immediately after coming to the door, "I do not have the answer to the question that you are looking for." He further stated that he did not know anything and even if he did know anything, he would not tell us.

HORNE was asked if he had any other information with regard to Klan-type activities and he stated, "You are barking up the wrong tree."

On 11/11/64 at Bonita, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1112
SAs HENRY RASK and
HILBERT ARPS: mtl Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1
 by _____ Date dictated 11/12/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 23, 19641

RICHARD HAROLD JAMES was contacted at his place of business, Key Field Grocery, 64th Avenue and K Street, Meridian, Mississippi, at which time he was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents and SA DAY advised him that he did not have to make any statement, that any statement he made could be used against him in a court of law and that he had a right to an attorney prior to making any statement. No threats or promises were made to him to induce him to make a statement.

JAMES reiterated his previous statements that he has never been a member of any klan type organization and that he did not know or have knowledge that any organization such as the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM) existed.

He stated that to his knowledge, there had never been a meeting of the WKKKKOM in the Key Field area. He stated that prior to the early spring of 1964, he left his grocery store early in the afternoon to return at approximately 7 A.M. the next morning and as such was not in the area of Key Field during the evening. He stated that his brother TOM JAMES would come to work late in the morning and close the store in the evening. He stated that since the spring of 1964 when his brother became ill with cancer of the throat, he has been working from 7 A.M. until 10 or 11 P.M. seven days a week and as such has had no time to attend any meetings, Klan or otherwise.

JAMES stated that he is not in sympathy with any extremist activities. He stated that he does not believe in the use of violence to accomplish segregation.

JAMES invited Agents to return to discuss any matters with him at their convenience.

On 11/17/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1378
106 File # JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA NELSON B. KLEIN, JR., and
SA JAMES A DAY/amh Date dictated 11/20/64

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/14/64

1

ALBERT LONNIE JONES, Route 6, Box 406, Meridian, Mississippi, was interviewed at his place of employment, the Riley Hospital, 1103 21st Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi, and was advised that the interviewing agents were Special Agents of the FBI. JONES was advised by SA GODFREY that he was not required to make any statements, that any statements which he did make could be used against him in a court of law and of his right to an attorney prior to making any statements.

JONES furnished the following information:

He advised that he is a deacon in the Assembly of God Church, Meridian, Mississippi, and does not believe in any secret organizations. He stated that he is not now nor has he ever been a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi. He stated that he has never been approached by anyone to join the Klan. JONES stated he does not condone acts of violence in any form and has no knowledge concerning the identity of individuals responsible for any acts of violence within the state of Mississippi.

JONES advised that he and his wife do not go out much socially and that his close associates are his immediate supervisor at work, JAMES WILLIAMS, members of his church and his immediate family.

The following descriptive data was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	ALBERT LONNIE JONES
Aliases	A. L. JONES or LONNIE JONES

On <u>11/10/64</u> at <u>Meridian, Mississippi</u>	107	JN 44-1
		JN 157-343
		JN 157-1302
by <u>SAs DONALD E. GODFREY & STEPHEN L. HALPIN :bjm</u>		Date dictated <u>11/11/64</u>

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Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	June 24, 1909
Place of birth	Wayne County, Mississippi
Residence	Route 6, Box 406, Meridian, Mississippi (last 16 years)
Prior residence	Clarksdale Community, Lauderdale County, Mississippi
Height	5'10"
Weight	164 pounds
Build	Medium
Hair	Gray
Eyes	Blue
Occupation	Assistant maintenance man, Riley Hospital 428-01-3167
Social Security #	428-01-3167
Marital status	Married, wife - OLLIE MAY JONES, nee COLLINS
Military service	None, exempt due to number of dependents
Scars and marks	Red birthmark right side of nose
Arrest record	None admitted
Education	None, completely illiterate
Children:	
Sons	JAMES JONES, Meridian, Mississippi; ROBERT EARL JONES, New Orleans, Louisiana; ALBERT LONNIE JONES, JR., Gainesville, Florida; J. C. JONES, Mobile, Alabama; RONNIE JONES, with parents

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Daughters

VIRGINIA WALLER,
Meridian, Mississippi;
ELIZABETH SLAYTON,
Meridian, Mississippi;
MARY LOU SULLIVAN,
Mobile, Alabama;
ESTHER ALLEN, Butler, Alabama;
EULA CLAYTON, Spain;
DOROTHY MC KEE, Waynesboro,
Mississippi;
JANIE SINGLEY, Meridian,
Mississippi;
JANICE, with parents
ALVIA JONES, 16th Street,
Meridian, Mississippi;
W. E. JONES, A Street,
Meridian, Mississippi
Red and white 1955 DeSoto
bearing 1964 Mississippi
License L13286 (inoperative);
blue 1955 DeSoto bearing
1965 Mississippi License
L11311

Brothers

Automobiles

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/20/64

1

EARL JACKSON JORDAN, JR., 2417 Bounds Road, Meridian, Mississippi, after being advised of the identities of the interviewing agents, was advised by SA JAMIESON that he had the right to an attorney before making any statement and any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law.

JORDAN was advised that investigation in Mississippi over the last several months regarding acts of violence against Negroes has indicated that members of klan-type groups had been involved. He was further advised that investigation has revealed that he is a member of Klavern in Lauderdale County of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi. He denied any knowledge, membership or that any person had approached him to join the Ku Klux Klan.

JORDAN was advised he was being interviewed in an effort to solicit his help and cooperation by giving the agents any information he had concerning Klan activities.

JORDAN advised that JIMMY ARLEDGE is his brother-in-law and he associates with TRAVIS BARNETTE, JIMMY SNOWDEN and DOYLE BARNETTE, in Meridian. He stated that in the course of his business, he has dealings with FRANK HERNDON at the Shamrock Drive-In. JORDAN stated that he does not know if any of the above are members of any klan organization.

JORDAN advised he has nothing to hide regarding his activities or associates and the FBI Agents are welcome to speak to him at any time.

JN 157-1367
JN 157-343

On 11/19/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 44-1

by SA STANLEY A. SPRING & SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON ;bjm **110** Date dictated 11/20/64

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JN 157-343
JN 44-1
2

The following description of JORDAN was obtained through interview and observation:

Address	2417 Bounds Road, Meridian, Mississippi
Date of birth	December 8, 1935
Place of birth	Kemper County, Mississippi
Height	6'
Weight	195 pounds
Hair	Brown, curly
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Ruddy
Build	Heavy
Employment	Strietman Division of United Biscuit Company, Cincinnati, Ohio, salesman for past three years
Wife	WILMA
Children	EARL ALVERSON, age 5; JULIE DIANA, age 7 months
Education	Collinsville High School
Military service	None
Automobiles	1964 red Comet, 1965 Mississippi plates
Weapons	Single barrel .12 gauge, .22 caliber rifle
Organizations	Oakland Heights Masonic Lodge, Collinsville Baptist Church

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/7/64

1

HAROLD ARNOLD KELLER, 1712 16th Avenue, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agents and was advised by SA ROY MARTIN MITCHELL that he did not have to make any statement; that any statement he made could be used against him in a court of law; that he had the right to counsel before making a statement, that if he could not afford counsel, it would be appointed for him by the court.

KELLER advised that he purchased a Smith & Wesson, Model 36, .38 caliber snub nose, blue steel, with two-inch barrel and round butt at Maxey's Gun Shop, Meridian, Mississippi, either the last part of April or the first part of May, 1964.

KELLER advised that this weapon was stolen from his unlocked truck while parked at the Skyview sometime during the latter part of June or first part of July, 1964. However, after KELLER recalled when the death of the civil rights workers at Philadelphia, Mississippi occurred, he stated his gun had been stolen either the last of May or first part of June, 1964. KELLER advised he reported the theft of this gun to "MAX", partner of Maxey's Gun Shop in Meridian, Mississippi, shortly after it was stolen while both were at the American Legion Hall in Meridian, Mississippi. KELLER stated that MAX advised him the gun was not insured and, therefore, he could not refund the purchase price to him for the weapon. KELLER also advised that he told his brother, SAM KELLER, Desk Sergeant, Meridian Police Department, about the theft of this weapon.

KELLER denied loaning his gun to any individual and insisted that he had no knowledge whatsoever pertaining to the civil rights workers murders on June 21, 1964 at Philadelphia, Mississippi.

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On 11/3/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1315
by SA NELSON L. PHILLIPS & SA ROY MARTIN MITCHELL :bjm Date dictated 11/5/64

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KELLER denied being a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi or any other similar type organization and stated that he did not even know if the Klan existed in Mississippi. He stated no one has ever approached him to join the Klan; however, if such did take place, he would be glad to join because in his opinion this organization would prevent the agglomeration of the races.

KELLER advised that he knew FRANK HERNDON, OLIVER "DICK" WARNER and GERALD BARFIELD but denied that he knew them as Klansmen or members of any similar type organization.

KELLER stated he first met EDGAR RAY KILLEN approximately ten years ago as the one who preached the funeral service for his, KELLER's, wife's brother and sister. He stated he did not associate with Reverend KILLEN until approximately three years later at which time Reverend KILLEN also preached the funeral for his wife's father. KELLER stated that he would probably know Reverend KILLEN by sight, however, was not intimately familiar with this individual and had never developed a friendship-type relationship with him. KELLER stated he did not know if KILLEN was a Klansmen but did believe he was a segregationist.

The following description was obtained from observation and interview:

Name	HAROLD ARNOLD KELLER
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	6'2"
Weight	215 pounds
Hair	Brown

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JN 157-1315
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Eyes	Brown
Date of birth	December 16, 1926
Place of birth	Lauderdale County
Employment	Captain, Meridian City Fire Department, past 15 years, also part time painter
Marital status	Married to MARTHA PAYNE, age 32
Children	HAROLD ALLEN, age 14; JANET OLIVIA, age 11; KERRY KEITH, age 10; DANIEL EVERETT, age 9
Relatives:	
Brother	ROBERT THOMAS KELLER, age 42; SAM MEYER KELLER, age 39; EVERETT KELLER, age 36
Sisters	MARGARET WOOD, age 45; JEWEL O'GWYNN, age 44 (All residing Meridian, Mississippi)
Military service	U. S. Army, approximately 1947-48 and 1950-51, Army Serial Number 14242018; U. S. Navy, from February, 1944 through March, 1946, Navy Serial Number 7222883
Scars and marks	Appendectomy scar, 4" scar under left ribs
Arrests	Admits to minor arrests prior to age 21 at Meridian, Mississippi

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 18, 1964

CHARLES W. KIDD, after being informed as to the identity of the interviewing Agents, was informed by SA HENRY RASK that he did not have to make a statement, that any statement he made could be used against him in a court of law and that he was entitled to consult with an attorney before making a statement, furnished the following information.

He stated he was not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan or any other klan-type organization and that he never has been a member. He stated that he was a member of the Auxiliary Police of Meridian and the Masonic Lodge and, therefore, could not believe in such an organization as the Ku Klux Klan.

He stated that he does not know anyone who is a member of a klan-type organization; that he has no knowledge as to whether or not a klan-type organization exists in Lauderdale County; that he has never attended a meeting which could have been a Klan meeting; and never knowingly had anyone approach him with regard to joining or becoming a member of a klan-type organization.

The following description was obtained by interview and observation:

Name	Charles W. KIDD
Sex	Male
Race	White
Born	September 21, 1918, in Meridian, Mississippi
Height	5' 10"
Weight	145
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Dark brown (graying)
Complexion	Medium
Build	Slender
Address	Box 244-A, Route 5, Meridian, Mississippi
Occupation	Brakeman, Southern Railroad 38th and 2nd Street, Meridian, Mississippi

On 11/14/64 at Meridian, Mississippi ¹¹⁵ File # Jackson 44-1

by SAs HENRY RASK and
HILBERT ARPS: mtl Date dictated 11/16/64

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Military Service
Wife
Children
Automobiles

U. S. Navy - World War II
FANNIE MAE KIDD
One daughter
1964 Chevrolet, four-door,
beige, 1965 Mississippi license
L1213;
1953 Chevrolet tan over brown,
two-door, 1965 Mississippi license
L1211

Description and
Location of Home

Wood frame house, approximately
two bedrooms, gray with white
trim, single carport on west end,
fenced in back yard with dog
kennel therein. House is
located as follows:
Proceed west on Old 8th Street
Road, 1.7 miles from intersection
with Highway 19; left on paved
side road for .6 miles; right on
paved road and 3rd house on right.
Streets are not named but number
on front of mail box.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

November 14, 1964
Date _____

CECIL L. KILLEN, was interviewed at his place of employment, Air Comfort Engineers, Meridian, Mississippi. He was advised prior to the interview by SA STEPHEN M. MILLER that he did not have to furnish any information to the FBI, and that any information furnished by him could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised that he had a right to seek counsel before making any statement, and that no threats, promises or duress would be used to induce him to make any statement whatsoever.

KILLEN stated that he was, in fact, a member of the Ku Klux Klan, but declined to state what klavern he was a member of or any other information regarding the Ku Klux Klan activities. KILLEN stated that he did not object to being re-interviewed by Agents of the FBI provided they would interview him at his place of employment after working hours and not bother his family. He added that it was his opinion all future interviews would be negative as the only thing he would reveal was that he is a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

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

Name	CECIL L. KILLEN
Date of Birth	July 9, 1924
Place of Birth	Neshoba County, Mississippi
Height	6'
Weight	175 pounds
Hair	Grayish blond
Eyes	Blue
Marital Status	Married with three children
Address	Route 2, Meridian, Mississippi
Military Service	U. S. Army from 1943 to 1947, Private First Class in rank, serial number unknown, honorable discharge

On 11/13/64 at Meridian, Mississippi 117 File # Jackson 157-1387
Jackson 44-1
Jackson 157-343
 by SAs STEPHEN M. MILLER and
ARTHUR F. PITTENGER:mtl Date dictated 11/14/64

JN 157-1387

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JN 157-343

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Arrests
Automobiles

None admitted
1963 Pontiac, blue in
color, Mississippi license
tag number unknown
Winchester 22 rifle

Firearms

In addition, KILLEN advised that he is a fourth
cousin of EDGAR RAY (PREACHER) KILLEN.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date November 18, 1964

WILLIAM LOUIS KILLEN, 5115 Vally Drive, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents. KILLEN was advised by SA THOMAS VAN RIPER that he did not have to make a statement, that any statement he made could be used against him in a court of law, and he had the right to counsel of his choice before making any statement.

Mr. KILLEN stated he is a fireman on the Southern Railroad and is currently on sick leave recuperating from an operation he recently had. KILLEN stated he is not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM). He knows no one who is a member of the Klan or any klan-type organization, he has never been approached to join the Klan, nor does he know anything about any klan or klan-type activities in Meridian or Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

The following description and information regarding WILLIAM LOUIS KILLEN was obtained by observation and interview:

Height	5' 9"
Weight	170
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Light brown, short, graying
Complexion	Ruddy
Occupation	Fireman, Southern Railroad
Age	45
Wife	MATTIE SUE
Address	5115 Vally Drive, Meridian
Children	BOBBY, grade 3; JOE, grade 4; BILLY, grade 8
Vehicles Owned	1953 Chevrolet, four-door sedan, brown over tan, 1965 Mississippi L6365; 1959 Ford black Country Sedan (station wagon), 1965 Mississippi L6366.

On 11/9/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1376
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Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1
 by SAs THOMAS VAN RIPER and
JOHN L. MARTIN: mtl Date dictated 11/13/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 24, 1964

WILLIAM LEWIS KILLEN, SR., 5115 Vally Drive, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the FBI Agents to whom he was talking. He was advised that he did not have to furnish any information to the FBI and that any information furnished by him could be used against him in a court of law. He was also advised of his right to counsel prior to making any statement by SA THOMAS VAN RIPER.

KILLEN advised he is not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM), he has never been a member of the Klan or any klan type organization and he has never been approached to join the Klan. KILLEN further stated he knows of no one who is a member of the Klan or anything about Klan activity in the Meridian area. KILLEN stated he is presently recuperating from an operation and did not want to carry on a lengthy discussion with the FBI at this time. He stated he is a fireman on the Southern Railroad and expects to be sent to New Orleans, Louisiana, to work upon completion of his sick leave.

The following description of WILLIAM LEWIS KILLEN, SR., was obtained by observation and interview:

Height:	5' 9"
Weight:	170 pounds
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Light brown, short, greying
Complexion:	Ruddy
Occupation:	Fireman, Southern Railroad
Age:	45
Wife:	MATTIE SUE
Address:	5115 Vally Drive
Children:	BOBBY, grade 3 JOE, grade 4 BILLY, grade 8
Weapons Owned:	30-30 rifle; .12 gauge shotgun; no hand guns.

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at Meridian, Mississippi

JN 157-1376
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

File #

JOHN L. MARTIN and
THOMAS VAN RIPER/amh

Date dictated 11/23/64

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Vehicles Owned:

1953 Chevrolet, brown over
tan, 1965 Mississippi License
L-6365

1959 Ford, black, four door,
Country Sedan station wagon,
1965 Mississippi License L-6366

Relatives:

EDGAR RAY "Preacher" KILLEN
Cousin

Date of Birth:

October 17, 1918

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 3, 1964

1

ELMER LEWIS was interviewed at his home. At the outset of the interview he was told by SA HILBERT ARPS that he need not furnish any information, that any information he furnished could be used against him in court, and that he was entitled to consult an attorney before furnishing any information. He thereafter furnished the following information.

He is not now nor has he ever been a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM) or any similar Klan-type organization. He has never attended nor been asked or invited to attend meetings of any such organizations. He knows nothing of the existence of a Klan in this area other than what he has read in the newspapers. He is opposed to violence and if he should receive information concerning any planned acts of violence, he would not hesitate to report this to the FBI.

He could not understand why his name should have been mentioned as a Klan member as this is not so. There is no other ELMER LEWIS employed at Southern Railroad to his knowledge. The only other ELMER LEWIS that he knows is ELMER LAVOID LEWIS, who is his twenty-two year old son and who works at Acme Supply Company, Meridian. He did not see how his son could be a Klansman without his knowing of it as his son visits home regularly and has never given any indication of any Klan sympathies or association.

He, himself, is a Mason and Shriner. His membership in these organizations is not compatible with any organization which becomes involved in violence.

The following description was obtained from LEWIS at the time of interview:

Name	ELMER (No Middle Name) LEWIS
Aliases	None
Date of Birth	April 28, 1919
Place of Birth	Clarke County, Mississippi

On 11/28/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1320
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1

by SAs HILBERT ARPS and
HENRY RASK:mtl Date dictated 12/1/64

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Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5' 8"
Weight	145 pounds
Hair	Brown-graying
Eyes	Brown
Scars and Marks	None
Address	1408 46th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi
Employment	Switchman with Southern Railroad, 38th Avenue Yard Office, Meridian, Mississippi, for 22 years.
Education	High school graduate
Military Service	U. S. Navy June, 1944 to August, 1945, Serial No. 9404788
Social Security No.	427-18-5578
Father	CHARLEY LEWIS, Toxey, Alabama
Mother	Deceased
Wife	MARGIE LEWIS 1408 46th Avenue, Meridian
Children	ELMER LAVOID LEWIS, age 22, employed at Acme Supply Company, Meridian, resides 3113 40th Avenue, Meridian; CHARLES LESSIE LEWIS, age 20, residing at home
Brothers	EDWARD LEWIS, Route 3, Quitman, Mississippi; ROY LEWIS, Toxey, Alabama
Automobile	1949 Jeepster, red, convertible, Mississippi license LB 1076
Guns Owned	.22 caliber rifle; 12 gauge single barrel shotgun; 20 gauge Winchester shotgun.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 7, 1964

WILLIAM RALPH LEWIS, commonly known as RALPH LEWIS, was interviewed near his place of employment, Burns Motor Company, 22nd Avenue, South, Meridian. He was reminded of his rights previously mentioned to him, that is, that he need not furnish any information, that any information he furnished could be used against him in court, and that he was entitled to consult an attorney before furnishing any information.

LEWIS again denied being a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan or similar Klan type organizations or having had any association with such organizations. He said he is definitely opposed to violence. He was asked whether or not he would report any plans involving violence if he should hear of them. He said if these plans were against him, he certainly would report them; however, he was reluctant to say what action he would take if the violence was to be against someone else. He indicated this reluctance was based primarily on fear for his own safety and trying to avoid his own involvement in the situation. After further consideration, he indicated he felt he would be obligated to report such matters to the proper authorities.

He claimed his membership in such organizations as the Shriners precluded him from also being a Klansman. He claimed to know of no one who may be a member of a Klan.

He furnished the following additional background:

Name	WILLIAM RALPH LEWIS, commonly known as RALPH LEWIS
Marital Status	Married to MARY LEWIS, 2326 45th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi
Children	None
Parents	CLEM and MABLE LEWIS, Meridian, Mississippi
Sister	Mrs. FRED (BETTY) HENDERSON, Alexandria, Louisiana.
Military Service	U. S. Army, 1942-46. Serial No. unrecalled
Car	1957 Cadillac and company Grand Prix

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Jackson 157-1388
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1

On 11/25/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File#

by SAs HILBERT ARPS and
HENRY RASK:mtl

Date dictated 12/1/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 24, 1964

1

AUSTIN DEBARA MC CARY, 3900 5th Street, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the FBI Agents to whom he was talking. He was advised that he did not have to furnish any information to the FBI and that any information furnished by him could be used against him in a court of law. He was also advised of his right to counsel prior to making any statement by SA THOMAS VAN RIPER.

MC CARY advised that he is not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM), but had been approached by an individual whom he cannot recall regarding membership in the Klan. MC CARY stated he knows no one who is in the Klan or anything regarding the Klan or any klan type activity in the Meridian, Mississippi, area. MC CARY stated that he may at some future time recall the name of the individual who approached him and may at some future time reveal the name of this person to the FBI.

The following description was obtained from MC CARY by observation and interview:

Name:	AUSTIN DEBARA MC CARY
Address:	3900 5th Street Meridian, Mississippi
Occupation:	Carpenter Southwestern Construction Company (now working at Diamond National Paper Company job in Natchez, Mississippi)
Height:	5' 7½"
Weight:	150 pounds
Age:	27
Hair:	Light Brown
Eyes:	Brown
Military Service:	United States Air Force 1956 through 1958
Wife:	JOANN employed as bookkeeper, Acme Building Supply, Meridian Mississippi

On 11/21/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1374
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

by SA JOHN L. MARTIN and
SA THOMAS VAN RIPER/amb Date dictated 11/23/64

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JN 157-1374
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
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Children: CATHY, age 7
LEMONT, age 3
GREGORY SCOTT, age 2

Weapons: .22 caliber, lever action Marlene;
.12 gauge Higgins shotgun.

Social Security Number: 427-66-4850

Vehicles Owned: 1962 Falcon, white, four door,
1964 Mississippi License
LB - 1822

1947 Ford black, pickup truck,
1964 Mississippi License 1471.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 18, 19641

DELMAR MC CORMICK was advised by SA STANLEY A. SPRING that he did not have to make any statement, that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised that he could consult an attorney before making any statements if he so desired.

He advised the he was not and never had been a member of the Klan, nor had he received any information concerning anyone who might be. He stated that he would continue to cooperate with the FBI in any way that he could.

On 11/13/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1365
SA STANLEY A. SPRING and
SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON: 127 Jackson 157-343
 by mtl Jackson 44-1
 Date dictated 11/16/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 21, 1964

1

CHARLES WAYNE MC GEE, Route 1, Valley Road, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised by NELSON B. KLEIN, JR., that he did not have to furnish any information, that any information he did furnish could be used against him in a court of law, that he had the right to consult an attorney prior to making any statement.

MC GEE advised that he has been residing in the Meridian, Mississippi, area since 1957. He advised that in 1958 he obtained employment with the Pepsi Cola Bottling Company, 601 Highway 11 South, Meridian, Mississippi. He is presently a driver-salesman and drives truck number 6, handling the west side of Meridian.

He advised that he is not a member of the Ku Klux Klan and knows of no Klan organization or activities in the Meridian, Mississippi, area. He said he belongs to two organizations, the Moose Club and the National Guard. He said he goes out two nights a week, Mondays to the National Guard and Tuesdays to the Moose Club.

The following description was obtained through interview and observation:

Name:	CHARLES WAYNE MC GEE
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Born:	 Mississippi
Height:	5' 7"
Weight:	150 pounds
Eyes:	Hazel
Hair:	Dark brown, crew cut
Complexion:	Medium
Build:	Stocky
Marital Status:	Married
Wife:	ZAMA
Occupation:	Pepsi Cola Salesman

JN 157-1286

JN 157-343

JN 44-1

On 11/16/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File #by SA NELSON B. KLEIN, JR. and
SA JAMES A. DAY/amh

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Date dictated 11/20/64

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JN 157-1286

JN 157-343

JN 44-1

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Employment: Pepsi Cola Bottling Company
601 Highway 11 South

Teeth: Missing on upper sides

Military Service: Mississippi National Guard,
past 8 years, National Guard
Number 24923269; rank E-5 cook.

Automobiles: 1955 black over yellow Oldsmobile
"88", 1965 Mississippi National
Guard License 3621.

1957 white Oldsmobile "88", 1965
Mississippi National Guard License
3620.

Weapons: 410 shotgun

Associate: CLAYTON MYRICK
Fellow employee of Pepsi Cola
Bottling Company.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 21, 19641

CHARLES WAYNE MC GEE, Route 1, Valley Road, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised by NELSON B. KLEIN, JR., that he did not have to furnish any information, that any information he did furnish could be used against him in a court of law, and that he had the right to consult an attorney prior to making any statement.

MC GEE was re-interviewed concerning any knowledge that he might have concerning Klan activities in the Meridian, Mississippi, area and he still maintains that he is not a member of the Klan and knows nothing about Klan activities or members of such organization.

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JN 157-1286
 JN 157-343
 JN 44-1

On 11/18/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # _____
 by SA NELSON B. KLEIN, JR. and SA JAMES A. DAY/amh Date dictated 11/20/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 23, 19641

DONALD RUSSELL MADDOX was interviewed at his residence, 2440 37th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi, and advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents. He was advised by SA NELSON B. KLEIN, JR., that he did not have to make any statements, that any statements he did make could be used against him in a court of law and that he could have the services of an attorney at any time prior to making any statement.

MADDOX advised that he still desired to furnish no additional information concerning Klan type activities at the present time and stated that if he did know anything, he has forgotten it.

He stated he wished he could help but just does not know anything. He advised that the interviewing Agents could contact him at any time.

On 11/16/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # 131 JN 157-1331
 JN 157-343
 JN 44-1
 by SA NELSON B. KLEIN, JR., and
SA JAMES A. DAY/amh Date dictated 11/20/64

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 18, 19641

CLYDE MATHENY, Route 2, Lauderdale, Mississippi, after being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents, was advised by SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON that he had a right to an attorney, that no threats, promise or offers of reward were being made to induce him to make a statement, and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. MATHENY advised that he had no objection to being interviewed and that he would cooperate in any way possible.

MATHENY denied ever having been at Akins Mobile Homes in the presence of JAMES JORDAN, B. L. AKIN, JAMES T. BARNETTE, PETE HARRIS, WALLACE MILLER, and WAYNE ROBERTS. MATHENY stated that he has never heard WAYNE ROBERTS say "I stuck my finger in SCHWERNER's face and said, 'Do you think you are as good as a Nigger?', SCHWERNER replying, 'I know just how you feel, Sir,' and that's when I let him have it."

MATHENY again denied that he is a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi, in Lauderdale County. During the interview he stated that he imagines men could get into an outfit like the Klan and later get out. He continually said he would answer any questions that the FBI wanted to ask him.

MATHENY advised he could provide no information on the murder of the civil rights workers.

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On 12/16/64 at Lauderdale, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1130
Jackson 44-1

by SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON and
SA STANLEY A. SPRING:mtl Date dictated 12/17/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/10/641

CLIFTON MOORE was reinterviewed at Moore's Texaco Station, 2405 State Boulevard, Meridian, Mississippi. MOORE stated again he was not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi. He further advised that the FBI had spoken to a friend of his about his Klan affiliation. MOORE declined to name his friend. MOORE stated he believes that all individuals in Meridian, Mississippi that the FBI is interviewing alleging Klan affiliation will be friendly but silent about their Klan membership.

MOORE stated that FBI Agents are welcome to speak to him at any future date.

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On 11/9/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# JN 44-1
JN 157-343
JN 157-1834

by SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON :bjm Date dictated 11/10/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 24, 1964

NORMAN CHARLIE MOSLEY was telephonically contacted at which time the request was made by SA STEPHEN M. MILLER to re-interview MOSLEY regarding his possible membership in the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM). MOSLEY requested that any questions the interviewing Agent had be conducted on the telephone inasmuch as he was constantly pressed for time and preferred to be interviewed on the telephone.

MOSLEY was advised at this time by SA STEPHEN M. MILLER that he did not have to furnish any information to the FBI, and that any information furnished by him could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised of his right to counsel and of the fact that no threats, promises or duress would be used to induce him to make a statement.

MOSLEY stated that he had nothing new to advise the FBI regarding his activities in the Ku Klux Klan inasmuch as he is not a member and knew of no individuals who were. MOSLEY was questioned about his statement that ROBERT SHELTON has a "different type of group" from the Klan group in Mississippi. MOSLEY stated that the only reason he had said this was that in reading the newspaper, he had assumed that there was a Ku Klux Klan organization in Mississippi but that it was quite different from the one in Alabama headed by the Imperial Wizard ROBERT SHELTON.

MOSLEY was asked if he had ever attended any meetings of any sort at the Harris Box Factory in Meridian, Mississippi, and MOSLEY replied that to his knowledge he definitely had not. MOSLEY reiterated that he most definitely was not a member of the Ku Klux Klan and knew absolutely nothing regarding the organization but that he had no objection to being re-interviewed by Agents of the FBI concerning any knowledge he might have about the WKKKKOM.

11/23/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# JN 157-1290
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

SA STEPHEN M. MILLER/amh

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Date dictated 11/23/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 12/14/64

1

A. D. NEAL was interviewed at his place of employment, Southern Pipe and Supply Company Warehouse, 29th Avenue and First Street, Meridian, Mississippi. After being advised of the identities of the interviewing agents, he was advised by SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON he had the right to an attorney before making any statement and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law.

NEAL was advised that investigations in Mississippi over the last several months regarding acts of violence against Negroes has indicated that members of klan-type groups have been involved. He was further told that investigation revealed that he is definitely a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM). NEAL denied membership in any klan organization.

The interview was suddenly ended when NEAL received a telephone call that his home in Causeyville, Mississippi was on fire. SAs JAMIESON and ARPS drove NEAL to his home which was completely destroyed at the time of arrival.

The following description of NEAL was obtained by observation and interview:

Name	A. D. NEAL
Residence	Causeyville, Mississippi
Employment	Warehouse of Southern Pipe and Supply Company

On 12/12/64 at Meridian, Mississippi ¹³⁵ File # JN 157-1397
JN 157-343

by SA HILBERT ARPS & SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON :bjm Date dictated 12/12/64

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JN 157-343

JN 44-1

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FOIA(b)(6)

Date of birth	[REDACTED]
Place of birth	Mississippi
Height	5'7"
Weight	138 pounds
Build	Slim
Hair	Black, wavy, receding hairline
Complexion	Medium
Marital status	Wife - ANN, nee REID
Children	Four children below school age
Parents	Father - WALLACE NEAL Mother - EFFIE MAE NEAL, Whynot, Mississippi
Brothers	J. D. NEAL, twin; JACK NEAL, age 30, Monahans, Texas; WILLIAM WALTER, age 17, Whynot, Mississippi; KENNETH RAYMOND, age 9, Whynot, Mississippi
Education	Eleventh grade
Military service	None

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 18, 19641

WILL A. NELSON was interviewed at his place of employment, Air Comfort Engineers, Meridian, Mississippi. He was advised prior to the interview by SA STEPHEN M. MILLER that he did not have to furnish any information to the FBI and that any information furnished by him could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised that he had a right to see counsel before making any statement, and that no threats, promises or duress would be used to induce him to make any statement whatsoever.

NELSON vehemently denied that he was a member of the Ku Klux Klan or any similar organization. He stated that he had no knowledge that there was a Ku Klux Klan in the Meridian area, and that consequently, he knew of no members in the Klan. It is noted that during the interview, NELSON became very upset when the interviewing Agents attempted to extract background information. He became particularly upset when the Agents requested the name of his wife. NELSON stated that the question inferred she must know something about the Ku Klux Klan and that he, NELSON, did not appreciate same. NELSON was advised that this was not true and was again given the reason why background material was necessary. NELSON stated that he would not help the Agents because they are paid to abstract this information without his cooperation, consequently he terminated the interview at this point and stated that he did not wish to be re-interviewed by anyone from the FBI.

The following background and information was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	WILL A. NELSON
Address	Box 25, Bonita Post Office Meridian, Mississippi
Date of Birth	March 29, 1920
Place of Birth	Meridian, Mississippi
Height	5' 10"
Weight	135
Hair	Brownish gray
Eyes	Hazel (not predominant)
Employment	Air Comfort Engineers, for approximately ten years
Marital Status	Married, two children

On 11/13/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1242
SA STEPHEN M. MILLER and Jackson 157-343
ARTHUR F. PITTENGER: Jackson 44-1
 by 137 Date dictated 11/13/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date December 28, 1964

FRED MC DONALD PARTRIDGE, commonly known as DON PARTRIDGE, was told by SA HILBERT ARPS at the outset of an interview with him that he need not furnish any information, that any information he furnished could be used against him in court and that he had the right to consult an attorney before furnishing any information. PARTRIDGE then furnished the following information.

He is not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM) or any other klan-type organization, nor has he ever been a member of any such organizations. He has never attended nor been asked or invited to attend meetings of such organizations. He is opposed to violence and would not become involved with any organization which advocated violence of any sort.

The following description of PARTRIDGE was obtained in connection with his interview:

Name	FRED MC DONALD PARTRIDGE, also known as DON PARTRIDGE, QUAIL
Birthdate	July 25, 1929
Birthplace	Memphis, Tennessee
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	6'
Weight	170 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown, wears horn rimmed glasses
Complexion	Ruddy
Marital Status	Married to BETTY PARTRIDGE
Address	3220 35th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi
Military Service	U. S. Marine Corps
Education	Graduate of Memphis, Tennessee State College
Employment	Radio announcer and salesman with Radio Station WOKK, Meridian, Mississippi
Parents	FRED M. and KATY PARTRIDGE, Memphis, Tennessee

On 12/16/64 at Meridian, Mississippi ¹³⁸ File # Jackson 157-1816
SAs HILBERT ARPS and Jackson 157-343
HENRY RASK:mtl Jackson 44-1
 by _____ Date dictated 12/21/64

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 11, 1964

1

On December 9, 1964, H. J. PARTRIDGE, Route 6, Meridian, Mississippi, the owner and operator of the Partridge Iron and Grill Works, 2114 C Street, Meridian, Mississippi, furnished the following information:

PARTRIDGE is not now and has never been a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM). PARTRIDGE said that about nine months ago, an individual he did not know, called him on the telephone and inquired concerning his interest in becoming a member of the WKKKKOM. PARTRIDGE denied knowing the identity of the individual making this telephone call. According to PARTRIDGE, he was told that if he was interested in becoming a member of this organization, he would be contacted at a later date and given instructions as to what action he could take to join the WKKKKOM. PARTRIDGE said he told the caller he was too busy and could not afford the time to give to any organization.

PARTRIDGE said he did not believe in violence, said he thought if the WKKKKOM was responsible for the murder of the civil rights workers at Philadelphia, Mississippi, they had gone too far, but he admitted he thought it was acceptable for the Klan to administer whippings to those who were not taking care of their families or were not conducting themselves in a manner the Klan thought proper. PARTRIDGE furnished the following background data:

Name:	H. J. PARTRIDGE (Initials Only)
Alias:	"Shorty" Partridge
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Age:	31
Born:	March 23, 1933
	Kemper County, Mississippi
Height:	6'
Weight:	165 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Brown

On 12/9/64 at Meridian, Mississippi ¹³⁹ File # JN 157-1312
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

by SA HARRY L. LEE/amh Date dictated 12/10/64

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Relatives:	
Wife:	BONNIE JEAN PARTRIDGE
Children:	Four
Military Service:	None, declared 4-F
Admitted Arrests:	Arrested about 1963 at Meridian, Mississippi, following accident in which he was handling a gun and gun accidentally discharged, wounding his wife. Charged dismissed.
Residence:	Route 6 Meridian, Mississippi
Occupation:	Owner, operator of Welding Shop, The Partridge Grill Works, 2114 C Street, Meridian, Mississippi, telephone 483-4787
Weapons:	None

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/18/64

1

JOSEPH ALGENE PRICE was again interviewed at the Cash Salvage Store, 1205 65th Avenue, Meridian. He was advised the interviewing agents were Special Agents of the FBI and SA HALPIN again advised PRICE he was not required to make a statement, that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law and that he was entitled to the services of an attorney before making any statement. No threats or promises were made to him.

PRICE was asked if it was still his contention that he was not and had never been a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM), and he stated this was the case. He said if the FBI had information that he was a member, he wished they would bring around the person who said he was a member and let this person repeat this charge to his face and then the agents should step back out of the way.

PRICE was advised that the FBI never divulges sources of information and that such information was never accepted as fact without additional verification. He was advised the FBI did not intend to arrest members of the WKKKKOM solely because of their membership in such an organization but when individuals, whether members of an organization or not, became involved in a criminal conspiracy over which the FBI had investigative jurisdiction, they would be arrested.

PRICE was advised that the FBI was aware that many members of the WKKKKOM probably joined without a full awareness or comprehension of the true aims of the

On 11/17/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1129
141 JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA STEPHEN L. HALPIN &
SA DONALD E. GODFREY :bjm Date dictated 11/18/64

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JN 157-1129

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organization, nor were they necessarily aware or informed of any criminal acts committed by a minority hooligan element in the organization.

PRICE advised he might not be a genius but he knew enough that he would never be convicted of conspiracy against anyone as he knew he had never so conspired.

It was pointed out to PRICE that membership alone in the WKKKKOM might not involve him in a situation where he would be legally charged in court with conspiring to commit murder, but when members of the WKKKKOM were arrested for murder and so charged in court, and it became publicly known that PRICE, or anyone else, was a member of such an organization, they would be publicly branded for all times if a member of an organization that condoned murder to further its own ends.

PRICE said he knew nothing about the Klan but assumed it was made up of Mississippi people and he doubted if such people would get together and plan murder. He said he believed in segregation but did not condone murder to further his beliefs, and when asked if it became known that the Klan planned and committed murder, would his opinion of the Klan change. He replied he had no opinion of the Klan now so it would not change.

PRICE said he was not a member of the Klan or any such organization and had never been a member of such an organization. He said he did not know any of his friends to be Klan members, but said it was possible he might know someone who was a member of the Klan without his knowledge. He was asked if he knew SAM BOWERS, and he denied knowing this individual. It was pointed out to PRICE that SA GODFREY

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observed him with a group of people leaving an elevator at the Lamar Hotel on the night of November 12, 1964, which group consisted of SAM BOWERS and a number of other known Klan members. PRICE said riding an elevator with Klan members did not make him a Klan member, and when asked if he would like to account for his presence in the Lamar Hotel on this occasion, he said he just liked to ride elevators.

PRICE was given an account of the impartial role and jurisdiction of the FBI in Mississippi, and it was pointed out to him the necessity of preserving the rights of all citizens in all of the states as well as in Mississippi. He agreed that if people could be murdered anywhere in the country because of dissimilar beliefs and the crime go unpunished, he and his family ~~would~~, themselves, be in danger from elements who might not agree with them.

PRICE thanked the interviewing agents for their tactful and gentlemanly presentation of the necessity for their presence in Mississippi and said he could now better appreciate their point of view and would be willing to talk to the agents at any time.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date December 29, 1964

JOSEPH ALGENE PRICE was interviewed at the Key Field Salvage Store, 1205 65th Avenue, Meridian. PRICE was again advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents and SA HALPIN advised him he did not have to make any statement and that any statement made by him could be used against him in a court of law. No threats or promises were made to PRICE and he was advised of his right to counsel.

PRICE was advised that in connection with the recent arrests in Meridian and Philadelphia of "his friends," a list of known Klansmen was found in the possession of "PETE" HARRIS, and his name was on this list. PRICE was advised that the interviewing Agents were not there to bandy words with him about his membership in the Klan, which was now a well-known and documented matter in spite of his denials, but only to give him an opportunity to explain what his name was doing on a list of known Klansmen. It was further pointed out to PRICE that this list was found in the possession of an individual being charged for all practical purposes with the crime of murder.

PRICE stated it was not up to him to explain the presence of his name on a list in the possession of someone else.

PRICE was advised that his friend, "PETE" HARRIS, had also been in the possession of "goof balls" when arrested, and his arrest in this connection for illegal possession of narcotics was also imminent. He was asked if it was common practice of Klan members to use "goof balls" to build up their nerve and he declined comment on this.

PRICE was advised as had previously been pointed out to him, that on the occasions of his previous interviews, he had been given a formal opportunity to dissociate himself from an organization that conspired to commit and did commit murder. Since he had refused to dissociate himself and it was a well known and documented fact of the degree of his involvement in Klan matters, PRICE was advised that he could expect to receive a great deal more attention for his subversive activities in an organization setting itself above the laws of God and duly constituted government.

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On 12/22/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1129
SAs STEPHEN L. HALPIN and Jackson 157-1113
DONALD E. GODFREY:mtl Jackson 44-1
 by _____ Date dictated 12/22/64
Jackson 157-343

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date December 4, 1964

WILLIAM L. RAINER, JR., Old 8th Street Road, Box 406, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised by SA NELSON B. KLEIN, JR., that he did not have to furnish any information, that any information he did furnish to the FBI could be used against him in a court of law, and that he had the right to consult an attorney prior to making any statement or at any time.

RAINER advised that he still has nothing to say regarding Klan activities in the Meridian, Mississippi, area. He states he is not a member of the Ku Klux Klan and cannot furnish the names of any members of the Klan in this area.

He states that he does not believe in violence but does believe in segregation. He stated that he has been concerned regarding the interviews by the FBI pertaining to Klan activities and that he would certainly like to know the source of the information concerning him. He stated that whoever is advising the Agents that he is a Klan member does not know what they are talking about.

He stated he would be glad to talk with Agents at any time in the future.

On 11/25/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# JN 157-1325
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON and **145**
SA NELSON B. KLEIN, JR./amh Date dictated 12/2/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 11, 1964

1

HUBERT ALTON RAMEY, who advised that he prefers to be known as ALTON RAMEY and has the nickname of "Bunk" RAMEY, residing at 2714 11th Street, Meridian, Mississippi, furnished the following information:

RAMEY is not now and has never been a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi. RAMEY has never been a member of a klan-type organization to his knowledge. According to RAMEY, sometime in September, 1964, he was drinking at the Shamrock Inn, Meridian, and he became involved in a fight with an unknown individual. RAMEY said he does not recall the reason for the fight, but he never heard that the individual in question was a worker for the Congress of Federated Organizations. RAMEY described the fight as "not serious" and said nothing came of the matter. RAMEY thought any information to the effect that he was involved in White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi activities might have come from someone at the Shamrock Inn. RAMEY said the only information he had on this subject was that on one occasion, the owner or manager of the Shamrock Inn, FRANK HERNDON, spoke to him about membership in the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi, but RAMEY said he was not interested in joining the organization. RAMEY furnished the following background data:

Name:	HUBERT ALTON RAMEY
Also Known As:	Alton Ramey, "Bunk" Ramey
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Age:	25
Born:	November 15, 1939 Waynesboro, Mississippi Wayne County
Height:	5' 6"
Weight:	190 pounds
Hair:	Black
Eyes:	Blue
Scars and Marks:	Large scar from cheek to corner of mouth, left side of face; Numerous tattoos both arms.

On 12/9/64 at Meridian, Mississippi ¹⁴⁶ File # JN 157-1158
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

by SA HARRY L. LEE/amb Date dictated 12/9/64

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Military Service:	U. S. Army, Serial Number 53269478
Relatives:	
Wife:	JOANNE RAMEY
Children:	Two
Father:	CHARLES RAMEY Route 5, Box 87 (Old 8th Street) Meridian, Mississippi
Occupation:	Truck Driver
Employment:	Unemployed, formerly employed at Southern Pipe Company, Meridian, Mississippi
Weapons:	None

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 10, 1964

1

J. C. RIGDON was interviewed at Swartzfager Ford Company, Meridian, Mississippi. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents, he was advised by SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON that he had the right to an attorney before making any statements and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law.

RIGDON was advised that the investigation in Mississippi over the last several months regarding acts of violence against Negroes has indicated that members of klan type groups have been involved. He was further advised that investigation has revealed that he is a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM). He emphatically denied any information or knowledge of Klan activities. RIGDON stated he believes many of the church burnings that have occurred in Mississippi have been the work of the Negroes themselves and not the white people. He indicated that he is opposed to any form of integration and that he is also opposed to any acts of violence to oppose integration. RIGDON was advised that he was being interviewed to solicit his help and cooperation by giving the agents any information he had about Klan activity. RIGDON advised that he had nothing to hide regarding any of his activities or associations and that FBI Agents are welcome to speak to him at any time.

The following description of RIGDON was obtained by observation and interview:

Name:	J. C. RIGDON
Home Address:	Route 1, Little Rock, Mississippi
Employment:	Trim and Body Shop, Swartzfager Ford Company
Height:	5' 7"
Weight:	158 pounds
Hair:	Brown, wavy
Eyes:	Brown
Build:	Slim

On 11/7/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1300
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

by SA STANLEY A. SPRING and **148**
SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON/amh Date dictated 11/9/64

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Complexion:	Medium
Scars and Marks:	Scar over left eyebrow
Characteristics:	Wears eye glasses
Marital Status:	Married
Wife:	RUTH
Children:	DONALD, Age 14 KATHY, Age 9 JOEY, Age 6
Education:	10th Grade, House, Mississippi
Military Service:	Navy, Seaman 1st Class Discharged 1946
Social Security Number:	425403434
Automobiles:	1957 red Ford pickup 1962 white Ford Falcon
Weapons:	.38 caliber S & W 4" barrel
Organization:	Oakland Lodge Masonic Lodge
Associates:	CURTIS WHITE J. C. HARRINGTON MARTIN NELSON
Date of birth	June 13, 1926

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 1, 1964

CLYDE CUTHELL ROBERTS, also known as "Cocky" Roberts, was interviewed at the Meridian Police Department, City Hall, where he is employed as a painter in the traffic division. ROBERTS was advised by SA PITTENGER that he need not make any statement, that any statement he might give could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised he had the right to consult an attorney before making any statement whatsoever.

ROBERTS advised he was not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi. He said he had no knowledge that any such organization existed in the Meridian area, did not know any Klan members and "wouldn't know a Klansman if I saw one". ROBERTS advised that he knew nothing concerning any acts of violence such as the murder of three civil rights workers at Philadelphia, Mississippi, or any church burnings.

ROBERTS said that if he had any pertinent information concerning any matter in which the FBI had an interest, he would furnish this information without hesitation.

ROBERTS advised he was well known in the Meridian area and if the FBI would check, they would find that he, ROBERTS, was a man of good character and reputation.

The following description of ROBERTS was obtained through observation and interview:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	June 9, 1905
Place of Birth:	Jackson, Alabama
Height:	5' 11"
Weight:	170
Eyes:	Gray
Hair:	black, graying
Build:	Medium
Complexion:	Ruddy
Peculiarities:	Right eye is cocked.

Jackson 157-1152
 Jackson 157-343
 File# Jackson 44-1

11/21/64 at Meridian, Mississippi

SA STEPHEN M. MILLER and
 SA ARTHUR F. PITTENGER/amh

150 Date dictated 11/30/64

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Scars and Marks:	Numerous tattoos on both arms
Residence:	2675 St. John Street Meridian, Mississippi
Employment:	Painter, Traffic Division Meridian Police Department
Previous employment:	Guard, Lauderdale County, Mississippi
Firearms:	Two .16 gauge single barrel shotguns, brand names unknown
Automobiles:	1960 Chevrolet pickup truck, green and white, license number unknown
Marital Status:	Married
Wife:	EULA J.
Son:	ALTON WAYNE ROBERTS
Son:	LEE C. ROBERTS
Son:	RAYMOND ROBERTS
Arrests:	ROBERTS admitted numerous arrests by Meridian Police Department for being drunk.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 9, 19641

JERRY SCIPLE was interviewed near his place of employment, the United Tire Company, 1317 B Street, Meridian, Mississippi. He was reminded by SA HILBERT ARPS of his right to an attorney before furnishing any information, that any information he furnished could be used against him in court and that he was entitled to consult an attorney before furnishing any information.

SCIPLE again denied being a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan or similar Klan type organization, or having had any association with any such organizations in the past. He claimed to know nothing of the existence of any such organizations except what he has read in the newspapers. He claimed to be opposed to violence and should he hear of anyone planning acts of violence, he would not hesitate to disclose this to the proper authorities.

He is well acquainted with B. C. LIDE, who also works at United Tire Company and who has another job handling juke boxes in this area. He has known LIDE for about seven years but does not know whether or not LIDE may be a Klansman. His association with LIDE is primarily as a fellow-employee and he therefore is not aware of LIDE's other outside activities.

He claimed to know of no one who may be a Klansman.

He said he had no objection to being recontacted; however, he would be unable to furnish any information concerning Klan activities.

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On 11/25/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1306
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1

by SA HILBERT ARPS and
HENRY RASK:mtl Date dictated 12/1/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 18, 1964

GEORGE DAVIS SCOTT was interviewed in the vicinity of his place of employment. At the outset of the interview, he was told by SA HILBERT ARPS that he need not furnish any information, that any information he furnished could be used against him in court, and that he was entitled to consult an attorney before furnishing any information. He then furnished the following information.

He is not now, nor has he ever been a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan or similar klan organizations. He has never attended any meetings of such organizations, nor has he been asked nor invited to attend such meetings. He knows of no one who may be a Klan member and has not heard of a klan organization in this area except what he has read in the newspaper.

He is opposed to violence and if he had any information concerning any acts of violence, he would readily tell of it.

The following is a description of SCOTT as obtained from him at the time of interview:

Name	GEORGE DAVIS SCOTT, sometimes known as GEORGE SCOTT and DAVIS SCOTT
Date of Birth	August 2, 1920
Place of Birth	Leake County, Mississippi
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5' 6"
Weight	145 pounds
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown, graying
Scars	Appendectomy scar

On 11/17/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1830
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Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1
 by SAs HILBERT ARPS and HENRY RASK: mtl Date dictated 11/18/64

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Address	6218 Oakland Park Street, Meridian, Mississippi, past 1½ year; Formerly resided in Jackson, Mississippi
Marital Status	Married to ELIZABETH ANN SCOTT, residing same as above.
Children	Mrs. ROYCE (MARY ANN) EZELLE, residing 1717 28th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi; THERESA JANE SCOTT, age 19; GEORGE D. SCOTT, JR., age 16; REBECCA MARIE SCOTT, age 15; ROY ERNEST SCOTT, age 5, all residing at home
Parents	ROY HOMER and ALMA SCOTT, Rural Route, Clinton, Mississippi
Brothers	HOMER C. SCOTT, residing 6309 Oakland Park Street, Meridian, is co-manager with him of Meridian Cigar and Tobacco Company, has resided in Meridian for one year
Sisters	Mrs. HARVEY (RUTH) HICKSON, Rural Route, Clinton, Mississippi; Mrs. HORACE (JANIE) SLAY, Rural Route, Clinton, Mississippi
Military Service	U. S. Air Corps, August 1941 to November, 1945, Serial No. 34421243
Employment	Co-manager and salesman, Meridian Cigar and Tobacco Company, 3503 7th Street, Meridian, Mississippi, for past 1½ year. This company owned by Williams Tobacco Company, Jackson, Mississippi, where he previously worked.
Education	Two years Junior College
Weapons Owned	.45 caliber Colt, description not otherwise recalled; 12 gauge double barrel shotgun, description not otherwise recalled.
Automobile	1960 Ford, aqua or blue in color

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 10, 1964

1

JAMES FRANKLIN SESSIONS, Foreman, Miami Windows, Incorporated, Key Field, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents, that he did not have to make a statement, that any statement he made could be used against him in a court of law and advised by SA THOMAS VAN RIPER he had a right to counsel prior to being interviewed by the interviewing Agents.

SESSIONS advised he had been approached approximately three months ago to become a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM) but stated he would not, under any circumstances, reveal the name of the person who approached him. SESSIONS stated that he does not know any Klan members and has heard no talk regarding any Klan activity either around his work or the places he hangs out in and around Meridian. SESSIONS advised he hangs around Nita's (phonetic) Drive-In, Highway 11, North, Meridian, Mississippi. SESSIONS advised he owns the following weapons, a Browning Automatic .12 gauge shotgun; a .12 gauge Ithaca Johnson shotgun, and two .22 caliber target pistols. SESSIONS stated that he owns a 1957 Chevrolet, four door, aqua and white, and advised he rarely drives an automobile since he does not like to drive and generally comes to work with his brother-in-law, DANIEL TODD, who is a fellow employee at Miami. SESSIONS advised he was annoyed at being contacted at his work and did not wish to be contacted again by FBI Agents.

The following description of JAMES FRANKLIN SESSIONS was obtained by observation and interview:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	35 years
Date of Birth:	May 25, 1929
Place of Birth:	Vicksburg, Mississippi
Height:	5' 6"

On 11/5/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-¹³⁹⁴~~1832~~
155 JN 157-343
 JN 44-1

by SA THOMAS VAN RIPER and
SA JOHN L. MARTIN/amh Date dictated 11/7/64

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Weight:	150 pounds
Build:	Stocky
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Brown
Military Service:	1950 - 1952, United States Army, Serial Number US 53023846 or 53023864

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 9, 1964

1

WILLIE COPELAND SIMS, Route 3, Meridian, Mississippi, was interviewed at his place of employment, the Southern Bell Telephone Company, Meridian, Mississippi, and was promptly advised by SA JOHN L. MARTIN that he need make no statement; that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law, and that he had the right to consult with an attorney prior to making any statement.

WILLIE COPELAND SIMS denied any membership in the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM). He said that he had been approached to join the Klan but refused to identify the person who approached him.

He stated, after being questioned, that he would not admit membership in the Klan even if he was a member.

He declined to identify any associates he thought were members of the Ku Klux Klan and repeatedly stated that the Klan was not engaged in any violence and was a lawful organization.

From observation and interview, SIMS is described as follows:

Name:	WILLIE COPELAND SIMS
Also Known As:	W. C. Sims
Residence:	Route 3 Meridian, Mississippi
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	August 17, 1921
Age:	43
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Brown
Complexion:	Ruddy
Employment:	Installer, Southern Bell Telephone Company Meridian, Mississippi

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Jackson 157-1510

Jackson 157-343

On 11/28/64 at Meridian, MississippiFile# Jackson 44-1by SA THOMAS VAN RIVER and
SA JOHN L. MARTIN/ambDate dictated 12/3/64

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Height:	6'
Weight:	190 pounds
Wife:	HAZEL
Children:	3
Weapons:	.12 gauge shotgun .22 caliber rifle .38 Smith and Wesson 4" barrel pistol
Vehicles:	Blue GMC pickup truck, 1965 Mississippi License 56685; 1962 Chevrolet Impala, two door, white.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 19, 1964

1

AUBREY HAROLD SMITH, after being informed as to the identity of the interviewing Agents was informed by SA HENRY RASK that he did not have to make a statement, that he was entitled to consult with an attorney before making a statement and that any statement he made could be used against him in a court of law, furnished the following information:

SMITH said that he was not a member of any klan type organization and that he did not have any knowledge as to whether or not a klan type organization existed in the Meridian area. He further stated that he did not know anyone who may be a member of any klan type organization and never has been approached to join or to attend the meetings.

SMITH stated that he was opposed to any violence and that he did not believe that this was the answer to the Negro problem in Mississippi. He further stated that he did not believe in the integration of schools, however, he feels that his children should have an education and that if schools were integrated, he would insist that his children continue going to school.

The following description was obtained through interview and observation:

Name:	AUBREY HAROLD SMITH
Alias:	Snow
Address:	Route 7 Meridian, Mississippi
Born:	August 1, 1924 Stonewall, Mississippi
Height:	6' 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight:	180 pounds
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Blond, graying
Build:	Slim
Complexion:	Medium
Wife:	MARY L.

On 11/18/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1399
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JN 157-343
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 by SA HENRY RASK and
SA HILBERT ARPS/amh Date dictated 11/19/64

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Children: AUBRY T., Age 16
CHARLES B., Age 13
DANNY E., Age 11
VONSEL J., Age 10
SHERRY, Age 2

Father: DORA, Age 2 months
TOM SMITH
1613 Summit Street
Meridian, Mississippi

Mother: Deceased

Brothers: BENNY SMITH
7th Street and 34th Avenue
Meridian, Mississippi

JOHNNY SMITH
Laurel, Mississippi

EDWARD SMITH
Address Unknown

Sister: MAXINE FULTON
1613 Summit Street
Meridian, Mississippi

Employer: Acme Building Supply Company
711 13th Street
Meridian, Mississippi

Automobile: 1951 Plymouth, blue, 4 door,
1965 Mississippi License L: 13200.
1957 Plymouth, white

Guns: .12 gauge single shot shotgun;
.16 gauge single shot shotgun,
Ivy Johnson;
.22 caliber rifle, single shot.

Occupation Truck driver

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/10/641

FRED G. SPEED was reinterviewed at Speed's Welding Shop, 1112 B Street, Meridian, Mississippi. SPEED was advised he was being contacted for any information he could provide on the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi. SPEED stated he was not a Klan member and has heard nothing of Klan activities. During the interview, which was carried on in a friendly atmosphere, SPEED would freely speak of anything but his Klan knowledge. SPEED advised that FBI Agents are welcome to interview him at any time.

On 11/10/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 44-1
JN 157-343
JN 157-1241

by SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON :bjm **161** Date dictated 11/10/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 15, 19641

FRED G. SPEED was interviewed at Speed's Welding Shop, 1112 B Street, Meridian, Mississippi, after being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents. He was advised by SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON that he had the right to an attorney before making any statement and that no threats, promises or offers of reward were being made to him to induce him to make a statement and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law.

A revolver with a large hand grip, metal ring in the butt, short barrel which broke open at the top and had to fire double action was described to SPEED. He was told that the revolver had the letter "C" with a letter "E" inside the "C" which was written in English script above the trigger guard. It was further explained that the gun was similar to those seen in sports magazines advertisements and War English Commando Revolvers selling for approximately \$19.95.

SPEED denied receiving the above described gun from FRANK HERNDON or any other person. He stated he has never destroyed any gun with an acetylene torch and no individual could force him to do it. SPEED denies making the statement that an acetylene torch could play hell with a gun.

SPEED again denied that he was a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi.

On 12/14/64 at Meridian, Mississippi 162 JN 44-1

by SA STANLEY A. SPRING and
SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON: amh Date dictated 12/14/64

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 18, 1964

DEXTER L. TORRANCE, 1621 34th Avenue, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents. TORRANCE was advised by SA THOMAS VAN RIPER that he did not have to make a statement, that any statement he made could be used against him in a court of law, and that he had the right to counsel of his choice before making any statement.

TORRANCE advised that he is a machine operator for the Flintkote Company, Meridian, Mississippi. He stated that he is not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM) and he has never been approached to join the Klan. TORRANCE advised he knows nothing about any klan or klan-type activities in this area and knows of no one who is a member of the Klan. TORRANCE stated he is a labor organizer and has previously worked exclusively as a labor organizer for the International Wood Workers of America (IWA). TORRANCE stated he has previously been a semi-professional baseball player, having played with the Meridian Millers. He further stated he has worked in the past for his father, WALTER S. TORRANCE, a builder, as a carpenter and laborer. TORRANCE stated that he recently took a fifteen cent an hour wage reduction with Flintkote in order to become an apprentice electrician. He stated his pay scale is now \$2.04 per hour.

TORRANCE advised the interviewing Agents that he has an unlisted telephone, but they were free to call him at any time at his number, 482-0292.

The following description of DEXTER TORRANCE was obtained through observation and interview:

FOIA(b)(6)	Name	DEXTER LAMAR TORRANCE
	Date of Birth	[REDACTED]
	Place of Birth	[REDACTED]
	Address	1621 34th Avenue, Meridian
	Wife	ONIE FAYE
	Social Security No	[REDACTED]

On 11/9/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1121
163 File # Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1

SAs THOMAS VAN RIPER and
 by STANLEY A. SPRING: mtl Date dictated 11/13/64

Jackson 157-1121
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1

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Military Service
Family

Height
Weight
Hair
Eyes
Build
Complexion
Father
Brother
Vehicles

U. S. Marine Corps, No. 1043660
Three children, two boys, one
girl
6'
160 pounds
Light brown, balding
Gray
Slim
Sallow
WALTER S. TORRANCE, SR.
WALTER S. TORRANCE, JR.
1950 Chevrolet, black, four-door
sedan, 1965 Mississippi L11566;
1962 white Falcon, four-door,
1965 Mississippi LB3474.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 19, 1964

1

DEXTER LAMAR TORRANCE, 1621 34th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the FBI Agents to whom he was talking. He was advised that he did not have to furnish any information to the FBI and that any information furnished by him could be used against him in a court of law. He was also advised of his right to counsel prior to making any statement by SA THOMAS VAN RIPER.

TORRANCE advised he is not a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi (WKKKKOM), he has never been a member of this Klan or any klan type organization. TORRANCE stated he knows of no one in the Klan or any klan type activity in the Meridian area.

The following information was obtained from DEXTER LAMAR TORRANCE by observation and interview:

FOIA(b)(6)

Date of Birth:	[REDACTED]
Place of Birth:	[REDACTED]
Address:	1621 34th Avenue
Wife:	ONIE FAYE
Social Security Number:	[REDACTED]
Military Service:	United States Marine Corps Number 1043660
Occupation:	Apprentice Electrician, Flintkote Company Meridian, Mississippi, pay scale \$2.04 an hour
Telephone Number:	482-0292
Children:	2 boys 1 girl
Father:	WALTER S. TORRANCE, SR. Builder
Former Occupation:	Labor Organizer, International Woodworkers of America (IWA)
	Semi professional baseball player team Meridian Millers.

JN 157-1121
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

On 11/9/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # 165
by SA JOHN L. MARTIN and SA THOMAS VAN RIPER/amh Date dictated 11/13/64

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.

JN 157-1121
JN 157-343
JN 44-1

2

Height:	6'
Weight:	160 pounds
Hair:	light brown (balding)
Eyes:	Gray
Build:	Slim
Complexion:	Sallow
Vehicles Owned:	1950 black, four door, Chevrolet, 1965 Mississippi License L-11566
	1962 Falcon, White, four door, 1965 Mississippi License LB-3474

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 18, 1964

WALTER S. TORRANCE, JR. was advised by SA SPRING that he did not have to make any statement, that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised that he could consult an attorney before making any statements if he so desired.

WALTER S. TORRANCE, JR. advised that he had seen an add in the Meridian Sunday newspaper which was reproduced from "The Southern Review", Post Office Box 426, Jackson, Mississippi, by the Lauderdale County Citizens Council, Inc., which set forth certain things to do when the FBI calls and this add was posted on the ~~front~~ of his home next to the front door inside.

He stated that in accordance with this article, he would not answer any questions stating, "You have all the answers." He refused to furnish any information concerning his background other than to advise of the place and location of his employment, and that he was a veteran of the military service. He declined to answer any questions neither denying nor affirming that he was a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi or any Klan, or that he knew anyone who was.

The following description was obtained by observation and investigation:

Name	WALTER S. TORRANCE, JR.
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	Approximately 40 years
Residence	Suqualena, Mississippi (suburb of Meridian)
Height	5' 8"
Weight	185 pounds
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy
Build	Heavy
Employment	Construction superintendent, Southeastern Construction Company, Natchez, Mississippi

On 11/14/64 at Suqualena, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-1403
Jackson 157-343
Jackson 44-1
 by SA STANLEY A. SPRING and
ALEXANDER JAMIESON: mtl 167 Date dictated 11/16/64

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JN 157-1403
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
2

Marital Status	Married
Wife	MARGIE
Children	Three
Father	WALTER S. TORRANCE, SR.
Brother	DEXTER TORRANCE
Former Employment	L. B. Priester and Son Construction Company (1955); Kroehler Construction Company (1957);
Similar work history	Route 2, Box 348 Meridian; 1619 17th Street, Meridian; 3045 West Capitol Street, Jackson, Mississippi
Previous Addresses	1963 white Buick, four-door, 1965 Mississippi license L4810; Red pickup truck license unknown
Vehicles	

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date November 24, 1964

WALTER S. TORRANCE, JR., was advised by SA STANLEY A. SPRING that he did not have to make a statement, any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised that he could consult an attorney before making any statements.

WALTER S. TORRANCE, JR. advised that he is not and never has been a member of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi or any other Klan organization, and knows nothing whatsoever about any klan. He stated that he has never been approached by anyone concerning joining the Klan and knows of no one who is a member of any klan.

He furnished the following additional background information concerning himself:

Name	WALTER S. TORRANCE, JR.
Born	May 2, 1920, Newton County, Mississippi
Military Service	1942 to 1946, U. S. Army, Corporal, 105th Airborne Division, overseas duty, honorable discharge
Education	Ninth grade, Meridian High School
Arrests	Drunk, Meridian, Mississippi
Former Residence	1948, Philadelphia, Mississippi

On 11/21/64 at Suqualena, Mississippi 169 File # Jackson 157-1403
by SA STANLEY A. SPRING:mt1 Date dictated 11/24/64

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 17, 1964

1

CHARLES B. VINCENT, JR., after being informed as to the identity of the interviewing Agents, was informed by SA HENRY RASK, that he did not have to make a statement; that he could consult with an attorney before making a statement; any statement made by him could be used against him in a court of law; furnished the following information:

VINCENT stated that he was not a member of any klan type organization; that he had never been approached by anyone to join a klan type organization; that he did not know anyone who belonged to a klan type organization; and that he has no knowledge as to the existence of any klan type organization in the Meridian, Mississippi, area.

The following description was furnished by information from VINCENT and observation:

Name:	CHARLES B. VINCENT, JR.
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Born:	
Height:	5' 10"
Weight:	175 pounds
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Brown
Complexion:	Fair
Build:	Medium
Residence Address:	4221 King Road Meridian, Mississippi
Employer:	Risher Radio Supply Company, Incorporated 3510 8th Street Meridian, Mississippi
Occupation:	Salesman
Military Service:	U. S. Army, two years, Serial Number U. S. 53209957

FOIA(b)(6)

On 11/12/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File# JN 157-1233
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA HILBERT ARPS and
SA HENRY RASK/amh Date dictated 11/12/64

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JN 157-1233

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2

Education: 1 year Junior College
2 years Vocation School
Major Radio and Refrigeration

Available Weapons: .22 caliber automatic rifle,
Remington

Father: CHARLES B. VINCENT
4211 Royal Road
Meridian, Mississippi

Mother: ADEL, nee WALSTON
Same address

Wife: MARY ANN, nee CHAFIN

Sisters: DOROTHY PARKER
Mosley Road
Meridian, Mississippi

NANIECLARE THORNELL
Joplin, Missouri

MADELL IRBY
Bessemer, Alabama

CHARLENE CLAYTON
28th Avenue
Meridian, Mississippi

MABLE VINCENT
4211 Royal Road
Meridian, Mississippi

Associations: Masonic Lodge
Meridian, Mississippi

170 A

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/15/641

OLIVER RICHARD WARNER, JR., 1010 Grand Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi, was reinterviewed regarding his activities and membership in the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi. He denied his membership or any knowledge of this Klan group. During the remainder of the interview, repeated references were made to WARNER's sale of brown cloth gloves on June 21, 1964. WARNER insisted he knew nothing of this purchase by Klan members.

On 11/10/64 at Meridian, Mississippi File # JN 157-1229
JN 157-343
JN 44-1
 by SA ALEXANDER JAMIESON & SA STANLEY A. SPRING :bjm Date dictated 11/11/64
 171

JN 157-343
/amh

APPENDIX

WHITE KNIGHTS OF THE
KU KLUX KLAN OF MISSISSIPPI

A source advised that on February 15, 1964, approximately 200 members of the Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (OKKKK) from the State of Mississippi met at Brookhaven, Mississippi. Those present decided to defect from the OKKKK and to form their own klan group in Mississippi to be known as the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi.

This source advised that the aims and purposes of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi are to preserve Christian civilization, protect and promote white supremacy and the segregation of the races, to fight communism and to extend the dignity, heritage and rights of the white race of America.

JN 157-343

APPENDIX

ORIGINAL KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN
(LOUISIANA)
(OKKKK)

A source advised on October 25, 1963, that in December, 1960, a group was organized at Shreveport, Louisiana, known as the Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (OKKKK). The purpose of this organization was to promote Americanism, white supremacy, and the maintaining of segregation.

This source further advised on October 25, 1963, that the OKKKK continues to be active and that the aims and purposes continue to be the same.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Jackson, Mississippi
January 11, 1965

*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.*

Title	WHITE MEMBERS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN OF MISSISSIPPI, LAWRENCE COUNTY CLAYTON, MISSISSIPPI, MISSISSIPPI
Character	RACIAL MATTERS
Reference	Report of SA JAMES A. DAY, dated January 11, 1965, at Jackson.

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

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC JN (157-63)

FROM : SA SAMUEL N. JENNINGS

SUBJECT: WIKKKKOM
RM (KLAN)

DATE: 12/15/65

In connection with the destruction of channelizing memoranda, the information contained on the serials listed below was incorporated in a report dated 4/20/65. The review for this report was made from serial 662 through serial 668.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

In accordance with the above, the following serials are to be destroyed:

Volume	Serials (List by serial or serial scope.)
<u>11</u>	<u>662 out in</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>663 " "</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>664 " "</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>665 " "</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>666 " "</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>667 " "</u>

157-63-668A

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED <u>h</u>	FILED <u>WT</u>
DEC 27 1965	
FBI - JACKSON	

(Signature)

No. of copies 1

Approved SNT

Destroyed by Karen Bracey Date 12-27-65

THIS VOLUME COMPLETE

SEE NEXT VOLUME