

1965
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This concerns the state trial of Collie Leroy Wilkins who is one of 3 subjects indicted for the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo in Lowndes County, Alabama, on 3/25/65. Gary Thomas Rowe is our informant who was with subjects at the time of the shooting and is currently testifying for the state. Prior to his arrest on 3/26/65 Rowe had accompanied Agents to the scene of the crime and at his bond hearing he furnished a false story about the FBI making offers to him in order to cover his having met with the Agents. Murphy encouraged him to embellish his story and say the FBI had made offers to him. The subjects received a traffic warning ticket about an hour prior to the shooting of Mrs. Liuzzo in the Selma area which places them at the immediate vicinity of the shooting.

JWH/ral *[Signature]*

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

MAY 5 1965

TELETYPE

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

FBI MOBILE

1-33 PM CST URGENT 5/5/65 LLO

TO DIRECTOR AND BIRMINGHAM

FROM MOBILE (44-1245) 3P

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, ET AL -
VICTIMS, CR - EL.

CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

REMOTEL MAY FOUR, SIXTYFIVE CONCERNING PROGRESS OF TRIAL
AT HAYNEVILLE, ALA., IN CAPTIONED MATTER.

IN THE FORENOON PERIOD OF THE TRIAL AT HAYNEVILLE ON
MAY FIVE, SIXTYFIVE, GARY THOMAS ROWE WAS UNDER CROSS
EXAMINATION BY DEFENSE COUNSEL MATT MURPHY. AT THE NOON HOUR
RECESS, CIRCUIT SOLICITOR ARTHUR E. GAMBLE ADVISED THAT ROWE
HAD BEEN AN OUTSTANDING WITNESS ON CROSS EXAMINATION AND EVEN
STRONGER THAN HE HAD BEEN UNDER DIRECT EXAMINATION.

ONE LINE OF CROSS EXAMINATION EMPLOYED BY MURPHY WAS TO
INFER THROUGH INTERROGATION THAT ROWE INITIATED THE MARCH 1965
MONTGOMERY AND SELMA IN ORDER TO HAVE SOMETHING TO REPORT TO
THE FBI.

END PAGE ONE

ENCLOSURE
120

58 MAY 12 1965

MR. BELMONT FOR THE DIRECTOR

PAGE TWO

MURPHY ASKED ROWE ABOUT THE FBI OFFERING HIM A FARM AND ENOUGH MONEY TO LIVE COMFORTABLY THE REST OF HIS LIFE AFTER HE WAS INITIALLY ARRESTED. THE STATE OBJECTED AND THE COURT UPHELD THE OBJECTION TO THIS QUESTION, HOWEVER, ROWE ASKED TO BE PERMITTED TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION. HIS REQUEST WAS GRANTED. HE STATED THAT FOLLOWING HIS ARREST BY THE GOVERNMENT WHILE MURPHY WAS ACTING AS HIS COUNSEL, THAT HE AND MURPHY TRUMPED UP THE STORY THAT THE FBI HAD OFFERED HIM A FARM AND ENOUGH MONEY TO LIVE COMFORTABLY IN ORDER TO GIVE SOME BAD PRESS TO THE ARREST.

AT THE NOON HOUR RECESS WHEN MURPHY LEFT THE COURTROOM, HE HELD AN IMPROMPTU PRESS CONFERENCE WHEREIN HE MADE THE STATEMENT THAT ROWE WAS A PROSTITUTE, PIMP, AND WOULD TAKE MONEY FROM THE FBI, TAXPAYERS, OR CASTRO. MURPHY STATED FURTHER THAT ROWE COULD BE FOUND AFTER THE TRIAL IS OVER AND HE WOULD LIKE TO BE THERE.

ROWE WAS EXCUSED UNTIL LATER IN THE DAY. THE STATE WILL PROCEED WITH S. A. NEAL P. SHANAHAN AS THE NEXT WITNESS FOLLOWED BY THE STATE TROOPER WHO ISSUED A TRAFFIC TICKET

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

TO THE SUBJECTS' VEHICLE ON THE EVENING OF MARCH TWENTYFIVE,
SIXTYFIVE.

** National States Rights Party*

THERE WERE MORE KLANSMEN AND NSRP MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE
TRIAL THAN YESTERDAY. DR. EDWARD B. FIELDS OF NSRP PASSED OUT
THE PUBLICATION, THE THUNDERBOLT IN THE COURTROOM AND WAS
STOPPED BY THE JUDGE FROM THIS ACTION.

~~CORR LINE TWO LAST PARA PAGE TWO A PERIOD SHOULD APPEAR AFTER~~
~~WORD YESTERDAY~~

VASML

FBI WASH DC

BH WCR

FBI BIRMGHAM

TUDIS

CC-MR ROSEN
COMM-FBI

Mr. McQuinn

COMM-FBI

MR. P. 2 45 111

FBI

Date: 5/11/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1236)

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL
 VIOLA LIUZZO, aka; ET AL - VICTIMS
 CR; EL

7c
 [REDACTED] Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, telephonically advised this date that one NEAL MAXWELL, a reporter with the Wall Street Journal, is in Birmingham. [REDACTED] advised that MAXWELL told him that he had talked with ROBERT SHELTON, Imperial Wizard, UKA, Inc., KKKK, yesterday.

[REDACTED] advised that he told MAXWELL that he was not at liberty to discuss such matters with him. MAXWELL requested that if possible [REDACTED] arrange an appointment with MATT MURPHY, who is Klan Attorney, and did represent the three subjects in instant case. [REDACTED] advised that MAXWELL has an appointment with MATT MURPHY at 8:30 AM on 5/12/65. MAXWELL also has an appointment with ROBERT CREEL, Grand Dragon, UKA, Inc., KKKK 5/12/65 at 3:30 PM.

This is being submitted for the information of the Bureau.

3 Bureau
 2 Mobile
 2 Birmingham

RGJ:fc
 (7)

Wick

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

Per _____

EX-105

REC-11

14-28601

2 MAY 13 1965

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601) DATE: 5/13/65
ATTENTION: GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

FROM : SAC, TAMPA (44-313)

SUBJECT: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, ET AL - VICTIMS
CR - EI.

Enclosed for the information of the Bureau is a newspaper clipping, 5/10/65 issue of "The Tampa Times," captioned "Ten Jurors Said Klansman Guilty,"

38 MAY 14 1965

EXP. PROC.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 1) ENCLOSURE
1 - Tampa
jn
(3)

REC-39

44-2 16-11-334

EX 105

12 MAY 14 1965



58 MAY 26 1965

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

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ten Jurors Said Klansman Guilty

That hung jury in Lowndes County, Alabama, tells us something very important about Southern attitudes in racially-connected murder cases.

The jury deadlocked by a vote of 10 to two in the trial of a young Ku Klux Klansman charged with the slaying of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo, a white civil rights demonstrator who took part in the march between Selma and Montgomery last March.

There were ten votes for conviction and two for acquittal.

A ten to two ratio for conviction in tiny Lowndes County reflects an interesting situation. First, it tells us that a majority of Lowndes citizens will not countenance murder, even though it is murder masked as a "defense of our way of life." Second, the vote reflects both courage on the part of those voting for conviction and their contempt for that over-rated organization of human scum, the Ku Klux Klan.

The ten who voted for conviction refused to be intimidated by rantings of the Klan attorney or the angry glares of Klan supporters.

The two who voted for acquittal based their vote on the fact that an FBI undercover eyewitness to the crime had previously "sworn before God" not to divulge secrets of the Klan. The two holdout jurors argued that the man had broken this oath and could not under any circumstances be believed.

It is sheer blasphemy to assume that God would expect anyone to honor an oath to support and protect the Klan. Using the same reasoning, the minority jurors might reject testimony of an undercover agent exposing subversive activities on grounds he was sworn to conceal them.

The accused Klansman will be tried again. Meanwhile, he and his associates might reflect rather seriously on that 10 to two ballot.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

10 The Tampa Times
Tampa, Florida

Date: 5/10/65

Edition:

Author:

Editor: Bennett DeLoach

Title: EUGENE THOMAS
ET AL;

VIOLA LIUZZO,

Character: VICT

or

Classification: CR TP EL-3

Submitting Office: Tampa
Bureau 44-28601

☐ Being Investigated

144 9 8601-334
ENCLOSURE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 5-11-65

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE
AUTHOR
REQUEST TO DO ARTICLES
ON GARY THOMAS ROWE

Handwritten: 2/8

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

Handwritten: 1 M.A. Jones

BACKGROUND:

By airtel dated 5-5-65, Birmingham advised that Huie, well-known author who resides in Hartselle, Alabama, has expressed a desire to contact Rowe, Bureau informant in the Viola Liuzzo investigation, in order to write articles on Rowe's activities. Huie stated he has always been "pro-FBI" and that he could assure us that anything he wrote pertaining to Rowe would be favorable to the FBI.

Handwritten: I don't trust Huie

Huie noted that he would be willing to pay Rowe well for his collaboration in connection with articles or a book and would be willing to pay Rowe's expenses to meet him to discuss this matter.

SAC, Birmingham, advised Huie that this matter would be made known to the Bureau and, if there is any interest in his proposition, we would be in contact with him at a later date. SAC further advised that this matter has not been mentioned to Rowe and no further action is being taken by the Birmingham Office pending advice from the Bureau.

WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE:

Huie has just completed a book entitled "Three Lives for Mississippi" which relates to the murder of the three civil rights workers in Philadelphia, Mississippi. Although the book has not been released as yet, it is being serialized in the "New York Herald Tribune" and a daily summary is being sent through for the Director's information.

The "Herald Tribune" describes Huie as a former newspaperman who has written 14 books of fiction and nonfiction. He is a southerner, residing in the Tennessee Valley of North Alabama. He has further been described as an unscrupulous individual.

Enclosure *sent 5-12-65*

- Mr. DeLoach - Enclosure
- Mr. Rosen - Enclosure

JCF:sng (5)

18 MAY 17 1965

(Continued next page)

Handwritten: 48-1260

CRIME RESEARCH

M. A. Jones to DeLoach Memo
RE: William Bradford Huie

Huie is a free-lance writer on controversial subjects who covered the Miburn case and indulged in highly speculative writing about the fate of the three victims and those persons responsible for their deaths. On 10-20-64, he contacted the Jackson Office, stated he was preparing a book on the Miburn case and unsuccessfully attempted to obtain information. Huie visited the Jackson Office on 1-21-65 and offered several chapters of his book, "Three Lives for Mississippi," for review. He was advised the Bureau had no desire to review this book.

OBSERVATIONS:

corrected.
Although we will not collaborate or assist Huie in this matter whatsoever, it is felt to avoid any possibility of being subjected to unjustified criticism in the future, Rowe should be made aware of Huie's offer.

[REDACTED]

b7C
b7A

We should, however, have Huie advised that this matter has been brought to Rowe's attention.

RECOMMENDATION:

That attached airtel to San Francisco with copies to Birmingham be sent instructing them along the lines indicated above, since Mr. Rowe is currently being kept undercover in the area handled by the San Francisco Office.

*one to A. J. don't V.
like to.
H & J Hm JRM pm
Q D*

- 2 -

United States District Court

FOR THE

Northern District of Alabama

RECEIVED

APR 16 1965

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

APPEARANCE BOND

FOR

CLERK
U. S. DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DIST. OF
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

William Orville Eaton

No. 75-15,423

Viol: Tl.15 Doe Etl on Bench Warrant: 11,735-2, Mid. Dist.

Rt 6 Box 566, Bessemer, Ala.

We, the undersigned, jointly and severally acknowledge that we and our personal representatives are bound to pay to the United States of America the sum of Fifty Thousand dollars (\$ 50,000.00).

The conditions of this bond are that the defendant, William Orville Eaton is to appear before United States Commissioner for the District of , at , and in the

United States District Court for the Middle District District of Alabama at Montgomery, Ala.

, and at such other places as the defendant may be required to appear, in accordance with any and all orders and directions relating to the defendant's appearance in the above entitled matter as may be given or issued by the commissioner or by the United States District

Court for the Middle District of Alabama or any other United States District Court to which the defendant may be removed or the cause transferred; that the defendant is not to depart

the Northern District of Alabama or the jurisdiction of any other United States District Court to which the defendant may be removed or the cause transferred after he has appeared in such other district pursuant to the terms of this bond, except in accordance with such orders or warrants

as may be issued by the Commissioner or the United States District Court for the Northern

District of Alabama or the United States District Court for such other district; that the defendant is to abide any judgment entered in such matter by surrendering himself to serve any sentence imposed and obeying any order or direction in connection with such judgment as the court imposing it may prescribe.

If the defendant appears as ordered and otherwise obeys and performs the foregoing conditions of this bond, then this bond is to be void, but if the defendant fails to obey or perform any of these conditions, payment of the amount of this bond shall be due forthwith. Forfeiture of this bond for any breach of its conditions may be declared by any United States District Court having cognizance of the above entitled matter at the time of such breach and if the bond is forfeited and if the forfeiture is not set aside or remitted, judgment may be entered upon motion in such United States District Court against each debtor jointly and severally for the amount above stated, together with interest and costs, and execution may be issued and payment secured as provided by the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and by other laws of the United States.

It is agreed and understood that this is a continuing bond which shall continue in full force and effect until such time as the undersigned are duly exonerated.

This bond is signed on this 7 day of April, 1965 at Birmingham, Alabama

Name of Defendant William Orville Eaton Address Bessemer, Ala. Rt 6 Box 566

Name of Surety J. L. [Signature] Address 1447 [Signature] [Signature]

Name of Surety [Signature] Address RT-4 Box 172 - Bham Ala

Signed and acknowledged before me this 7 day of April, 1965

Approved: [Signature] D. Charlton

[Signature] D. Charlton

United States District Court

FOR THE

Northern District of Alabama

RECEIVED

APR 16 1965

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

APPEARANCE BOND

FOR

No. 73-15,424

Viol. F.1.15 Sec 241 on Bench Warrant 11, Middle Dist. of

Collier Leroy SR Wilkins, Jr
4005 - 40th Way, Fairfield, Ala.

We, the undersigned, jointly and severally acknowledge that we and our personal representatives are bound to pay to the United States of America the sum of Fifty Thousand dollars (\$ 50,000.00).

The conditions of this bond are that the defendant Collier Leroy Wilkins, Jr is to appear before

District of , at , and in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama at

Montgomery, and at such other places as the defendant may be required to appear, in accordance with any and all orders and directions relating to the defendant's appearance in the above entitled matter as may be given or issued by the commissioner or by the United States District

Court for the Middle District of Ala. or any other United States District Court to which the defendant may be removed or the cause transferred; that the defendant is not to depart

the District of Ala. or the jurisdiction of any other United States District Court to which the defendant may be removed or the cause transferred after he has appeared in such other district pursuant to the terms of this bond, except in accordance with such orders or warrants

as may be issued by the Commissioner or the United States District Court for the Northern

District of Alabama or the United States District Court for such other district; that the defendant is to abide any judgment entered in such matter by surrendering himself to serve any sentence imposed and obeying any order or direction in connection with such judgment as the court imposing it may prescribe.

If the defendant appears as ordered and otherwise obeys and performs the foregoing conditions of this bond, then this bond is to be void, but if the defendant fails to obey or perform any of these conditions, payment of the amount of this bond shall be due forthwith. Forfeiture of this bond for any breach of its conditions may be declared by any United States District Court having cognizance of the above entitled matter at the time of such breach and if the bond is forfeited and if the forfeiture is not set aside or remitted, judgment may be entered upon motion in such United States District Court against each debtor jointly and severally for the amount above stated, together with interest and costs, and execution may be issued and payment secured as provided by the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and by other laws of the United States.

It is agreed and understood that this is a continuing bond which shall continue in full force and effect until such time as the undersigned are duly exonerated.

This bond is signed on this 7 day of April 1965 at Birmingham, Ala.

Name of Defendant Collier Leroy Wilkins, Jr Address 4005 - 40th Way, Fairfield,

Name of Surety J. E. Address 697-21 at 11th

Name of Surety W. L. Address 1437 1/2 1st St

Signed and acknowledged before me this 7 day of April 1965

Approved: Louise D. Charlton L. D. Charlton

United States District Court

FOR THE

Northern District of Alabama

RECEIVED

APR 16 1965

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

APPEARANCE BOND FOR U. S. DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DIST. OF MONTGOMERY, ALA.

No. 75-15,425

Eugene Thomas

Viol. 71.15 Sec 241 on Bench Warrant Middle Dist. Ala.

1513 - 12th Ave No., Bessemer, Ala.

We, the undersigned, jointly and severally acknowledge that we and our personal representatives are bound to pay to the United States of America the sum of Fifty Thousand dollars (\$50,000.00).

The conditions of this bond are that the defendant Eugene Thomas is to appear before the United States Commissioner for the District of _____ at _____ and in the

United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama at Montgomery

and at such other places as the defendant may be required to appear, in accordance with any and all orders and directions relating to the defendant's appearance in the above entitled matter as may be given or issued by the commissioner or by the United States District

Court for the Middle District of Ala. or any other United States District Court to which the defendant may be removed or the cause transferred; that the defendant is not to depart

the No. District of Ala. or the jurisdiction of any other United States District Court to which the defendant may be removed or the cause transferred after he has appeared in such other district pursuant to the terms of this bond, except in accordance with such orders or warrants

as may be issued by the Commissioner or the United States District Court for the No

District of Ala. or the United States District Court for such other district; that the defendant is to abide any judgment entered in such matter by surrendering himself to serve any sentence imposed and obeying any order or direction in connection with such judgment as the court imposing it may prescribe.

If the defendant appears as ordered and otherwise obeys and performs the foregoing conditions of this bond, then this bond is to be void, but if the defendant fails to obey or perform any of these conditions, payment of the amount of this bond shall be due forthwith. Forfeiture of this bond for any breach of its conditions may be declared by any United States District Court having cognizance of the above entitled matter at the time of such breach and if the bond is forfeited and if the forfeiture is not set aside or remitted, judgment may be entered upon motion in such United States District Court against each debtor jointly and severally for the amount above stated, together with interest and costs, and execution may be issued and payment secured as provided by the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and by other laws of the United States.

It is agreed and understood that this is a continuing bond which shall continue in full force and effect until such time as the undersigned are duly exonerated.

This bond is signed on this 7 day of April 1965

at Birmingham, Ala.

Name of Defendant Eugene Thomas Address 1513 - 12th Ave No. Bessemer, Ala.

Name of Surety _____ Address 804 No. 21st - Phenix City, Ala.

Name of Surety _____ Address R.T. 4 Box 172 Bham, Ala.

Signed and acknowledged before me this 7 day of April 1965.

Approved: _____

Insert Place

NOTICE—This Bond MUST be signed with Ink and will not be approved if signatures are made with pencil.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, LOWNDES COUNTY.

We, William Orville Eaton Principal,
and Mary Ellen Murphy, Mat & Robert In Coul

sureties agree to pay to the State of Alabama

TEN THOUSAND

Dollars

unless the said William Orville Eaton appear at the

next term of the Circuit Court of Lowndes County, and

from term to term thereafter, until discharged by law, to answer a

prosecution for the offense of Murder 1st degree

and we hereby waive the benefits of all laws exempting property from levy and sale under execution or other process for the collection of debt, by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Alabama, and we hereby severally certify that we have property over and above all debts and liabilities to the full amount of above bond.

Approved this 22nd day of April 1945 William Orville Eaton (S.)

Mary Ellen Murphy (S.)

Melvin Bailey Sheriff. Mat & Robert In Coul (S.)

By W. B. Kelley Deputy Sheriff. Mat & Robert In Coul (S.)

NOTICE—This Bond MUST be signed with Ink and will not be approved if signatures are made with pencil.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, LOWNDES COUNTY.

We, Engene Thomas Eugene Thomas Principal,
and Mary Ellen Murphy, Mat & Robert In Coul

sureties agree to pay to the State of Alabama

TEN THOUSAND

Dollars

unless the said Engene Thomas appear at the

next term of the Circuit Court of Lowndes County, and

from term to term thereafter, until discharged by law, to answer a

prosecution for the offense of Murder 1st degree

and we hereby waive the benefits of all laws exempting property from levy and sale under execution or other process for the collection of debt, by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Alabama, and we hereby severally certify that we have property over and above all debts and liabilities to the full amount of above bond.

Approved this 22nd day of April 1945 Engene Thomas (S.)

Mary Ellen Murphy (S.)

Melvin Bailey Sheriff. Mat & Robert In Coul (S.)

NOTICE—This Bond MUST be signed with Ink and will not be approved if signatures are made with pencil.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, LOWNDES COUNTY.

We, Collie Leroy Wilkins Principal,

Mary Ellen Murphy & Mary D
Murphy & Robert M. Cook

sureties agree to pay to the State of Alabama

TEN THOUSAND

Dollars

unless this said Collie Leroy appear at the

next term of the Circuit Court of Lowndes County, and

from term to term thereafter, until discharged by law, to answer a

prosecution for the offense of Murder 1st degree

and we hereby waive the benefits of all laws exempting property from levy and sale under execution or other process for the collection of debt, by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Alabama, and we hereby severally certify that we have property over and above all debts and liabilities to the full amount of above bond.

Approved this 22nd day of Collie Leroy Wilkins

April 1945 Mary Ellen Murphy

Melvin R. R. R. Sheriff. Mary D. Murphy S.

R. R. R. Deputy Sheriff. Mary D. Murphy S.

FBI WASH DC

FBI BIRMGHAM

714PM CST URGENT 5-13-65 HEP
TO DIRECTOR

FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1236) 1P

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

MAY 13 1965

TELETYPE

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

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL DASH VICTIMS, CR-EL Gandy

RE TELCALL FROM BUREAU TO BIRMINGHAM THIS DATE.

BIRMINGHAM INDICES REFLECT MR. PAUL JOHNSTON IS MEMBER OF
LAW FIRM CABANISS, JOHNSTON, GARDNER, AND CLARK, BIRMINGHAM.
THIS LAW FIRM CONSIDERED ONE OF OUTSTANDING FIRMS IN BIRMINGHAM
HANDLING PRIMARILY CIVIL CASES AND REPRESENTING MANY MAJOR
BUSINESSES IN BIRMINGHAM.

AGENTS, BIRMINGHAM OFFICE, KNOW JOHNSTON TO BE PERSON OF
EXCELLENT CHARACTER AND REPUTATION, OUTSTANDING LEGAL ABILITY,
GREAT INTEGRITY, AND HIGHLY REGARDED THROUGHOUT AREA AS CITIZEN
AND ATTORNEY.

BIRMINGHAM INDICES REFLECT JOHNSTON IS MEMBER OF UNITARIAN
CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM, AND THIS CHURCH ACTIVE IN SUPPORT OF INTEGRATION
ACTIVITIES IN PAST. THIS HAS RESULTED IN CRITICISM OF CHURCH BY
MORE CONSERVATIVE GROUPS. NO DEROGATORY INFO RE JOHNSTON IN
BIRMINGHAM FILES.

AIRMAIL COPY TO MOBILE

END

WBS

FBI WASH DC

MAY 20 1965

MAY 14 1965

FBI

Date: 4/29/65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1236)

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL
VIOLA LIUZZO, aka; ET AL - VICTIMS
CR; EL

As the Bureau is aware, in connection with the search of the residence of EUGENE THOMAS, with search warrant, One Newport Model CN Double Barrel (short) Shotgun, Serial #T70594, was located [REDACTED]

It is requested that the Bureau, by liaison, ascertain whether or not weapon described above is registered in the Central Records of ATU in Washington, D. C. In the event this weapon is not registered the Bureau is requested to consult with the Department regarding an opinion and possible prosecution of EUGENE THOMAS in connection with his possession of the saved off shotgun described above.

3 Bureau
2 Birmingham

RGJ:rc
(5)

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

REC-108

12 MAY 5 1965

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. D. J. Brennan, Jr. DATE: May 4, 1965

FROM : P. D. Putnam

SUBJECT: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL.
VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL. - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATION
ELECTION LAWS

11-11-65

In connection with the search of the residence of subject Eugene Thomas, one Newport Model CN double-barrel (short) shotgun, serial number T70594, was located [REDACTED] Birmingham, by airtel 4-29-65, requested that the Bureau, through Liaison, ascertain whether or not the foregoing weapon is registered in the central records of the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division (ATTD), Internal Revenue Service, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C.

On 5/4/65, [REDACTED] ATTD, after checking ATTD central records, advised that he could locate no record of registration for the foregoing weapon in the name of Eugene Thomas. [REDACTED] added that in the event the barrel or barrels of this weapon is less than 18 inches or in the event the weapon has been altered to an over-all length of less than 26 inches, subject could be in violation of Section 5851, Chapter 53, Title 26, United States Code. [REDACTED] remarked that if the Department authorizes prosecution of Thomas in connection with his possession of the weapon, that his office be contacted for an appropriate representative thereof to testify or in lieu of the testimony of a representative of ATTD, a certification from an appropriate official of ATTD.

b7c

Enclosed for the information of the Civil Rights Section is a copy of the National Firearms Act and Federal Firearms Act which may be of assistance in this matter.

ACTION:

Refer to Civil Rights Section.

PDP:cd
(5)

- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Hines
- 1 - Liaison
- 1 - Mr. Putnam

Enclosure

REC-103

337
MAY 14 1965
6-11-65

*Continued by 7th
Revised 1964*

**NATIONAL
FIREARMS
ACT**

_____and

**FEDERAL
FIREARMS
ACT**



U. S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Internal Revenue Service

PUBLICATION NO. 344 (Rev. 3-64)

NATIONAL FIREARMS ACT AND FEDERAL FIREARMS ACT

Internal Revenue Service
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division
Enforcement Branch

The National Firearms Act and the Federal Firearms Act are administered by the Enforcement Branch of this operational division of your Internal Revenue Service. Uniform enforcement of these laws is in the best public interest, contributing to the suppression of crime by the process of regulating traffic in firearms and ammunition and providing the basis for prosecution of willful violators. The laws which govern the scope of the firearms program are reprinted herein for distribution as a public service.

Your cooperation and support in our effort to effectively administer the firearms program are solicited in the interest of better law enforcement.

DWIGHT E. AVIS, *Director,*
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division.

NATIONAL FIREARMS ACT

Law: United States Code, Title 26, Chapter 55.
Regulations: Part 179 of Title 26 (1954), Code of Federal Regulations.

Weapons coming within the purview of the National Firearms Act may be legally acquired and lawfully possessed subject to regulatory requirements. However, any such weapon is contraband unless properly registered, and unlawful possession thereof is subject to statutory penalties.

SPECIAL (OCCUPATIONAL) TAXES

Section 5801. Tax. (a) *Rate.*—On first engaging in business, and thereafter on or before the first day of July of each year, every importer, manufacturer, and dealer in firearms shall pay a special tax at the following rates:

- (1) *Importers or manufacturers.*—Importers or manufacturers, \$500 a year or fraction thereof;
- (2) *Dealers other than pawnbrokers.*—Dealers, other than pawnbrokers, \$200 a year or fraction thereof;
- (3) *Pawnbrokers.*—Pawnbrokers, \$300 a year or fraction thereof;

Provided, That manufacturers and dealers in guns with combination shotgun and rifle barrels, 12 inches or more but less than 18 inches in length, from which only a single discharge can be made from either barrel without manual reloading, and manufacturers and dealers in guns classified as "any other weapon" under section 5848(5), shall pay the following taxes: Manufacturers, \$25 a year or fraction thereof; dealers, \$10 a year or fraction thereof.

(b) *Cross Reference.*—For license to transport, ship, or receive firearms or ammunition under the Federal Firearms Act, see section 3 of the Act of June 30, 1938 (52 Stat. 1251; 15 U.S.C. 903).

Section 5802. *Registration. Importers, Manufacturers, and Dealers.*—On first engaging in business, and thereafter on or before the first day of July of each year, every importer, manufacturer, and dealer in firearms shall register with the Secretary or his delegate in each internal revenue district in which such business is to be carried on his name or style, principal place of business, and places of business in such district.

Section 5803. *Exemptions.* For provisions exempting certain transfers, see section 5312.

political subdivision thereof, or the District of Columbia, or

(B) any peace officer or any Federal officer designated by regulations of the Secretary or his delegate.

Any person who makes a firearm in respect of which the tax imposed by subsection (a) does not apply by reason of this subsection shall make such report in respect thereof as the Secretary or his delegate may by regulations prescribe.

(c) *By Whom Paid; When Paid.*—The tax imposed by subsection (a) shall be paid by the person making the firearm. Such tax shall be paid in advance of the making of the firearm.

(d) *How Paid.*—Payment of the tax imposed by subsection (a) shall be represented by appropriate stamps to be provided by the Secretary or his delegate.

(e) *Declaration.*—It shall be unlawful for any person subject to the tax imposed by subsection (a) to make a firearm unless, prior to such making, he has declared in writing his intention to make a firearm, has affixed the stamp described in subsection (d) to the original of such declaration, and has filed such original and a copy thereof. The declaration required by the preceding sentence shall be filed at such place, and shall be in such form and contain such information, as the Secretary or his delegate may by regulations prescribe. The original of the declaration, with the stamp affixed, shall be returned to the person making the declaration. If the person making the declaration is an individual, there shall be included as part of the declaration the fingerprints and a photograph of such individual.

OTHER TAXES

Section 5831. *Cross Reference.*—For excise tax on pistols, revolvers, and firearms, see section 4181.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 5841. *Registration of Persons in General.* Every person possessing a firearm shall register, with the Secretary or his delegate, the number or other mark identifying such firearm, together with his name, address, place where such firearm is usually kept, and place of business or employment, and, if such person is other than a natural person, the name and home address of an executive officer thereof. No person shall be required to register under this section with respect to a firearm which such person acquired by transfer or importation or which such person made, if provisions of this chapter applied to such transfer, importation, or making, as the case may be, and if the provisions which applied thereto were complied with.

Section 5842. *Books, Records and Returns.* Importers, manufacturers, and dealers shall keep such books and records and render such returns in relation to the transactions in firearms specified in this chapter as the Secretary or his delegate may by regulations require.

Section 5843. *Identification of Firearms.* Each manufacturer and importer of a firearm shall identify it with a number and other identification marks approved by the Secretary or his delegate, such number and marks to be stamped or otherwise placed thereon in a manner approved by the Secretary or his delegate.

Section 5844. *Exportation.* Under such regulations as the Secretary or his delegate may prescribe, and upon proof of the exportation of any firearm to any foreign country (whether exported as part of another article or not) with respect to which the transfer tax under section 5811 has been paid by the manufacturer, the Secretary or his delegate shall refund to the manufacturer the amount of the tax so paid, or, if the manufacturer waives all claim for the amount to be refunded, the refund shall be made to the exporter.

Section 5845. *Importation.* No firearm shall be imported or brought into the United States or any territory under its control or jurisdiction, except that, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary or his delegate, any firearm may be so imported or brought in when—

- (1) the purpose thereof is shown to be lawful and
- (2) such firearm is unique or of a type which cannot be obtained within the United States or such territory.

Section 5846. *Other Laws Applicable.* All provisions of law (including those relating to special taxes, to the assessment, collection, remission, and refund of internal revenue taxes, to the engraving, issuance, sale, accountability, cancellation, and distribution of taxpaid stamps provided for in the internal revenue laws, and to penalties) applicable with respect to the taxes imposed by sections 4701 and 4721, and all other provisions of the internal revenue laws shall, insofar as not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, be applicable with respect to the taxes imposed by sections 5811(a), 5821(a) and 5801.

Section 5847. *Regulations.* The Secretary or his delegate shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary for carrying the provisions of this chapter into effect.

Section 5848. *Definitions.* For purposes of this chapter—

(1) *Firearm.*—The term "firearm" means a shotgun having a barrel or barrels of less than 18 inches in length, or a rifle having a barrel or barrels of less than 16 inches in length, or any weapon made from a rifle or shotgun (whether by alteration, modification, or otherwise) if such weapon as modified has an overall length of less than 26 inches, or any other weapon, except a pistol or revolver, from which a shot is discharged by an explosive if such weapon is capable of being concealed on the person, or a machine gun, and includes a muffler or silencer for any firearm whether or not such firearm is included within the foregoing definition.

(2) *Machine gun.*—The term "machine gun" means any weapon which shoots, or is designed to

shoot, automatically or semiautomatically, more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

(3) *Rifle*.—The term "rifle" means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed metallic cartridge to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger.

(4) *Shotgun*.—The term "shotgun" means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed shotgun shell to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball shot or a single projectile for each single pull of the trigger.

(5) *Any other weapon*.—The term "any other weapon" means any weapon or device capable of being concealed on the person from which a shot can be discharged through the energy of an explosive, but such term shall not include pistols or revolvers or weapons designed, made or intended to be fired from the shoulder and not capable of being fired with fixed ammunition.

(6) *Importer*.—The term "importer" means any person who imports or brings firearms into the United States for sale.

(7) *Manufacturer*.—The term "manufacturer" means any person who is engaged within the United States in the business of manufacturing firearms, or who otherwise produces therein any firearm for sale or disposition.

(8) *Dealer*.—The term "dealer" means any person not a manufacturer or importer, engaged within the United States in the business of selling firearms. The term "dealer" shall include wholesalers, pawnbrokers, and dealers in used firearms.

(9) *Interstate commerce*.—The term "interstate commerce" means transportation from any State or Territory or District, or any insular possession of the United States, to any other State or to the District of Columbia.

(10) *To transfer or transferred*.—The term "to transfer" or "transferred" shall include to sell, assign, pledge, lease, loan, give away, or otherwise dispose of.

(11) *Person*.—The term "person" includes a partnership, company, association, or corporation, as well as a natural person.

Section 5849. Citation of Chapter. This chapter may be cited as the "National Firearms Act" and any reference in any other provision of law to the "National Firearms Act" shall be held to refer to the provisions of this chapter.

UNLAWFUL ACTS

Section 5851. Possessing Firearms Illegally. It shall be unlawful for any person to receive or possess any firearm which has at any time been transferred in violation of sections 5811, 5812(b), 5813, 5814, 5815 or 5846, or which has at any time been made in violation of section 5821, or to possess any firearm which has not been registered as required by section 5841. Whenever on trial for a violation of this section the defendant is shown to have or to have had possession of such firearm, such possession shall be deemed sufficient evidence to authorize conviction, unless the defendant explains such possession to the satisfaction of the jury.

Section 5852. Removing or Changing Identification Marks. It shall be unlawful for anyone to obliterate, remove, change, or alter the number or other identification mark required by section 5813. Whenever on trial for a violation of this section the defendant is shown to have or to have had possession of any firearm upon which such number or mark shall have been obliterated, removed, changed, or altered, such possession shall be deemed sufficient evidence to authorize conviction, unless the defendant explains such possession to the satisfaction of the jury.

Section 5853. Importing Firearms Illegally. It shall be unlawful—

(1) fraudulently or knowingly to import or bring any firearm into the United States or any territory under its control or jurisdiction, in violation of the provisions of this chapter; or

(2) knowingly to assist in so doing; or

(3) to receive, conceal, buy, sell, or in any manner facilitate the transportation, concealment or sale of any such firearm after being imported or brought in, knowing the same to have been imported or brought in contrary to law.

Whenever on trial for a violation of this section the defendant is shown to have or to have had possession of such firearm, such possession shall be deemed sufficient evidence to authorize conviction, unless the defendant explains such possession to the satisfaction of the jury.

Section 5854. Failure To Register and Pay Special Tax. It shall be unlawful for any person required to register under the provisions of section 5802 to import, manufacture, or deal in firearms without having registered and paid the tax imposed by section 5801.

Section 5855. Unlawful Transportation in Interstate Commerce. It shall be unlawful for any person who is required to register as provided in section 5801 and who shall not have so registered, or any other person who has not in his possession a stamp-affixed order as provided in section 5814 or a stamp-affixed declaration as provided in section 5821, to ship, carry, or deliver any firearm in interstate commerce.

PENALTIES AND FORFEITURES

Section 5861. Penalties. Any person who violates or fails to comply with any of the requirements of this chapter shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than

\$2,000, or be imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Section 5862. Forfeitures. (a) *Laws Applicable.*—Any firearm involved in any violation of the provisions of this chapter or any regulation promulgated thereunder shall be subject to seizure and forfeiture, and (except as provided in subsection (b)) all the provisions of internal revenue laws relating to searches, seizures, and forfeiture of unstamped articles are extended to and made to apply to the articles taxed under this chapter, and the persons to whom this chapter applies.

(b) *Disposal.*—In the case of the forfeiture of any firearm by reason of a violation of this chapter: No notice of public sale shall be required; no such firearm shall be sold at public sale; if such firearm is forfeited for a violation of this chapter and there is no remission or mitigation of forfeiture thereof, it shall be delivered by the Secretary or his delegate to the Administrator of General Services, General Services Administration, who may order such firearm destroyed or may sell it to any State, Territory, or possession, or political subdivision thereof, or the District of Columbia, or at the request of the Secretary or his delegate may authorize its retention for official use of the Treasury Department, or may transfer it without charge to any executive department or independent establishment of the Government for use by it.

FEDERAL FIREARMS ACT

Law: United States Code, Title 18, Chapter 18.
Regulations: Part 177 of Title 26 (1954), Code of Federal Regulations.

All firearms (including parts thereof), silencers, and pistol or revolver ammunition come within the purview of this Act, and commercial (interstate) traffic therein is subject to licensing requirements. This Act is designed primarily to deny the criminal lawful access to such items, but violations of the law arise from the operations of the licensee and/or the criminal status of the person involved rather than the mere possession of a weapon.

Section 901. Definitions. As used in this chapter:

(1) The term "person" includes an individual, partnership, association, or corporation.

(2) The term "interstate or foreign commerce" means commerce between any State, Territory or possession (not including the Canal Zone), or the District of Columbia, and any place outside thereof; or between points within the same State, Territory, or possession (not including the Canal Zone), or the District of Columbia, but through any place outside thereof; or within any Territory or possession or the District of Columbia.

(3) The term "firearm" means any weapon, by whatever name known, which is designed to expel a projectile or projectiles by the action of an explosive and a firearm muffler or firearm silencer, or any part or parts of such weapon.

(4) The term "manufacturer" means any person engaged in the manufacture or importation of firearms, or ammunition or cartridge cases, primers, bullets, or propellant powder for purposes of sale or distribution; and the term "licensed manufacturer" means any such person licensed under the provisions of this chapter.

(5) The term "dealer" means any person engaged in the business of selling firearms or ammunition or cartridge cases, primers, bullets or propellant powder, at wholesale or retail, or any person engaged in the business of repairing such firearms or of manufacturing or fitting special barrels, stocks, trigger mechanisms, or breech mechanisms to firearms, and the term "licensed dealer" means any such person licensed under the provisions of this chapter.

(6) The term "fugitive from justice" means any person who has fled from any State, Territory, the District of Columbia, or possession of the United States to avoid prosecution for a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year or to avoid giving testimony in any criminal proceeding.

(7) The term "ammunition" shall include only pistol or revolver ammunition. It shall not include shotgun shells, metallic ammunition suitable for use only in rifles, or any .22 caliber rimfire ammunition.

Section 902. Transporting, Shipping, or Receiving Firearms or Ammunition in Interstate or Foreign Commerce: Acts Prohibited. (a) It shall be unlawful for any manufacturer or dealer, except a manufacturer or dealer having a license issued under the provisions of this chapter, to transport, ship, or receive any firearm or ammunition in interstate or foreign commerce.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to receive any firearm or ammunition transported or shipped in interstate or foreign commerce in violation of subdivision (a) of this section, knowing or having reasonable cause to believe such firearms or ammunition to have been transported or shipped in violation of subdivision (a) of this section.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any licensed manufacturer or dealer to transport or ship any firearm in interstate or foreign commerce to any person other than a licensed manufacturer or dealer in any State the laws of which require that a license be obtained for the purchase of such firearm, unless such license is exhibited to such manufacturer or dealer by the prospective purchaser.

(d) It shall be unlawful for any person to ship, transport, or cause to be shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce any firearm or ammunition to any person knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that such person is under indictment or has been convicted in any court of the United States, the several States, Territories, possessions, or the District of Columbia of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year or is a fugitive from justice.

(e) It shall be unlawful for any person who is under indictment or who has been convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year or who is a fugitive from justice to ship, transport, or cause to be shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce any firearm or ammunition.

(f) It shall be unlawful for any person who has been convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year or is a fugitive from justice to receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce, and the possession of a firearm or ammunition by any such person shall be presumptive evidence that such firearm or ammunition was shipped or transported or received, as the case may be, by such person in violation of this chapter.

(g) It shall be unlawful for any person to transport or ship or cause to be transported or shipped in interstate or foreign commerce any stolen firearm or

(h) It shall be unlawful for any person to receive, conceal, store, barter, sell, or dispose of any firearm or ammunition or to pledge or accept as security for a loan any firearm or ammunition moving in or which is a part of interstate or foreign commerce, and which while so moving or constituting such part has been stolen, knowing, or having reasonable cause to believe the same to have been stolen.

(i) It shall be unlawful for any person to transport, ship, or knowingly receive in interstate or foreign commerce any firearm from which the manufacturer's serial number has been removed, obliterated, or altered, and the possession of any such firearm shall be presumptive evidence that such firearm was transported, shipped, or received, as the case may be, by the possessor in violation of this chapter.

Section 903. License To Transport, Ship, or Receive Firearms or Ammunition. (a) Any manufacturer or dealer desiring a license to transport, ship, or receive firearms or ammunition in interstate or foreign commerce shall make application to the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall prescribe by rules and regulations the information to be contained in such application. The applicant shall, if a manufacturer, pay a fee of \$25 per annum and, if a dealer, shall pay a fee of \$1 per annum.

(b) Upon payment of the prescribed fee, the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue to such applicant a license which shall entitle the licensee to transport, ship, and receive firearms and ammunition in interstate and foreign commerce unless and until the license is suspended or revoked in accordance with the provisions of this chapter: *Provided*, That no license shall be issued to any applicant within two years after the revocation of a previous license.

(c) Whenever any licensee is convicted of a violation of any of the provisions of this chapter, it shall be the duty of the clerk of the court to notify the Secretary of the Treasury within forty-eight hours after such conviction and said Secretary shall revoke such license: *Provided*, That in the case of appeal from such conviction the licensee may furnish a bond in the amount of \$1,000, and upon receipt of such bond acceptable to the Secretary of the Treasury he may permit the licensee to continue business during the period of the appeal, or should the licensee refuse or neglect to furnish such bond, the Secretary of the Treasury shall suspend such license until he is notified by the clerk of the court of last appeal as to the final disposition of the case.

(d) Licensed dealers shall maintain such permanent records of importation, shipment, and other disposal of firearms and ammunition as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe.

Section 904. Excepted Persons. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply with respect to the transportation, shipment, receipt, or importation of any firearm, ammunition, or

of: (1) the United States or any department, independent establishment, or agency thereof; (2) any State, Territory, or possession, or the District of Columbia, or any department, independent establishment, agency, or any political subdivision thereof; (3) any duly commissioned officer or agent of the United States, a State, Territory, or possession, or the District of Columbia, or any political subdivision thereof; (4) or to any bank, public carrier, express, or armored-truck company organized and operating in good faith for the transportation of money and valuables; (5) or to any research laboratory designated by the Secretary of the Treasury: *Provided*, That such bank, public carriers, express, and armored-truck companies are granted exemption by the Secretary of the Treasury; nor to the transportation, shipment, or receipt of any antique or unserviceable firearms, or ammunition, possessed and held as curios or museum pieces: *Provided*, That nothing contained in this section shall be construed to prevent shipments of firearms and ammunition to institutions, organizations, or persons to whom such firearms and ammunition may be lawfully delivered by the Secretary of War, nor to prevent the transportation of such firearms and ammunition so delivered by their lawful possessors while they are engaged in military training or in competitions.

Section 905. Penalties. (a) Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter or any rules and regulations promulgated hereunder, or who makes any statement in applying for the license or exemption provided for in this chapter, knowing such statement to be false, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than \$2,000, or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both.

(b) Any firearm or ammunition involved in any violation of the provisions of this chapter or any rules or regulations promulgated thereunder shall be subject to seizure and forfeiture, and all provisions of Title 26 relating to the seizure, forfeiture, and disposition of firearms as defined in section 2733¹ of Title 26 shall, so far as applicable, extend to seizures and forfeitures incurred under the provisions of this chapter.

Section 906. Effective Date of Chapter. This chapter shall take effect thirty days after June 30, 1938.

Section 907. Rules and Regulations. The Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe such rules and regulations as he deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

Section 908. Separability Clause. Should any section or subsection of this chapter be declared unconstitutional, the remaining portion of the chapter shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 909. Short Title. This chapter may be cited as the Federal Firearms Act.

¹ Sec. 5448, Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

Information regarding the firearms laws may be obtained at any regional or branch office of the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax. For the exact location of the office in your vicinity, it is suggested you consult the Government listings in your local telephone directory.

**Assistant Regional Commissioner
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT**

Located at:

Address and Telephone

ATLANTA, Georgia (522-4121), 275 Peachtree Street NE., Atlanta, Ga., 30303

BOSTON, Massachusetts (523-8600), 55 Tremont Street, Boston, Mass., 02108

CHICAGO, Illinois (222-8468), 35 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill., 60601

CINCINNATI, Ohio (381-2200), 5th and Main Streets, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45201

DALLAS, Texas (748-5611), Santa Fe Building, 1114 Commerce Street, Dallas, Tex., 75202

NEW YORK, New York (232-2100), 90 Church Street, New York, N. Y., 10007

PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania (923-2400), Third Floor, 2 Penn Center Plaza, Philadelphia, Pa., 19102

SAN FRANCISCO, California (986-3500), Flood Building, 870 Market Street, San Francisco, Calif., 94102

Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: May 11, 1965

FROM : A. Rosen

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Hines

SUBJECT: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATION
ELECTION LAWS

In connection with the search of the residence of subject Eugene Thomas on 3/26/65 with a search warrant, one Newport Model CN double-barrel (short) shotgun, serial number T70594, was located

Possession of such a weapon with a barrel of less than 18 inches or which has been altered to an over-all length of less than 26 inches which has not been registered with the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division (ATTD) of the Treasury Department could be a violation of the Federal Firearms Act (Title 26, Section 5851, Chapter 53, U. S. Code). The barrel of Thomas' gun is 12 1/2 inches long. The over-all length of the gun is 28 7/8 inches.

Upon recovery of this weapon the facts of its possession in possible violation of the Federal Firearms Act were presented to Departmental Attorney St. John Barrett in Birmingham who was there handling the Liuzzo case for the Department. Mr. Barrett advised that he would not render an opinion regarding this violation until he had reviewed other material being developed in the case.

Birmingham has advised that the local ATTD Office in Birmingham could locate no record of the registration of this weapon and requested that a check be made of the central ATTD records at Washington. This has been done and no record for the registration of the weapon can be located in the central records in Washington.

Birmingham also requested that this matter be discussed with the Department for an opinion as to whether or not prosecution would be instituted against Thomas regarding this violation.

On 5/10/65 the Civil Rights Division of the Department advised that they had reviewed this matter and had forwarded the facts to the Criminal Division of the Department with the

JWH/ral
(6)

MAY 14 1965

CONTINUED - OVER

REC-100 44-38861-338

64

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;

recommendation that prosecution be instituted. If the Criminal Division agrees with the Civil Rights Division recommendation, appropriate instructions will be issued to the U. S. Attorney by the Department to present this matter to the next Federal Grand Jury.

ACTION:

This matter is being closely followed.

4-11-68 *clm*

V

10/1/68

J

E

5/13/65

1 - Mr. Hines

Airtel

To: SAC, Birmingham

From: Director, FBI

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS; ELECTION LAWS

ReBHAirtel to Bureau 4/29/65.

The matter of possible prosecution of Eugene Thomas in connection with the sawed-off shotgun recovered during the search of his residence on 3/26/65 was discussed with the Civil Rights Division of the Department. The Civil Rights Division has advised that they have reviewed this matter and forwarded the facts to the Criminal Division of the Department with the recommendation that prosecution of Thomas under the Federal Firearms Act be instituted. It is expected that the Criminal Division will agree with the recommendation of the Civil Rights Division and, if so, appropriate instructions will be issued by the Department to the U. S. Attorney at Birmingham to present this matter to the next Federal Grand Jury.

Birmingham insure that the U. S. Attorney is in possession of all information developed in our investigation regarding this charge. Any additional investigation necessary to fully substantiate the charge should be promptly conducted and the results furnished to the U. S. Attorney.

For your information on 5/4/65 [REDACTED] b7
ATTD, after checking ATTD central records, advised that he could locate no record of registration for the foregoing weapon in the name of Eugene Thomas. [REDACTED] added that in the event the barrel or barrels of this weapon is less than 18 inches or in b7

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

1 - Mobile

JWH/ral

(5)

SEE NOTE ON PAGE TWO.

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Airtel to Birmingham
RE: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;

the event the weapon has been altered to an over-all length of less than 26 inches, subject could be in violation of Section 5851, Chapter 53, Title 26, U. S. Code. [REDACTED] remarked that if the Department authorizes prosecution of Thomas in connection with his possession of the weapon, that his office be contacted for an appropriate representative thereof to testify or in lieu of the testimony of a representative of ATTD, a certification from an appropriate official of ATTD. b7c

NOTE:

In connection with the search of the residence of subject Eugene Thomas on 3/26/65 with a search warrant, one Newport Model CN double-barrel (short) shotgun, Serial Number T70594, was located [REDACTED] b7c

The barrel of the gun is 12½ inches long which is under the 18 inches prescribed in the Federal Firearms Act. Birmingham advised that the gun was not registered with the ATTD locally and requested that we check ATTD central records at Washington which was done by liaison. Birmingham also requested that we contact the Department for their opinion as to possible prosecution of subject Thomas for violation of Federal Firearms Act.

FBI WASH DC

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

MAY 13 1965

FBI DETROIT

TELETYPE

12-00N00 URGENT 5-13-65 DMR

TO DIRECTOR (44-28601)

ATTENTION TRAINING DIVISION

FROM DETROIT (44-643) 2P

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

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS.
CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS. OO MOBILE.

REDETEL MAY TWELVE, SIXTYFIVE.

FOR FURTHER INFO OF BUREAU, ARTICLE IN DETROIT FREE PRESS MAY THIRTEEN, SIXTYFIVE, BY WALTER RUGABER, STAFF WRITER, STATES DIXIE DEMOCRAT URGES PROBE "LEAK" OF LIUZZO FILE. ARTICLE STATES REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES LONGSTREET WELTNER, ATLANTA DEMOCRAT, HAS SPEARHEADED INVESTIGATION OF THE KLAN BY THE HOUSE UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE. WELTNER IS QUOTED AS SAYING, "ONE OF THE EXPRESSED PURPOSES OF THIS INQUIRY IS TO DETERMINE WHAT LIAISON OR CONNECTION THERE IS BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND THE KLAN ORGANIZATION." WELTNER IS FURTHER QUOTED AS STATING, "THE APPEARANCE OF THIS DOSSIER ON MRS. LIUZZO UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES IS MOST ASSUREDLY A MATTER THAT WILL BE OF DEEP INTEREST TO THE COMMITTEE." THE FREE PRESS NEWS ARTICLE MADE REFERENCE TO THE

END PAGE ONE

58 MAY 21 1955

MR. MEYER FOR THE GOVERNOR

MAY 18 1965

DE 44-643

PAGE TWO

REPORT PREPARED BY POLICE COMMISSIONER MARVIN G. LANE, WARREN, MICHIGAN, WHICH WAS SENT TO DALLAS COUNTY, ALABAMA SHERIFF JAMES G. CLARK.

ON MAY THIRTEEN, SIXTYFIVE, RUGABER CONTACTED THE DETROIT OFFICE SEEKING CONFIRMATION OF A REPORT ALLEGEDLY RECEIVED BY A FREE PRESS REPORTER TO THE EFFECT THAT THE FBI HAD BEEN ASKED TO LOOK INTO AND MAKE INVESTIGATION OF THE ALLEGED DISSEMINATION OF THE LANE REPORT ON LIUZZO TO THE KLAN. RUGABER WAS ADVISED THERE WOULD BE NO COMMENT MADE TO HIS INQUIRY.

COPY OF RUGABER'S ARTICLE APPEARING IN MAY THIRTEEN, SIXTYFIVE, FREE PRESS FOLLOWS.

AM COPY BEING SENT MOBILE FOR INFORMATION.

END

BJH

FBI WASH DC

P

CC-MR. ROSEN

11/1/65

Rod to 11/1/65

FBI

Date: 5/12/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____

AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601)

FROM: SAC, DETROIT (44-643) (RUC)

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO; ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

Re Detroit teletypes to Bureau, dated 5/12/65.

Enclosed for Bureau are five copies of an LHM covering matter mentioned in referenced teletype, one copy of LHM enclosed for Mobile, one copy of LHM enclosed for Birmingham, one copy of LHM enclosed for USA, Birmingham, and one copy of LHM enclosed for USA, Montgomery.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 5) (RM)
1 - Birmingham (Enc. 3) (Info) (RM)
1 - Mobile (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)
1 - Detroit

MFC/emo
(6)

EX 110

100 CDD

5-15-65

654-9

50 H/H

100 CDD

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100 CDD

REC-23

44-28601-342

21 MAY 18 1965

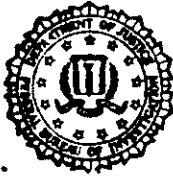
Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Detroit, Michigan
May 12, 1965

Re: Eugene Thomas; Et Al;
Viola Liuzzo; Et Al - Victims

Mr. Anthony J. Liuzzo, 19375 Marlowe, Detroit, Michigan, the husband of slain civil rights worker Viola Liuzzo, on the evening of May 11, 1965, advised that he had been contacted earlier on the same date by "Detroit Free Press" staff writer Mr. Walter Rugaber concerning an article which was to appear in the "Detroit Free Press", a daily newspaper published in Detroit on May 12, 1965.

Mr. Rugaber had advised Mr. Liuzzo that the "Detroit Free Press" had learned that a six-page report had been sent early in April, 1965, to Sheriff James Clark, Selma, Alabama, by Warren, Michigan, Police Commissioner Marvin G. Lane.

Mr. Lane was formerly Chief of Detectives at the Detroit Police Department.

According to Mr. Liuzzo, the report was alleged to have contained detailed information concerning his deceased wife's voting history and Mr. Liuzzo's financial background.

Mr. Liuzzo stated that he was upset over the invasion of his privacy and stated that he felt that in view of Mr. Lane's cooperation with Sheriff Clark that Mr. Lane might be considered as a person who would cooperate with and assist the Ku Klux Klan.

ENCLOSURE

44-28601-342

Re: Eugene Thomas; Et Al
Viola Liuzzo; Et Al - Victims

A copy of the article which appeared in the "Detroit Free Press" City Edition on the evening of May 11, 1965, dated May 12, 1965, entitled, "Klan Gets Secret Report On Life of Mrs. Liuzzo" is attached.

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.

Klan Gets Secret Report On Life of Mrs. Liuzzo

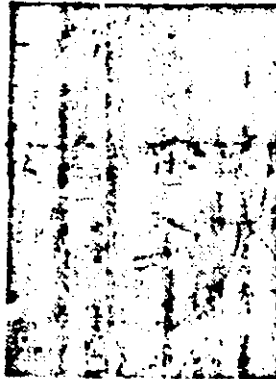
BY WALTER RUGABER
Free Press Staff Writer

A "confidential" report by a Detroit-area police official on some intimate details of Mrs. Viola Gregg Liuzzo's life has wound up in a Ku Klux Klan dossier on the slain civil rights worker.

The six-page report was prepared by Police Commissioner Marvin G. Lane, of suburban Warren, who said he gathered the information from "confidential sources."

It was sent by Lane to Dallas County Sheriff James G. Clark, of Selma, the Alabama officer who popularized "Nigger" buttons during civil rights demonstrations there.

Klan Imperial Wizard Robert M. Shelton, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., revealed copies of the report to a number of reporters in Alabama last week.



Marvin G. Lane

How he obtained the document remained a mystery.

SHELTON DENIED that the report—which contains details on Mrs. Liuzzo's voting history and the family's financial means—came to him from Clark.

"I got it through some other source," Shelton said. He declined to name the source.

Lane said he produced the information as a courtesy to a fellow enforcement officer.

Mrs. Liuzzo was shot on US-80 in Lowndes County, Ala. Clark's jurisdiction is neighboring Dallas County.

Lane, former chief of detectives of the Detroit Police Department, said he had made only two copies of the report. He said the original went to Clark. The other, he said, remains in his desk.

"If anything got out," Lane said, "the sheriff (Clark) was responsible."

Told that something did "get out" and was now in the hands of the Klan, Lane said:

"It shouldn't be done. There's

Turn to Page 2A, Column 1

Klan Gets 'Secret' Report On Mrs. Liuzzo's Life

Continued from Page One

nothing I can do about it. There's nothing in the report other than facts. But it was never intended to be circulated other than to . . . officers."

THE DOCUMENT contains allegations of Liuzzo family problems, details of Mrs. Liuzzo's three marriages and a detailed rundown on family indebtedness.

Shelton disclosed copies of the report to newsmen who were in Alabama for the trial of Mrs. Liuzzo's accused killer, Klansman Collie Leroy Wilkins Jr., 21.

Wilkins is one of three Klansmen charged with the highway shooting of Mrs. Liuzzo after she participated in the civil rights walk from Selma to Montgomery in March.

He was released on bond Friday after a jury in Hayneville reported that it was deadlocked. Alabama officials have promised that Wilkins will be tried again.

Shelton said Klan Imperial Klonsel Matt H. Murphy, Wilkins' attorney, made a number of efforts to introduce the Lane report at the trial. He was unsuccessful.

BUT THE Klan leader indicated that when legal proceedings against the three Klansmen are concluded the report will be more widely circulated.

Shelton said the Klan is "holding up releasing anything" on Mrs. Liuzzo to prevent critics from charging that the Klan is trying to influence a jury.

The report is hardly the South's deepest secret, however.

Newsmen said the information has been widely circulated in the region.

The Jackson (Miss.) Daily News, in a recent account of a speech there by Sheriff Clark, reported:

"He (Clark) said Mrs. Liuzzo had a police record in Detroit four pages long."

DETROIT POLICE said their records do not substantiate that report.

Lane said he knew Clark through work in police organization. The sheriff is an acquaintance, Lane said, no personal friend.

Clark called Lane and asked for a background report after Mrs. Liuzzo was killed.

"I don't know what his purpose was," Lane said. "I didn't question it."

Lane has been a policeman more than 30 years and takes obvious pride in his well-developed "ways of getting information."

In his report to Clark, written on City of Warren stationery, Lane said:

"This information was obtained from the law enforcement agencies of this area and other people."

In return, Lane asked a favor of Clark.

" . . . We would like, if it is at all possible, to develop the method of transport to Selma, Ala., by Mrs. Liuzzo and who may have accompanied her to your city from this area," he wrote.

The report, dated April 2, says that:

—Mrs. Liuzzo's husband, Anthony J., is a business agent for Teamsters Union Local 247 and receives a salary of "approximately \$360 per week."

—The family car "is being financed through the GMAC plan at payments of . . . month."

—Mrs. Liuzzo's first marriage, at 16, "lasted one day, both parties separating the day after the wedding."

—The family has charge ac-

counts of the J. L. Hudson Co. and Winkelman's.

—Mrs. Liuzzo and two of her children, on separate occasions, "ran away" from home.

—On one occasion, "when the policewoman assigned to the case made her initial house call, she felt that the mother was most disturbed and was unable to get any sensible information from her."

—When Mrs. Liuzzo was missing she wrote her husband a series of letters, "each becoming more despondent. One letter was written by Viola while she was in a cemetery."

"She was giving births and deaths of various people and concluded the letter with her own birth date and death date."

—Mrs. Liuzzo's student identification number at Wayne State University was 223-009 and she was considered an "off and on student."

Liuzzo said no one from the Warren police or any other officer questioned him about personal affairs.

HE SAID he never has lived in Warren nor received "so much as a parking ticket there."

"My wife was a good woman," he said. "She's never done anything to be ashamed of."

Detroit police officials said they have received no requests for information about Mrs. Liuzzo from other law enforcement officials.

Commissioner Ray Girardin, told of the nature of the Lane report, said the Detroit Police Department "wouldn't have occasion to make an investigation like this." He added:

"It would be very unusual. There may be circumstances that I don't know about but I would say we certainly wouldn't do anything like that."

IF ANOTHER police department sought such a detailed report on a person's private life, Girardin said, it would have to send one of its own men to gather it.

Lane said he often supplies other police departments with confidential reports such as the one he compiled on Mrs. Liuzzo.

The Detroit Police Department has changed its chief of detectives so many times since he left the job, Lane said, that other officers don't know whom to contact.

Sometimes requests for Detroit information are passed on to the Detroit department, Lane said, but not in the Liuzzo case. He said he doubted whether the Detroit department would gather such a report "with the civil rights thing like it is."

Asked why he included so many details on Mrs. Liuzzo's private life, Lane said:

"Everything that comes to your attention, you put it in."

5/18/65

1 - Mr. Hines

Airtel

To: SAC, Mobile

From: Director, FBI

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

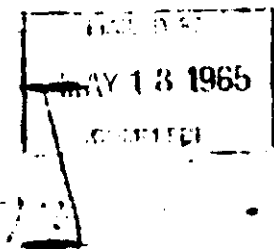
Subjects Eugene Thomas, William Orville Eaton and Collie Leroy Wilkins are currently on \$25,000 Federal bond and \$10,000 state bond each pending trial.

By return mail furnish the Bureau with the exact text of these bonds; in particular, it should be noted whether or not the bonds contain any restrictions concerning travel of the subjects outside of the Federal district or the State of Alabama.

JWH/ral
(4)

NOTE: News reports indicate that subjects Thomas, Eaton and Wilkins traveled to North Carolina over the past weekend where they appeared with Klan Attorney Matt Murphy at several Klan rallies to promote funds and new memberships for the Klan. The bonds posted for subjects to insure their appearance would not necessarily contain restrictions as to travel unless they were specifically set forth in the bond at the time the bonds were issued. If their bonds should contain such restrictions, it might be an advantage to call their travel to the attention of appropriate officials who could enforce the restriction.

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



ST-100

REC-10

19 MAY 19 1965

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FBI

Date: 5/18/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____

IRTEL

(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601)
Attn: Training Division

FROM: SAC, DETROIT (44-643)

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS
(OO: Mobile)

Re airtel dated 5/17/65

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies each of articles appearing in the "Detroit News" 5/17/65, and for Mobile one copy each of above articles.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 4)
1 - Mobile (Enc. 2)
1 - Detroit
IRA:sal
(5)

ENCLOSURE

EX-116

MAY 19 1965

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

Per _____

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

25 after the Selma-to-Montgomery freedom march.

Both Lane and Clark have referred to a "third party." But neither would divulge his identity.

"I presume I'm the one," Lucas today told J. F. Horst, chief of the Detroit News Washington Bureau. "I told Clark to call Mary Lane in Detroit."

INTRODUCED THEM

Lucas said Clark, in Washington for a short insurance meeting, discussed the Linzo case with him. Clark is second vice-president of Lucas' organization.

Lucas said he once introduced Clark to Lane in Detroit, and reminded Clark of this. The introduction, he said, came "five or six years ago" while Clark was here to extradite a prisoner and Lane was Detroit's chief of detectives.

"He's still a great guy," Lucas said of Lane.

HAVEN'T SEEN FILE

He said he did not transmit Clark's request for information to Lane. He assumed that Clark telephoned Lane to arrange for a compilation of data in Mrs. Linzo's file in the Detroit Police Department.

Lucas said he has no knowledge of how the file got into the Klan's hands.

"I haven't seen it, and don't want to," he said.

Meanwhile, Clark said in Selma yesterday that he is sorry Lane has "gotten into trouble" over the report and that he "intends to telephone Lane and apologize."

EMIL C. WILSON
Inspector, Birmingham

The mysterious "third man" involved in the Klux Klan's acquisition of a police report on Mrs. Viola Linzo was revealed today as a former sheriff from Pontiac.

He is Morris Lane, now executive director of the National Sheriff's Association with offices in Washington.

FORMER SHERIFF

The former St. Clair County sheriff is also past president of the Alabama and national sheriffs' associations.

Michigan officials have been trying to find out how the confidential report on the murdered civil rights worker got into the Klan's hands in Alabama.

The report was compiled by Marvin C. Lane, father of the former of Birmingham and former Detroit police officer.

WENT TO ALABAMA

Lucas indirectly put the segregationist word of Selma, Ala., in touch with Lane.

Lane sent the report to Sheriff James G. Clark of Dallas County, Ala., near where Mrs. Linzo was shot to death March

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 The Detroit News
Detroit, Michigan

Date: 5/17/65
Edition: 6 Star Final
Author:
Editor: Martin S. Hayden
Title:

Character:
Classification:
Submitting Office: Detroit

☐ Being Investigated

44-28601-347
ENCLOSURE

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

25 after the Selma-to-Montgomery freedom march.

Both Lane and Clark have referred to a "third party." But neither would divulge his identity.

"I presume I'm the one," Lucas today told J. F. ter Horst, chief of the Detroit News Washington Bureau. "I told Clark to call Mary Lane in Detroit."

INTRODUCED THEM

Lucas said Clark, in Washington for a sheriff's insurance meeting, discussed the Linzo case with him. Clark is second vice-president of Lucas' organization.

Lucas said he once introduced Clark to Lane in Detroit, and reminded Clark of this. The introduction, he said, came five or six years ago. While Clark was here to extradite a prisoner and Lane was Detroit's chief of detectives.

"He's still a great guy," Lucas said of Lane.

HAVEN'T SEEN FILE

He said he did not consent to Clark's request for information to Lane. He admitted that Clark telephoned him to arrange for a compilation of data on Mrs. Linzo's file in the Detroit Police Department.

Lucas said he has no knowledge of how the file got into the Klan's hands.

"I haven't seen it and don't want to," he said.

Meanwhile, Clark said at Selma yesterday that he is sorry Lane has gotten into trouble over the report and that he intends to telephone Lane and apologize.

EARL C. MILLER
Inspector Transferred

Linzo's file
'3rd Klan'

The mysterious "third man" involved in the Ku Klux Klan's acquisition of a police report on Mrs. Viola Linzo was revealed today as a former sheriff from Perry, Fla.

He is Earl Lucas, now executive director of the National Sheriffs' Association, with offices in Washington.

HEADQUARTERS GROUP

The former St. Clair County sheriff is also a past president of the Michigan and national sheriffs' associations.

Michigan officials have been trying to find out how the confidential report on the murdered civil rights worker fell into the Klan's hands in Alabama.

The report was compiled by Marvin G. ... and former ... of detectives.

SENT TO LANSING

Lucas directly is the segregationist sheriff of Selma, Ala., in town with Lane.

Lane sent the report to Sheriff James G. Clark, of Dallas County, Ala., near where Mrs. Linzo was shot in March.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 The Detroit News
Detroit, Michigan

Date: 5/17/65

Edition: Star Final

Author:

Editor: Martin S. Hayden

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Detroit

☐ Being Investigated

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 The Detroit News
Detroit, Michigan

Date: 5/17/65
Edition: 8 Star Final
Author:
Editor: Martin S. Haydel
Title:

Character:
Classification:
Submitting Office: Detroit
☐ Being Investigated

44-28601-347
ENCLOSURE

CHIEF OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

Miller Tapped on Assignment in Assisting Lane

Detroit police Detective Inspector Earl C. Miller revealed today that it was he who furnished the Viola Liuzzo report information. Police Commissioner Ray Girdardin promptly removed him as head of the Criminal Intelligence Bureau (CIB).

Girdardin said "Miller's motives were good, but his judgment was not."

AWAY ON LEAVE

The commissioner assigned Inspector Robert Grindle, of the crime control center (the former detective bureau desk), to exchange jobs with Miller. Miller returned from leave and it was revealed that when Police Commissioner Marvin G. Lane wrote the report on Mrs. Liuzzo for an Alabama sheriff—to say that he furnished Lane the information from CIB files. Mrs. Liuzzo, a civil rights worker, was murdered March 25 on a highway near Selma, Ala., after a freedom march on Montgomery.

OBTAINED BY FILE

Lane's letter to the Detroit chief of detectives, wrote a report for Sheriff James G. Clark, of Selma, which "eventually" fell into the hands of the Ku Klux Klan.

Lane's letter was placed in a word-for-word copy of the file on Mrs. Liuzzo which, for various reasons, was compiled over a two-year period before her killing.

Girdardin said Miller gave the information to Lane "in good faith and on a confidential basis" and that Miller believed Lane "needed it in his professional police work."

POLICE AIDES CONFIDENTIAL

Girdardin conferred at length with top police officials, then announced his action in the following statement: "Miller would not comment further."

"Chief of Detectives Vincent Piersante, who was assigned to determine how the Liuzzo report was transmitted from this department to the hands of the March Police Department, Commissioner Marvin G. Lane, completed this investigation today."

"Detective Inspector Earl C. Miller, head of the Detroit Police Department's Criminal Intelligence Bureau, returned from furlough today and reported to Chief Piersante that he transmitted this information in good faith and on a confidential basis."

REPUTATION GOOD

"This was done at the request of Commissioner Lane, of whom, a retired chief of detectives from the Detroit Police Department who has enjoyed a good reputation for reliability."

"Inspector Miller has no idea that this information would go any further than to Commissioner Lane, who Inspector Miller believed needed it in his professional police work."

"The information was compiled in this department between April 18, 1963, when an investigation was made on a missing report on one of the Liuzzo children, and the date of Mrs. Liuzzo's death."

NORMAL PRECAUTION

"After Mrs. Liuzzo was murdered and the Detroit Police Department was informed, the Bureau would be in this city and that several prominent persons were coming here from various parts of the United States, the information in our files was put together and evaluated."

"This is a normal precaution taken by the police who are charged with the responsibility of security."

"It was necessary to know whether there was any further danger to any members of the Liuzzo family or to anyone else. No further investigation was made after Mrs. Liuzzo was murdered."

MOTIVES GOOD

"After a thorough discussion this morning with Supt. Eugene Reiter, Deputy Supt. John S. Lupton and Chief of Detectives Vincent Piersante, it is concluded that Inspector Miller's motives were good but his judgment was not, and he is being relieved of his command. He will serve in the Crime Control Center."

"Detective Inspector Robert Grindle has been assigned to the CIB."

FBI

Date: 5/14/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____

AIRTEL

(Priority)

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

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601)
Attn: Training Division

FROM: SAC, DETROIT (44-643)

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS
(OO: Mobile)

Re myairtel 5/13/65.

For additional information of Bureau and Mobile, enclosed for Bureau are two copies each of article appearing in "Detroit News" 5/13/65, and "Detroit Free Press" 5/14/65, and for Mobile one copy each of above articles.

ENCLOSURE

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 4)
- 1 - Mobile (Enc. 2)
- 1 - Detroit
- IRA:sal
- (5)

REC-16

44-28601-348
17 MAY 20 1965

60 MAY 27 1965
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

Quiz Detroit Police on Liuzzo File

Police Commissioner Ray Girardin today asked Chief of Detectives Vincent Piersante to try to find out whether any Detroit police officer gave a report on Mrs. Viola Liuzzo to Marvin G. Lane. Warren police commissioner.

Girardin denied that Detroit's Criminal Intelligence Bureau had investigated Mrs. Liuzzo's background after she was slain by a sniper's bullet in Alabama March 25.

KLAN GETS REPORT

Lane's controversial report to Sheriff James Clark, of Selma, Ala., said the bureau began such an investigation the day after the slaying.

The uproar over the "confidential" report, which turned up in the hands of a Ku Klux Klan leader in Alabama, was intensified today after these developments:

- A Georgia Democratic congressman said the House Un-American Activities Committee would take "a deep interest" in how the Klan got the report.
- Sheriff Clark said he asked Lane for the report after his life was threatened by a caller who identified himself as a Teamster.
- Lane refused to say where he got the information for his report to the Alabama sheriff.
- Warren Mayor William A. Shaw and six of the suburb's

councilmen backed Lane. One councilman was critical; two were silent.

● Two human relations groups and a UAW official severely criticized Lane and the labor leader demanded his dismissal.

Girardin, obviously angry at the mention of the Detroit police Criminal Intelligence Bureau in news stories about the Lane report, said neither he nor Piersante nor Supt. Eugene A. Reuter had received any request from any police department for information about Mrs. Liuzzo.

Three such requests were received from individuals in the South after Mrs. Liuzzo's death, he said, but all were ignored.

CONSOLIDATES FILES

Girardin denied that the bureau had made any investigation of Mrs. Liuzzo's background but he said it had consolidated all existing reports and files on her after the Alabama shooting.

This was done, he said, because police expected that there might be demonstrations or disturbances here in the wake of the slaying and they wanted to know what organizations she might have belonged to.

"You must remember that Lane (a retired Detroit chief of detectives) spent 33 years in the department," Girardin said. "If he asked to check a record he would probably get cooperation."

Clark made the report public yesterday.

Last night, he said he had asked for the report from Lane when he received an anonymous threat to his life a few hours after Mrs. Liuzzo's murder, allegedly at the hands of Ku Klux Klan members.

Clark said he received a telephone call from someone who identified himself as a Teamster Union member.

"You have killed the wrong one this time," Clark quoted the unknown man as saying. "Now we are going to kill you and your family."

SOUGHT TEAMSTER TIE

Clark said he did not know what connection Mrs. Liuzzo had with the Teamsters (her husband, Anthony J., is a Teamster business agent, and asked Lane to find out for him).

Clark said he had met Lane at a couple of police association meetings.

(Earlier, Both Clark and Lane said that a third party in Mich-

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1A Detroit News
Detroit, Mich

Date: 5/13/65
Edition: 4 Star Final
Author:
Editor: Martin S. Hay
Title:

Character:
Classification:
Submitting Office: Detroit
☐ Being Investigated

igan had been contacted by Clark to reach Lane. Both men declined to name the third party.)

IN KLAN CHIEF'S HANDS

Clark said he gave a copy of the report to prosecutors in Lowndes County where the murder occurred, next to Clark's Dallas County.

He said he gave it to them because Alabama law required that all records and evidence in a case must be submitted for review by defense attorneys.

During the Lowndes County trial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, one of three Ku Klux Klansmen charged in the murder of Mrs. Liuzzo, copies of the report were in the hands of Robert M. Shelton, imperial wizard of the United Klans of America. Wilkins' trial ended when the jury couldn't agree on a verdict and was discharged.

Lane today refused to comment on his sources for the report except to say, "I put it together from a number of places."

'CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE'

"A good newspaperman could have got the same information in 40 minutes," he said.

"I respect my sources just as a good reporter does. Since you reveal a confidential source,

you no longer have a source. I reported this as a confidential report."

The acting head of the Criminal Intelligence Bureau, Detective Lt. Louis Collins, said today that he didn't know where Lane got his information. The bureau head, Inspector Earl Miller, is on furlough.

SEES CONGRESS' INTEREST

In Washington, Rep. Charles L. Weltner, Georgia Democrat, who has led an investigation of the Klan by the House Un-American Activities Committee, said the Liuzzo report and how it came into the hands of the Klan would be "of deep interest" to the committee.

The committee will begin hearings on the Klan within six or eight weeks, he said.

Weltner said an effort would be made to determine what connection there may be, if any, between law enforcement agencies and the Klan.

Shelton has denied that he got the report from Clark.

BACKED BY MAYOR

Warren Mayor William A. Shaw said he talked with Lane about the report yesterday and supported what Lane had done.

"I feel that Lane only did what any police officer might have done," Shaw said. "It's the sort of thing they do every day across the country."

"Sheriff Clark might have asked for this kind of a report from any community in this area. It is not surprising that he singled out Warren, however, because Lane is well-known."

Shaw, who appointed Lane to his police post as an official

outside the jurisdiction of the Warren city council, said he did not think that controversy over the report had hurt Warren.

"The way the situation is now, Commissioner Lane is secure in his job here," Shaw said.

60-40 SUPPORT

Shaw said that telephone calls by citizens to the Warren city hall ran about 60 percent in Lane's favor. The other 40 percent was critical, he said.

Six Warren city councilmen supported Lane and said there were no plans for a special council meeting to discuss what Lane had done. A seventh member was critical.

Councilman Norman Hill was the first council member to criticize Lane.

"It seems to me," Hill said, "that it was out of order to send such a report to Alabama when the request for it should have been addressed to Detroit, where Mrs. Liuzzo lived."

GROUP IS SHOCKED

Another criticism came from the Rev. David H. McAlpin Jr., president of the 150-member South Macomb Council for Human Relations. In a statement today, Mr. McAlpin said:

"The council wishes to express its profound shock and opposition to the action of Commissioner Lane for his invasion of the privacy of the murdered Mrs. Liuzzo."

"It appears that the result of the action by Commissioner

Lane could only be to aid and abet her murderers."

Mr. McAlpin questioned the propriety of all Lane's actions, "in view of Sheriff Clark's national reputation as a diehard segregationist."

He asked if elected city officials in Warren would condone "such undercover, police state tactics."

REMOVAL IS URGED

George Merrelli, UAW Region I codirector, criticized Lane for the report and said he should be "removed from office immediately."

Merrelli described Lane's investigation as "none of his business," "surreptitious," an "invasion of privacy" and "contemptible for its disregard for civil liberties."

William Immergluck, 8240

Ritter, Center Line, president of the small Warren-Center Line Human Relations Council, an independent citizens group, said the council would protest Lane's actions in a letter to Warren officials today.

"We're writing to condemn the use of a high city office in something that was not Lane's business nor the business of the Alabama sheriff Lane sent the report to," Immergluck said.

Detroit File On Liuzzo Was Rifled

Girardin Orders
Police Dept. Quiz

BY WALTER RUGABER
Free Press Staff Writer

Virtually every detail in a "confidential" report of Mrs. Viola Gregg Liuzzo was smuggled out of a file in the Detroit Police Department, the Free Press learned Thursday.

The supposedly secret report of the slain civil rights worker's private life and family problems was put together by Police Commissioner Marvin G. Lane, of suburban Warren.

IT WAS SENT by Lane to Dallas County Sheriff James G. Clark of Selma, Ala., and wound up in the hands of Ku Klux Klan Imperial Wizard Robert M. Shelton, of Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Lane has said he obtained the data on Mrs. Liuzzo from "confidential sources." It was obvious, however, that File No. 1782 of the Detroit Criminal Intelligence Bureau (CIB) supplied his every need.

Chief of Detectives Vincent W. Piersante said it was "an obvious conclusion" that just about all Lane's information came from the Detroit file.

Piersante said that between 50 and 80 Detroit detectives would have had "normal access" to the file on Mrs. Liuzzo. Even more officers would have had "practical access," he said.

Police Commissioner Ray Girardin has asked Piersante to investigate how the detailed in-

formation in the file was obtained by Lane.

"I'M JUST GOING to have to have an open mind on this thing," Girardin said.

Asked whether disciplinary action will be taken if the officer who smuggled out the information is found, Girardin said:

"We'll have to cross that bridge when we come to it. If the rules of the department have been violated . . . this is an iffy sort of a thing."

Piersante said the CIB began to put together the Liuzzo file after the Detroit housewife was shot to death March 25 in Lowndes County, Ala.

"The funeral was going to be here," Piersante said, "and we wanted to know what sort of security arrangements we would have to maintain."

DEMONSTRATIONS and counter demonstrations were anticipated, the detective chief said, and "we were just trying to prepare ourselves."

Piersante reported, the CIB pulled together everything available on Mrs. Liuzzo and her family from a number of diverse records.

The file even includes newspaper clippings on Mrs. Liuzzo's funeral and the trial last week in Hayneville, Ala., of her accused killer, Klansman Collie Leroy Wilkins Jr., 21.

It was also learned Thursday that Mayor Cavanagh's office had asked for and received background information on the slain civil rights volunteer.

IN WARREN, the City Council, Mayor William A. Shaw and Lane discussed the report for about 15 minutes in a closed session Thursday evening.

After the meeting Shaw told newsmen: "As far as we are concerned, I think it (the controversy over the report) is closed."

Then Shaw read a prepared statement which said:

"We are all in accord that Marvin Lane did his duty as he saw fit and that we feel that his motives were above reproach."

IN ANOTHER development, it was disclosed that two Alabama sheriffs asked the Detroit police for information on Mrs. Liuzzo.

The first request came from Lenoir County Sheriff Frank Ellis, of Hayneville, on April 18, eight days after the Lane report was sent to Sheriff Clark.

Sheriff Ryals, in whose jurisdiction Mrs. Liuzzo was shot, was sent a nine-line, special delivery letter outlining Mrs. Liuzzo's record in the barest terms.

The letter noted only that Mrs. Liuzzo, seeking to test the Michigan compulsory school attendance law, was convicted for "failure to send children to school" and received one year's probation in Recorder's Court.

ON MAY 4, a month after the Lane report went to Sheriff Clark, the Detroit police got a second inquiry on Mrs. Liuzzo. This came from Jefferson County Sheriff Melvin Bailey, of Birmingham, another civil

rights hotspot in the South. Sheriff Bailey got the same cryptic answer as Sheriff Ryals.

Detroit police officials described the two communications as "routine" in police circles.

The extensive background information in the CIB file would not be — and was not — officially divulged, officers said.

Nevertheless, a Free Press reporter examined the Detroit file and found constant similarities — even in wording — between the CIB data and the Lane report.

A PORTION of the Lane report to Sheriff Clark said:

"On March 25, 1965, the Criminal Intelligence Bureau began an investigation regarding the background of Viola Liuzzo . . ."

Girardin said the CIB made no "investigation" of the slain woman's background. He said it may have pulled together diverse records from other sections and agencies.

The central feature of the CIB file is several pages of type-written notes which Piersante said resulted from a policewoman's "post-arrest interview" with Mrs. Liuzzo in 1964.

These notes contained the Liuzzo family financial data which subsequently showed up in the Lane report to Clark.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1A Detroit Free Press
Detroit, Michigan

Date: 5/14/65
Edition: Metro Final
Author:
Editor: Lee Hills
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Detroit

☐ Being Investigated

44-28601
ENCLOSURE

FBI

Date: 5/13/65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: Director, FBI (44-28601)
Att: Training Division

FROM: SAC, Detroit (44-643)

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS
OO: MOBILE

ReDetroit 5/13/65.

Enclosed are two copies of article under by-line of
WALTER RUGABER, Staff Writer, which appeared in the 5/13/65 issue
of the Detroit Free Press concerning captioned matter.

(3) Bureau (Enc. 2)
1 - Mobile (Enc. 1)
1 - Detroit
TJN:HLH
(5)

C. C. WICK

EX-116

44-28601-349

MAY 14 1965

Approved: SOBIA
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Probe 'Leak' of Liuzzo File, Dixie Dem Urges

Klan Foe Sees Link To Sheriff

*Clark Says Life
Was Threatened*

BY WALTER RUGABER
Free Press Staff Writer

A Southern congressman investigating the Ku Klux Klan called Wednesday for a "full inquiry" on how a Klan official obtained a supposedly confidential report on Mrs. Viola Gregg Liuzzo prepared by a Detroit area police official.

Copies of the report — which contains details on the slain civil rights worker's private life and family problems — showed up last week in the hands of Klan Imperial Wizard Robert M. Shelton, of Tuscaloosa, Ala.

THE REPORT was prepared by Police Commissioner Marvin G. Lane, of suburban Warren, and addressed to the Dallas County Sheriff, James G. Clark, of Selma, Ala.

Lane and Clark both have said they are unaware of how the document reached the Klan. Lane said he prepared the report as a "copy" to Clark.



Rep. Charles Longstreet Wellner, a young Atlanta Democrat, has spearheaded an investigation of the Klan by the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC).

Wellner, appointed to HUAC last January, said hearings on the hooded order would probably begin within six or eight weeks. The congressman said:

"One of the express purposes of this inquiry is to determine what liaison or connection there is between law enforcement agencies and the Klan organization."

"The appearance of this dossier on Mrs. Liuzzo under these circumstances is most assuredly a matter that will be of deep interest to the committee."

In a telephone interview late Wednesday, Sheriff Clark said he asked Lane for the report on Mrs. Liuzzo within three hours after she was killed because his life had been threatened.

Clark said he received a telephone call from a man "whose name sounded like Osborn." Clark said the man said he was

a Teamster official and told him:

"You killed the wrong one. This thing? We are going to kill you and your family."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1A DETROIT FREE PRESS
DETROIT, MICH.

Date: 5/13/65
Edition: METRO FINAL
Author: 2 STAR
Editor:
Title: LEE HILLS

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: DETROIT

☐ Being Investigated

44-27601

ENCLOSURE

Clark said his request to Lane was "routine."

He denied he gave a copy of the report to the Ku Klux Klan.

He said he gave a copy to the prosecuting attorney in the trial of Collie Lee Wilkins, accused in the slaying of Mrs. Luzzo.

Clark said that, under Alabama law, the defense in a trial is entitled to all the evidence and records whether it is used in court or not.

"I suppose that may be how they got hold of it," Clark said.

Local reaction to the Lane report on Mrs. Luzzo—first reported in Wednesday's editions of the Free Press—ranged from mild to scorching.

WARREN MAYOR William Shaw said he hasn't seen a copy of the report and hasn't discussed it with Commissioner Lane. The mayor said:

"I plan to talk to him, yes, but I don't know when." In the meantime, the mayor declared, "I have no comment at all to make."

Norman Hill, a Warren councilman, said he doesn't see "why" he should be involved in this case at all.

Hill said he felt the council is entitled to "some explanation" of the Lane report and

said he "will have some questions regarding this to ask Mr. Lane."

The councilman pointed out that the commissioner is an appointee of the mayor and said the explanation of the report should come through the mayor.

Council President Orville R. Young said he could see no reason to chastise Lane.

"He was doing his job and working well within his authority as a policeman," Young said. "I'm sure he would respond to a similar request from Highland Park or Dearborn—so why not Selma?"

Councilman Howard D. Austin agreed that Lane's report was "routine police courtesy."

"When a request comes from a legitimate police source, Lane should not be expected to look into motives," he said.

Councilman Harold H. Perry said, "It's an administrative matter and should be handled by Shaw."

WILLIAM IMMERSGLUCK, president of the Warren - Center Line Human Relations Council, said the group voted to seek and explanation of the report.

"We feel that the people of Warren are entitled to an explanation of commissioner Lane's involvement in a case that concerned neither the City of Warren nor the police agency in Alabama to which it was sent."

(Mrs. Luzzo lived in Detroit and was shot while driving along U.S. Highway 80 in Lowndes County, Ala. Clark is sheriff of neighboring Dallas County.)

THE SOUTH Macomb Council for Human Relations voiced "profound shock and opposition" to what it called Lane's "invasion of the privacy of the murdered Mrs. Viola Luzzo." In a statement, the council asked:

"Why did Commissioner Lane want Sheriff Clark to determine how Mrs. Luzzo got to Alabama and who accompanied her there? What does Commissioner Lane plan to do with this information? And who are the 'we' who Lane says want it?"

(Lane's report to Sheriff Clark said:

"... We would like, if it is at all possible, to determine the method of transportation to

Selma, Ala. by Mrs. Luzzo and who may have accompanied her to your city from this area.")

ONE OF THE most outspoken fractions came from George Merrell, co-director of Region One of the United Automobile Workers. Merrell said:

"... Lane should be removed immediately for his actions in secretly conducting an investigation which was none of his business and, without authority, surreptitiously furnishing a report of that investigation to the notorious Sheriff James Clark."

Merrell, whose reaction came in a formal statement issued by UAW headquarters, is co-director of the region in which Warren is located.

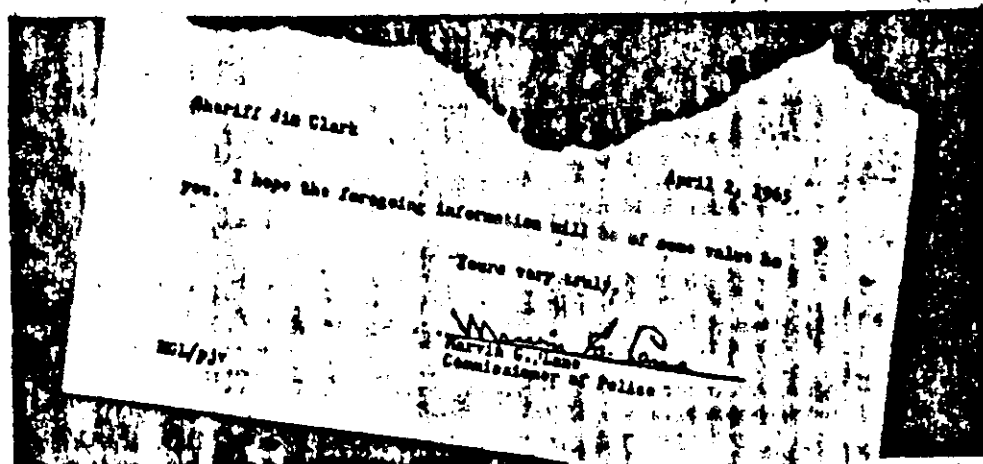
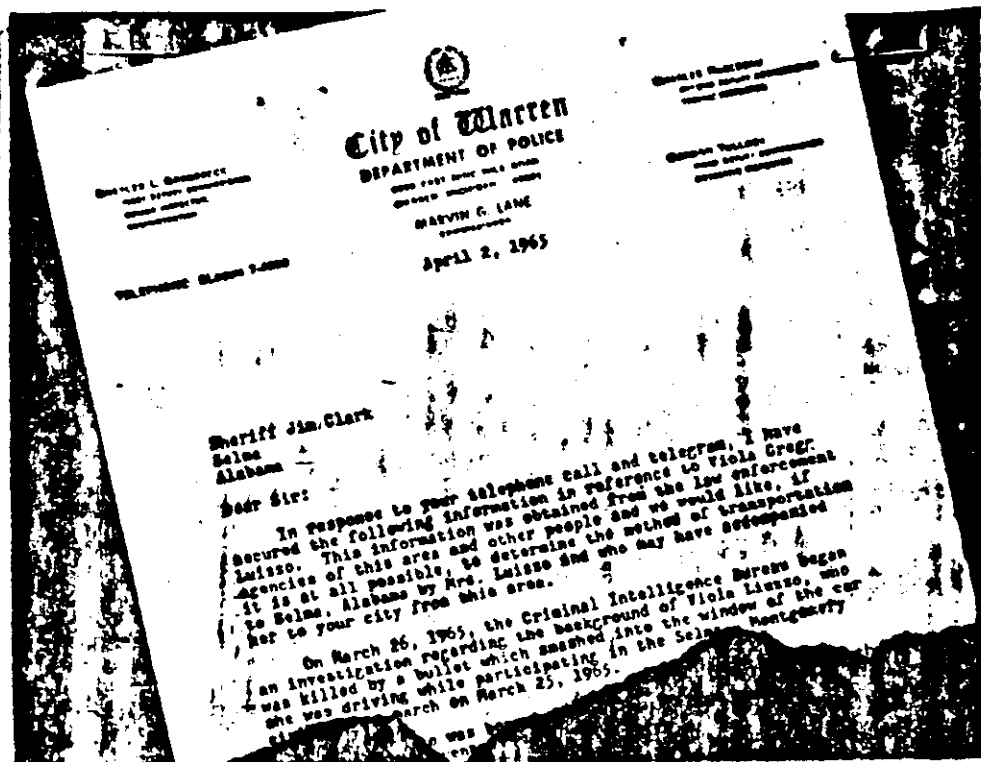
LANE, FORMER chief of detectives of the Detroit Police Department, disclaimed any sympathy with the Klan and said that he was not involved in the Southern racial situation in any way.

"I don't care to get mixed up in it," he said.

"I'm absolutely innocent in this matter of anything other than trying to co-operate with another law enforcement agency."

Rep. Weltner said a team of HUAC investigators has just returned from an eight-week probe of Klan activities in seven Southern states, including Alabama and Mississippi.

It was thought that they will return to look into how the Lane report found its way into the Klan's dossier on Mrs. Luzzo.



DETAILED REPORT by Police Commissioner Marvin G. Lane on Mrs. Viola Gregg Liuzzo was dispatched to Dallas County Sheriff James G. Clark of Selma, Ala., an official City of Warren stationery. The report, signed by Lane as commissioner of police, was dated April 2—slightly more than a week after the Detroit civil rights worker was slain.

FBI

Date: 5/17/65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601)
Attn: Training Division

FROM: SAC, DETROIT (44-643)

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS
(OO: MOBILE)

An article appeared in the 5/17/65 issue of The Detroit News indicating Detroit Police Detective Inspector EARL C. MILLER admitted furnishing report concerning VIOLA LIUZZO to Warren Police Commissioner MARVIN G. LANE (NA).

MILLER, head of the Criminal Intelligence Bureau, Detroit Police Department, has been removed from this assignment because of his action in this instance.

The Detroit News article indicates that MILLER furnished the LIUZZO report to Commissioner LANE, retired Chief of Detectives of the Detroit Police Department with the understanding that LANE needed it in his professional police work and with the further understanding that LANE would not disseminate it.

Copies of the newspaper article will follow.

The foregoing is for the Bureau's information.

- ③ - Bureau
- 1 - Mobile (Info)
- 1 - Detroit

TJN:MMR
(5)

REC 61

EX-116

44-28601

351

21 MAY 19 1965

Approved: PHS/N
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

60 MAY 20 1965

SLX

b7c

Letter - Henry
N.B.

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir -

I am sending you some
clippings from 4 different papers, to
ask you to read them very carefully and
to let me know if you find any better
evidence of the fact that 3 K.K.K. men killed
two women - I was at the trial in 1911
K.K.K. men at the Negro Barber shop
the evening of the murder, I am working
on the K.K.K. at the 5th St. Club
in Washington. I wonder if you better
know the names of the men who were
involved in the murder. I am sure
you can try to tell me who are
the men who were involved in the murder.
I am sure you can try to tell me who are
the men who were involved in the murder.
I am sure you can try to tell me who are
the men who were involved in the murder.

353

[illegible]

come know... the...
Please read the bible and according
to times that are happening, I mean
is coming now. Please this letter
is about to go to the... What I mean just
why have we turned our back on
the... I know each of you
will turn to both before you see
for hell is an awful lot more for
more than to be in, but God is
in every person, rich or poor,
and I am glad to belong to him
even if I do have to shed my humanity
because I, B. L. - Victor the 8th
have been in the line. I have
wanted to give the...
I have... 3,000 for you & 4,500
for me and my... more early
me at a... what... 11th
Northern... you are always
from... more to me than
[REDACTED]

b7c

King

The Editor,

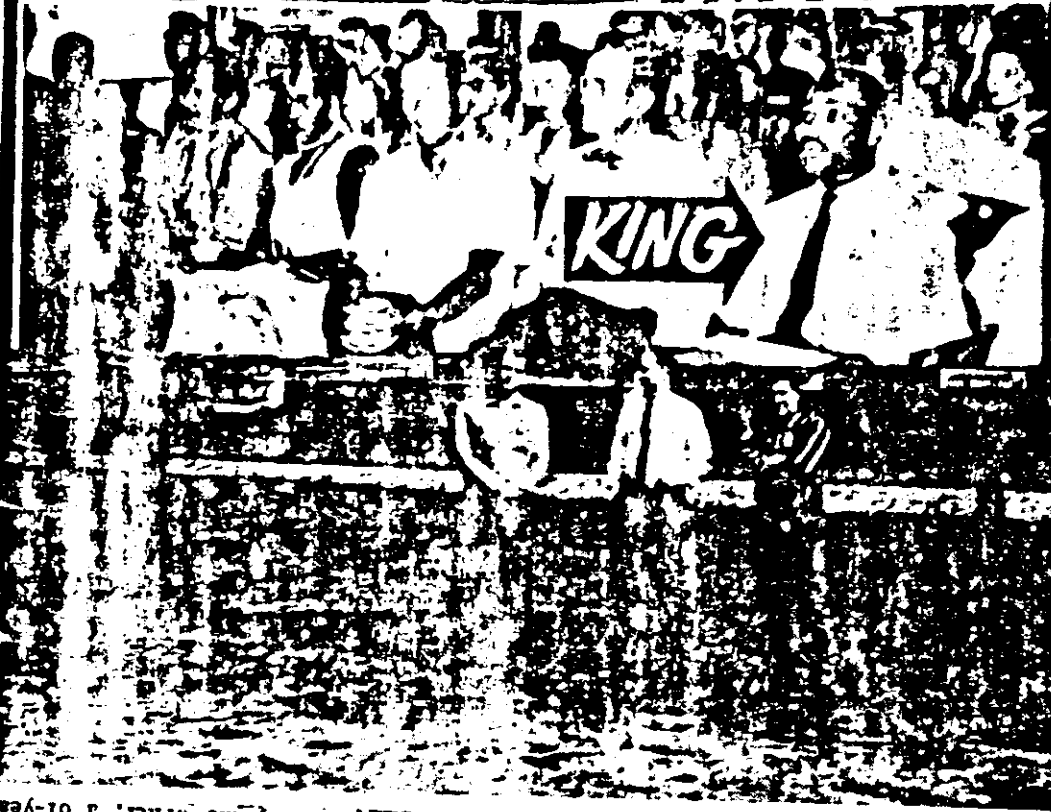
Dear Sir: Can it be that the King's (Martin Luther) crown is becoming the least bit tarnished in the Yankee part of our country? From the article in your Monday paper by Henry J. Taylor, it would seem that his public and columnist promoters are also getting a bit fed up with his dictator's way of ignoring the laws of our land when they are not in accordance with his own personal convenience.

Here's hoping that other widely read columnists will fall in line behind Taylor and David Lawrence and put King in his proper place in the one-time good old U.S.A. Maybe his pal, LBJ, might also follow suit and disregard the hold that King has over him.

Here's hoping for more really

sensible writings like Taylor
R. M. THIGPEN SR.,
Fairhope, Ala.

MARTIN LUTHER KING & COMM TRAINING SCHOOL



OWNER OF THE SIGN
Said he had been denied the writer, a 61-year-old



BOBBY F. CHERRY, WIFE, AND SEVEN CHILDREN

Family Man Complains Of 2 Years Of FBI Harrassment

Bobby F. Cherry of the Ensley section of Birmingham is one of many who can tell very interesting stories of just how far America has slipped into the police state. After the bombing of the Negro Church in Birmingham two years ago, he has been under regular harassment by the FBI. Mr. Cherry is married and has seven children. In order to put pressure upon him the FBI has twice sought to question him on his job. Four times he has been stopped by FBI agents while driving his truck ("We just want to ask you a few more questions.")

To try and prove his innocence, Mr. Cherry did make one mistake, he agreed to take a lie detector test at the FBI office. After taking the test the FBI told him, "You have lied on about every question we asked you on this test. Your in trouble, but we want to help you. If you will confess now, it will go easy on you." Poor Mr. Cherry didn't know that the FBI NEVER tells you if the lie detector test cleared you. To further terrorize Mr. Cherry, FBI agents Weldon and Aires told him: "At this phase of the investigation, we have got to have results. We don't care who we pin this on." This happened two months after the Church bombing. They also went to his friends and relatives and told them, "Bobby is in trouble and we want to help him. So, if you know anything

about him and this bombing, you had better tell us."

This lasted many months. The heat was on from Washington to get someone, anyone! Three different times FBI agents went to question Mr. Cherry's wife after he left for work. Agent Downey accused her of withholding information. To this day FBI agents watch his home, keep driving through his alley and frightening his children. During this investigation he received mysterious threatening calls, even though his number is unlisted? Over and over again agents told him, "We know you were in on the bombing and you will soon be arrested - so talk now and it will go easy on you."

The only trouble was Mr. Cherry was innocent and has no knowledge of the bombings. That did not satisfy the FBI. Two years later, Mr. Cherry is still harassed from time to time. It doesn't bother him any more. He simply tells them to leave and that he has nothing to say to them. (No one is required to answer any questions or take these phony lie detector tests.) Mr. Cherry is working with the "Committee To Stop Federal Harassment" P. O. Box 3674, Birmingham.

Mr. Cherry is only one of over a thousand persons who have been directly accused of the bombing. Hundreds of others have taken the lie detector test and the FBI told each one that he had failed the test.

The Editor,

Sir: What I can't understand is why the Blunderer of the Great Society and his hatchet man seem determined to integrate all of our public schools in the South, either by force or intimidation, when so many public schools in Chicago, New York, and Pittsburgh are segregated.

Jack Star, senior editor of Look magazine said Chicago public schools are in deep trouble, because 530,000 public school students are segregated and that 930,000 Negro students have no contacts with whites.

The teachers in the Negro schools say their students have the largest drop-outs and the highest absence rate. They said some Negro children come to school who don't even know their own names, and have never held a pencil in their hands, and when their students reach 16, that 50 per cent drop out. They said most of the children live in slum homes, but a leading Negro leader said the superintendent of schools was dragging his feet, and that Negroes were united in their anger and were ready to take to the streets unless they integrate the schools.

But the federal government stands idly by and doesn't lift a finger to force them to integrate. But if it were Alabama or Mississippi they would withdraw troops from Viet Nam to see that we integrated our schools.

Their newest weapon is dollars to force the Negroes in our schools. They say "if you don't let them in, we will cut off federal aid." It's not their money — it belongs to the taxpayers. When the literacy tests are eliminated in voting, the Negro won't need education. The new frontiers will take care of them in exchange for their votes. The truth is finally leaking out from behind the Iron curtain up North.

Not too far in the distant future the Negro will do his demonstrating above the Mason-Dixon line, and some sweet day in the bye and bye there will arise a great leader who will loosen the shackles from the American people. Constitutional government will be restored, the Constitution will be returned by those who stole it, the spite laws passed by Congress will be revoked, and the rights reserved to the states will be made secure.

Then we will have a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, and this nation of ours shall not perish from the earth.

JOHN R. MAYES

714 1/2 N. Middle Street

Liuzzo Note Cause Action

DETROIT (AP) — Police officials here were attempting Saturday to determine how urban Warren Police Commissioner Marvin G. Lane obtained details of a confidential report on a murdered civil rights worker.

A copy of the report on Viola Liuzzo, Detroit housewife shot to death following a civil rights demonstration in Selma, Ala., later turned up in the hands of Dallas County, Ala., Sheriff James Clark.

Lane said he sent the report to Clark on Clark's request. Robert Shelton, Imperial Wizard of the United Klans of America, also displayed a copy of the report.

Detroit police officials said the information about Mrs. Liuzzo apparently was obtained from the files of the police department's Central Intelligence Bureau.

Officers in the bureau said a dossier of Mrs. Liuzzo was compiled after her slaying March 25.

Detroit Police Commissioner Ray Girardin ordered an investigation to determine who gave the file to Lane.

The action came as Mayor Jerome Cavanagh called for disciplinary measures against the responsible policeman.

"There is no question that the information was leaked or surreptitiously obtained out of the Detroit Police Department and given to the Warren department," Cavanagh said.

He said transmission of information by Lane was called for.

Origins Occur Durin March

The true face of the Martin Luther King, Selma to Montgomery march is now coming to light. The lowest elements of society were attracted to this spectacle from as far away as Canada and England. Most all were beatniks, peace creeps and Communists. Numerous incidents of sexual intercourse were reported on the grounds around the Selma Negro church. A number of cases were reported every night, of Negro men lying on the ground having sex relations with White women demonstrators.

Associated Press writer, Kelso Sturgeon of Atlanta stated that he personally witnessed these public acts of sexual debauchery. Sturgeon said, "I personally saw at least three racially mixed couples engaged in sexual intercourse on the ground." When the demonstrators reached the capitol, two "Birmingham News" reporters charged they saw a number of racially mixed demonstrators lock arms and unilate on the sidewalk in front of the State Capitol. Even pro-negro Selma police chief Wilson Baker stated: "There very definitely was many incidences of open petting, drinking and love making going on between mixed couples." There could be no arrests in these cases, because the 'demonstrators' were being protected by the FBI and L.B.J.'s armed federal troops.



CONFEDERATE FLAG BURNED BY SELMA DEMONSTRATOR

MRS. LIUZZO HAD ARREST RECORD

The nations press has tried to build up Mrs. Viola Liuzzo as a Saint. The truth of the matter is that she has been a racial agitator and trouble maker for some time. She has participated in CORE demonstrations and other street activity in Detroit.

Last year Mrs. Liuzzo was arrested and brought to trial in Detroit for violating Michigan's school compulsory law. She was found guilty of keeping two of her children out of school. (Thomas Liuzzo 13, was kept out of school for 43 days and Anthony 10, for 47 days.) Judge Joseph A. Gillis fined her \$50 and gave her 1 year's probation for violating the law. He also denounced her as a trouble-maker.

This record proves that Mrs. Liuzzo was extremist, who came to Alabama to cause trouble. She proved herself an unfit mother by trying to prevent them from obtaining an education, and by coming to Alabama and driving young Negro men around in the front seat of her car. Who really shot and murdered this woman is not known. Lyndon Johnson certainly has violated the Constitutional rights of the four young men arrested by condemning them before they even have a trial.



Mrs. Liuzzo

From what we know of the case, the FBI has no evidence on these 4 White men. We feel the men will be found innocent when tried before a impartial jury. It is our belief that a Negro man have killed Mrs. Liuzzo. She must have resisted sexual advances from some black buck, and he must have violently turned upon her. Her death has been a great help to the Communist propaganda conspiracy—it is possible that she was killed on purpose by paid communist agents so that the deed could be blamed on innocent Southern Whites.

FBI DETROIT

COMMUNICATIONS
MAY 12 1965

TELETYPE

3-47 PM URGENT 5-12-65 DMR

TO DIRECTOR (44-28601)

ATTENTION: TRAINING DIVISION

FROM DETROIT (44-643) 5P

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS.

CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS. OO MOBILE.

REDETEL MAY TWELVE, SIXTYFIVE.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OF BUREAU, ARTICLE IN DETROIT FREE PRESS MAY TWELVE, SIXTYFIVE, BY WALTER RUGABER, STAFF WRITER, STATED THAT A "CONFIDENTIAL" SIX PAGE REPORT MADE BY POLICE COMMISSIONER-MARVIN G. LANE (NA), WARREN, MICHIGAN, CONCERNING MRS. VIOLA LIUZZO WAS PREPARED AND SENT BY LANE TO DALLAS COUNTY SHERIFF JAMES G. CLARK, SELMA, ALABAMA. LANE, FORMER CHIEF OF DETECTIVES, DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT, ALLEGEDLY SAID HE MADE ONLY TWO COPIES OF REPORT, ORIGINAL GOING TO CLARK AND THE OTHER COPY REMAINING IN LANE'S DESK. LANE IS QUOTED BY THE FREE PRESS AS STATING, "IF ANYTHING GOT OUT THE SHERIFF (CLARK) WAS RESPONSIBLE." WITH RESPECT TO THE REPORT GETTING OUT, LANE IS FURTHER QUOTED AS SAYING, "IT SHOULDN'T BE DONE. THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO

END PAGE ONE

MR. BELMONT FOR THE DIRECTOR

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 1

PAGE TWO

ABOUT IT. THERE IS NOTHING IN THE REPORT OTHER THAN FACTS. BUT IT WAS NEVER INTENDED TO BE CIRCULATED OTHER THAN TO... OFFICERS." LANE REPORTEDLY SAID HE KNEW CLARK THROUGH WORK IN POLICE ORGANIZATION. LANE SAID CLARK WAS NO PERSONAL FRIEND CLARK ALLEGEDLY CALLED LANE AND ASKED FOR A BACKGROUND REPORT AFTER MRS. LIUZZO WAS KILLED. THE REPORT WAS DATED APRIL SECOND, SIXTYFIVE. LANE ADVISED FREE PRESS HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT CLARK'S PURPOSE WAS IN REQUESTING A REPORT, AND SAID HE DID NOT QUESTION CLARK'S PURPOSE. IN THE REPORT WRITTEN ON THE CITY OF WARREN STATIONERY LANE SAID, "THIS INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OF THIS AREA AND OTHER PEOPLE."

THE REPORT, ACCORDING TO THE FREE PRESS, STATED -

"MRS. LIUZZO'S HUSBAND, ANTHONY J., IS A BUSINESS AGENT FOR TEAMSTERS UNION LOCAL TWO FOUR SEVEN AND RECEIVES A SALARY OF 'APPROXIMATELY EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY DOLLARS PER WEEK.'

"THE FAMILY CAR 'IS BEING FINANCED THROUGH THE GMAC PLAN AT PAYMENTS OF ONE HUNDRED ONE DOLLARS PER MONTH.'

END PAGE TWO

DE-44-643

PAGE THREE-

"MRS. LIUZZO'S FIRST MARRIAGE, AT SIXTEEN, 'LASTED ONE DAY, BOTH PARTIES SEPARATING THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING."

"THE FAMILY HAS CHARGE ACCOUNTS AT THE J. L. HUDSON CO. AND WINKLEMAN'S.

"MRS. LIUZZO AND TWO OF HER CHILDREN, ON SEPARATE OCCASIONS, 'RAN AWAY' FROM HOME.

"ON ONE OCCASION, 'WHEN THE POLICEWOMAN ASSIGNED TO THE CASE MADE HER INITIAL HOUSE CALL, SHE FELT THAT THE MOTHER WAS MOST DISTURBED AND WAS UNABLE TO GET ANY SENSIBLE INFORMATION FROM HER."

"WHEN MRS. LIUZZO WAS MISSING SHE WROTE HER HUSBAND A SERIES OF LETTERS, 'EACH BECOMING MORE DESPONDENT. ONE LETTER WAS WRITTEN BY VIOLA WHILE SHE WAS IN A CEMETERY."

"SHE WAS GIVING BIRTHS AND DEATHS OF VARIOUS PEOPLE AND CONCLUDED THE LETTER WITH HER OWN BIRTH DATE AND DEATH DATE."

"MRS. LIUZZO'S STUDENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER AT WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY WAS TWO EIGHT THREE DASH ZERO ZERO NINE AND SHE WAS
END PAGE THREE

DE 44-643

PAGE FOUR

"CONSIDERED AN 'OFF AND ON STUDENT.'"

THE FREE PRESS STATES THAT COMMISSIONER RAY GIRARDIN, DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT, UPON BEING ADVISED BY A REPORTER OF THE NATURE OF THE LIUZZO REPORT SAID THAT THE DETROIT PD "WOULDN'T HAVE OCCASION TO MAKE AN INVESTIGATION LIKE THIS." HE ADDED, "IT WOULD BE VERY UNUSUAL. THERE MAY BE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT BUT I WOULD SAY WE CERTAINLY WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT."

THE FREE PRESS ARTICLE STATES THAT KLAN IMPERIAL WIZARD ROBERT M. SHELTON, TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA, REVEALED COPIES OF THE REPORT TO A NUMBER OF REPORTERS IN ALABAMA LAST WEEK. SHELTON REPORTEDLY DENIED THAT THE REPORT CAME TO HIM FROM CLARK, BUT HE DECLINED TO NAME HIS SOURCE.

THE FREE PRESS REPORTED THAT LANE SAID HE PRODUCED THE INFORMATION AS A COURTESY TO A FELLOW LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. HE CLAIMED THAT HE OFTEN SUPPLIES OTHER POLICE DEPARTMENTS WITH CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS SUCH AS THE ONE HE COMPILED ON MRS. LIUZZO.

END PAGE FOUR

DE 44-643

PAGE FIVE

ASKED WHY HE INCLUDED SO MANY DETAILS ON MRS. LIUZZO'S PRIVATE LIFE, LANE SAID, "EVERYTHING THAT COMES TO YOUR ATTENTION, YOU PUT IN."

DETROIT REPORTS DATED MARCH THIRTYONE AND APRIL SECOND, SIXTYFIVE, AND SPECIFICALLY THE REPORT DATED APRIL ONE, SIXTYFIVE, CAPTIONED AS ABOVE, SET FORTH INFORMATION FROM DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT RECORDS REGARDING THE LIUZZO BACKGROUND. THE DETROIT OFFICE WAS NOT CONTACTED BY LANE IN THIS MATTER.

AS THE BUREAU IS AWARE, LANE RETIRED AS CHIEF OF DETECTIVES, DETROIT PD, IN NINETEEN SIXTYONE COMPLETING THIRTY FIVE YEARS SERVICE, TO ACCEPT THE POSITION AS POLICE COMMISSIONER AT WARREN, MICHIGAN. HE IS A GRADUATE OF THE TWENTY FOURTH SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY. LANE IS PAST PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE AND THE NATONAL ACADEMY ASSOCIATES. HE IS WIDELY RESPECTED IN LAW ENFORCEMENT CIRCLES.

AM COPY BEING SENT MOBILE FOR INFORMATION.

END

WA BMS

FBI WASH DC

CO-MR ROSEN

Well he isn't respected here. Cut him off entirely from Mr. [unclear]
J. [unclear]

Dr. Liuzzo is the civil rights worker who was murdered between Selma and Montgomery, Alabama, on 3/25/65.

Of three subjects indicted on state charges, Collie Leroy Wilkins was tried for murder in State Court last week, the trial resulting in a hung jury. Wilkins was represented by Matt Murphy, a Klan attorney.

Department being advised.

WLM:pah



COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 12 1965
TELETYPE

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

FBI WASH DC

FBI DETROIT

132 AM URGENT 5-12-65 LTU

TO DIRECTOR

FROM DETROIT (44-643)

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL, VIOLA LIUZZO ET AL DASH VICTIMS

Civil Rights - Election Laws
CR DASH EL.

MR. ANTHONY J. LIUZZO, ONE NINE THREE SEVEN FIVE MARLOVE, DETROIT, MICH., HUSBAND OF SLAIN CIVIL RIGHTS WORKER, VIOLA LIUZZO, TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED DETROIT OFFICE, EVENING OF MAY ELEVEN LAST, THAT HE HAD BEEN CONTACTED EARLIER IN THE EVENING BY A "DETROIT FREE PRESS" REPORTER.

REC-1 44-24601-35

THE REPORTER TOLD LIUZZO OF INFORMATION IN AN ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED LATER IN THE EVENING OF MAY ELEVEN LAST WHEREIN THE MAY 25 1965 FREE PRESS HAD LEARNED THAT A SIX PAGE REPORT HAD BEEN SENT EARLY APRIL, TO SHERIFF JAMES CLARK, SELMA, ALA., BY WARREN, MICH., POLICE COMMISSIONER MARVIN G. LANE (NA). LANE IS FORMER CHIEF OF DETECTIVES, DETROIT PD.

LIUZZO STATED THE REPORTER, WALTER RUGABER, HAD TOLD HIM THE REPORT CONTAINED DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING HIS WIFE'S VOTING HISTORY AND HIS FINANCIAL BACKGROUND. THE REPORT

END PAGE ONE
MAY 26 1965
MAY 25 1965

UNRECORDED COPY FILED

PAGE TWO

WAS ALLEGEDLY TURNED OVER TO KU KLUX KLAN IMPERIAL WIZARD ROBERT M. SHELTON BY CLARK.

MR. LIUZZO ADVISED HE WAS UPSET OVER THIS APPARENT INVASION OF HIS PRIVACY AND FELT IN VIEW OF LANE'S CO-OPERATION WITH SHERIFF CLARK, THAT LANE MIGHT BE CONSIDERED IN THE FUTURE AS A PERSON WHO WOULD CO-OPERATE WITH AND ASSIST THE KLAN.

HE HAD NO SPECIFIC INSTANCES TO CITE RE LANE'S POSSIBLE AFFILIATION WITH THE KLAN OTHER THAN TO OBJECT TO LANE'S ACTION AND ITS IMPLICATION. THE FBI'S JURISDICTION WAS CAREFULLY POINTED OUT TO MR. LIUZZO WHO APPEARED SATISFIED WITH ALL EXPLANATIONS.

AN ARTICLE APPEARED IN DETROIT FREE PRESS, CITY EDITION, EVENING MAY ELEVEN, DATED MAY TWELVE WHICH NOTED "KLAN GETS COPIES OF SECRET REPORT ON MRS. LIUZZO". THE ARTICLE NOTED THE SIX PAGE REPORT CONTAINED ALLEGATIONS OF LIUZZO FAMILY PROBLEMS, DETAILS OF MRS. LIUZZO'S THREE MARRIAGES AND A DETAILED RUNDOWN ON FAMILY INDEBTEDNESS.

DETROIT FILES CONTAIN NO INFO RE POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT IN KLAN ACTIVITY BY LANE.

FOREGOING BEING SUBMITTED FOR BUREAU'S INFORMATION.

END

WA..HFL

FBI WASH DC

I think we ought to find out if Lane did this. If he did he should be dropped from NSA associates.
K

FBI

Date: 5/21/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority)

TO : Director, FBI (44-28601)
FROM : SAC, Mobile (44-1245)(P)
SUBJECT: EUGENE THOMAS;
ET AL:
VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO;
ET AL - VICTIMS
CR

ReBuairtel 5/18/65.

Enclosed herewith are copies of the State and Federal bonds on WILKINS, THOMAS and EATON. These were obtained 5/20/65 by SA [REDACTED] from M. E. MARLETTE, Clerk of Court, Hayneville, Ala., and from JAMES M. GUTTERY, Deputy Clerk, U. S. District Court, Montgomery, Ala., respectively.

3 - Bureau (Enc 5)
2 - Mobile
SHR-egp
(5)

EX 110

REC-16

"ENCLOSURE ATTACHED"

100
all enclosures
sent to Dept

10 MAY 24 1965

5.25.65

6-24-65

220/KA

TU. Wick

70341

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 5-19-65

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: INEZ ROBB

Handwritten signatures and initials:
Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

BACKGROUND:

Captioned individual's column entitled "Some Disturbing Questions" which appeared in the May 17th issue of "The Washington Daily News" concerns the murder of Mrs. Viola G. Liuzzo, white civil rights worker from Detroit, Michigan. Robb mentions the actions of both the defense attorney and the County Solicitor during the trial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, and then goes into a critical diatribe concerning Gary Thomas Rowe, Jr., and his inability to prevent the murder of Mrs. Liuzzo.

Robb states that, "What sorely troubles me, if we accept the prosecution's account of the slaying, is the moral aspect of Rowe's presence in the car when an innocent woman, whose only crime was her aid to civil rights marchers, was gunned down." She attempts to show that Rowe had every opportunity to prevent this killing but neglected to do so, and questions why he did not at least attempt to protect Mrs. Liuzzo. She raises such other questions as "Under what kind of secret orders did Rowe work? Was the infiltration of the Ku Klux Klan more important than the saving of an innocent woman who, in the eyes of the great majority of her countrymen, was doing a commendable service to a just cause?" Robb concludes her article by stating, "It is one woman's opinion that the FBI owes the nation an explanation of its action in the Liuzzo case."

INFORMATION IN BUFILES:

NOT RECORDED
133 JUN 10 1965

10 JUN 10 1965

Our files reveal no information of a derogatory nature identifiable with Robb who is a well-known syndicated columnist, whose column reportedly appears in some 132 daily newspapers. Our information regarding her for the most part consists of articles she has written in the past concerning her trip to Russia in 1959 and general living conditions in that country. These articles were written in a satirical vein in which she criticized the manner of living in Russia as compared to life in the United States.

CRIME RESEARCH

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Rosen - Enclosure

JCF:mmm
(6)

Handwritten notes:
This is absolutely untrue.
One in the FBI or DOJ
she visited the...
Continued...
Some personally when I was
in Miami...
indicated my cottage there.

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 5-25-65

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: INEZ ROBB

BACKGROUND:

In a memorandum dated 5-19-65 concerning captioned individual's column in the May 17th issue of "The Washington Daily News" regarding Gary Thomas Rowe, Jr., the statement was made that our files reveal no information of a derogatory nature identifiable with Robb. Also, it was recommended that you contact Robb and set her straight.

In connection with the first statement, the Director has noted, "This is absolutely untrue. Back in the 30's or 40's she vilified the FBI and me personally when I was in Miami Beach and even picketed my cottage there. H." The Director has also advised that nothing would be gained by contacting Robb.

ACTION:

All references in Bureau indices on Inez Robb were recalled. They were carefully and thoroughly reviewed without locating additional pertinent data. Upon request, the Miami Office reviewed their indices for any information on Robb. SAC, Miami, advised that their files contained no references identifiable with Robb. Old research files in the Crime Records Division were reviewed along with reference projects regarding smear campaigns against the Bureau in the 1940 era. This included the "New York Post" series, Fred Cook's articles in the "Nation" magazine and Max Lowenthal's book. No data concerning Robb was located in this reference material.

After negative efforts to locate data in Bureau files and the Miami Office indices, a check was made of the special newspaper clippings in the Director's Office. These clippings revealed two articles by Inez Robb. One in the 3-5-40 issue of the "Atlanta Constitution," Atlanta, Georgia, entitled "Miami Hurt to the Quick By G-Man Hoover's Charge." The other appeared in the 3-5-40 issue of the "Memphis Commercial Appeal," Memphis, Tennessee, entitled "Palm Beach's Famous Casino Rolls Along Despite G-Men." These both referred to the Director's efforts to clean up the Miami Beach area. These clippings further revealed a column by Walter Winchell appearing in the 3-6-40 issue of the "New York Daily Mirror" as follows "Reporter Inez Robb and J. Edgar Hoover have phifft, too... 'He has,' she barks, 'the worst tact and the most wonderful brown eyes.'"

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

1 - Mr. DeLoach

JCF:jol/skd (6)

10 JUN 10 1965

1 - Mr. Rosen

RESEARCH

M. A. Jones to DeLoach Memo
RE: Inez Robb

Our most recent data regarding Robb was in connection with a controversy in which she became embroiled with the owner of the Camelback Inn, Phoenix, Arizona, where she was addressing a group of women. She criticized the fact that her room did not contain a Bible but did contain anticommunist literature. She also criticized the Inn's "freedom shelf" which contained anticommunist books and literature, including the Director's book "Masters of Deceit," noting in her speech "there is no danger within from communism, only from without."
(94-55940-4) (62-72670)

OBSERVATIONS:

In reading Robb's column, it is clear to see that she is completely misinformed concerning our responsibilities in connection with the Liuzzo murder investigation, and it is felt she should be personally contacted and set straight on this matter. She should be advised that, although Mr. Rowe furnished us information from time to time concerning Klan activities, he was not an employee of the FBI.

He was a paid informant
Since this matter is still under litigation, it is felt that in response to some of her contentions as to what Rowe should have done to prevent this accident, we should merely respond by referring to Rowe's testimony at the trial to the effect that he was taken by surprise and when he found out what was actually going on, he was afraid for his own life. It is also felt, at this time, that it would not be advisable to expand on this explanation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you, Mr. DeLoach, contact Inez Robb and set her straight concerning the questions she has raised in this article regarding our responsibilities in the Liuzzo murder case, along the lines indicated above.

chm
not much use!

5/20/1

PM

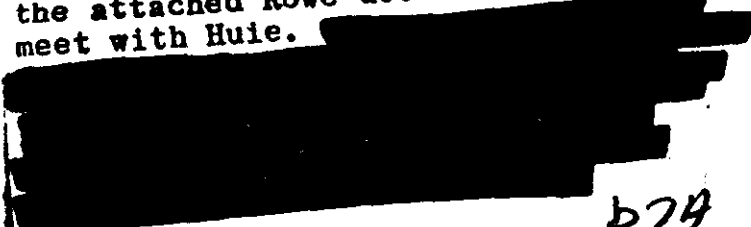
P

Rowe

*No. 2. Shaker
"litch" H...
ing would be
granted.*

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE

William Bradford Huie, a free lance writer on controversial subjects, previously contacted Bureau requesting desire to prepare articles and possibly a novel concerning activities of Gary Thomas Rowe, Jr., regarding Klan activities. Bureau is not cooperating with Huie in writing any articles on Rowe or the Klan. Huie's request, however, was brought to the attention of Rowe and as stated in the attached Rowe does not desire to meet with Huie.



b7d

JJB/ral

JJB 1/28/61

DECODED COPY

☐ AIRGRAM ☐ CABLEGRAM ☐ RADIO ☒ TELETYPE

10:58 AM PDST URGENT 5-24-65 KSJ
TO DIRECTOR (44-28601) BIRMINGHAM, AND ATLANTA
FROM SAN FRANCISCO 241651

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA; ET AL VICTIMS; CR-EL;
RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS).

RE BUAIRTEL MAY 12 LAST, AND INSPECTOR JOSEPH SULLIVAN'S
CALL TO SAN FRANCISCO MAY 24 INSTANT, FOR A SCHEDULED MEETING
WITH INFORMANT IN ATLANTA.

CONTENTS OF REAIRTEL DISCUSSED WITH ROWE BY SA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ROWE STATED THAT HE DOES NOT DESIRE TO MEET WITH [REDACTED]
HUTE AND ROWE'S PRESENT ATTITUDE IS THAT HE DOES NOT WISH TO
BECOME INVOLVED WITH ANY OTHER WRITERS WHO MIGHT MAKE SIMILAR REQUEST
AT LEAST UNTIL PROSECUTION OF CASE CONCLUDED.

RECEIVED: 2:10 PM JLD

EX-116

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

MAY 25 1965

CC: MR. ROSEN

CC: MR. DELOACH

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

5/25/65

1 - Mr. Boyd

Airtel

To: SACs, Atlanta
Birmingham
San Francisco

EX-116

From: Director, FBI (44-28601) - 364

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;
VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

ReSFrad to Director, Birmingham and Atlanta 5/24/65.

Reference is made to the inquiry by free lance writer William Bradford Huie as to the possibility of writing a story on Rowe and Rowe's present attitude that he does not wish to meet Huie.

The Bureau also does not desire to have Huie meet Rowe and you should take appropriate steps to insure that such a meeting does not take place.

JJB/ral
(8)

NOTE: Rerad advised that Rowe did not care to meet Huie or any other writers with similar requests. The Director has noted he does not want Huie to meet Rowe.

MAILED 5

FBI

FBI

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

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐