

The Attorney General

June 2, 1961

Director, FBI 8-9-96

291,829

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/9/09 BY SP/1652/km

FREEDOM RIDE 1961
RACIAL MATTERS; DESTRUCTION OF
AIRCRAFT OR MOTOR VEHICLES; CIVIL RIGHTS # 260,149

[redacted] is the [redacted]
in Montgomery, Alabama. He was subpoenaed to appear at the
injunction hearing at Montgomery, Alabama, on May 29, 1961.
He completed his testimony and was discharged from his
subpoena the same date. [redacted] testimony concerned
[redacted] who is alleged to have been one of the
instigators of the violence which occurred at the bus station
in Montgomery on May 20, 1961. [redacted] has stated that as
he was returning home from work at approximately 1:00 a.m.,
May 31, 1961, he was cursed by an unidentified driver of
an automobile which carried two men. Approximately 30 minutes
later, he allegedly received an anonymous threatening telephone
call at his home and his son received another anonymous call
at approximately 2:30 a.m. u

[redacted] considered the telephone calls to be in the
nature of a prank and said that he is not concerned about them.
Neither the anonymous callers nor the driver of the automobile
who cursed [redacted] made any reference to his having testified;
however, at the request of Assistant U. S. Attorney Ira DeMent,
we are conducting a preliminary inquiry to determine whether
these incidents have any connection with [redacted] testimony. u

It should be noted that the Post Office Department
has informed us that if [redacted] was in a position to observe
any of the activity on May 20, 1961, as he testified, then
he was not properly performing his duties which would have
required his presence elsewhere. The Post Office is checking
into this. u

[redacted] Hinds County, Mississippi,
has received a letter signed [redacted] For the
Freedom Riders." This letter states that beginning June 1,
1961, the freedom riders who are in jail will fast for an
indefinite period. The letter also states that the freedom

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

WLM:aeo
(15)

MAIL ROOM

66 JUN 6 1961

19 JUN 5 1961

JUN 7 1 36 PM '61
READING ROOM

MAILED 68

JUN - 2 1961

COMM-FBI

REC-24

The Attorney General

riders appreciate the courtesy exhibited by the sheriff and that the fast is not intended as a protest against any person but is intended to remind the freedom riders of their "task of reconciliation." U

[redacted] advised that 28 of the male freedom riders refused breakfast on June 1, 1961, but that 7 women freedom riders all ate breakfast and he believed that the women may have been unaware of the fast. It has also been reported that the freedom riders have said that they are not protesting the quality of the food served them in jail, but that their fast is motivated by a desire to impress the Attorney General with the deplorable situation which exists in the South. U

b7C

[redacted] a freedom rider who was allegedly mistreated at the Hinds County Penal Farm on May 29, 1961, has been released upon payment of her fine and has proceeded to New Orleans, Louisiana. U

b7C

On June 1, 1961, freedom riders assembled in Montgomery, Alabama, having come from Nashville, Tennessee, and Atlanta, Georgia, without incident. They did not test the facilities upon their arrival in Montgomery but they passed through the bus station unobtrusively and unnoticed. They plan to proceed to Jackson, Mississippi, on June 2, 1961. One group of four Negroes and three whites intends to depart from Montgomery at 7:00 a.m., Central Standard Time, and a similar group intends to leave at 11:30 a.m., Central Standard Time. Both groups will travel by Trailways bus. U

The freedom riders intend to test the facilities at the Jackson bus station when they arrive in that city and have also indicated an intention to test the facilities in Montgomery prior to their departure. U

Reverend Wyatt T. Walker, Executive Director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, advised on June 1, 1961, that he is heading a committee which is being established to coordinate freedom rides throughout the South. He will be in charge of all publicity but will make no press releases at this time due to what he considers to be the instability of law enforcement in Alabama. U

The Attorney General

Reports have been received that freedom riders intend to depart from Richmond, Virginia, for Alabama and Mississippi. [redacted] who has been described as the organizer of the trips in Richmond, advised on June 2, 1961, that a group of four or five freedom riders plan to leave Richmond by Trailways bus on June 3, 1961. Further details have not yet been worked out. He added that another group may leave Richmond on June 5, 1961. U b7C

Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth was convicted at Birmingham, Alabama, on June 1, 1961, on two counts of inciting a breach of the peace. He was sentenced to serve 90 days and was fined \$500 on each of the two counts but was released on \$2000 bond. U b7C

[redacted]
[redacted] Alabama Knights, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., has reportedly stated that Robert Shelton, Imperial Wizard, has documentary proof that the AFL-CIO contributed \$5,000 to the Congress of Racial Equality to assist in the freedom rides. U b7C

Information has now been received that after the White Youth for Segregation rally which was held near Montgomery, Alabama, on May 29, 1961, a group of seven persons led by [redacted] went to a bar and grill in downtown Montgomery. [redacted] is said to have indicated that he and his six companions were at Reverend Abernathy's church when a violent mob gathered there on May 21, 1961, and that [redacted] took tear gas bombs to the church. U b7C

[redacted] and [redacted] were allegedly with [redacted] group on May 29, 1961, and [redacted] is reported to have claimed to be the one who turned over an automobile in the vicinity of Reverend Abernathy's church. U b7C

We have also been informed that [redacted] who was in the bar and grill with [redacted] said that he and others had been paid for participating in racial violence at Montgomery. The amount of \$375 was mentioned and [redacted] allegedly complained that he had not received his full share. U b7C

The Attorney General

When a member of the group tried to quiet him down, [redacted] reportedly said, "Well, they better pay or I'll get [redacted]. The conversation of this group allegedly gave the impression that [redacted] had hired [redacted] and others to engage in the violence which occurred at the Montgomery bus station on May 20, 1961, and that [redacted] had received a large amount of money for making such arrangements. 4

Further pertinent developments will be promptly brought to the attention of the Department. 4

- 1 - Mr. Byron R. White
Deputy Attorney General
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
Burke Marshall
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
Herbert J. Miller, Jr.

(291,829)
7/15/93 9803 RDD/JAC
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/9/99 BY SP-1 GSK/bm
10/21/82 SORBY/BWJ

May 23, 1961

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JESSE B. STONER
SSA 9803 RDD/CAL
G 9.96 291,829

[redacted] an extreme anti-Semitic and anti-Negro individual and active in racial matters in the South, was allegedly seen at the Trailways Bus Station, Birmingham, Alabama, on May 14, 1961, when violence occurred against the "Freedom Riders." It was further alleged that at the time he was in the company of [redacted] of the National States Rights Party (NSRP), which is a pro-segregation group. U

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[redacted] was born on [redacted] in [redacted]. As a small child he was orphaned and raised by an aunt. He was a victim of infantile paralysis and as a result is partially crippled. While attending high school during the early 1940's, he reportedly expressed sympathy for Hitler and Nazi Germany. In the Fall of 1942 he contacted numerous citizens in Chattanooga, Tennessee, soliciting membership in the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), an organization designated under Executive Order 10450. In December, 1945, when the question was asked of him, "How did you happen to become a Klan organizer?" [redacted] is alleged to have replied, "Because I want my children to be white Gentiles. I am against racial equality in any form - whether with niggers, Japs, Chinese, Filipinos or what have you. I believe in white supremacy - social, political and economic. I haven't anything against niggers personally but only as a race." U

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[redacted] activities in connection with the NSRP and other organizations with which he is affiliated have been closely followed. He is apparently surveillance conscious and has threatened to shoot any FBI Agent surveilling him. His anti-Semitic and anti-Negro activities have occurred in Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky and Delaware. U

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Tolson _____
Parsons _____
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W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

In connection with an investigation of the NSRP, [redacted] in September, 1950, voluntarily furnished information to Special Agents of this Bureau. He stated he joined the Chattanooga, Tennessee, Klavern of the KKK in 1940 and became [redacted] He held this office until 1945 at which time he resigned because of a misunderstanding with a Klan leader. He rejoined the Klan in Chattanooga in 1949. U

WFW:DRR:afs

(See note page 3.)

(8) MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

[redacted] b7C

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On September 5, 1952, it was reported that [redacted] was the originator and [redacted] Party which was first formed in 1945. It was also reported that [redacted] on the ticket of the Christian Anti-Jewish Party. U

On October 13, 1958, [redacted] was again interviewed and advised that he had been harassed by the FBI and the Atlanta Police Department over a long period of time. During the interview, [redacted] attacked the Jewish people and expressed the opinion that he was being interviewed only because he had been named by the Anti-Defamation League as a suspect in recent bombings in the South. He denied any connection with these bombings. U

b7C

The October 2, 1959, issue of the "Chronicle," a Jacksonville, Florida, weekly newspaper, carried an article captioned "Want Crommelin For President." This article announced that the NSRP, an extreme right-wing organization founded in 1957, would sponsor a public rally in Jacksonville on October 11, 1959. The article went on to state that the purpose of the meeting, according to Atlanta Attorney J. B. Stoner, legal adviser to the NSRP, would be to stop race mixing in Florida. The article continued that Stoner was reported to have stated that an effort would be made to get the party on the national ballot in 1960, and elect Admiral John C. Crommelin of Alabama, a segregationist, to the Office of President of the United States. U

[redacted] has repeatedly expressed his extreme dislike for the FBI and its Director and has made many vitriolic statements to this effect. U

b7C

Bureau files reveal that [redacted] anti-Semitic segregationist, was the recipient during March, 1960, of much propaganda during his confinement at the Davidson County Workhouse, Nashville, Tennessee. Among the material sent him was a publication entitled, "The Klan Bulletin," a publication of the Christian Knights of the KKK, whose editor was shown as Stoner. This publication contained anti-Semitic and anti-integration material. U

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[redacted] b7C

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On September 7, 1960, an informant advised that a rally of the KKK was held on September 3, 1960, at the race track in Danville, Virginia. [redacted] was introduced at the rally as the Imperial Wizard, Christian Knights of the KKK. His talk on that evening concerned the Negro situation and the desire of the Klan to preserve segregation. He advocated economic pressure be applied to Negroes and force them to move North. u

On February 16, 1961, [redacted] was observed at a meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, of the Georgians Unwilling to Surrender" handing out copies of the February, 1961, issue of "The Thunderbolt," organ of the NSRP. u (157-97; 105-55211) b7C

NOTE:

Attachment to letter to Attorney General captioned "Congress of Racial Equality; Freedom Ride, 1961; Racial Matters; Destruction of Aircraft and Motor Vehicles; Civil Rights," dated May 23, 1961.

The Attorney General

May 23, 1961

Director, FBI

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY
FREEDOM RIDE, 1961
RACIAL MATTERS; DESTRUCTION
OF AIRCRAFT AND MOTOR VEHICLES;
CIVIL RIGHTS

1 - Mr. Parsons
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. CA Evans
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Bland
1 - Mr. Williams
1 - Name Check Section

For your information, there are attached memoranda summarizing information in the files of this Bureau concerning four individuals who have been recently active in connection with the "Freedom Riders."

Three of these individuals, Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., [redacted] and Reverend Ralph D. Abernathy are active leaders of the integrationist element while the fourth individual, [redacted] is a rabid segregationist.

Enclosures (4)

1 - Mr. Byron R. White
Deputy Attorney General (Enclosures - 4)
1 - Assistant Attorney General
Burke Marshall (Enclosures - 4)

MAILED 2
MAY 24 1961

NOTE: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ memo Mr. Scatterday to Mr. Rosen dated 5-23-61 captioned "LESTER B. SULLIVAN; JESSE B. STONER; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.; RALPH D. ABERNATHY; FRED LEE SHUTTLESWORTH," DRR:fjb.

DRR:fjb
(12)

~~CLASSIFIED INFORMATION ENCLOSED~~

Tolson _____
Parsons _____
Mohr _____
Belmont _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
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W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

62 JUN 7 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

66 JUN 12 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/2/79 BY SP7BSK/pm
(291,829) 7/15/93 9803 RDD/JAC

[redacted] b7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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[redacted] was interviewed on September 27, 1960, by Agents of the Birmingham Office in regard to an Election Laws - Civil Rights matter in which he was the complainant. He was a complainant in this case and had alleged that prospective voters had been closely questioned concerning illegitimacy and their marriages. He had brought this to the attention of the Attorney General by letter dated August 11, 1960, and this investigation led to the Department's present query of voting records in Jefferson County, Alabama. At the time of the interview, [redacted] advised that he was [redacted]

[redacted] which he stated was a group engaged in fighting for all phases of civil rights. At that time he also admitted that he had been convicted of illegal distilling when he was eighteen years of age. u

The "Washington Evening Star," dated October 28, 1958, states that the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights was organized after the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was barred from operating in Alabama. u (44-1124-A)

[redacted] has obtained a great deal of publicity in his antisegregation activities and has utilized his arrests to keep the racial problem before the public. In one instance he and a group of thirteen Negroes were arrested on October 20, 1958, and charged with disorderly conduct when they refused to move to the rear of a Birmingham bus. [redacted] was fined \$100 and drew a ninety-day term. This case, besides being widely publicized, moved from one court to another on appeal and as of March 2, 1961, the Alabama Supreme Court refused to hear the "bus mixing" case. (44-11124-174) u

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Among the organizations in which [redacted] has been prominent, is the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated (SCEF), with which he has been affiliated for a number of years. As of February, 1960, [redacted] was on the Board of Directors of the SCEF. the SCEF was formerly known as the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, which was cited by House Committee on Un-American Activities as a communist front organization. He has also been affiliated with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, of which he was the secretary in 1960. [redacted] In June, 1960, a confidential source who has furnished reliable

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted] b7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Information in the past advised that the Southern Christian Leadership Conference was in a combined appeal with the Committee to Defend Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Struggle for Freedom in the South, and solicited funds from the Soviet Embassy, the Czechoslovakian Embassy, and the Rumanian Legation, all in Washington, D. C. According to the source, these organizations appealed for financial assistance for the defense of those who are daily risking their careers and facing jail terms and death in their struggle to make the United States truly democratic. (100-433547-1) X u

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In March, 1960 [redacted] was arrested by police in Birmingham, Alabama, on a charge of furnishing a false report concerning an attempted castration of one [redacted] on February 24, 1960. This information had also been furnished by [redacted] to our Birmingham Office. In this regard, it was ascertained that [redacted] was charged with vagrancy and of giving a false report to the Birmingham police, inasmuch as the true name of [redacted] was [redacted] and the afore-mentioned mutilation had actually been effected by [redacted] wife and a civil rights violation was not involved. u

At the present time, this is still pending and is under Bureau investigation in view of [redacted] arrest under the charge of vagrancy which was later changed to a charge of giving a false report to the police. u

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There is also a pending damage suit for nine million dollars involving [redacted] daughter, as a victim in a civil rights case.

[redacted] complained on August 17, 1960, that his three children were arrested by officers of the Gadsden, Alabama, Police Department, on August 16, 1960, removed from a Greyhound bus going from Chattanooga, Tennessee, to Birmingham, Alabama, and kept overnight in the Gadsden city jail. We conducted a preliminary investigation in this matter. The afore-mentioned civil suit was filed by [redacted] against the Southeastern Greyhouse Lines by [redacted] (44-16274) u

b7C

[redacted] was in close contact and apparently an advisor for Freedom Riders, who were around Birmingham, Alabama, on May 17, 1961. u

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May 22, 1961

[redacted] b7C

[redacted] was investigated by the Bureau as an FBI National Academy applicant in June, 1954. This investigation developed no derogatory information concerning him. At that time [redacted] State of Alabama. He attended the 54th Session of the National Academy which ended on November 19, 1954. Sullivan was described by the counsellors of this class as a quiet-mannered individual who possessed a pleasant disposition and good personality. He was very cooperative and of average intelligence, appearance and dress. His attitude toward the Bureau was described as being very good and his comments regarding the value of the training course and caliber of instructions were very complimentary. U

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Our files reveal that subsequent to his attendance at the Academy he has been contacted by Bureau Agents in Montgomery, Alabama, on numerous occasions and has always been cooperative and friendly. At the present time [redacted] holds the position of [redacted] State of Alabama. U

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In January, 1960, a Bureau Agent contacted [redacted] and advised him of the identity of a number of persons who had been identified as former or current active members of the U.S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., [redacted] of Alabama, who were members of the Montgomery Police Reserve. His reaction was described as either mild surprise or embarrassment over the development and he asked specifically concerning one [redacted] who on the following day was appointed Chief of the Montgomery Police Reserve. With reference to [redacted] although our files did reveal that he had been a member of the Ku Klux Klan he had not been active for a considerable period of time in the Klan. U

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[redacted] explained also that the procedure with reference to the Montgomery Police Reserve was that the nominations were made from the floor of a meeting of that group. He did not advise what action he contemplated with regard to the individuals involved. Another individual, [redacted] of the Montgomery Police, in discussing this matter with the Senior Resident Agent advised that he was U

7/15/93 9803RDD/JAC (291,829)

JWB:Gib

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8-29-96 291,829

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/9/99 BY SP10SK/KM

ENCLOSURE

[redacted] b7C

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certain that the appointment of various Klan members was not the result of sympathy on the part of [redacted] for the ideals and objectives of the Klan, but if it was in any way consciously done by [redacted], it was in payment of a political obligation. u

In December, 1960, an article appeared in the "Montgomery Advertiser," Montgomery, Alabama, indicating that Commissioner Sullivan was being harassed because of his strict enforcement of no violence edict in connection with racial matters. He stated to the newspapers, "I don't know whether extremist groups are responsible or whether the actions are politically inspired, but regardless of the source, I have a sworn obligation to uphold the law and this I intend to do." The article continued by stating that Sullivan had been plagued with threatening and profane telephone calls and other annoyances. u (1-7120)

On April 4, 1960, a confidential informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that at a recent meeting of the Federated Ku Klux Klans, Inc., in Mobile, Alabama, one [redacted] b7C stated that he had discussed the tense racial situation existing in Montgomery, Alabama, in the latter part of February and early March, 1960, with Montgomery [redacted] and that [redacted] had told him that the police would be able to keep "the Negroes" from marching to the grounds of the Alabama State Capitol at Montgomery on March 6, 1960. [redacted] said that he asked [redacted] what he would do if the police were unable to keep the Negroes from marching to the State Capitol. He stated that [redacted] told him, "Then we'll turn them over to you all," meaning the Klan. u (157-166-8)

On May 11, 1960, the Department requested investigation in a case involving a Negro woman, Christine Stovall, who according to newspaper accounts had been the victim of violence by white males during a Negro student demonstration in Montgomery, Alabama. The newspaper accounts described the attack as vicious and that the police of Montgomery had stood by and took no action when the woman was struck down with a heavy club. Specifically, the Department requested that we interview the City Editor of the "Alabama Journal" and another staff writer of the "Birmingham News" for specifics. These interviews were conducted and substantiated the newspaper articles. The victim was interviewed in New York where she resides and advised that u

[redacted]

she was in Montgomery, Alabama, for the purpose of visiting her sister. She denied that she took part in any of the student demonstrations. She stated that she made no complaint to the police regarding the incident and saw no police at the scene. She declined to furnish any further details or information concerning this matter.* (44-15825)

The January 19, 1961, issue of the "Mobile Register" reported that Circuit Judge Walter B. Jones at Montgomery, Alabama, ruled that four Alabama Negro ministers forfeited their chance for a new trial when they failed to join "The New York Times" newspaper in a request for a continuance in arguments on a pending new trial. New trial arguments in the suit by Police Commissioner L. B. Sullivan against "The New York Times" and the four ministers had been scheduled for the past week but at the request of the "Times'" attorneys a postponement was granted until March 3, 1961. Sullivan's suit had claimed that an advertisement in "The New York Times" ridiculed him and Sullivan was awarded a \$500,000 libel judgment in the State Court at Montgomery, Alabama. Other articles appearing in newspapers throughout the country revealed that the Governor of Alabama had sued the "Times" for a million dollars arising out of an advertisement appearing in the "Times" which was said to be libel against the Governor and other individuals connected with the Police Department in Montgomery, Alabama. (62-30218)

Sullivan was quoted in the "Alabama Journal" of May 20, 1961, as stating in reply to an inquiry as to why there had been no special detail at the bus depot when the bus containing the "Freedom Riders" arrived, "We had no requests." He was questioned as to any knowledge he may have had that the bus was en route to Montgomery and was quoted as stating, "We have been on stand-by all week. We've had all these rumors." (u)

The "Washington Post and Times Herald" of May 21, 1961, carried numerous articles on the current mob attack by white men on the mixed group of "Freedom Riders" at Montgomery, Alabama. Mr. John Seigenthaler, an Administrative Assistant to the Attorney General, was mercilessly beaten and his unconscious body was not found until the crowd cleared. A reporter asked Police Commissioner L. B. Sullivan why an ambulance was not called for Mr. Seigenthaler and James Zwerg, who was the only white youth among the "Freedom Riders." Sullivan advised "every white ambulance in town reports their vehicles have broken down." (u)

[redacted] b7C

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On September 5, 1952, it was reported that [redacted] was the originator and [redacted] Party which was first formed in 1945. It was also reported that [redacted] on the ticket of the Christian Anti-Jewish Party. U

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On October 13, 1958, [redacted] was again interviewed and advised that he had been harassed by the FBI and the Atlanta Police Department over a long period of time. He said that the Director in his book "Masters of Deceit" had "backed down" before the Anti-Defamation League. During the interview, [redacted] attacked the Jewish people and expressed the opinion that he was being interviewed only because he had been named by the Anti-Defamation League as a suspect in recent bombings in the South. He denied any connection with these bombings. U

The October 2, 1959, issue of the "Chronicle," a Jacksonville, Florida, weekly newspaper, carried an article captioned "Want Crommelin For President." This article announced that the NSRP, an extreme right-wing organization founded in 1957, would sponsor a public rally in Jacksonville on October 11, 1959. The article went on to state that the purpose of the meeting, according to Atlanta Attorney J. B. Stoner, legal adviser to the NSRP, would be to stop race mixing in Florida. The article continued that Stoner was reported to have stated that an effort would be made to get the party on the national ballot in 1960 and elect Admiral John C. Crommelin of Alabama, a segregationist, to the Office of President of the United States. U

An informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised [redacted] of [redacted] on the night of [redacted] when [redacted] stated his biggest ambition was to have the Director removed from his office and to have the FBI abolished. He said he would do anything he could to accomplish his desire declaring that the American people do not realize how dangerous the Director is. With respect to a forthcoming issue of "The Thunderbolt," organ of the NSRP, [redacted] declared that "they" ("they" apparently refers to the FBI) are trying to get the article which relates to alleged homosexual tendencies on the part of the Director. [redacted] stated that they have to watch the stuff they print because if they print it in full stating all of the facts, it would do more harm than good. [redacted] did not explain this further U

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[redacted] b7C

except to state that by printing certain items which have a bearing upon this they would be able to read between the lines and infer from the article that the Director has such tendencies. u

Additional information in Bureau files reveals that at a NSRP convention held in Warren County, Ohio, in March, 1960, Stoner in a speech referred to the Director as "the biggest fraud ever perpetrated on the American people. He's a criminal and I'll not only say it here, I'll say it anywhere else. I'll put it in writing and spread it all over the country and I'll stand by it." Regarding the Bureau, he said in part, "I don't want to take up too much time on the FBI and I hate to have to waste a single word about them. They're no good and if it weren't for these gangsters, we would not have any integration in the South." u

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Bureau files reveal that [redacted] anti-Semitic segregationist, was the recipient during March, 1960, of much propaganda during his confinement at the Davidson County Workhouse, Nashville, Tennessee. Among the material sent him was a publication entitled, "The Klan Bulletin," a publication of the Christian Knights of the KKK, whose editor was shown as Stoner. This publication contained anti-Semitic and anti-integration material. u

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On [redacted] an informant advised that a rally of the KKK was held on [redacted] at the race [redacted] was introduced at the rally as the Imperial Wizard, Christian Knights of the KKK. His talk on that evening concerned the Negro situation and the desire of the Klan to preserve segregation. He advocated economic pressure be applied to Negroes and force them to move North. u

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On September 7, 1960, [redacted] appeared at the Knoxville Office of the Bureau and complained that he was being harassed and followed by FBI Agents. He stated that Agents were interfering with his "political activity." He became highly abusive of the FBI and all FBI personnel. He referred to the FBI personnel as dirty crooks, became incoherent in his remarks and appeared to be in a highly emotional state bordering on the hysterical. He departed from the Bureau's office repeating abusive language. u

[redacted] b7C

The NSRP during November 26-27, 1960, held a convention in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where [redacted] as keynoter led off with a vitriolic attack on the Director and the FBI. u b7C

On November 4, 1960, [redacted] appeared at a States Rights rally at England, Arkansas, where he made a speech in which he criticized the FBI as aiding communists and integration. u b7C

On February 17, 1961, [redacted] was observed at a meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, of the "Georgians Unwilling to Surrender" handing out copies of the February, 1961, issue of "The Thunderbolt." (157-97; 105-55211) u b7C

Memorandum

TO : MR. A. ROSEN **CONFIDENTIAL** DATE: May 22, 1961

FROM : MR. G. H. SCATTERDAY

DECLASSIFIED BY 3042 PWT/SPS
ON 9/13/88 Gm/10/11/88 b7C

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
RALPH D. ABERNATHY;
[REDACTED]

Classified by SP8 BT/Bury
Declassify on: OADR
10/31/87
TOP SECRET

CLASSIFIED AND
EXTENDED BY SP8 BT/Bury
REASON FOR EXTENSION
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR
DECLASSIFICATION 5/22/81

Pursuant to the Director's request 5-21-61, Bureau files have been reviewed concerning the captioned individuals. There are attached detailed summary memoranda concerning each of the five individuals. Briefly, our files show the following:

[REDACTED] attended National Academy following no derogatory investigation in 1954. Has been friendly and cooperative with the Bureau subsequent thereto. Although Bureau pointed out number of individuals who were members of the Montgomery Police Reserve as active or past members of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), [REDACTED] not considered to have any sympathy for ideals or objectives of Klan. [REDACTED] has been subject of harassment by reason of his strict enforcement of no-violence edict in connection with racial matters.

One informant advised of conversation by a member of the KKK with [REDACTED] who purportedly stated if police were unable to keep Negroes from marching at the State Capitol he would "turn them over to you all," meaning the Klan. Bureau investigated civil rights case when newspaper stated Montgomery Police were present at the striking of Negro woman. [REDACTED] denied police observed the incident. Victim did not prosecute and saw no police.

On 5-20-61 in reply to inquiry as to why there had been no special detail at bus depot to meet "Freedom Riders," [REDACTED] said "We had no requests." Yesterday's news accounts of the mob violence in Montgomery indicate Department official beaten and reporter asked [REDACTED] why an ambulance was not called. He stated "Every white ambulance in town reports their vehicles have broken down."

[REDACTED] a 37-year-old Atlanta attorney, is extremely anti-Negro and anti-Semitic and most active in the National States Rights Party (NSRP). NSRP, a pro-segregation group, was founded in 1957.

- 1 - Mr. Parsons
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Name Check Section
- 1 - Mr. Brown

JWB:WFW:GHM:WHJ:FK:fjb

17 JUN 2 1961

Classified by 4875
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

CONFIDENTIAL TOP SECRET

Tolson
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

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157-286-
157-97

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-9-96 BY SSA9803 RDD/cag

ENCLOSURE

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen
RE: LESTER B. SULLIVAN, et al.

~~TOP SECRET~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7C

[] was allegedly at the Trailways Bus Station in Birmingham, Alabama, on 5-14-61 in company with [] an officer in the NSRP, when violence broke out with the "Freedom Riders." U

b7C

[] has not been the subject of an investigation but his activity in racial matters has been closely followed and surveilled. He is reportedly surveillance conscious and has threatened to shoot any Agent who surveils him. U

[] has admitted membership in the Ku Klux Klan and has held the titles of Imperial Wizard and Exalted Cyclops. In connection with his KKK activity, [] furnished propaganda material relating to the KKK to Frederick Kasper, Jr., an anti-Semitic segregationist, when Kasper was serving time in Nashville, Tennessee, during 1960. U

b7C

In numerous speeches and articles in "The Thunderbolt," organ of the NSRP, [] has viciously attacked the Director personally and the Bureau generally. He is extremely anti-FBI and has stated the Director is the "biggest fraud perpetrated on the American people." [] claimed the FBI attempted to get an issue of "The Thunderbolt" which related to alleged homosexual tendencies on the part of the Director. U

b7C

In 1946, [] ran for Congress in Tennessee on the ticket of the Christian Anti-Jewish Party, an anti-Negro and anti-Jewish organization. U

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., prominent integrationist who led bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama, and "sit-in demonstrations," has been associated with National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Congress of Racial Equality. King has not been investigated by the FBI. U

Bureau files reveal: King thanked Socialist Workers Party (cited by Attorney General) for support of bus boycott; attended meetings of Progressive Party (cited by Subcommittee of Senate Judiciary Committee); and was honorary chairman of Young Socialist League campaign on behalf of victims of racist terror. U

King in 1950's mentioned as potential victim of assassination plot and in 1957 attended Communist Party training school seminar and reportedly gave closing speech. King President of [] U

See me have more details

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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DATE 10/21/87 BY SP803/bur

8-9-96

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100-225892-4-19

100-225892-33-25

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mt-258

REC- 41

EX- 105

The Attorney General

Director, FBI

June 2, 1961

**FREEDOM RIDE 1961
RACIAL MATTERS**

An interesting item which has been developed during the incarceration of freedom riders in Hinds County Jail, Mississippi, has come to our attention. U

[redacted] as part of his duties censors outgoing mail of prisoners. [redacted] has advised that one of the male freedom riders, whom he did not identify, wrote to a relative saying in effect, "I have been picking cotton in 95 degree weather with a bowling ball on my leg and shotgun at my back. This is some way to spend a vacation." U

[redacted] has advised that no freedom rider had been working outside while at the county farm, and all had been confined to cells during their incarceration. U

One of the freedom riders referred to local authorities in a letter mentioning, "These crackers are bending over backwards to accommodate us." U

1 - Mr. Byron E. White
Deputy Attorney General

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Burke Marshall

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

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Tolson
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62 JUN 7 1961

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Parsons *APR*

DATE: May 29, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen *John*

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

Congress of Racial Equality

Tolson ☒
 Parsons ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Callahan ☒
 Conrad ☒
 DeLoach ☒
 Evans ☒
 Malone ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Tavel ☒
 Trotter ☒
 W.C. Sullivan ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Ingram ☒
 Gandy ☒

The Director has inquired concerning three items in memorandum A. Rosen to Mr. Parsons dated 5/26/61. Item one pertains to a statement that the Assistant U.S. Attorney, who is handling the burning of the Greyhound bus at Anniston, Alabama, believed the arrests of four individuals may have been premature. The Director desired to know why. *u*

It should be noted that the complaints were filed and the four arrests were made at the specific request of the Department. *u*

SAC Jenkins had been discussing the prosecution of the four subjects with Assistant U. S. Attorney R. Macey Taylor. Taylor believed that the arrests may have been premature in that if the matter had been presented to him on the evidence available, he probably would not have authorized prosecution. He was aware that the investigation was continuing on the part of the Bureau and said he would have preferred waiting for the completion of the investigation. *u*

The other two items the Director inquired into were concerning the additional Agent personnel sent into Mississippi and Montgomery, Alabama on special assignment. The Director inquired as to the release of these men to return to their own headquarters. *u*

As of 5/29/61 all Agents who were on special assignment in Mississippi and in Montgomery, Alabama, have returned to their respective offices. *u*

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Evans

RBL:ers
(8)

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DATE 5/9/79 BY SP-6SK/SM

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100-225892-369

17 JUN 2 1961

The Attorney General

Director, FBI

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-9-96 BY SSA9803RDD/CAL
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ON 5/9/89

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FREEDOM RIDE 1961

RACIAL MATTERS; DESTRUCTION OF
AIRCRAFT OR MOTOR VEHICLES; CIVIL RIGHTS

Mark Lane, a member of the New York State Legislature, and Percy Sutton, President of the New York Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), arrived in Jackson, Mississippi, by airplane on June 6, 1961. U

Lane and Sutton entered the white men's rest room at the airport and were told by the police to move on. They then entered the waiting room and were again told to move on whereupon one of them reportedly said, "We are going to sit down. We are interstate passengers." They were then placed under arrest for breach of the peace. U

"The New York Times" on June 6, 1961, carried an article which stated in part: U

"Assemblyman Mark Lane and Percy Sutton, President of the Manhattan Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said yesterday they would leave tonight to investigate the arrests of freedom riders in Alabama and Mississippi. They plan to offer assistance as lawyers." U

Nine freedom riders arrived in Jackson from New Orleans by train on June 8, 1961, and were arrested without incident when they entered the white waiting room. U

The eleven individuals mentioned above and ten freedom riders, who were previously arrested, were convicted of breach of the peace at Jackson, Mississippi, on June 8, 1961. Each was sentenced to four months in prison which was suspended and each was fined \$200. U

NOT RECORDED

145 JUN 13 1961 See note on page 4.

CONFIDENTIAL

19 JUN 13 1961

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
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Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Sullivan

WLM:ers (16)

62 JUN 14 1961

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Attorney General

Gallison alleged that various leaders of CONE have records of communist association. u

Gallison urged his listeners to stay within the law but to fight to preserve the Southern heritage and he said, "We must not allow ourselves to be drawn into violence." u

[redacted] b7C
Montgomery, Alabama, informed the Citizens Council rally that Montgomery is a target of Russian communists because Montgomery is a symbol of Southern traditions. [redacted] stated, "Our heritage in the South is sacred and must not be surrendered." u

We will continue to advise the Department promptly of pertinent developments. u

- 1 - Mr. Byron B. White
Deputy Attorney General
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
Durke Marshall
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
Herbert J. Miller, Jr.
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
J. Walter Yeagley

NOTE: This memo is classified "Confidential" because it contains information from informants whose exposure would adversely affect the defense interests of the U. S.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Attorney General

have placed an undue burden on interstate commerce. He said that if the FBI cannot conduct this investigation he plans to ask the court to issue an order instructing that the FBI investigate. U

U. S. Attorney Hartwell Davis, with whom [] had previously^{b7C} spoken, has advised that he knows of no regulation, obligation or precedent which would require the FBI to conduct such an investigation and he does not feel that the FBI has any responsibility to conduct such an investigation. Mr. Davis had referred [] to the FBI because of the possibility that the FBI might have some authority or obligation with which he was not familiar. U

[] request was discussed with Assistant Attorney General Burke Marshall by Mr. Rosen of the FBI. Mr. Marshall expressed the opinion that it was the responsibility of [] to produce whatever evidence he has to support the allegation that freedom riders interfere with interstate commerce. He said that no investigation should be conducted by the FBI but that if [] has any further questions he may contact Mr. Marshall or U. S. Attorney Davis. [] has been so advised. U^{b7C}

The Montgomery County Citizens Council held a public rally on the evening of June 3, 1961. The Attorney General was called a traitor by Carl Herbert Lancaster, Chairman of the Council, who said that the Attorney General worked behind the scenes to get Southerners to "accept integration or else." U

MacDonald Gallion, Attorney General for the State of Alabama, was the principal speaker at the rally. He read what was purported to be a verbatim transcript of a telephone conversation between the Attorney General and George C. Cruik, Manager of the Greyhound bus station, Birmingham, Alabama, on May 15, 1961. Gallion said that the Attorney General ordered Federal Marshals to invade Alabama against the overwhelming wishes of the citizens and with "wanton disregard for state sovereignty and state laws." He added that this was uncalled for, unnecessary and was "simply political propaganda." U

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: **June 2, 1961**

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: **FREEBUS**

CORE

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
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Sullivan _____
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Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

Mr. Rosen telephonically advised from Montgomery that the group of freedom riders scheduled to depart at 7:00 A. M. this morning had actually left by Trailways bus at 7:35 A. M. for Jackson, Mississippi. He stated the delay was entirely one due to the running of the bus and not as the result of any incident at the bus station. There were 7 freedom riders on this bus, 4 Negroes and 3 whites. ||

The riders tested the facilities at the bus station in Montgomery by purchasing magazines and newspapers and two of the women in the group used the white rest room. There were approximately 5 individuals who came to the bus station to see the freedom riders off. There were photographers at the bus terminal. Also present were Alabama State Police, representatives of the Sheriff's Office, and Montgomery City Police. U

Mr. Rosen advised there was another bus scheduled to depart at 11:30 A. M. He advised that the Resident Agents at Jackson, Mississippi, had been informed concerning the departure of the bus at 7:35 A. M. in order that they might notify proper authorities in Jackson. //

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

JRM:jh
(9)

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DATE 1/9/09 BY SP-1 GSK
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155 JUN 8 1961

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Attorney General

A group of five freedom riders left Nashville, Tennessee, by train on the evening of June 8, 1961, en route to Jackson, Mississippi. They changed trains at Birmingham, Alabama, traveling from one station to another but did not test the facilities at Birmingham and no incident occurred. They arrived at Jackson, Mississippi, at 5:30 a. m. (Central Standard Time), June 9, 1961, and were arrested without incident when they tested the facilities. U

b7C

[redacted] contacted the Chicago Office of the FBI on June 8, 1961, and stated that she is the representative of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and is associated with a training school for freedom riders in Chicago. She related that eight freedom riders were to leave Chicago by train at 7:45 p. m., June 8, 1961, to arrive in New Orleans at 4:45 p. m., June 9, 1961. Transportation by bus from New Orleans to Jackson, Mississippi, will be arranged by CORE. U

b7C

[redacted] inquired as to whether the FBI would give clearance to the freedom riders as CORE did not wish to have a freedom rider who was subversive or had a criminal record. The confidential nature of FBI files was explained to her. U

b7C

Among the names submitted by [redacted] as having volunteered to engage in the freedom ride was [redacted] a white female, 21 years of age. It was reported in April, 1960, that [redacted] was a member of the Communist Party. U

Information has been received that at least five and possibly twelve freedom riders will leave Minneapolis by Greyhound bus on June 9, 1961, en route to Nashville, Tennessee. At Nashville they will be briefed by CORE and then will proceed to Jackson, Mississippi. This group includes several individuals who are connected with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, one of whom is associated with the Socialist Workers Party. U

b7C

On June 8, 1961, [redacted] an attorney representing the city of Montgomery, advised that he had been designated by U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr., to prepare a third party case against CORE and the other organizations and individuals listed in the temporary injunction against freedom riding in Alabama. [redacted] requested that the FBI conduct investigation to assist him in establishing that the freedom rides U

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : The Director

DATE: MAY 23, 1961

FROM : N. P. Callahan

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

⁰
FREEDOM RIDE 1961

Page 7963. Senator Humphrey, (D) Minnesota, spoke in connection with the present situation in Alabama. He stated "I join the majority leader and as I am sure, the vast majority of the American people do in commanding the Attorney General—who is acting as the chief law-enforcement official of our country, and, of course, is acting in the name of the President of the United States—for his efforts to bring law and order to the area which has been afflicted with violence and disorder."

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DATE 5/9/77 BY SP-1/GSK

10/21/87 SP8R3/Burp
8-9-96 SSA9803RDD/CAL

100-225892-291,829

NOT RECORDED
202 JUN 6 1961

Original filed in: 66-1731-1963

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for MAY 22, 1961 was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed in appropriate Bureau case or subject matter files.

57 JUN 9 1961

UNITED STATES

Memorandum

TO : The Director

DATE: MAY 23, 1961

FROM : N. P. Callahan

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

0
FREEDOM RIDE 1961

Page 8000. Congressman Halpern, (R) New York, spoke concerning the recent happenings in Alabama and civil rights. Mr. Halpern stated "Alabama is a State of the United States and is not a part of Cuba or Communist China. Ours is a government of laws and I therefore urge the President to place the full powers of his administration behind the speedy enactment of legislation which will empower the Federal Government to take prompt, constitutional action, to deal effectively with any and all threats to the civil rights of the U. S. citizens anywhere in the Nation."

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DATE *5/9/79* BY *SP-1084*

10/21/87

SP-1084

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100-225892-

NOT RECORDED

102 JUN 6 1961

50 JUN 9 1961

Original file # 66-1731-178

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for *MAY 23, 1961* was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed in appropriate Bureau case or-subject matter files.

UNITED STATES

Memorandum

TO : The Director

DATE: MAY 23, 1961

FROM : N. P. Callahan

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

FREEDOM RIDE 1961

Page 7927. Senator Keating, (R) New York, spoke concerning the violence in Alabama. He stated "I commend Attorney General Kennedy for his bold response to this ugly situation. No other course was open to him but to invoke whatever Federal authority existed to cope with this situation. This is not an invasion of States' rights. There is a national responsibility to uphold the Constitution and to safeguard travel by interstate facilities."

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1100-225892-
NOT RECORDED
102 JUN 6 1961

Original filed in: 66-1131-1961

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for MAY 23, 1961 was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed in appropriate Bureau case or subject matter files.

57 JUN 9 1961

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : The Director

DATE: MAY 31, 1961

FROM : N. P. Callahan

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

⁰
FREEDOM RIDE 1961

Page 8591. Congressman Lindsay, (R) New York, spoke concerning action taken by the Federal Government in sending Federal officers into Alabama. Mr. Lindsay stated "I stand firmly in support of the action taken by the Federal Government to meet this disgraceful situation. It is now doubly clear, however, that we must have new legislation arming the Attorney General with the legal tools necessary to initiate court actions where civil rights have been violated. - - - There must be no doubt or equivocation, as there is now, about the authority of the Federal Government with respect to all constitutionally protected rights."

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DATE 5/9/79 BY SP-16SKA
10/2/87 SP-16SKA

8-9-96 SSA 9803RDD/CLC
1/00-225872-291829

NOT RECORDED
102 JUN 7 1961

Original filed in: 66-1771-1968

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for MAY 29, 1961 was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed in appropriate Bureau case or subject matter files.

55 JUN 13 1961

June 5, 1961

Airtel

To: SAC, New York

From: Director, FBI

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY
"Freedom Riders" - Jackson, Mississippi
CIVIL RIGHTS

Rerep SA [redacted] at New York dated 5/29/61. *u*

Rerep sets forth signed statement furnished by [redacted]
re incidents which occurred at Jackson, Mississippi, 5/24/61. *u*

The last paragraph page six and the first line page seven rerep
contain statement, "Also, at no time did I observe any person or persons." *u*

It would appear that part of this sentence was inadvertently
omitted in rerep. *u*

New York should immediately advise whether such was the case,
and submit clarifying data. Expedite as dissemination rerep being held
in abeyance pending receipt of your reply. *u*

JGK:ers
(4)

10121187 SP8156/ky
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B-9-96 291,829
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19 JUN 6-1961

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62 JUN 8 1961

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100-225892-372

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100-225892-4-20

100-225892-4-20

mt-48

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Parsons

DATE: June 1, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

Tolson _____
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 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 DeLoach _____
 Evans _____
 Malone _____
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 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 W.C. Sullivan _____
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 DATE 5/9/09 BY SP-1 GSK/bp
 10/21/87 SP8 BT/BW

At the injunction hearing in Montgomery, Alabama, on 5/31/61

b7C

[redacted] of the Department was called as a defense witness. U

[redacted] was questioned as to where he had obtained the names of Reverend Abernathy, [redacted] and the freedom riders, which were found near him at the time when he was assaulted. He testified he had received them from [redacted], one of the coordinators of the freedom rides, on 5/18/61. U

b7C

[redacted] testified that the information he received from [redacted] had been given to the FBI at Birmingham. He also said he had received information concerning the freedom riders but not directly from the FBI. He obtained this from the Department of Justice to whom the FBI had reported. U

b7C

Defense attorneys attempted to create the impression that the Department of Justice was behind the freedom riders. It appeared that they were unsuccessful. U

Upon questioning by the defense, [redacted] said he had talked to [redacted] and [redacted] national representative of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) but had only talked to them concerning the burning of the bus at Anniston, Alabama. U

b7C

[redacted] testified concerning a call which he received from the Attorney General at the time that the freedom riders were stranded in Birmingham because no bus driver would drive their bus. U

b7C

[redacted] related that he told the Attorney General he could not get a driver and the Attorney General suggested that he get a Negro bus driver. [redacted] informed the Attorney General that he could not trust such a driver with his equipment. The Attorney General then inquired as to the identity of the drivers' union and [redacted] identified it as the amalgamated union. U

1 - Mr. Mohr

1 - Mr. Belmont

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Evans

WLM:ers (10)

50 JUN 12 1961

25 JUN 7 1961

REC-66/00-225892-373

Memorandum for Mr. Parsons

b7C

[] further testified that the Attorney General said the Government would be upset if the freedom riders did not get on the bus and added that the freedom riders were traveling in interstate commerce and [] had better get someone to drive them. [] also testified that the Attorney General said that the Government had too much invested in the freedom riders and remarked that the Government would be upset if they did not move on. U

b7C

The defense attempted to give the impression that the Attorney General was discourteous in his conversation with []. However, [] upon cross-examination, inquired into this and [] said that the Attorney General was not discourteous. U

According to [] his conversation with the Attorney General took place at 3:15 p. m., 5/15/61. U

Rosen
CLM/ers
✓
How
W. H.
L
P

ADDENDUM: (CLM:ers 6/1/61)

b7C

Mr. Rosen has advised that [] testified with regard to the notes which had been found near his body that some of the notes had been obtained from [] and this information had been passed on to the FBI at Birmingham.* Some of the notes were furnished to him by the Department of Justice who had obtained the information from the FBI. [] did not state he was collecting names for the FBI and he was never requested to collect names for the FBI. U

Chen
Rosen
W. H.
P

b7C

[] DID FURNISH SUCH INFORMATION TO F.B.I. IN BIRMINGHAM THROUGH SAC IN NEW ORLEANS. U

8-12-96 SSA98032DD/usc
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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U. S. Judge Refuses to Enjoin Police or Klan in Alabama

By Elsie M. Carper

Staff Reporter

MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 31 — Federal Court Judge Frank M. Johnson today dismissed proceedings against two Birmingham police officials and a Ku Klux Klan organization in connection with beatings of "Freedom Riders."

Discharged from the hearings—called on a Justice Department request for an injunction to prevent interference with interstate commerce by Klan organizations and police—were Birmingham Police Commissioner Eugene (Bull) Connor, Birmingham Police Chief Jamie Moore and the Federated Ku Klux Klan and its Grand Wizard, Lester C. Hawkins.

Renewing Defendants

However, Montgomery Police Commissioner L. B. Sullivan, Police Chief G. K. Ruppenhal and two other Klan organizations, the Alabama Klan and the U. S. Klan and their Grand Wizards, still remain as defendants.

The Judge told the city officials that while they were dismissed from this hearing, they were not dismissed from the case. The Justice Department can bring them back if further incidents take place, he explained.

Once again the court heard that Montgomery Police were notified by the Alabama State Highway Patrol when the bus carrying Freedom Riders was a few miles outside the city, but the police were off guard when the bus pulled into the station.

Justice Department aide John Seigenthaler, who was knocked unconscious in a Montgomery street during the bus station riot, was called as a defense witness by Montgomery officials.

Federal Interference?

Calvin Whitesell, Assistant City Attorney, produced a packet of notes that Seigenthaler had lost from his pocket when he was assaulted while trying to rescue two white girls from the mob.

The notes listed the names of Freedom Riders and the telephone numbers of Negro leaders in the Alabama desegregation movement. Seigenthaler explained he collected the names for the FBI.

Whitesell made it clear that he plans to show that the Federal Government has sent Freedom Riders into the South.

At the conclusion of today's hearings, he asked the court

ENCLOSURE

REC- 66

100-225892-373

25 JUN 7 1961

The Washington Post and Times Herald _____
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star _____
New York Herald Tribune _____
New York Journal-American _____
New York Mirror _____
New York Daily News _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
Date _____

Is this true?

Addressed and
Mailed
10/1/61
Cm: 200

JUN 1 1961

to issue a restraining order to keep four organizations that have sponsored Freedom Riders from interfering with interstate commerce.

They are the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Nashville Student Nonviolent Movement and the Montgomery Jail Association. The latter organization is made up of Freedom Riders and Negroes jailed in Montgomery for desegregation activities.

Whitesell read from the transcript of a telephone conversation that Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy had with George E. Cruett, superintendent of the Greyhound Lines in Birmingham, after Greyhound reported it was unable to find a bus driver who would bring the Freedom Riders to Montgomery. Cruett said his secretary made the transcript while he talked with Kennedy.

Cruett first testified from his transcript, and then White-

sell read a section. Kennedy was quoted as saying that the Freedom Riders were entitled to travel by Greyhound, and if the bus company couldn't get a white driver to take them, then it should try to find a Negro driver.

When told that Greyhound didn't have a Negro driver, Kennedy was reported to have said, "Hell, you can look for one, can't you?" He also was quoted as telling Cruett that "You better get in touch with Mr. Greyhound . . . and get an answer to the problem. The Government is going to be upset if they don't get to continue the trip."

Assurance Given

Seigenthaler, who was in Alabama at the request of Gov. John Patterson to discuss the safety of the Freedom Riders, said that Patterson made a call to the president of Greyhound in his presence and said that the bus carrying the riders would be protected.

Floyd Mann, who heads the

Alabama Highway Patrol, testified that 16 Patrol cars and 32 men guarded the bus between Birmingham and the outskirts of Montgomery and an airplane provided protection overhead.

Montgomery Police Commissioner Sullivan was alerted when the bus passed through Prattville, about 18 miles from the city limits, Mann said. State Police were offered to Sullivan if he needed them.

Assistant Montgomery Police Chief Marvin Stanley said no police were stationed at the bus terminal since there was no reason to believe there would be violence.

Judge Johnson asked the police officer if he had heard of the bus burning in Anniston and what took place at Birmingham. Stanley replied that he did not think the people of Montgomery would do that. He said police were dispatched immediately after the call came in that there was trouble at the station.

Justice for All At This Court In Alabama

Freedom Ride Judge Dominates His Bench

By Stuart H. Loory

MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 31.—Federal Judge Frank Minis Johnson Jr. looks every inch the Southern gentleman. Tall, erect (they call him "Straight-edge"), well groomed, he has a habit of standing at the bar, pouring himself a drink from a thermos-pitcher and folding one arm behind his back as he carefully lifts the glass to his lips.

The glass is filled with water and the bar is the bar of justice in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama. While Judge Johnson goes through this ritual, lawyers are arguing the merits of their case before him.

The Freedom Rides

Now Judge Johnson is hearing a complicated set of law suits arising out of the Freedom Rides through Alabama. The Justice Department has asked him to enjoin the Ku-Klux Klan and two Montgomery individuals from interfering with interstate bus transportation, from conspiring to interfere with it or for wreaking any violence that could obstruct it. It has also asked him to enjoin the police departments of Birmingham and Montgomery from failing to protect interstate buses and passengers, including Freedom Riders.

Meanwhile, seventeen Negro leaders and Freedom Riders have asked him to enjoin state, county and local officials from enforcing state or local segregation laws to deny Negroes use of all facilities on interstate routes.

The problems are knotty but that is nothing new to Judge Johnson, and he attacks them in a manner that would do credit to Solomon. He does not preside over a courtroom, he dominates it. While on the bench, he keeps his face twisted into a perpetual scowl. He never cracks a smile. He never wastes a minute. At the end of a recess, even before he takes his seat, he orders the lawyer presenting his case:

"Call your next witness," and by the time the judge is in his chair, the witness is in his.

Bars Sarcasm

When a Ku-Klux Klan lawyer the other day sought to belittle a Negro witness by sarcastically asking whether the witness had been ordered by the person who gave him \$2 "not to spend it all in one place," the judge snapped: "We don't have time for questions like that."

Then, when the witness turned reluctant, the judge, a sharp edge on his voice, commanded: "You answer these questions quickly or I'm going to put you right back there in jail."

Later, he did send a witness, who pleaded the Fifth Amendment rather than admit Klan affiliations, to jail briefly.

No one enters or leaves Judge Johnson's courtroom while a witness is testifying. No one talks. Lawyers' objections are sustained or overruled immediately.

Judge Johnson wears no robes in court. Instead he dresses in a dark suit, white shirt and black tie. "That's my preference," he explains with just the barest trace of a smile (which he allows himself in his chambers). "Robes are used to preserve dignity and decorum in a court room. I don't think I need them."

Judge Johnson's penchant for justice can be devastating to attorneys, politicians and juries of the Deep South, who are not always given to justice where the Negro is concerned.

When the state Legislature redesigned the city of Tuskegee to cut all but four of the 400 registered Negro voters off the rolls, the judge held the act unconstitutional. Tuskegee before the new boundaries were drawn was essentially a ware-shed, containing

Tolson _____
Parsons _____
Mohr _____
Belmont _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/9/79 BY SP-13SK/

8-12-96
SSA 9803 RDD/csl
291.829

The Washington Post and
Times Herald
The Washington Daily News
The Evening Star
New York Herald Tribune 13
New York Journal-American
New York Mirror
New York Daily News
New York Post
The New York Times
The Worker
The New Leader
The Wall Street Journal
Date _____

JUN 1 1961

100-225892-373

ENCLOSURE

397 Negroes (400 voters) and 1,310 whites (600 voters).

When the Legislature finished the new map, Tuskegee's boundaries had twenty-eight sides and none of the white voters had been excluded. The act was a violation of the Fifteenth Amendment, which forbids abridgment of voting rights on the basis of race, color or previous conditions of services. Judge Johnson ruled last February.

When a jury convicted four Negroes of stealing peanuts from a Commodity Credit Corporation warehouse but failed to convict the white man who enlisted them for the job whose truck was used and who worked with the Negroes in the burglary, Judge Johnson sentenced the Negroes to thirty minutes in the custody of a Federal marshal—enough time to get their things out of the jailhouse.

Recently he ruled that all parties to civil rights cases in his district must be represented by lawyers practicing in the Middle District. The reason: He wants attorneys fighting these important cases to have a "personal knowledge of social as well as legal problems" of the district. The ruling was aimed primarily at the government which had been sending lawyers in from Washington to handle civil rights cases.

Several local attorneys, it was reported, turned down appointment to the position of United States Attorney here after the ruling.

In 1959, the Senate Appropriations Committee found that justice was done more quickly in Judge Johnson's district than anywhere else in the country. The average time from filing a complaint to disposition of the case in the Middle District was 4.7 months, compared with the national average of 13.9 months and the 49.9 months it took in New York's Eastern District, where the case-load per judge was not significantly heavier.

Served in War II

Judge Johnson was born in Haleyville, Ala., and educated at the Gulf Coast Military Academy in Gulfport, Miss. He was graduated from Massey Business College in Birmingham and from the University of Alabama Law School in 1943. His father was a probate judge. He opened a practice in Jasper, Ala. then went off to fight in World War II. He entered the Army as a private and was separated as a captain in 1946.

In 1953 at the age of thirty-four, he was appointed United States Attorney by President Eisenhower. As a Republican, he represents a rare political species in Alabama. Pictures of the former President still hang in his chambers.

"I have a great deal of respect for President Kennedy," he said. "I just haven't gotten around to putting up any pictures yet."

In 1955, President Eisenhower appointed him a judge and he walked right into the segregation question here. As a member of the three-judge panel, he ruled in the following year that segregation of the municipal buses in Montgomery was unconstitutional. In 1957, a cross was burned on his lawn. He kept the incident secret until two teenagers were apprehended. He said the incident was nothing more serious than a prank and now refuses to admit to threatening acts against him.

His hobbies are fishing and "mediccer golf." He is married to the former Ruth Jenkins of Haleyville. They have a son, James Curtis, a teenager.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Director
TO : Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: May 26, 1961

Burke Marshall
FROM : Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

BM:JLM:11h 7807

144-1-554

SUBJECT: CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY
"FREEDOM RIDE 1961"

This will confirm telephoned request to Special Agent [redacted] by [redacted] of this Division.

b7C

A telephone call was received from [redacted] telephone [redacted] today from Jackson, Mississippi. [redacted] advised that he was an eyewitness to the incidents that took place in the Trailways Bus Terminal on May 23, 1961, when the first bus load of "Freedom Riders" arrived there. Please interview [redacted] in regard to what he observed at that time.

b7C

[redacted] may be reached at home, address noted above, or at [redacted] North State Street, Jackson, Mississippi, telephone [redacted] or at the Baptist Hospital, Jackson, where [redacted] is about to undergo an operation. [redacted] advised he would have no objection to being interviewed by the FBI and would furnish a statement recounting the events he witnessed at the Trailways Bus Terminal on May 23.

b7C

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-12-96 BY SSA9803RDD/CL

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b7C

Interview oral
report sent to New Orleans
6/28/61 "Freedom Riders, 1961"
DAMU, CR
REC-23
100-225892-374
MAY 31 1961
MAY 31 1961
63 JUN 8 1961
Rose
Mc

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont *HB*

DATE: 6-15-61

FROM : A. Rosen *Rosen*

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

Tolson ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Callahan ☒
 Conrad ☒
 DeLoach ☒
 Evans ☒
 Malone ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Sullivan ☒
 Tavel ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Ingram ☒
 Gandy ☒

SAC Maynor, New Orleans, advised today that the following information had been received from [redacted] Jackson, Mississippi, Police department. *u*

[redacted] had been informed that eight white freedom rider prisoners remaining in the city jail at Jackson told officers of the Jackson Police Department that officials of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) are planning to meet with Attorney General Kennedy on 6-16-61 and that the Attorney General is going to get them out of jail. [redacted] does not know the source of the prisoner's information. *u*

JCT:vhm
 (6) *vhm*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE *5/9/89* BY *SP-10/CK/*
10/21/87

8-12-96 SSA9803RDD/KC
 291,829

100-225892

NOT RECORDED
145 JUN 21 1961

5 JUN 20 1961

XEROX
 JUN 21 1961
 63 JUN 26 1961

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 157-387-250

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Rosen *RW*

DATE: 6/3/61

FROM : C. L. McGowan

SUBJECT: FREEDOM RIDE 1961
RACIAL MATTERS~~CONFIDENTIAL~~CLASSIFIED AND
EXTENDED BY *SP-1 CSK/bm 5/9/79*
REASON FOR EXTENSION
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR
DECLASSIFICATION *6/3/81*Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

b7C On 6/3/61, [] called to ask if we had any additional information on a meeting of freedom riders that is scheduled to take place in Chicago, Illinois, on 6/4/61. *U*

b7C [] stated that information concerning the meeting was furnished to the CIC at Chicago by the FBI on 6/2/61. He said the FBI further advised that five or six freedom riders who were involved in the trouble in Alabama will attend the meeting. It was also indicated that picket lines would be formed at the University of Chicago. *U*

b7C [] Chicago office informed him that the FBI in Chicago feels that new freedom rider groups will be formed in Chicago over the weekend and that social disturbances may erupt during or after the meeting. *U*

DECLASSIFIED BY *9803RDD/tac* Classified by *Bessy/bury*
JCT/jm ON *6-25-93* Declassify on: OADR

9:00 AM - EDST *(291,829)**10/24/87*

b7C [] duty agent, Chicago Field Division, requested to obtain information concerning the above matter and advise the Bureau by phone of pertinent details. *U*

9:50 AM - EDST

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *8-12-96* BY *SSA9803RDD/csl*

b7C SA [] Chicago, telephonically contacted the Bureau advising that information concerning the above matter was submitted to the Bureau by letterhead memorandum on Friday, June 2, 1961. [] was asked to give the pertinent information over the phone and to submit all details in a summary teletype. *U*

b7C [] advised that the Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights was sponsoring a freedom rider rally at 8:00 PM, June 5, 1961, at Hall C-1, 32 West Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois. *U*

FHF/jm
(4)

REC-74

JUN 7 1961

62 JUN 12 1961

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE*6-Ken*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen

Re: FREEDOM RIDE 1961

Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill
Richard Criley, executive secretary of this organization, is *Right*
to send printed announcements to approximately 3,500 individuals
on the organization's mailing list. This announcement will
offer free admission and promises the individuals attending
the story of the freedom riders and the future plans for
these groups to extend south of the "Magnolia Curtain". Richard
Criley is a member of the communist party of Illinois (X)u

A student committee is being formed to support the
freedom riders and is to stage a student demonstration from
6:30 PM to 8:00 PM, June 5, 1961 in front of 32 West Randolph
Street, Chicago, Illinois. This is a "one time" committee
of interested students attending the University of Chicago
and Roosevelt University. (X)u

7/1/61

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/07 BY SP5/Buy

8-12-96

291,829

SSA 9803RDD/CAL

100-225892-376,377,378

CHANGED TO

100-225892-32-31

100-225892-26-6

100-225892-3-19

NOV 14 1996

mt-70

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/21/87 BY SP8 BTJ/BWJ

8-12-96
291.829

SSA9803RDD/CAL

100-225892- 379X, 379X1, 379X2

CHANGED TO

100-225892-33-24

100-225892-28-2

100-225892-64-2

NOV 14 1966

mt - 8/2

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F B I

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Date: [5/23/61]

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT

(Type in plain text or code)

DECLASSIFIED BY 9803 RDD/TAC

ON 6-25-93

(291,849)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN

OTHERWISE

Via AIRTEL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-12-96 BY SA9803 RDD/TAC

DATE 8-12-96 BY SA9803 RDD/TAC

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (157-392)

SUBJECT: FREEDOM RIDE, 1961,
RACIAL MATTERS
DESTRUCTION OF AIRCRAFT OR
MOTOR VEHICLE; CIVIL RIGHTS
(OO: Mobile)

Agency H2 m/ m/ m/

Req. Rec'd

Date Forw. 5/29/61

How Forw. R/S

By R/S: jpt

Remytel, 5/22/61.

There are transmitted herewith 8 copies of a letterhead memorandum concerning a meeting of leading functionaries of the CPUSA, held in CP headquarters, NYC, on 5/22/61. (X)(u)

b2

The confidential source utilized was [redacted] (u)

b7D

This memorandum has been classified confidential because it contains information from a source, the unauthorized disclosure of which would seriously impair the investigation of the CPUSA and such impairment could have an adverse effect upon the national defense interests of the country. (u)

3-Bureau (157-) (Encl. 8) (RM)

1-Atlanta (Info) (Encl. 1) (RM)

1-Jacksonville (Info) (Encl. 1) (RM)

1-Miami (Info) (Encl. 1) (RM)

1-Mobile (Info) (Encl. 1) (RM)

1-Pittsburgh (Info) (Encl. 1) (RM)

1-San Antonio (Info) (Encl. 1) (RM)

1-New York (100-89691) (CPUSA - DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION ISSUES) (415)

1-New York (100-80641) (CPUSA - ORGANIZATION) (415)

1-New York (100-80640) (CPUSA - NEGRO QUESTION) (415)

1-New York (100-89590) (CPUSA - STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY) (415)

1-New York (100-80644) (CPUSA - YOUTH MATTERS) (415)

1-New York (100-84994) (GUS HALL) (415)

1-New York (100-16785) (JAMES C. JACKSON) (415)

1-New York (100-23825) (BEN DAVIS) (415)

1-New York (100-48033) (IRVING POTASH) (415)

1-New York (100-18065) (JACK STACHEL) (415)

1-New York (100-84275) (WILLIAM PATTERSON) (414)

1-New York (100-80532) (HERBERT APTHEKER) (415)

1-New York (100-95955) (WILF WEINSTONE) (415)

1-New York (157-392)

JAC:rmv

(24)

CONFIDENTIAL EX-116

16 MAY 24 1961

ENCLOSURE

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP(S) DATE 5-6-61

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY 100-225892-379
REASON FOR EXTENSION
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION

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Classified by SP8 [redacted]
Declassify on: OADR
10/21/87

100-225892-379

McGraw-Hill

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : The Director

DATE: MAY 26, 1961

FROM : N. P. Callahan

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

Pages 8349-8353. Senator Eastland, (D) Mississippi, spoke concerning activities in the Southern States, the freedom riders, the organization known as the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Page 8350 Mr. Eastland makes reference to one A. J. Muste and points out that Muste is active on the advisory committee of CORE. Mr. Eastland stated "In 1957 A. J. Muste got up a delegation for the purpose of observing the procedures of the Communist Party's 18th National Convention on February 9 to 12. J. Edgar Hoover said: The Communists boasted of having impartial observers cover the convention. However, most of these so-called impartial observers were handpicked before the convention started and were reportedly headed by A. J. Muste, who has long fronted for Communists. - - - Those are the words of the great Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Mr. J. Edgar Hoover. Who wants further proof of the Communist origin of this group that wants to plant discord in this country on the very eve of international conferences which mean so much to the welfare of future generations of Americans?" Mr. Eastland included miscellaneous material with his remarks.

Original filed in: 66-1731-1972

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/9/79 BY SP-10SK/L
10/21/87 SP-502/BW

100-225822-
NOT RECORDED
102 JUN 14 1961

B-12.96 SSA9803RDD/CL

291.829

141
50 JUN 21 1961

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for MAY 25, 1961 was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed in appropriate Bureau case or subject matter files.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York

May 23, 1961

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-12-96 BY SSA9803RDD/CAL

Classified by SP8TJ/bury
Declassify on OADR

10/21/87

CLASSIFIED AND
EXTENDED BY SP-163KA-5/1/79
REASON FOR EXTENSION
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR
DECLASSIFICATION 5/23/81

Re: Freedom Ride, 1961
Racial Matters
Destruction of Aircraft or
Motor Vehicle; Civil Rights

DECLASSIFIED BY 9803 RDD/JAC
ON 6-25-93 (291,829)

On May 22, 1961, a Confidential Source, who has
furnished reliable information in the past, advised that a
meeting of leading functionaries of the Communist Party,
United States of America (CPUSA) was held in Communist Party
(CP) headquarters on that date. Among those in attendance were

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Gus Hall, General Secretary, CPUSA.
James Jackson, member of National Committee (NC), CPUSA,
and editor of "The Worker", an east coast Communist
weekly publication.
Ben Davis, National Secretary, CPUSA.
Irving Potash, Labor Secretary, CPUSA
Jack Stachel, member of NC, CPUSA
William L. Patterson, Vice Chairman, New York District
(NYD) CPUSA.
Herbert Aptheker, member of NC, CPUSA.
William Weinstone, member of NC, CPUSA.

The meeting was concerned mainly with the current
situation in Alabama. [redacted] "The Worker,"
said the paper should editorially seek to assemble the
broadest forces in the country, particularly such trade unions
as the steel workers, the United Auto Workers in Atlanta, the
Amalgamated in Mississippi, and others to assume a major
responsibility in moving the local membership to positive
action on the side of the Negro people. He said the CP should
pinpoint the obvious culprits in this situation, namely, the
monsters, [redacted] and the State officials
of Montgomery, who are members of the White Citizens Council.

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.

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

XEROX
JUN 12 1961

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Enclosure

100-225892-377

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: Freedom Ride, 1961
Racial Matters
Destruction of Aircraft or
Motor Vehicle; Civil Rights

b7C

Secondly, the Party must pinpoint the responsibility of the Government for meeting the challenge with all required force and the culpability of the Kennedy Administration in having deferred the exercise of its responsibility on Civil Rights. Pressure must be brought on the Kennedy Administration to make Federal intervention adequate in force to meet the present emergency situation. The Freedom Riders have dramatized the lack of desegregation on interstate carriers. According to [] one report is that the Marshals stood by while the National Guard took over exercising their functions and maintained a kind of house arrest of a thousand Negroes. The Southern United States Marshals reportedly used tear gas in such a manner that it all went into the church rather than into the mob. [] described as one serious development being the fraternal telegram from the Governor of Mississippi to the Governor of Alabama, pledging full resources of Mississippi in the struggle for states rights. [] said "This is a spreading of civil war and insurrection" and "The Worker" should point this out and point out the need for Federal troops to restore law and order in Alabama. (X)(u)

Ben Davis said the Federal Government has the right to go into any state to put down domestic violence and this is now necessary in Alabama. He said the CP should demand that integrated units of the Army go into the State of Alabama and enforce the law. Davis said there is to be an open air meeting in Harlem (New York City) this coming week end. He did not elaborate. (X)(u)

William Patterson said a delegation should go before every State Legislature and demand executive order from the Governor declaring a ban on racism in any form. (X)(u)

Irving Potash recommended a demand for a Federal injunction against the Governor of Alabama to restrain him from inciting violation of the Constitution and inciting mob violence. He suggested that the Party explore the possibility of United Nations action in this matter. He also suggested that general membership meetings be called through "The Worker" (X)(u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: Freedom Ride, 1961
Racial Matters
Destruction of Aircraft or
Motor Vehicle; Civil Rights

to mobilize "our own comrades" to orientate them and generate initiative on their parts in their own organizations and work. Potash urged that open air meetings be organized by the Party and the possibility of a United Front picket line be explored, the line to be in front of "The Department of Justice in Foley Square" (United States Court House, Foley Square, New York City) to dramatize these demands (X)(u)

Jack Stachel recommended agenda of forthcoming National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting (May 27-28) be revised in order to discuss action that the Party may be able to take in connection with the current racial situation. (X)(u)

Herbert Aptheker suggested the possibility of student demonstrations being considered. Aptheker made reference to a report of the Attorney General which says "that he had contacted the FBI and asked the FBI to investigate the possibility of the bus coming to Montgomery from Birmingham and a special FBI team investigated and then reported to the Attorney General that on the basis of its information, it was now safe. Thereupon the bus took off. The FBI was instructed to contact the Police forces of Montgomery and assure the presence of protection upon the arrival of the bus. Well, we know what happened - no Police were present." Aptheker continued with "it appears the intelligence of the FBI is the equal of the intelligence of the CIA. The direct implication in this failing of the Federal Government and of J. Edgar Hoover, it seems to me, is a very important point which we should bring forward. (X)(u)

James Jackson said the Party should stimulate and call for unions and students to send white-Negro excursions into the South. He said, "certainly it would be possible from the University of Texas, University of Miami and that medical school in Atlanta where the student body is one third to one half northern students." Aptheker asked whether the Party was making any plans to send someone to the South. Jackson suggested that he and Aptheker go to Montgomery with "the credentials of our paper." (X)(u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: Freedom Ride, 1961
Racial Matters
Destruction of Aircraft or
Motor Vehicle; Civil Rights

In conclusion, Ben Davis again mentioned the possibilities of a picket line at the Federal Building, Foley Square, and also suggested that the Party see to what extent "Left forces" could be included in a Union Square meeting.

(S)(u)

-4-
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Attorney General

Director, FBI

FREEDOM RIDE 1961

RACIAL MATTERS; DESTRUCTION OF
AIRCRAFT OR MOTOR VEHICLES; CIVIL RIGHTS

May 27, 1961

8-12.96
SSA 9803 RDD/CAL 291.829

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/9/77 BY SP7 BSK/STW
10/2/87 SP7 MJB/BWJ

In connection with the hearing on the Government's motion for a temporary injunction against the U. S. Klans and others for unlawfully interfering with interstate commerce by the use of force and violence, our Mobile and Birmingham Offices have furnished information to Department attorneys concerning the various Klan groups. U

Background information has been furnished on such organizations as the U. S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc.; Alabama Knights, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc.; and Federated Ku Klux Klan, Inc. U

An informant of our Mobile Office, who must be protected, furnished information that as of May 11, 1961, the Federated Ku Klux Klan, Inc., planned to act in concert with members of the Alabama Knights, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., against the freedom riders on May 15, 1961, if the bus should reach Montgomery, Alabama. These individuals had expressed an intention to use violence against the riders. We have been unable to locate any additional witnesses to verify the information furnished by the informant. U

There has been no information developed regarding active participation by Klan members as a group in the Montgomery incident. U

EX-116 REC-5 100-225892-
An informant of our Birmingham Office advised on May 12, 1961, that at a meeting on May 12, 1961, of the Eastview Klavern Number 13 of the Alabama Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, plans were formulated for action to be taken when the freedom riders arrived in Birmingham, Alabama. This informant furnished the information that it was rumored Commissioner of Police Eugene "Bull" Connor would allow some time to elapse prior to having police respond to any call for assistance. U

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Evans

RBL:ers (15)

62 JUN 14 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

JUN 12 1961

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| SENT FROM D. O. | |
| TIME | 1:10 PM |
| DATE | 6-27-61 |
| BY | 145 |

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

The Attorney General

b7C

An additional informant furnished information on May 13, 1961, that [redacted] and a group of the Anniston Klavern, U. S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, would be present on May 14, 1961, when the bus carrying the freedom riders stopped at Anniston, Alabama. U

Information has been developed in connection with the racial disorders at Anniston and Birmingham, Alabama, on May 14, 1961, that various Klansmen were present and participated. No information has been developed, however, that this activity was directed by any Klan organization. U

Information to date has failed to indicate that any of the racial disorder which took place in Anniston and Birmingham, Alabama, was actually directed by members of the Klan. Several informants furnished information concerning Klan membership of the participants and some participants have admitted Klan membership. U

This Bureau is conducting a review of telephone company records concerning Klan officials on a round-the-clock basis. If any calls of significance are found the information will be immediately furnished to Department attorneys. This review will be completed by Sunday, May 28, 1961. U

Investigation regarding possible Klan participation in these incidents is continuing. U

1 - Mr. Byron R. White
Deputy Attorney General

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Burke Marshall

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Herbert J. Miller, Jr.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/24/87 BY SP8BJ/Bury

8-12-96
SSA 9902DD/CAL 291.829

100-225892-381

CHANGED TO

100-225892-53-13

NOV 14 1966
ms-48

✓

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK | OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW ORLEANS | DATE 5/29/61 | INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 5/28-29/61 |
| TITLE OF CASE CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY; "FREEDOM RIDERS" - JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI | | REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px;"></div> | TYPED BY mkx |
| | | CHARACTER OF CASE 8-12-96 SSA9803RDD/CAL 291829 CIVIL RIGHTS 10/21/87 Sp8 RJ/Bwy ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 5/9/99 BY SP-1 BSK/gm | REC 1 |

SYNOPSIS:

REFERENCES

New York telephone calls to Bureau, dated 5/28/61 and 5/29/61. *u*

- RUC -

ADMINISTRATIVE

Two extra copies of this report are being designated for the Bureau for possible dissemination to the Department of Justice. *u*

Two extra copies of this report are being designated for the New Orleans Office, the office of origin, for transmittal to the USA, Jackson, Mississippi, and to the Jackson, Mississippi Resident Agency. *u*

An information copy of this report is being designated for the Mobile Office inasmuch as the bus ride described in the details of this report originated in Montgomery, Alabama. *u*

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| APPROVED <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 40px;"></div> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW | |
| COPIES MADE: <ul style="list-style-type: none">④ - Bureau (AMSD)4 - New Orleans (AMSD)<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1 - USA, Jackson, Miss.Att. Departmental Attorney1 - Mobile (Info) (AMSD)1 - New York (100-79303) (CORE)1 - New York (44-757) | | 100-225892-382 | REC-1 |

*1 copy of report to
Asst. Civil Rights Dir.
6/3/61 - by 6-94-C
Jgh/slk*

1 c retained in Civil Rights Section

NY 44-757

In addition to the names of reporters set forth in the details of this report furnished by [redacted] on 5/29/61, who were on the bus with [redacted] and who may be possible witnesses to the incidents at the Jackson, Mississippi, bus terminal on 5/24/61, [redacted] also furnished the name of [redacted] a correspondent for the "New York Post." [redacted] name was not set forth in the details of this report inasmuch as the Bureau has previously instructed that no contact be made with individuals connected with the "New York Post" without prior Bureau authority. U

b7C

b7C

With regard to those reporters listed by [redacted] as being on the bus with him and others who possibly witnessed the incidents at the bus terminal in Jackson, Mississippi, the NYO is leaving it to the discretion of the office of origin to set forth leads to have these reporters interviewed since the NYO is unaware as to whether or not they have already been interviewed. U

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Copy to: 1 - USA, Jackson, Mississippi,
Att: Departmental Attorney JERRY HIELBRON

Report of: [redacted] b7C Office: New York, New York
Date: 5/29/61

File Number: New York 44-757

Bureau:

Title: CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY;
"FREEDOM RIDERS" - JACKSON,
MISSISSIPPI

SSA9803RDD/cnl
8-12-96
291,829

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS

DATE 5/9/99 BY SP-1 GSK/sma
10/21/87 SP8 BTJ/BWJ

Synopsis:

[redacted] Feature Writer, Associated Press, NY, NY, furnished signed statement in NY, NY, on 5/29/61 concerning incidents relating to "Freedom Riders" bus trip from Montgomery, Ala. to Jackson, Miss. on 5/24/61. [redacted] stated he observed three "Freedom Riders" placed under arrest at bus terminal in Jackson, Miss. on 5/24/61. [redacted] stated that he observed no mistreatment of "Freedom Riders" by arresting officers or any resistance offered by "Freedom Riders" to arresting officers. [redacted] furnished identities of "Freedom Riders" who participated in instant bus ride in addition to some reporters who accompanied "Freedom Riders" on bus ride as well as other reporters who might be possible witnesses to incidents at the bus terminal in Jackson, Mississippi. *ll*

b7C

- RUC -

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.

NY 44-757

DETAILS

b7C

On May 29, 1961, [redacted]
[redacted] Associated Press, New York, New York, was contacted
at the Associated Press Building, 50 Rockefeller Plaza,
New York, New York, and furnished the following signed
statement: 4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/29/61

"Associated Press Building
50 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York
May 29, 1961

b7C

"I, [redacted] make the following
voluntary statement to Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted]
[redacted] who have identified themselves to me as Special
Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. u

"I was born on [redacted]
and reside at [redacted]
I am employed as a [redacted] by the Associated Press,
New York, New York. u

b7C

"On Wednesday, May 24, 1961, I boarded a Trailways
Bus at the bus terminal in Montgomery, Alabama at approxi-
mately 7:00 a.m. This bus which contained twelve 'Freedom
Riders' and sixteen news reporters and photographers,
including myself, was scheduled to depart from Montgomery,
Alabama at 7:00 a.m. and to arrive in Jackson, Mississippi
at 1:15 p.m. that same day. In addition to the above-
mentioned reporters and 'Freedom Riders', the bus contained
six members of the Alabama National Guard who rode in the
front seats of the bus. Before this bus left Montgomery,
Alabama, [redacted]
Alabama National Guard, addressed the occupants of the bus
telling them that the Alabama National Guard members were
travelling on the bus for the protection of the 'Freedom
Riders' and he wished them all a good journey. The reason
that I was travelling on this bus was to cover a specific
assignment as [redacted] for the Associated Press. u

b7C

Associated Press Building,
On 5/29/61 at 50 Rockefeller Plaza, File # NY 44-757
by SAs [redacted] NV NV b7C
Date dictated 5/29/61

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.

NY 44-757

"This bus departed from Montgomery, Alabama at 7:10 a.m. on May 24, 1961. At 11:40 a.m. the bus arrived at the Mississippi State Line. No unusual incidents occurred during the trip from Montgomery, Alabama to the Mississippi State Line except that one of the 'Freedom Riders' [redacted] Memorial Methodist Church, Nashville, Tennessee, a Negro, took ill and caused the bus to be stopped somewhere on the highway approximately fifty minutes after leaving Montgomery, Alabama. [redacted] of the Alabama National Guard, previously mentioned, who was travelling in an automobile preceding the bus attended to the [redacted] and a short time thereafter the bus resumed its journey. U

B. APPROX.

1928

b7C

"When the bus arrived at the Mississippi State Line at 11:40 a.m., there was a delay of about an hour while the Mississippi National Guard took the place of the Alabama National Guard who had been travelling on the bus. Six Mississippi National Guardsmen replaced the six Alabama Guardsmen. Included in the six Mississippi National Guardsmen was [redacted] who was in charge, and who is a Mississippi State Senator. All of the Mississippi National Guardsmen carried what appeared to be gas masks and four carried rifles with fixed bayonets, the other two carried sidearms. Two of these Mississippi National Guardsmen who carried rifles with fixed bayonets stood in the aisle of the bus while the others took seats. The two who stood remained standing during most of the trip from the Mississippi State Line to Jackson, Mississippi. When the bus resumed its journey in Mississippi it began to travel at a much faster rate of speed, attaining speeds of seventy miles per hour. It is noted that the bus had travelled about forty miles per hour on its journey through Alabama. The bus made one more stop on the outskirts of Meridian, Mississippi while the bus drivers were changed. A short time after the bus resumed its journey, [redacted] Negro, [redacted]

b7C

B. APPROX.

1928

[redacted] Nashville, Tennessee, one of the 'Freedom Riders', requested [redacted] previously mentioned, to have the bus stopped in order that he might go to the toilet. [redacted] refused U

NY 44-757

b7C

"to allow the bus to be stopped for this purpose, and after [redacted] second request, told him to 'use the back of the bus.' [redacted] refused to do this stating that ladies were present. One subsequent request to stop the bus, was made by [redacted] for the 'Toronto Star' and was declined by [redacted]. It is to be noted that when the first request was made by [redacted] the bus was approximately fifty minutes from Jackson, Mississippi. u

"At 1:57 p.m., the bus arrived at the bus terminal in Jackson, Mississippi. As the bus entered the terminal I noticed five or six Mississippi National Guardsmen, wearing helmets and carrying rifles with fixed bayonets standing outside the bus terminal. In addition, I noticed approximately twelve uniformed policemen in and around the terminal. I also noticed three uniformed policemen with three police dogs standing at the taxi cab loading platform at the other end of the terminal where there was parked a police vehicle used to transport prisoners. This vehicle had its back doors open. u

"When the bus stopped at the unloading platform of the bus terminal, [redacted] emerged among the first from the bus and was followed by two other unidentified Negro 'Freedom Riders.' All three immediately entered the terminal rest room in the white waiting room. No one made any attempt to stop them from entering this rest room. When the three 'Freedom Riders' emerged from this rest room, a member of the Jackson, Mississippi Police Department, who is described as a white male, age 40, 5'10", 175 lbs., medium build, wearing blue suit, straw hat, tie and white shirt, approached the three 'Freedom Riders' and stated 'You're all under arrest.' This police officer did not touch any of the 'Freedom Riders' and did not handcuff them, and, escorted them to the awaiting police vehicle used to transport prisoners. u b7C

"I did not observe any other arrests since I went to a telephone booth at the other side of the terminal in order to secure its use for the purpose of filing my story u

NY 44-757

"of the bus ride as well as for the story of the action b7C
at the bus terminal which was being covered by [redacted]
[redacted] of the Associated Press, Jackson, Mississippi. u

"When I emerged from the telephone booth there
were no 'Freedom Riders' to be seen and therefore I went b7C
with [redacted] to the Jackson Office of the Associated
Press. u

"Later that same afternoon at approximately
4:45 p.m., I returned to the bus terminal to observe the
arrival of a second bus load of 'Freedom Riders' which
was due to arrive at Jackson, Mississippi at that time
from Montgomery, Alabama. There appeared to be the same
number of policemen there as I had observed when the first
bus load of 'Freedom Riders' arrived at the bus terminal
in Jackson, Mississippi. The police dogs were also present
as was the police vehicle used to transport prisoners.
After the arrival of the bus, I observed the police escort
four or five 'Freedom Riders' at a time from this second
bus and take them to the waiting police vehicle used to
transport prisoners. Approximately twenty 'Freedom Riders'
from this second bus load appeared to have been placed
under arrest. I am unable to identify any of these
arresting officers. At no time did I observe any mis-
treatment of the 'Freedom Riders' by the arresting officers,
and, none of the 'Freedom Riders' arrested were handcuffed. u

"I am unable to state the exact number of persons
present in the bus terminal when both 'Freedom Buses' arrived
except to state that on each occasion there were approximately
fifty people in the bus terminal consisting exclusively of
what appeared to me to be reporters and policemen, the
reporters being in the majority. u

"It is noted that with the exception of the
statement made by the police officer informing the three
'Freedom Riders' from the bus I was on that they were under
arrest, I personally heard no other instructions, comments,
commands or orders issued to the 'Freedom Riders' by any
person or persons. Also, at no time did I observe any u

NY 44-757

~~"person or persons. Also, at no time did I observe any~~
resistance offered to the arresting officers by any of the
'Freedom Riders.' U

"I have read this statement consisting of this
page and four other pages and have initialed each correc-
tion and each page and know it to be true and correct to
the best of my knowledge. U

"/s/

[Redacted Signature]

b7C

"Witnesses:

/s/ [Redacted Signature] Special Agent, Federal Bureau of
Investigation, New York, New York, May 29, 1961.

/s/ [Redacted Signature] Special Agent, Federal Bureau of
Investigation, New York, New York, May 29, 1961.

b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/29/61

On May 29, 1961, [] furnished the following list of individuals whom he described as the "Freedom Riders" who were passengers on the Trailways Bus which traveled from Montgomery, Alabama, to Jackson, Mississippi on May 24, 1961: u

b7C

[] Negro, age 36, []
[] Nashville, Tennessee.

b7C

B. APPROX. 1938 [] Negro, age 24, student at American Baptist Theological Seminary, Nashville, Tennessee, and resides in Cleveland, Ohio.

B. APPROX. 1947 [] Negro, age 20, student at Dillon University, New Orleans, Louisiana, and resides in Shreveport, Louisiana.

B. APPROX. 1938 [] Negro, age 23, student at Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia.

B. APPROX. 1944 [] Negro, age 19, New Orleans, Louisiana.

B. APPROX. 1938 [] Negro, age 22, student at American Baptist Theological Seminary, Nashville, Tennessee.

B. APPROX. 1944 [] Negro, age 20, student at Southern University, New Orleans, Louisiana, and resides in New Orleans, Louisiana.

On 5/29/61 at Associated Press Bldg., 50 Rockefeller Plaza, NYC File No. 44-757

By SAS [] and [] /mkr Date Dictated 5/29/61

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NY 44-757

b7C

B. APPROX.

1941

[redacted] Negro, age 20, student at American Baptist Theological Summary, Nashville, Tennessee, and resides in Tampa, Florida.

B. APPROX.

1942

[redacted] Negro, age 19, student at Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee.

[redacted] Negro, age 33, [redacted]

[redacted] Nashville, Tennessee.

B. APPROX.

1929

[redacted] Negro, age 32, Episcopal clergyman, Nashville, Tennessee.

B. APPROX.

1931

[redacted] white, age 29, Washington, D.C.

[redacted] also furnished the following list of reporters known to him who were on the bus with him and the "Freedom Riders" during the trip from Montgomery, Alabama to Jackson, Mississippi, on May 24, 1961:

b7C

[redacted] Southern correspondent for "New York Times."

[redacted] "Toronto, Canada Star."

[redacted] "New York Herald Tribune."

b7C

A reporter for the "Charlotte Observer" (name unknown to him).

A reporter for "Life Magazine" (name unknown to him).

A reporter for United Press International (name unknown to him).

A reporter for the "Washington Star" (name unknown to him).

A Negro reporter for "Jet Magazine" (name unknown to him).

NY 44-757

A radio announcer whose name and affiliation were unknown to him.

A negro reporter for a negro magazine (name and affiliation unknown to him).

[redacted] In addition to the above-listed reporters, b7C
[redacted] also furnished the following list of reporters
who might possibly have witnessed the incidents at the
bus terminal in Jackson, Mississippi on May 24, 1961:

[redacted] "Atlanta Constitution."

[redacted] Associated Press. photographer from Atlanta,
Georgia.

[redacted] Associated Press, Jackson, Mississippi.

[redacted] Associated Press, Jackson, Mississippi.

[redacted] Associated Press, Montgomery, Alabama.

[redacted] Associated Press photographer from New
Orleans, Louisiana.

[redacted] Associated Press, Atlanta, Georgia.

Unknown reporters from the "Montgomery Advertiser," "Memphis
Commercial Appeal," "Jackson Daily News," "Jackson Clarion
Ledger" and "Jackson State Times."

[redacted] further advised that to his knowledge b7C
all of the above-listed reporters are still in the Jackson,
Mississippi area.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/21/07 BY SP8/RLW

8-12-96 SSA9803RDD/CAL

291,829

100-225892-383

CHANGED TO

100-225892-26-7

NOV 14 1966Int-2/2

C

FBI

b7C

Date 6/6/61

Transmit the following in PLAIN
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (44-757)

SUBJECT: CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY;
"FREEDOM RIDERS" - JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
CIVIL RIGHTS

Rerep of SA [redacted] dated 5/29/61, at New York,
and Bureau airtel to NY, 6/5/61. *u*

The Bureau, New Orleans and Mobile are requested to
delete the first line of page 7 of above-referenced report, as
it is a repeat of the last line of page 6 of above-referenced
report. NY copies of rerep have been corrected. *u*

10/2/87 SP8KJ/BW
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/9/94 BY SP-16SK/SM
8-12-96 9803RDD/KC

291.829

100-225792
NOT RECORDED
4 JUN 7 1961

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
2 - New Orleans (RM) (AM)
2 - Mobile (RM) (AM)
1 - New York (44-757)

JJE:mc
(9)

b7C

99 JUN 14 1961

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/21/87 BY SP8 BTJ/BWJ
8-12-96 SSA9803RDD/CL
291,829

100-225892-385,386

CHANGED TO

100-225892-4-17
100-225892-61-4

NOV 14 1966

mt-2/8

2

WALT HORAN
5TH DIST. OF WASHINGTON

COUNTIES

SPOKANE CHELAN
STEVENS OKANOGAN
PEND OREILLE DOUGLAS
FERRY LINCOLN

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

June 16, 1961

MEMBER:
APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
COMMERCE
LEGISLATIVE

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Mr. Tolson | / |
| Mr. Belmont | / |
| Mr. Mohr | / |
| Mr. Callahan | / |
| Mr. Conrad | / |
| Mr. DeLoach | / |
| Mr. Evans | / |
| Mr. Malone | / |
| Mr. Rosen | / |
| Mr. Sullivan | / |
| Mr. Tavel | / |
| Mr. Trotter | / |
| Tele. Room | / |
| Mr. Ingram | / |
| Miss Gandy | / |

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

One of my constituents has asked me to contact your Bureau to determine whether or not any report has been filed on the purpose of an organization known as the Council on Racial Equality. I would appreciate having full information on this matter so that I can properly reply to my constituent.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Walt Horan.

Walt Horan, M.C.

b

8-12-96 SSA9803RDD/csl
291,829

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/9/79 BY SP16SK/m

10/21/87

SP16SK/m

REC-15

100-225892-387

12 JUN 22 1961

1 copy copy
made 6-21-61
mew

only
for copy
mew
ack: 6-21-61
CJA/mew

804

UNITED STATES

Memorandum

TO : The Director

DATE: MAY 17, 1961

FROM : N. P. Callahan

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

FREEDOM RIDE 1961

Page 7430. Senator Javits, (R) New York, spoke concerning the violence in Alabama in connection with the burning of a bus and injury to person participating in the "Freedom Riders" plan. Mr. Javits commended the Attorney General for stepping into the situation and he (Javits) included a telegram he sent to Attorney General Kennedy. Mr. Javits stated "I hope very much that those who are guilty of violations of the law will be prosecuted. I hope very much the country will take note of what these struggles mean and how they are attended by violence, by personal injury, and by disgrace to the good name of the United States throughout the world. I hope very much these ideas may also have their effect upon the decent citizens of the States in which these terrible acts are taking place."

Original filed in: 4

8-12-96 SSA 9803RDD/CAL

291,829
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/9/79 BY SP-KSK/SM
10/21/87 SP-8/ST/BWG

1100-225892-

NOT RECORDED

102 JUN 1 1961

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for MAY 16, 1961 was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed in appropriate Bureau case or subject matter files.

JUL 5 1961

8-12-96 SSA9803RDD/CL
291,829
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/21/80 BY SP8 JBY

100-225892-388

CHANGED TO
100-225892-33-26

NOV 14 1966

mt-210

✓

6/23/61

AIRTEL

To: SACs, New York (100-7546)
Washington Field (100-35588)

From: Director, FBI (100-225892)

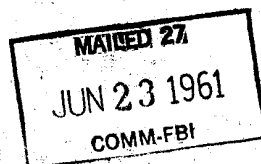
CORE
RACIAL MATTERS

ReWFOairtel 6/22/61. 4

Both offices attempt to determine nature of the "march" planned for 7/4/61 in Washington, D. C., and immediately advise Bureau of any information developed. 4

WLM:aeo *aeo*
(6)

8-12-96 SSA9803RDD/CAL
291,829
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/9/79 BY SP-1056/m
10/21/87 SP-1056/m



EX-114

REC-64

100-225892-389

19 JUN 26 1961

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

50 JUN 28 1961

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

100-225892-390

CHANGED TO

100-225892-33-27

NOV 14 1966

mt-90

10/2/10 Sp80y/Bury
8-12-96 SSA9803RDD/OL
291.829

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont *BM*

DATE: June 26, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen *AR*

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 DeLoach _____
 Evans _____
 Malone _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Ingram _____
 Gandy _____

b7C

[redacted] of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), has written a letter concerning [redacted] a freedom rider who was arrested in Jackson, Mississippi, 6/2/61. [redacted] sets forth the following quotation from a letter alleged to have been written by [redacted] to his wife on 6/4/61: "The FBI, of course, is working more against us than anything else - they were supposed to be protecting us from the mobs - but they gave all information on us (after checking it) to the Jackson police. They told [redacted] that the people in his cell had very bad records (court martials, etc.) and I guess you know the rest." [redacted] expresses the hope that we will investigate this allegation. *u*

CORE is a pacifist-type organization which has been for some time involved in the movement to abolish racial discrimination by nonviolent methods. It is playing a large part in the freedom rider movement. *u*

The [redacted] mentioned in [redacted] letter is [redacted] white, who was also arrested as a freedom rider in Jackson on 6/2/61. He obtained his release from jail and indicated to the press that he was disillusioned with the movement. He mentioned in particular the unfavorable backgrounds and criminal records of some of the participants. *u*

b7C

New Orleans has advised that no FBI representative has talked to [redacted] Information from our identification records is made available to the Jackson police when they send fingerprint cards of those arrested to the Identification Division. No other information relative to Chatham, [redacted] or other freedom riders has been or is being furnished to the Jackson authorities. The police, of course, do conduct interviews with freedom riders arrested. *u*

b7C

Enclosure *sent 6-26-61*FCW:jam
(6)

812.96
SSA 9803200/CAL 291829
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE *5/9/79* BY *SP8 BJK/*
10/21/87 SP8 BJK/BWG

JUN 28 1961

50 JUL 5 1961

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

b7C

ACTION

Under the circumstances, [] letter can best be handled through a personal acknowledgment and the attached airtel to New York instructs that he be contacted by the SAC or an ASAC. He will be told that he has been completely misinformed by Chatham's letter and [] was told nothing by the FBI. He will also be told that we furnish and will continue to furnish criminal information to duly constituted law enforcement agencies who are entitled to such information. u

[Handwritten signatures and initials: "Cham", "JL", "OK", and a large checkmark]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/21/87 BY SP501/amy
8-12-96 SSN 9803 RDD/COL

291,829

100-225892-592

CHANGED TO

100-225892-8-5

NOV 14 1966

mt-28

c

6/22/61

CODE

RADIOGRAM

DEFERRED

VIA PLAINTEXT DEF TEL
to office off the air
on the below

b7C

TO: ALL SACS

FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY, DEMONSTRATIONS SCHEDULED AT FEDERAL BUILDINGS, RM. REBURAD TO ALL OFFICES, JUNE TWENTYONE LAST. AT A CORE MEETING IN WASHINGTON, D. C., JUNE TWENTY LAST IT WAS ALLEGEDLY STATED THAT FEDERAL BUILDINGS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WILL BE PICKETED JULY FOURTH NEXT BUT ONLY IF INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION HAS NOT ORDERED DESEGREGATION OF ALL INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES. KEEP BUREAU CURRENTLY INFORMED OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS. U

WLM: eem
(3)

EAST COAST
HP, NK, ME

WEST COAST
AQ, PL, OC via SD

NOTE: If contact missed, hold for next radio contact, but send as deferred teletype if contact not made by 5:30 P.M., 6/22/61. U

VIA TELETYPE

JUN 22 1961

9:03P RAL

VIA RADIOGRAM

JUN 22 1961

11:15 AM SS

NR. 22/239

ENC. 13

REC-8

100-225892-1

JUN 27 1961

APPROVED BY

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Tolson _____
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Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

55 JUL 3 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/9/79 BY SP 100/K/AM

SSA 9803/
RDP/
CAL
8-12-96
291.829

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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10/21/87 SP5BJ/bury
8-12.96 SSA9803RDD/CAL
Q91.829

100-225892-394, 395, 396, 397

CHANGED TO

100-225892-42-9

100-225892-53-14, 15

100-225892-41-4

NOV 14 1966

ht-2/8

C

June 29, 1961

CODE

RADIOGRAM

DEFERRED URGENT If radio contact missed, send by deferred teletype.

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY PAREN CORE CLOSE PAREN

DEMONSTRATIONS SCHEDULED FOR JULY FOURTH, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE.

REBURAD TO ALL OFFICES JUNE TWENTY-ONE, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE

CAPTIONED QUOTE CORE DEMONSTRATIONS SCHEDULED AT FEDERAL

BUILDINGS JUNE TWENTY-FOURTH, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE UNQUOTE AND

BURAD JUNE TWENTY-SECOND, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE CAPTIONED

QUOTE CORE DEMONSTRATIONS SCHEDULED AT FEDERAL BUILDINGS

UNQUOTE. INFORMATION RECEIVED INDICATES CORE CHAPTERS

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY MAY DEMONSTRATE AT FEDERAL BUILDINGS,

TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES AND/OR OTHER PLACES JULY FOURTH,

NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE. HANDLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH BURAD JUNE

TWENTY-ONE, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE.

WLM:ers
(5) ERS

2 - Washington Field

Tolson _____
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VIA RADIOGRAM

JUN 28 1961

6:35 AM-NH

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

JUN 29 1961

TELETYPE

APPROVED BY

TYPED BY

ENDING TIME

55 JUL 6 1961

MAIL ROOM

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ALL WESTERN NET
OFFICES RECD. VIA RADIO

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 22 1961

MNC

TELETYPE

DEFERRED 6-22-61

9-03 PM RAC

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR 1P

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY, DEMONSTRATIONS SCHEDULED AT FEDERAL BUILDINGS, RM. REBURAD TO ALL OFFICES, JUNE TWENTYONE LAST. AT A CORE MEETING IN WASHINGTON, D. C., JUNE TWENTY LAST IT WAS ALLEGEDLY STATED THAT FEDERAL BUILDINGS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WILL BE PICKETED JULY FOURTH NEXT BUT ONLY IF INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION HAS NOT ORDERED DESEGREGATION OF ALL INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES. KEEP BUREAU CURRENTLY INFORMED OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS. *u*

END AND ACK PLS

MP OK FBI MP RNP

NK OK FBI NK JPT

ME OK FBI ME JWB

TU AND DISC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE *1/21/99* BY *SP16SK/*

10/21/87

8-12-96

291,829

SP 885/Rowy
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/85 BY SP8RZ/BWJ
E-12-96 SSA 9803RDD/CSC
291.829

100-225892-399,400

CHANGED TO

100-225892-33-29

100-225892-23-6

NOV 14 1966

mt-20

C

F B I

Date: 6/28/61

Transmit the following in PLAIN
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-225892)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-79303)

SUBJECT: CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY
RACIAL MATTERSALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1/4/79 BY SP7 CLK/SM

8-12-96 SSA 9803 RDD/col
10/21/87 291.82.9

ReWFOairtel to the Bureau, 6/26/61. U

b7C

On 6/28/61, [redacted]
Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), 38 Park Row, NYC, advised
SA [redacted] that no plans have been formulated for
"Freedom Riders" to depart from NYC for the South for the
purpose of testing restaurants and airport facilities. U

[redacted] stated that there is a possibility that a
group of New Jersey CORE members and supporters will depart
from Newark, NJ, on or about 7/14/61, for Memphis, Tennessee.
However, no definite arrangements have been set up by this New
Jersey group as of this date. U

b7C

[redacted] stated that she would advise the NYO
in the event any further information concerning possible
"Freedom Rides" from this area is received. U

b7C

REC-16

- 3 - Bureau (100-225892) (RM)
1 - Washington Field (100-35588) (INFO) (RM)
1 - Newark (INFO) (RM)
1 - New York (100-79303)

JDB:mc
(7)

b7C

Approved: 63/141

56 JUL 7 1961

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/21/87 BY SP8BJ/BWP
8-12-96 SSA 9803 RDD/CAL
291,829

100-225892-402

CHANGED TO

100-225892-26-8

NOV 14 1966

mt-28

C

F B I

Date: 6/28/61

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (157-391)

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

8-12-96
 SSN 98032DD/C
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 5/1/79 BY SP7BSE/Km
 10/21/87 SP7BSE/Km

Rebuairtel 6/26/61 enclosing copies of a letter to the

Director dated 6/19/61 from [redacted]

[redacted] of the Congress of Racial Equality. U

This is to advise that on the morning of 6/28/61 [redacted]
 [redacted] was personally contacted by ASAC Norman H. McCabe, at which
 time his letter to the Director was orally acknowledged. It was
 pointed out to him that he had been completely misinformed and
 that [redacted] was told nothing by the FBI. [redacted]
 [redacted] was also advised that the FBI furnishes criminal information
 to duly constituted law enforcement agencies who are entitled to
 such information. U

[redacted] seemed very appreciative of the fact that the
 Director had a representative personally call on him, and indicated
 that he felt at the time he wrote the Director that he had incom-
 plete information. During the conversation with [redacted] he
 indicated that nothing has come to his attention to indicate that
 the Bureau's representatives were conducting themselves improperly
 and, as a matter of fact, all of the information coming to his
 attention indicated that the Bureau was acting properly in this
 case. U

REC-8

3 - Bureau
 1 - New York (100-79303) (CORE)
 1 - New York (157-391)
 NHM:MEW
 (5)

Approved: _____
 Special Agent in Charge

Per _____

RECEIVED
 GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
 DIVISION
 JUN 29 1961
 19. JUN 28 1961
 19. JUN 29 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/21/87 BY SP8BJ/bwy

8-12-96 SSA 9803 RDP/ccl

291,829

100-225892-404, 405

CHANGED TO

100-225892-33-28

100-225892-8-6

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PLAIN TEXT

June 30, 1961

TELETYPE

URGENT

EX-117
REC-8 100-255892-4
TO: SACS LOS ANGELES
WASHINGTON FIELD (BSM)
FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY, RM. RE NY TEL DATED SIX DASH
THREE ZERO DASH ONE NINE SIX ONE. UNLESS YOU HAVE ALREADY
DONE SO, YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY ADVISE APPROPRIATE CITY,
COUNTY AND STATE OFFICIALS OF THE DEMONSTRATION SCHEDULED
BY CORE FOR JULY FOUR, ONE NINE SIX ONE. U

FMF:1bm
(5) *Am*

6/7/61
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE *5/9/79* BY *SP-1 BSK/*
10/21/87 *SP-8 BSK/*
8-12-96 SSA9803RDD/CAL
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Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
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Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

212
66 JUL 12 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 30 1961

TELETYPE

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 Ingram _____
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☒ Radio☐ Teletype b7C

8-12-96
 SSA9803RDD/CAL 291.829
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 5/9/09 BY SP-4 GSK/m
 10/21/87 SP-8 GSK/m

URGENT

6-30-61

TO DIRECTOR AND SACS WASHINGTON FIELD AND LOS ANGELES

FROM SAC NEW YORK 301415

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY, RACIAL MATTERS, OFFICE OF
 ORIGIN; NEW YORK. RE WFO AIRTEL TO BUREAU JUNE 28, 1961
 AND BUREAU RADIOGRAM JUNE 29, 1961. ON JUNE 29, 1961,

b7C

[REDACTED] CONGRESS OF
 RACIAL EQUALITY (CORE), 38 PARK ROW, NEW YORK CITY,
 ADVISED THAT CORE DEMONSTRATIONS WILL OCCUR ON JULY 4,
 1961, IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AND LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA,
 AT INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION BUILDINGS LOCATED IN
 BOTH THOSE CITIES. NO DEMONSTRATION PLANNED FOR NEW YORK
 CITY. DEMONSTRATION IN WASHINGTON, D.C., WILL TAKE PLACE
 FROM 11 AM TO 1 PM ON JULY 4, 1961. TIME OF DEMONSTRATION
 IN LOS ANGELES UNKNOWN. NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN WASHINGTON
 AND LOS ANGELES DEMONSTRATIONS UNKNOWN. [REDACTED] HAD NO INFORMATI-
 ON OF OTHER CORE DEMONSTRATIONS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 4, 1961,
 AND ADVISED ADDITIONAL DETAILS MIGHT BE OBTAINED BY CONTACT
 WITH [REDACTED] WASHINGTON, D.C., BRANCH OF
 CORE, AND [REDACTED] CORE, 1818 SOUTH
 SYCAMORE, LOS ANGELES. WFO AND LOS ANGELES ATTEMPT TO
 OBTAIN ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND ADVISE BUREAU. u

RECEIVED: 11:16 AM RADIO

REC-8

JUL 5 1961

11:50 AM CODING UNIT

MAL

2 CC - WASHINGTON FIELD

EEI
 REC-8 JUL 12 1961
 6-781

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 30 1961

TELETYPE

URGENT 6-30-61

8-05 PM RAC

TO SACS LOS ANGELES AND WASHINGTON FIELD

FROM DIRECTOR 1P

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY, RM. RE NY TEL DATED SIX DASH
THREE ZERO DASH ONE NINE SIX ONE. UNLESS YOU HAVE ALREADY
DONE SO, YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY ADVISE APPROPRIATE CITY,
COUNTY AND STATE OFFICIALS OF THE DEMONSTRATION SCHEDULED
BY CORE FOR JULY FOUR, ONE NINE SIX ONE. U

END AND ACK PLS

OK FBI LA KH

8-12-96 SSA9803RDD/ccl
291,829

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/9/99 BY SP16CK/bm

10/21/89

SP16CK/bm

100-225892-407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412,
413, 414, 415, 416

CHANGED TO

100-225892-33-30
100-225892-53-16
100-225892-47-3
100-225892-28-8
100-225892-26-9, 10
100-225892-2-12
100-225892-36-11
100-225892-28-7
100-225892-33-31

NOV 14 1966

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100-225892- 417, 418, 419, 420, 421,
422, 423

CHANGED TO

100-225892- 8-7
100-225892-53-17
100-225892-28-9
100-225892-15-5
100-225892-26-12
100-225892-15-4
100-225892-49-9

NOV 14 1966

Int- 95

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/21/87 BY SP8BJ/BWJ

8-12.96 SSA9803RDD/COL
291,829

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 29, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

| | |
|------------|---|
| Tolson | ✓ |
| Belmont | ✓ |
| Mohr | ✓ |
| Callahan | ✓ |
| Conrad | ✓ |
| DeLoach | ✓ |
| Evans | ✓ |
| Malone | ✓ |
| Rosen | ✓ |
| Sullivan | ✓ |
| Tavel | ✓ |
| Trotter | ✓ |
| Tele. Room | ✓ |
| Ingram | ✓ |
| Gandy | ✓ |

SYNOPSIS

One hundred sixty-four freedom riders arrested at Jackson, Mississippi, since 5/24/61. Fifty-eight released on bond, four released after paying fines, one released without charges and one hundred one remain in custody.

Freedom Ride Coordinating Committee is opening office at Jackson to provide better coordination of activities.

No corroboration has been received regarding information previously reported that 2000 freedom riders would allegedly appear in Mississippi during week of 7/4/61. It was also alleged Mississippi officials plan to arrest any U. S. Marshals who may be used during this period.

b7C

[redacted] (MHSP), said he had not heard rumors regarding plans to arrest U. S. Marshals. He added, "That is crazy."

b7C

[redacted] Jackson. has made discreet inquiry and believes rumor started from a remark by [redacted] who spoke at [redacted] about two weeks after freedom rides started. [redacted] stated that 2000 to 2500 freedom riders would come to [redacted] and [redacted] believes [redacted] made the statement to obtain publicity.

Sources in New Orleans, including contacts in the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), have no information regarding any mass freedom ride.

A small group of freedom riders will travel from Nashville to Jackson sometime during the weekend of 7/1/61. 100-225892-

NOT RECORDED

CORE, New Orleans, plans a 199-306 and 199-306-hour demonstration 7/4/61. Marchers will carry placards to the offices of Illinois Central Railroad. Placards will demand desegregation of travel facilities by the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC). 8-12-96 SSA9903RDD/C 291,829

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Evans

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/9/79 BY SP-10SK/len

10/21/87

SP-10SK/len

WLM:ers (10)

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont

Other groups which may join with CORE in 7/4/61 demonstration at New Orleans include Consumers League, NAACP, Negro fraternal organizations, and possibly graduate chapters of Negro college fraternities. Local authorities have been advised.

Three hundred members of CORE, Washington, D. C., plan to assemble on the Mall at 11 AM, 7/4/61. They will proceed to Judiciary Square with signs protesting the arrest of freedom riders. The protest will be directed against the states rather than the Federal Government. Law enforcement and intelligence agencies advised.

b7C

[redacted] Washington attorney and an official of Americans for Democratic Action has been invited to speak at Judiciary Square 7/4/61 but has not indicated whether he will do so.

b7C

[redacted] Washington, D. C. Chapter of CORE, stated no Federal buildings in Washington will be picketed 7/4/61. He also said CORE groups throughout the country plan to demonstrate 7/4/61. All offices advised.

b7C

[redacted] has recommended to CORE national headquarters that freedom rides be discontinued. He believes fact of segregation in Southern transportation facilities has been established and legal action should now be taken to effect integration.

Washington, D. C. Chapter of CORE will not sponsor future freedom rides but will devote its activities to housing matters in Washington, D. C.

A hearing has been scheduled U. S. District Court, Tallahassee 7/18/61 regarding suit by three Negro ministers seeking to integrate the airport restaurant at Tallahassee.

ACTION:

A memorandum is being prepared for the Attorney General.

RHM *WJ* *B*

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont

DETAILS

One hundred twenty-four freedom riders have been arrested at Jackson, Mississippi, since 5/1/61. Fifty-eight have been released on bond, four have been released after paying fines, one has been released without charges being filed and one hundred one remain in custody.

[redacted] Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), Jackson, Mississippi, advised that as a result of the Freedom Ride Coordinating Committee meeting which was held at Jackson 6/27/61, an office is being opened in Jackson to provide better coordination for freedom-ride activities. The office will be staffed by [redacted] and three others whose identities are not known to [redacted] at this time. b7C

It has previously been reported that the Mississippi State Sovereignty Commission allegedly wrote Lieutenant Governor Paul D. Johnson of Mississippi to the effect that 2000 freedom riders from New York and Chicago will appear in all major cities in Mississippi during the week of 7/4/61. Information was received in this regard that all Mississippi State Police had been ordered to remain in duty status from 7/1/61 through 7/9/61. It was also alleged that Mississippi officials plan to arrest any U. S. Marshals who may be used in connection with freedom-ride activities during this period. G-2 has advised that most National Guard units in northern Mississippi have been ordered to summer camp beginning 7/2/61. u

[redacted] Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP), advised on 6/28/61 that he has received no information concerning the alleged freedom ride by 2000 people. [redacted] also stated that all MHSP patrolmen will be on duty from 7/1/61 through 7/4/61 as a traffic control measure to reduce traffic fatalities over the holiday weekend. This is done every year as a matter of standard procedure. b7C

With regard to the rumors that U. S. Marshals would be arrested in Mississippi, [redacted] said that he had not heard any such rumors and remarked, "That is crazy." b7C

[redacted] MHSP, former Bureau Agent, advised that he had received no information regarding the alleged mass freedom ride and that such information would probably have come to his attention if developed through Mississippi State sources. b7C

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont

b7C

[redacted] Jackson, Mississippi, advised on 6/28/61 that the letter which the Mississippi State Sovereignty Commission reportedly wrote to the Lieutenant Governor was based upon a rumor to the effect that [redacted] allegedly had stated that between 2000 and 2500 freedom riders would arrive in Mississippi during the week of 7/4/61. Pierce said this information was apparently only a rumor. (Additional information from [redacted] appears on page 5.)

Bureau sources in New Orleans, including contacts in CORE and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), have no information indicating any mass freedom ride into Mississippi.

[redacted] advised on 6/28/61 that a small group of freedom riders will travel from Nashville, Tennessee, to Jackson, Mississippi, sometime during the weekend of 7/1/61. He had no further details at this time.

[redacted] New Orleans Chapter of CORE, advised on 6/28/61 that CORE will demonstrate in New Orleans on 7/4/61. They plan a demonstration between 10 AM and 11 AM with a parade from the St. James A. M. E. Church to the offices of the Illinois Central Railroad. The marchers will carry placards supporting the freedom riders and demanding desegregation of travel facilities by the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC). At least ten members of CORE will participate and they may be joined by representatives of the Consumers League, the NAACP, Negro fraternal organizations, and possibly graduate chapters of Negro college fraternities. Local authorities have been advised.

b7C

[redacted] Washington, D. C. Chapter, CORE, advised on 6/28/61 that 300 local members of CORE will assemble on the Mall at 11 AM, 7/4/61. They will proceed to Judiciary Square, 5th and E Streets, Northeast, carrying signs protesting the recent arrests of freedom riders in the South. The protest will be directed against the states rather than against the Federal Government. [redacted] Washington attorney and an official of Americans for Democratic Action, has been invited to speak at Judiciary Square but has not indicated whether he will do so. Appropriate law enforcement and intelligence agencies have been advised of the demonstration.

b7C

According to Hobson CORE groups throughout the country plan to hold demonstrations on 7/4/61. The original plan for the Washington group included a demonstration in front of the ICC but this was abandoned as Hobson felt that it would be in poor taste to demonstrate in front of a Federal building.

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont

b7C

[] said that CORE members feel the Federal Government is doing all in its power to promote racial equality. In this regard he made reference to legal action being taken by the Department to integrate restaurants in Louisiana. (All offices have been advised of CORE demonstrations scheduled for 7/4/61

[] commented that he has recommended to national headquarters of CORE that the freedom rides be discontinued because of a shortage of funds and also because he feels that CORE has proven that segregation exists in transportation facilities in Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. He believes that legal action should now be taken in these states to effect integration of transportation facilities. The Washington Chapter of CORE will not sponsor future freedom rides and will devote its activities to housing matters in Washington, D. C. b7C

[] Jackson, Mississippi, has now advised that as a result of discreet inquiries he believes that the rumors concerning the 2000 freedom riders originated in the following manner: b7C

[] held a meeting in Jackson in which he made reference to the freedom riders and said that 2000 or 2500 of them would come to Jackson. [] was not able to determine the exact date of this meeting but said that it was about two weeks after the freedom rides had started. He is of the opinion that [] who uses an anticommunist theme in his meetings, made the statement to obtain publicity and that segregationists present at the meeting may have been responsible for passing on the information. b7C

It has previously been reported that a suit was filed in U. S. District Court, Tallahassee, Florida, on behalf of three Negro ministers seeking integration of the airport restaurant at Tallahassee. A hearing has been scheduled for 7/18/61 before U. S. District Judge G. Harrold Carswell.

10/21/87 *Spry/Bury*
0-12-96 SSA9803RDD/CL

291,929

100-225892-424

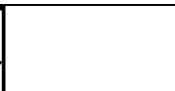
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C

3 photos to Detroit
RE: SWP; 2R-1961/1 to 6
7-7-61-
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/21/87 BY SP8 BT/BWR

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8-12-96

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 11

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Page 31 ~ Duplicate PAGE 19

Page 45 ~ Duplicate PAGE 13

Page 46 ~ Duplicate page 16

Page 47 ~ Duplicate page 17

Page 159 ~ b7C, b7D

Page 161 ~ b7C, b7D

Page 162 ~ b7C, b7D

Page 163 ~ b7C, b7D