

REC'D O. D. I. O., S. D. AUG 9 1919

HEADQUARTERS LAREDO DISTRICT,

REFER TO FILE NO. 201

Johnson, Jack

DISTRICT INTELLIGENCE OFFICER,
ALEXANDER BUILDING, LAREDO, TEXAS.

10218-376

Noted
R. B. Woodruff

Aug 8/19.

From: District Intelligence Officer, Laredo Texas.

WAR DEPARTMENT

To: Department Intelligence Officer, Ft Sam Houston Texas.

190x

Subject: Jack Johnson, Negro Ex champ.

M. I. 4. - / A. K. B.

1. Subject arrived at Nuevo Laredo Aug 5, and is stopping at the Vega Hotel, and he is accompanied by General Juan Perez and Manuel Mijares, who are supporting him with funds, as he has none himself, the Mexicans think a great deal of subject, as he entertains them by exhibition bouts, punching the bag, and above all telling them how much better they are off than the D-- American Gringos, and that the colored race are going to show them that they are just as good as they are, and going to fight for their rights which they are doing now in the north (Chicago) and let me tell Mexican citizens that when, or if the time ever comes when the Americans will attempt to come over here, the black man is your friend, and are with you, and will stand by you, (house cheers) he leaves place and went to saloon where he is a drawing card for the house, and was followed there by crowd in cheers.

2. Subject was to fight a man by the name of Porky Flynn from Mexico City, but word was received this morning that Flynn objected to fight a negro, so they have arranged for a Mexican to fight him, every body here is under the impression that it will be a fake fight, or doubt whether it will come off at all, General Garza of Nuevo Laredo has purchased five tickets @ \$8.00 per, and says that if he dont fight, or if it is a fake fight that he is going to jail.

3. Mexican Immigration Office has notified this side that they would give passes that day to go over the bridge to see the fight. The Mexican Consul is lookin for trouble over there Sunday at the fight, between the Americans and Mexicans.

JJG/
Copies to
D.C.
D.I.O.

1st Ind.

John J. Gallagher
John J. Gallagher,
Captain A.S.A.

D.I.O., S.D., Fort Sam Houston, Texas, Aug 1, 1919 - To Director of Military Intelligence.

CC-Dept. J.
SCK;bs

R. B. Woodruff
R. B. Woodruff,
Major, Infantry.

REFER TO FILE
NO. 291.2

HEADQUARTERS SOUTHERN DEPARTMENT,

OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT INTELLIGENCE OFFICER, 10218-376
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS.

October 15, 1919.

From: Department Intelligence Officer.
To: Director of Military Intelligence, Washington, D.C.
Subject: Negroes.

2
WAL. D. GIBBEN

190X

CAPTAIN ENCLOSURE
W. L. G.

M. I. D. - J. A. K. B.

1. There is being submitted herewith, ~~copy of~~ report made by Captain Hanson of the Texas Rangers, who is going into Mexican matters very thoroughly to assist the Congressional Investigating Committee on the subject.

"Jack Johnson went into Sanborn's store, Mexico City, to be served, and Mr. Walter Sanborn refused because he was a negro. He went out and came back with three or four Carranza generals, two of whom were General Merrigo and General de la Torre, nicknamed "Asperin." They drew their pistols and made Sanborn shake hands with him and apologize and serve him, and told Sanborn that this was not a "white man's country" and he must serve all, regardless of color. Many negroes are going into Mexico. Twenty were counted at the theatre in Mexico City one night. They are publicly in favor of riots in the United States, and are conferring with many Carrancista generals in Mexico City with a view, supposedly, of assisting the Carrancistas in case of trouble with the United States. It is an open secret in Mexico City that Carranza is working with labor organizations through Gompers and others, and with the protestant churches, through Weeks, Inman, and others, to further a propaganda in the United States. The above information was given me very confidentially by Don Pablo Escandon, just from Mexico City and en route to Canada to put his children in school. In this connection, will state that Jack Johnson gave a boxing exhibition in Nuevo Laredo some time ago, and something like twenty negroes from the United States met and conferred with Johnson, and it is suspicioned by well posted Americans that this meeting was had in Nuevo Laredo for the purpose of giving Johnson a chance to have an understanding with his visitors, and to further Carranza propaganda in the United States. At this time, there are three negro musicians and a small, well educated, yellow negro in Nuevo Laredo, and several Americans have informed me that they have seen him in close touch and consultation with the Carrancistas there. It is rumored that Johnson has a commission under the Carranza Government."

2. In connection with this, he gave the following on the negro question, stating at the time that he accepted all responsibility for the

*Same story
previously
reported, but
does not appear
in this file.
AKB 4.*

thing, and if necessary, could forward proofs for each statement. This office is inclined to accept his statements as absolutely true.

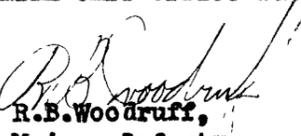
He stated that over the entire south, particularly Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas, there are spread secret societies of negroes for the purpose of aggressive action against the whites. In this city there are 1550, in Houston perhaps 1500, and other cities in proportion. The returned negro soldiers are fostering this society, and arms in great numbers are being procured. Up until the last year or so, the only firearms bought by negroes were shotguns, but in the recent riot at Longview, Texas, everyone was greatly surprised to see negroes coming out of the cane brakes with 30-30 and 30 calibre rifles, and as much as 200 rounds of ammunition for them. In the county in which Longview is situated, approximately 8000 firearms were taken.

Captain Hanson also stated that it was his opinion that the Houston riot of a few years ago was one of the first results of this negro society.

Captain Hanson stated that much information which is obtained has been given him in confessions by negroes; that in his opinion, much difficulty will be encountered in obtaining negro informants, as in the present situation none could be trusted. Negro soldiers do not understand why they are not treated as they were in France. Frequent violations of the "Jim Crow" law occur on street cars.

Efforts are thought to be under way by the Carrancista government to get negroes into Mexico in order that they may assist the army, many of them having already been trained in our own service.

3. Informant is to furnish this office with anything more he is able to obtain on the subject.


R.B. Woodruff,
Major, Infantry.

RBW:cmh

RADIO MESSAGE M.I.D. R.T.U. #47 March 12, 1920 10218-376

From : Jose T. Cantu, Manzanillo

To : Federico A. Dato (c/o) Col. Cantu, Mexicali, BC

Capt. Davila is bringing Jack Johnson, boxing champion. Arrange lodging for him, likewise contract to fight with someone; the weight or size of the one contracted with on our account does not matter to him. Affectionately.

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WAY DEPARTMENT
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M.I. 10.

April 23, 1920.

Mr. Frank Burke,
Assistant Director and Chief,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice.

Subject: Jack Johnson.

My dear Mr. Burke:

From a reliable source it has been ascertained that the following message was sent on March 12, 1920, by Jose T. Gantu from Mazatlan, to Federico A. Dato, c/o Colonel Gantu, Mexicali:

"Capt. Davila is bringing Jack Johnson, boxing champion. Arrange lodging for him, likewise contract to fight with someone; the weight or size of the one contracted with on our account does not matter to him. Affectionately."

The above is for your information and such action, if any, as you may deem advisable.

Very truly yours,

A. B. Cox,
Colonel, General Staff,
Acting Director of Military Intelligence.

By:

E. J. Ely,
Lieut. Colonel, U.S. Army.

C.C. to I.O., W.D. sent - Apr 23, 20 - J.W.

hcr.

DELIVERED TO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Capt. Tupper

APR 23 1920