

Office Memorandum • UNITED

GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135 Sub 61)

DATE: 8/13/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1361)

SUBJECT: Raton  
RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

*del*

Attached hereto are two copies of an item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 8/3/56, entitled "CITIES TRANSIT 'WELL PLEASED.'"

- 2 - Bureau (Encl. 2) (100-135 Sub 61)
- 1 - Mobile (100-1361)

10  
(3)  
**7c**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY *sp3 dch/ed*  
100-135-61-196

**FBI**  
ENCLOSURE  
AUG 15 1956

*id*

RECEIVED  
53 AUG 17 1956

RECORDED-82

11 AUG 15 1956

*INT-SEC*

## Cities Transit 813 'Well Pleased'

Cities Transit Bus Company Manager Charles Carter said today he was "well pleased" with the reception given resumption of bus service in the City.

Carter said a survey showed more than 400 Negroes rode the buses yesterday. He said he had not made an official check today. An unofficial check by The Democrat showed that some Negroes were riding most buses.

Thomas Brownlee, chairman of the Ride-The-Bus campaign committee, also said he felt the campaign was "going very well." He said there is not much more the Chamber of Commerce can do. "If the citizens want a public transportation system in town, they will either ride the bus or buy bus tickets," Brownlee said.

Carter said there would probably have to be some adjustments made in schedules or routes but that they would be minor.

He said there had been no trouble and after a little confusion about changed routes the first day things appeared to be running smoothly.

The Junior Chamber of Commerce has arranged for free all day parking at five outlying service stations for the convenience of people living outside the bus route area. They could drive to one of the stations, park their car and board the bus.

The locations are Seminole Texaco Service Station, 1917 W. Tennessee St., Dellwood Service Station, 2025 N. Monroe, Bolton Hills Service Station, 1917 Thomasville Rd., Woodrow Messer Texaco Station, Gadsden and Tennessee Sts. and Mears Gulf Service Station, 1905 S. Adams.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY SP3 CLK/pcl

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

From: Tallahassee "Democrat"  
8/3/56

GDM

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-196

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135 Sub 61)

DATE: 8/9/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1361)

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLHASSEE, FLORIDA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY Sp3ct/gde

Attached hereto are two copies of an item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 8/3/56, entitled "MAYOR REPORTS ANTI-CAR POOL LAW ABANDONED."

2 - Bureau (Encl. 2) ENCLOSURE  
1 - Mobile (100-1361)  
-lo

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*copy of clipping to machine  
8/11/56*

RECORDED - 72  
INDEXED - 72  
100-135-61-197  
14 AUG 19 1956

58 AUG 23 1956

7c

# Mayor Reports Anti-Car Pool Law Abandoned For-Hire Tags Held Required

Tallahassee Mayor John Humphreys said today the City Commission had agreed not to pass the anti-car pool ordinance which is scheduled to come up for final action on Aug. 14.

Humphreys made his announcement after conferring with other Commissioners by telephone following an opinion by the attorney general this morning.

Atty. Gen. Richard Ervin said today that in his opinion automobiles operating in a car pool similar to the one now operated by local Negroes are subject to the state law requiring 'for hire' tags.

Humphreys said the attorney general's opinion apparently gives the State or City authorities a legal basis to arrest cars operating in the car pool without for hire tags.

Ervin gave his opinion to Mrs. Ina Thompson, director of the State Motor Vehicle Commission, who had requested a ruling.

City Mgr. Arvah Hopkins said had not seen the ruling yet and didn't know what he would do until after reading it. He said it shows someone in Tallahassee is violating the law, we'll do something about it.

The City Commission authorized a crackdown on car pool operations several weeks ago but so far no arrests have been made. The police have questioned dozens of drivers and passengers in the car pool, however, and have compiled a detailed list of the operations.

Mrs. Thompson told The Democrat: "We received numerous queries from the City and others about the matter. To be sure we had an official interpretation, I asked Atty. Gen. Ervin to clarify the law for us. His advisory letter, not yet an official opinion, arrived yesterday. I planned to discuss it with local authorities and then decide what if any action will be taken. Certainly if any local citizens are violating the law we will take some action."

An official in the state Attorney General's office, who asked that his name not be used, said it was his personal opinion too that the so-called local "car pool" operation also violates laws regarding insurance coverage, franchises and also probably would bring them under jurisdiction of the Railroad and Public Utilities Commission.

RULING IS CITED

Citing a Kentucky Supreme Court ruling on the point, the Attorney General said the guide to whether a car must bear a for-hire tag is a determination of whether picking up riders is incidental to the main purpose of the operator.

"In the operation of a 'car pool' the carrying of passengers is 'incidental' to the main purpose, whereas in the arrangement in the question under consideration the main purpose of the operator is the carrying of passengers," he said.

The question to the Attorney General dealt only with the for-hire tag phase of the car pool operations.

City Attorney James Messer gave an almost identical opinion to the City Commission some weeks ago.

The City Commission has a pending before it an ordinance outlawing car pool operations. Messer said today "in the light of this opinion by the Attorney General, I can see no necessity for the ordinance."

## DISTINCTION MADE

Messer's previous opinion and the attorney general's opinion makes a definite distinction between car pools operated by a group of people to go back and forth to work and a pooled transportation system such as the one used by local Negroes.

Both were of the opinion that car pools where a group of people take turns riding one another to work are legal but that an operation similar to the one Negroes are operating here is not legal.

Ervin's opinion said "... the former tends to decrease the traffic on the highway, while the latter tends to increase traffic on the highway."

Ervin quoted from State law which said in part: "For hire vehicles include all motor vehicles ... when offered or used to provide transportation for persons solicited through personal contact or advertised on a 'sharp-expense' basis ..."

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.  
AUGUST 3, 1956

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY Sp3ck/gcd

100-135-61-197

ENCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 8/13/56

FROM : SAC, MOBILE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 ck/gcl

Re Mobile letter to Bureau, 7/6/56; Bureau letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Army, The Pentagon, Washington 25, D. C., dated 7/12/56 and Mobile airtel to Bureau, 7/28/56.

*Let to you in the past...  
b-2 4-56*

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

FBI  
RECEIVED

2 - Director (105-105-61)  
2 - Mobile (100-31958)  
b1s

RECORDED - 77  
INDEXED - 77

100-105-11-198

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100-105-11-198  
100-105-11-198

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XXXXXX  
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b7C, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

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

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
100-135-61-198

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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DIRECTOR, FBI

8/13/56

RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

7C  
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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The above information was orally furnished by SA [REDACTED] on 8/5/56, to [REDACTED] Agent in Charge, 111th CIC Detachment, Fort Rucker, Ala.

In addition, a separate communication has been directed to G-2, 3rd Army confirming this information in writing. In view of above, no further investigation is being conducted.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 8/16/56

FROM : SAC, MOBILE

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

*CRACON*

Re Mobile letter to Bureau, 6/7/56.

Regular contacts with informants and sources of information in captioned matter have established that there have been no significant developments in the Racial Situation in Montgomery since the USDC at Montgomery ruled against the Montgomery City Bus Segregation laws on 6/5/56. Developments in other related matters have been furnished the Bureau under appropriate captions.

*68*

[REDACTED]

The Bureau will be promptly advised of any new developments in this matter. *FX*

*my*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY *sp3 cde/gcl*

RECORDED - 96

*100-135-61-199*

10 AUG 20 1956

**FBI**  
2 - Bureau (100-135-61)  
2 - Mobile (44-439)  
3 - (4)

*1-D*

*7c*  
68 AUG 22 1956

*[Signature]*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135 Sub 61) DATE: 8/24/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1361)

SUBJECT: **RACON**  
RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Attached hereto are two copies of an item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 8/22/56, entitled "POLICE CRACK DOWN ON POOLS, ARRESTING FOUR."

- 2 - Bureau (Encl. 2) (100-135 Sub 61)
- 1 - Mobile (100-1361)

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(3)  
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3dc/gcl

RECORDED - 400-135-61-260

FBI  
RECEIVED  
10 23 1956  
ENCLOSURE  
100-135-61-260  
RACON  
7c

23 AUG 27 1956

61 SEP 4 1956

## Police Crack Down On Pools, Arresting Four

### 'For Hire' Tag Charge Placed Against Drivers

Four Negro car pool drivers—including the vice president of the Negro Inter Civic Council—were arrested today in a crack-down by City police.

City Manager Arvah Hopkins ordered the arrests after a closed-door conference yesterday afternoon with the City Commission.

He said it was based on an opinion by Atty. Gen. Richard Ervin that automobiles operated for car pool purposes during the bus boycott come within the classification of "for hire" vehicles.

Hopkins said such an operation endangers public safety since the cars are not inspected for mechanical condition and insurance would not be valid in the case of an accident.

Police Chief Frank Stoutamire said investigation of the car pool operation has shown that cars are picking up passengers in front of regularly scheduled buses. The car pool cars don't necessarily run in front of the buses, but time their pickups at bus stops a few minutes ahead of the bus, Stoutamire said.

Stoutamire said the arrests would continue "as necessary."

#### NOT AGAINST NEIGHBORS

In a prepared statement, Hopkins said the operators of the cars in violation of the "for hire" law had "ample warning and continuation of such operations constituted flagrant violations and disregard of laws of the State and ordinances of the City."

Hopkins said the arrest orders were aimed only at drivers in organized car pools and not motorists who make a practice of giving neighbors a lift to the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY Sp3cl/gd

## Police Cracking Down Here

From Page 1

He said Ervin's ruling had differentiated between car pools which have as their main purpose the transportation of passengers and motorists who give rides to neighbors as an incidental convenience.

Arrested this morning was the Rev. K. S. Dupont, 53, vice-president of the Inter Civic Council. He was charged with violating the "for hire" law and failure to have a tail light and brake lights on his car.

He was arrested in the 1300 block of Diston Street.

Others arrested were Edward Daryl Iron, 33, 2110 S. Broad St., who was stopped at Gamble and Perry streets; Offie Burns, 32, of 603 Dent St., arrested at Russell and Floral streets for violation of the "for hire" statute and at Park avenue and Monroe street a short time later for making an improper turn, and Parker Hollis, 29, of 206 W. Palmer Ave., arrested

for violation of the "for hire" law at McComb and Lafayette streets.

**STEELE ARRANGES BONDS**  
Police Lt. John Coggins and Detective R. G. Strickland arrested Dupont, Irons and Burns. Officer Burl Peacock arrested Hollis.

Dupont's bond was set at \$200. Others had bonds of \$150. The Rev. C. K. Steele, president of the Inter Civic Council, put up the appearance bonds for all four.

Steele called the arrests "very unfair" and declared the action was taken in an effort to force boycotters back on the buses.

"Instead of forcing us back on the buses, it will have the opposite effect and make us more determined than ever to continue our efforts for equal treatment on the buses," he said.

Steele said more than half of the arrests would stimulate further walking.

For the average car, a "for

hire" tag would cost about \$15 more than a regular license. It also would result in a higher insurance rate than a car used for private operation.

The City Commission also has authority to limit the number of "for hire" vehicles which can operate in the city.

The arrests were the latest development in the bus boycott which began May 28 after the arrest of two Florida A & M students. Bus operations were suspended for a month, but were resumed Aug. 3 after an intensive "ride the bus" campaign spearheaded by the Chamber of Commerce.

The Cities Transit Company has reported increasing numbers of Negro riders since the buses were put back in operation. Negro drivers are manning the Frenchtown and Florida A & M University runs.

Steele acknowledged that some Negroes were riding buses, but said they were not in large numbers.

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

From The Tallahassee Democrat  
Tallahassee, Fla.  
8/22/56

JBH

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-200

100-135-61-207

7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY spzcl/hcl

100-135-61

Date: August 24, 1956

To: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Chief, Security Division

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA RACON - Mobile

Reference is made to my memorandum dated July 12, 1956, with which you were furnished a Photostat of a memorandum from the Mobile Office of this Bureau dated July 6, 1956, which contained information relative to a Ku Klux Klan group.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Any additional pertinent information received relative to this matter will be furnished to you promptly.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mason \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Case \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

cc - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

RECORDED-53 100-135-61-207  
EX-110 Form 6-67 (same date)

jet:aat  
(6)  
2 AUG 30 1956  
35

COMM-FBI  
AUG 24 1956  
MAILED 20

20 AUG 27 1956

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fa

WTK  
OAW

FBI

Date: 8/28/56

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mason	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Transmit the following message via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, MOBILE

To: DIRECTOR, FBI

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Remytel, 8/26/56

Enclosed herewith are two copies of clippings from the Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery, Ala., 8/26/56, page one captioned "GRAETZ denies Bomb Hoax," referred to in retel. Copies of 8/25/56, issue Alabama Journal, Montgomery, Ala., also contains story on bombing of Rev. ROBERT S. GRAETZ'S house at Montgomery, and these being obtained and will be forwarded.

HALLFORD

- 3 - Bureau (100-135-61) (2 encls.) (RM)
- 2 - Mobile (44-439) (5)

RACON

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY Sp3ck/bel

RECORDED - 120

INDEXED - 120

Mr. Belmont

100-135-61-202

20 AUG 30 1956

ENCLOSURE  
100 send to Sampkins  
to Sampkins  
by 8-6  
100-30-56

50 SEP 5 1956

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

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

MAYOR SEES 'PUBLICITY STUNT'

# Graetz Denies Bomb Hoax

The white minister of a Negro church whose home was damaged by a dynamite blast early yesterday charged Mayor W. A. Gayle with "foolishness" in calling the bombing a "publicity stunt".

The Rev. Robert Graetz, 27, arrived in the city during the afternoon to find windows and a door shattered at his home, 1110 Cleveland Ave., by the pre-dawn blast. Windows in two nearby homes also were shattered, but nobody was hurt.

Mayor W. A. Gayle laid the latest bombing to a "publicity stunt," and promised an all-out investigation to "get to the bottom of this thing by arresting and convicting the party or parties if it is at all possible."

#### GRAETZ DENIES

Gayle said it "appears strange that none of the occupants have been at home when other bombings occurred." There have been two previous bombings since the boycott began last winter.

Det. Capt. E. P. Brown, leading an investigation into the incident, said the blast on the Graetz lawn apparently came from "two or three sticks of dynamite."

Set off about 20 feet from the house, at about 3 a.m., the blast shattered a picture window, broke others throughout the house, and forced open the front door, ripping out the lock and door facing.

A window was shattered at the home of B. T. Knox, Negro, 1126 Cleveland Ave., and at another house across the street.

Gayle declared that "this latest bombing follows the usual pattern. It's a strange coincidence that when interest appears rising in the bus boycott, something like this happens."

"We are inclined to wonder if (See GRAETZ, Page 2A)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3ctc/gcl

Montgomery Advertiser

Montgomery, Alabama

Date 8-26-56

Page 1

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

Bufile: 100-135-61

Mo file: 44-739

100-135-61-202

ENCLOSURE

## Graetz

(Continued From Page 1)

out-of-state contributions to the boycott have been dropping off. Perhaps this is just a publicity stunt to build up interest of the Negroes in their campaign."

Rev. Graetz called the mayor's statement "foolishness." He said he has been often threatened in the past, and that "this is just the sort of thing they did to Dr. Martin Luther King and E. D. Nixon."

An estimated half-stick of dynamite was tossed on the porch of King's home Jan. 30, doing some damage, and another blast was set off at Nixon's home two nights later.

There was no damage at the Nixon home.

Last January Graetz' car was damaged when someone put sugar in the gasoline tank and slashed two of the tires.

The minister said he surmised that the latest violence was brought about by the "same group" responsible for the earlier bombings "or by like-minded persons since it all follows a similar pattern."

Rev. King last night voiced "regrets" at Gayle's remark, and said the mayor should use all the power of his office to find and prosecute the perpetrators.

"We regret that Mayor Gayle allegedly accused the Montgomery Improvement Assn. of instigating the bombing in order to stimulate interest and encourage financial contributions for the continued operation of the bus protest.

The interest and enthusiasm are as high as ever and the people are still giving generously, but even more the movement from its inception has been a movement of non-violent resistance depending upon moral and spiritual forces.

"We condemn such an act and urge the mayor to do all that is possible to punish the guilty parties. The mayor implies that Negroes perpetrated this deplorable act, which is both morally compelling and tactically expedient for him to use the power of his office to bring the guilty parties to justice."

"We are still determined to live by the principal of non-violence. Both aggressive and retaliatory violence are diametrically opposed to the spirit of love and morality that stand at the center of our movement."

Yesterday's blast left a hole 21 inches in diameter and 15 inches deep on the Graetz lawn. Capt. Brown said he was convinced the blast went off on top of the ground, since there was a strong odor of cordite.

### HEARD MILES AWAY

He estimated the size of the home-made bomb as at least two sticks of dynamite, and probably three. The blast was heard over an area estimated at five miles in radius.

Graetz, his wife and three children were just ending a one-week combined vacation and workshop at Highlander Folk School in Tennessee. He said he heard of the blast from a newsman before leaving there.

His wife and three small children were with him.

"I'm certainly glad we weren't at home," he said. "We had a nice night's sleep where we were, and I don't think we'd have slept so well here."

### BOYCOTT SUPPORTER

The young minister, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, has actively supported the bus boycott since it got under way nearly 18 months ago. For a time he was a driver in the boycott car pool.

Graetz is a native of Clarkburg, W. Va. He attended Capital University and Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, where he became interested in work with Negro young people.

Before accepting his pastorate here he was intern minister at a predominantly Negro church in Los Angeles.

Only this week Graetz had invited Montgomery's white ministers to attend a meeting of the bi-racial Montgomery Council on Human Relations, to hear a Negro pastor, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., tell "his side of the story" on the bus boycott.

The white ministers declined the invitation.

King, who was convicted of violating Alabama's anti-boycott law last spring, was unavailable for comment on the bombing.

Mayor Gayle commented that for the most part white people of Montgomery have been dispassionate about the bus boycott and have shown very little interest in it.

### LITTLE INTEREST

"They don't care particularly how the Negroes solve their transportation problem," he said, "and don't care if the boycott lasts 100 years."

"We deplore this latest incident which tends to fan the flames of racial unrest. Our police department is going to do everything possible to apprehend and convict the guilty party or parties."



### WHERE DYNAMITE BOMB LEFT DAMAGE

A part of the crowd of curious which swarmed the home of the Rev. Robert Graetz, 1110 Cleveland Ave., following a bombing early yesterday, inspects damages to windows and door. At

extreme left is the home of E. T. Koon, Negro neighbor of Graetz, where windows also were broken by the blast. The bomb exploded on the lawn, in foreground.

30



#### **MINISTER MEASURES HOLE**

The Rev. Robert Graetz, with son Robert III and daughter Margaret, measure a 15-inch hole left by a dynamite bomb thrown on the lawn early yesterday.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135 Sub 61)

DATE: 8/31/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1361)

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 dcl/gcl

Attached hereto are two copies of an item appearing  
in The Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, issue of  
8/29/56 captioned "11TH 'FOR HIRE' ARREST IS MADE."

2 - Bureau (Encl. 2) (100-135 Sub 61)  
1 - Mobile (100-1361)

*McGowan  
Thurman*

7C  
2 ENCLOSURE  
83

RECORDED - 83

100-135-61-203

7 SEP 4 1956

61 SEP 10 1956

FBI  
RECORDS SECTION  
EX-120  
file 100-135 sub 61  
EX-120

*[Redacted]*  
7C

## 11th 'For Hire' Arrest Is Made

The 11th car-pool arrest for operating without a "for hire" tag was made today by City police.

Detective R. J. Strickland arrested Henry Theodos Smith, 821 Liberty St., at 7:25 a. m. today at Gamble and Russell streets. He was released on \$100 bond, and is scheduled to appear next Monday in City Court.

Police have charged 10 persons with operating without the "for hire" tags including three officers in the Negro Inter Civic Council, which is sponsoring a boycott of Tallahassee buses.

The Rev. C. K. Steele, president of the Inter Civic Council has been arrested twice. Other officers arrested were Dan Speed, transportation chairman, and the Rev. K. S. Dupont, vice-president.

Seven cases are scheduled to be tried next week in City Court, and others will appear to enter pleas on the charges.

REX TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.  
8/29/56

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

JBH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 clc/gcl

100-135-61-203  
ENCLOSURE

## 11th For Hire Arrest Is Made

The 11th car-pool arrest for operating without a "for hire" tag was made today by City police.

Detective R. J. Strickland arrested Henry Theodos Smith, 821 Liberty St., at 7:35 a. m. today at Gamble and Russell streets. He was released on \$100 bond, and is scheduled to appear next Monday in City Court.

Police have charged 10 persons with operating without the "for hire" tags including three officers in the Negro Inter Civic Council, which is sponsoring a boycott of Tallahassee buses.

The Rev. C. K. Steele, president of the Inter Civic Council has been arrested twice. Other officers arrested were Dan Speed, transportation chairman, and the Rev. K. S. Dupont, vice-president.

Seven cases are scheduled to be tried next week in City Court, and others will appear to enter pleas on the charges.

In the meantime, City Manager Arvah Hopkins, who ordered the car pool arrests, denied charges by a northern Negro church leader that Steele's arrests are "a heinous offense against the principles of democracy."

Bishop D. Ward Nichols, presiding bishop of the Florida area of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, made the statement on his return from Hungary, where he attended meetings of the World Council of Churches.

"The attorney general has passed an opinion that car pools such as the one being operated in Tallahassee are in violation of the State law," Hopkins said. "We are simply enforcing the law, since we try not to overlook any law."

Nichols said the churches are morally justified in backing a boycott under present conditions here and in Montgomery, Ala.

He said he is calling a meeting Thursday at the St. Paul A.M.E. Church at Jacksonville to organize support of the boycott and for Steele. He said the organization will caution against anything that might lead to violence.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3cde/gde

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.  
8/29/56

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

JBH

100-135-61-203

ENCLOSURE

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b2, b7C, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

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

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
100-135-61-204

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*Hm*

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Boardman  
Belmont  
Mohr

76

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 23, 1956

Director, FBI

100-135-61-204

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY spzcl/gcl

RECORDED-31

On December 5, 1955, Negroes in Montgomery, Alabama, instituted a boycott of city buses due to the segregated seating policy and lack of courtesy on the part of bus drivers toward Negroes. Reverend Robert R. Graetz, white pastor of the All-Negro Trinity Lutheran Church, Montgomery, Alabama, has played a prominent role in connection with this boycott.

RECEIVED  
AUG 23 1956

According to the "Montgomery Advertiser," a newspaper published in Montgomery, Alabama, in its August 26, 1956, issue, the residence of Reverend Robert R. Graetz was damaged by dynamite on August 25, 1956, while Graetz and his family were vacationing at the Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee. Mayor W. A. Gayle of Montgomery, Alabama, made a statement indicating that the blast may have been a hoax contrived to revive interest in the bus boycott and to improve contributions to the Montgomery Improvement Association which organization is sponsoring the boycott. According to the article Graetz called these statements made by Mayor Gayle "foolishness."

RECEIVED  
AUG 28 5 50 PM '56  
FBI



36  
30

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mason \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

100-135-61

(See note on yellow page 2)

COMM - FBI  
AUG 29 1956  
MAILED 24

Handwritten notes and signatures, including "FBI" and "MOOR HALL ROOM".

627D

Memorandum for The Attorney General

7C  
7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Any additional pertinent information received relative to this matter will be furnished the Department promptly. No investigation is being conducted by this Bureau.

cc Mr. William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General

cc Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

NOTE ON YELLOW:

7C  
7D

[REDACTED]

Supervisor C. L. McGowan, Civil Rights Desk, Division 6, was contacted and he advised that the details as furnished in Mobile teletype do not indicate a violation of either Civil Rights statutes.

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s)   b2, b7C, b7D   with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
  100-135-61-205  

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135 Sub 61) DATE: 8/30/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1361)

SUBJECT: RACON  
RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Attached hereto are two copies each of the following newspaper items pertaining to this situation:

1. Item appearing in The Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 8/28/56, captioned "COUNCIL HEAD AGAIN ARRESTED ON POOL CHARGE."
2. Item appearing in The Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 8/27/56, captioned "BOYCOTT UNIT HEAD ARRESTED" along with an editorial appearing in the same paper entitled "ARREST OF BOYCOTT DRIVERS IS JUSTIFIED."

- 2 - Bureau (100-135-Sub 61) (Encl. 6)
- 1 - Mobile (100-1361)

1°

Photo Encl

CC TO: SBA  
 REQ REC'D 10-16-64  
 NOV 6 1968  
 ANS.  
 BY: YWP ASE

*File 100-135-Sub 61  
 JKS  
 McArthur*

**EXP. PROC.**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 cl/gcl

100-135-61-206

6 ENCLOSURE

EX-117

*100 and to Tompkins  
 7-56  
 72*

FBI

WARRANT 25 APR 1956

26 2 11 1956

RECORDED-82

INDEXED-82

EX-117

SEP 5 1956

68 SEP 12 1956 3-7

# Council Head Again Arrested On Pool Charge

The Rev. C. E. Steele, president of the Negro Inter-Civic Council, today was arrested for the second day in a row on charges of operating a car-pool vehicle without a "for-hire" tag. Steele and Dan Speed, transportation chairman for the council, were arrested on similar charges yesterday.

Steele served notice yesterday that legality of the arrests would be challenged. Today he registered a strong protest at police headquarters.

His second arrest was made at about the same place that he was picked up yesterday. The Cadillac sedan he was driving was filled with car pool passengers.

The arrest this morning was made by Officers E. J. Strickland and Vester C. Kelly at Gamble and Russell streets.

Steele was released after posting \$100 bond. His arrest was the 10th in current police investigations of car pool operations. The arrests began last week.

#### OTHERS ARRESTED

Other officers of the Inter-Civic Council who have been arrested include the Rev. King Solomon Dupont, vice-president.

The arrests are based on an opinion by Atty. Gen. Richard Ervin that Negro drivers taking part in the car pool are violating a State law requiring public transportation vehicles to have license tags signifying they are "for hire" vehicles.

City officials say the cars create a public hazard since they are not properly insured and have not been checked for mechanical safety.

The car pool grew out of efforts by Negroes to boycott the local bus company.

Cases of six Negro drivers arrested last week for violating the tag requirement were set for trial in City Court Sept. 6.

INDEXED-82

FLA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY Sp3ck/gcl

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.

Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

From The Tallahassee Democrat  
Tallahassee, Fla.  
8/28/56

JBH

100-135-61-206  
ENCLOSURE

Car-Pool Roundup

# Boycott Unit Head Arrested

The Rev. C. K. Steele, president of the Negro Inter Civic Council, and Dan Speed, transportation chairman, were arrested today by City police on charges of operating car pool vehicles without a "for hire" tag.

The arrests were the eighth and ninth of a week-old police investigation of Negro car pool cars ordered by City Manager Arvah Hopkins.

In City Court today, Theries Lindsey, attorney for the Inter Civic Council, entered pleas of not guilty for seven others arrested on "for hire" violations. Cases were tentatively set for trial Sept. 6. Included in these cases is one against the Rev. K. S. Dupont, vice-president of the Inter Civic Council.

Before entering the pleas, Lindsey challenged the jurisdiction of the City Court in the case, and exchanged words with Judge John Rudd.

Rudd brought the argument to a halt by telling Lindsey to enter pleas for the defendants or he would order their bonds forfeited and their rearrest.

Speed was arrested at Gamble and Railroad streets at 7:40 a.m. by Officer Vester C. Kelly, and Steele was arrested in the 1500 block on Railroad avenue by Lt. Johnny Coggins and Detective R. J. Strickland.

Arrests are based on an opinion by Attorney General Richard Ervin that the Negro car pool drivers are violating a State Law requiring public carriers to have

"for hire" tags.

In ordering the arrests, City Manager Hopkins said the cars

The Tallahassee Democrat's editorial view of the boycott carpool operator arrests is published today on Page 4.

created a public hazard since they are not inspected, and insurance for the cars would be declared invalid in case of an accident.

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

From The Tallahassee Democrat  
Tallahassee, Fla.  
8/27/56

JBH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3cl/gcl

100-135-61-206  
ENCLOSURE

FLA

FLA

4

# Tallahassee Democrat

Monday, August 27, 1956

## Arrest Of Boycott Drivers Is Justified

There seems to be a great deal of misunderstanding — at home and abroad — about the Tallahassee arrests of drivers operating cars to give rides to bus boycotters.

Perhaps because the City Commission went behind closed doors and didn't let the public in on its reasons and motives when it decided to make the arrests, there is a general impression that the purpose is solely to kill the carpools and break the boycott.

If that were the case, we would have had more than seven arrests in a week. If it were a pure case of harassment, we would oppose it and we think the majority of the white people of Tallahassee would be indignant.

It need not have those purposes to be justified. It can be upheld on the basis of public safety and fair administration of the city's franchise powers.

The boycotters had ample warning. For more than two weeks they knew the attorney general had given an opinion that cars operated **PRIMARILY FOR TRANSPORTATION OF PEOPLE** are subject to licensing as "for-hire" vehicles whether the operators receive a fare directly from the passenger or not. Drivers who pick up a friend, or even a stranger, as a neighborly act while going about their normal affairs are not operating "for hire."

That seems to be clear enough a distinction. If you're engaged in public transportation (whether the passenger pays or a merchant buys bus tickets for his patrons) you are operating a vehicle "for hire."

The boycotters have not denied their car pools are operating for the sole purpose of providing transportation for Negroes they don't want to ride the buses. They have publicized it widely. They

have a control point at which boycotters call for pickups, just as the franchised taxi operators do. The police claim they have cars running regular bus routes, just ahead of the bus schedule to pick up those who are waiting.

The boycotters have set up a transportation system. The only differences between it and those of the bus company and four taxi companies are that they get their operating expenses from public contributions—and that they are unregulated.

The franchised "for-hire" operators must observe strict rules. They must have adequate liability insurance for protection of their passengers and others on the street. They must paint numbers on their vehicles so the public can identify and report unsafe operators. Their drivers must show they are safe drivers. They may carry only a limited number of passengers. Buses must stick to published routes. Cabs may not cruise around hunting passengers. They must observe restrictions on parking. Their vehicles are subject to city inspection.

Those regulations are necessary for public safety and convenience. If we didn't have them, our streets would be a chaos of competition as each operator tried to beat his rival to a fare.

Since the boycotters have set up a transportation system in direct, fare-free competition to those franchised operators (including two cab companies operated by their own people) the City in fairness to the regulated operators and in consideration of the public safety must insist that they meet the same standards.

Perhaps the officials have been tolerant too long in an effort to avoid bad publicity and prevent agitation. If any other group had tried similar operations without a franchise, it would have been stopped long ago.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/29/83 BY [signature]

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.

Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

Tallahassee Democrat  
Tallahassee, Fla.  
JOHN M. TAPERS, Edit.  
8/27/56

JBH

100-135-61-206  
ENCLOSURE

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

SEP 6 1956

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY 423cl/gcl

SAC, MOBILE

9-6-56

1-38 AM

MCM

DIRECTOR, FBI

URGENT

*RACON*

*MOBILE*

*7C*  
*Barry J. [unclear]*

RACIAL SITUATION MONTGOMERY, ALA. CRAWFORD WRIGHT ON TV NEWS CAST

TEN PM SEPT. FIVE RELATED TWO EFFIGIES, ONE OF NEGRO LABELLED QUOTE  
FORCED INTERGRATION UNQUOTE AND ONE OF NATIONAL GUARDSMEN LABELLED  
QUOTE THIS AINT TENNESSEE BIG JIM UNQUOTE FOUND HANGING AT WILLIAM  
HENRY HARRISON SCHOOL, MONTGOMERY NINETHIRTY PM SAME DATE. WRIGHT  
SAID THAT SCHOOL OPENED SEPT. SIX, FIFTYSIX IN MONTG. ON SEGREGATED  
BASIS. [REDACTED] CONFIRMED ABOVE DATA  
NINE FIVE FIFTYSIX AND ADDED THAT EFFIGIES OF NEGROES WERE HANGING  
ALSO AT SIDNEY LANIER SCHOOL AND AT ROBERT E. LEE HIGH SCHOOL, BOTH  
AT MONTG. [REDACTED] SAID HE QUESTIONED [REDACTED] COMMITTEE  
ON THE PRESERVATION OF SEGREGATION WHO HAD EARLIER ASSISTED IN HANG-  
ING SIMILAR EFFIGIES AT COURT SQUARE MONTG. AND THAT [REDACTED] DENIED  
KNOWLEDGE OF EFFIGIES AT SCHOOL. [REDACTED]  
AND MEMBER OF COPS ALSO ON SEPT. FIVE FIFTYSIX DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF  
SCHOOL EFFIGIES. [REDACTED]

*7C*  
*7D*  
*Let to ACS*  
*WC 2, 9/9/56*

RECORDED-66 100-135-61-207

[REDACTED] HAD HEARD RUMORS THAT NEGROES WOULD ATTEMPT TO REGISTER  
AT HARRISON SCHOOL AND SIDNEY LANIER H. S. [REDACTED]

END PAGE ONE *1-D*

Mr. Belmont

*SWR*

PC  
70

PAGE TWO-

[REDACTED]

BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED.

HALLFORD

END ACK PLS

3-43 AM OK FBI WA BV

TU A

28 MAR 23 1968

28 MAR 23 1968

FBI POLICE  
(100-100000)

FBI  
(100-100000)

- Liaison Section

Mr. [redacted]

*K*

100-126-01-207

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3ck/hcl

RECORDED-56

Date: September 7, 1956

To: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Chief, Security Division

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

On a television news program at 10:00 p.m.,  
September 5, 1956, in Montgomery, Alabama, Crawford Wright  
related that two effigies, one of a Negro labeled "Forced  
Integration," and the other of a National Guardsman labeled  
"This Ain't Tennessee Big Jim," were found hanging at  
the William Henry Harrison School, Montgomery, at 9:30 p.m.  
on that date. Wright stated that this school was to open  
in Montgomery on September 8, 1956, on a segregated basis.

[redacted] confirmed the above data and added that  
effigies of Negroes were also hanging at Sidney Lanier  
School and the Robert E. Lee High School, both in Montgomery.  
He continued that he questioned [redacted]  
Committee on the Preservation of Segregation, who had earlier  
assisted in hanging similar effigies at Court Square,  
Montgomery, and that [redacted] had denied knowledge of the  
effigies at the above-mentioned schools.

Any additional pertinent information received  
relative to this matter will be promptly brought to your  
attention.

cc - Assistant Attorney General [redacted]  
William F. Tompkins (sent by Form 0-6, same date)

MAILED  
1956  
COMM - FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mason \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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FBI - 70211CE  
REC'D 9/14/56

BY COURIER SVC  
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COMM - FBI

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**Letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army**

**cc - Director of Naval Intelligence  
Department of the Navy  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.**

**cc - Director of Special Investigations  
The Inspector General  
Department of the Air Force  
Building Tempo 2  
4th and Adams Drive, S. W.  
Washington, D. C.**

**BY COURIER SERVICE**

4-528

100-135-61-209  
**CHANGED TO**  
44-10911-3

413  
SEP 21 1958

RM

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135-61)

DATE: 9/11/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (44-439)

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

ReMoTel to Bureau 9/6/56.

For additional information of the Bureau, there are attached two copies of an item appearing in the Alabama Journal, Montgomery, Alabama, under date of 9/6/56 captioned "School Registration Opens Quietly Here."

It is noted that the last three paragraphs of this article indicate that literature of the Ku Klux Klan was distributed in Montgomery on the night of 9/5/56. Information regarding this matter is being reported separately in the proper Klan file.

- ② - Bureau (Enc. 2)
- 2 - Mobile
- mem

7C

1 copy and 1 to  
MAG  
by Ms  
9/13/56  
can

McGowan  
e.

34

RECORDED-68

100-125-61-209

811-X3

14 SEP 18 1956

63 SEP 18 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/2/83 BY SP3 CLE/gcl

**EFFIGIES ARE HAULED DOWN**

# School Registration Opens Quietly Here

Montgomery's public schools reopened today with no reported attempts by Negroes to enroll in white classrooms.

Effigies of three Negroes and a National Guardsman hung overnight at three white schools but were taken down this morning before students arrived for first classes.

William S. Garrett, assistant superintendent of education, said he had received no reports of attempted Negro enrollment at white schools and that principals had been instructed to "call me immediately" if there were any.

The principal of William Harrison Elementary School reported that the two mannequins which were hung at his school were removed around 7 a.m. today. He did not know how they were taken down or who did it.

#### SIGNS ON FIGURES

One of the figures, that of a Negro, bore the sign, "Forced Integration." The other, that of a National Guardsman, wore a helmet liner on which was painted "Ala. N. G." A wooden training rifle was strapped to his back. The figure also bore a sign saying, "This is not Tenn., Big Jim."

The reference was to a statement made two days ago by Gov. James E. Folsom that he approved use of the National Guard in Tennessee to maintain order.

Harrison was the scene of an attempt two years ago to enroll Negro students.

At Sidney Lanier High School

Principal Lee W. Douglas reported that he had ordered the single effigy of a Negro man hanging from atop the school flag pole removed at about 5:30 this morning.

This figure bore a placard across its chest saying, "I enrolled at Lanier."

#### EFFIGY AT LEE HIGH

A check at 6:30 a.m. at Robert E. Lee High School, scene of the third effigy-hanging, revealed that the figure was gone. The effigy at Lee was hoisted near the top of the flag pole on the school grounds. The others were hung not more than 15 feet from the ground.

Police reported that they had not taken any action in the removal. Asst. Police Chief John B. Rucker said early today that they had no facilities for removing the figures.

Shortly after the first effigy was reported last night, two young servicemen found forms on the windshield of their car soliciting membership in the U. S. Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. The car was parked downtown at the time.

The form read: "If you desire to join the U. S. Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, fill out the form below and mail to Post Office Box 3112, Eastbrook Station, Montgomery, Ala."

The Eastbrook Station reported that such a box does exist but declined to give any further information.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3clg/cl

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 9-6-56  
Page 1

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

7-30-61-1-1  
ENCLOSURE



### EFFIGIES HANGED AT 3 SCHOOLS

Effigies of Negroes were hanged from flagpoles of two high schools here last night at Sidney Lanier and Robert E. Lee on the eve of public school opening today. At Harrison Elementary School where Negro students tried unsuccessfully to enroll two years ago, figures of a Negro and a National Guardsman were hung (above). The sign on the guardsman refers to a comment by Gov. James E. Folsom that he approved use of the Guard to keep order in Tennessee.

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

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mason  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 clb/gcl

SEP 9 1956  
TELETYPE

SAC, MOBILE 9-8-56 10-25 PM MCM

DIRECTOR, FBI RACON URGENT

RACIAL UNREST, POSSIBLE MOB VIOLENCE, RACIAL INTEGRATION PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS - CIVIL RIGHTS - WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL, IS - X. RE  
BUREAU TELETYPE SEPT. EIGHT INSTANT. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY  
OF RACIAL PROBLEMS EXISTING IN MOBILE AREA.

RACIAL SITUATION, COVINGTON COUNTY, ALABAMA  
ACCORDING TO ITEM IN MOBILE PRESS, MOBILE, ALA. ON SEPT. EIGHT  
INSTANT, PLACEMENT OFFICER FOR COVINGTON CO. BOARD OF EDUCATION ON  
SAME DATE ASSIGNED UNNAMED SEVEN YEAR OLD BOY WHO-S RACE IS  
QUESTIONED, TO A NEGRO SCHOOL. THE BOY WAS TURNED AWAY FROM ALL WHITE  
SCHOOLS IN COVINGTON COUNTY ON SEPT. SEVENTH INSTANT AND ASSIGNED TO  
GANTT SCHOOL NUMBER TWO AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF ALL FACTORS IN-  
VOLVED, ACCORDING TO THOMAS W. CARROLL, PLACEMENT OFFICER. THIS ASSIGN-  
MENT MADE UNDER AUTHORITY OF ALABAMA-S NEW PUPIL PLACEMENT LAW  
DESIGNED TO PREVENT CLASSROOM INTEGRATION. 100-135-61-2-10

WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL, MOBILE, DIVISION  
AS BUREAU IS AWARE, NUMEROUS WHITE CITIZENS COUNCILS HAVE BEEN  
ORGANIZED IN ALABAMA AS WELL AS IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA. HOWEVER, NO  
DEFINITE INFORMATION HAS BEEN DEVELOPED INDICATING THESE ADVOCATE USE  
OF VIOLENCE TO PREVENT INTEGRATION.

END PAGE ONE-

Mr. Belmont

Mr. ROSEN

51 SEP 15 1956

file 100-135-61

sent

75  
me [signature]

PAGE TWO-

RACIAL SITUATION, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA BUREAU FILE

ONE-HUNDRED DASH ONE THREE FIVE SUB SIX ONE

NUMEROUS COMMUNICATIONS HAVE BEEN FORWARDED THE BUREAU RELATIVE TO THE SITUATION IN TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA PREVIOUSLY SUMMARIZED. ON MAY TWENTY-SIX NINETEEN FIFTYSIX, TWO NEGRO WOMEN STUDENTS OF FLORIDA A AND M COLLEGE, TALLAHASSEE, WERE ARRESTED BY CITY PD FOR REFUSAL TO SIT IN REAR OF CITY BUS. ON MAY TWENTYEIGHT NEGROES BEGAN BOYCOTT CITY BUSES AND DEMANDED TO BE SEATED ON FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS, MORE COURTESY ON PART OF DRIVERS AND HIRING OF NEGRO DRIVERS. NEGROES ORGANIZED INTER CIVIC COUNCIL TO PROMOTE BOYCOTT. THE TWO WOMEN ARRESTED WERE ON MAY THIRTY ONE TURNED OVER TO FLORIDA A AND M COLLEGE FOR HANDLING AND NOT PROSECUTED BY CITY. BOYCOTT HAS BEEN ORDERLY EXCEPT THAT NEGROES STARTED CAR POOL TO TRANSPORT NEGRO WORKERS. CITY BUS SERVICE DISCONTINUED JULY ONE BUT RESUMED AUGUST SECOND WITH TWO NEGRO DRIVERS EMPLOYED, BOYCOTT CONTINUED AS NEGROES DEMAND EQUAL SEATING ON BUSES. ON AUGUST TWENTY SECOND CITY PD BEGAN CRACK DOWN ON CAR POOL OPERATORS BASED ON STATE AG RULING THAT SUCH CARS REQUIRED TO HAVE FOR HIRE TAGS WHICH NEGRO GROUP STATED WOULD NOT BUY. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. NONE OF THESE CASES REPORTED AS PROSECUTED TO DATE. NO VIOLENCE OCCURED IN CONNECTION WITH BOYCOTT EXCEPT MAY TWENTY EIGHT WHEN UNIDENTIFIED COLORED MAN BROKE TWO WINDOWS ON CITY BUS AS BOYCOTT STARTED. NO COMPLAINTS RECEIVED OF ALLEGATION OF VIOLATION FEDERAL LAWS IN CONNECTION WITH BOYCOTT AND NO INDICATION PRESENTLY

~~RECEIVED~~ END PAGE TWO-

PAGE THREE-

EXISTS OF ANY EXPECTED MOB VIOLENCE.

RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, BUFILE ONE  
HUNDRED DASH ONE THREE FIVE DASH SIX ONE

NUMEROUS COMMUNICATIONS HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO BUREAU RE THIS SITUATION. FOLLOWING IS BRIEF SUMMARY AS REQUESTED. NEGRO BUS BOYCOTT, MONTGOMERY, BEGAN DEC. FIVE, LAST, FOLLOWING ARREST OF NEGRO WOMAN ROSA PARKS DEC. ONE, LAST, FOR REFUSAL TO SIT IN REAR OF BUS. MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION PAREN MIA PAREN ORGANIZED BY NEGRO LEADERS URGING END TO BUS SEGREGATION. NEGROES BEGAN CAR POOL OPERATION TRANSPORTING RIDERS WHO DID NOT RIDE BUSES. FOLLOWING STATE GRAND JURY INDICTMENTS FEB. TWENTYTWO, LAST, EIGHTY NINE NEGROES ARRESTED FOR VIOLATION ALA. BOYCOTT LAW. ONLY ONE OF ARRESTED WAS TRIED, NAMELY, MARTIN LUTHER KING, NEGRO PASTER WHO HEADED MIA. HE WAS CONVICTED AND FINED FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS MAR. TWENTYTHREE, LAST, AND OTHER CASES CONTINUED AND NOT PROSECUTED TO DATE. ONLY THREE INSTANCES OF VIOLENT ACTIVITY OCCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH THIS BOYCOTT. ON JAN. THIRTYONE, LAST, AN EXPLOSION OCCURRED ON FRONT PORCH OF HOME OF REV. KING, LITTLE DAMAGE AND NO INJURIES. FOLLOWING DAY EXPLOSION OCCURRED FRONT YARD E. D. NIXON, NAACP LEADER AND OFFICER OF MIA, NO INJURIES AND ONLY DAMAGE TO FENCE. ON AUG. TWENTYFIVE, LAST, RESIDENCE OF ROBERT S. GRAETZ SLIGHTLY DAMAGED IN EXPLOSION WHILE FAMILY WAS AWAY. GRAETZ IS WHITE PASTOR OF ALL NEGRO CHURCH, MONTGOMERY, AND IS LEADER IN BOYCOTT. THIS OFFICE HAS MADE NO INVESTIGATION OF THESE INSTANCES. SAME WERE INVESTIGATED BY MONTGOMERY PD, BUT SUBJECTS NOT IDENTIFIED. BOYCOTT STILL CONTINUING PENDING

END PAGE THREE-

PAGE FOUR-

APPEAL OF U. S. CIRCUIT RULING JUNE FIVE, LAST, AGAINST BUS SEGREGATION  
IN MONTGOMERY.



END PAGE FOUR-

7C  
7D

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s)   b7C, b7D   with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
  100-135-61-210  

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

PAGE SIX-

7C  
7D

8

VICTIM OBSERVED A CAR, POSSIBLY GRAY, BUT UNABLE TO IDENTIFY FURTHER.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ON MAY THIRD, LAST, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED HER SONS ATTENDED A PLAY AT CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, THE COLORED HIGH SCHOOL, THE EVENING OF MAY SECOND, LAST, AND RETURNED TO PRICHARD BY BUS. ABOUT TEN THIRTY PM ON MAY SECOND THEY WERE WALKING FROM THE BUS TO THEIR HOME AND ABOUT EIGHT WHITE BOYS RAN OUT FROM BEHIND A DRUG STORE REMARKING QUOTE WILL THE NEGROES RISE AGAIN UNQUOTE AND BEGAN LAUGHING. SHE STATES THEY STRUCK BOTH BOYS, FIRST STRIKING THE YOUNGER BY ON THE LEGS WITH A BIG STICK OR A BAT AND STRUCK HER OLDER BOY IN THE BACK APPARENTLY WITH A BAT. SMALLER BOY HIT AROUND EYES WITH BRASS KNUCKS OR POSSIBLY A HEAVY RING. STATES ALL OF THE ATTACKERS HAD STICKS AND ONE OF THEM HAD A KNIFE. VICTIMS WALKED BACKWARD TOWARD A STREET LIGHT AND UNSUBS FOLLOWED THEM UNTIL NEARER THE STREET LIGHT AND THEN RAN. POLICE WERE CALLED AND SHE STATES IT WAS OVER AN HOUR BEFORE THEY ARRIVED. VICTIMS WERE TAKEN TO PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL, MOBILE, AND DOCTOR CHECKED THEM AND TOOK CARE OF THEIR INJURIES WHICH SHE STATES CONSISTED OF BRUISES AND OPEN WOUNDS, NO BROKEN BONES. THEY WERE TAKEN HOME AFTER DOCTOR RENDERED FIRST AID. AT SEVEN PM, MAY THIRD., LAST [REDACTED] ADVISED SHE HAD JUST RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL QUOTE WE ARE JUST WAITING TO GIVE YOU WHAT WE GAVE THE BOYS, ONLY A BETTER JOB UNQUOTE. PM OF SEPT. SEVEN, INSTANT, [REDACTED] ADVISED SHE HAD JUST RE-

7C  
7D

END PAGE SIX-

PAGE SEVEN-

CEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL QUOTE WILL COME TO BURN THE CROSS TONIGHT UN-  
QUOTE. INSOFAR AS KNOWN ALL REFERENCED PHONE CALLS LOCAL AND NOT INT-  
ERSTATE.

HALLFORD

END ACK PLS

12-53 AM OK FBI CP

cc: Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Belmont

FBI

DEC 2 1 12 PM '57

**Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**

**TO :** Director, FBI (100-135-61)

**DATE:** 9/11/56

**FROM :** SAC, Mobile (100-1342)

**SUBJECT:** ~~SECRET~~  
NON-PARTISAN VOTERS LEAGUE  
MOBILE, ALABAMA

As of possible interest to the Bureau, I am attaching hereto the original and one photostatic copy of a news item appearing in the Mobile Register, Mobile, Alabama, under date of 9/10/56 captioned "Mobilians Send Hot Wire To Ike," which wire was signed A. S. CRISHON, President of the League, and Rev. J. ECHOLS LOWERY, Consultant.

② - Bureau (Enc. 2) (REGISTERED MAIL)  
2 - Mobile  
mem  
(4)

**7C**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 cde/gcl

*photostated of Dept  
submitting of Dept  
9/14/56*

RECORDED - 120

ED - 120

100-135-61-17

SEP 13 1956

**EXP. PROC.**  
211  
5

*James DeWitt*  
INT. SEC.  
CRIME

## Mobilians Send Hot Wire To Ike

A telegram criticizing President Eisenhower for "failure to speak out forthrightly against . . . mob violence" was sent to the President yesterday following a meeting of the Non-Partisan Voters League at the Warren Street Methodist Church.

The wire stated:

"Failure of the President of the United States to speak out forthrightly against the wave of mob violence now gripping certain communities in the South and border states in defiance of public school integration ordered by the courts, is disappointing to many southerners of both races who are firm believers in law and order. The position of the United States as the world's leading exponent of democratic ideals is not helped in the council of nations by these shameful outbreaks of mob violence and the silence of the President in the face of this dangerous situation.

"Citizens in Mobile representing a cross section of the population meeting Sunday at the Warren Street Methodist Church, unanimously approved a resolution urging that the President of the United States vigorously denounce mob violence and lend his full moral support otherwise to the forces struggling to uphold and order and the dignity of our country in the present conflict with the lawless elements opposing integration in our public schools."

The wire was signed by A. B. Trishon, president of the league, and the Rev. J. Echols Lowry, consultant.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3cic/gcl

THE MOBILE REGISTER  
Final, Mobile, Ala.  
9/10/56  
Page 8-A

Re: RACIAL  
SITUATION, STATE  
OF ALABAMA

Mofile: 100-1342  
Bufile:

100-1342-211

ENCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135-61)

DATE: 9/13/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1342)

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

Attached hereto are two copies of an item appearing in the Mobile Register, Mobile, Alabama, under date of 9/13/56 captioned "Effort Made Here To Enroll Negro in White School."

The Bureau will note that Mrs. DOROTHY D. DaPONTE, a white woman in Mobile, endeavored to enroll her foster daughter, a Negro child, in a public school in Mobile.

[REDACTED]

2 - Bureau (Enc. 2) (AIRMAIL) (REGISTERED)  
2 - Mobile (1 - 100-1342)

mem  
(4)

RECORDED - 91  
INDEXED - 91  
7 SEP 17 1956

100-135-212

7C

2  
N71

cc of and to [unclear]  
by [unclear]  
9-20-56

file 100-135-61

[Handwritten signatures]

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY [unclear]

61 SEP 27 1956

The following original pages are of poor quality. UPA has made every technical effort to provide the best possible reproduction.

## Effort Made Here To Enroll Negro In White School

**Mrs. Dorothy DaPonte, Prominent White  
Woman, Asks Mobile Board To Register  
'Foster Daughter' In Integrated Class**

A socially prominent Mobile white woman has written Kenneth W. Reed, president of the Mobile County School Board, a letter asking the board to admit her "foster daughter," whom she identified as a Negro child, to a public school with white students. Mrs. Dorothy D. DaPonte, a resident of Santa Rosa Road, gave a copy of the letter to a Register reporter at a school board meeting yesterday.

The request was not mentioned during the meeting but President Reed subsequently confirmed the fact that he had received the letter.

He said he turned it over to Dr. Stanford H. Burns, superintendent of schools, with instructions to seek legal advice in the situation from Palmer Pillans, school board attorney.

Dr. Burns stated that he expects to transmit the letter to Mr. Pillans today.

President Reed said he intends to reply to Mrs. DaPonte as soon as he is advised by the attorney. He indicated that he expects to be able to put his answer in the immediate future.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 dcl/gcl

THE MOBILE REGISTER  
Mobile, Alabama  
September 13, 1956  
Final Edition

RE: RACIAL SITUATION -  
STATE OF ALABAMA

7C

MoFile: 100-1342  
BuFile: 100-135-61

ENCLOSURE

### Segregation Stands

More than a year ago, the school board adopted a policy of continuing operation of the Mobile County public schools on a segregated basis as in the past and Reed said yesterday that there has been no change in the policy.

The board's policy at that time was set down following the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling of 1954 outlawing segregation in the public schools. A present state law in Alabama, however, prohibits the mixing of Negroes and whites in the same school.

When Mrs. DaPonte appeared at the school board meeting yesterday afternoon, members explained to her that under board rules, the meeting was restricted to administrative matters and was not open for hearings for delegations or individuals, since the second meeting in each month is reserved for that purpose. She was informed, however, that it was a public meeting and she

(Page 10, Col. 2, NEGRO)

## Negro

(Continued From Page One)

was welcome to remain, which she did.

After the meeting, she told a reporter that she felt her request was "urgent" since the child is not attending school. She had no comment when asked by the reporter as to what course she might take if her application for the child's admission to a white school on an integrated basis is refused.

### First Formal Appeal

Mrs. DaPonte's request is the first formal appeal to Mobile County public school authorities for acceptance of a Negro child in a school with white students.

In her letter to the school board president, Mrs. DaPonte reviewed the child's educational background and expressed the view that the girl is suited for admission to an "integrated school."

The Negro girl, whose name is Carrie Mae McCants, is 12 and her foster mother stated that the child is qualified for the seventh grade. According to information given President Reed by Mrs. DaPonte in connection with the application, the girl has attended schools in England and Europe for the past two years and before that, she went to Negro schools in the Mobile County public school system.

### Letter In Full

Mrs. DaPonte's letter to Reed said:

"I am asking you as president of our school board for individual placement of my foster daughter, a little Negro girl. This child is named Carrie Mae McCants. She is 12 years old and has been educated in various schools in Europe for the past two years. Prior to that time she attended school in Mobile. The schools which she has attended are listed separately.

"I am at present living on Venetia Road. The colored school for this district is poor and far away and below Carrie Mae's standard of achievement. It is the Maysville project school.

"I have brought up Carrie Mae myself since she was six and a half years old. Her background academically, morally and socially is adequate for her entrance into an integrated school.

### "Psychological Effect"

"The psychological effect on her would be good as she has attended schools with white pupils for two years now. She would understand the significance of her position and is prepared by personal character, intelligence and training to conduct herself in such a manner as to minimize the possibility of friction and disorder.

"Such acceptance of her would give the Negro race an opportunity to show what their development can be under favorable circumstances. It would give Alabama a chance to show good faith in a case where there is no danger of large numbers or lowering of standards.

"Under the placement law, I believe the school board can assign any pupil who attempts to raise the integration issue. I am not applying for a specific integrated school but will accept any such that you might decide would be in the best interests of the child and the community."

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135-61)

DATE: 9/11/56

H FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1342)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

DATE 3/20/83 BY sp3 clg/jcl

Attached hereto are the original and one photostatic copy of the following newspaper items reporting information relative to an attempt to register a boy, whose race is in question, at a white school in Covington County, Alabama:

- 1) Item appearing in the Mobile Register, Mobile, Alabama, under date of 9/7/56 entitled "20 Parents Pledge to Boycott School;"
- 2) Item appearing in Mobile Press, Mobile, Alabama, under date of 9/8/56 captioned "Boy Is Assigned in Negro School;"
- 3) Item appearing in Mobile Press, Mobile, Alabama, under date of 9/9/56 captioned "Covington Boy Loses 2nd Try For Enrollment;"
- 4) Item appearing in Mobile Press, Mobile, Alabama, under date of 9/10/56 entitled "Youth Assigned To Negro Class;"
- 5) Item appearing in the Mobile Register, Mobile, Alabama, under date of 9/10/56 captioned "Rawls Has Eyes Peeled For Boy."

EX-116  
SEP 13 1956

2 - Bureau (Enc. 10) (REGISTERED MAIL)

2 - Mobile  
mem

Handwritten notes: 24, 2, mem, 1-C, copy of each item sent to Dept. 9/14/56

RECORDED - 4 / 135 61-213

EX-116

24 SEP 13 1956

Handwritten signature

68 SEP 20 1956

Race Questioned

## 20 Parents Pledge To Boycott School

ANDALUSIA, Ala., Sept. 6 (Special)—Approximately 20 parents pledged Tuesday night to boycott Rawls School near here if a racial incident develops over the entry of a child—whose race is questioned—when classes start tomorrow.

The group, which gathered at a private rural home near the Rawls School, said they intended to send their children to Straughn, Red Level or Dozier, if trouble develops. All are county schools.

Tension has been running high in the Rawls-Gantt area with the date for the opening of school approaching.

Saturday, Sept. 1 a group from the area called on County Super-

intendent of Schools Thomas Carroll in his office at the courthouse in Andalusia. Spokesmen for the group said they were not satisfied with solutions proposed by Carroll.

In September of 1955, during the opening week of school at Gantt, parents removed desks and furniture from the Gantt classrooms to Rawls in a heated controversy over entry of the pupil, whom the great majority of the school patrons held was disqualified to attend a white school.

Action by the parents led to the transfer of first and second grade classes at the Gantt School to Rawls and the closing of the Gantt School.

THE MOBILE REGISTER,  
Final, Mobile, Ala.  
9/7/56  
Page 1-A

Re: RACIAL  
SITUATION  
STATE OF ALA.

Mofile: 100-1342  
Bufile:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/20/83 BY [signature]

100-135-61-213

## BOYS ASSIGNED IN NEGRO SCHOOL

### Disputed Race Question Is Ended By Placement

ANDALUSIA, Ala.—The placement officer for the Covington County Board of Education today assigned a seven-year-old boy whose race is questioned to a Negro school.

The boy was turned away from an all-white school yesterday.

Thomas W. Carroll, placement officer and also school superintendent, issued a short statement saying the boy had been assigned to Gantt School No. 2 "after careful consideration of all factors involved."

#### UNDER NEW LAW

He made the assignment under authority of Alabama's new pupil placement law, designed to prevent classroom integration.

The mother said she could prove her son is Caucasian, attempted to register the child at nearby Rawls School yesterday. But Principal J. E. Henley said the placement law would be applied after some 25 fathers of other registered children protested.

However, the mother gave no indication if she would fight the placement law should the school board assign her child to a Negro school. Nor did Henley elaborate on his statement that the law would be used.

The mother told Henley that she could produce a certificate stating that her child was Caucasian.

Covington County School Superintendent Thomas Carrol told United Press last night that he had ordered a quantity of pupil placement forms and that he

would issue a statement concerning use of the law early today.

At Montgomery, State Superintendent of Education Austin Meadows said that as far as he knew, the new law had never been used. At least, he pointed out, it had never been challenged in the courts.

The mother, a farm wife, tried to enter her son at Gantt School last year, but determined parents withdrew their children from the two-grade school and moved them and school equipment to Rawls School, some four miles away. After two weeks of tension and mass protests, she withdrew her son from the vacant school, which has been closed ever since.

The pupil placement law, passed by the 1956 Legislature, gives local school boards the power to assign pupils to certain schools according to various sociological and psychological reasons.

Although it does not mention racial integration, its supporters in the Legislature readily admitted their bill was designed to keep Negroes out of white schools.

Rawls School staged registration yesterday, but classes won't begin until Monday.

The abandoned Gantt School contained the first and second grades only. The child, since withdrawing last year, has never attended a single day of school.

THE MOBILE PRESS,  
Final, Mobile, Ala.  
9/8/56  
Page 1

Re: RACIAL  
SITUATION, STATE  
OF ALABAMA

Mofile: 100-1342  
Bufile:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 cl/j/cl

## Covington Boy Loses 2nd Try For Enrollment

ANDALUSIA, Ala., Sept. 8 (AP)—A 7-year-old dark-skinned child of nearby Gantt, Ala., lost out today on his second attempt to enroll in an all-white Covington County school.

County Supt. Thomas W. Carroll announced that he has assigned the boy to Gantt School No. 2, which Negro pupils customarily attend.

His decision was made "after careful consideration of all factors involved" and for the best interests of the child and the Covington County school system, Carroll said.

The boy had sought admission to an all-white grammar school at nearby Rawls, Ala. He was turned down last September when he tried to enter an all-white school at Gantt which has since been abandoned. Gantt has a population of 300 and Rawls less than 100.

Most of the pupils formerly assigned to the Gantt school now go to school at Rawls.

There was no immediate word from the child's mother and stepfather whether they will abide by the decision.

Yesterday they insisted they would keep bringing the boy back to the white school until someone gets a court order to stop them. And they promised to fight such a court order if issued.

### No Explanation

There has been no official explanation as to why the curly-haired, swarthy complexioed child was turned down other than Carroll's statement.

The mother moved from Andalusia to Gantt about two years ago where she married her present husband. She has two older sons who entered a white school.

Carroll said he assigned the boy to Gantt School No. 2 in exercising his duties as placement officer of the Covington County Board of Education.

It was the second time that Alabama's new school placement law has been used to bar the boy from a white school. Last year the county school board used the words of the placement law itself in explaining its ruling.

The board quoted these "factors" listed in the statute for school officials to consider in assigning pupils to school:

"1. The effect of admission of the pupil upon the academic progress of other students in the school.

"2. The psychological effect on the child of attendance at the school.

"3. The possibility of threats of friction or disorder among the pupils.

"4. The possibility of breaches of the peace or ill will."

The placement law was enacted by the Alabama Legislature in 1955 as a weapon for school desegregation.

THE MOBILE PRESS,  
Mobile, Ala.  
9/9/56  
Page 11-D

Re: RACIAL  
SITUATION, STATE  
OF ALABAMA

Mofile: 100-1342  
Bufile:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY SP5/clj/gcl

## YOUTH ASSIGNED TO NEGRO CLASS

### Attention Focused On Rawls Grammar School

ANDALUSIA, Ala.—(AP)—Fall classes were scheduled to begin in Covington County public schools this morning with attention centered on the Rawls Grammar School.

On registration day last Friday seven-year-old Troy Douglas Ammons was enrolled at the white school. The next day school Supt. Thomas W. Carroll sent a registered letter to the boy's parents saying Troy had been assigned to a school in nearby Gantt normally attended by Negro pupils.

Sheriff M. C. Meredith said last night he had talked to E. J. Wheeler, the stepfather of the dark-skinned youth. "I gathered that he probably would not take the boy to (the white) school," the sheriff said.

"I gathered he wasn't going to push the kid's registration any more," Meredith said. "Wheeler said he didn't want to cause any trouble."

At the Friday registration about 25 men, mostly farmers, stood around and watched young Ammons. Plans to boycott the school if he were admitted had been reported.

Last year the boy's mother, Mrs. Wheeler, sought to enroll him in a white school at Gantt. The county school board cited four factors in a state pupil placement law in banning him from an all-white school. They included the "possibility of threats of friction or disorder among the pupils" and "possibility of breaches of the peace or ill will."

Saturday Carroll said he was using the placement law to assign Troy to the Gantt School "after careful consideration of all factors involved" to preserve harmony in the community.

Carroll said there could be "quite a problem" if the situation isn't handled in an orderly way. Both Carroll and Meredith pointed out that the parents could test the placement law in courts.

The Wheelers said Friday they intended to seek admission in the white school for Troy until "a court order" stops them. Mrs. Wheeler, a 29-year-old white farm wife, has two older children attending white schools.

THE MOBILE PRESS, Final,  
Mobile, Ala.  
9/10/54  
Page 7-A

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

Mobile: 100-1342  
Bufile:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY SP3 dlp/gcl

## Rawls Has Eyes Peeled For Boy

ANDALUSIA, Ala., Sept. 9 — Law enforcement and school authorities tonight waited to see if a 7-year-old boy will show up tomorrow morning for classes at the Rawls, Ala., white school.

The boy was registered last week at the grammar school. Saturday his parents received a registered letter assigning the boy to a school in nearby Gantt customarily attended by Negro children.

Covington County Sheriff M. C. Meredith reported today that he had talked to the boy's stepfather, about the child showing up at the Rawls school in the morning.

"My understanding was that he would not take the boy to the white school Monday," Meredith said.

The sheriff said he advised the man court action was the proper way to test the assignment of the boy to a Negro school.

Thomas W. Carroll, county superintendent, said he made the assignment for the best interests of all concerned. He used the authority of a state "placement law" for designating the school a child will attend.

"We are hoping we won't have any difficulties at Rawls school," Carroll said. "It would be regrettable for anything to happen there that would interfere with the friendly relations of the community."

When the boy registered last week a crowd of about 25 men, mostly farmers, gathered but made no attempt to stop him. Parents of children scheduled to begin classes in the white school tomorrow were reported planning to boycott the school if the boy attends.

THE MOBILE REGISTER  
Final, Mobile, Ala.  
9/10/56  
Page 6-A

Re: RACIAL  
SITUATION, STATE  
OF ALABAMA

Mobile: 100-1342  
Bufile:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY Sp30cl/gcl

100 - 135 - 61 - 213



C



# Negro In Prichard Race Will Continue Campaign

The first Negro candidate for a Prichard council post said yesterday he refuses to yield or surrender despite the shooting of his home and threats on his life. Rev. Joshua Barney, 68, said he decided to continue his campaign. He had told reporters fol-

lowing the shooting incident that he needed time to think it over. "We do not feel that we can yield nor surrender to those who hate us and who would destroy democracy," he said today. Barney is one of 18 candidates seeking five council seats in the election Monday. They are running at large and not by districts.

### Four Bullets Fired

Four bullets were fired into his home early Friday morning by a gunman after Barney refused his request to step outside. No one was hit, although one bullet narrowly missed Barney.

The minister said he and his family have received several telephone threats to withdraw from the race. He quoted one caller as saying, "This is the Ku Klux Klan."

Prichard police have patrolled the vicinity since the shooting, but no arrests have been made.

Prichard has a population of more than 20,000, with 5,000 qualified voters. About 1,000 are Negroes.

Barney said: "There have been certain law-

less elements who have made an attempt to kill me. They have threatened and intimidated my family as well as myself.

### "Greatly Encouraged"

"We have been greatly encouraged since the attempt on my life by the good wishes, prayers and support of many thoughtful citizens of our community, both Negro and white.

"We are grateful for the protection afforded by the law enforcement officials. We have put our trust in God, in the great democratic principles of our Constitution, and in the citizens of our community who believe in law and order and democracy.

"We do not feel, therefore, that we can yield nor surrender to those who hate us and who would destroy democracy.

"I will remain in the race, and if it is the will of the people of Prichard that I be elected, I will work faithfully, honestly and untiringly to promote the best interests of all of the people of our city."

Barney, who also works as a carpenter, was pastor of a Negro Methodist church here before entering evangelical work.

The Mobile  
Mobile, Ala  
September 1  
Final Editi

RE: RACIAL SIT  
STATE OF AL

MoFile: 10  
Bufile: 10

7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 clj/gcl

10-435-1

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135 Sub 61)

DATE: 9/18/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1342)

SUBJECT: Bureau  
RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Attached hereto are two copies of a newspaper item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 9/13/56 captioned "TOP LAWYERS MAY BE SENT," indicating that the NAACP may send some of its topflight legal talent to Tallahassee for the 9/20/56 trials of boycott car pool drivers.

- 2 - Bureau (100-135 Sub 61) (Encl. 2)
- 1 - Mobile (100-1342)

lo

(3)

7c

7c

100-135-61-

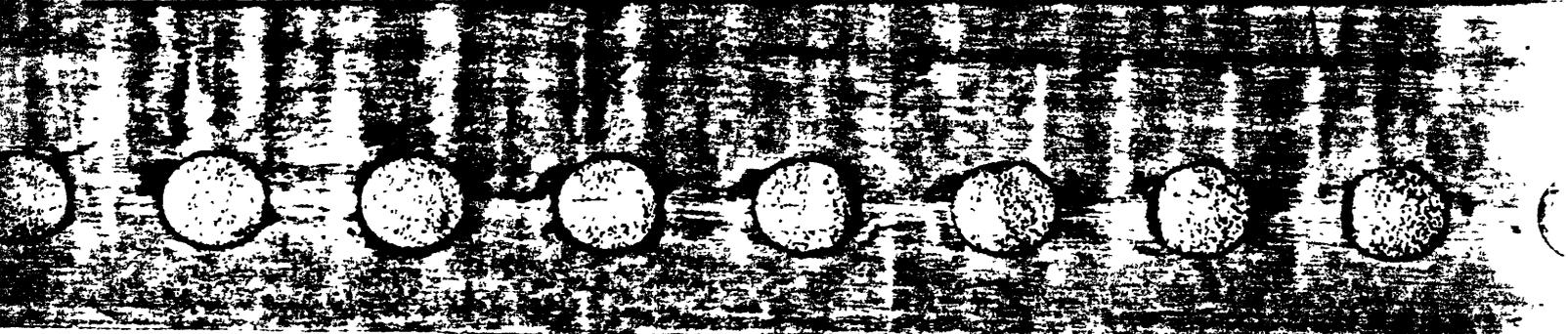
SEP 20 1956

*1cc 2 encl.  
to [redacted]  
by [redacted]  
9.24.56*

61 SEP 25 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY [signature]



## Top Lawyers May Be Sent

By The Associated Press

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People may send some of its topflight legal talent to Tallahassee for the Sept. 20 trials of boycott car pool drivers.

The Rev. C. K. Steele, boycott leader and president of the Tallahassee NAACP chapter, said he has conferred with the organization's national executive secretary, Roy Wilkins, and has been advised Thurgood Marshall or Leroy Carter of New York may be coming here.

Tallahassee police have arrested 11 carpool drivers, including Steele, on charges of providing transportation without carrying "for hire" tags on their automobiles. The car pool has been giving rides to Negroes boycotting city buses in a more than three months old protest against segregated seating.

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 9/13/56

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 ctk/gcl

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

*edm*

ENCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-135-61)

DATE: 9/18/56

FROM : SAC, MOBILE (100-1342)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 cdf/gcl

ReMOTel to Bureau 9/18/56, captioned U.S. KLANS  
OF ALA., KNIGHTS OF KKK; IS-X (airmail copy sent Atlanta and  
Birmingham), concerning cross burned night of 9/17/56, at the  
home of DOROTHY D. DaPONTE. *Burning of crosses - mobile*

It is noted that Mrs. DaPONTE, a white woman in  
Mobile, has tried to enroll a Negro child in a public school  
in Mobile. *[Redacted]*

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are 2 copies of  
an article from the Mobile Register, daily newspaper published  
at Mobile, Ala., issue of 9/18/56, captioned TEN-FOOT HIGH CROSS  
BURNED IN MRS. DaPONTE'S DRIVEWAY BY CROWD DRESSED IN ROBES.

Also enclosed for the Bureau are 2 copies of a  
news article from the Mobile Press, daily newspaper published  
at Mobile, Ala., issue of 9/18/56, captioned KLAN ADMITS BURNING  
CROSS HERE.

2 - Bureau (100-135-61) (Encls. 4 - REGISTERED) AIR MAIL  
3 - Mobile (100-1342)  
(105-17)

Amd *[Redacted]*  
(5)

7C

4 ENCLOSURE  
7/

*rec'd general to Sampson's  
by 9-18-56  
9-25-56*

100-135-61-216

RECORDED - 71  
INDEXED - 71

SEP 20 1956  
*[Signature]*

19  
OCT 3 1956

# Ten-Foot High Cross Burned In Mrs. DaPonte's Driveway By Crowd Dressed In Robes

## House Vacant During Demonstration By Large Group

A 10-foot cross was burned in front of the driveway leading to the home of Mrs. Dorothy B. DaPonte last night, but the estimated 100 white-robed men who gathered at the scene had left by the time city police and sheriff's deputies arrived.

Neighbors on Venetia Road, just off of Navco Road, said some 18 cars, with horns blaring and loaded with white-robed men, drove up to the DaPonte driveway and erected the cross.

Air Force Lt. R. W. Sanborn told the Register that he and Lt. Floyd Scruggs stood on their porch a few doors from the gathering and watched the proceedings. The men were not hooded, Sanborn said.

Immediately after setting the cross afire, the motorcade departed amid shouts and more horn blowing.

### Deputies On Scene

Chief Deputy Sheriff Jimmy Chambers said he and two deputies arrived at the scene and found no one near the home.

Chambers said the cross was found in the middle of the driveway leading into the DaPonte home. The huge cross, padded with what appeared to be old burlap bags soaked in kerosene, was lying on the ground with sand over it, Chambers said, indicating someone had deliberately snuffed the flame.

### Showers Of Sparks

However, the cross was still smoldering and sending off showers of sparks when a Register reporter and photographer drove up. The cross burst into flames anew when a police car hitched it to a rear bumper and drove off.

Assisting Chambers in the investigation were Deputies Delmus Adams and Vernon Mason.

City Patrolmen George Crawford and Frank Guy dragged the cross back to headquarters.

The burning cross obviously was offered in protest to Mrs. DaPonte's recent efforts to have her 12-year-old "foster daughter," a Negro, admitted to a white school. But there was no one home at the DaPonte residence.

Mrs. DaPonte said Sunday night that she had accepted an offer of legal aid from a Negro group in her effort to gain admission of

## Cross

(Continued From Page One)

the girl to a white school. She declined to identify the group, but said she would later.

The Mobile County School Board notified Mrs. DaPonte Friday that it could not admit the girl, Carrie Mae McCants, to an all-white school.

Mrs. DaPonte, a widow about 40, had said in her request to the board that she had raised the girl since she was 6½. She said Carrie Mae was the daughter of a domestic servant who formerly worked for her. She added that she had not legally adopted Carrie Mae.

The girl attended European schools the past two years, Mrs. DaPonte said.

(Page 9, Col. 6, CROSS)

THE MOBILE REGISTER  
Mobile, Alabama  
September 18, 1956  
Final Edition

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/30/83

BY Sp300/gol

7c

# KLAN ADMITS BURNING

**CROSS HERE**  
On Suez Canal

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY *SP3de/9d*

THE MOBILE PRESS  
Mobile, Alabama  
September 18, 1956  
Home Edition

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

7c





—Mobile Press Photo

**CROSS BURNED IN MRS. DAPONTE'S DRIVEWAY**

... officers display huge "Klan" symbol.

## OFFICIAL SAYS PROTEST STAGED IN SCHOOL CASE

Mrs. DaPonte Reveals She  
And Child Spent The  
Night Elsewhere

TRESPASS WARNING  
IS POSTED AT HOME

She Arrived At Her Resi-  
dence In Time To See  
Smoldering Symbol

A Mobile member of the Ku Klux Klan said today that local klansmen burned a fiery cross late last night in front of the driveway leading to the home of Mrs. Dorothy D. DaPonte, whose request for admission of her Negro "foster-daughter" to a public school with white students has



—Mobile Press Photo  
MRS. DaPONTE

... plans action.

been rejected by school authorities.

A 10-foot cross blazed up about 10:30 p.m. at the DaPonte driveway on Venetia Road in the Dog River area but an estimated 100 white-robed men who had gathered at the scene had left by the time city police and sheriff's deputies arrived.

E. G. Barnard, who identifies himself as associated with the Ku Klux Klan and whose business place at 64 S. Water St. is used as the Klan meeting place, told a Press reporter without hesitation this morning that "it was done by the Klan."

### ACTION PROTESTED

"We don't favor integration," Barnard said, "and the cross was burned in protest to the stand that" (Continued on Page 19, Col. 4)

## CROSS BURNING

(Continued From Page One) she has taken in trying to get a Negro child into a white school." The Klan meets every Monday night at his place of business, Barnard stated, and "last night was initiation night, so we decided to go down there (to the DaPonte residence).

"We thought she was home," he remarked. "She has been hard to locate the last few days."

### SPENT NIGHT ELSEWHERE

But Mrs. DaPonte informed a reporter this morning that she "followed the advice of a relative" and spent the night with her Negro "foster-daughter" in an unnamed location.

The socially prominent white woman said she left home soon after a cross was burned last night in the driveway of her home.

Mrs. DaPonte said she plans to put up a "no trespassing" sign at her home and also intends to find out whether she has the right to shoot any person who ignores the sign.

"I've been a pacifist all my life," said Mrs. DaPonte, "and I don't think I would shoot anyway. But I want to know if I have the right."

She talked to The Press by telephone at 1:30 a.m. from the undisclosed site where she had taken refuge.

She asserted that she does not plan to ask for police protection but, she added, "I may help myself."

### SAW CROSS BURNING

Mrs. DaPonte reported that she and the Negro girl, 12-year-old Carrie Mae McCants, saw the smoldering cross on their way home last night after being away for the evening.

The police had arrived and the woman and child went into the house. According to Mrs. DaPonte, they "didn't think any more of it until I got an emotional phone call" from a relative.

She said she was told that she underestimated the "feeling" of the crowd and that she had better leave the house for her own safety.

She reported that she has received "threatening" phone calls since she applied for admission of Carrie Mae to an integrated school.

According to neighbors on Venetia Road, some 18 cars with horns blaring and loaded with white-robed men, drove up the DaPonte driveway. Then the men erected the cross and set fire to it.

Air Force Lt. R. W. Sanborn told the Register that he and Lt. Floyd Scruggs stood on their porch a few doors from the gathering and watched the proceedings. The men were not hooded, Sanborn said.

Immediately after setting the cross afire, the motorcade departed amid shouts and more horn blowing.

### DEPUTIES ON SCENE

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Chambers said the cross was found in the middle of the driveway leading into the DaPonte home. The huge cross, padded with what appeared to be old tarpaulin bags soaked in kerosene, was lying on the ground with sand over it, Chambers said, indicating someone had deliberately snuffed the flame.

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Assisting Chambers in the investigation were Deputies Belmus Adams and Vernon Mason.

City Patrolmen George Crawford and Frank Guy dragged the cross back to headquarters.

Mrs. DaPonte said Sunday night that she had accepted an offer of legal aid from a Negro group in her effort to gain admission of the girl to a white school. She declined to identify the group, but said she would later.

Mrs. DaPonte, a widow about 40, had said in her request to the board that she had raised the girl since she was 6½. She said Carrie Mae was the daughter of a domestic servant who formerly worked for her. She added that she had not legally adopted Carrie Mae.

The girl attended European schools the past two years, Mrs. DaPonte said.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: September 20, 1956

FROM : MR. J. A. SIZOO

Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Baumgardner  
Mr. Callahan

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3cd/gcl

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mason \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SAC Hallford of Mobile called me at home at approximately 8:30 PM last evening, making reference to my call yesterday morning concerning the information received from

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hallford said that he would submit a teletype to the Bureau with his recommendations and additional details after the Agents had talked to

I told him to be sure to get his teletype into the Bureau last night so that we could evaluate it this morning and if there was any reason why he should not contact the

JAS:td  
(4)

SEP 25 1956 EX-116

RECORDED-11  
INDEXED-11

SEP 21 1956

Am

MR. SIZOO - MR. BELMONT  
Racial Situation, Montgomery, Alabama

N Governor there would be time to consider it and notify him.

ACTION:

None. The teletype in question has now been received and Bureau action is being taken on the basis of the teletype. This is to record my conversation with Hallford.

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

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

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
100-135-61-218

*H*

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army

**RC**  
**DD**  
[REDACTED]  
As set forth previously, the  
Montgomery Improvement Association is the organization  
sponsoring the boycott of buses in Montgomery by Negroes.

Any additional pertinent information received  
relative to this matter will be furnished you promptly.

cc Director of Special Investigations  
The Inspector General  
Department of the Air Force  
Building Tempo E  
4th and Adams Drive, S. W.  
Washington, D. C.

BY COURIER SERVICE

cc Director of Naval Intelligence  
Department of the Navy  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

FBI

Date: 9-20-56

Transmit the following message via AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, Birmingham (100-3080)

To: Director, FBI (100-135-61)

OPR-21 - NO FILE  
RACIAL SITUATION  
PARRISH, ALABAMA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY [signature]

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Rebutel 9-14-56 and BH airtel 9-15-56.

On 9-18-56, [redacted] and [redacted]

[redacted] advised SA [redacted] that they had both been present during the voting at Parrish, Ala. on 9-17-56, with regard to the local election for office of Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Parrish, and that no incident occurred. They stated they had talked with [redacted] who advised that in his opinion both sides of the political factions at Parrish had possibly done a lot of talking in an effort to "scare the Negro voters" and prevent them from voting. [redacted] advised them that there were only a very few qualified Negro voters in Parrish and that he had personally contacted them and assured them of protection at the polls. [redacted] advised that all of the qualified Negro voters voted at Parrish with the exception of one.

[redacted] advised that present Mayor BEN KIRK was defeated by seven votes and it was rumored that he intended to contest the election. He stated that during and since the election there had been no indication of violence or attempted violence at Parrish.

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Belmont

McMAHON

100-135-61

RECORDED-42 EX-120 20 SEP 21 1956

- 3 - Bureau (AM)
- 1 - Birmingham
- MFL

7C

7C

6 P.S.

Approved: [signature] Special Agent in Charge

61 SEP 26 1956

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

*When you mentioned 9-19-56 X, I am sure all info [redacted]*

FBI

Date: 9/17/56

Transmit the following message via AIR-TEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, MOBILE (100-1342)

To: DIRECTOR, FBI

RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Remylets to Bureau 9/13 and 15/56.

For additional info Bureau, attached hereto is an item appearing in The Mobile Register, Mobile, Alabama, 9/17/56, captioned "MOBILIA ACCEPTS NEGRO LEGAL HELP," which indicates that Mrs. DOROTHY D. DAPONTE announced on 9/16/56 that she has accepted an offer of "legal aid" from a Negro group in her effort to gain admission of her 12-year-old Negro foster daughter to a Mobile County public school with white students.

HALLFORD

RECORDED-18  
INDEXED-18

EX-117 3 - Bureau (AIR MAIL) (Encl. 2)  
2 - Mobile (100-1342)

EX-117

SEP 19 1956

Belmont

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 c/c/gcl

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

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

1cc send to Tompkins  
July 9-6  
9-28-56  
7C  
2 SEP 26 1956

C 8

Mrs. DaPonte Makes Statement

## Mobilian Accepts Negro Legal Help

Action Announced In Effort To Get 'Foster  
Daughter' Enrolled In White School

Mrs. Dorothy D. DaPonte announced yesterday that she has accepted an offer of "legal aid" from a Negro group in her effort to gain admission of her 12-year-old Negro "foster daughter" to a Mobile County public school with white students. Mrs. DaPonte, socially prominent white woman, said she was not at liberty to identify the Negro group at this time but that its identity will be made public in the immediate future.

### Follows Rejection

Her announcement yesterday followed school board rejection of her application for admission of Carrie Mae McCants, Negro girl, to a white school on an integrated basis.

In a written statement given to a Register reporter at her home on Venetia Road in the Dog River area, Mrs. DaPonte said that she had not wished the action "to take the form of litigation" but had hoped that she had found "a new approach which might not cause the same familiar and unpleasant results".

She commented, however, that Negro people have a "natural and legitimate interest" in the outcome of the case and she stated that her decision to turn the case over to the Negro group followed "due deliberation" on her part.

### "Moderate, Not Radical

Mrs. DaPonte indicated in her statement that she felt the child could have been admitted to an integrated school under the "freedom of choice" amendment. She described herself as a "moderate, not a radical" and insisted that she was not attempting to bring about a "total and immediate desegregation of schools".

Mrs. DaPonte's statement follows:

"I began negotiations for entrance of my foster-child into an integrated school as soon as it was possible to do so, on Wednesday,

(Page 8, Col. 2, CHILD)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY J3CDE/gol

THE MOBILE REGISTER  
FINAL  
Sept. 17, 1956  
Page one

BUfile:  
MOfile: 100-1342

ENCLOSURE

# Child

(Continued From Page One)

Sept. 5. I tried to do this in a quiet and proper way through the school board.

(The public schools opened on Sept. 5 but Mrs. DaPonte's letter of application was not made public until after the school board meeting last Wednesday, Sept. 12.)

"It was my understanding then and my belief still that Carrie Mae met the requirements of personal character, ability to learn and adequate background demanded by the 'freedom of choice' amendment to the Alabama Constitution which became law on Aug. 28, 1956.

(The "freedom of choice" amendment gives parents the right to send their children to segregated schools but makes no provision for integrated schools.)

"I was not asking for an exception to the law to be made in her case. I was endeavoring to show that she met the requirements of the existing law.

"It is stated in Article Four of the 'Declaration of Policy' of the school board that the board does not seek to defy or ignore the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court (outlawing school segregation). If this is true, it seems to me that a child applying for admission should be tested to see if she meets the requirements. No member of the school board as examined or tested Carrie Mae in any way.

"In the school board's policy, it is also stated that the accomplishment of a full and complete result, meaning integration, may not be had at one blow. The admission of one child could not be considered as trying to ac-

complish full and complete integration. No more moderate or gradual step is conceivable and I do not believe that it would be impossible to do this 'without a disruption of the school system' which the board's report says would be the effect of any integration now.

"If the present law is intended to comply with the U.S. Supreme Court's decision, good faith could be demonstrated by consideration of the present applicant's eligibility to see if she meets their requirements for admission.

"If the present law denies applicants for integrated schools without examining their fitness to meet qualifications which the school board itself has laid down, then it can only be assumed that it is a cloak for maintaining segregated schools rather than a law complying with the U.S. Supreme Court's decision.

"I consider myself a moderate, not a radical. I am not attempting by this case to effect total and immediate desegregation of schools.

"I wish to state unequivocally that I initiated the present action entirely on my own initiative without the support of any other individual or group. Carrie Mae, insofar as she is able at her age, understands the action and wishes to take her part in it.

"I had hoped that the school board would examine her and admit her into an integrated school, quietly as requested. I believe that this could have been done without violence, disorder or friction.

### Offer Of Aid

"I have received an offer of legal aid from a colored group. I did not wish the action to take the form of litigation but had hoped that I had found a new approach which might not cause the same familiar and unpleasant results. I have thought carefully before accepting this offer. I would have preferred the white South handle this case itself, moderately and fairly without pressure.

"The colored people have a natural and legitimate interest in the outcome of any case involving race. After due deliberation, I have decided that I will turn the case over to them entirely."

### "Public Policy"

In rejecting Mrs. DaPonte's request for admission of the Negro child to a school with white students, Pres. Kenneth W. Reed of the school board informed her in a letter last week that "as a matter of public policy, it is not possible for the Board of School Commissioners of Mobile County to make exceptions of this type."

Attached to the letter of rejection was the school board's "Declaration of Policy," adopted in August, 1955, continuing operation of the Mobile County public school system on a segregated basis as in the past. Adoption of this policy followed the U.S. Supreme Court decision banning segregation in public schools. But present Alabama law forbids mi-

ing Negroes and whites in the schools.

According to Mrs. DaPonte's letter of application, the McCants girl has attended schools in England and Europe for the past two years and before that she went to Negro public schools in Mobile. Mrs. DaPonte has said that she feels the child is qualified for the seventh grade, the first year of junior high school.

Mrs. DaPonte stated in her letter that she has brought up the Negro girl since she was 6½ years old. However, the Mobile woman subsequently revealed that she has not legally adopted the girl, whom she identified as the daughter of a Negro domestic now working in Louisiana.

THE MOBILE REGISTER  
FINAL  
Sept. 17, 1956  
Page one

Bufile:  
MOfile: 100-1342

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 9/15/56

FROM : SAC, MOBILE

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

Reference is made to my letter to the Bureau, 9/13/56, bearing caption of this communication, transmitting newspaper item from the Mobile Register, Mobile, Ala., dated 9/13/56, captioned "Effort Made Here To Enroll Negro in White School." According to this item, Mrs. DOROTHY D. DaPONT endeavored to enroll her foster daughter, a negro child, in the public schools of Mobile.

For the additional information of the Bureau, attached hereto are two copies of a newspaper item appearing in the Mobile Press, Mobile, Alabama, 9/14/56, captioned "Rejects Bid Of DaPONT" wherein information is set forth that school board refused to admit negro to white public schools in Mobile.

- 2 - Bureau (100-135-61)  
(2 encls.) (AIRMAIL) (REGISTERED)
- 2 - Mobile (100-1342)
- 2 - [redacted] (4)

7c ENCLOSURE 13

*M. J. Gowan*  
11/5

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY [signature]

RECORDED - 73

INDEXED - 73

28 SEP 19 1956

1cc [redacted] to [redacted]  
9/20/56

67 SEP 20 1956

7c

100-135-61-221

# Rejects Bid Of DaPonte

School Board Refuses To  
Admit Negro To White  
Public School

**SAYS NO EXCEPTIONS  
TO POLICY POSSIBLE**

Woman Uncertain Of Fur-  
ther Action, Has Not  
Retained Lawyer

The request of Mrs. Dorothy D. DaPonte, Mobile white woman, for admission of her Negro "foster daughter" to a Mobile County public school with white students has been rejected.

In a letter made public today, President Kenneth W. Reed of the school board notified Mrs. DaPonte, who is socially prominent, that "as a matter of public policy, it is not possible for the Board of School Commissioners of Mobile County to make exceptions of this type."

Reed made it clear in his letter that the board is adhering to its policy, adopted in August, 1955, maintaining segregation in the county's public school system.

#### UNCERTAIN OF FUTURE

Mrs. DaPonte, who resides on Venetia Road in the Dog River area, said yesterday that if the board refused her application, she had no idea of what further action she might take. She stated that she has not retained legal counsel.

The Negro girl described by Mrs. DaPonte as her "foster daughter" is 12-year-old Carrie Mae McCants. The child attended schools in England and Europe for the past two years and before that she went to Negro public

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 3)

## DAPONTE

(Continued From Page One)

schools in Mobile. Mrs. DaPonte has said that the girl is qualified for the seventh grade, which is the first year of junior high school.

In her letter to President Reed asking admission of the child to an "integrated school," Mrs. DaPonte said she was not applying for a specific school "but will accept any such that you might decide would be in the best interests of the child and the community." She informed the board president that "I have brought up Carrie Mae myself since she was six and a half years old."

But Mrs. DaPonte revealed yesterday that she has not legally adopted the child. The Mobile woman said the girl is the daughter of a Negro domestic who formerly worked for her and is now employed in Louisiana.

#### POLICY OUTLINED

Sent to Mrs. DaPonte with the letter of rejection was a copy of the board's "declaration of policy" of August, 1955, which followed the U.S. Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in public schools. Alabama, however, has a present law barring the mixing of Negroes and whites in public schools.

Pres. Reed prepared the letter of rejection after obtaining legal advice yesterday from Palmer Pillans, school board attorney, and conferring with other board members.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 cly/cl

THE MOBILE PRESS  
MOBILE, ALABAMA  
SEPTEMBER 14, 1956

FRONT PAGE  
FINAL EDITION

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

Nofile: 100-1342  
Bufile: 100-135-61

ENCLOSURE  
100-135-61-221

He indicated in the letter that while the segregation policy is unchanged, the public school administration is continuing a study of the situation, particularly in the light of the "freedom of choice" amendment to the state constitution which was approved by Alabama voters at an Aug. 28 special election. Atty. Pillans has been asked to give the board an opinion as to whether the local school system, set up separately from other Alabama public schools, is covered by the provisions of the amendment.

#### LETTER QUOTED

Reed's letter to Mrs. DaPonte follows:

"Your letter of Sept. 3rd to me has been read and considered by me and by the other members of the Board of School Commissioners of Mobile County. The general subject matter of mixed attendance at the schools has had the most earnest consideration by all members of the board, since consideration became important last year.

"In August of 1955, the board, after much study and thought, adopted a declaration of policy, a copy of which is appended to this letter. The thought of the board has not changed since making that declaration.

"It did not prove practicable to adopt a plan during the scholastic year which was concluded last May, because of contemplated and much-discussed legislation in Alabama touching integration, which did not fruit into definitive status until the 28th of last month, when the people voted the sundry proposed amendments to the constitution.

"Not until then did our board have the clearly outlined picture of state legislation to study in connection with its setting up a plan of compliance with state law and federal decisions. That study is still going forward.

"In the meantime, it had become essential to plan for the 1956-57 school term; and this planning was done on the basis of a continuation of the segregated status that was maintained during the last term.

"It is physically and financially impossible to make any change during the current term. There is a pupil load in this county in excess of 52,000 (actually 55,000), and a material shortage in physical housing.

"Your letter indicates that apparently you comprehend this situation and what you wish is that, without establishing a policy, the school board admit Carrie Mae McCants, a Negro girl of 12, to one of the white schools, because, as you say, she has had exceptional cultural background and association since she was six years old.

"We think you must understand that, as a matter of public policy, it is not possible for the Board of School Commissioners of Mobile County to make exceptions of this type."

The policy declaration of August, 1955, contained the statement that "it must be recognized that integration is not acceptable to the major portion of our people."

Besides continuing the segregated status of the local public school system, the board committed itself in the policy declaration to make a study of attendance areas, which form the basis of individual school districts, and also to make a study of the Alabama Placement Act, which gives local school boards broad authority in assigning students to schools.

The concluding paragraph of the

1955 policy declaration reads as follows:

"It should be understood that this board does not seek either to defy or to ignore the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court; but it does intend, within the law, to exercise the judgment and discretion reposed in it by the people and recognized in the Supreme Court's decree, so as to perform its functions and at the same time to comply with the law and to achieve the best results in the education of the youth of Mobile County, maintaining scholastic standards and harmony with the minimum of potential violence, disorder or friction that would greatly lessen the efficiency of public education in the county and would be of detriment alike to both races."

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: September 20, 1956

FROM : MR. J. A. SIZOO

cc Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Baumgardner  
Mr. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Tolson	_____
Nichols	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
Mason	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Nease	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

*Mobile*

I called Mobile today and in the absence of the SAC and the ASAC I talked to Special Agent [REDACTED] who was acting in charge of the office. I made reference to the teletypes which had been submitted to the Bureau and instructed him to be sure that the current information concerning [REDACTED] was made available to the police and that Mobile should make contact with the Montgomery Police to determine if they plan to interview [REDACTED] and, if so, to obtain the results of such interview. [REDACTED] asked if Mobile should discourage any interview [REDACTED]

I told him not to discourage an interview if the police wanted to interview him, before but that Mobile should maintain close enough contact to know what the police were going to do as Mobile's expressed intention to maintain surveillance of [REDACTED] was not being overruled by the Bureau. I also told him to be sure to keep us advised of any additional significant developments in this matter. [REDACTED] said he would do so; that at the time of my call the SAC was talking with the Governor and [REDACTED] said that Hallford would send in a teletype covering his contact with the Governor.

ACTION:

None. This is for information.

JAS:td  
(4)  
JP

RECORDED-57

100-155-61-222  
5-1-ep

EX-117

20 SEP 25 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY Sp3def/cd

153  
60 SEP 26 1956

F B I

Date: 9/18/56

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Transmit the following message via AIR-TEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, MOBILE (100-1342)

To: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-135-61)

RACON

[REDACTED]

7C

Remyairtel to Bureau 9/13/56 with reference mytel 9/7/56.

For information Bureau, according to item appearing in the Mobile Register, morning paper, Mobile, Alabama, 9/18/56, BARNEY defeated in race for Councilman for the City of Prichard, Alabama, running 16th among 19 candidates, polling 392 votes out of a total vote of 3,591.

HALLFORD

- 3 - Bureau (100-135-61) (AIR MAIL)
- 2 - Mobile (100-1342)

lo  
(5)

[REDACTED]

7C

*[Handwritten signature]*

7C

RECORDED-90  
INDEXED-90

100-135-61-223

EX - 117

20 SEP 20 1956

Mr. Belmont

[REDACTED]

*[Handwritten initials]*  
66 SEP 20 1956

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY 43cl/9cl

cc Liaison Section

7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 clc/gcl

100-135-61

Date: September 24, 1956  
To: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Chief, Security Division

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: RACIAL SITUATION  
SELMA, ALABAMA

RACON - Mobile

On September 14, 1956, Special Agent George Edwards, Office of Special Investigations, Detachment Commander, Craig Air Force Base, Selma, Alabama, advised the Mobile Office of this Bureau that Mildred Azalia Griner had received a telephone call on the night of September 13, 1956, from an unknown male who identified himself as the "KKK" (Ku Klux Klan). Edwards said that Griner was asked by the unknown male "Don't you think you can find a better place to work?" Edwards stated that Griner has only been working at Craig Air Force Base for approximately three weeks and is the first Negro female to be employed in communications.

BY COURIER SVC.  
29 SEP 24  
COMM - FBI

SEP 24 1956  
COMM-FBI  
AFOSI

On September 14, 1956, Griner was interviewed at the Office of Special Investigations Office and she advised she resides [redacted]. She stated she has only been living at this address for about three weeks, since she is a transfer employee from the Veterans Administration Hospital in Tuskegee, Alabama. She stated that about 8:00 p.m. on the night of September 13, 1956, she received a telephone call at her residence and the caller stated, "Are you Mildred Griner who works at the base?" Griner replied, "Yes." The caller said, "This is the KKK." Griner said, "What is that?" The caller

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Belmont
- Mason
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Nease
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

cc - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

100-135-61-224  
(By Form 0-6, same date)

14 SEP 25 1956

(8) :gft  
7c

EX-116

**Letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army**

terminated the conversation then by saying, "Don't you think you can find a better place to work?" Griner stated the caller definitely was a male; however, she has no idea who it possibly could be since there is no one in Selma who has her telephone number and it is not listed in the telephone book. She stated her telephone number, however, is a matter of record at the Civilian Personnel Office, Base Locator Office and Communications Section. Griner concluded that she has no suspects in mind who could be responsible for the telephone call.

Any additional pertinent information received relative to this matter will be furnished you promptly.

cc - Director of Naval Intelligence  
Department of the Navy  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D. C.

cc - Director of Special Investigations BY COURIER SERVICE  
The Inspector General  
Department of the Air Force  
Building Tempo E  
4th and Adams Drive, S. W.  
Washington, D. C.

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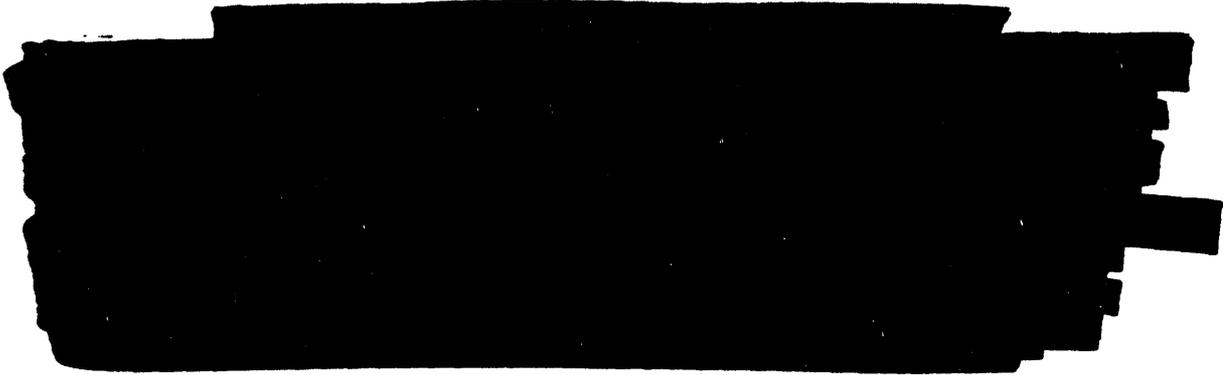
For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army



Any additional pertinent information received  
relative to this matter will be furnished you promptly.

cc Director of Naval Intelligence  
Department of the Navy  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

cc Director of Special Investigations  
The Inspector General  
Department of the Air Force  
Building Tempo E  
4th and Adams Drive, S. W.  
Washington, D. C.

BY COURIER SERVICE

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Letter to The Attorney General

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has been active in the Montgomery Improvement Association and the individual referred to as [REDACTED] and identified as [REDACTED] may be [REDACTED] who has also been active in the Montgomery Improvement Association. As set forth previously, the Montgomery Improvement Association is the organization sponsoring the boycott of buses in Montgomery by Negroes.

**Letter to The Attorney General**

Appropriate local authorities have been notified concerning this information and intelligence agencies of the Armed Forces are being advised. Any additional pertinent information received relative to this matter will be furnished to the Department promptly.

cc - Mr. William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General

cc - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

The Mobile Office has been telephonically instructed to furnish this information to appropriate and reliable local authorities. Mobile was also telephonically instructed to run out these allegations and keep the Bureau promptly informed of additional information received. Intelligence agencies of the Armed Forces are being advised by separate communication. Information set forth in Mobile teletype sent at 6:33 p.m., 9/18/56, concerning [REDACTED] is being disseminated to the Department and intelligence agencies by separate communication.

7C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 9/22/56

FROM : SAG, Mobile

*RA*

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

Forwarded herewith are two copies of headline and article appearing in the Mobile Press, Mobile, Ala. for 9/21/56 captioned "UPSTATE BOARD ENDS DRAFT UNTIL ARMY INDUCTS NEGRO", it being noted that the article refers to induction process pertaining to FRED D. GRAY, colored minister and attorney at Montgomery, Ala. Same is forwarded as of possible interest to the Bureau.

- ② - Bureau (100-135-61) (Encl. 2) (AIRMAIL)
- 2 - Mobile (100-1342)

bwt  
(4)

*nc*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

DATE 3/30/83 BY *Sp3c/ycl*

*file 100-135-61*

EX-100

34

RECORDED-42

100-135-61-227

INDEXED-42

26  
20 SEP 24 1956

ENCLOSURE

*nc*

67 OCT 2 - 1956

C O

# UPSTATE BOARD ENDS DRAFT UNTIL

THE MOBILE PRESS

MOBILE, ALA.

9/21/56, Front Page

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA  
Mobile file 100-1342

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY Sp3 dcl/gd

1 -  
100-1342-41-1  
ENCLOSURE

**ARMY**  
**INDUCTS**  
**NEGRO**

# Step Taken By Bullock

New Classification Is Set  
Up In Protest Against  
Gray Delay

**APPEAL AGENT QUILTS  
IN CRENSHAW COUNTY**

**He Declares Hershey Is  
Acting According To  
Wishes Of NAACP**

MONTGOMERY — (AP) — In a switch of strategy, an Alabama draft board today set up a new "F-G" classification and said no more registrants would be called up for induction into the armed forces until Negro attorney Fred D. Gray is inducted.

At Union Springs, the Bullock County Draft Board announced that all eligible registrants would be pulled from the files and reclassified F-G (Fred Gray) until the dispute is settled.

Former State Sen. L. K. (Snag) Andrews, a board member, said the group would not "send anybody from Bullock County until Fred Gray goes.

"We are going to stay on here and protect our boys," he added.

**NO DISCRIMINATION**  
Andrews said the decision will affect both white and Negro registrants, because "we don't have discrimination down here."

(Continued On Page 6, Col. 3)

## DRAFT BOARDS

(Continued From Page One)

Bullock County draft appeal agent J. Allen Tucker, at the same meeting, reported that he was submitting his resignation to national Selective Service Director Lt. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey because of the "transfer of Col. James Johnson, deputy state director and the violative handling of Fred Gray's case in Montgomery."

"I cannot condone illegal action with which the Gray case was handled," he added.

### APPEAL AGENT QUILTS

Meanwhile, James W. Jones, state Selective Service director, said he received a letter of resignation today from Alton L. Turner, Crenshaw County appeal agent, also in protest of the Gray case.

Turner said Hershey's actions in the case made it apparent that "he has been acting according to the wishes of the National Assn. for the Advancement of the Colored People and makes my position as appeal agent untenable."

"The people of Alabama will never submit to a forced draft directed by the NAACP," he added.

According to Andrews, "Hershey took his action by the rule of 'do it' and the rule of 'do it' applies in Bullock County as much as in Washington. If Hershey overrides us that addresses itself to his conscience and if he fires us for using that rule then he ought to resign."

Meanwhile, the continued strong feeling against postponement of Army induction for a young Montgomery Negro attorney has brought nine resignations from the Selective Service system in central Alabama. More resignations were being considered today.

The Fred D. Gray case has also provoked several telegrams and letters to Lt. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, national Selective Service director, who recently postponed induction of Gray indefinitely.

The resignations, which started here Monday with three members of Gray's draft board, were all with comments that Hershey had improperly overridden the authority of the local board. Some were accompanied by criticism at what was termed "political influence" that reached into the White House.

Local 51 classified Gray 1-A after he had become prominent as legal spokesman for Negroes in the nine-month-old bus boycott here. The National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People obtained a review of the case and the classification was sustained by the highest appeal board.

Then after Gray was ordered to active duty Hershey asked that the case be reopened. He said he had been informed that the 25-year-old attorney was now full-time pastor of a Negro church, replacing the absent minister. Ministers are draft-exempt.

### PRESSURE CHARGED

The local board took the stand that it was too late to introduce new evidence and refused twice to reopen the case. Three board members walked out with bitter comments of "NAACP pressure" when Gray didn't go into the Army Monday as they had ordered.

Next day the Barbour County board and appeal agent resigned in protest over the case. Wednesday Gov. James E. Folsom, a Democrat, said the case had been made "a political football by the Republican White House." That day too J. M. Stanton of Greensboro, member of the Hale County board, quit in protest.

Another resignation came yesterday, from J. Stuart Yow of Selma, appeal agent for Dallas County. He wired Hershey objecting to what he said was "evident outside pressure."

Selective Service in Washington has said Hershey has handled the case in the usual routine manner after receiving what he considered might be new evidence bearing on Gray's status.

A spokesman there said today that as he understands it the picture is about like this now:

The resignations of the Montgomery local board will be sent to the President, or to Hersey for the President.

After action upon them, it would be assumed Gov. Folsom would make recommendations to the President for appointment of a new board. The spokesman said he knew of no instance since 1940 in which a President had failed to appoint the persons recommended by the various governors.

Upon taking office, the new board would be faced with the directive to review the Gray case as the old board refused to do. The spokesman said the directive was to the board, and not to the individuals comprising it.

FBI

Date: 9/17/56

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Transmit the following message via AIR-TEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, MOBILE (100-1342, 105-17)

To: DIRECTOR, FBI

MILDRED AZALIA GRINER, nee Gibson

Teletype Operator  
Communications Section  
Craig Air Force Base (AFB)  
Selma, Alabama

RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

*Office of Special Investigations*  
*W. J. ...*  
*...*

On 9/14/56 SA GEORGE EDWARDS, OSI, Detachment Commander, Craig AFB, Selma, Alabama, advised SAs [redacted] and [redacted]

that MILDRED AZALIA GRINER had received a telephone call on the night of 9/13/56 from an unknown male who identified himself as the "XXX." EDWARDS said that GRINER was asked by the unknown male, "Don't you think you can find a better place to work?" EDWARDS stated that GRINER has only been working at Craig AFB for approximately three weeks and is first Negro female to be employed in Communications.

On 9/14/56 MILDRED AZALIA GRINER was interviewed by SAs [redacted] and [redacted] at the OSI Office and she advised she resides [redacted]. She stated she has only been living at this address for about three weeks since she is a transfer employee from the VA Hospital in Tuskegee, Alabama. She stated that about 8:00 P.M. on the night of 9/13/56 she received a phone call at her residence and the caller stated, "Are you MILDRED GRINER who works at the base?" GRINER replied, "Yes," caller said, "This is the XXX," GRINER said, "What is that?" and caller terminated conversation then by saying, "Don't you think you can find a better place to work?" GRINER stated the caller definitely was a male, however, she has no idea who it possibly could be since there is no one in Selma who has her phone number and it is not listed in the telephone book. She stated her phone number, however, is a matter of record at the Civilian Personnel Office, Base Locator Office and Communications Section. GRINER concluded that she has no suspects in mind who could be responsible for the phone call.

There are no known Ku Klux Klan groups active in the Selma, Alabama area.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3ck/jgl

*Mr. Edwards*  
*...*

Mr. Belmont

RECORDED-11 / 100-1342-61-228

INDEXED-11

7 SEP 19 1956

3 - Bureau (AIR MAIL)  
2 - Mobile (100-1342, 105-17)  
Approved: [redacted] 3/3  
(5) 8/12/9 Special Agent in Charge

EX-116

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

(di)

CO

FBI

Date: 9/17/56

Transmit the following message via AIR-TEL

AIR MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, MOBILE

To: DIRECTOR, FBI

PAGE TWO

MILDRED AZALIA GRINER, nee Gibson  
Teletype Operator  
Communications Section  
Craig Air Force Base  
Selma, Alabama  
RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

MILDRED AZALIA GRINER is described as Negro female;  
born 12/6/23, Petersburg, Virginia; 5' 3"; 130 lbs.; black  
hair (greying); dark brown eyes; scar on right knee; relatives -  
mother, Mrs. JESSIE E. GIBSON, [REDACTED];  
[REDACTED]; father deceased; sisters, Mrs. ELEANOR BUSTER,  
[REDACTED] - Mrs. CHARLOTTE JOHNSON,  
[REDACTED] - Mrs. JANE

WILLIAMS, [REDACTED]

b7c  
AM  
AFOSI

No further investigation being conducted UACB.

8.

Unless Advised to  
Contrary by Bureau

HALLFORD

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Letter to The Attorney General

7C  
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[REDACTED]

The above information has been furnished by a representative of this Bureau to Governor Folsom. Appropriate local authorities have been notified concerning this information and intelligence agencies of the Armed Forces are being advised. Any additional pertinent information received relative to this matter will be furnished to the Department promptly.

cc Mr. William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General

cc Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

NOTE ON YELLOW:

7C

Mobile requested Governor Folsom be furnished information concerning [REDACTED] and latest developments. It was believed this is the correct action inasmuch as Folsom had alerted National Guard. SAC, Mobile was telephonically instructed to furnish this information and to advise the Bureau the results of interview with [REDACTED] by police if [REDACTED] is interviewed by police. Intelligence agencies being advised by separate communication.

4/12

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135 Sub 61)      DATE: 9/26/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1361)

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY 43 elj/gd

For information of Bureau, there are attached hereto two copies of an item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 9/20/56, captioned "A. & M. FACULTY ASKED TO STAY OUT OF BOYCOTT."

2 - Bureau (Encl. 2) (100-135 Sub 61)

1 - Mobile (100-1361)

(3)

7C

RECORDED - 23

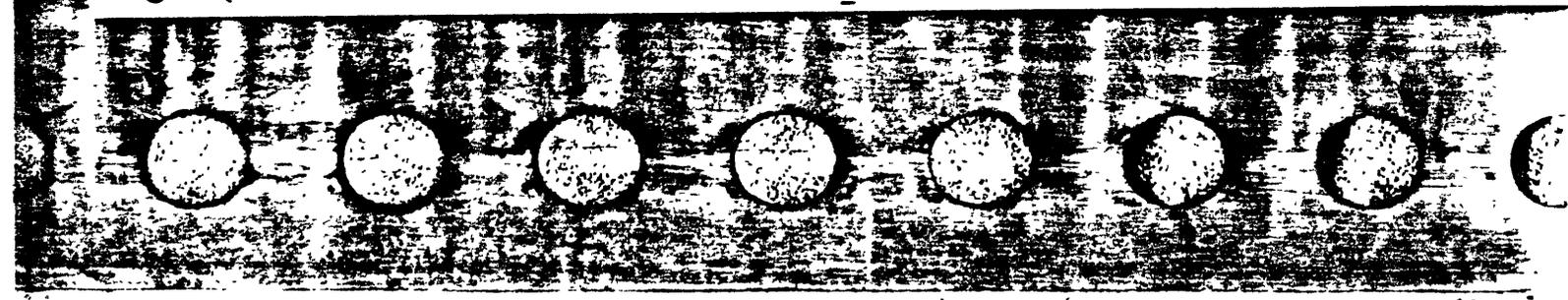
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cc sent to Memphis  
10-1-56

ENCLOSURE  
67 OCT 5 - 1956

7C

Boyd  
INT



## A.&M. Faculty Asked To Stay Out Of Boycott

President George W. Gore Jr. said today he had appealed to the faculty, staff and employes of Florida A & M University for Negroes to refrain from active participation in the bus boycott for the good of the institution.

Dr. Gore denied a claim by the Negro Inter Civic Council that he had served an ultimatum on the staff and employes to get out of the bus protest movement.

In a news release, the Council said Dr. Gore had stated at a staff and faculty meeting that "either you are loyal to the university or loyal to something out there; cast your lot with this ship or get off. You can't be loyal to both."

### 'PRECARIOUS POSITION'

Dr. Gore said that because of worsening racial relations the future of the university was in a "precarious position" and that as president of the institution he felt compelled to state frankly what the situation was.

"It was not my intention to interfere in any way with the rights of any individual and nobody has been fired or is going to get fired if we all keep our heads," he said.

"But the situation is that our relations here in Tallahassee and throughout the state have worsened steadily and we are now in a precarious position with regard to

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

From Page 1

## A&M Faculty

our future.

"While the university has taken no official position with regard to the local problem, some of our university people have become identified with the movement to the detriment of the university.

"I have appealed to them to use discretion and to consider any actions they might take with relation to the future of the university.

"Some of our most loyal friends here have been reluctant to help us now and I am frankly worried about what will happen when our appropriation requests go before the next Legislature. It behooves all of us to keep our heads to keep this ship from going under."

The council said that since the boycott by Negro riders was started almost four months ago, many university personnel had participated actively in support of the movement.

The boycott was called in protest against segregated seating requirements. It originated with A. & M. students after two A. & M. coeds were arrested because they refused to move to the rear of a crowded bus after sitting by a white woman.

"He (Gore) stated that participation by some of the staff was embarrassing the university, that he therefore wanted the faculty and staff to refrain from participation in the protest movement," the council said.

"Some five weeks ago, 15 or 20 active university professors, mostly key personnel, were called in separately by the president. When asked by reporters as what went on at these meetings, the professors gave a terse 'no comment.' However, it is generally held that they were given essentially the same ultimatum that was given the general body."

A & M is Florida's only state supported Negro university. It has an enrollment of about 2,500.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 cly/ga

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 9-20-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
SEP 26 1956	
FBI - MOBILE	

ENCLOSURE

FBI

Date: 9/28/56

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Transmit the following message via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, MOBILE (105-0)

To: DIRECTOR, FBI (RA2011)

BURNING OF CROSS AT 2:20 AM,  
9/28/56, TYNDALL AFB, FLA.  
IS-X

OSI, Tyndall AFB, Fla., advised this date that at 2:20 a.m., 9/28/56, a wooden cross saturated with an inflammable material was discovered burning in a small field near a barracks on the Govt. reservation of Tyndall AFB by Officer in Charge of Quarters. Fire immediately extinguished without any damage to base. Cross described as 30 inches high by 30 inches across. Sgt. sleeping in nearby barracks allegedly heard men running and car driving away about same time cross discovered burning.

OSI conducting investigation. No action being taken by this office UACB.

HALLFORD

3 - Bureau  
2 - Mobile (105-0)  
          (105-63)

Mr. Belmont

72

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3clg/gcl

RECORDED-42

105-135-61-231

14 OCT 1 1956

FOI EXC

OCT 1 8 37 AM '56

OCT 5 1956

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 9/27/56

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. W. Howard	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Transmit the following message via AIR-TEL  
AIR MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, MOBILE

To: DIRECTOR, FBI

RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

**7C** [Redacted] *McGowan*

Attached hereto are two copies each of the following newspaper items appearing in the Mobile Press, Mobile, 9/26/56, captioned "BESIEGED NEGRO PLANS TO VACATE WHITE AREA," and in the Mobile Register, Mobile, 9/27/56, captioned "FIRE SWEEPS NEGRO HOME; ARSON FEARED."

The Bureau will note that information contained in these newspaper items pertains to acts of violence committed at the residence of BOOKER T. GULLEY, 857 Welworth Street, Mobile, who purchased a home in a partially white neighborhood.

HALLFORD

**7C**  
3 - Bureau (Encl-4) (AIR MAIL)  
1 - Mobile (100-1342)  
10  
(4)  
ENCLOSURE  
FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 clp/hlt

RECORDED - 67

*cc general to 100-100-135-61-232*  
*2 copies*  
*100-2-12*  
**7C**

Mr. ROSEN

MR. ROSEN  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

OCT 3 1956

67 OCT 11 1956

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Three Weeks Of Incidents

# Besieged Negro Plans To Vacate White Area

**Loads Of Buckshot, Brick-bats Fired At Home; Man Was Told Neighborhood Slated For Colored.**

The father of a Negro family whose home in a white Toulminville neighborhood has been bombarded by bricks and torn by buckshot for 22 days, said today that he is going to move.

Booker T. Gulley, 37, of 857 Welworth St., told a Press reporter that "I would move now if I had a place to move to and something to move on."

"This thing has made my wife a nervous wreck," commented Gulley from the home of a brother where he was staying today.

Three loads of buckshot about 9:30 o'clock last night climaxed more than three weeks of harassing incidents for Gulley. The shots blasted through the five-room home, which had been purchased from a Negro real estate firm.

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/30/83 BY spc/ghd

THE MOBILE PRESS  
FINAL  
Sept. 26, 1956

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

BUfile:  
MOfile: 100-1347

ENCLOSURE

100-1347-1-2-3-4

## INCIDENTS

(Continued From Page One)

"She (the real estate agent) told me that the white people were going to move out and the colored people would move in," Gulley said.

### CONTINUOUS ATTACKS

The attacks upon the house—the only one in the block between Jones Street and Barrett's Lane on Welworth Street that is occupied by Negroes—have continued since the day after Labor Day, despite police protection.

Gulley said he and his wife and five children moved into the home Sept. 4, after "we were forced to sell" their old home at 563 N. Hamilton St. to the Mobile Housing Board. A housing project is planned on their former property.

"The first incident," Gulley said today, "occurred the night we came to live there. They threw bricks through a bedroom window and a kitchen window in the back."

Gulley, who works at night as a mechanic for the Mobile City Lines, Inc., said "at least 15 times they have thrown bricks in the windows and doors." No one has been injured in the attacks.

Gulley said he called police the first time, and has summoned officers on subsequent occasions "but not every time."

Police Chief Dudley McFadyen said today that the neighborhood has been under surveillance since the first report of violence, and that "squad car men and officers have been ordered to keep a close check. I have told Detective Capt. (Tally) Rollins to make a thorough investigation."

Gulley said he paid \$2,000 down on the \$7,500 price for the one-story frame house.

"It was every bit of money I had," he said, "and I can't move until I get some money."

### 'FOR SALE' SIGN UP

"But I started to try to move away three days after they started throwing bricks on (Sept. 7). I have a 'For Sale' sign in front now, and a real estate company is taking care of it."

The besieged Negro said he has received telephone calls from "white men, but all they did was talk nasty. They didn't really say anything."

He said there are about 10 white families in the block, and "one block from here (across Barrett's Lane) there are plenty of colored people."

Gulley said he sold his home on Hamilton Street on Aug. 31 to the Mobile Housing Board. "They forced me to sell it," he said. "I was instructed that they were going to build a housing project there."

### WINDOWS SMASHED

He said the first brick-throwing incident was followed by another the next night, and that since then windows have been smashed "more than every other night."

"I tried to sell the house back to the company I bought it from, but they wouldn't take it. Then I tried to trade it for another house, but they wouldn't do that, either," he said.

Det. Capt. Rollings said that although police are patrolling the neighborhood constantly, the attackers have eluded detection in the vacant lot beside the Gulley home, and in "thickets" behind it.

Gulley said the bricks have been thrown after dark, from the vacant lot on the east side of his house. He said "I've been home some of the time, but sometimes when it happens I've already gone to work."

Capt. Rollins said last night's attack occurred about 9:30 p.m., and that the gunman was apparently standing on a tree stump behind the Gulley house and across a five-foot-deep drainage ditch. The area on the other side of the ditch is covered with brush.

### THREE SHOTS FIRED

Three shots were fired at the back of the house. (Some of the buckshot hit a tree in the back yard, but most of them ripped through the weatherboard and into the kitchen.)

Gulley and his family and a cousin who also lives with them were in the living room watching television at the time.

The house was formerly owned by a white man, Gulley said.

He said he has received no direct threats or personal mistreatment from his white neighbors.

The brick attacks, however,

have smashed most of the windows in the house. The last brick thrown was on Monday night, when a missile splintered a window frame in the kitchen.

"That was about 8 o'clock," Gulley said.

"It is all these things," he said, "that have made me want to move. But I don't know where I'm going to move to."

Gulley, who was born and reared at Leroy, in Washington County, said he came here in 1939, and bought the home on Hamilton Street in 1947.

"I paid \$1,750 for it," he said, "but it just had two rooms and an outside bathroom then. I added another room, and an inside toilet. The Housing Board gave me \$2,300 for it."

"My wife and cousin and five children live in my house now. It took all the money I had to get this place and I don't know what's I'm going to do," he said.

Three of the Gulley children—11, 12, and 13 years old, attend school. The others are 3 and 4 years old.

## Fire Sweeps Negro Home; Arson Feared

### House In White Area Vacant When Blaze Discovered

Fire spawned beneath the floorboards swept through the home of Booker T. Gulley in Toulminville last night. Fire Inspector J. B. Foster said it "apparently" was arson.

The blaze came less than 24 hours after three loads of buckshot slammed through Gulley's kitchen wall.

#### In White Area

Gulley's home, at 857 Welworth St., is the only Negro residence in a white neighborhood. The residence has been bombarded with bricks ever since Gulley bought it Sept. 4.

The Gulleys weren't home when the fire broke out last night. They were at the residence of his brother, Emanuel Gulley, in Prichard—where they had gone for refuge after the buckshot ripped into the frame house in Toulminville the night before.

A burned portion of a nail keg, hauled from underneath the house, was undergoing careful inspection to determine if it had contained anything inflammable.

Inspector Foster said the blaze "definitely started" beneath the locked residence.

Flames ate through the floor and swept through the rear interior of the house.

The rear bedroom was a total loss: "That's where all our clothes were," Gulley said later.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY SP3 CLK/gcl

THE MOBILE REGISTER  
Mobile, Alabama  
September 27, 1956  
Final Edition

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

Mobile File: 100-1342

ENCLOSURE

100-1342-61-252

Fire damaged the adjoining kitchen and a center bedroom. Some smoke and heat damage was done to a front bedroom and the living room.

A white neighbor spotted the blaze about 7:45 p.m. and turned in a fire alarm. Fire Cos. 1 and 14, led by Asst. Chief H. H. Edwards Jr., scurried to the scene and halted the fire's sweep through the building.

A white resident of the neighborhood said a car driven by a white man pulled up in front of the Gulley home about an hour before the blaze.

The car's driver walked onto the Gulley porch and flashed a light inside, the neighbor said. Then the man spotted the neighbor and asked him where the Gulleys were and whether their furniture was still inside. After getting his reply he drove off, the neighbor-related.

Gulley said he had made only one trip to his home after he took his family away the night before.

"I stopped by there the next morning and picked up our television set," he noted. "The only thing else I took was a blanket to cover the set and keep it from getting scratched up."

All the family's clothing was in the burning house "except one change that we took with us," Gulley said.

The fire left his plans for the sale of the home a big question mark.

"I guess I'll try to sell what's left of it," he said wryly.

Gulley late last night told Det. Bill Lami that he "thought" he had a \$6,000 fire insurance policy on the house and \$2,000 on contents of the house.

Earlier yesterday the 37-year-old Gulley said he was going to move "as soon as I can."

Gulley said he bought his house on Sept. 4, and that almost every other night since then people have

(Page 8, Col. 6, FIRE)

## Fire

(Continued From Page One)

been throwing bricks at the windows.

The siege was climaxed Tuesday night when someone fired three shotgun blasts at the back of the house. Gulley's wife and five children and his cousin were in a front room, and no one was hurt.

Gulley said he obtained the house from a Negro real estate firm which told him that the white people in the area were going to move out and the colored move in.

His family is the only Negro group in the block, where about ten white families reside.

He said yesterday that "I would move now if I had some place to move to and something to move on. This thing has made my wife a nervous wreck."

Police were investigating the brick-throwing and gunshots but the culprits had managed to evade detection in a vacant lot next door to the Gulley home and in the thicket behind the house.

Chief Dudley McFadyen said he has ordered patrolmen to keep the neighborhood under close surveillance.

Gulley said he paid \$2,000 down on the \$7,500 price of the house. "It was all I had, and I don't have any more. I don't know where I'll move to, but this house is up for sale now."

His family moved from their former home at 563 N. Hamilton St. Aug. 31, after selling the house to the Mobile Housing Board.

"They forced me to sell," he said. "They told me the property was going to be used for a new housing project."

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135 Sub 61)

DATE: 10/5/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1361)

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

As of possible additional interest to the Bureau, two copies each of the following newspaper items are being submitted herewith:

1. Item appearing in Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 9/28/56, captioned "COLLINS REJECTS CIVIL RIGHTS PROBE REQUEST."
2. Item appearing in Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 9/29/56, captioned "JUDGE REFUSES ORDER TO HALT CAR POOL CASE."
3. Item appearing in Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 9/30/56, captioned "NICC LEADER 'LOST INTEREST' IN HIS RECORDS."

2 - Bureau (Encl. 6) (100-135 Sub 61)

1 - Mobile (100-1361)

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(3)

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ENCLOSURE

77

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/2/83

BY

*[Signature]*

*1cc to Sampkins on 3/2/83*  
*by 0-6*  
*10-15-52*  
*[Redacted]*  
7c

28 OCT 9 1956

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*205*

# Collins Rejects Civil Rights Probe Request

Gov. LeRoy Collins today turned down a request by a leader of the Tallahassee bus boycott that he order an investigation of alleged violation of Negroes' civil rights here.

Collins said in a telegram to the Rev. C. K. Steele that the issues involved were questions of law and that the court was the proper forum in which such should be settled.

Steele, president of the Negro Inter-Civic Council, protested in a telegram to Collins that a number of Negro citizens were being subjected "to various types of prosecution by the City."

Steele said his group had been unable to learn of any white citizens having been subjected to such prosecutions.

"We are thus led to the conclusion that these prosecutions stem mainly from the refusal of Negro citizens to continue to ride the privately owned bus system under the present intolerable conditions," he said.

#### 'ALLEGED FAILURE'

Collins replied that "the only prosecutions I know anything about are pending in the courts based upon the alleged failure of car pool operators to obtain the proper license to carry on a business of this kind."

The Governor added that so far as he knew "no one questions the right of our Negro citizens to ride the buses or not as they may wish. Certainly I do not."

Yesterday, Steele had made the same complaint in another telegram directed to the Governor, to Tallahassee Mayor John Y. Humphreys and to Tallahassee Police Chief Frank Soutamire.

Steele said if he didn't get action toward an investigation on the State level he would appeal to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the White House.

In other actions, a conference with Circuit Judge Hugh M. Taylor was scheduled for 4:30 p.m. today at the request of the Inter-Civic Council.

The council obtained a court of order requiring City Auditor

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY SP3 CLK/gcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 9/28/56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

je

ENCLOSURE

From Page 1

## Collins Rejects Probe Request

George White to bring before Judge Taylor the original record books containing city ordinances and amendments to them.

The Inter-Civic Council obtained a court order requiring City Auditor George White to bring before Judge Taylor the original record books containing city ordinances and amendments to them.

Earlier yesterday the Inter-Civic Council turned over to City Court its records after a subpoena ordering it was issued by City Judge John A. Rudd.

Theris Lindsey, attorney for the Council, declined to say whether or not he would appeal Rudd's action before Judge Taylor today. Lindsey had challenged the legal right of the court to order the records but after a morning hearing two armloads of the records were turned over to the Court yesterday afternoon.

Stoutamire denied any civil rights violation and said those questioned were mostly witnesses to recent arrests of car-pool drivers. He said they came to the station voluntarily at his request, some in their own cars and some were transported in police cars. "We're bringing in witnesses and questioning them like in any other case," Stoutamire said.

The City subpoenas were issued in connection with a case involving Dan Speed, who has been charged with a for hire tag violation. Speed's case and 10 others are scheduled for trial Oct. 4.

Other cases also include two against Steele and one against Rev. K. S. Dupont, vice-president of the Council.

## Judge Refuses Order To Halt Car Pool Case

An attorney for the Negro Inter-Civic Council failed yesterday in an effort to get a Circuit Court order prohibiting trial of car pool cases Oct. 4.

Judge Hugh Taylor denied a petition filed by Theries Lindsey, the attorney, following a hearing.

Lindsey contended that the city ordinance under which 11 car pool drivers have been arrested was improperly adopted and therefore illegal. The drivers were charged with operating vehicles for transportation of passengers without "for hire" tags.

Judge Taylor remarked that the charge against Dan Speed, one of the drivers, might be improperly drawn but that was a matter to be taken up at the trial.

The Council has been sponsoring operation of the car pool during a bus boycott.

Meantime, Council President C. K. Steele said he was considering appealing to President Eisenhower and the FBI for an investigation of alleged civil rights violations during the boycott.

Steele had called upon Gov. Collins to investigate what he described as "various types of prosecutions" by city police but Collins rejected the request.

The governor said the only prosecutions he knew anything about were those dealing with arrests of car pool operators. He said these were questions of law and the court was the proper forum in which they should be settled.

Steele earlier had said that a number of Negro citizens had been taken from their homes to the police department for questioning. Among other things he said they were asked whether they planned to ride the city buses.

Police Chief Frank Stoutamire said several Negro witnesses had been queried about the car pool cases but denied there had been any intimidation.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83

BY *sp3cl/kjcl*

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Date 9-29-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

ENCLOSURE

# NICC Leader 'Lost Interest' In His Records

By DON MEIKLEJOHN  
Democrat Staff Writer

The secretary of the Negro Inter Civic Council testified yesterday in City Court that he lost interest in keeping records after an interim legislative committee was named to investigate the NAACP.

Dr. M. C. Williams, secretary for the organization, was testifying in connection with a new subpoena served on the officers of the Inter Civic Council to produce additional records of the organization yesterday.

The City asked for the Council's records for use in preparing 11 cases charging Negro car pool drivers with violating provisions of the State for hire law. The cases are set next Thursday.

The state law says that cars being used in public transportation must be registered and have special licenses. Arrests of car pool drivers were based on a ruling of Attorney General Richard W. Ervin that operations such as the Negro car pool here required for hire tags.

Inter Civic Council officers turned over two bundles of records Thursday afternoon. After examination, City Solicitor E. (Continued on Page 8, Col. 4)

# NICC Leader

From Page 1

ward J. Hill and Mark R. Hawes, special assistant, said they felt the records were incomplete.

Specifically requested in the subpoena yesterday were lists of cars used in the car pool, list of drivers, a card file showing the names of riders, list of contributors to the Inter Civic Council and the amounts of contributions.

With the exception of a bank book, and blank cards, no new records were produced. These were furnished by the Rev. C. K. Steele, Inter Civic Council president, after he was asked to go to the Council office and "conduct a diligent search" for such records after the hearing was underway.

Dr. Williams testified he had no knowledge of additional records and added "After an interim legislative committee was appointed to investigate the NAACP, it did not matter to me personally whether the records were in order or not."

He said he turned all his records over to Theries Lindsey, attorney for the Inter Civic Council, "the next Monday."

Judge John A. Rudd asked Williams, "Do I understand that after you became aware of the legislative committee's purpose, you felt it would be best to cease keeping the records or destroy them?"

### PERSONAL FEELING

"That was my personal feel-

ing," Dr. Williams said.

Rudd asked, "In other words you didn't want to get involved in the investigation."

"Yes, I'm sorry I'm so involved today," Williams answered.

In answer to specific questions about minutes of Inter Civic Council meetings where the amount collected was left blank, Williams said they quit making financial reports at the meetings.

"Everything that went on at the meeting was being brought down here," Williams said.

Rudd asked for clarification on the word "here," saying the City Court had not received any reports on Council meetings.

### NO VOUCHERS SEEN

When asked if he saw any vouchers before signing checks for the organization, Williams said he personally did not see any vouchers. He said he signed blank checks and turned them over to other officers because he was "busy being a full-time dentist."

Dan Speed, transportation chairman, said he had no records of cars and drivers.

Questioned about three cards found in the original records turned over to the Court, Speed said they had been drawn up to get information about where the riders worked, the time they needed rides, and other pertinent information.

He said he discarded the idea after finding out it would not work and no such records were ever kept.

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 9-30-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY [signature]

ENCLOSURE

Questioned about a statement in a news-letter circulated by the Council that said the number of cars registered with the car pool had increased from 63 to 73, Speed said the cars were not actually registered. "That's just the number of volunteers that helped me during the week," he said.

The Rev. J. Metz Rollins Jr., treasurer, said he had no detailed records showing who contributed to the Council or the amounts. Asked if he would bring in this month's cancelled checks when they were received, the Rev. Rollins said he would.

The Rev. K. S. Dupont, vice-president, testified he had no additional records, as did Eddie Barrington, one of the original signers of the Inter Civic Council's charter.

#### DILIGENT SEARCH

After questioning all the witnesses, Judge Rudd asked the Rev. Steele to go to the Council's offices, and make a diligent search to see if any pertinent records might be there.

Steele returned with the bank book and a stack of blank cards—similar to the ones Speed said were never put into use.

After Steele returned with the bank book and cards, Hawes asked if he knew of any other records in "existence anywhere under the sun except for those brought into court."

Steele said, "Not that I know of."

Also asked if any of the records had been destroyed, Steele said no.

Asked if there were any Inter Civic Council funds in the hands of individuals or other places other than a bank account at the Capital City National Bank, Steele said he would rather not answer the question.

#### OTHERS RELEASED

Judge Rudd released all officers except Steele from the subpoena. On Steele, he continued the subpoena to bring in all Inter Civic Council records until 9 a.m. Monday.

Judge Rudd asked Steele to make a diligent effort to remember if there were any further records and to confer with other officers during that time.

As a sidelight to the hearing, Lindsey asked that he be furnished with a list of witnesses the City expected to call in trials of persons arrested for violations of State fire regulations.

Rudd asked Lindsey to put the motion in writing.

He said he was not being arbitrary, but Lindsey had indicated he would appeal the ruling. Under the circumstances, Rudd said he felt it would be best to have the motion in writing.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/10/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile

RACON

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

For additional information of the Bureau, enclosed herewith are two copies of an item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 10/5/56, captioned "GARAGE OWNERS TELL OF MONEY FROM CAR POOL."

2 - Bureau (Encl. 2) (100-135 Sub 61)  
1 - Mobile (100-1361)

lo  
(3)

7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 dcl/hcl

100-135-61-234

ENCLOSURE

RECORDED-29 25 OCT 12 1956

INDEXED-29

EX-116  
rec'd Tompkins  
10/18/56

EX-116

60 OCT 22 1956

7c

INT. SEC.

## Garage Owners Tell Of Money From Car Pool

### Prosecutors Get Records In Inquiry

Seven service station and garage owners testified yesterday that they had received payments ranging from \$20 to more than \$100 a week for servicing Negro car pool cars during the last three months.

Records of the service stations were subpoenaed by City Prosecutors Edward J. Hill and Mark R. Hawes in their investigation of Negro car pool cases.

A total of 22 cases are scheduled to go to trial Oct. 17 for violations of City ordinances requiring persons operating vehicles for hire to register with the City.

Among those charged are nine members of the executive committee of the Inter Civic Council, and the Rev. C. K. Steele, as president of the organization.

Since old charges under the State law have been dropped, defendants in the new cases are scheduled to appear in City Court Monday to enter pleas in the cases.

Testifying yesterday were Thomas J. Hadley, John Payne, Shack Gardner, Cornelius Speed, Primous Harris, Adam Cromer, and Mathew Bryant.

#### CHECKS IDENTIFIED

All the men identified checks for payment from the Inter Civic Council. Several said Inter Civic Council representatives have switched to paying in cash in the last few weeks.

Hadley, who operates a service station at Pope and Brevard St., denied that his station was a "pick up" point for car pool riders although many congregated there.

He first said he didn't recall the names of car pool drivers who got gas at his station, but after names were read by

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

From Page 1

## Garage Owners Tell Of Money

Hawes, he said he remembered about five.

Hadley said he kept no record of purchase except a running total which he turned over without any other notations for payment.

If a person came into his station and said he was "hauling people", Hadley said he put in \$2 worth of gas and was paid by the Rev. J. Metz Rollins Jr., treasurer of the Inter Civic Council.

Adam Cromer, who operates a garage, said he made repairs to cars owned by the Rev. Rollins and Dan Speed, transportation chairman, and was paid by Inter Civic Council checks. Both were brake repairs.

Speed's bill totaled \$25.25 and the Rev. Rollins' repair bill was \$39.40.

He said he had no written record of the repair bills.

Cornelius Speed, operator of the Gulf Quick Service Station, 1519 S. Adams, identified 13 checks for payment from the Inter Civic Council, and said he had been paid last week by a personal check made out to the Rev. C. K. Steele from the Bethel Baptist Church.

#### 'I HAVE TO LIVE'

Asked to identify drivers, he said, "I have to live with these people and they might try to kill me—not physically, but financially."

At first gas was given to only those who brought in slips, but several weeks ago he was advised to give gas to those requesting it without a slip.

Bryant appeared voluntarily, and identified 11 checks from the Civic Council he had received for servicing cars.

He said he kept a record of cars he serviced during the last week, which is still in his possession, and said he would produce it.

Payne, who operates a Service station on the Bainbridge Road, said he had put gas in cars 22 times this week, but didn't keep a record of the names. He identified several drivers when their names were mentioned, and also 12 checks he had received from the Inter Civic Council.

Harris, a garage operator, said he had done work on several cars and received payment from the Inter Civic Council. He said he could not remember the names, but said he would check the record and return to court.

Gardner, also a service station operator, also identified checks he had received from the Council in payment for gasoline

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 clg/gcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Date 10-5-56

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Hofile 100-1361

JBH

ENCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/11/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 clj/gcl

For additional information of the Bureau, attached hereto are two copies of a newspaper item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 10/9/56, captioned "COUNCIL FILES MOTION IN CASE."

- 2 - Bureau (Encl. 2) (100-135 Sub 61)
- 1 - Mobile (100-1361)

7c

1cc to Sampkins  
10-12-56

RECORDED - 10 13-11-235

INDEXED - 10

20 OCT 15 1956

2 ENCLOSURES

7c  
118  
2 OCT 19 1956

*[Handwritten signature]*

## Council Files Motion In Case

A move to throw out charges against the Inter Civic Council and 21 of its officers for providing transportation to Negroes boycotting Tallahassee buses was filed yesterday in City Court.

City Judge John A. Rudd has set a hearing on the motion to quash the charges Wednesday.

The cases, which are scheduled for trial Oct. 17, charge the Inter Civic Council and members with violating City ordinances which require City licensing for public transportation systems.

The motion to dismiss the charge was filed by Theries Lindsey, attorney for the Council, and Francisco A. Rodrigues, Tampa lawyer assigned to the cases by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

### SAID INCIDENTAL

A memorandum filed in support of the dismissal motion said the car pool is not a business, subject to City licensing and regulation, but is "entirely incidental to the main purpose of picketing or boycotting the transit system and advertising the grievance of Negro citizens against the City of Tallahassee and the bus company for their continued insistence upon requiring enforced racial segregation for the riding public."

It said, "The protest, although referred to as a boycott, represents a concerted expression against legislative racial classification" and is the "same as peaceful picketing, the exercise of free speech."

The memorandum contended the Negroes boycotting the buses and those active in the car pool are being denied rights of equal protection of the law and free speech guaranteed by the federal constitution.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 clj/gcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Date 10-9-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

~~55 OCT 19 1956~~

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-235

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-135-61)

DATE: 10/8/56

FROM : SAC, MOBILE (100-1342)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

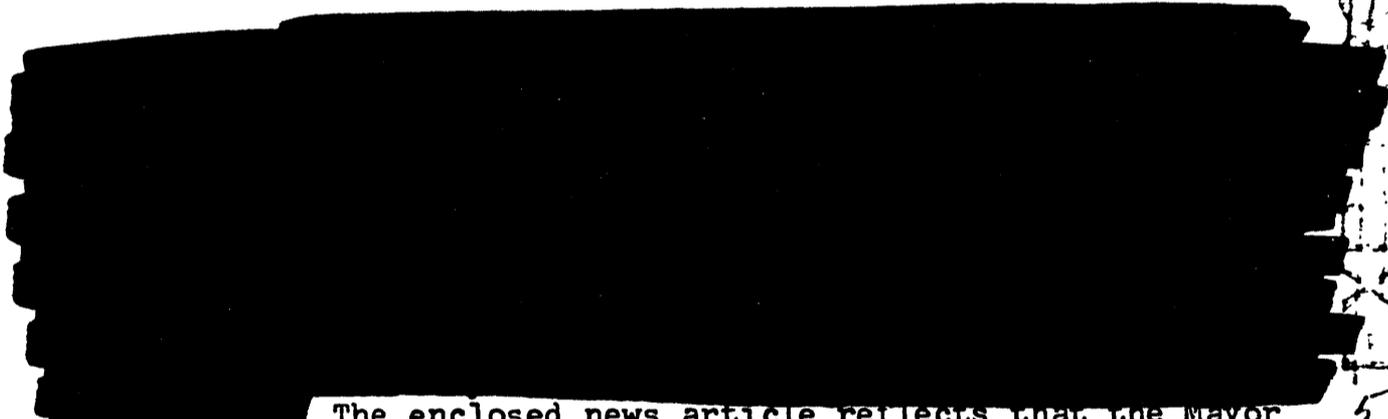
DATE 3/30/83

BY [signature]

Re Mobile memo to Bureau 9/25/56.

TRAINING OFFICER

Enclosed herewith to the Bureau are 2 copies of a clipping from the Mobile Press, daily newspaper published at Mobile, Ala., dated 10/5/56, entitled FULL PROBE STARTED INTO CROSS BURNING. This article reflects that a cross was burned the night of 10/4/56, in the driveway of a house located at 328 Cedar Dr. in Hartwell Place sub-division, Mobile. This article reflects that the house was purchased on 9/1/56, by GRADY STALLWORTH and wife, GRACE STALLWORTH. Hartwell Place sub-division is all white and this address is the first house to be purchased by Negroes in that development; however, Negroes began moving onto Cassidy St., located just east of Hartwell Place, several months ago. This article reflects that E. C. BARNARD, a Klan official, refused to say whether the Klan had anything to do with the cross burning, but commented, "maybe we have some help".



The enclosed news article reflects that the Mayor of Mobile, in discussing the complaint made by EFFIE STALLWORTH, stated that the city would provide protection where necessary for all citizens on a fair and equal basis.

(2) - Bureau (100-135-61) (Encls. 2 - REGISTERED) 100-135-61-236  
2 - Mobile (100-1342)  
(105-17)

Amd

ENCLOSURE

RECORDED-42

INDEXED-42

25 OCT 11 1956

EX-116

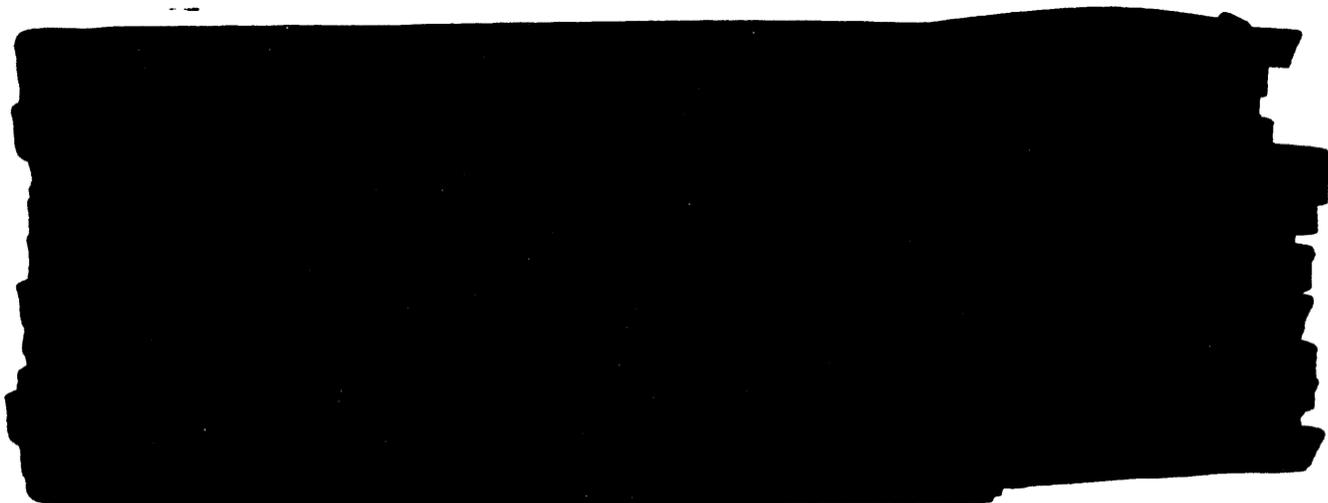
7C  
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100-135-61-236  
10-15-56

[Redacted stamp]

MO 100-1342

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7D



This office is making no investigation relative to the burning of the cross, but will report this information in the appropriate Klan file.



THE MOBILE PRESS

MOBILE, ALA.

10/5/56

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mofile: 100-1342

—Mobile Press Photo  
**FIERY SYMBOL FLICKERS BEFORE VACANT HOUSE**  
... crude cross blazes in front of 328 Cedar Dr., Touminville.

**Symbol Blazes In Front Of House Purchased By Negro**

# **Full Probe Started Into Cross Burning**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

DATE 3/30/83 BY [signature] 100-135-41-236

ENCLOSURE

## Toulminville Residence Is Near Homes Occupied By White Persons; Family Calls On Mayor.

A full-fledged police investigation was underway today after a six-foot cross was burned last night in the driveway of a home recently purchased by a Negro family in the Toulminville area of Mobile.

The cross was set afire in the driveway of a house at 328 Cedar Dr. in an area where white and Negro residential sections meet, and a check revealed this morning that the home, formerly occupied by a white family, had been recently purchased by Negroes.

At City Hall, Mayor Henry R. Luscher, who is the city's commissioner of public safety, conferred with Police Chief Dudley

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 4)

## CROSS-BURNING

(Continued From Page One)

E. McFadyen and said that a "thorough investigation" of the incident is being made and that "every effort will be made to determine who is responsible."

The mayor said the owner of the property where the cross was burned, whom he identified as Grace Stallworth, a Negro, called at his office this morning and inquired as to "what protection she and her family could expect" from the city in view of the cross-burning.

### EQUAL PROTECTION

Luscher reiterated an earlier statement that the city will continue to provide police protection where necessary for "all citizens on a fair and equal basis."

Two weeks ago, the Commission issued orders to the Police Department to "enforce and invoke" a series of existing ordinances which the Commission contends makes cross-burning unlawful anywhere in the city or its police jurisdiction.

Last night's incident was the first cross-burning to be reported since that new enforcement policy became effective.

The Cedar Drive home where the cross-burning occurred is situated in the Hartwell Place subdivision.

Residents and former residents of the subdivision told newsmen today the house at 328 Cedar Dr. is the first home in the section to be purchased by Negroes. They said, however, that Negroes began moving onto Cassidy Street, located just to the east of Hartwell Place, several months ago.

Representatives of Little Realty Co. told newsmen the home at 328 Cedar Dr. was purchased Sept. 1 by Grady Stallworth, a Negro and husband of Grace Stallworth, who made the call on Mayor Luscher this morning.

The home was formerly occupied by a white person, Cleveland Fail, and his family.

### LISTED PROPERTY

Mrs. Fail said today she and her husband attempted for some time to sell the property to white people, but were unable to do so. Then she said the property was listed with the Little Realty Co. about two months ago and the property was subsequently sold "for our equity in it."

The Fail family had resided there two years.

"I hated to sell to colored people," Mrs. Fail said, "but I had to think of my children when they started moving in around us."

She said that before her family moved away two months ago there were "several incidents" in which Negro and white children fought each other near her home.

"I was afraid there would be trouble," Mrs. Fail said. "I stay by myself a lot at night, so we just decided to move."

A reporter who visited the scene of the cross-burning this morning was told by Grace Stallworth, who said she owned the property, that "we haven't moved in yet. We are fixing it up."

Grady Stallworth, the purchaser of the house, is a laborer at Brookley Air Force Base.

Records in Mobile Probate Court showed that Stallworth assumed an unpaid balance of \$8,478.98 on the home, and paid \$1,500 in cash as a down payment. This made a total purchase price of \$9,978.98.

#### RECORDS LIST

Other records show that a building permit was issued last Sept. 14 to Grady Stallworth and wife, then residing at 256 Kennedy St., for a \$400 repair job on the house at 328 Cedar Dr.

The burning cross was reported about 11.30 p.m., and Fire Co. 14 went to the scene and extinguished it. Det. Charlie Nall, with Patrolmen John Robertson and Morgan Emerson, began an investigation.

The incident occurred three-quarters of a mile from the home of Booker T. Gulley, Negro, whose house was damaged by fire Sept. 26. The house is in a white neighborhood, and police have been investigating for signs of arson.

E. C. Barnard, a Ku Klux Klan official, refused to say whether the Klan had anything to do with last night's incident, but commented that "maybe we have some help."

The wooden cross, wrapped in burlap, was jammed into the ground in the driveway of the vacant house on Cedar Drive. It was almost destroyed by the flames, and police left it at the scene.

A neighbor, who refused to be identified, said that just before she saw the burning cross she spotted a car with eight or ten persons speeding down the street with its horn blowing.

A recent cross-burning was at the home of Mrs. Dorothy Daponte, who requested the Mobile County School Board to admit her Negro "foster daughter" to a white school.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 9/25/56

li FROM : SAC, Mobile

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 clc/gcl  
RACON

Reference is made to my letter to the Bureau 9/18/56 referring to previous communications pertaining to the burning of a cross on the night of 9/17/56 at the home of DOROTHY D. DaPONTE.

For additional information of the Bureau, I am attaching hereto two copies of a newspaper item appearing in the Mobile Press 9/25/56 captioned "KLAN SILENT ABOUT 2ND CROSS BURNING," which sets forth information relative to the burning of a cross on the night of 9/24/56 in the front yard of the residence of MILDRED J. LAURENDINE at 1406 N. Cloverleaf Circle, Mobile.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ENCLOSURE  
2 - Bureau (Encl. 2)  
3 - Mobile (100-1342, [REDACTED] 105-17)

7C  
OCT 19 1956

100-135-61  
NOT RECORDED  
140 OCT 15 1956

Director, FBI

9/25/56

RECIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This office is making no investigation relative to the burning of the cross in front of the residence of Miss LAURENDINE. However, information relative to the burning of this cross will be properly reported in the appropriate Klan file pertaining to Klan activities in the State of Alabama.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/11/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY [signature]

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

As of possible interest to the Bureau, I am attaching hereto one item and a photostatic copy of same which appeared in The Mobile Press, Mobile, Alabama, 10/9/56, captioned "AREA RESIDENTS UNITE TO KEEP SECTION WHITE."

- 2 - Bureau (Encl. 2) (100-135-61)
- 1 - Mobile (100-1342)
- lo
- (3)

7c

*cc genc to Tompkins  
by O. G.  
10/11/56*

RECORDED-9 10/11/56 61-257

INDEXED-9

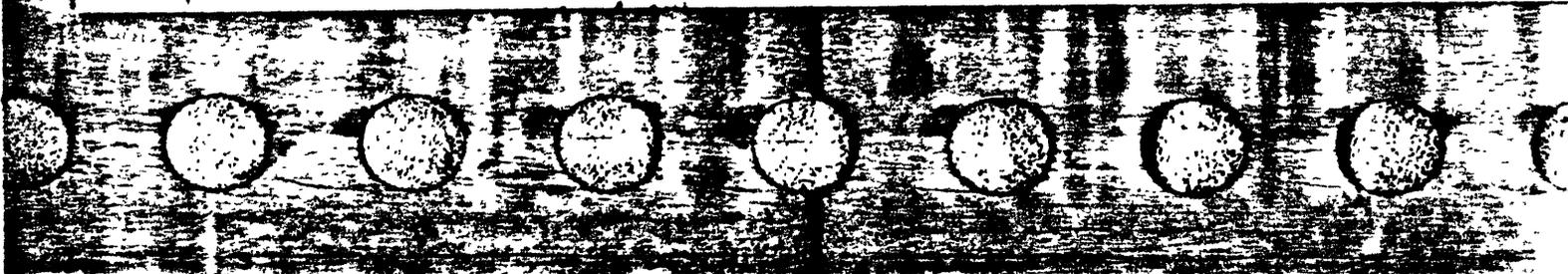
20 OCT 15 1956

EX-117

INT

2 ENCLOSURES

71 OCT 10 1956



## AREA RESIDENTS UNITE TO KEEP SECTION WHITE

### Owners Of Property In Toulminville Section To Protect Values

Formation of an organization to resist any efforts to change an area of Toulminville from a white to a Negro residential section was announced today.

The president of the group, J. W. Eberlein, said the organization is known as the Toulminville Property Owners Assn. and was formed two weeks ago. It now has approximately 60 members and others invited to become members, he said.

Eberlein said the association represents a "vast majority" of the property owners of Hartwell Place and "certainly a large representative number of the homeowners" on Oak Drive Court, Stone Street, St. Stephens Road, Richland Place "and other surrounding neighborhoods."

The area mentioned by Eberlein includes a home at 328 Cedar Dr. in Hartwell Place, where a cross was burned last week. The home, formerly occupied by a white family, was sold to a Negro family on Sept. 1.

Three-quarters of a mile away, the home of a Negro, Booker T. Gulley, was peppered with bullets and then damaged by fire two weeks later. The home is in a white neighborhood, and police have been investigating the incident for possible detection of arson.

In a letter to the Mobile Real Estate Assn., Eberlein emphasized that his organization "will use all conceivable legal and

(Continued on Page 6, Col 6)

(Continued From Page One)

peaceful means at our command in united resistance against the efforts of any party or parties to change this community from a white to a Negro residential area."

He called upon the association to inform all its members of this stand.

"This association," Eberlein asserted, "was organized for the purpose of maintaining and protecting the property value of the individual homeowners and public property of this community. We are banded together in this endeavor."

#### CLEARANCE AREA

Eberlein said his group recognizes the fact that some housing provisions "must be made for the Negroes being moved out of the 18-block area in the Beauregard-Broad Street area, but certainly not at the expense of the white residents of Toulminville."

The area he mentioned is that earmarked for a vast urban redevelopment and slum clearance project. The Mobile Housing Board is planning to build a 407-unit low-rent housing project not too far from the area to be razed as a means of relocating Negro families who will be displaced.

Eberlein said his association contends the responsibility for relocating displaced families "lies with you (the real estate association) and the Mobile Housing Board, and that housing facilities should and must be arranged prior to commencing to dismantle those properties rather than moving them out with no place to go as is apparently the case."

Eberlein added:

"We also recognize the fact that some unknown influence is being exerted, favoring the migration of Negroes toward the Toulminville area to relieve any existing possibility of Negroes moving into the more expensive western residential section of the city."

Eberlein said that Toulminville is a "prosperous community" and added that "we do not intend to give up these properties, both private and public, at any cost."

"It is a fact that it would cost every homeowner from five to 10 thousand dollars to move and it is not our intention to bear such undue and unjust expense. We like our community, its facilities and its convenience and are determined to maintain it a white community."

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY [signature]

THE MOBILE PRESS-FINAL  
MOBILE, ALABAMA  
OCTOBER 9, 1956  
PAGE 1-A

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

MOfile: 100-1342  
BUfile: 100-135-61

100-135-61-237

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/9/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

*RA 11*

As of additional interest to the Bureau, two copies each of the following newspaper items are being transmitted herewith:

1. Item appearing in Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 10/3/56, entitled "CITY APPROVES \$4,000 FEE FOR ATTORNEY."
2. Item appearing in Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 10/4/56, entitled "FOR-HIRE CASES TAKE NEW TURN; NICC ACCUSED."

2 - Bureau (Encl. 4) (100-135 Sub 61)  
1 - Mobile (100-1361)  
lo

**7c**

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY p3 cdc/yc RECORDED - 55 INDEXED - 55

100-135-61-238

29 OCT 17 1956

*1cc sent to Memphis  
10-15-56*

*Baumgardner*

60 OCT 22 1956

**7c**

## City Approves \$4,000 Fee For Attorney

City Commissioners today officially approved the hiring of Mark R. Hawes, Tampa, as a special prosecutor in 11 car pool driver cases scheduled to go to trial at 9 a.m. tomorrow in City Court.

Hawes, who was in Tallahassee last week aiding in the preparation of the cases, will receive a fee of \$4,000. The fee would cover appeals.

Before taking the final action, the Commission asked City Solicitor Edward J. Hill to present the problems involved.

### FULL TIME NEEDED

Hill said the scope of the case, which will have significance in other cities, requires someone who can devote full-time to the prosecutions.

He said the significance of the case in his opinion is to decide whether any private group can operate a transportation system without control of governmental agencies and did not involve race questions.

Commenting on the case, Commissioners said they felt the expenditure was justified since an adverse court ruling could result in a breakdown of regulations governing taxis and other laws such as the electrical codes.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5/30/83 BY sp3cic/gcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 10-3-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

100-135-61-258  
ENCLOSURE

## For-Hire Cases Take New Turn; NICC Accused

### More Charges; Added Records Subpoenaed

Negro car pool cases took a new twist today with 10 additional charges made and subpoenas issued for the records of six service station or garage operators which have allegedly done business with car pool drivers.

For the first time, charges of operating an illegal transportation system were also filed against the Negro Inter Civic Council.

The new charges against the 10 were based on violations of City ordinances instead of State law. Other arrests have been or will be made in 11 other cases which were scheduled to go to trial today.

Today's scheduled trials have been postponed again however and reset for Oct. 17. As it stands, the number of cases has been increased to 22—including the case against the Inter Civic Council which was made against the Rev. C. K. Steele as president.

#### THOSE SUMMONED

The six service station or garage operators who were ordered to bring their records into court today were Thomas Hadley, Cornelius Speed, Adam Somer, Primous Harris, John Payne and Mack Gardner.

City Judge John Rudd ordered the men to bring in any records relating to business that had been done with the Inter Civic Council.

Thomas Hadley, the first to appear in court, at first said he had no such records but when asked directly he admitted he had sold gas to some of the defendants in the car pool cases. He named some of the defendants and identified 12 checks which were allegedly used for gas payments.

#### 'TRY TO KILL ME'

Cornelius Speed, when asked to identify car pool drivers with whom he had done business, told (Continued on Page 8, Col. 3)

From Page 1

## For-Hire Cases Take New Turn

the court: "I have to live with these people and they might try to kill me—not physically but financially."

Judge Rudd said "I hope the defendants will not take physical or economic revenge on you."

Speed identified 13 checks as those with which he had been paid and also brought in six more tickets received at his service station since Monday.

The others whose records were subpoenaed were being questioned this afternoon.

The new charges made today were the first to include the Inter Civic Council as a violator.

#### COUNCIL INCLUDED

The new charges are the first to include the Inter Civic Council as a violator.

Other new arrests include the Rev. J. Metz Rollins Jr., 30, 2023 S Boulevard St., treasurer of the Inter Civic Council; Dr. M. C. Williams, 36, 1208 Abraham St., treasurer; Dr. James Hudson, 53, 712 Gamble St., chaplain, Riley Hayward, 44, 905 W. Dover St.; Robert Paul McGee, 20, 811 Floral St.; Eddie Barrington Jr., 37, 1309 Coleman St.; John Cook, 49, 2220 Keith St., Mathew Adams, 67, 710 W. Georgia St.; Elbert W. Jones, 49, 1617 Hernando Dr., and Father David H. Brooks, 48, 2109 Owens St.

Among those arrested originally under State for hire laws, have been rearrested so far, are Dan B. Speed, 50, 801 Floral St., transportation chairman; Henry T. Smith, 44, 821 Liberty St.; Bessie Weatherford Irons, 29, 2110 S. Broad St.; Edward Daryl Irons, 33, 2110 South Broad St.; Ralph Gilmore Coleman, Apt. 707 Polkinghorn Village, and the Rev. Steele.

Police said they hold warrants for the rearrest of others originally charged under the State law, and these will be served.

All were released on \$100 bonds and are to appear in City Court next Monday to enter pleas in the new cases.

The new arrests were based on warrants signed by Detective-Sgt. R. J. Strickland, who has been conducting the City's investigation of the car pool cases.

The warrants charged Steele, as president of the Inter Civic Council, and others with operating cars for hire within the City without obtaining a license from the City.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3cu/gcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 10-4-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

FILE NO.

100-155-61-238

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/12/56

✓ FROM : SAC, Mobile  
SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3clj/gcl

For information of the Bureau attached are two copies of item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 10/10/56, captioned "JUDGE REFUSES TO THROW OUT NICC CHARGES."

ENCLOSURE

2 - Bureau (Encl. 2) (100-135 Sub 61)

1 - Mobile (100-1361)

lo  
(3)

7c

EX-108

RECORDED - 12

135-61-239

OCT 19 1956

*1cc to Jumper  
10-17-56*

EX-108

OCT 23 1956

471

FROM

7c

7c

62

# Judge Refuses To Throw Out NICC Charges

## Says Mixing Is Not Issue

City Judge John A. Rudd today denied a motion to throw out charges against car pool drivers and Negro Inter Civic Council officers.

The motion was denied after brief arguments by Theries Lindsey and Francisco A. Rodrigues, attorneys for the Inter Civic Council, and Mark R. Hawes, special prosecutor for the City.

Rudd denied the motion after stating he had studied the briefs submitted by Lindsey and Rodrigues and could not connect the cases and arguments cited with those being tried in City Court.

He said "integration and segregation has nothing to do with it."

Rudd said when the cases go to trial Oct. 17, he intends to restrict arguments to whether the car pool is legal or illegal—and not open the cases up to segregation or integration arguments.

He suggested attorneys prepare arguments on that basis.

### ASSUMED ILLEGAL

Rudd said the arguments as presented by the Inter Civic Council assume the State and City transportation laws are illegal and unconstitutional.

With that assumption, Rudd said the defendants argue that they can operate a transportation system as a protest against these laws.

Drawing an analogy, Rudd said, "Let's assume for the pur-

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

From Page 1

# Judge Refuses To Throw Out

pose of this discussion that the car pool is illegal, and people who are against integration of the buses go out and shoot the leaders of the car pool."

He said by using the same logic as the defendants, these people could claim they were protesting against an illegal operation.

In arguments by Lindsey, he summed up arguments presented in briefs supporting the motion to quash charges against the car pool operators.

These arguments were that the defendants were not operating the car pool as a business, subject to city licensing and regulation, but as a protest against laws requiring racial segregation.

### RIGHTS DENIAL SEEN

He contended the Negroes boycotting the buses and those active in the car pool are being denied rights of equal protection of the law and free speech guaranteed by the federal constitution.

Hawes said in his opinion the motion filed by the defendants had no legal basis.

"I do not desire these defendants or any defendant to be tried in the press, but apparently they are determined to try themselves there," he said.

Hawes said it looked as if the defendants were using the Court "almost as a soap box for NAACP propaganda."

He said race questions were not involved and the color of the defendants' skin would make no difference.

He said the "sole question is whether any group can operate a for-hire motor pool without legal authority."

Rodrigues said he felt the memorandum cited ample authority.

He said although the question of the legality of the car pool is involved, it goes beyond that question—to a question of whether the defendants have the right to protest the abridgment of certain rights.

Rodrigues said he wanted to "take violent issue" with Hawes' statement that the defendants' arguments were for propaganda purposes instead of based on legal authority.

He said ample legal authority had been cited, and to label it propaganda is a slap at the legal system of the United States.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3dc/gcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 10-10-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

JBH

100-135-61-237  
ENCLOSURE

FBI

Date: 10/16/56

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. [unclear]	
Mr. [unclear]	
Mr. [unclear]	

Transmit the following message via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, MOBILE

To: DIRECTOR, FBI

BURNING OF CROSS AT 4:45 A.M.,  
10/14/56, TYNDALL AFB, FLA.  
IS - X

RAACIN

Remyairtel, 9/28/56, entitled BURNING OF CROSS AT  
2:20 A.M., 9/28/56, TYNDALL AFB, FLA., IS-X."

OSI, Tyndall AFB, Fla., advises 10/15/56, that at  
4:45 a.m., 10/14/56, a wooden cross of boards measuring  
3/4" x 1 3/4" x 33" tied together with a piece of cloth and  
tied to a fence at back of baseball field approximately 6'  
above ground, was found by Officer in Charge of Quarters.  
Wood barely charred and not believed inflammable material  
on this cross which was found approximately 100 yds. from where  
cross found in referenced airtel. OSI found heel print on  
ground by cross and has suspect who is an airman assigned  
to Tyndall AFB and OSI presently of opinion both cross  
burnings in nature of a prank.

OSI conducting investigation. No action being  
taken by this office UACB.

HALLFORD

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Mobile (105-63, 105-0)
- bls (5)

Mr. Rosen

100-135-61-240

7c

RECORDED-95  
EX-117

OCT 18 1956

F13  
OCT 25 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY [signature]

Approved: [signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

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

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/19/56

FROM : SAG, Mobile

*RACON*

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

As of additional interest to the Bureau, attached hereto are two copies each of the following newspaper items:

1. Item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 10/15/56, captioned "NEGROES FILE SUIT TO HALT COURT ACTION."
2. Item appearing in the same newspaper 10/16/56 captioned "RESTRAINING ORDER REFUSED IN AUTO POOL."

2 - Bureau (Encl. 4) (100-135 Sub 61)

1 - Mobile (100-1361)

lo  
(3)

*7c*

*EX-110*

4 ENCLOSURE

EX-110

*rec'd and to Memphis  
10/23/56  
[redacted]*

EX-110

*7c*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE *3/30/83* BY *SP306/9cl*

RECORDED - 71

INDEXED - 71

100-135-11-9

OCT 23 1956

[redacted]

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50 OCT 30 1956

## Negroes File Suit To Halt Court Action

The Negro Inter-Civic Council today asked for a Federal Court order restraining the City of Tallahassee from trying cases growing out of arrests of car pool operators here.

A total of 22 cases—including one against the Rev. C. B. Steele as president of the Inter-Civic Council—are scheduled to go to trial Wednesday in City Court.

The petition for temporary injunction filed with Clerk Myra Sims this morning also asked that the Tallahassee Police Department be restrained from making further arrests in connection with car-pool operations.

The petition names respondents as Mayor John Y. Humphress, Police Chief Frank Stoutamire, City Solicitor Edward J. Hill, Assistant City Solicitor Mark R. Hawes and Municipal Judge John A. Rudd.

The petition was entered in the names of the Rev. Steele, Dr. M. C. Williams and the Rev. J. Metz Hollins, officers and members "on behalf of themselves and all others similarly involved."

It alleges that "harm and damage to petitioners" will result in trial of cases in City Court.

It asks that the temporary restraining order be made permanent on final hearing.

The petition explains in detail events leading up to car  
(Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

From Page 1

## Negroes File Suit Vs. City

pool arrests, going back to the arrest of two Florida A&M coeds last May 16 on charges based on their failure to move to the rear of a city bus.

The arrests led to a boycott of the bus line and later to formation of the Inter-Civic Council and the Negro car-pool which has organized to transport boycotters.

U.S. District Judge Dozier A. DeVane set a hearing on the petition at 2 p.m. today.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY 723clg/cl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 10-15-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

ENCLOSURE

# Restraining Order Refused In Auto Pool

## Ruling Is On Jurisdiction

U. S. District Judge Dozier A. DeVane yesterday refused to grant a temporary order restraining the City from prosecuting 22 car pool cases tomorrow.

Based on Supreme Court rulings in similar cases, Judge DeVane said the federal court had no jurisdiction.

He said the decisions had explicitly stated the federal court had no right to enjoin City and State courts from prosecuting cases.

"I have no right to tell Judge Rudd he can not try these cases," he said.

### ON JURISDICTION

The ruling was based on jurisdiction, and not on constitutional questions raised by Theries Lindsey, attorney for the Negro Inter Civil Council.

Lindsey said City prosecution of the cases would do "harm and damage" to defendants in the cases by denying them civil rights.

Mark R. Hawes, special City prosecutor, asked if Judge DeVane would accept a verbal motion to dismiss the petition, but Judge DeVane said the motion would have to be filed in writing.

Hawes said he was undecided whether to reduce the motion to writing for the formal court records immediately. If he did, Lindsey could take an appeal to higher U. S. Courts before completion of pending litigations here.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 cef/5 cl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 10/16/56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

JEW

ENCLOSURE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

October 24, 1956

1 - Mr. [redacted]

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SAC, Mobile

[redacted]

INFORMATION CONCERNING

CLASS. & EXT. BY 2333 *[initials]*  
REASON FOR EXT. 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 10/24/86  
*[initials]*

Reurairtel October 18, 1956, captioned  
"Racial Situation, Montgomery, Alabama."

[redacted] (u)

[redacted] (u)

[redacted] (u)

HOOVER APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) *[initials]*  
DATE 9/12/82

(See memo Belmont to Boardman dated October 23, 1956,  
captioned same as above, *[redacted]* jet)

- 1 - Bufile 100-135-61 (Racial Situation, Montgomery, Alabama)
- 1 - L. V. Boardman
- 1 - A. H. Belmont
- 1 - [redacted]

DECLASSIFIED BY *[initials]*  
ON 3/30/83

*[redacted]* jet  
(8) jet

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DUPLICATE  
OCT 24 1956  
MAILED

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mason \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

4 OCT 31 1956

100-135-61 - V  
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

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

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
100-135-61-242

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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PHONE CALLS, LETTERS

## Housewives Get Threats To Stop 'Hauling' Maids

By BOB INGRAM

A sudden outbreak of anonymous telephone calls and letters have been reported in Montgomery in connection with the long boycott of buses by Negroes.

A large number of white housewives have received calls and letters urging that they cease their practice of driving Negro maids to and from work.

In several instances the callers have threatened physical violence

and used profanity in talking with the housewives.

The letters, which contain no threats, merely suggest that persons identified in the letter as having continued the practice of workers be called "day or night" and urged to cease the practice.

As a result, the housewives identified in the letters have received calls at all hours of the night. In most cases the caller has uttered but one sentence, then hung up:

"Isn't it about time you went to get your Nigger maid?"

The letters, which were received in several sections of south Montgomery last weekend, said in full:

"Dear Friend: Listed below are a few of the white people who are still hauling their Negro maids. This must be stopped. These people would appreciate a call from you, day or night. Let's let them know how we feel about them hauling Negroes."

The most recent letter received listed the names and telephone numbers of 11 Montgerians who were identified as hauling Negro maids. Included in this group were a number of prominent persons including a widely known eye, ear and nose specialist, the sales manager of one of the city's biggest firms, a South Montgomery school teacher and a well known engineer.

## Housewives

(Continued From Page 1)

All the persons called are in agreement that the callers have been white men.

Police Chief G. J. Ruppenthal confirmed yesterday he had received one report of such a call but that the report had come from a person who lived outside the city limits and thus out of his jurisdiction.

The same housewife who called Ruppenthal also indicated yesterday she intended to confer with local postal authorities to determine if the letter mailed out did not violate federal regulations.

Postmaster Charles Moore said yesterday he had received no reports of any threatening letters but promised that if such letters were being mailed he would see that a thorough investigation was made.

All 11 have since received a number of calls, most of them after midnight.

One of the housewives listed in this letter, who protested when aroused by a midnight call, was told "You ain't heard nothing yet unless you stop hauling your Negro maid."

Meanwhile, there have been reports of housewives being called and threatened with violence if they did not cease transporting their maids. In one instance the caller identified himself as "Joe X," and in several other instances the name of Johnny Rebel has been used.

Montgomery Advertiser

Montgomery, Alabama

Date 10-17-56

Page 1

Re: *RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.*

Bufile: 100-135-61

Mofile: 44-439

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3cd/gcl

EX-107 (REV. 1-25-60)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/22/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3clg/gcl

For information of Bureau, attached hereto are two copies of an item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 10/18/56, captioned "CITY ATTEMPTS TO ESTABLISH CAR POOL ANGLE."

Also enclosed for the Bureau are two copies of an item appearing in referenced paper 10/17/56 captioned "CAR POOL TRIAL OF 2 OR 3 DAYS NOW INDICATED." The Bureau and New York Office will note it is reported in this item that LYRA TANNER WEISS, who has identified herself as the Socialist Workers Party vice-presidential candidate, sat in on City Court car pool cases on 10/17/56. Copy of this newspaper item is being transmitted to New York Office for information.

- 2 - Bureau (Encl. 4) (100-135 Sub 61)
- 1 - New York (Encl. 1) (100-4013)
- 2 - Mobile (100-1361, 100-110)

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RECORDED-91 100-135-61-243

16 OCT 31 1956

EX-125

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1 file 29  
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[redacted]

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W. J. [unclear]

[unclear]

# City Attempts To Establish Car Pool Angle Financial Side Is Stressed; 21 On Trial

In a slow moving parade of witnesses today, the City attempted to prove commercial aspects of a Negro car pool operation as the trial of 21 Negroes and the Inter Civic Council went into its second day.

Mark R. Hawes, special City prosecutor, concentrated on indirect payments through contributions at mass meetings in trying to establish the commercial link to the car pool operation.

Det. Sgt. R. J. Strickland, principal City witness, said he had no knowledge of direct payments in money by car pool riders. He also said he had no information on salaries paid to drivers or persons operating the pool.

Hawes stipulated with the defense that Strickland had no knowledge of direct money payments to any of the defendants, and concentrated on testimony linking the car pool collections by the Inter Civic Council.

### 5 MORE WITNESSES

After recessing at noon until 1 p.m., about 35 City witnesses were still to be heard. Among them are service station operators, who have previously told the court they put gasoline in car pool cars, garage owners who made repairs to cars, and passengers in car pool cars who were questioned during the police investigation.

In cross examination, Francisco A. Rodrigues, attorney for the Inter Civic Council, stressed that no evidence had been submitted concerning direct payments by passengers or car pool cars or payments or salaries to the drivers or persons operating the pool.

Strickland completed his testimony today following a long appearance yesterday.

Strickland told of a conversation had with Mathew Adams, one of the defendants. He quoted Adams as saying the Rev. C. K. Steele, president of the Inter Civic Council, and Riley Hayward, identified as the assistant transportation chairman of the Council, asked him to drive a station wagon operated by the ICC.

Strickland said Adams told of hauling about 40 passengers a day in the station wagon.

Gas was put into the station wagon at the Economy Service Station on the authorization of Hayward, who directed activities, Strickland said Adams told him.

Adams said he worked out of Speeds Grocery Store and Hayward service station, Strickland said.

Strickland's testimony covered about 2 1/2 hours, and covered conversations he had with drivers and officers of the Inter Civic Council and detailed re-

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

From Page 1

# City Attempts To Establish

ports on pickups by defendants in the case.

Strickland told of several conversations he had with Dan B. Speed, transportation chairman of the Inter Civic Council, who is one of the 21 defendants in the case.

He said Speed told him cars hauling passengers in the pool get \$2 worth of gasoline at any Negro service station on his (Speed's) authorization.

### WARNING REPORTED

Before the first arrests were made on for hire violations, Strickland said Chief Frank Stoutamire told Speed the cars required for hire tags. Strickland said Stoutamire warned Speed that the arrests would be made if for hire tags were not purchased.

Most of the testimony concerned Strickland's investigations of the defendants.

With Prosecutor Mark R. Hawes reading the names of the defendants, Strickland told the information he had on each.

This information was about pickups made by the driver, where the pickups were made, the time, names of passengers, license number of the car, route taken.

Strickland said he had observed pickups at six different points on a regular basis including Speed's grocery store at 801 Floral St.

### SIGNED QUESTIONNAIRE

In most cases, Strickland said he had observed the cars on several occasions before the first arrest was made, or had a signed questionnaire from the driver about his activities.

Among the defendants who Strickland observed picking up passengers was the Rev. C. K. Steele, president of the Inter Civic Council and 12 other defendants.

With the exception of Steele, none of the others observed was an officer of the organization.

In cross examination by Francisco A. Rodrigues, attorney for the Inter Civic Council, Strickland said none of the defendants or riders he interviewed mentioned payments for riding the buses or compensation for conducting the pool.

He said some of the riders had mentioned that they made their donations at Inter Civic Council meetings, but said he did not have specific information on the names of those persons.

### SURVEY BY POLICE

Rodrigues asked Strickland what he had told persons he interviewed about the purpose of a questionnaire. Strickland said he had told the people the questionnaire was a survey by the police to determine how many persons were being carried in the car pool.

Rodrigues asked if he had not said it was a "survey of transportation needs," and Strickland said he did not recall the exact words he used.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY SP3 ulj/pcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 10-18-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 23 1956	
FBI MOBILE	

ENCLOSURE

Several questionnaires signed by defendants were introduced into evidence over objections by Rodriques.

Rodriques also spent considerable time asking Strickland about the arrest of Henry T. Smith on Aug. 29, and the identity of passengers in the car.

Strickland testified at the time of the arrest, the passengers included two of Smith's daughters, his wife, and a cousin—who got into the car at different locations.

In questioning by Hawes, Strickland said he had observed Smith's car on three previous occasions picking up passengers at Speed's Grocery store.

#### **POLICE CHIEF HEARD**

Police Chief Frank Stoutamire testified about a conversation he held with Dan Speed on Aug. 21 in front of Speed's store in the presence of Strickland.

Stoutamire said he warned Speed that the attorney general had ruled operations such as the Negro car pool illegal and that he intended to start making arrests if for hire licenses were not purchased.

Stoutamire said Speed's reply was that he did not think the licenses would be purchased, and any arrests would be appealed.

The only other witnesses called in the morning session, which was recessed at noon, were Don Meiklejohn, reporter for the Tallahassee Democrat, and Bob Delaney, representative of several publications.

#### **FINANCES COVERED**

Meiklejohn's testimony covered a financial report given by the Rev. J. Metz Rollins Jr., treasurer of the Inter Civic Council; Dan B. Speed, transportation chairman, and the Rev. C. K. Steele, president, at a meeting June 6, and a report by Riley Hayward, assistant transportation chairman, at a later meeting.

His testimony was allowed against all defendants, but the Inter Civic Council, which was not incorporated until June 12.

Delaney's testimony also covered reports at mass meetings he attended as a reporter in which a vote to establish a transportation system was taken and unanimously approved.

# Car Pool Trial Of 2 Or 3 Days Now Indicated

The trials of 21 Negroes on charges of operating an illegal car pool got underway this morning with indications the trials would last two or three days.

Court officials said about 75 witnesses have been called to testify. These include the 21 Negroes, among them Rev. C. K. Steele, president, and other officers of the Inter-Civic Council.

All seats in the City courtroom were filled this morning and many people were standing. The crowd was predominately Negro.

The first witness, Charles E. Carter, manager of Cities Transit Bus Company, testified revenue from bus fares dropped from an average of about \$15,000 a month to \$4,000 a month when the Negro bus boycott began last May.

On daily records, Carter said (Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

# Car Pool Trial Of 2 Or 3 Days

the revenue from the Florida A & M-Frenchtown run—predominately Negro—dropped off from about \$180 a day to \$18 a day after the boycott started.

Three other witnesses were heard during the morning session, which was devoted principally to laying the legal groundwork of the City's case.

## AS IDENTIFIED

H. B. Fryer, deputy clerk of the Leon Circuit Court, identified incorporation papers of the Inter Civic Council, L. E. Jackson, City Court clerk, identified records of the Inter Civic Council, which were subpoenaed by the Court, and Godfrey Smith, executive vice-president of the Capital City National Bank, said the ICC has an account, and identified checks.

Among the records subpoenaed were checks written to service station operators, a newsletter

## VP Candidate Covering Trial

Myra Tanner Weiss, who identified herself as the Socialist Workers Party vice-presidential candidate, sat in on City Court car pool cases today.

She said she was covering the trial for a party publication while on tour.

The Socialist Workers Party presidential candidate is Farrell Dobbs, she said.

issued by the ICC, and minutes of ICC meetings, and file cards of riders.

The newsletter included stated the Council had increased the number of cars registered in the pool to 73, and told of fines of drivers arrested being paid by the ICC.

### DISMISSAL ASKED

As the trial opened, Francisco A. Rodrigues, attorney for the Inter Civic Council and other defendants, asked that the cases be dismissed because the charges were not specific on dates and places, but Judge John A. Rudd denied the motion.

Rodrigues also renewed previous motions made in pre-court hearings which were denied by Rudd.

Aiding Rodrigues in the case is Theries Lindsey, local Negro attorney.

Mark R. Hawes, special prosecutor for the City, handled most of the questioning this morning, and was aided on the side by Pat Whitaker, his Tampa law associate, and City Solicitor Edward J. Hill.

The defendants are charged with operating a transportation system without first obtaining a City license.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

DATE 3/30/83 E. J. [Signature]

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 10-17-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 19 1956	
FBI - MOBILE	

ENCLOSURE

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/27/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: CRACON - IN. E. L. E.  
RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

As of possible interest to the Bureau, I am attaching hereto two copies of an item appearing in the Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery, Ala., 10/25/56, captioned, "Federal Action Looms In Negro Vote Purge."

- 2 - Bureau (100-135-61) (2 Encls.) *at*
- 1 - Mobile (100-1342)

PUBLICATION

(3)

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY *3 cle/d*

RECORDED - 8

INDEXED - 8

100-135-61-244

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INT. SEC.

# Federal Action Looms In Negro Vote Purge

## Justice Aide Cites State On Race Bar

Threats of federal criminal prosecution in five Southern states including Alabama in the event qualified Negroes are denied the right to vote in the Nov. 3 election were voiced yesterday by a Justice Department official.

The Associated Press, in a dispatch from Washington, quoted Asst. Atty. Gen. Warren Olney III as saying "disfranchisement of colored voters is going forward on a mass basis" through revision of registration rolls in some areas of Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and North Carolina. Some of the procedure involved is "fraudulent" on the face of it, he said.

Olney disclosed that voter investigations are being made in Macon County, Ala., as well as Montgomery, where The Advertiser reported earlier this week the FBI had questioned two members of the county Board of Registrars concerning Negro registrations.

### DENIED BY NEGROES

However, Negro spokesmen in both Montgomery and Macon counties denied that members of their race had been removed from voting lists.

Rufus Lewis, chairman of the registration and voting committee of the Montgomery Improvement Assn., a Negro organization set up to coordinate the 10-month-old bus boycott, said he did not know of any qualified Negroes being stricken from lists. Lewis said he had kept up with progress in getting Negroes registered but had not heard of any registrations being canceled.

In Tuskegee, county seat of Macon, the president of the Tuskegee Civic Assn., a Negro group organized to help Negroes register, said he had no knowledge of qualified Negroes being taken off lists in the county. Charles G. Gomillion said in the Sept. 17 city elections no registered Negroes complained of canceled registration. Another leader in the association, the Rev. Raymond F. Harvey, also said he had heard of no cases.

Replying to Justice Department charges that qualified Negro voters are being purged from the

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 cdc/gcl

Montgomery Advertiser  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 10-25-56  
Page 1

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

MO 100-1342  
BU 100-135-61

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-244

Montgomery County rolls, Circuit Solicitor William F. Patterson yesterday said:

"That's pure poppycock and political propaganda." He called the charges "completely and factually untrue."

The Montgomery investigation stemmed from a complaint by three Negro women that they were refused enrollment on voters' lists. One of the trio is Susie McDonald, a plaintiff in the Montgomery bus boycott trials. The complaint led to questioning of Mrs. C. B. Willis, chairman of the Montgomery County Board of Registrars, and another board member, Mrs. Frankie Mullin, by the FBI last week.

Olney named the white Citizens Councils, opponents of school integration, as prime movers in the southwide move to have Negroes struck from voting lists.

Hefford said. "The white citizens councils have had nothing to do with registration of voters in Montgomery County. They haven't had as much to do with it as the NAACP, probably less."

State Sen. Sam Engelhardt of Macon County, which was also cited by Olney, said the Alabama Assn. of Citizens Councils which he heads "hasn't done a thing" about trying to get Negroes removed from voting lists.

Engelhardt said, "By law, if they're registered illegally they should be removed, and we will do everything in our power to have them removed, but so far we haven't done a thing about removal."

"We would welcome an investigation for taking Negroes off voting lists," Engelhardt said for the more than 100 Alabama Citizens Councils chapters he represent, "but we'd much rather have an investigation for their getting on in the first place."

Macon County registration officials were not available for comment.

Solicitor Tom F. Young of Alexander City, representing the circuit which includes Macon County, said he had received "no complaints that either Negroes or white people have been struck off voting lists."

Mrs. Willis, Montgomery board chairman, said no qualified Negroes had been struck from her lists. She said the only list reductions in recent years had resulted from failure of voters to re-register in a 1951-54 check of lists. Mrs. Willis also said she knew of no citizens council activity to reduce the number of Negroes already registered.

Asa (Ace) Carter, Birmingham executive secretary of the Alabama Citizens Councils, denied that any pressure has been brought by his group to disfranchise Negroes.

He said, however, his organization has "watched the registration places on registration days, and we have become quite alarmed at the number of Negroes registering."

Carter said a study of registrars has been made in 12 North Alabama counties, "and there appears to be an effort at mass registration of the Negroes."

He said registration places were watched in Jefferson, Walker, Calhoun, Blount, Madison, Shelby, Tuscaloosa, Cleburne, St. Clair, Clay, Randolph and DeKalb counties.

"We have gathered this information for our own purposes, but there has never been any effort on the part of the Alabama citizens councils to intimidate or threaten board registrars to disfranchise Negroes," Carter added.

Alabama Atty. Gen. John Patterson said he would have no comment until he had an opportunity to study what the U.S. attorney general's office said. "No reports have been made to my office by any federal authorities concerning this matter," Patterson said.

Olney told newsmen in Washington the "weakness" of existing civil rights statutes makes it impossible for the Justice Department to move until the right to vote has been actually denied on Election Day—too late to help the voter.

"You can't make a case until a qualified voter is deprived of his rights at the polls," he said. "But in every instance where we can show a qualified person was denied the right to vote simply because of his color, we intend to prosecute."

Olney, who heads the department's Criminal Division, disclosed that he has moved in another direction in connection with the reported disfranchisement of Negroes.

He said he had advised Chairman Burlison (D-Tex) of the Committee on House Administration of the results of some of the Southern investigations and called his attention to a section of the 14th Amendment which provides for reduction of House membership for any state where persons are denied the voting privilege "on any grounds except rebellion or other crime."

Olney said such reduction "in proportion to the number of citizens denied the vote," is a matter entirely within the control of Congress.

Olney said he had also renewed a previous request to the Senate Elections subcommittee that it hold hearings in the South before Election Day on evidence of "purging" of Negroes from the registration rolls.

Chairman Gore (D-Tenn) of the subcommittee said at the time of the original request that his group was "deeply concerned" with the disfranchisement of any citizen, but indicated that he and others felt it was too late to hold hearings in the South before Nov. 6.

# Federal Action Looms In Negro Vote Purge

## Justice Aide Cites State On Race Bar

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DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3cl/gcl

Montgomery Advertiser  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 10-25-56  
Page 1

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

MO 100-1342  
BU 100-135-61

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-244

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(Continued From Page 1)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

October 23, 1956

Mr. L. V. Boardman

Mr. A. H. Belmont

CLASS. & EXT. BY 2333 on 2/22/79  
REASON-FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 10/23/86  
GAS/vaw

INFORMATION CONCERNING

Racon mobile

By airtel of 10-18-56, Mobile Office enclosed newspaper clipping from "Montgomery Advertiser," Montgomery, Alabama, 10-17-56, which states that recently there have been numerous anonymous telephone calls and letters to individuals in Montgomery urging that they cease practice of driving Negro maids to and from work. Article reflects most telephone calls were made after midnight and alleges that in several instances callers threatened physical violence and used profanity.

Information in article is being handled separately and is being disseminated to the Department and interested intelligence agencies. (S)(u)

Enclosure

DECLASSIFIED BY [signature]  
ON 3/30/83

- 1 - Bufile 100-135-61 (Racial Situation, Montgomery, Alabama)
  - 1 - L. V. Boardman
  - 1 - A. H. Belmont
  - 1 - [redacted]
  - 1 - [redacted]
- APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S)
- 100-135-61-  
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum to L. V. Boardman from A. H. Belmont

RECOMMENDATION:

[REDACTED]

An airtel to Mobile in line with this recommendation is attached. Airtel is used in order that interested offices may be promptly notified to discontinue investigation. (S)(u)

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7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/23/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY 3cl/gcl

For information of Bureau, two copies each of the following newspaper items are transmitted herewith:

1. Item appearing in Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 10/19/56 captioned "TRIAL OF 21 NEARING END; IN CITY COURT."
2. Item appearing in same paper 10/20/56 captioned "CAR POOL TRIAL TO CLOSE TODAY."
3. Item appearing in same paper 10/21/56 captioned "FINES \$11,000 IN FOR HIRE CASE."

2 - Bureau (Encl. 6) (100-135 Sub 61)

1 - Mobile (100-1361)

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*1 photo given to Alvin  
1 cc of photo to Alvin  
1 cc of photo to Simpson  
10-30-56*

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*file  
100-135-61*

EX-116

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100-135-61-245  
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INT. SEC.

Pleadings Heard

# Car Pool Trial To Close Today

**BULLETIN**

City Judge John A. Rudd today found the Inter Civic Council and 21 Negroes guilty of operating an illegal transportation system. He fined each \$500 or 60 days, and a mandatory jail sentence of 60 days. The mandatory sentence was suspended and each defendant was put on one year's probation.

By **DON MEIKLEJOHN**  
Democrat Staff Writer

Earlier court pleadings which Negro car pool operators made in an unsuccessful effort to stop their prosecution for alleged illegal operation of a transit system were turned against them in their City Court trial yesterday.

Final arguments and summation of three days of testimony were going on today before Municipal Judge John Rudd.

Before both sides rested their cases—the Negroes without offering any witnesses — Special Prosecutor Mark Hawes read into the record what he called a "judicial admission" in both Federal and City court proceedings that the car riders and operators had a financial agreement.

Francisco A. Rodrigues, attorney for the Inter Civic Council and 21 individual Negroes, objected to Hawes' move as prejudicial but Judge Rudd permitted the pleadings to be introduced as evidence.

Hawes said the earlier plead-

ings made a "very telling facet of this case," in which the City relies on a contention that the car pool organized by bus boycotters is a transportation system subject to franchise regulation because it involves an indirect payment of fares through pooled funds and donations. The Negroes never have applied for a franchise or city operating permit.

**OPERATIONS DESCRIBED**

In efforts to stop the prosecution, attorneys for the Negroes had filed motions in both City and Federal courts asking that the charges be thrown out principally on the ground that the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 10-20-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3clg/gcl

ENCLOSURE

## Car Pool Case To End Today

car pool operation was not a business—or for hire venture—but part of a protest movement.

In these pleadings, a detailed description was given of the way the car pool was operated and financed.

The key quotation from defense pleadings used by Hawes to help in proving his case was:

"The drivers and riders of the automobiles in the bus protest promulgated an arrangement in Council assembled whereby they, through the Council would bear the expense of the gasoline used . . .

"Any owner or driver of an automobile could go to certain gasoline filling stations and receive gasoline on the strength of his word that he was transporting bus protestants. . . ."

The Council in turn would reimburse the filling stations from its treasury when presented with a bill for gasoline used by its members. The treasury is made up of contributions from members as well as donations from other interested members of the community."

### RIDERS TESTIFY

Most of the testimony yesterday afternoon was from five Negro car pool riders, called by the City. They were Laura Flucas, Rosabelle Hall, Alberta Smith, Cora Grice, and Josephine Harvey.

Defendants named as giving rides to the women were John Cook, Harry Smith, Ralph G. Coleman, Beasie Irons, Edward Daryl Irons, the Rev. Isaiah Platt, and the Rev. John McTier.

Two of the witnesses said they had contributed money at mass meetings. They were Cora Grice and Josephine Harvey.

In cross examination, the women said they had given the money voluntarily with no strings attached. They also said they had not made any payments to drivers in the car pool.

In other testimony, John Calvin, chief title and lien clerk for the State Motor Vehicle Commission, presented testimony giving the names of registered owners for a series of license numbers that had been used during the course of the trial.

In testimony by officers who made preliminary investigations of the car pool before arrests were made, the license numbers were used to identify cars they had seen picking up passengers.

City Auditor George White also testified that none of the defendants had for hire licenses from the City with the exception of Riley Hayward, who operates Economy Cab Co.

Two Negro witnesses were admonished by Judge Rudd to use more respect in addressing the court. He ordered them to say "Sir" when speaking to him instead of giving flat "yes" or "no" answers to questions.

The two were John Payne, a service station operator, and Laura Flucas, who testified as a car pool rider. The attorney for the Inter Civic Council, when asked to comment by the court, agreed it was necessary to maintain respect to the court.

# Fines \$11,000— In For Hire Case

## Execution Of Penalties Pends Appeal By 21 And Council

By DON MEIKLEJOHN  
Democrat Staff Writer

A total of \$11,000 in fines was levied against the Inter Civic Council and 21 members yesterday in City Court after they were found guilty of operating an illegal transportation system by City Judge John A. Rudd.

Each defendant was fined \$500 or 60 days in jail, and given a suspended sentence of 60 additional days with a provision that they not "engage in any illegal activity" for a year.

Execution of the sentences was delayed pending motions for a new trial by defense attorneys. The motions are expected to be filed by Oct. 24.

Rudd handed down the decisions 15 minutes after the end of arguments in the case that lasted 3½ days.

### APPEAL LIKELY

The decision is almost certain to be appealed to higher courts.

Before handing down the decision, Rudd said the case had absorbed him more and taxed him greater than any other case he had handled.

He said he had called on "Divine guidance" to arrive at a

just decision.

He said he hoped that the defendants in the case would abide by the ruling unless overruled in higher courts, just as he was hopeful the city would abide by any future rulings that might reverse the decision.

In closing arguments, the main issue was the "for hire" feature of the case.

Special Prosecutor Mark R. Hawes said the operation was a "for hire" business within the meaning of the law.

He said acquittal for the defendants would put licensed transportation systems in "ser-

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 7)

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 10-21-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83

BY [Signature]

ENCLOSURE

# Fines \$11,000

From Page 1

ious jeopardy."

Hawes said witnesses had testified the system was still in operation.

"A warning from the Chief of Police has not stopped them. Arrests have not stopped them. Prosecution has not stopped them," Hawes said.

"Your honor, you are going to have to stop them or turn the City government in Tallahassee over to the Inter Civic Council," he said.

Francisco A. Rodriques, attorney for the defendants, said the interpretation placed on the law by the City was "strained."

"Twisting this legal concept may weigh heavily on us in the future . . . creating a blight on the body politic of this great nation—this great state."

Both attorneys traced the testimony in the trial—all by City witnesses since the defence called no witnesses.

## 'FOR HIRE' VENTURE

Hawes in his arguments said he had no doubt that the operation was a "for hire" venture from testimony presented in Court.

He said in testimony and in defense pleadings presented in evidence all the defendants had been tied to the organization.

Hawes described portions of the defense pleadings as "the most damaging admissions I have ever seen filed in any court."

"On this he referred to a statement that said, "The drivers and riders of automobiles in the bus protest promulgated an arrangement in Council assembled whereby they, through the Council would bear the expense of gasoline used."

Citing a Supreme Court ruling, Hawes said the law stated that a vehicle used to transport people on a "share the expense basis" was considered a for hire car.

As for any consideration to the driver, he said the driver could go to any Negro service station and get gas "just by opening his mouth." He said there was no limit to the number of times the person could get gas.

Hawes said it was "no two bit operation." By adding the total on checks paid, Hawes said more than \$8,000 had been spent on the car pool in a 3½ month period from June 1 through Sept. 30.

He said a similar set up could be used to put every taxi business in town out of operation.

Rodriques in his arguments said the car pool was part of protest against the seating arrangement on City buses.

In effect, the Negroes said, "I don't like the way you run your business—and I'm not going to ride your buses."

To take care of the transportation of people supporting the protest, the people said "If you happen to be going the same way we will take you with us,"

Rodriques said.

Rodriques said the City could not produce any proof the defendants profited by the operation.

He said no profit motive had been proved, and he knew of no business where profit was not a motive.

From testimony brought out by the City during the trial, Rodriques said the car pool operation was the "most un-business-like business I have ever heard of, but the defendants are not on trial for that."

If the defendants are guilty, Rodriques said it would result in fear by anyone to pick up a friend or relative on the street and give them a ride.

"Sgt. Strickland might be behind them and charge them with operating a car for hire,"

Rodriques said. (Sgt. R. J. Strickland made many of the arrests in the cases.)

Concerning the "judicial admissions" referred to by Hawes, Rodriques said the City had failed to mention one admission made in its own testimony.

Rodriques said Chief Stoutamire quoted Dan Speed as saying he was losing money by aiding in the car pool and might have to quit.

This certainly would show Speed was not engaged in the activity to make money, Rodriques said.

Concerning testimony by Charles L. Carter that the revenues of the bus company dropped from about \$15,200 to \$4,000 a month after the boycott started, Rodriques said this had no bearing on the case.

He said, "We extend our sympathy . . . but it will be a dark day for justice if a private corporation can come into court and seek aid and succor of the court in what is a private affair."

## Trial Of 21 Nearing End; In City Court

The trial of 21 Negroes and the Inter Civic Council in City Court on charges of operating an illegal transportation system, neared its end today, but it may take a night session to wrap up arguments.

Presentation of the City testimony was slow during the morning session, but the City is expected to finish up its case this afternoon.

Francisco A. Rodrigues, attorney for the Inter Civic Council said defense testimony will be short.

Most of the testimony today was from service station and garage operators about transaction with the Inter Civic Council.

### TRIAL RECESSED

In the midst of testimony by John Payne, who operates a service station on the Old Bainbridge Road, the trial was recessed until 2 p.m.

Payne's testimony was interrupted on several occasions after he said he did not recall names of persons who got gas at his station or who paid him.

Prosecutor Mark R. Hawes read from a transcript of testimony taken Oct. 4 from Payne to refresh his memory, and Payne then said he recalled putting gas into several cars including two defendants, Office Burns and Rev. John McTier.

The Court was recessed after Payne testified he had never  
(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

### From Page 1

been paid by Dan Speed personally although the Oct. 4 transcript said Speed had paid him one time.

Payne said the earlier testimony was true, but he had not received the money from Speed personally. An employe picked up the money from Speed, Payne said.

"If he had picked the money up from Judge Rudd, I would have said Judge Rudd paid me," Payne said.

### CHECKS IDENTIFIED

Payne identified checks from the Inter Civic Council as those used to pay for the gasoline he put into car pool cars, but said he kept no records.

He said he was authorized to put gas in cars when a person said they were "helping our people out." This authorization was given by Speed over the phone.

Others testifying were James W. Stribling, manager of the Tallahassee Tire Co., who said he sold two recaps and a tube for \$37.02 to John Cook, one of the defendants, and was paid by the ICC.

Cornelius Speed, operator of Gulf Quick Service Station, 1519 S. Adams, identified about six checks and gas tickets as being for gas put into car pool cars.

He said he personally put gas into Ralph Coleman's car—one of the defendants.

Woodrow Messer, operator of a service station, said he sold a 1954 Mercury Station wagon through a representative of Capital Lincoln Mercury for \$1,900. He was paid with a check, identified earlier as from the ICC account, by Dan Speed.

### PAID BY ICC

Mathew Bryant Jr., operator of a service station, said he placed gas in several car pool cars and was paid by the ICC.

He said he was authorized to put the gas into the cars by Dan Speed.

Adam Cromer, a garage operator, said he repaired cars owned by the Rev. J. Metz Rollins Jr., treasurer of the ICC, and Dan Speed, transportation chairman, and was paid by checks from the ICC.

Primous Harris, a garage owner, also identified several checks from the ICC, but said he did not recall what the checks were for. He said he did fix the Rev. C. K. Steele's car during the period covered by the checks.

The prosecution has concentrated on proving links between donations taken at Inter Civic Council meetings and the operation of the car pool to establish the "for hire" aspects of the case.

### MONEY QUESTIONS

Defense attorneys have questioned witnesses on whether they saw any direct money payments by car pool riders in cross examination. So far, City witnesses have said they have seen no such payments.

The Inter Civic Council contends the car pool operation is incidental to a protest movement against segregated seating, and is not a "for hire" venture.

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 10-19-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/20/83 BY Jp3cl/gcl



Through a string of police officers who observed pool cars in operation, the City also has attempted to prove the cars were operating out of specific places and in some cases following specific routes before the first arrests were made.

The defense attorneys have concentrated on asking City witnesses if they were familiar with the regular business activities of the so called "pickup points" before the boycott, and if they knew the identity of the passengers riding the car pool cars before the arrests were made.

#### FAMILY MEMBERS

Cross examination yesterday showed one defendant, Henry T. Smith, was carrying members of his family at the time of his arrest under State for hire laws. (All charges have been changed since initial arrests to City ordinance violations.)

Although City officers said they had observed Smith's car on three other occasions before the arrest, they could not identify the passengers in the car at that time—whether they were the same as on the day of the arrest or not.

In the afternoon session yesterday, testimony was given by five City police officers who observed the car pool operation or made arrests of car pool drivers.

Officer V. C. Kelly testified he observed the operations at Speed's Grocery store at 801 Floral St., on about 17 different occasions.

His testimony listed the license numbers of cars, and the number of passengers. He also testified about the arrests of the Rev. Isiah Platt and Dan B. Speed, both defendants in the cases.

Burl Peacock told of observing several car pool drivers, and especially Mathew Adams, who was driving a 1954 station wagon, which has popped up on numerous occasions in testimony.

Lt. Johnny Coggins told of his observations at Speed's Grocery Store on several occasions with Det.-Sgt. R. J. Strickland, and of the arrests of the Rev. C. K. Steele, the Rev. K. S. Dupont, Ralph Gilmore Coleman, Beadie Irons, Edward Irons, and Offie Burns all of whom were arrested after picking up passengers, Coggins said.

James H. Whiddon Jr. also told of extensive observations of car pool cars, giving license numbers and the numbers of passengers picked up and the location.

Officer Ted Lehman told of observing the Economy Service Station operated by Riley Hayward and listed the cars by license number and the number of passengers picked up and time they were picked up.

## Bishop Says 'Very Fair'

Bishop D. Ward Jacksonville, of the First Church district, said he thought City Judge Rudd was conducting the Inter Civic Council Negroes "very fair."

He sat through the terday as an observer reporters Judge Rudd be very fair in his decision I am much impressed

way he is conducting The Bishop expressed for the Inter Civic which he said is "just cause."

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/27/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: Integration Among Negroes  
RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

For the information of the Bureau, attached hereto are two copies of an item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Fla., on 10/25/56, captioned, "Notice Served On Taxi Firm."

- 2 - Bureau (100-135761) (2 Encls.)
- 1 - Mobile (100-1361)

may  
(3)

7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3ck/gcl

1cc gencl to Tompkins  
by 0-6  
1 photo gencl to Olney  
by 0-6  
10-30-56  
[redacted]

7C

100-135-61

RECORDED - 9  
INDEXED - 9  
EX-118

100-135-61-211

OCT 31 1956

7C

[redacted]

## Notice Served On Taxi Firm

Official notice to show cause why a taxi franchise should not be revoked was served today on Riley Hayward and Robert Landers, partners in the Economy Cab Co.

In an order signed by City Mgr. Arvah Hopkins, the men were ordered to appear Nov. 13 at a meeting of the City Commission.

Hayward was convicted last week along with other members of the Inter Civic Council of operating an illegal transportation system in violation of City for hire laws.

The reasons listed for the order were:

1. Hayward was convicted of receiving stolen property in February in Circuit Court.
2. Both allowed "unregistered taxicabs" to operate from their cab stand.

During testimony in car pool cases, testimony listed the Economy Cab stand as one of several "pick up points" for the operation.

Hayward served as assistant transportation chairman for the car pool.

City ordinances call for the revocation of franchises if a person is convicted of a crime involving "moral turpitude" or ~~any of the~~ for hire provisions.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/31 BY sp3cl/hcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Date 10/25/56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Mofile 100-1361

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-246

FBI

Date: 10/29/56

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Transmit the following message via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, MOBILE (44-439)

To: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-135-61)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3cl/gcl

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

OKACON

Rerep SA [redacted] 9/14/56, Mobile, captioned COMMITTEE ON THE PRESERVATION OF SEGREGATION; IS-X (Bufile 105-51677).

The Alabama Journal, daily newspaper at Montgomery, Ala., on 10/26/56, front page, carried article headlined ARRESTS DEMANDED HERE TO HALT OPERATION OF NEGRO CAR POOLS. Article reflects that JACK D. BROCK, Official of Alabama Labor News, weekly newspaper at Montgomery, demanded that Montgomery City Commission order arrests of Negro boycott car pool drivers and reflects that a conference to entertain arguments by BROCK's attorney, JOHN P. KOHN, was held, attended by BROCK, Mayor W.A. GAYLE, KOHN, City Attorneys WALTER KNABE and HAMILTON DRAYTON, Chief of Police G. J. RUPPENTHAL, NA, and State Senator SAM ENGELHARDT, Executive Secretary, Citizens' Councils of Alabama. Article states that BROCK and KOHN alleged that existing ordinances were adequate to proceed against the Negro drivers and also proposed other ordinances to make the city's position "uncontestable". BROCK offered that he and HOMER L. WELCH would sign warrants for all drivers, if necessary, to cause the arrests. KOHN suggested arrests be made and defendants tried in Recorders Court for violation of "Taxicab Law", or that car pool operators be enjoined through the Equity Division of the Circuit Court (of Montgomery Co.) The article states that the city attorneys went into immediate conference with Mayor GAYLE and City Commissioners CLYDE SELLERS and FRANK PARKS, but there was no indication then of what action would be taken.

ENCLOSURE

- 3 - Bureau (100-135-61) (REGISTERED) (Encls. 4)
- 4 - Mobile (2 - 44-439)
- (1 - 105-247)
- (1 - 105-17)

RECORDED - 10

INDEXED - 10

100-135-61-5

Mr. Belmont

Approved: [Signature] 4 NOV 7 1956 Special Agent in Charge

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

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photo sent to [redacted]  
11-2-56

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following message via \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC<sub>T</sub>

To: PAGE TWO

MO 44-439

[REDACTED]

7C  
7D

On 10/26/56 [REDACTED] advised SA [REDACTED] that the city commission was not happy about BROCK and Co. intervening on the boycott situation because they, the commission, have their own plans about pressuring the car pool drivers, through an injunction, and they now fear that BROCK and associates will receive credit for initiating the move.

7C  
7D

Enclosed to Bureau are copies of clippings from pages one of the Alabama Journal of 10/27/56, and the Montgomery Advertiser, daily newspaper at Montgomery, of 10/28/56, which reflect that the Montgomery Improvement Association is halting the operation of the car pool in an effort to "sidestep" possible legal action by the city.

7C  
7D

[REDACTED]

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

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

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
100-135-61-247

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

## CITY TO SEEK INJUNCTION

# Car Pool Operations Halted by Negroes

By JOE KOENENN  
And CHARLES SULLIVAN

In the face of an impending injunction threat to halt their operation, church station wagons used in the bus boycott here had apparently stopped ferrying Negro passengers early this morning.

A Negro church leader, told the Journal that he understood that the car pool was not in operation today, and stated that he did not know whether it would be discontinued altogether.

Other boycott leaders were unavailable for comment this morning. Several were said to be "out of town."

### NO ESTIMATE OF IMPACT

No estimate of what the impact on Montgomery's business and industrial activities would be if the car pool is curtailed or halted permanently was available.

Many Negroes don't work at all on Saturdays. Others reportedly walked to work or made other (See CAR POOL, Page 8-A)

(Continued From Page 1)  
transportation arrangements.

The automobiles which have been seen on Montgomery streets since early last December were noticeably absent. Small groups of would-be passengers gathered at the pick-up station on McDonough Avenue and then drifted away when they saw that no transportation was available.

## CITY TO SEEK INJUNCTION

City officials announced yesterday that they plan to seek an injunction early next week to halt the car pool. The announcement came after a labor union publication asked that legal steps be taken to stop the operation.

Police said this morning that they had no information on the stoppage. One policeman added that he had not noticed any of the station wagons on the streets this morning.

### MAY BE TEMPORARY

A Negro man, waiting at the pick-up station, said that he understood the pool has stopped its operations today. He did not know, he added, if it meant that the transportation had been discontinued permanently.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 dcl/gcl

ALABAMA JOURNAL  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Page One  
October 27, 1956

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mofile: 44-439

Businessmen located near the main downtown pick-up station for the Negro car pool, a parking lot on S. McDonough Street near the corner of Monroe Street, today said they noticed the lot was "mighty quiet" this morning.

The men said they noticed a number of cars driven by Negroes slowing down as if to stop near the pick-up area, but added, "they didn't stop." Declining to be quoted by name, the businessmen said they noticed a couple of unmarked station wagons around the lot today, but saw none of the marked church vehicles.

When asked why they paid so much attention to activities at the parking lot, the men grinned and one answered, "They usually have so much commotion and traffic over there that we couldn't help but notice when things quieted down, especially on a Saturday."

#### NO DISPATCHER

Reporters observing the lot noticed that no dispatcher was on the phone and that only one or two persons were around the parking lot.

Rev. Robert Gratez, white minister of a Negro church who has served as an occasional spokesman for the boycotters, said, "It's news to me," when questioned about the stoppage.

Police Commissioner Clyde Sellers reported this morning that the police department had been working about 10 weeks gathering evidence with legal action in the boycott in view.

#### NO NEW ORDERS

"No new orders have been given to police concerning actions of operations of the Negro car pools, except to continue police observance and gathering of evidence," Sellers said.

"I know nothing about the supposed halt in operations of the car pools today," he said. Sellers, who said he has been sick, was resting in bed today.

The commissioner said the City Commission action was not motivated by requests of a group representing the Alabama Labor News at yesterday's conference between the commission and representatives of the labor group.

"We have had this idea (to get an injunction against Negro car pool operations) for quite a while on the basis of our knowledge and what our legal counsel has told us," the commissioner explained.

#### LABOR EDITOR PROTESTS

Jack D. Brock, editor of the Alabama Labor News, said yesterday he and others were ready to swear out citizens' warrants to halt the operations.

Attorney John Kohn, representing the labor group, called the car pool a "sabotage of franchise transportation in this city," and an effort to do "by subterfuge what the commission had denied them the right to do."

In a statement, the city commission said:

"The city's latest activity in this connection has been the assembling of evidence of action against the operations of so-called car pools.

"The commission is glad for individuals to take such action as

they see fit in their own best interest, however, regardless of whether such action is taken or not, the city will follow its plans of bringing action for an injunction to stop all activities which the city considers illegal at this time."

The commission several months ago refused to grant boycotters a franchise to operate their own bus line.

## CRACKDOWN THREATENS

# MIA Reportedly Halting Operation Of Car Pool

By BOB MURPHY

The group which has been directing the 10-month-old bus boycott has ordered Negro churches to halt station wagon transportation in order to sidestep possible legal action by the city, it was confirmed last night.

A reliable Negro spokesman who declined use of his name told The Advertiser that officers of the Montgomery Improvement Assn. met Friday and ordered the suspension.

The action was taken, the spokesman said, after a double-

barreled threat of legal action from the city and the editor of a state labor publication. The latter asked the city Friday to stop station wagon pools because they "sabotaged" franchised transportation.

There was no indication, however, that private Negro car pools would be or were affected by the stoppage.

Until the confirmation last night, the suspension of station wagon service could not be pinned down. Both white and Negro leaders concerned with the situation either were unavailable or refused comment.

Reported boycott and car pool organizers were "out of town." The Rev. M. L. King, the Rev. Ralph Abernathy and Negro Atty. Fred Gray were not available. Rufus Lewis, said to be a car pool organizer, refused to comment on the situation.

Police officials reported a noticeable absence of station wagons at downtown loading points and on city streets. They added that private car pools were evident.

Police Chief Ruppenthal and other high sources said no actions for halting station wagons had been ordered as of last night. One police official said a meeting had been held to discuss increased private car traffic which

(See MIA, Page 2A)

(Continued From Page 1)

is expected to accompany a shut-down of station wagon service.

An Advertiser telephone survey of business concerns and housewives employing Negro workers indicated there was no marked change. Local stores reported "normal" numbers of Negro shoppers.

Negro ministers of churches sponsoring station wagons offered a variety of answers and evasions when questioned about the suspension. Two said their station wagons were operating, another said his wasn't and the fourth refused to comment.

Absence of activity at a pick-up station for the Negro car pool at South McDonough near Monroe—especially for a normally busy Saturday—gave substance to the rumor early yesterday.

J. H. Bagley of Montgomery City Lines said last night that he had received no requests to return service to Negro areas.

The absence of station wagons hauling Negroes was noted soon after the City Commission announced Friday that it intended to seek injunction to halt boycott car pools early next week. The city made its announcement after an appeal by Jack D. Brock, editor of the Alabama Labor News to take action against car pools. Brock, through his attorney, John Kohn, said the car pools do "by subterfuge what the commission had denied them to do."

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Page One  
October 28, 1956

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mofile: 44-439

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY [signature]

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/25/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

For information of the Bureau, attached hereto are two copies of an item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 10/22/56, captioned "NEGROES ABANDON CAR POOL IN CITY."

- 2 - Bureau (Encl. 2) (100-135 Sub 61)
- 1 - Mobile (100-1361)
- 1 - lo
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3ck/gcd

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ENCLOSURE

INDEXED - 38

100-135-61-248

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100 g encl to Tompkins  
by 6-6  
1 photo of car to Olney  
by 6-6  
10-1-56

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# Negroes Abandon Car Pool In City

## Council Withdraws Rides, Advice; 'War Is Not Over,' Steele Says

By The Associated Press

The Negro Inter Civic Council said today it had abandoned the car pool it has sponsored to provide transportation for Negroes boycotting buses in protest against segregated seating.

However, the Rev. C. K. Steele, president of the council and head of the Tallahassee chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said "the war is not over. We are still walking."

Dan Speed, chairman of the council's transportation committee, said, "we not only are not offering transportation, but we are not even offering advice."

### 21 CONVICTED

The council voted to drop its sponsorship of the car pool at a mass meeting of the boycotters last night. The action fol-

lowed Saturday's conviction in City Court of the council and 21 of its officers and members on charges of operating an illegal transportation system. The council has indicated the verdict will be appealed.

City Judge John Rudd sentenced each of the defendants to pay a fine of \$500 or serve 60 days in jail. He sentenced each to 60 days in jail, but suspended the jail term and put each on probation for one year.

Francisco A. Rodriguez, Tampa attorney who directed the defense, advised ending sponsorship of the car pool. He urged the bus boycotters to accept Judge Rudd's decision "without rancor and without bitterness."

"Each person is free to ride whom he pleases in his car, but he must act without the assistance of a motor pool by the Inter Civic Council.

### 'WITHOUT ADVICE'

"Those who desire to continue the protest must do so on their own, without advice, support or any kind of help from the Inter Civic Council," Rodriguez said.

He urged the boycotters "to remember" that Judge Rudd's verdict is "the law until it is overturned."

Steele said the boycotters must "fight on and on." He said that although the council no longer will direct car pool operations "we must each and all of us pick up each and all the folks we see walking in protest of segregation on city buses."

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 10-22-56

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Bufile 100-135 Sub 61  
Hofile 100-1361

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY [signature]

DATE 3/30/83

BY [signature]

ENCLOSURE

100-135

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135-61)

DATE: 11/5/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (44-439)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9/30/83 BY sp3cl/gcd

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Forwarded herewith to the Bureau are two copies of clipping from the Alabama Journal, a daily at Montgomery, Alabama, November 2, 1956, Page One, captioned "CITY FILES CAR POOL INJUNCTION SUIT."

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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The Bureau will be kept advised of additional developments.

- 2 - Bureau (100-135-61)(Encl. 2)
- 1 - Mobile (44-439)

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RECORDED - 97

ENCLOSURE

INDEXED - 53

1 photo by incl to O'Leary  
1 cc by incl to Tompkins b. 2  
11-16-56  
EX - 131

100-135-61-21

28 NOV 7 1956

11-8-56  
31

NOV 12 1956 7C

# Johnson Denies Negroes' Plea For U.S. Writ

Hearings Scheduled  
In Two Courts on  
Nov. 13 and 14

By FRANK GORDY

Montgomery's bus boycott battle today headed toward a showdown almost two weeks away, with fast moving developments in both federal and state courts, headed by U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson's refusal to grant a request for an order restraining the city from interfering with Negro car pool operations.

The city legal department, meanwhile, had gone into the equity division of Circuit (State) court with a plea for an injunction to halt the car pool. City Atty. Walter Knabe's office filed the papers late yesterday afternoon with Register in Chancery George Jones.

#### DAMAGES ASKED

The city petition also asks the court to determine and grant compensatory damages growing out of the car pool operations. It says there is no need for the car pool since an adequate transportation system exists in the regularly franchised bus lines.

The city contends it has lost \$15,000 as a result of the car pool operations. It receives two per cent of bus company revenues, which would mean a loss of \$750,000 in revenue to the company.

Judge Johnson held that the car pool operators, represented by Negro Attys. Fred D. Gray and Charles Langford, would not suffer irreparable damage by failure to obtain their requested restraining order to prohibit the city from seeking an injunction in state court.

#### TWO HEARINGS SET

A hearing was set by Johnson for Nov. 14, however, on the Negroes' companion measure for a temporary injunction. A restraining order could have been issued without a hearing in an emergency.

State Judge Eugene Carter set a hearing for Nov. 13 on the city's petition for an injunction to stop the car pool operations.

The city's petition is directed against the Montgomery Improvement Association, a number of Negro churches which have been operating station wagons and several individuals.

#### CLAIM CAR POOL ILLEGAL

It alleges that the car pool operation is illegal in that:

1. It is being operated without payment of license fees, and
2. It is being operated without a franchise and
3. It is being operated through the use of drivers who are not the holders of valid operating licenses.

The petition also charges that a police problem is created because some of the car pool drivers are not qualified morally and by experience.

#### SEVERAL GROUPS NAMED

The petition is directed against:

The Montgomery Improvement Association, a corporation; Zion Hill Baptist Church, a corporation; Hutchinson Street Baptist Church, a corporation; Holt Street Baptist Church, a corporation; Hall Street Baptist Church, a corporation; Beulah Baptist Church; Lilly Baptist Church; Bethel Baptist Church; Canon Hill Baptist Church; First Baptist Church; Mt. Gilead Church; Oak Street AME Zion Church; M. L. King Jr.; Erna A. Dungee; E. D. Nixon; B. J. Simms; Hazel R. Gregory; Fletcher Smith; Clarence Moore; Mentha Johnson; H. H. Hubbard; H. J. Palmer; J. H. Cherry; B. M.

(See CAR POOLS, Page 2A)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY [signature]

#### HEADLINE:

"CITY FILES CAR POOL  
INJUNCTION SUIT"

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 11-2-56  
Page 1

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mofile: 44-439

ENCLOSURE

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
Friday, November 2, 1956

## Car Pools

(Continued From Page 1-A)

Averhart; A. H. Waffman; A. Murphy; S. P. McBride; W. Johnson; Matthew Kennedy; A. Sanders; Willie James Kemp; Lewis Christburg; B. Heard; J. W. Hays; R. J. Glasco; M. W. Richburg; J. G. Marcus; Thomas McCloud; W. Moss;

An independent, pro-segregation labor group asked the city commission a week ago to halt the car pool. Tuesday the commission — whose three members are leaders in the pro-segregation Montgomery County Citizens Council — by unanimous vote told its attorneys to take "any legal action they deem necessary" to stop the car pool.

Gray and Langford said in their petition to Johnson that the city is conspiring to "interfere with the civil and constitutional rights" of boycotters. They contended the car pool is legal and a voluntary system without charge to riders.

### LED BY REV. KING

It is financed by the Montgomery Improvement Assn., the Negro group led by Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. that coordinates the boycott. In addition to contributions from local Negroes, the MIA has received financial support from across the nation.

The Negroes' petition was filed in the name of the MIA, several Negro churches and other individuals. Church-operated station wagons are the backbone of the motor fleet.

Johnson, together with Judge Richard T. Rives of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, ruled last June that city and state bus segregation laws are unconstitutional. The decision is on appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/31/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

For additional information of the Bureau, attached hereto are two copies each of the following newspaper items:

- 1. Item appearing in the Alabama Journal, Montgomery, Alabama, 10/26/56, captioned "COMMISSION STUDIES PLEA FOR ROUNDUP."
- 2. Item appearing in the Alabama Journal, Montgomery, Alabama, 10/29/56, captioned "OPERATION RENEWED BY NEGRO CAR POOL."

2 - Bureau (Encl. 4) (100-135-61)  
1 - Mobile (44-439)

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3ck/hcl

1 cc g and 2 Sampson  
1 photo g and to Olney  
by 8-6  
11-7-52

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EX-117

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NOV 5 11 21 AM '56

NOV 14 1956

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[Redacted]  
INT

**CITY INJUNCTION STUDIED:**

# Operation Renewed By Negro Car Pool

A car pool which has provided transportation for bus-boycotting Montgomery Negroes for 11 months was still operating today despite a threat of legal action by the city.

Church-operated station wagons were back in service along with privately owned automobiles.

The station wagons were kept out of the pool last Saturday and only private cars used to take Negroes to and from work that was the day after leader

of an independent, pro-segregation labor group told Montgomery's City Commission that the car pool should be stopped. Editor Jack D. Brock of the Alabama Labor News said men stood ready to swear out citizens' warrants against the car pool operators if necessary.

The commission responded that it was studying the car pool and had "plans of bringing action for an injunction to stop all activities which the city considers illegal" (See CAR POOL, Page 12-A)

## Car Pool

(Continued From Page 1)

at this time."

Top officers of the Montgomery Improvement Assn., the group that coordinates the boycott, were not available yesterday. Rufus Lewis, identified last spring as chairman of the MIA's transportation committee, refused to make any comment on the situation.

### "WALKING" PLANS

Ministers interviewed yesterday said they had no knowledge of a rumored plan for all Negroes to walk to work today. Such a mass demonstration was conducted last winter when the boycott was first reaching national prominence.

No plans for a walking demonstration were announced to congregations, the way MIA information has been disseminated in the past, the ministers reported. Rev. Harold A. L. Clement and Rev. H. H. Hubbard both said their station wagons would run, but others were uncertain of it.

Neither the car pool nor the city bus system operates on Sunday and yesterday no signs of activity indicated what might happen if steps were taken to halt car pool transportation. Before last Dec. 5 when the protest began, between 20,000 and 40,000 Negro customers used city buses every day.

Since then Negroes have been seen on buses only infrequently.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/30/83 BY sps cld/gcl

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 10-29-56  
Page 1

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

MOFILE 44-439  
BUFILE 100-135-61

100-135-61-250

# Commission Studies Plea For Roundup

## Labor Group Says Bus Operations Being Sabotaged

By FRANK GORDY

The City Commission this afternoon had under consideration a demand that immediate arrests be made to halt the operation of car pools and station wagons being used by Negroes as a weapon in their 10-months-old boycott of City Bus Lines.

Jack D. Brock, an official of the weekly Alabama Labor News, made the demand after Atty. John P. Kohn, retained by the publication, informed the commission it has ample authority, under existing law, to "stop this subterfuge that is sabotaging the franchises of the bus company and legally operated taxicab companies."

### WILL SIGN WARRANTS

Brock said he and H. L. Welch, another official of the Labor News, would sign warrants for arrests if the commission felt the issuance of warrants is necessary.

"We believe arrests should start this afternoon, at the pickup station around the corner (McDonough Street near Monroe)," Brock declared.

Kohn said that he, as an attorney retained to look into certain aspects of the boycott, was appearing in a "helpful spirit in no way critical of the commission." He and his clients would work with city attorneys without compensation in pressing cases against station wagon and car-pool operators active in the boycott, Kohn said.

### OUT-OF-CITY FINANCING

The attorney declared the car pool and station wagons were being financed, at least in part, by "people from other places who hate the South and don't understand its problems." He added that the operators are being paid "by somebody and in some fashion—somebody has to buy gasoline, because station wagons can't operate on air."

Kohn offered the commission what he described as a rough draft of a proposed ordinance which he

ARRESTS, Page 2A

HEADLINE:

"ARRESTS DEMANDED HERE TO HALT  
OPERATION OF NEGRO CAR POOLS "

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date October 26, 1956  
Page One

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

MOFILE 44-439  
BUFILE 100-135-61

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY SP3/CL/jgl

100-135-61-450  
ENCLOSURE

## Arrests

(Continued From Page 1)

said would give the city an uncontested right to stop the car pool operations. He added, however, that in his opinion the city could proceed under existing law.

He suggested that arrests be made and defendants tried in recorder's court for violation of the taxicab law, or the car pool operators enjoined through the equity division of circuit court. Kohn told the commission the car pool operators were doing, by subterfuge what the commission had denied them a right to do. This reference was to the commission's action several months ago in refusing to grant the bus boycotters a franchise for operation of their own transportation system.

### TALLAHASSEE ACTION CITED

Kohn also referred to the action in Tallahassee, Fla., where officials have obtained injunctions against operations similar to those conducted by the boycotters here.

"What Tallahassee has done, Montgomery can do," the attorney asserted.

Mayor W. A. Gayle declared the City Commission "has been leading and will continue to lead the fight to maintain segregation." The mayor disclosed that the city's legal department has been making an intensive study of the situation and possibly was about ready to act through the injunction method.

Gayle reminded the conference that many arrests had been made of Negroes active in the boycott but that only one case, that of the Rev. M. L. King, had come to trial. The King conviction is now on appeal. The mayor also pointed out that the city obtained a circuit court injunction preserving segregation when the National City Lines, parent company of the Montgomery bus operation, several months ago ordered desegregation of buses in all cities in which it operates.

### HAVEN'T GIVEN AN INCH

"We haven't given an inch in this battle to keep segregation and we don't intend to do so—we have been stronger than most other cities of the South in this matter," the mayor said.

City Attys. Walter Knabe and Drayton Hamilton and Police Chief G. J. Ruppenthal sat in the conference as did State Sen. Sam Engelhardt of Macon County, leader in the White Citizens Council movement. Engelhardt took no part in the discussion.

The city attorneys went into immediate conference with Gayle and Commissioners Clyde Sellers and Frank Parks, but there was no indication as to what course the city would take. Gayle and Sellers, the police commissioner, declined immediate comment pending the conference with the attorneys.

There had been reports a delegation of bus drivers, some of whom have been laid off as a result of the boycott, would attend the conference, but none was present. Neither was the bus company management nor representative of any taxicab company present.

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7C

1 - Mr. [redacted]  
Liaison Section

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100-135-61

Date: November 8, 1956 DATE 3/30/83 BY [signature]

To: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Chief, Security Division

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: RACIAL SITUATION (Prison) Mobile  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA



[Large redacted block]

[Redacted block]

[Redacted block]

NOV 3 1956  
MAILED 1

100-135-61-252

7C  
7D

- \_\_\_ Tolson
- \_\_\_ Nichols
- \_\_\_ Boardman
- \_\_\_ Belmont
- \_\_\_ Mason
- \_\_\_ Mohr
- \_\_\_ Parsons
- \_\_\_ Rosen
- \_\_\_ Tamm
- \_\_\_ Nease
- \_\_\_ Winterrowd
- \_\_\_ Tele. Room

The above is for your information.  
 1 - Assistant Attorney General (By Form 0-6, same date)  
     William F. Tompkins  
 1 - Assistant Attorney General (By Form 0-6, same date)  
     Warren Olney III  
 1 - [redacted] (By Form 0-6, same date)

Called cc  
to A.F. only

NOV 10 1956  
7C

**Letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army**

**1 - Director of Special Investigations  
The Inspector General  
Department of the Air Force  
Building Tempo E  
4th and Adams Drive, S. W.  
Washington, D. C.**

**BY COURIER SERVICE**

**1 - Director of Naval Intelligence  
Department of the Navy  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.**

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100-135-61

97214

Date: November 16, 1956

To: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Chief, Security Division

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Reference is made to my memorandum dated November 13, 1956.

For your additional information, on November 13, 1956, Circuit Judge Eugene Carter granted a temporary injunction to stop Montgomery Negroes from using a car pool for transportation during their boycott of city buses. This order was granted on the grounds that the city of Montgomery had presented enough evidence to show Negroes might be operating a private enterprise without a license. The judge said, however, the question will have to be determined ultimately on the issue of a permanent injunction.

RECORDED - 10

Rufus Lewis, head of the car-pool committee of the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA), the organization sponsoring the boycott of the buses, reported that the car-pool operations will continue until restraining orders are served on the participants.

EX-117

- cc - Assistant Attorney General (By Form 0-6, same date)  
William F. Tompkins
- cc + Assistant Attorney General (By Form 0-6, same date)  
Warren Olney III

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 DATE 7/30/83 BY 49324/98

COURIER SVL  
 A.F. only

MAILED 11  
 NOV 16 1956

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

andy

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

97215

Martin L. King, Jr., MIA president, predicted the boycott would end on November 14, 1956.

On November 14, 1956, U. S. District Court Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr., denied a plea for an injunction in behalf of the MIA requesting the city of Montgomery be restrained from interfering with the operation of the car pool by MIA. The basis for this denial was that the Federal court is without jurisdiction and no evidence was available that the MIA and others would suffer irreparable damage if such an injunction was not issued.

cc - Director of Naval Intelligence  
Department of the Navy  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D. C.

cc - Director of Special Investigations BY COURIER SERVICE  
The Inspector General  
Department of the Air Force  
Building Tempo E  
4th and Adams Drive, S. W.  
Washington, D. C.