

**Favrot Union**

*Student Union Activities*  
**Grambling College**

Grambling, Louisiana

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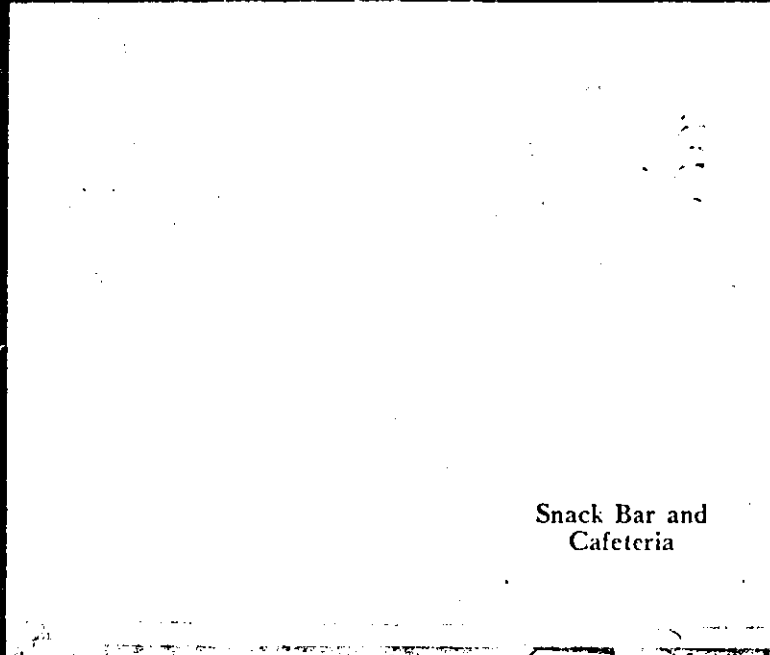


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Student Mail Service



Snack Bar and  
Cafeteria

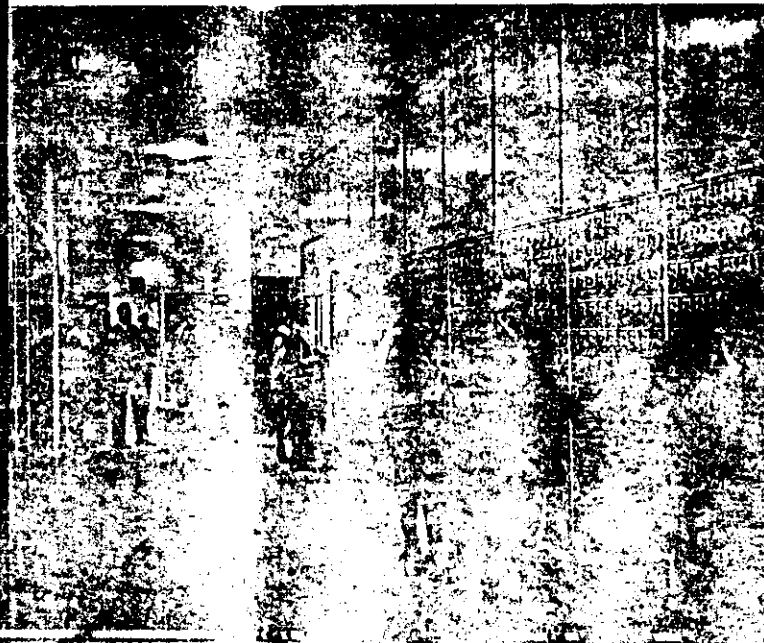




Barber Shop



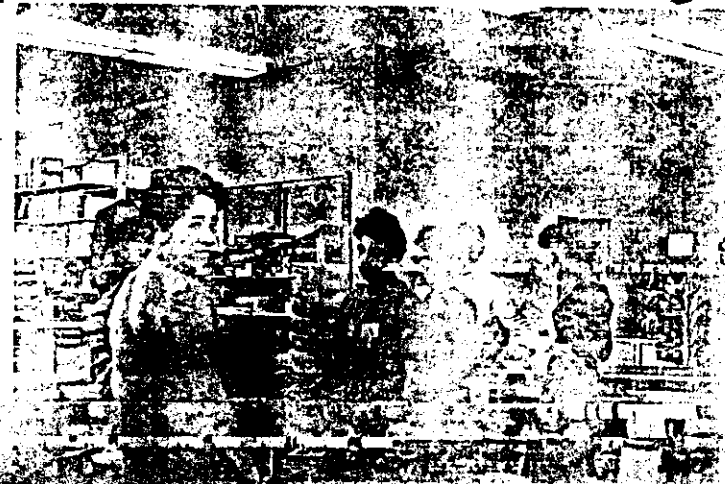
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Post Office  
Student Mail Service



Relaxing in  
the Main Lounge



FBI

Date: 4-5-66

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

~~(Type in plaintext or code)~~ **CONFIDENTIAL**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/13/01 BY 60322 UCBAW/STP

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)  
(157- )  
FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (157-572)  
(157-840)  
SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE  
AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
RM  
(ORGANIZATION)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP18/gh/ll 7-23  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-5-88

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF 1/1/66  
DATE 8/21/00

[REDACTED] b7C

Re Chicago airtel to Bureau, 2/28/66.

Enclosed for the Bureau are nine (9) copies of  
a LHM, one (1) copy is being furnished Jackson, and two (2)  
copies for New Orleans, concerning captioned matter.

[REDACTED] b1

Current Informant Contacts

[REDACTED] b1

- 4 - Bureau (Encl. 9) (RM)  
(1 - 157- [REDACTED] b7C)
- 1 - Jackson (157-Deacons of Defense  
and Justice, Inc.) (Encl. 1) (RM) (Info)
- 2 - New Orleans (157-3290) (Encl. 2) (Info)  
(1 - 157- [REDACTED] b7C)
- 4 - Chicago  
(1 - 157-413) [REDACTED] b7C

EX-101 REC-82

57-2406-123

LGR:slw  
(11)

b1

DATE 4/5/66  
BY: R-S: C.F.

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

Special Agent in Charge

Consent **X** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

57 APR 20 1966

100 AT + 644 M 902 840

CG 157-572

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

One (1) copy of this LHM is being designated for Region I, 113th INTC Group, United States Secret Service and United States Attorney, all Chicago, Illinois.

LEAD

CHICAGO

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. Will conduct appropriate investigation to ascertain whether Chicago Chapter of the DDJ has actually been formed and whether Chicago headquarters will be at 30 West Washington, Chicago.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION


In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Chicago, Illinois  
April 5, 1966

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OTHERWISE

CG 157-572

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTER (ORGANIZATION)  
 b7C  
RACIAL MATTER

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF [unclear]  
DATE [unclear]

Reference is made to memorandum dated February 28,  
1966 at Chicago, Illinois.

All of the sources mentioned in this memorandum  
have furnished reliable information in the past.

 b1  
(c)

 b1  
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(c)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gsk/7/ 7-23-80  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2. 4. 2 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 11-5-88

157-246-123

APR 11 1966

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] (c) b1

On April 4, 1966.

[REDACTED]

b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED] advised that no information has been developed which would indicate that a chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated (DDJ), has been formed in Chicago or that the DDJ has obtained any office space in Chicago. They also stated that Earnest Thomas, an organizer of the DDJ, is reportedly in and out of Chicago frequently, but is not known to have any permanent residence in Chicago.

Confidential informants who are acquainted with certain racial matters in the Chicago, Illinois area advised in April, 1966 that Earnest Thomas has sought any success in organizing a Chicago chapter of the DDJ. In fact, he has not with considerable success in civil rights organizations in Chicago. These informants also advised that there has not been any indication that Thomas has attempted to purchase or lease any premises while in Chicago. Thomas is in and out of Chicago frequently and is not known to have any permanent residence in Chicago.

The following article appeared in The Daily News, Chicago, Illinois newspaper, dated May 5, 1966.

"Negro Vigilante Unit Formed Here"

The Deacons of Defense and Justice, a militant vigilante group active in Chicago, has formed the South, has started a march in Chicago.

Deacons' spokesman, at Chicago, said that the sponsors of the chapter, some of whom were in Chicago, needed help for the Chicago chapter. He said that he believed in defense and justice for all.

The group will hold the rally at the Chicago Convention Center to protect Negro rights.

The main headquarters for the group is at 39 S. Wabasha and headquarters for the Chicago group are going on for several weeks. The group has about 100 members and is active in Chicago.

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"CORNELIUS said three members of the Bogalusa (La.) Deacons chapter have been in Chicago helping to organize the Chicago chapter.

"They were invited here by Olive Branch Lodge 94 of Prince Hall Masons," said Cornelius. "They are here also to appeal for funds for the defense of civil rights workers arrested in Bogalusa."

"CORNELIUS, when asked why he thought a Deacons chapter was essential to Chicago, said, 'It was only last week a cross was burned on a lawn in Waukegan. There's no doubt that we need a chapter here.'"

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FBI

Date: 4/4/66

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: Director, FBI  
FROM: SAC, Detroit (157-1200) (C)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP12/7/7  
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-4-80

APPEARANCE OF ERNEST THOMAS,  
VICE PRESIDENT, DEACONS OF  
DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.,  
JONESBORO, LOUISIANA,  
SPONSORED BY THE  
FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIALIST FORUM,  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN  
4/1/66  
RM

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S)  
DATE 4/21/66

Re Detroit airtel and LHM to the Bureau, 3/24/66, captioned as above (no copies furnished Chicago).

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of an LHM concerning captioned matter. Two copies are being furnished the New Orleans Office, which is office of origin of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc.

In addition, two copies are being furnished the Chicago Office since ERNEST THOMAS mentioned during his speech that the Headquarters of the Deacons is located in Chicago.

One copy of LHM being furnished G-2, USA and OSI, Detroit, Mich. and one copy being furnished ONI, Chicago. Two copies are also being furnished U.S. Secret Service, Detroit, Mich.

ENCLOSURE

REC-18 157-2466-134

- 4 - Bureau (Enc. 8) (RM)  
(1 - 157-2466)
- 2 - Chicago (Enc. 2) (RM)
- 2 - New Orleans (Enc. 2) (RM)  
(1 - 157-3290)
- 4 - Detroit  
(1 - 157-706 POSSIBLE RACIAL VIOLENCE)  
(1 - 157-1042 DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.)

TPD/RMS (12) *bl* *(c)* C. C. Wick

AGENCY: ACSL, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.,  
DATE: 4/16/66  
HOW FORW: *REC-18*  
BY: *CL/S/S*

53 APR 19 1966  
Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE  
Special Agent in Charge  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ICC AT & incorporation

DE 157-1200

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] (c) b1

Enclosed LHM is being classified confidential since information received from the source utilized might reasonably result in the identification of a source of continuing value and compromise his future effectiveness thereof, which could adversely effect the nation's security.

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~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Detroit, Michigan  
April 4, 1966

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP18/47  
REASON - 1.4  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-4-86

Re: Appearance of Ernest Thomas,  
Vice President, Deacons of  
Defense and Justice, Incorporated,  
Jonesboro, Louisiana, Sponsored  
By the Friday Night Socialist Forum,  
Detroit, Michigan  
April 1, 1966

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING

*Class*  
*8/21/80* *WOB/ky*

Reference is made to memorandum at Detroit, Michigan dated March 24, 1966, captioned as above.

A characterization of the Friday Night Socialist Forum is contained in the appendix attached hereto.

All unidentified sources utilized in the appendix have furnished reliable information in the past.

On April 4, 1966, a source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that Ernest Thomas, Vice President of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated, from Jonesboro, Louisiana, spoke in Detroit, Michigan, on April 1, 1966, at a forum sponsored by the Friday Night Socialist Forum which was held at 3737 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Source advised that Thomas was the featured speaker at this forum and spoke for approximately one hour. According to source, approximately 60 to 70 individuals, the majority of whom were Negro, were in attendance at this forum.

Thomas, during his talk, indicated that by the summer of 1966, there will be "groups of Deacons" in every community in both the North and South. Thomas indicated that the headquarters of the Deacons is located in Chicago and that the Deacons also receive their training in Chicago before being dispatched to various cities throughout the United States to form Deacon clubs.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

APR 15 1966

ENCLOSURE

157-2466-124

Re: Appearance of Ernest Thomas, Etc.

Thomas indicated, at the present time, that the Deacons are direly in need of funds and that the Deacons, in order to obtain these funds, plan on putting pressure on rich Negroes. Thomas indicated, during his talk, if the white power structure in the United States does not maintain law and order, then the Deacons plan to take law and order into their own hands. He stated that the Deacons would deal in a harsh manner with any informants of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) or Central Intelligence Agency within their organization and plan on utilizing all their resources in an effort to get Negro citizens to vote in the forthcoming elections throughout the United States.

Thomas indicated that his organization was protecting civil rights workers in the South and preventing anyone from harming these civil rights workers while engaged in their activities. Thomas discussed the recent rioting in the Watts area of Los Angeles, California, and that which took place during the summer of 1965. He indicated it was significant that in the recent rioting which took place in the Watts area, that many of the individuals involved were armed with rifles and other weapons, whereas during the summer of 1965, very few of the Negroes were armed.



The Articles of Incorporation of the Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ) as on file with the Secretary of State, for the State of Louisiana, reflects that the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc. is a Louisiana corporation domiciled at Jonesboro, Louisiana. The location and business office address of its registered office shall be Amos Service Station (rear), Beach Spring Road, Drawer B, Jonesboro, Louisiana.

"This corporation is organized for the following purposes and to carry on the following purposes: To instruct, train,

Re: Appearance of Ernest Thomas, Etc.

10  
11 "teach and educate Citizens of the United  
12 States and especially minority groups in  
13 the fundamental principals of the republican  
14 form of government and our democratic way of  
15 life; to instruct, teach, train and educate  
16 said persons in the provisions of the  
17 constitution and laws of the United States  
18 and the State of Louisiana, as well as the  
19 constitution and laws of any other State  
20 wherein this corporation may operate; to  
21 instruct, teach, train and educate said  
22 persons in the use, value and purpose of the  
23 ballot and the right to vote; to instruct,  
24 teach, train and educate said persons as to  
25 the duties and responsibilities of good citizen-  
26 ship relative to the obligation and duties of the  
27 citizen to the community and the obligation and  
28 duties of the community to the citizen: To  
29 further instruct, teach, train and educate said  
30 persons in the value of economic security and  
31 in the effective use of their spending power;  
32 to inspire in said persons a sense of responsibility  
33 and to develop leadership. This corporation has  
34 for its further purpose, and is dedicated to, the  
35 defense of the civil rights, property rights and  
36 personal rights of said people and will defend  
37 said rights by any and all honorable and legal means  
38 to the end that justice may be obtained. This  
39 corporation may establish chapters and conduct its  
40 business at any place in this State and elsewhere as  
41 permitted by law."

42  
43 This document contains neither recommendations nor  
44 conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is  
45 loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be  
46 distributed outside your agency.  
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APPENDIX

FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIALIST FORUM

On May 19, 1965, a source advised that the Friday Night Socialist Forum (FNSF) is a name used by the Detroit, Michigan Branch of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) in sponsoring forums, socials and other functions which are open to the public. Primarily, FNSF pertains to weekly public forums held at SWP headquarters, for the purpose of spreading propaganda of the SWP, developing contacts, facilitating recruitment and members into the SWP, and presenting subjects of a controversial nature in the social, political and economic fields. Usually speakers are members of the SWP and they give the socialist viewpoint of the subject discussed. The money collected at these FNSFs goes into the Detroit Branch, SWP treasury.

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

X

FBI

Date: 4-12-86

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-35356)

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr.  
SM - C

Re Chicago teletypes 4/7, 8/66.

Enclosed for the Bureau are nine (9) copies and for Atlanta three (3) copies of a self-explanatory Letterhead Memorandum concerning captioned individual and his activities in Chicago as known during the period for 4-8/66. Also enclosed for the Bureau is a copy of the envelope and letter received by [redacted] b7C

The Special Agent monitoring the broadcast on 4/10/66, was SA [redacted] b7C

The investigative Clerk conducting [redacted] on 6/4/65, was IC [redacted]

[redacted] reviewed on 8/4/65, by IC [redacted]

- 2 - Bureau (Encl. 11) (RM)  
(1 - 100-438794) (SCLC)
- 3 - Atlanta (Encl. 3) (RM)  
(1 - 100-5718) (SCLC)
- 4 - Chicago  
(1 - 105-1623)  
(1 - 157-413)  
(1 - 157-New)

*file in 157-2466 with [redacted]*

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10 APR 13 1966

157-2466  
NOT RECORDED  
180 APR 19 1966

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC-SECT, DEPT: ISD, CRD, RAO, STATE, LEGAT, LONDON

DATE FORW: 4/14/66  
HOW FORW: R/S

CLASS. & EXT. BY S/80 RCB/100

REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-12-86

ENCLOSURE  
APR 1966

Special Agent in Charge

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A case is being opened concerning [REDACTED] b7C  
in which further background information will be developed,  
and through which the Chicago Office will follow local  
investigation.

b7C Based on available information, Chicago cannot identify  
[REDACTED] with prior file references.

Copies of this Letterhead Memorandum are being  
disseminated locally to the United States Attorney, United  
States Secret Service and Region I, 113th INTC Group.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Chicago, Illinois  
April 12, 1966

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On April 7, 1966, [redacted] advised the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as follows:

Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr., President, Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) arrived in Chicago during the evening of April 6, 1966. On April 7, 1966, King spent the morning at the offices of the Chicago Urban League, and in the afternoon King was to appear before a gathering of students and faculty at the University of Illinois, Circle Campus, Chicago, Illinois.

In the evening of April 7, 1966, King was to appear at a church located on Chicago's south side, the purpose of or details regarding this meeting were not known.

[redacted] (c)

[redacted] (c)

[redacted] (c)

CLASS. & EXT. BY 5180 PCB/lbr  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-12-86

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ENCLOSURE

157-2466

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Re: Martin Luther King, Jr.

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The "Chicago Daily News" on April 5, 1966, contained an article stating that on April 3, 1966, an order was handed down in Circuit Court, Chicago, Illinois, enjoining Martin Luther King and the SCLC from interfering with the operation of an apartment building at 1321 South Homan, Chicago, Illinois or collecting rents from the tenants at this building. An accounting was ordered for rents which had been collected and repair expenditures made by King since he took over the building.

This article reported that a SCLC official at Atlanta, Georgia, had advised that the court order would be contested and that this was only the first step to build up a body of legal precedent to guarantee tenants' rights.

On April 8, 1966, [redacted] advised that King was to attend a SCLC workshop at Woodstock, Illinois, during the afternoon of April 8, 1966, and at 8:40 p.m. King was scheduled to depart Chicago, Illinois, for Atlanta, Georgia.

On April 10, 1966, a program "Sunday with Martin Luther King" was aired on radio station WAAF-AM from 10:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

In monitoring this program, it was noted that it consisted of the sermon by King pointing out that just as Christianity had overcome evil, Negroes would overcome the evil standing between them and freedom.

Listeners were requested to contribute to the SCLC at 123 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois, and were invited to tune in each Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. to hear Martin Luther King.

The "Daily News" on April 5, 1966, contained an article identifying Lavernon Cornelius, 7354 South Michigan, Chicago, Illinois, as one of the sponsors of a "Negro Defense Unit" in Chicago known as "The Deacons of Defense and Justice" (DDJ). Cornelius was reported in this article as saying that deacons are primed to fight a war if necessary to protect Negro rights.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(C) and (b)(7)(D) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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- For your information: \_\_\_\_\_
- The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: \_\_\_\_\_

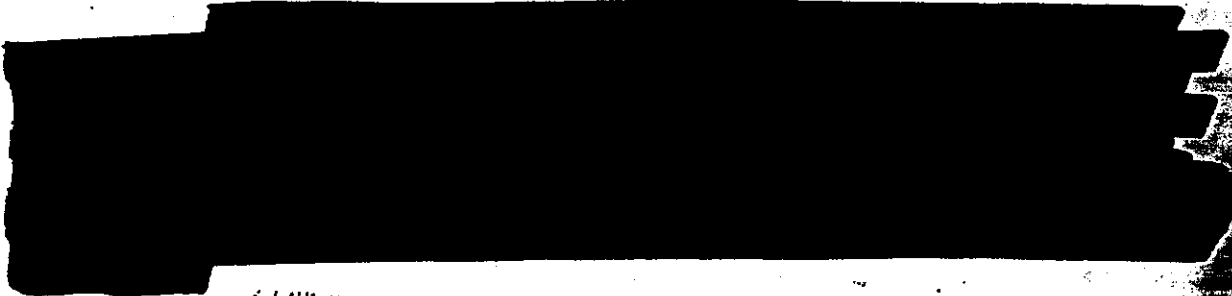
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Re: Martin Luther King, Jr.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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FBI 1

Date: 4-13-66

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Type in plaintext or code)

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

AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (157-572)

SUBJECT: ~~DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED, aka~~  
 Deacons For Defense And Justice, Incorporated  
 RM (ORGANIZATION)

*Handwritten:* BATS

*Stamp:* SEARCHED, SERIALIZED, INDEXED, FILED

*Stamp:* APR 15 1966

*Stamp:* FBI - CHICAGO

Re Chicago airtel to Bureau 4/8/66, captioned as above and New Orleans teletype to Bureau, dated 3/31/66, captioned "RACIAL SITUATION, BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA."

Enclosed for the Bureau are nine copies of a LHM and nine copies for New Orleans concerning captioned matter.

[redacted] in the enclosed LHM is [redacted] (protect - requested), and [redacted] is [redacted] (protect - requested).

*Handwritten:* b1, b7C, b7D

- ① - Bureau (Encl. 9) (RM)
  - (1 - 157-6-33) (RACIAL SITUATION, BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA)
- New Orleans (Encl. 9) (Info) (RM)
  - (1 - 157-3290) (DWS)
  - (1 - 173-201) (RACIAL SITUATION, BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA)
  - (1 - 157- ) [redacted]
  - (1 - 157- ) [redacted]
  - (1 - 157- ) [redacted]
  - (1 - 157- ) [redacted]
  - (1 - 157- ) [redacted]
  - (1 - 157- ) [redacted]
- 3 - Chicago
  - (1 - 157-673) (RACIAL SITUATION, BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA)
  - (1 - 157-413)

*Stamp:* REC 70

*Handwritten:* 157-2466-125

*Handwritten:* b7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

15 APR 15 1966

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
 OTHERWISE

LGR/laj  
 (16)

*Handwritten:* CAT + LHM 90-9+D

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SP15ab/ft 7-23-80*  
 REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
 DATE OF REVIEW *4-13-88*

Approved: *ADD*  
 Special Agent in Charge

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CG 157-572

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b1

One copy of this LHM is being designated for Region I, 113th INTC Group, Secret Service, and the USA, all Chicago, Illinois.

LEAD

CHICAGO

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. Will ascertain whether a Chapter of the DDJ is actually formed in Chicago and the Bureau and New Orleans will be kept advised of all pertinent developments.

Chicago files contain no pertinent information concerning [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

b7c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Chicago, Illinois  
April 13, 1966

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
INCORPORATED, ALSO KNOWN AS  
DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS (ORGANIZATION)

*5/4/31*

Reference is made to memorandum dated April 5,  
1966, at Chicago, Illinois.

An article appeared in the "Chicago Daily News",  
a Chicago, Illinois, newspaper, dated April 5, 1966, which  
in part stated that a Chapter of the Deacons of Defense  
and Justice, Incorporated (DDJ), had been formed at Chicago  
and that LaVernon Cornelius of 7354 South Michigan Avenue,  
Chicago, was one of the sponsors of the Chicago branch.  
The article also stated that the headquarters for the Chicago  
Chapter would be located at 30 West Washington, Chicago.



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CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 (gsk) fr 7-23-88  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-13-88

XEROX  
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157-2466-125

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DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
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DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
INCORPORATED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

The following article appeared in the April 6, 1966,  
issue of the "Chicago Daily News", a Chicago, Illinois, newspaper:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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9 DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
10 INCORPORATED, ALSO KNOWN AS  
11 DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
12 INCORPORATED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

13  
14  
15 "'Not Trying to Start Movement in North'

16  
17 "Negro Vigilantes Here Will Aid Dixie Fight

18  
19 "The Deacons for Defense and Justice, an armed  
20 Negro self-defense organization, is starting a Chicago branch  
21 'to help in the struggle in the South,' says president Charles  
22 Sims.

23  
24 "'We're not trying to come up here' and start a  
25 movement,' said the massive, soft-voiced native of Bogalusa,  
26 La., at a press conference in a home at 7354 S. Michigan.

27  
28 "Sims said the Deacons hope to raise money and  
29 manpower here for civil rights campaigns in Bogalusa and  
30 other Southern cities.

31  
32 "With him at the press conference was A. Z. Young,  
33 president of the Bogalusa Voters League. The Voters League is  
34 the local civil rights group in Bogalusa, focus of marches  
35 and demonstrations last summer.

36  
37 "Sims said the Deacons were organized when local  
38 police could not protect Negroes and civil rights workers.

39  
40 "He said armed Deacons patrol Negro neighborhoods,  
41 guard the homes of civil rights leaders and watch Negro  
42 churches 'so they don't get bombed.'

43  
44 "Sims and Young said they are trying to raise money  
45 for the defense of 90 children and six adults going on trial  
46 in Bogalusa Friday on charges growing out of demonstrations  
47 last October.

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DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
INCORPORATED, ALSO KNOWN AS  
DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
INCORPORATED

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"They said they have no money to pay fines in the event of a guilty verdict.

"Young said he also was seeking support for a 105-mile march from Bogalusa to the Louisiana state capital in Baton Rouge, to take place within 60 days.

"We're going to clean up the whole state of Louisiana," said Young. "The whole state is out of line."

"THE BOGALUSA leaders said they wanted to confer with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King 'to ask his support in out struggle in Bogalusa.' King was expected to return to Chicago Thursday.

"Sims said he 'hadn't planned on' working with King in Chicago. 'We want Dr. King's help for Bogalusa,' he said.

"King, who preaches nonviolence, has been critical of the Deacons, but Young said 'King might have been misled about the Deacons and the Voters League in Bogalusa.'

"The Bogalusa Voters League is nonviolent, just like Dr. King's organization," said Young. "And the Deacons are nonviolent -- up to a point."

"In Chicago, Sims suggested, a Deacons' chapter might try to register more Negro voters.

"I understand Dick Gregory is running for mayor," he said. "If there was a Deacons chapter here, it could endorse Mr. Gregory."

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11 INCORPORATED, ALSO KNOWN AS  
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13 INCORPORATED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

14  
15 "Sims said it was 'not true' that the Deacons were  
16 a black Ku Klux Klan.  
17

18 "'We're a defensive organization, organized to  
19 defend people,' he said. 'We have a constitutional right  
20 to defend out home, our children and our lives.'  
21

22 "He said the organization has chapters in many  
23 Southern cities. 'In the South,' he said, 'the (white)  
24 man is making us pick up arms in order to live.'  
25

26 "While the Northern Negro can use ballots instead  
27 of bullets, he said, 'there's a need for Deacons anywhere  
28 in the country where black men exist.'  
29

30 The following article appeared in the April 8, 1966,  
31 issue of the "Chicago Daily News", a Chicago, Illinois,  
32 newspaper:  
33

34 "Prince Hall Masons Deny Deacons Link  
35

36 "The head of the state Prince Hall Masons has  
37 strongly denied his organization has any connection with the  
38 Deacons for Defense and Justice, a Southern-based Negro  
39 vigilante group that reportedly is starting a chapter here.  
40

41 "Oscar Staston DePriest, grand master of the  
42 organization, said, 'We most certainly disown any intention  
43 of affiliation with any group... which carries guns or other  
44 weapons.'  
45

46 "The Deacons are said to carry guns in their fight  
47 against the Ku Klux Klan.  
48

49 "LaVernon Cornelius, worshipful master of the Olive  
50 Branch Lodge 94 of Prince Hall, had said that a recent  
51 visit to Chicago by several Deacons was backed by his lodge.  
52  
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11 DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

15 "I have ordered a sweeping investigation into the  
16 affairs of Olive Branch Lodge,' DePriest said Thursday night  
17 at the Masons office, 4227 S. Cottage Grove.  
18

19 "I have already contacted several members (of  
20 Lodge 94) who say they know nothing concerning any invitation  
21 to the so-called Deacons from Louisiana.'  
22

23 "DE PRIEST SAID he had ordered Cornelius to 'cease  
24 and desist' any activity connected with the Deacons and his  
25 capacity as worshipful master. Cornelius was not present  
26 at the press conference.  
27

28 "DePriest said he would ask for the minutes of  
29 past meetings of Lodge 94, which has about 100 members. He  
30 said the over-all membership in Prince Hall Masons in the  
31 state is about 10,000.  
32

33 "Meanwhile, Mary Lowe, who manages the building  
34 at 30 W. Washington, where Cornelius reported the Deacon  
35 chapter was located, said there is no such group in the  
36 building."  
37

38 [REDACTED] that it was (c)  
39 ascertained that there is no Office of the DDJ at 30 West b1  
40 Washington, Chicago. [REDACTED] that no (c)  
41 information has been received which would indicate that a  
42 chapter of the DDJ has been formed at Chicago.  
43

44 On April 11, 1966, [REDACTED] b7C  
45 [REDACTED] b7D  
46 and [REDACTED] that no information has been developed (c) b1  
47 that would indicate that a chapter of the DDJ has been  
48 formed in Chicago or that the DDJ has obtained any office  
49 space in Chicago.  
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58 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
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DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
INCORPORATED, ALSO KNOWN AS  
DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
INCORPORATED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Confidential informant who are acquainted with certain racial matters in the Chicago, Illinois area, advised during April, 1966, that to their knowledge, no chapter of the DDJ has been formed in Chicago.

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Chicago, Illinois  
April 13, 1966

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Title DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
INCORPORATED

Character RACIAL MATTERS (ORGANIZATION)

Reference Memorandum dated and captioned  
as above.

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

[Redacted] is [Redacted] (c) b  
[Redacted] is [Redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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  
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Date: 4-11-68

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM: SAC, COLUMBIA (157-<sup>1715</sup> ) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN OF FOUR KLANSMEN  
AT JACKSONBORO, S. C., 4/7-8/68  
RM - KIDAK

*Wm*  
*(Handwritten initials and scribbles)*

The Columbia airtel to Bureau, 4-8-68; and Columbia  
airtel to Bureau, 4-11-68, entitled, "UKA, INC.; KKKK, RM - KIDAK."

On 4-11-68, [redacted] advised SA [redacted]

[redacted]

b7C  
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At Jacksonboro, S. C., he was informed that two  
Klanmen had been beaten by fourteen Negroes claiming to be  
members of the Deacons for Defense and were protecting their

0  
Distribution (RM)  
1 - 157-1107  
1 - 157-7 - UKA, Inc.)  
1 - 157-603 - Racial Violence Major Urban Areas)  
1 - 157-81 - Acquisition of Weapons)  
1 - [redacted] b7D  
1 - 157-84)  
1 - 157- - Deacons for Defense and J231168)21 1966

*Shepherd*  
*(Handwritten signature)*

157-241-41/2  
NOT RECORDED

APR 15 1968

E. C. Wick 100902 940

*(Handwritten initials)*

Approved: *(Signature)*  
Special Agent in Charge

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

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

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9 Civil Rights when the Klansmen were putting up posters  
10 advertising a Klan rally to be held on 4-5-68. [REDACTED]  
11 [REDACTED]  
12 [REDACTED]  
13 [REDACTED]  
14 [REDACTED]  
15 [REDACTED]

16 Informant stated that the public rally held on  
17 4-5-68, attended by approximately 300 individuals, went  
18 off without incident even though approximately 100 Klans-  
19 men were armed during entire rally.  
20

21 [REDACTED]  
22 [REDACTED]  
23 [REDACTED]  
24 [REDACTED]  
25 [REDACTED]  
26 [REDACTED]  
27 [REDACTED]  
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CC R.T. New

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Due to the sensitive nature of this information, no leads are being set forth for the [REDACTED] Division at the present time and this information is not being disseminated until further verification that other persons other than those mentioned above have access to this information.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI(157-2466)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 4-22-66

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

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

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

*Class Lt*  
*b7c 8/D 10*

Rerep SA [redacted] 3-28-66, at New Orleans

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of an LHM with two copies being submitted for New Orleans. One copy each is being forwarded to ICG, Jackson and Secret Service, Jackson.

DATE FORWARDED: 4/29/66  
HOW FORWARDED: [redacted]  
AGENCY: [redacted]

[redacted block]

Other individuals set forth in the LHM were interviewed by SA [redacted]

LEAD:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

JACKSON DIVISION

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SPI gsd 1/1 7-23-80*  
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW *4-23-80*

At Jackson, Mississippi

Will maintain contact with sources to obtain background concerning possible organization of Deacons of Defense and Justice if chapters in Mississippi organized and attempt to determine leadership, strength of members, as well as arms acquired.

- (2)-Bureau(Enc. 8) (RM)
- 2-New Orleans(157-3290)(Enc. 2) (RM)
- 5-Jackson(1-157-3465)

157-2466-126

JOI:hke  
(9)

[redacted] (1-157-3370)

ENCLOSURE

EX 109

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

55 MAY 2 1966

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





FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Jackson, Mississippi

April 22, 1966

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND  
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS

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[REDACTED] Mississippi  
Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP)

[REDACTED] on April 13, 1966, that the MFDP, to his knowledge, has no one in their organization who is a member of the Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ). He said the MFDP has been the center of the civil rights movement within the State of Mississippi for the past year along with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and there have been attempts made to recruit chapters of the DDJ. To the best of his knowledge, there have been no members of the DDJ from Bogalusa, Greener, or Jonesboro, Louisiana, in Jackson for the past several months attempting to recruit members for the DDJ.

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED], that no additional information has been received concerning forming chapters in the State of Mississippi since last contacted. The source advised that there are no chapters of the DDJ within the State of Mississippi. The source advised that the NAACP within the State of Mississippi has refused to have any association with the DDJ in Louisiana and there is no one in the MFDP strong enough to form a chapter of the DDJ within the State of Mississippi.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gcl/jh 7-23-80  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.20-2  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-22-86

*Classified*  
*5/30/80*

*157-2406-176*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ENCLOSURE

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND  
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
ACIAL MATTERS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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[REDACTED]

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that he has traveled throughout the State (c)  
of Mississippi on behalf of the civil rights movement and he has  
received no information that chapters have been organized within  
the State of Mississippi.

[REDACTED]

b1

The source advised that there has (c)  
been no information obtained concerning the existence of any  
DDJ chapters or actual members. The source advised that daily contact  
had with Negro and white civil rights workers.

[REDACTED] Jackson, Mississippi,  
[REDACTED] advised on April 22, 1966, he could furnish  
pertinent information concerning the DDJ. He said that since  
the DDJ held a meeting at the Masonic Temple, Lynch Street, Jackson,  
August 29, 1965, there has been no other efforts, to his  
knowledge, to recruit members. [REDACTED] stated that he has attempted  
to determine if the NAACP and the MFDP have recruited members of  
the DDJ for protection in the Jackson area and he has been unable  
to substantiate [REDACTED] any activity on behalf of the

b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised on  
April 22, 1966, he could furnish no pertinent information concerning  
the DDJ not previously furnished. He said there have been several  
racial situations occurring within the State of Mississippi the  
past several months, but [REDACTED] has  
disclosed no activity on behalf of the DDJ.

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.

2\*

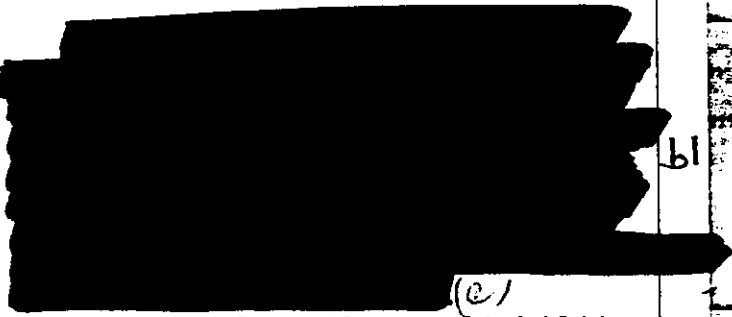
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ENCLOSURE

Domestic Intelligence Division

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ INFORMATIVE NOTE

Date 4/18/66



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(c)  
Attached describes reliability of sources, per Bureau's request. Department being advised. (v)

JEH:CSHE/ASS. & EXT. BY SP1 GSK/PL 7-13 SE

RE:

DATE OF REVIEW 4-17-86

4/10/86

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3 FE. WASH DC --

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

7 FBI PHILA

APR 17 1966

9 558 PM URGENT 4-17-66

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

11 TO DIRECTOR, BALTIMORE, NEWARK AND NEW YORK

13 NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON

15 FROM PHILADELPHIA \157-341\ 2P

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

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

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 yeh/jfk 4-23-80  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-17-80

18 UKA, KKKK, RM. (KLAN)

*Division of Defense and Justice*

20 RE PH TEL TO DIRECTOR AND BALTIMORE FOUR FOUR, SIXTYSIX.

25 [REDACTED]

26 [REDACTED]

27 [REDACTED]

28 [REDACTED]

29 [REDACTED]

30 [REDACTED]

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33 [REDACTED]

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45 [REDACTED]

46 [REDACTED]

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50 [REDACTED]

51 [REDACTED]

52 END PAGE ONE

*Also put to  
submit LHM  
S April 20 1966*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
MR. DELOACH, DIRECTOR

APR 22 1966  
100-159-3000  
100-159-3000

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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[REDACTED] (c)

NEWARK ADVISE IF KLAN RALLY PLANNED FOR FOUR TWENTYTHREE, SIXTYSIX OR FIVE TWENTYTHREE, SIXTYSIX IN SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY. IF SO ALERT LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

NY, NK, AND BA ALERT SOURCES IN KLAN AND BLACK NATIONALIST GROUPS RE ABOVE AND CONSIDER STEPS TO PROTECT PHYSICAL WELFARE OF ANY CONFIDENTIAL SOURCES THAT MAY HAVE PLANNED TO ATTEND SUCH A KLAN RALLY.

END

WA FOR RELAY BJH

FBI WASH DC --

TU

*cc - Mr. [unclear]*

*Ph ed of [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]  
+ [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]  
can be [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

F B I

Date: 4/18/66

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

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

REGISTERED

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (~~157-276~~)

FROM: SAC, NEWARK (157-1892)

SUBJECT: UNITED KLANS OF AMERICA,  
INC., KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX  
KLAN (UKA)  
RM (KLAN)

*Handwritten signatures and initials, including "Ala. W. O."*

Re Philadelphia teletype dated 4/17/66 and Newark airtels to the Bureau dated 4/8/66 and 4/15/66.

*b7D*

[REDACTED]

No information has been developed indicating any rallies by the UKA, or other Klan organizations, prior to May 20 - 22, 1966. A farm in Fairfield Township, which is in southern New Jersey, has been leased by the UKA for the period May 20 - 23, 1966, as reflected in referenced Newark airtels. The rally is expected to be held on Saturday, May 21, 1966.

Newark files contain no information concerning the existence of a Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ) organization in Paterson or any other city in New Jersey. Philadelphia will recontact the "other sources" referred in referenced teletype and furnish any specific information developed regarding DDJ activity in the New Jersey area.

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - Baltimore (157-275) (Info) (RM)
- 1 - New York (157-1552) (Info) (RM)
- 2 - Philadelphia (157-341) (RM)
- 2 - Newark  
(1 - 157-1922) (DDJ)

REH:jan  
(2)

16 APR 19 1966

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

56 WICE

Approved: *[Signature]*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent *7 23* M Per *[Signature]*

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6 NK 157-1892  
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9 Newark sources alerted. Bureau and interested offices  
10 will be kept advised of any pertinent developments.  
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 18 1966

FBI WASH DC --

FBI PHILA

10\03 AM EST URGENT 4-18-66 CIF

TO DIRECTOR, NEW YORK, NEWARK, BALTIMORE, AND NEW ORLEANS

NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON

FROM PHILADELPHIA /157-341/ 2P

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

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

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 [signature] 7-2-80  
REASON - FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-18-86

UNITED KLANS OF AMERICA  
UKA, KKKK\ RM  
KLAN OF KU KLUX KLAN

RE PHILADELPHIA TELETYPE, APRIL SEVENTEEN LAST.

[REDACTED] PHILA-4

PHILADELPHIA NEWSPAPER ARTICLE IN QUOTE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER  
END QUOTE, APRIL SEVENTEEN LAST REFLECTING A MILITANT NEGRO  
ORGANIZATION IN THE SOUTH HAD VOWED TO MAKE PHILADELPHIA A  
QUOTE "HOT SPOT" END QUOTE AND THAT A PHILADELPHIA SCHOOLTEACHER  
WOULD HEAD THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE /BFEAJ/ IN  
PHILADELPHIA, AND THAT HE WOULD MEET WITH JESSE GRAY IN NEWARK  
TO SET UP PHILADELPHIA OPERATION.

REC-47 157-2466-160

[REDACTED]

APR 22 1966

b7C  
b7D

ADVISED THAT QUOTE "NEGRO RIFLE CLUBS" END QUOTE ARE, ACCORDING  
END PAGE ONE

APR 18 1966

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR RELAYED TO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

10  
11 PAGE TWO

12  
13 TO EARNEST THOMAS, DFBAJ SPOKESMAN, BEING SET UP AND THAT  
14 A RALLY OF A NEGRO RIFLE GROUP IS SUPPOSED TO TAKE PLACE IN  
15 MILITARY PARK, NEWARK, N.J., ON APRIL THIRTY NEXT AT TWO P.M.  
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19 [REDACTED]

b7c

20 [REDACTED]

21 [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED]

b1

24 [REDACTED]

25 [REDACTED] (c)

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34 EARNEST THOMAS IN ARTICLE DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS AN OFFICIAL  
35 OF DFBAJ, JONESBORO, LA.

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56 CC. MR. SULLIVAN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

4/29/86

- 1 - Mr. Martin
- 1 - Mr. Shackelford

DATE 8/20/80 *class 4*  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

To: SACs Newark  
 New Orleans (157-3290)  
 Philadelphia (157-1828)  
 Washington Field (157-794)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
 OTHERWISE

From: Director, FBI (157-2466) - 128  
 REC 27

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
 RACIAL MATTERS (ORGANIZATION)

RePHtels 4/17, 18/86 captioned "DEJA, MEXX, ..."

Information available to the Bureau from New Orleans  
 does not indicate a Deacons chapter exists in Metairie, Louisiana,  
 or Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

[REDACTED]

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(c)

[REDACTED]

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- 1 - Bufile 157-4430 (UK-KKKK)
- 1 - Bufile 157-33022 (OBP)

RLS:deh *deh*  
 (13)

SEE NOTE PAGE 2.

SEARCHED 12  
 INDEXED 12  
 MAY 5 1986  
 COMM-FBI

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gcl/for 4-23-86  
 REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
 DATE OF REVIEW 4-22-86

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Airtel to NK, NO, PH and WFO  
Re: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
157-2436

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] b1

(c)

While the subject matter is not identical, it probably is pertinent that several of the same individuals appear to be involved in both incidents.

Newark and New Orleans should immediately contact appropriate sources and determine if a Deacons of Defense and Justice chapter is known to exist in Paterson, New Jersey or planned for Philadelphia.

Philadelphia should press sources to determine if activities described in referenced teletype are actually connected with the Deacons or merely a Philadelphia-based nationalist group organized by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] using the Deacons name for publicity purposes. b7C

WFO should immediately contact [REDACTED] to determine what information available to him concerning this matter, particularly in view of his presence at the meeting referred to above.

All offices should expeditiously handle all leads in this matter and the Bureau and New Orleans, in addition to the Deacons case, be kept promptly advised of all significant developments.

Philadelphia must insure local organizations are fully advised of all pertinent developments in this matter. Results of investigations should be furnished under the stated caption in form suitable for dissemination.

NOTE:

[REDACTED] b1

(c)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FBI

Date: 4/20/85 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

10 REMIT (Type in plaintext or code)

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17 TO : DIRECTOR  
18  
19 FROM : SAC, WASHINGTON (157-341)  
20  
21 SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

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CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gsd/1/11/7/23/80  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-20-88

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

174 MAY 8 1985

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RE 157-8-A

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(c)

[REDACTED]

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Bureau will be kept advised.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

April 20, 1956

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
SECRET (UNITED STATES)

*8/10/80*

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

A characterization of Richard's Negro girl is attached hereto.

An article appeared in the "Philadelphia Inquirer," a daily newspaper, on April 17, 1956, on Page One of the Second Section.

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1826 ife 7-23-84  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-20-82

GROUP 1  
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC  
DOWNGRADING AND  
DECLASSIFICATION  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
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157-24

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, THOMAS  
OF THE KU KLUX KLAN (UNITED STATES)

headlines, "Negro Group Vows to Make City Hot Spot." The story quotes THOMAS THOMAS, of Jonesboro, Louisiana, an official of DDJ, as stating that, "Philadelphia will be the hot spot in America this summer." He claimed in the article that the police in Philadelphia oppress and harass the Negro community. "The Philadelphia power structure should know that if there was trouble, the Negro will defend himself against the police."

THOMAS also said that the DDJ's will organize in Philadelphia with an unnamed Philadelphia school teacher as the leader and head of the DDJ's. The school teacher was not mentioned in the article; however, he was quoted as saying he would have "something to announce in about two weeks". The article also said that plans were for an organizational meeting in Newark, New Jersey, on April 17, 1955. This meeting would be to discuss plans for a march on the White House Civil Rights Conference to be held June 1-2, 1955, in Washington, D.C., to protest the fact that there were no people from the Negro ghetto included in the Conference.

The article stated that Mrs. SIDNEY W. AMMENDT, Chairman of the Philadelphia Human Relations Commission, said, "I cannot imagine that an educator, residence of Louisiana, know about Philadelphia who would come there to suggest that their Negro citizens need to be 'defended'."

[REDACTED] (e) b1

that the story in the Philadelphia Inquirer had been the result of THOMAS THOMAS, a Negro, who was a member for a national organization who had made inquiry a few weeks ago in Philadelphia regarding Negro rifle clubs." As a result, the "Philadelphia Inquirer" had contacted THOMAS, of the DDJ, by telephone. (THOMAS had been in both Bogalusa, Louisiana, and Chicago, Illinois, on DDJ organizational business.) CHARLES S. SMITH, of Bogalusa, Louisiana, also a leader in the DDJ, was in Philadelphia in the middle of December 1955. He made several speeches setting out the aims and purposes of the group as being to defend itself against Klan-type individuals by force of arms in the Southern United States, where there was no federal law. From any remarks by SMITH at that time were the DDJ's were organized in forming like organizations in Philadelphia, and to agree that his purpose in being in Philadelphia was to raise money for the group directly and, also, to ask his listeners to forward contributions to the DDJ's, in Bogalusa.)

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UNITED MEANS OF AMERICA, MEMBERS  
OF THE KU KLUX KLAN (UNITED MEANS)

[REDACTED]

The "Philadelphia Inquirer" story also stated that THOMAS had been in Philadelphia several times recently; however, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised on April 17, 1968, they had no information that the BDU's were contemplating any organization of their group in Philadelphia.

b1  
b7  
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5 UNITED LEAGUE OF AMERICA, FRIENDS  
6 OF THE 1ST AMENDMENT (UNITED LEAGUE)  
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10 MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
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14 MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
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18 The Bureau advised on July 27, 1965 that the organization of which  
19 WILLIAM ROYAL is the national leader and founder, is known in Philadelphia,  
20 Pa., as United League #12 (UL #12) and is affiliated with and carries out  
21 the same purposes as the national group. This group advised that in  
22 1965, UL #12 moved from 2201 North Broad Street, to 2202 Chestnut Street.

23  
24 A field office on July 28, 1965 advised the organization has been  
25 active in Philadelphia since 1964.

26  
27 This document contains neither recommendations nor con-  
28 siderations of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is the  
29 property of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is loaned to  
30 your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside  
31 your agency.  
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

April 20, 1966

X

Special Agent in Charge  
Reno

Title

UNITED RELIANS OF AMERICA, KNIGHTS  
OF THE KU KLUX KLAN (UNITED RELIANS)

Character

Reference

Philadelphia memorandum dated and  
captioned as above.

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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  
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

DATE: 4/25/66

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (157-1184)(C)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RM  
(OO: New Orleans)

Re Los Angeles letter to Bureau 4/31/66, with enclosed letterhead memorandum.

Enclosed for the Bureau are an original and seven copies of a letterhead memorandum (LHM) concerning information received from [redacted] Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit (ATTU), U. S. Treasury Department, Los Angeles. Three copies of the LHM are being designated for the office of origin, New Orleans, and one copy each to appropriate intelligence agencies.

This LHM is being classified confidential because this information could possibly identify the ATTU source.

Inasmuch as [redacted] source feels that he received false information in the beginning, Los Angeles is closing this case until pertinent information is received concerning this matter.

- 3 - Bureau (Encs.-3) (REGISTERED)
  - 1 - Dallas (Enc.-1) (REGISTERED)
  - 2 - New Orleans (157-3290) (Encs.-3) (REGISTERED)
  - 1 - Los Angeles
- RNT:nlb  
(7)

ATF  
*[Handwritten signature]*

48 AGENT: [redacted] ONI, CHIEF, SERA  
49 [redacted] TO END. [redacted]  
50 DATE: 5/2/66  
51 HOW FILED: [redacted]  
52 BY: [redacted]

157-2466-129  
REC 37 1 APR 27 1966

ST-105  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-23-80 BY SP1 [redacted]

50 MAY 4 1966



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
Los Angeles, California  
April 25, 1966

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RACIAL MATTERS.

On April 19, 1966, a representative of Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, U. S. Treasury Department, Los Angeles, California, advised that his source has been unable to obtain any information concerning the shipment of machine guns from the Czechoslovakian Firearm Manufacturer to the Deacons of Defense and Justice. His source said that he now feels that he received false information from the beginning and does not feel that this matter has any merit. His source said that he would continue to be alert for information reflecting upon this matter.

*ATF referral*

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY *SP1 sen lfr*  
ON *7-23-80*

GROUP 1  
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

DATE: 4/28/66

FROM : SAC, WFO (157-801) (RUC)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] b7C  
RACIAL MATTERS

Re WFO airtel and LHM both dated 3/31/66;  
captioned "Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc."  
(DDJ).

On 4/26/66, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated ERNEST THOMAS, organizer for  
the DDJ, who had been living in Chicago, Illinois,  
has returned to Bogalusa, Louisiana, to reside.

In view of the above, WFO will conduct  
no further investigation.

- 2 - Bureau
- 2 - New Orleans (RM)
- 1 - Chicago (RM) (Info)
- 2 - WFO  
(1-157-794) (DDJ)

*Battal  
INVESTIGATIVE*

HHK:dab  
(7)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-23-80 BY SP1 sch/jw

REC-18 157-2466-130  
EX-104

11 APR 29 1966

69 MAY 9 1966

*Staff*  
SUBV CONTROL  
(WFO)  
file 100  
157-2466  
511

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	
DeLoach	
Mohr	
Wick	
Casper	
Callahan	
Conrad	
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Sullivan	
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Tele. Room	
Holmes	
Gandy	

TO : Mr. Wick

DATE: 4-26-66

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: DEACONS FOR DEFENSE

*Batt*  
*3*

██████████ called and advised as follows: He stated that on Saturday, 4-23-66, he received an anonymous long-distance telephone call. He stated that he ascertained from the operator that this call emanated from a pay telephone in Newark, New Jersey.

According to ██████████, the anonymous caller merely advised him that the Deacons for Defense are holding a meeting in Military Park, Newark, New Jersey, at 2 p.m. on April 30, 1966. According to the anonymous caller, the word was being circulated in regard to this meeting, "pocket weapons only."

██████████ had no further information regarding this call and just wanted us to have the benefit of this information.

RECOMMENDATION:

That this memorandum be forwarded to the Domestic Intelligence Division for their information and guidance.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

REC-1 157-2466-131

11 APR 29 1966

DGH:jol  
(7) *1*  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-23-80 BY SP18ch/jk

CRIME RESEARCH

*autok NK: { Deacons of Defense }*  
*1-CC NO*  
*1-CC PH*  
*PLS: del*

4/27/66

- 1 - Mr. Martin
- 1 - Mr. Shackelford

airtel

To: SAC, Newark

REC-7

From: Director, FBI (157-2466) - 131

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
RACIAL MATTERS (ORGANIZATION)

RePHtel 4/18/66 captioned "UKA, KKKK, RIT" and Bureau airtel 4/20/66.

[redacted] advised the Bureau he received an anonymous telephone call from a Newark, New Jersey, pay telephone station on 4/23/66. The caller advised [redacted] that the "Deacons for Defense" are holding a meeting in Military Park, Newark, New Jersey, at 2 p.m., 4/30/66. The anonymous caller stated word is being circulated concerning this meeting, "pocket weapons only." No additional information was available concerning this call or the caller.

Newark should insure that local police authorities are made fully aware of the above information concerning this proposed meeting and any other information available to the Newark Office in this regard.

Newark should closely follow this matter through police and other logical sources and the Bureau should be promptly advised of any pertinent developments in form suitable for dissemination.

- 1 - New Orleans (157-3290)
- 1 - Philadelphia (157-1638)
- 1 - Bufile 157-4430 (UK, KKKK)
- 1 - Bufile 157-3022 (OBP)

RLS: deh *deh*  
(8)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-23-80 BY SP1 *gsh/jr*

APR 27 1966  
COMM-FBI

57 MAY 10 1966  
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FBI

Date: 4/22/66

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

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)  
FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-3290) (P.C.)  
SUBJECT: DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
RM (ORGANIZATION)

Re Philadelphia teletype to Bureau captioned "UKA, KKKK; RM", dated 4/18/66, and Bureau airtel to Newark, New Orleans, Philadelphia and WFO, dated 4/20/66.

Enclosed for the Bureau are 8 copies and for Philadelphia, New York, WFO and Newark are 2 copies each of a LHM regarding interview of \_\_\_\_\_

b7C  
b7D

A copy of the LHM is being furnished locally to Secret Service & ICG, New Orleans.

- ③ - Bureau (Enc. 8)
  - 2 - Philadelphia (Enc. 2) (Info)
  - 2 - New York (Enc. 2) (Info)
  - 2 - Newark (Enc. 2) (Info)
  - 2 - WFO (Enc. 2) (Info)
  - 2 - New Orleans
- MRG:pd  
(12)

NO  
Date 4/27/66  
By R.S.C.J.  
Remarks See memo 4/27/66

1cc 902 940  
with encl.

1 x 200 7/11/66  
4/28/66

REC 5 157-2466-132

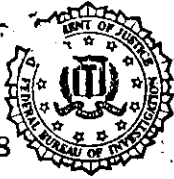
AGENCY: ACP, ONI, US, SEC. SER. ST-105  
DATE FOR: 4/27/66  
HOW FORW: R.S.  
BY: R.S.C.J.

APR 27 1966

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-23-80 BY SP1 gcl/jw



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

New Orleans, Louisiana  
April 22, 1966

DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

On April 22, 1966, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that he has no knowl-  
edge of any planned activities of the Deacons for Defense  
and Justice, Inc. (DDJ) in the Pennsylvania, New Jersey  
or New York area.

b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that Earnest Thomas is the vice  
president of the Jonesboro, Louisiana, DDJ, of which  
Percey Bradford is the president. He stated that Thomas  
is presently in Jonesboro, Louisiana, and he has not  
indicated to him that he has any knowledge of planned  
activities of the DDJ in the Pennsylvania, New York or  
New Jersey area. [REDACTED] emphatically stated that if any

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DDJ

DATE 7-23-80 BY SP/scr/ll

This document contains neither recommendations nor con-  
clusions 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.

ENCLOSURE

157-2466-132

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11 DEACONS FOR DEFENSE  
12 AND JUSTICE, INC.  
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14 such plans did exist he would certainly be aware of them.  
15 [REDACTED] advised that he himself has no desire to become active  
16 in that area and has heard no [REDACTED] leaders of the DDJ express  
17 a desire to do so.  
18

19 He further advised that he is not aware of any  
20 proposed rallies in the New York or New Jersey area of  
21 any Negro groups.  
22

23 [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] is unknown to him.  
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DECODED COPY

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Holmes  
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AIRMAIL  CABLEGRAM  RADIO  TELETYPE

R-105

URGENT 4-21-66 6:26 PM

TO DIRECTOR (157-9-11)

FROM CLEVELAND, (157-513) 212121

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM, INTERNAL SECURITY, DISRUPTION  
OF HATE GROUPS, (DEACONS FOR DEFENSE; MEDGAR EVERS RIFLE CLUB).

CLEVELAND DIVISION IS IN POSSESSION OF COPY OF LETTER  
BEING CIRCULATED UNDER LETTERHEAD OF THE LEGITIMATE  
ASSOCIATION OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES IN THE CLEVELAND AREA,  
"THE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST OF GREATER CLEVELAND",  
SIGNED BY CHARLES A. RAWLINGS, ANNOUNCING THE FORMATION OF A  
GROUP CALLED "SUPPORT OUR YOUTH," AS THE RESULT OF DIALOGUES  
CONDUCTED BY REV. PAUL YOUNGER WITH PEOPLE FROM THE JFK HOUSE,  
CLEVELAND. THIS LETTER STATES JFK HOUSE WAS OPENED SEPTEMBER 10,  
1964, BY LOUIS ROBINSON AND OTHERS AND WAS CLOSED IN FEBRUARY 10,  
1965 DUE TO LACK OF FUNDS AND "POLICE HARASSMENT." LETTER  
FURTHER STATES THE GROUP HAS DECIDED TO RAISE OVER \$1,000 PER  
MONTH TO BE GIVEN TO JFK HOUSE WITH NO STRINGS ATTACHED. LETTER  
CONCLUDES WITH AN APPEAL FOR PLEDGES OF AT LEAST \$10 MONTH AND

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-23-80 BY SP1 gmt/jk

55 MAY 13 1966

NOT RECORDED  
190 APR 28 1966

Information contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

ORIGINAL FILED IN

Tolson	
DeLoach	
Mohr	
Wick	
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TELETYPE     RADIO     CABLEGRAM

PAGE TWO FROM CLEVELAND 212121

IS BEING SENT TO PROTESTANT CHURCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS AS WELL AS TO CIVIC GROUPS IN CLEVELAND AND SUBURBS.

REV. YOUNGER AND REV. RAWLINGS ARE BOTH REGARDED AS DISRUPTIVE INFLUENCES BY THE LEGITIMATE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND HAVE BEEN MILITANTLY ACTIVE IN RACIAL DEMONSTRATIONS AND CIVIL DISORDERS IN THE CLEVELAND AREA.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

HARLEL ROBERT JONES, OTHER LEADER OF JFK [REDACTED] WHO IS SOLICITING ORGANIZATIONS PERSONALLY, HAS RECENTLY DECLARED IN WYU TV TAPED INTERVIEW, NOT YET RELEASED, THAT HE IS VICE PRESIDENT OF DEACONS FOR DEFENSE, CLEVELAND, WHICH ORGANIZATION HE STATED IS ARMED TO PROTECT NEGROES AGAINST KKK AND POLICE, WHOM HE STATED ARE AGENTS OF KKK. JONES HAS PREDICTED RIOTS IN CLEVELAND IN 1966 AND STATED FIRST ONES TO SUFFER WILL BE THE "UNCLE TOM" NEGROES. [REDACTED]

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.



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

# DECODED COPY

AIRMAIL     CABLEGRAM     RADIO     TELETYPE

PAGE THREE FROM CLEVELAND 212121

RE POLICE HARASSMENT OF JFK HOUSE, IN 1964, MORE THAN FIFTY BURGLARIES WERE SOLVED WITH ARREST OF YOUNG NEGROES FROM JFK HOUSE WHO CONFESSED. IN 1965, TWO YOUNG WHITE BOYS AND THEIR FATHER WERE BEATEN UP BY YOUNG NEGROES. ONE ADULT AND ABOUT FOURTEEN YOUNG NEGROES FROM JFK HOUSE WERE ARRESTED, AND ADMITTED GUILT IN SIGNED STATEMENTS. JUST RECENTLY, ALTHOUGH JFK HOUSE CLOSED, POLICE FOUND YOUNG MALE AND FEMALE MEMBERS HAD BROKEN IN AND WERE DRINKING AND ENGAGING IN IMMORAL ACTIVITIES. ALL ABOVE MATTERS HANDLED BY NEGRO POLICE OFFICERS.

BUREAU AUTHORITY REQUESTED TO FURNISH LEAD INFORMATION RE FOREGOING TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AUTHORITY ALSO REQUESTED TO ALERT SOURCES [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

DIVISION BELIEVES SWIFT ACTION NECESSARY IN THIS MATTER TO

Section  
Delivery  
Mail  
Wire  
Cable  
Radio  
Teletype  
Telephone

DECODED COPY

COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA - TELETYPE

PAGE FOUR FROM CLEVELAND 212121

PRECLUDE PLEDGES BEING MADE FOR SUPPORT OF JFK HOUSE BY  
UNSUSPECTING CHURCH GROUPS, IT BEING NOTED THAT LETTER  
BEING CIRCULARIZED DOES NOT GIVE TRUE PICTURE OF JFK HOUSE.

RECEIVED: 6:48 PM LJT

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If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
FBI

Date: 4/28/66

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

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

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)  
FROM: SAC, NEWARK (157-1922) (P)  
SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
RACIAL MATTERS (ORGANIZATION)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP  
DATE 4/28/66  
Batt

ReBuairtel to Newark 4/27/66 and Newark airtel to Bureau with accompanying LHM 4/25/66 captioned LABOR NEGRO VANGUARD CONFERENCE, IS - C, and CIRM, IS - C.

For information of New Orleans and Philadelphia, referenced Newark airtel and LHM reflect that the LABOR NEGRO VANGUARD CONFERENCE (LNVC) is scheduled to hold a rally at Military Park, Newark, N.J., on 4/30/66 at 2:00 p.m. during which CLARENCE COGGINS, member of LNVC [redacted] will speak on behalf of his candidacy for N.J. State Senator and against U. S. policy in Vietnam.

b7C

[redacted] Newark, N.J., advised 4/28/66 that captioned organization is unknown to him and that this group has not requested a permit to hold a rally in Newark, N.J.

b7C  
b7D

Above [redacted] advised he will notify Newark FBI should he develop any information regarding captioned group and/or pertinent information on rally scheduled for 4/30/66.

b7C  
b7D

- 5 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - New Orleans (157-3290) (Info) (RM)
- 1 - Philadelphia (157-1638) (Info) (RM)
- 2 - Newark (1 - 100-46365) (LNVC)

REC-3 157-2466-133

APR 28 1966

REH:aas  
(9)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 [redacted]  
REASON FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-28-80

55 MAY 20 1966  
Special Agent in Charge

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

F B I

Date: 4/29/66

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

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, WFO (157-794) (RUC)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS (Organization)  
(OO:NEW ORLEANS)

ReBuairtel 4/20/66.

Enclosed for Bureau are 8 copies of an LHM, and two copies to each following office: Newark, New Orleans, Philadelphia.

The source in attached LHM is [redacted] He furnished his information to SA [redacted]

b7C  
b7D

[redacted] advised on 4/28/66, that he did not know [redacted]

WFO is conducting no further investigation in this matter.

AGENCY: [redacted] AND [redacted]; Comp. [redacted] by Courier

- (3) - Bureau (Enc. 8)
- 2 - New Orleans (Enc. 2)
- 2 - Newark (Enc. 2)
- 2 - Philadelphia (Enc. 2)
- 3 - WFO
  - (1- 157-528) ([redacted])
  - (1- 157-237) (Liaison Sources)

DATE FORW: 5/4/66  
HOW FORW: [redacted]  
BY: [redacted]

REC-5 157-2466-134

APR 29 1966

HHK:els ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
(12) HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EX-108  
DATE 7-23-80 BY [redacted]

Approved: [Signature] Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

54 MAY 17 1966



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D. C. 20535

April 29, 1966

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND  
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED

The source in this memorandum has furnished reliable information in the past.

On April 28, 1966, a source advised that he had no knowledge that a chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ), existed in Patterson, New Jersey. The source had no information that the DDJ was planning to organize a chapter in Patterson, New Jersey.

The source stated the DDJ was supposedly interested in making an attempt to organize a DDJ chapter in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the near future. The source believes the DDJ hopes to organize in Northern cities for the purpose of getting some funds and not for protection against the "Klan" as was necessary in some of the Southern states. The need for protection does not exist in the Northern cities.

The source also advised that recently [redacted] b7C [redacted] of Pennsylvania was supposedly planning some type of activity to show opposition to a "Klan" meeting to be held in New Jersey, date and place not known. The source stated this was not a DDJ activity against the Klan as far as the source knew.

The source stated Ernest Thomas, the DDJ organizer, who recently resided in Chicago, Illinois, has returned to Bogalusa, Louisiana, to live.

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-23-80 BY SP1 [signature]

157-2466-134

ENCLOSURE

FBI

Date: 5/26/66

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

(Type in plaintext or code)

**A I R T E L**

(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)  
 (157-  
 FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (157-572)  
 (157-840)  
 SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
INCORPORATED, aka  
Deacons For Defense and Justice,  
Incorporated  
RM (ORGANIZATION)

██████████ b7C  
RM (ORGANIZATION)

Re Chicago airtel and Letterhead Memorandum (LHM) dated 4/13/66.

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight (8) copies of a LHM, and two (2) copies for New Orleans concerning captioned matter.

One copy of this LHM is being designated for U.S. Secret Service and the USA, both Chicago, Illinois, and Region 1, 113th INTC Group, Evanston, Illinois.

LEAD

CHICAGO

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. Will follow and report activities of DDJ and EARNEST THOMAS in Chicago.

- ④ - Bureau (Enc. 8)  
 (1 - 157- ██████████) b7C
- 2 - New Orleans (157-3290) (Enc. 2) (INFO)  
 (1 - 157- ██████████)
- 3 - Chicago  
 (1 - 157-413)

LGR:mab  
(9)

REC-79

157-2466-135

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

17 MAY 28 1966

DATE 7-23-80 BY SP18/ff

Approved: WJ/M  
Special Agent in Charge

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

56 JUN 6 1966

INT. SEC.

AGENCY ASST. DIR. (ADM. SER.)  
ASST. DIR. (INTELL. SER.)  
ASST. DIR. (INSP.)  
ASST. DIR. (LAB.)  
ASST. DIR. (LEGAL COUNSEL)  
ASST. DIR. (PLANNING & COMM. SER.)  
ASST. DIR. (TRAINING)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

157-572  
157-840

Chicago, Illinois  
May 26, 1966

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
INCORPORATED, ALSO KNOWN AS  
DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
INCORPORATED  
RACIAL MATTERS (ORGANIZATION)

**[REDACTED]** b7C  
RACIAL MATTERS (ORGANIZATION)

Reference is made to memorandum dated April 13, 1966,  
at Chicago, Illinois.

On May 25, 1966, **[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED]** advised the Chicago  
Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that the Deacons  
of Defense and Justice, Incorporated (DDJ), recently opened an  
office at 1230 South Pulaski Road, Chicago, and the telephone number  
of the Chicago Office of the DDJ is 522-7706. Earnest Thomas, an  
organizer for the DDJ, reportedly is the individual who is responsible  
for organizing the Chicago chapter of the DDJ. Thomas is in and out  
of Chicago frequently, but is not known to have any permanent address  
in Chicago.

The Articles of Incorporation of the Deacons of  
Defense and Justice (DDJ) as on file with the  
Secretary of State, for the State of Louisiana,  
reflects that the Deacons of Defense and Justice,  
Inc. is a Louisiana corporation domiciled at  
Jonesboro, Louisiana. The location and business  
office address of its registered office shall be  
Amos Service Station (rear), Beach Spring Road,  
Drawer B, Jonesboro, Louisiana.

"This corporation is organized for the following  
purposes and to carry on the following purposes:

1000  
JUN 2 1966

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-23-80 BY SP1/972/jjs

157-2466-135  
ENCLOSURE

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11 RE: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,  
12 INCORPORATED  
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15  
16 To instruct, train, teach and educate Citizens  
17 of the United States and especially minority  
18 groups in the fundamental principals of the  
19 republican form of government and our democratic  
20 way of life; to instruct, teach, train and educate  
21 said persons in the provisions of the consitution  
22 and laws of the United States and the State of  
23 Louisiana, as well as the constitution and laws  
24 of any other State wherein this corporation may  
25 operate; to instruct, teach and educate said persons  
26 in the use, value and purpose of the ballot and the  
27 right to vote; to instruct, teach, train and educate  
28 said persons as to the duties and responsibilities  
29 of good citizenship relative to the obligation and  
30 duties of the citizen to the community and the  
31 obligation and duties of the community to the citizen:  
32 To further instruct, teach, train and educate said  
33 persons in the value of economic security and in  
34 the effective use of their spending power; to inspire  
35 in said persons a sense of responsibility and to  
36 develop leadership. This corporation has for its  
37 further purpose, and is dedicated to, the defense  
38 of the civil rights, property rights and personal  
39 rights of said people and will defend said rights  
40 by any and all honorable and legal means to the end  
41 that justice may be obtained. This corporation may  
42 establish chapters and conduct its business at any  
43 place in this State and elsewhere as permitted by  
44 law."

45  
46 A copy of this memorandum is being furnished United States  
47 Secret Service and the Office of the United States Attorney, both  
48 Chicago, Illinois, and Region 1, 113th INTC Group, Evanston, Illinois.

49  
50 This document contains neither recommendations nor  
51 conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned  
52 to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed  
53 outside your agency.



FBI

5/13/66

Transmit the following in PLAIN TELETYPE  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-6-33)  
FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (173-201) (P)  
SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION,  
BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA  
RACIAL MATTERS

Re New Orleans teletype to Bureau, 5/13/66.

Enclosed herewith are eight copies of a letterhead memorandum which is self-explanatory.

Copies also furnished Secret Service and ICG.

Agency G-2, ONI, OSI, CRD

Date Forw. MAY 18 1966

How Forw. RR - 5

By add - 722

| RACIAL UNIT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-33-80 BY SP5 JKL/4

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 8)
- 2 - New Orleans

ENCLOSURE

157-2466

MAY 16 1966

NOT RECORDED

165 MAY 26 1966

SMC:jas  
(5)

ENCLOSURE

file with [unclear] 5/16/66

SUPPLEMENTAL CONTROL

Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

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

53 JUN 1 1966



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

New Orleans, Louisiana  
May 13, 1966

RACIAL SITUATION,  
BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA

[redacted] Bogalusa, Louisiana, advised on May 13, 1966, that shortly after 1:00 AM, May 13, 1966, a shooting had occurred outside the Acme Cafe located in the 400 hundred block of Columbia Street, Bogalusa, and there were no injuries.

[redacted] stated prior to the shooting, three Negro males, [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] had entered the Acme Cafe, which is currently under Federal court order to integrate. [redacted] states no incidents took place in the Cafe; however, [redacted], shortly after entering, stepped outside of the Cafe and was apparently struck by some unknown individual. Thereafter, [redacted] and [redacted] left the Cafe, and the three individuals went to their automobile. [redacted] stated apparently shots were then fired at the Acme Cafe from the direction of the car which the Negroes had entered.

[redacted] Bogalusa, Louisiana, advised that at about 4:00 AM, May 13, 1966, about 20 Negroes went back to the Acme Cafe, but that no incidents occurred.

[redacted] Bogalusa, Louisiana, advised that at 12:00 noon, a group of 11 or 12 Negroes entered various cafes in Bogalusa and as of that time, 11 were eating at the La Plaza Cafe, and no incidents were reported.

[redacted] advised that in view of the shooting which occurred at the Acme Cafe, the shooting into

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_ BY \_\_\_\_\_

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

157-2466 -

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11 RACIAL SITUATION  
12 BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA  
13

14 the residence of [REDACTED] which occurred on April 15,  
15 1966, the activities of the Negroes in the Bogalusa Voters League  
16 and the fact that information indicated Charles Sims,  
17 President, Deacons of Defense and Justice, Bogalusa, reports  
18 had 20 carbines, the situation appeared to be becoming more  
19 tense in the Bogalusa area. He advised there might be trouble  
20 in Bogalusa on the evening of May 13, 1966, as they expected  
21 numerous white people to make it a point to be at the Acme  
22 Cafe and if Negroes attempted to enter, there could be trouble.  
23

24 [REDACTED] is scheduled to have a meeting with  
25 [REDACTED] at 3:00 PM,  
26 May 13, 1966, to discuss the situation, and called [REDACTED]  
27 [REDACTED] on the morning of May 13, 1966, and [REDACTED] sent the  
28 head of his Crime Laboratory to Bogalusa to check on the  
29 bullets fired into the Acme Cafe.  
30

31 At 3:10 PM, Special Agent [REDACTED], 112th  
32 Intelligence Corps Group, New Orleans, Louisiana, was advised  
33 of the above.  
34

35 At 3:20 PM, [REDACTED] Clerk-Stenographer,  
36 United States Secret Service, New Orleans, Louisiana, was  
37 advised of the above.  
38

39  
40 This confirms information furnished orally to Mr.  
41 James Turner of the Civil Rights Division on 5-15-66.  
42

43 This document contains neither recommendations  
44 nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the  
45 property of the FBI and is loaned to your  
46 agency; it and its contents are not to be  
47 distributed outside your agency.  
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FBI

Date: 5/14/66

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

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-6-33)  
 FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (173-201) (P)  
 SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION,  
 BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA  
 RM

Enclosed herewith are eight (8) copies of  
 a LHM reflecting the results of a conversation with

**[REDACTED]** on 5/14/66.

b7C

Copies of the enclosed LHM are being furnished  
 to Secret Service and ICG, locally.

Agency G-2, ONI, OSI, CRD

Date Forw. MAY 20 1966 157-2466-

How Forw. TR-5 NOT RECORDED

By ath - meel 140 MAY 22 1966

RACIAL UNIT

N.O.

MAY 19 1966

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE (RM)

3 - Bureau (Enc. 8)  
 2 - New Orleans  
 SMC/srl  
 (5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 7-23-80 BY SP1 [initials]

Approved: [Signature]  
 Special Agent in Charge

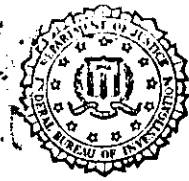
Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

51 JUN 1 1966

SUBV. DIVISION

[Handwritten signature]

ORIGINAL FILED IN 157-2466-114



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

New Orleans, Louisiana  
May 14, 1966

RACIAL SITUATION, BOGALUSA,  
LOUISIANA

On May 14, 1966, [redacted]  
Bogalusa, Louisiana, Chapter of the Deacons for Defense  
and Justice, approached an agent of the Federal Bureau of  
Investigation and, made certain derogatory remarks regarding  
the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of  
Justice in connection with Civil Rights activities.

It was explained to [redacted] the FBI's jurisdiction  
in Civil Rights and related matters.

[redacted] then answered that he did not think that  
the Department of Justice was worth a "sh\*t". [redacted] stated  
that he did not want anything else to do with the FBI or  
the Department of Justice and that if either agency at any  
time wanted to talk to him, he would not do so unless they  
had a warrant for his arrest.

[redacted] then stated that in the event any more Negroes  
were "picked up" at the Acme Cafe in Bogalusa, "We will come  
to the Acme and tear that place up." [redacted] then walked away.

[redacted] remarks about the Acme Cafe were immediately  
furnished to [redacted]

b7C  
b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-23-80 BY SP1 gk/y  
ENCLOSURE

157-2466 -

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.

ENCLOSURE

FBI

Date: 5/25/66

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

(Type in plaintext or code)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

FROM: SAC, NEWARK (157-1922) (RUC)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
RACIAL MATTERS (ORGANIZATION)  
(OO: NEW ORLEANS)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 S/L 117-  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2

RE: Bureau airtel, 4/20/66. DATE OF REVIEW

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of an LHM. Two copies of LHM enclosed for New Orleans, Philadelphia, and the Washington Field Office.

[Redacted] is [Redacted]

Other appropriate sources of the Newark Office were unable to furnish any information concerning the existence of a DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC. (EDJ) Chapter in Paterson, New Jersey, or in any other part of New Jersey.

What he knew nothing of a proposed demonstration on June 1-2, 1966, at the White House, Washington, D.C., in opposition to the White House Conference on Civil Rights.

- 3-Bureau (Enc. 3) ENCLOSURE
- 2-New Orleans (157-3290) (Enc. 2)
- 2-Philadelphia (157-1633) (Enc. 2)
- 2-WFO (157-794) (Enc. 2)
- 3-Newark
  - 1-157-1935 [Redacted]
  - 1-157-1975 (CCBM)

RFH: lmd

(12)

Approved: [Signature] Special Agent in Charge

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INT. SEC.

55 JUN 8 1966

157-2466-136

REC 5

EX 109

3 MAY 26 1966

DATE FORWARDED: 5/27/66  
BY: [Signature]  
AGENCY: ASST. DIR., CIVIL RIGHTS DIV.  
SUBS: ISD, CRD, RAO

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NEW YORK OFFICE  
CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION  
MAY 26 1966

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NK 157-1922

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

He said he knew of [REDACTED], whom he described as a "pinko", but by reputation only. He denied having any knowledge of [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]. He knows [REDACTED] and his group in the LABOR NEGRO VANGUARD CONFERENCE (LNVC). He said that [REDACTED] and the others in the LNVC are known in the Negro community as communists.

b7C

[REDACTED]

b1

(c)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Newark, New Jersey  
May 25, 1966

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND  
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED (DDJ)  
RACIAL MATTERS (ORGANIZATION)

[redacted] that he had learned from a source he would not divulge that [redacted]

[redacted] Newark, New Jersey, is Chief of the "Deacons for Defense" in Newark, and meetings of this organization have been held in homes in Newark.

[redacted] that he believes that [redacted] took the name of the "Deacons for Defense and Justice" for a group of individuals he is attempting to organize but that he has no connection with the DDJ of Louisiana. He stated that [redacted] wants publicity and notoriety for his group which he believes is small but which could get bigger if the desired publicity is forthcoming. He added that [redacted] is busy at this time [redacted]

[redacted] advised on May 24, 1966, that he is [redacted] of a group of Negroes who call themselves "Deacons of Defense and Justice" as a result of their admiration for the real DDJ in Louisiana. He added that they have no connection either official or unofficial with the DDJ. He added that he estimated that about 70 persons had expressed an interest in his organization.

CLASS. & EXT. BY SPT/gcl 11-7-83  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 02  
DATE OF REVIEW 5-25-66

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ENCLOSURE

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