

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) 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:

100-135-61-255

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

PAGE THREE

[REDACTED]

7C  
7D

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER, NOV. FOURTEEN, FIFTYSIX, CARRYING  
NEWS OF SUPREME COURT DECISION, NOV. THIRTEEN, INCLUDES  
STATEMENT BY C. C. -JACK- OWEN, PRESIDENT OF ALA. PUBLIC  
SERIVCE COMMISSION, THAT SEGREGATION MUST BE MAINTAINED TO KEEP  
DOWN VIOLENCE AND BLOODSHED. THIS ARTICLE QUOTES LUTHER INGALLS  
LEADER OF MONTGOMERY CO. CITIZENS COUNCIL AS SAYING QUOTE  
AND ATTEMPT TO ENFORCE THIS DECISION WILL INEVITABLY LEAD  
END PAGE THREE...

PAGE FOUR...

TO RIOT AND BLOODSHED ~~UNQUOTE~~. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] ADVISED THAT HE HAD HEARD RUMORS FROM  
UNIDENTIFIED SOURCES THAT GROUPS OF KLANSMEN WERE EXPECTED  
TO PROCEED FROM BIRMINGHAM AND VICINITY TO MONTGOMERY  
SOMETIME DURING NOV. FOURTEEN, FIFTYSIX. [REDACTED] THESE  
RUMORS APPEARED UNFOUNDED AND THAT NO CONFIRMATION WAS  
RECEIVED FROM ANY SOURCE. [REDACTED]

7C  
7D

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF  
PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

H A L L F O R D

END

CC: MR. BELMONT  
AND SUPERVISOR  
DOM. INTEL. DIVISION

FBI  
NOV 18 10 47 AM '56

REC'D DEPT OF JUSTICE  
NOV 12 15 51 PM '56  
RECEIVED DEPT OF JUSTICE

Being disseminated  
Dept & Intelligence  
agencies  
fbc

cc [redacted] [redacted] **7C**

THE ATTOR. GENERAL

November 15, 1956

Director, FBI

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

*Racon Mobile*

*C*

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3cl/hel

NOV 16 9 30 AM '56  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

**7C**  
**7D**

he had heard rumors from unidentified sources that groups of Klansmen were expected to proceed from Birmingham, Alabama, and vicinity to Montgomery sometime on November 14, 1956. [redacted] these rumors appear to be unfounded and that no confirmation was received.

RECORDED-82

100-135-61

100-135-256  
NOV 21 1956

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE 230

NOV 16 1956  
COMM-FBI

**7C**

NOV 12 8 24 AM '56

*Handwritten initials/signature*

**Letter to The Attorney General**

On November 13, 1956, the United States Supreme Court ruled that racial segregation on buses in Montgomery violates the Federal Constitution. With regard to this decision, the "Montgomery Advertiser," newspaper, in its November 14, 1956, issue, carried a statement by C. C. "Jack" Owen, president of the Alabama Public Service Commission, to the effect that segregation must be maintained to keep down violence and bloodshed. This issue also quotes Luther Ingalls, leader of the Montgomery County Citizens Council, as saying "An attempt to enforce this decision will inevitably lead to riot and bloodshed."

The Department will be kept advised of all additional pertinent information received.

- cc - Mr. William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General
- cc - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins
- cc - Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Olney III

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Information in Mobile teletype 11/15/56 concerning injunction issued to halt car pools and other information relative to the boycott of buses <sup>has</sup> ~~has~~ been disseminated to the Department and intelligence agencies by letter 11/16/56. The Department was previously advised

7C  
7D



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

NOV 14 1956

TELETYPE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3ck/9d

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

SAC, MOBILE

11-14-56

11-17AM

DIRECTOR, FBI

URGENT

RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALA. THE <sup>NOV.</sup> QUOTE MOBILE REGISTER,

QUOTE DAILY AT MOBILE, ALA., FOURTEEN INSTANT CARRIES

PAGE ONE HEADLINE QUOTE INJUNCTION BANS CAR POOLS DURING

MONTGOMERY BOYCOTT DESPITE COURT- S BUS RULING. QUOTE. THIS

ARTICLE REFLECTS THAT LATE ON NOV. THIRTEEN LAST 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, BUT THAT THE INDICATIONS WERE THAT THIS RULING, EFFECTIVE MIDNIGHT NOV.

THIRTEEN LAST, WOULD HAVE LITTLE EFFECT

IN VIEW OF THE SUPREME COURT- S NOVEMBER THIRTEEN DECISION OUTLAWING CITY BUS SEGREGATION. RUFUS LEWIS, HEAD OF THE CAR POOL COMMITTEE OF THE MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSN. (MIA) IS REPRESENTED AS SAYING THAT THE CAR POOL OPERATIONS WILL CONTINUE UNTIL

RESTRAINING ORDERS ARE SERVED ON PARTICIPANTS. THE ARTICLE SAYS THAT REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., MIA PRESIDENT, PREDICTED THAT THE BOYCOTT WILL END AT A NEGRO MASS MEETING TONIGHT,

NOV. FOURTEEN. THE ARTICLE CONTINUES THAT JUDGE CARTER GRANTED THE TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY HAD PRESENTED ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO SHOW THAT THE NEGROES

END PAGE ONE

Mr. Belmont

cc - *Parsons*

*Handled in cc  
Let Res, ON, OS, Tamm, 11-16-56*

RECORDED - 53  
100-135-11-258  
NOV 20 1956

*Parsons*

PAGE TWO .....

MIGHT BE OPERATING A PRIVATE ENTERPRISE WITHOUT A LICENSE  
ALTHOUGH HE SAID THAT QUESTION WILL HAVE TO BE DETERMINED  
ULTIMATELY ON THE ISSUE OF A PERMINENT INJUNCTION. THIS  
ARTICLE POINTS OUT THAT HEARINGS BEGIN TODAY NOV. FOURTEEN  
ON THE MIA- S PETITION IN <sup>U.S. DISTRICT COURT</sup> USDC, MONTGOMERY, ASKING THE DISTRICT  
COURT FOR AN ORDER TO PREVENT THE CITY FROM INTERFERING WITH  
THE CAR POOL. BUREAU WILL BE PROMPTLY ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

HALLFORD

~~THE SECOND LINE FROM TOP AFTER WORD ALA., THE WORD NOV. SHOULD  
BE INSERTED THERE~~

~~AND THE SECONND LINE FROM BOTTOM THE SECONF D WORD SHOULD BE TEMPORARY  
END AND ACK PLS~~

12-31 PM OK FBI WA JS

TUN

RECEIVED DEPT OF JUSTICE  
NOV 14 10 40 AM '62  
RECEIVED DEPT OF JUSTICE



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) b1, b7c 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:  
100-135-61-259

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

Office Memorandum • ~~SECRET~~ UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. Belmont

DATE: November 9, 1956

FROM : F. J. Baumgardner

SUBJECT: Operation - White  
COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
NEGRO QUESTION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Classified by sp3cl/gcl  
Declassify on: OADR 3/31/83

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

[REDACTED]

**BT**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

(5) At 7:45 p.m. tonight I contacted SAC Hallford of Mobile Office regarding the above New York teletype. Mr. Hallford advised that he was acquainted with the contents of that teletype having already received it from New York.

He was instructed to have his informants in Montgomery promptly contacted to determine what the current situation is in Montgomery. He was instructed to promptly advise the Bureau what the Mobile Office knows about the current situation and to submit its views as to whether the situation is "explosive" as indicated in the New York teletype. He was instructed that these informants should be contacted tonight and the detailed teletype submitted to the Bureau by 9 a.m., November 10, 1956.

Upon receipt of this information from the Mobile Office dissemination will be made to appropriate agencies in Washington.

ACTION:

Submitted for your information. Dissemination of the above information will be handled November 10, 1956, upon receipt of information from Mobile.

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

FJB:dlj

(4)

61 NOV 23 1956  
837

~~SECRET~~

10-12-61-21  
17 NOV 20 1956

DUTY OFFICERS G-2  
ONI, OSI advised  
am 11/10/56

Let AC SI, cc: ONI, OSI!  
AAG - Tappan & Cully  
11/13/56

7C

611 50717  
7C

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

NOV 10 1956

DATE 3/31/83

BY sp3cle/gcl

TELETYPE

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	_____

FBI MOBILE 11-9-56 12-35 VFP

DIRECTOR FBI AND SAC NEW YORK URGENT

RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALA. RETEL FROM NY TO BUREAU  
AND THIS OFFICE ON NINTH INSTANT CAPTIONED QUOTE CPUSA- NEGRO  
QUESTION. CINAL. UNQUOTE, AND TELCON FROM BUREAU TO THIS  
OFFICE SAME DATE. BY LETTER TO BUREAU FIFTH INSTANT BUREAU  
WAS FURNISHED INFO CITY OF MONTGOMERY- S PLEA FOR INJUCTION  
TO HALT CAR POOL OPERATION- S BY MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
AND A NUMBER OF NEGRO CHURCHES WAS TO BE HEARD IN STATE CIRCUIT  
COURT AT MONTGOMERY ON THIRTEENTH INSTANT AND HEARING ON A REQUEST  
FOR AN ORDER TO RESTRAIN CITY FROM INTERFERRING WITH NEGRO CAR  
POOL OPERATIONS IN USDC AT MONTGOMERY SET FOR FOURTEENTH INSTANT.  
RE URLET TO BUREAU IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT

7C  
 7D  
 100-133-61-261  
 Mr. Belmont date furnished  
 11/14/05  
 051,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

END PAGE ONE

58 NOV 26 1956  
Mr. Belmont

EX-125

cc Baumgardner

INT. ST.

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:  
  100-135-61-261  

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

tickler

7C

NOVEMBER 10, 1956

TELETYPE

ENCODE

PREFERRED

911

SAC, MOBILE

Racon

RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA. REWYTEL QUOTE CPUSA DASH NEGRO QUESTION UNQUOTE AND URTEL, BOTH NOVEMBER NINE LAST. FURNISH INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES AND APPROPRIATE CIVIL AUTHORITIES PERTINENT DATA RETELS. SUTEL NO LATER THAN NINE AM NOVEMBER THIRTEEN NEXT SUMMARY OF PENDING LOCAL AND FEDERAL ACTION REGARDING INJUNCTIONS. URLET NOVEMBER FIVE LAST NOT LOCATED BUFILES.

HOOVER

100-135-61

dash (3) act

NOV 13 8 31 AM '56 COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NR. 101958

ENC. 1958-2005 BY hjr

CK. 211-2124 BY maw

APPROVED BY maw

TYPED BY

FILED BY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3cl/hcl

Teletype requested from Mobile by 9am 11/10/56 not yet received.

TELETYPE

100-135-61-262

NOV 10 1956

RECORDED - 71

17 NOV 20 1956

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

EX-125

6:37 PM Per TCG

NOV 23 1956

- son
hols
ardman
lmost
tr
rooms
sen
am
tter
me
terrowd
e. Room
loman
dy

CFW

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

NOV 12 1956

TELETYPE

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

*gml*

FBI, MOBILE

11-12-56

1-44 PM

MCM

DIRECTOR, FBI

URGENT

*Racoon Mobile*

RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA. REBUTEL TENTH INSTANT WITH REFERENCE MYTEL TO BUREAU NINTH INSTANT AND NEW YORK TEL TO BUREAU AND THIS OFFICE SAME DATE. AS REFLECTED IN NEWSPAPER ITEM FORWARDED BUREAU BY LET FIFTH INSTANT, MONTGOMERY CITY LEGAL DEPARTMENT FILED PLEA FOR INJUNCTION IN STATE CIRCUIT COURT IN MONTGOMERY TO HALT CAR POOL OPERATIONS AT MONTGOMERY IN PETITION BEING DIRECTED AGAINST MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, A CORPORATION, AND NUMEROUS COLORED CHURCHES AND INDIVIDUALS. CITY OF MONTGOMERY ALLEGES CAR POOL OPERATION ILLEGAL IN THAT IT IS BEING OPERATED WITHOUT PAYMENT LICENSE FEES, WITHOUT FRANCHISE AND THROUGH USE DRIVERS WHO ARE NOT HOLDERS OF VALID OPERATING LICENSE, AND THAT POLICE PROBLEM IS CREATED BECAUSE SOME CAR POOL DRIVERS ARE NOT QUALIFIED MORALLY AND BY EXPERIENCE. HEARING ON PETITION FILED BY CITY OF MONTGOMERY SET FOR THIRTEENTH INSTANT. THE NEGRO GROUP FILED REQUEST FOR AN ORDER IN <sup>U.S. DISTRICT COURT</sup> USDC, MONTGOMERY, TO RESTRAIN CITY OF MONTGOMERY FROM INTERFERING WITH NEGRO CAR POOL OPERATIONS. HEARING ON PETITION FILED BY THE NEGRO GROUP SET IN USDC, MONTGOMERY, <sup>FOURTEENTH INSTANT</sup>. BUREAU WILL BE PROMPTLY ADVISED RESULTS THESE ~~HEARINGS~~ HEARINGS.

HALLFORD

END ACK PLS

EX-125

Mr. Belmont

MR. BELMONT  
AND SUPERVISOR  
DOM. INTEL. DIVISION

2-48 PM OK FBI WA CS  
58 NOV 23 1956  
TU DISC 73/7

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp30k/pol

*Handwritten initials and scribbles*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~SECRET~~

7C

100-135-51

Classified by *sp3 ck/6cl*  
Declassify on: OADR 3/31/83

Date: November 13, 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 Racon Mobile  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
FIELD OFFICES

*Handwritten notes and signatures*

This memorandum will confirm the following information which was furnished telephonically on November 10, 1956, to [redacted] in the office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence; [redacted] Office of Naval Intelligence; and [redacted] office of Special Investigations, by Special Agent [redacted] of this Bureau.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

7C  
BY COURIER SVC.  
2 - NOV 14  
COMM - FBI

MAILED  
EXCEPT AS NOTED  
NOV 14 1956  
COMM - FBI

b1  
FBI  
NOV 14 1956

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

RECORDED - 71

EX-127

100-135-1017  
17 NOV 20 1956

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ~~SECRET~~

NOV 13 5 25 PM '56  
REC'D-REMOING  
FBI

NOV 23 1956

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~SECRET~~

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

b1

[REDACTED]

(S)

[REDACTED]

(S)

[REDACTED]

(S)

[REDACTED]

(S)

For your information in this matter, the Montgomery, Alabama, City Legal Department has filed a plea for an injunction in the state circuit court in Montgomery to halt car-pool operations. A petition in this regard was directed against the Montgomery Improvement Association, which organization is sponsoring the boycott of buses in Montgomery by Negroes, and numerous Negro churches and individuals. The city alleges that the car-pool operation is illegal in that it is being operated without payment of license fees.

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~SECRET~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~SECRET~~

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

without franchise, and through use of drivers who do not hold valid operating licenses. A hearing on this petition filed by the city is set for November 13, 1956.

A request for an order to restrain the city from interfering with car-pool operations was filed by Negroes in Montgomery in the U. S. District Court at Montgomery. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for November 14, 1956.

7D



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 2  
4th and Adams Drive, S. W.  
Washington, D. C.

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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:  
  100-135-61-265  

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

**ZD**  
[REDACTED] had heard rumors from unidentified sources that groups of Klansmen were expected to proceed from Birmingham and vicinity to Montgomery sometime on November 14, 1956. [REDACTED] these rumors appeared unfounded and that no confirmation was received.

On November 13, 1956, the United States Supreme Court ruled that racial segregation on buses in Montgomery violates the Federal Constitution. With regard to this decision the "Montgomery Advertiser" newspaper, in its November 14, 1956, issue included a statement by C. C. "Jack" Owen, president of the Alabama Public Service Commission, to the effect that segregation must be maintained to keep down violence and bloodshed. This issue also quotes Luther Ingalls, leader of the Montgomery County Citizens Council, as saying "An attempt to enforce this decision will inevitably lead to riot and bloodshed."

Any additional pertinent information received 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.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Above information is being furnished to AG, copies to Rogers, Tompkins and Olney, by separate communication same date.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DATE: 11/15/56

*Pinckney*

Re previous communications to Bureau regarding this matter.

As of possible interest to the Bureau, attached hereto are two copies each of the following newspaper items:

1. Item appearing in the Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery, Alabama, 11/14/56, captioned "INJUNCTION CALLS HALT TO NEGRO TRANSIT LINE."
2. Item appearing in same paper 11/14/56 captioned "PSC OFFICIAL VOWS STATE MUST KEEP BUS SEGREGATION."
3. Item appearing in same paper 11/14/56 captioned "WHITE SPOKESMEN WARN OF POSSIBLE VIOLENCE."
4. Item appearing in same paper 11/14/56 captioned "KLAN STAGES PARADE HERE."

2 - Bureau (Encl. 8) (100-135-61)  
 2 - Mobile (1 - 44-439, 1 - 105-17)  
 10  
 (4)

7C

ENCLOSURE

*re: Klan bank article*

EX-105

*1cc each incl to Birmingham 11-20-56*

EXP. PROC.

RECORDED-35

100-135-61-266

NOV 19 1956

*search and to*  
 100A AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
 FORM 6-55 12-4-56  
 under Bus Segregation in  
 Interstate Commerce,  
 State of Alabama  
 Civil Rights

66 DEC 18 1956

50 NOV 27 1956

*Baumgardner*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3 CLK/CL

## Klan Stages Parade Here

About 40 carloads of hooded and hooded Ku Klux Klan members toured Negro neighborhoods throughout the city last night blowing horns and shining flood lights into homes, police reported. No violence was reported.

Police Capt. H. E. Jackson said no steps were being taken since no complaints had been received.

The Klan caravan reportedly started near a northside cotton mill, drove across town to the Normandale Shopping Center, doubled back through Negro neighborhoods to Madison avenue, circled Court Square and disbanded. Some of the cars headed back toward the mill, sources said.

Montgomery Advertiser  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 11-14-56  
Page 2-A

Re: **MEMBERS OF ALABAMA  
KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, aka.  
IS - X  
Mofile 105-17  
Bufile 105-38070**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY spide/gol

100-135-61 266

ENCLOSURE

# White Spokesmen Warn Of Possible Violence

By BOB INGRAM

Laws requiring racial segregation on buses in Montgomery and throughout Alabama were declared unconstitutional yesterday in another historic decision by the U.S. Supreme Court.

And while the decision dealt specifically with Alabama statutes and ordinances of the City of Montgomery, in effect it also outlawed similar segregation laws throughout the South since this ruling sets the precedent for all similar cases in the future.

The ruling yesterday brought an immediate prediction from a Negro leader here that a decision to end the 11-month bus boycott would "unquestionably" be made at a mass meeting tonight.

Calling the decision a "glorious daybreak to end a long night of enforced segregation," the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. declared emphatically that his race would use "every legal means" to see that the court's decision was complied with in Montgomery.

## OMINOUS RUMBLINGS

But from white leaders of the city and state came warnings of possible violence and bloodshed if any attempt is made to carry out the decision.

C. C. (Jack) Owen, president of the Alabama Public Service Commission, declared that segregation must be maintained "To keep down violence and bloodshed."

And Luther Ingalls, local leader of the pro-segregation Montgomery Citizens' Council ~~chapter~~ predicted flatly that "any attempt to enforce this decision will inevitably lead to riot and bloodshed."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY [signature]

HEADLINE: "SUPREME COURT OUTLAW  
BUS SEGREGATION"

Montgomery Advertiser  
Montgomery, Alabama  
November 14, 1956  
Page One

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mafilo: 44-439

100-135-61-266

ENCLOSURE

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95

#### BOYCOTT RESULT

The court's decision yesterday stemmed directly from Montgomery's long boycott. The tribunal, in a unanimous decision, upheld a June 19 decision of a special three-member panel of federal judges which had ruled that Montgomery's bus segregation laws were unconstitutional.

Amid all the confusion as to the effect of the decision, one fact appeared to stand clear—the court's decision had ended with abrupt finality any legal efforts the city or state might initiate in an attempt to preserve segregation on public conveyances. There is no appeal from a U.S. Supreme Court decision.

The court order was not only unanimous, it was also brief. After citing the 1954 school segregation case and also citing subsequent decisions which outlawed segregation in public parks, playgrounds and golf links, the court ruled briefly:

#### MOTION GRANTED

"The motion to affirm is granted and the judgment is affirmed."

This affirmation left no doubt that the Supreme Court was outlawing segregation on all bus systems. Earlier this year some question had arisen when the court simply dismissed an appeal from another decision overturning a South Carolina segregation law. That left the decision in effect but led to confusion—ended yesterday as to the Supreme Court's intent.

Meanwhile, what action the National City Lines, Inc., will take locally became an issue of para-  
(See BUS RULING, Page 2A)

## Bus Ruling

(Continued From Page 1)

mount importance. National City operates the local buses.

Officials of the company in Chicago declined comment due to the absence of the firm's president. Locally, no bus line official would comment on what steps might be taken in view of the decision.

Also declining comment were members of the City Commission as well as Gov. James E. Folsom.

Mayor W. A. Gayle, speaking for the commission, said he had not seen a copy of the decision but would make an "appropriate statement" after he has studied the court's ruling.

The court's decision yesterday placed into immediate effect an injunction ordering the City Commission of Montgomery to cease enforcing its segregation laws.

#### 3-JUDGE PANEL

This injunction was issued by the three-judge panel, but then held in abeyance pending the outcome of the city's appeal. It was on this appeal that the Supreme Court ruled yesterday.

There had been some question—and hope among white leaders—that the injunction might still be in abeyance, but this was ruled out by U.S. Circuit Judge Richard Rives, one of the panel members.

He said the injunction would go into effect as soon as the court order reaches U.S. District Court in Montgomery. Rives said it customarily takes two to three weeks for an order to reach the local office.

Judge Rives also pointed out that the Supreme Court's decision yesterday applied not only to Montgomery, but that it sets a precedent for all similar cases of the future.

He noted that the City Commission and the Alabama Public Service Commission have the right to petition for a rehearing within 15 days, but he said the possibility of further delay in the effective date of the order was slight.

# PSC Official Vows State Must Keep Bus Segregation

Here is what key state and city officials had to say yesterday concerning the U.S. Supreme Court's decision outlawing segregation on public conveyances:

C. C. (Jack) Owen, president, Alabama Public Service Commission, which controls all public transportation in the state:

"The people of Alabama are not going to abolish segregation. I'm going to do everything in my power to maintain peace and order in our state. To keep down violence and bloodshed, segregation must be maintained. I will urge all public transportation companies to make every effort to keep harmony among passengers by assigning seats in such a manner that the races will be kept separate."

Luther Ingalls, Montgomery attorney and leader of the pro-segregation Montgomery County White Citizens' Council:

"This decision . . . is just another example of legislating by the Supreme Court, which is supposed to be the judicial arm of



GAYLE      ENGELHART      INGALLS      C. C. OWEN

our great United States . . . (It) is a further invasion by the court and the federal government of the sovereignty of our state and local governments . . . The final decision remains with the voters at the ballot box. For those of you who continue to vote for administrations committed to a policy of integration, I can only say that

you will eventually receive your just desserts and that the sins of their fathers will descend upon the heads of your children. To those of you who say that this decision cannot be enforced, I need merely to refer you to the recent use of bayonets and tanks against the unarmed citizens of (See PSC, Page 2A)

Montgomery Advertiser  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 11-14-56  
Page 1-A

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mofile: 44-439

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-55

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY J. S. [signature]

100-135-61-266  
ENCLOSURE



## PSC

(Continued From Page 1)

Clinton, Tenn. If you think for one minute that Gov. Folsom would not try to outdo Gov. Clement in this regard, you are sadly mistaken. On the other hand, attempted enforcement of this decision will inevitably lead to riot and bloodshed. Your Citizens' Council has always insisted that these matters be handled peacefully and legally and I feel sure that this constitutional provision of the Council will remain in force and effect and will be controlling of its membership."

State Sen. Sam Engelhardt Jr. of Macon, executive secretary of the Alabama Assn. of Citizens' Councils:

"This decision is just another example of the invasion of local self government by the federal government. I don't believe the white people of Montgomery are going to accept any such mandate from the Supreme Court. As far as I am concerned they can move the Montgomery City Lines, Inc., lock, stock and barrel, to Washington, D.C. It appears that the Supreme Court is determined to build a federal oligarchy that will undermine the very foundation of these United States, and spread ill will and discord throughout the nation. The Supreme Court apparently will not be satisfied until government by the people, of the people and for the best interests of the majority of all the people is replaced by a many-headed bureaucratic monster in Washington."

The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., Montgomery Negro pastor and leader of the long boycott:

"The Supreme Court decision places a basic responsibility before the Negro and white community of Montgomery. All persons must recognize the difficulty of adjustment and seek through the principles of love and understanding, good will to work in harmony with the new system. All persons of good will will accept the Supreme Court ruling and seek to comply with it."

Mayor W. A. Gayle: "I will have no comment to make until I have seen a copy of the court ruling. We have wired for a copy, and when it is received it will be given full study. I hope we can make an appropriate statement tomorrow."

Fred Gray, Negro attorney recently involved in a heated controversy concerning his draft status:

"I am very happy by the decision."

# Injunction Calls Halt To Negro Transit Line

By AL McCONAGHA

Negro bus boycotters were ordered to halt their car pool operations here yesterday on the same day a Supreme Court decision may have made continuance of their transportation system unnecessary.

Circuit Court Judge Eugene Carter granted a temporary injunction enjoining car pool activities after more than seven hours of exhausting legal debate between Negro and city attorneys.

Carter said later that he had advised a Negro attorney in answer to a telephoned question that the ban would take effect at midnight last night.

George Jones Jr., the court's register in chancery, said restraining orders would go out of his office first thing this morning. He said sheriff's deputies would serve them to MIA, 14 Negro churches and 27 individuals named in the city's petition.

Speaking for a battery of four Negro lawyers, Montgomery attorney Fred Gray said the decision would be appealed. Negroes who had jammed the court room filed silently out as Carter announced his decision.

The Rev. Martin Luther King, Montgomery Improvement Assn. president, told reporters his people would abide by the ruling.

## UNCERTAIN COURSE

City officials were uncertain how their newly made gains in the state court would be affected by the Supreme Court ruling declaring Montgomery bus segregation laws unconstitutional.

Saying the question of private enterprise was a "serious" one, Carter added that evidence presented by the city warranted the temporary injunction and ordered the Register in Chancery George Jones to issue restraining orders to the respondents.

City attorneys, led by City Atty. Walter Knabe said the car pool was a private enterprise operating without the necessary legal consent of the city. City attorneys also said the operation was inadequate (See BOYCOTTERS, Page 2A).

HEADLINE:  
"BOYCOTTERS INSTRUCTED TO  
END CAR POOL"

Montgomery Advertiser  
Montgomery, Alabama  
November 14, 1956  
Page One

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Subfile: 100-135-61  
Ref: 44-489

ICC: AFD DIVISION  
FORM 6-95

100-135-61-266

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 cbc/pd

## Boycotters Lose Round

insured and operated by morally unsuitable drivers.

Peter A. Hall of Birmingham

(Continued From Page 1)

led a battery of four Negro lawyers in saying the car pool was a non-profit organization and, if actually illegal, the city had not taken appropriate measures to halt it. In a final statement, Atty Gray said the boycotters were being forced to ride segregated buses through the city's action.

Mayor W. A. Gayle was the only witness called to testify by the Negro attorneys. Gayle said that had the law been different he "would have obeyed the law at that time" when the arrests starting the boycott were first made.

Gayle said the city sought to halt car pool operations because a desired "comprehensive traffic survey cannot be made with this artificial transportation goin on" and because the Negro transportation system had "destroyed a safe, economical bus system."

Surprise witness for the city was Stuart W. Patton of the Alabama National Bank, who testified that the MIA had deposited a cumulative total of \$189,000 in his bank. There is only slightly over \$1,000 in the association deposit at the present moment, Patton said.

The city also introduced movies taken by Police Lt. Drue Lackey showing Negro motor pool operations. Atty. Hall entered an objection to the showing as taken by an incompetent operator and a violation of federally guaranteed privacy.

City attorneys frequently made the point that MIA Treasurer E. D. Nixon was out of town and that neither he or his records could be subpoenaed.

Earlier, Carter had overruled a defense plea which challenged his

jurisdiction on the grounds that the federal courts rather than the state courts have jurisdiction.

### CARTER'S RULING

In holding his court had jurisdiction, Carter said the situation and persons in the two cases were different.

The Negroes filed a petition in U.S. District Court Nov. 1 seeking to stop the city of Montgomery from interfering with the car pool according to the terms of a resolution passed by the City Commission last month.

First Negro witness called by the city was King. The Negro leader said he knew very little of the financial structure of the MIA and of the details of the transportation system. Association secretary Erna Dungee also claimed general ignorance of financial and transportation matters when asked to testify by Knabe.

The Rev. B. J. Sims, Negro pastor of a Tuskegee church, said he had an "expense account" of \$29.40 weekly for his services as a member of the MIA transportation committee.

Station wagon driver the Rev. Burl Mack Averhart said he couldn't remember where he got routing instructions but admitted he was given a "donation" of \$24 weekly.

A petition asking for a temporary injunction to halt city action against the motor pool filed in U.S. District Court by Montgomery Negroes will be heard at 10 a.m. today.

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:  
  100-135-61-267  

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

**Memorandum for The Attorney General**

7C  
7D

[REDACTED]

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

cc - Mr. William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General

cc - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

cc - Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Olney III

FBI

Date: 11/16/56

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  
AIR MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, MOBILE  
To: DIRECTOR, FBI  
RACON  
RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

MOBILE

*Bainbridge*

Forwarded herewith to the Bureau are 2 copies each of clippings from the 11/15/56 issue of the Alabama Journal, daily at Montgomery, captioned "Non Violence Workshop Set," "Long Boycott Ended by Negroes," and "WCC Chief Dares Court to Enforce Bus Decree." All above articles appear on Page 1.



7C  
7D

Details will be ascertained 11/16/56, and promptly furnished to Bureau, as well as other developments captioned matter.

HALLFORD

- 3 - Bureau (100-135-61) (AM) (6 Encls.)
- 2 - Mobile (44-439)
- 1 - may

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 dcl/gcl

7C

1 cc each end.  
to Memphis by 0-6  
11-30-56

ENCLOSURE

Mr. Belmont

7C

RECORDED - 10  
EX 191

100-135-61-268

11 NOV 26 1956

CC: MR. BELMONT  
AND SUPERVISOR  
DOM. INTEL. DIVISION

NOV 29 1956



7C

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

# Will Ride Buses When Decision Takes Effect

## Restraint Urged By Resistance Head At Mass Meeting

The Negro bus boycott that became a world-renowned symbol of mass resistance to racial segregation was dramatically voted to an end last night at the church where it was born 345 days before.

An estimated 5,500 hymn-singing worshippers crowded into the Holt St. Baptist Church to vote thunderously for an end to the Montgomery boycott.

### WILL RETURN TO BUSES

The Negroes decided to return to city buses as soon as Tuesday's U. S. Supreme Court decision that bus segregation is unconstitutional goes into effect here.

In Washington today, the office of the clerk of the Supreme Court said formal notice will be issued in about a month.

Under the court's rules, notice of a decision is not sent out until at least 25 days after the decision is announced.

In the bus segregation case decided Tuesday, a certified copy of the Supreme Court's judgment will be sent to a special three-judge U.S. District Court in Montgomery, which declared unconstitutional the Alabama and Montgomery laws requiring racial segregation on buses. This unanimously affirmed that decision.

### LATER THAN ANTICIPATED

The official notification will come a little later than the leader of the Negroes apparently expected. The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. told a cheering throng last night that the courts in Montgomery should receive the notice in several days. He urged calmness and restraint when it comes.

Until then, boycotters at the Holt St. Church and at a similar meeting just before it on the other side of town agreed unanimously they will walk to work or share rides with friends.

On Tuesday State Circuit Judge Eugene Carter granted the city of Montgomery an injunction stopping the Negroes' car pool that has provided transportation since the boycott began last Dec. 5. Federal District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. refused yesterday to issue boycott attorneys an injunction blocking city interference with the car pool.

### URGES RESTRAINT

King, apostle of peaceful action throughout the protest, urged those at both meetings to "be calm and reasonable with understanding, good will and Christian love."

"We must take this not as a victory over the white man but with dignity," he said to crowds that had begun gathering three hours before the meetings. "Don't go back to the buses and push people around. We're just going to sit where there's a seat."

King added later, "I wish I could say that when we go back to the buses on an integrated basis that no white person will insult you or that violence will not break out. But I can't say that because I don't know."

"If someone pushes you, don't push him back. We must have the courage to refuse to hit back," the minister said.

King said return to the buses before the decision takes effect "is a matter that might be used by reactionary elements to plunge (See BOYCOTT, Page 3-A)

## Boycott

(Continued from Page 1-A)  
us into needless harrassment and meaningless litigation."

The senior judge on the three-man federal panel that ruled against bus segregation here last June 5, Richard T. Rives of Montgomery and New Orleans, said it would probably take two or three weeks for formal notification of the Supreme Court's action to reach Montgomery. King said "authentic sources" indicated "just a few days."

### DRIVERS HAVE ORDERS

The manager of the Montgomery City Lines, Inc., J. H. Bagley, whose bus patronage dropped by more than 30,000 a day during the boycott, said drivers would continue to enforce segregation until formally relieved of the state-prescribed duty.

Invocation at the first meeting was given by the Rev. Robert Graetz, white pastor of a Negro church and strong supporter of the boycott since it began the day a Negro seamstress was fined \$14 for refusing to move to the rear of a bus. A mass meeting in the Holt Street church decided to boycott buses.

The Rev. S. S. Seay gave the second invocation, saying: "Wherever the Klans may march, no matter what the White Citizens Councils may want to do, we are not afraid because God is on our side."

Attendance at the two meetings was estimated by the two churches' ministers to total more than 10,000. Boycott decisions have in the past been made at such meetings and accepted by the approximately 50,000 Negroes in this first capital of the Confederacy.

Lead lines. QUOTE  
BOYCOTT ENDED BY NEGROES"

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 11-15-56  
Page 1

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mofile: 44-439

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY J23 c/c/gd

ENCLOSURE

## 'Non-Violence' Workshop Set

An "institute of non-violence and social change" will be held here next month by leaders of the now-ending Montgomery Negro bus boycott, they announced yesterday.

The week of Rededication to Negroes and workshops for Southern Negro leaders was announced by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. On the same day he called a victorious end to the boycott.

### TOPICS LISTED

Workshop topics will include "The principles of non-violent action" and "The problems of survival in the face of economic pressure and boycott," King said. Motto of the Dec. 3-9, institute will be "Freedom and dignity with love," the Baptist minister said. It will close with a "mammoth statewide religious service" Dec. 9 to which he invited "all religious leaders and laymen in the state, regardless of color or creed."

The institution's chairman, the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, said "We are planning to involve the entire national community by discussing in the South in interracial groups the major issues that affect Negro-white relations in our nation."

Sponsor of the institute will be the Montgomery Improvement Assn., the organization that coordinated the boycott. King heads the MIA. He said "leaders from all segments of America," including white persons, had accepted invitations to participate.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 cle/gcl

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 11-15-76  
Page 1

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mofile: 44-439

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-36



place before me was

## WCC Chief Dares Court To Enforce Bus Decree

A White Citizens Council leader declared today that the Supreme Court "must make preparations to enforce" its antisegregation orders if it expects Southerners to obey them.

Commenting on Tuesday's decision outlawing Montgomery city and Alabama State bus segregation laws, State Sen. Sam Englehardt of Macon County said that and similar decrees were based on "politics as well as the sociological ravings of outsiders."

White residents of Montgomery "will never accept" the bus integration order, Englehardt declared, adding.

"If the Supreme Court insists on

disrupting our social order, insists on destroying the peaceful relations that have existed here for years, it must make preparations to enforce this order."

Englehardt is executive secretary of the pro-segregation Association of Alabama Citizens' Councils.

In Dothan meanwhile, a city bus line owner, Ben May, said defiantly that "I don't have to operate buses and I won't."

"I don't know what will be done he added, "but we will continue to operate as we have."

May operates the Dothan Transit Co. Tuesday's decision wasn't directed specifically to any transportation system outside Montgomery.

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 11-15-56  
Page 1

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mofile: 44-439

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3 dcl/gcl

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-36

~~SECRET~~

cc Liaison Section  
cc Mr. [redacted]

STATE AGENCIES

7C

100-135-61

DATE

*Class*  
*7/12/83*

Declassify on: OADR 3/31/83

Date: November 20, 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

*Racon - Mobile*

Reference is made to my memorandum dated November 13, 1956, in which you were furnished information concerning the captioned matter and were advised information had been received that [redacted]

[redacted] (S)

[redacted] 7C  
7D

[redacted]

NOV 20 1956  
COMM-FBI

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

cc Assistant Attorney General (By Form 0-6, same date)  
William F. Tompkins  
cc Assistant Attorney General 100-135-61-269  
Warren Olney III (By Form 0-6, same date)

BY COURIER SVC.  
11 NOV 2 1956  
COMM-FBI

10 NOV 26 1956

SECRET

b1

7C  
7D

NOV 28 1956

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

~~SECRET~~  
~~SECRET~~

Letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

**[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED]**

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

~~SECRET~~

7C  
7D  
1

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) 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:  
100-135-61-270

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

10

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) \_\_\_\_\_ 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) Army Intelligence, 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:  
100-135-61-271

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DATE: 11/19/56

As of interest to the Bureau, I am attaching here-  
to two copies each of the following newspaper items:

1. Item captioned "BUS BOYCOTT MAY BE ENDED AT MIA MEET" appearing in the Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery, Alabama, 11/14/56.
2. Item appearing in same paper on same date captioned "HILL DEPLORES BUS DECISION BY U. S. COURT."
3. Item appearing in same paper on same date captioned "EVENTS WHICH LED TO COURT DECISION."
4. Item appearing in same paper on same date captioned "BOMBSHELL FAILS TO DISRUPT CITY LIFE."

② - Bureau (Encl. 8) (AIR MAIL) (100-135-61)  
1 - Mobile (44-439)

7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY 73 cl/501

of each sent to  
ICC, AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 12-4-56  
under "Bus Segregation in  
State of Alabama  
Civil Rights"

ICC grant to  
Simpkins by 0-6  
11-21-56

7c INDEXED - 71

RECORDED - 71

EX-126

100-135-61-272

18 NOV 27 1956

Baumgardner

INT

71 DEC 11 1956

## Bus Boycott May Be Ended At MIA Meet

The Montgomery bus boycott—which has paralyzed city buses here for 345 days—is expected to come to an end tonight.

The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., president of the Montgomery Improvement Assn., said last night that the MIA executive committee "is in the process of drawing up a recommendation" asking boycotting Negroes to return to riding buses tomorrow.

The MIA has been the spearhead of the Negroes' 11-month-long boycott which began last Dec. 5 — the trial date of a Negro woman charged with violating bus segregation laws.

### 3 SEPARATE MEETINGS

King will read the executive committee's recommendation at two separate mass meetings tonight. The first will be at 7 p.m. in the Hutchinson Street Baptist Church and the second at 8 p.m. in the Holt Street Baptist Church.

King said he was not sure how the recommendation would be voted on but felt it would "probably by a voice vote." He said he "couldn't imagine why anybody" would vote against the recommendation.

King said purposes of the mass meetings "are not only to read the recommendation but to educate the people — to prepare the people to accept the new situation with the proper spirit and proper attitude."

### RETURN TO BUSES

Rufus Lewis, organizer of the Negro car pool which was enjoined by court order yesterday, said earlier that "the Supreme Court ruling certainly came at a convenient time." While he did not elaborate earlier, it was clear he referred to the expected Negro return to buses tomorrow.

King did not say if Negroes will attempt to take bus seats heretofore reserved for white persons. There was no indication as to what bus drivers will do in the event Negroes attempt to take seats traditionally denied to them.

No city bus line officials could be reached for comment last night. Montgomery City Lines District Supervisor J. H. Bagley was reported out of the city by his family.

Although City Police Commissioner Clyde C. Sellers denounced the Supreme Court's decision yesterday, he did not indicate if police measures would be activated to halt any attempt at bus integration.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3def/ed

Mont. Advertiser

Alabama Journal

Montgomery, Alabama

Date 11-14-56

Page 1-A

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Bufile: 100-135-61

Mofile: 44-439

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-24-





## EVENTS WHICH LED TO COURT DECISION

In chronological order, here are the events in Montgomery which led to the U.S. Supreme Court's historic decision yesterday outlawing racial segregation on public conveyances in the state:

Dec. 1, 1955—Rosa Parks, a Negro seamstress, was arrested after she refused to move to the rear of a city bus when asked to do so by the bus driver.

Dec. 3—Thousands of circulars were distributed to Montgomery Negroes, urging them to "stay off city buses" on Monday.

Dec. 5, the day of the trial of the Parks woman, in protest of her arrest.

Dec. 5—The Negro woman was fined \$10 and costs in police court for violating city laws. Meanwhile, bus company officials reported the Negro "one-day protest" was 90 per cent effective.

Dec. 8—With the boycott still in effect, Negro leaders indicated it would continue indefinitely until "satisfactory" agreements could be reached. Their demands: A first-come first-served seating arrangement, Negro drivers for buses which traveled in Negro sections of the city, and more courteous treatment for Negro passengers.

Jan. 29—After weeks of futile negotiations, the first major violence was reported—a crude bomb exploded on the porch of the Rev. M. L. King Jr., Negro leader of the boycott. No one was injured.

Jan. 31—A second bomb was exploded, this time on the lawn of the home of E. D. Nixon, Negro leader and former president of the Alabama chapter of the NAACP.

Feb. 21—The Montgomery County Grand Jury indicted 20 Negro leaders active in the boycott, all charged with violating state laws prohibiting organized boycotts.

March 22—Rev. M. L. King Jr. was found guilty of boycott charge and fined \$500 and costs. case was appealed to State Court of Appeals where it is still pending.

May 9—On a petition from City Commission, Circuit Judge Walter B. Jones ordered City Bus Lines to discontinue its policy of desegregation.

May 10—Negro legal leaders open assault on city and state segregation laws relating to transportation, giving testimony to a special three-member panel of federal judges.

June 5—Federal judge panel, by vote of 2-1, declare segregation unconstitutional on public conveyances. Both city and state appeal decision to U.S. Supreme Court.

Nov. 13—U.S. Supreme Court, on appeal from three-member panel, uphold original decision, declaring segregation on Montgomery and Alabama public conveyances is unconstitutional.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/30/83 BY sp3 chf/cl

*Mont. Advertiser*  
~~Alabama Journal~~  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 11-19-56  
Page 1-A

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mofile: 44-439

100: 100-135-61-21-  
FORM 6-95

ENCLOSURE

**BUSINESS CONTINUES AS USUAL**

# Bombshell Fails To Disrupt City Life

By STEVE LESHER

Montgomery continued business as usual yesterday despite a potential bombshell tossed on the Cradle of the Confederacy by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The city bus line—Montgomery City Lines Inc—operated on schedule and the few Negroes who ride the buses walked quietly to the rear and took their seats.

But the inner surging of conflicting emotions could not be restrained. Nearly all of more than two dozen white persons and Negroes interviewed by The Ad-

vertiser yesterday afternoon were eager to have their say.

Asked their reactions to the Supreme Court decision to outlaw segregation on buses in Montgomery, white men and women were unanimously opposed to integration. Curiously, however, they appeared almost resigned rather than resentful. These powerfully opposed to bus integration avoided reference to violence unless specifically asked if they believed there might be violence.

T. Sgt. Robert J. Wall, 36, of St. Paul, Minn., said he felt that

"the system they've had in the South about bus seating is one they should keep. Most of your Negro population is in the South and I feel that it would be more orderly if you have separate seats."

Rufus Lewis, one of the key leaders of the Negro car pool, said he "expected a favorable decision from the Supreme Court. I think everybody expected it. I don't feel there will be violence, not in Montgomery. The Negro population has not been unduly excited over the decision but there's (See BOMBSHELL, Page 2A)



TOWNSEND



POWELL



KILBERG



WATTS



WALL



SANDERS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3 CLK/SEL

*Mont. Advertiser*  
Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 11-18-56  
Page 1-B

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mofile: 44-439

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95

100-135-61-272  
ENCLOSURE  
4

## Bombshell

(Continued From Page 1)

been a lot of talk just as I'm doing now."

At the Montgomery Improvement Assn.; the group which has spearheaded the 11-month-old bus boycott, the first of what probably will be many congratulatory telegrams arrived. It was from Denver, Colo. The contents of the telegram were not released for publication.

Miss Juanita Townsend, 18-year-old student at Massey - Draughon Business College here, said that "if buses are integrated, many people would get upset. As long as you ask, I think it might lead to violence."

Mrs. J. D. Powell of Selmer, Tenn., said she "didn't think the Negroes are quite ready for integration. Many don't keep themselves clean and I wouldn't like to sit next to them on buses. Up in Memphis they don't have bus integration."

Warrant Officer G. C. Watts, 36, 210B Smith St. and formerly of Maxwell Air Force Base, said he felt "like the rest of Montgomery. I guess I just don't like the thought of Negroes pushing me around."

Carrie McKenzie of 767 Day St., a Negro domestic, said, "I'm 56 years old and that too old to walk. I make \$10 a week and that's not enough to pay cab fare every day. So I ride the buses. I don't use the car pool because they tell me I've got to be a member of the NAACP to do that. And I don't make enough money to belong to the NAACP. Anyway, my daddy didn't belong to the NAACP so why should I?"

James Sanders of 1530 Wisconsin Ave., said, "I'll tell you how I feel about it. I never wanted to buy a car, but I'm buying one tomorrow. I'm doing that to protect my daughter-in-law — my son's overseas — and my grandchild. I don't expect my grandchild, who's five year's old — I don't think he'll ever ride on a bus next to a Negro."

Jake Kilberg, 714 W. Patton Ave., said, "I'm a Northerner and up there we don't have any segregation on buses. But I believe it's up to the people of the South to decide for themselves whether or not they want segregation or integration."

All the persons interviewed by The Advertiser, with the exception of Lewis, are regular bus patrons. In earlier interviews, one of the plaintiffs in the precedent-breaking Supreme Court case said "it was not as if we were fighting the city or its officials." Susie McDonald, 78, said "all we wanted was justice. We were badly treated on the buses and now they've given us justice."

"I feel that lots of people of the white race and of our race are not fit to sit with decent people and they should go to the rear of buses," the Negro woman said.

The only other plaintiff available, 16-year-old Claudett Colvin, had no comment. Robert Cleere, one of the bus drivers named in the federal court suit, said he would have nothing to say about the decision. Cleere is now in a federal civil service job at Maxwell Air Force Base.

The other driver, James F. Blake, was unavailable.

Reporters of The Advertiser throughout the city noted that all Negroes seen riding buses remained seated in the rear.

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:  
100-135-61-273

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

7D

[REDACTED]

7C

7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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.

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

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.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : SAC, Mobile  
SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DATE: 11/21/56

*(KACON)*

As of interest to the Bureau, I am attaching two copies each of the following newspaper items:

1. Item appearing in the Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery, Alabama, 11/16/56, captioned "CITY VOWS BATTLE ON DESEGREGATION BY LEGAL METHODS."
2. Item appearing in same paper on same date captioned "FOLSOM CALLS FOR SETTLING RACE ISSUE OUTSIDE COURT."
3. Item appearing in the Alabama Journal, Montgomery, Alabama, 11/20/56, captioned "CITY PLANS NEW BUS CASE PLEA."

2 - Bureau (Encl. 6) (100-135-61)  
1 - Mobile (44-439)  
-10

**7C**

ENCLOSURE

30

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 cld/gcl

*icc reach encl  
to 20mphers by 0-6  
11-27-56*

RECORDED - 34

100-135-61-211

**7C**

INDEXED - 34

NOV 27 1956

*of each encl.*  
ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 12-4-56 LEE  
under "Bus Segregation in  
Intrastate Commerce  
State of Alabama" - C.P.  
6 F 275

*INTL*

# City Vows Battle On Desegregation By Legal Methods

## Mayor Says Race Barrier Will Remain

By AL McCONAGHA  
The Montgomery City Commission promised yesterday to seek every "legal" means of preserving racial segregation laws here and asked residents, meanwhile, to remain calm.

At the same time, Negro leaders expressed disappointment when they learned it may be 25 days before the Supreme Court decision outlawing bus segregation laws become officially effective here.

Negroes voted Wednesday night to end their 11-month-old bus boycott pending delivery of the high court's Tuesday mandate here. They had anticipated only a three or four day delay.

Mayor W. A. Gayle said in a written statement that the City Commission doesn't accept integration as inevitable. He said the city will "do all legal things necessary to continue enforcement of our segregation laws and ordinances of all kinds."

The ordinance requiring separate seating facilities for white and Negro passengers on city buses has been ruled unconstitutional along with Alabama state laws providing the same restrictions.

### OTHER LAWS

Speaking in a broad sense and not on the bus problem alone, Gayle declared "we shall continue to enforce segregation" to insure "public safety, to protect the people of both races and to promote order in our city."

Along with buses, city laws require segregation in restaurants, rest rooms, parks and playgrounds, swimming pools and other activities.

Mayor Gayle told The Advertiser the commission has not decided what legal measures will be taken to maintain bus segregation. He said the commission had (See CITY, Page 5A)

Montgomery Advertiser  
Montgomery, Alabama  
November 16, 1956  
Page One

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mofile: 44-439

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3CLG/gca



wired Washington for a copy of the Supreme Court's decision.

Meanwhile, it was surmised that as much as a month may elapse

(Continued From Page 1)

before the Supreme Court's desegregation order is received here. The court's rules provide for a 25-day waiting period to give the losing party time to ask for a rehearing. After that, a certified copy of the anti-segregation ruling will have to be sent to the three-judge panel whose decision the Supreme Court upheld.

The exact number of days allotted to the city and state to request a rehearing could not be definitely determined last night. Some legal experts thought the time is 10 days, others thought 15, or perhaps even 20 days.

Asked what the city would do if and when Negroes attempted to integrate the now-segregated bus line, Gayle said, "We'll have to wait until that time comes."

The Rev. Martin Luther King, leader of the Montgomery Improvement Assn. (MIA) which has spearheaded the boycott, indicated his disappointment in the delay of the mandate's delivery to Montgomery.

"Something will be done," he said, "to speed up the Supreme Court order." But he declined to say how the MIA hopes to shorten the time until bus integration becomes effective here.

It was learned last night that King and the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, another Negro boycott leader, were in Birmingham. The nature of their business there was not made known, but the MIA office said they would be out of town until Saturday.

Negroes remained off buses yesterday for the 347th consecutive day. They either walked or shared rides with friends. The effect of their extended boycott on Montgomery City Lines Inc. has been crushing. J. H. Bagley, company district supervisor said the company had suffered about a \$750,000 revenue loss since last Dec. 5, 1955, the first day of the boycott.

Bagley, asked what the company would do if and when a state injunction requiring segregated buses is removed, said, "If the injunction is removed, we will

operate under the law—whatever the law is. It would appear that if the injunction is removed, our present method of segregating passengers would be unconstitutional."

Gayle and Commissioner Clyde C. Sellers issued separate statements yesterday afternoon while Commissioner Frank W. Parks, third commission member, made it clear both colleagues spoke for him.

### 3-DAY TURMOIL

The long-awaited statement by the commission came after three days of legal turmoil involving bus segregation and Negroes' boycott of city buses which is now nearly a year old.

Tuesday the Supreme Court ruled Montgomery and state laws enforcing bus segregation were unconstitutional. The same day, Circuit Court Judge Eugene Carter issued an injunction halting the Negro car-pool. Judge Frank M. Johnson of U.S. District Court Wednesday refused a Negro plea for action preventing the city from interfering with the Negro transportation system.

The mayor, in his statement, said:

"To insure pub'c safety, to protect the peoples of both races, and to promote order in our city we shall continue to enforce segregation. We ask the honest consideration and cooperation of all citizens with this decision on the part of the city commission."

Sellers said:

"We shall continue to use all legal means to prevent integration from invading our transportation system. This is not the time for hot heads, oratory, loud talk, or threats. The only sensible way to face this problem is with common sense, calm consideration of the problem, and an attitude that the step we take will be a step toward maintaining segregation."

Both city officials deplored the high court ruling.

Gayle said, "the recent Supreme Court decisions and the multitude of court actions and publicity following in their wake have seriously lowered the dignified relations which did exist between the races in our city and in our state."

Sellers added, "the decision of the Supreme Court is not a decision against Montgomery—but a decision against the entire South. It is a decision against our ideas of Segregation. It is another tool to break down our ideas and to mix the races."

### Mayor Denies Meeting Related To Bus Issue

Mayor W. A. Gayle denied yesterday that a visit of two Negro leaders to his office yesterday morning had any relation to integration of city buses.

President Martin Luther King and vice president Ralph D. Abernathy of the Negro Montgomery Improvement Assn., which has sparked the 11-month-old boycott of segregated city buses only discussed a possible location for a proposed Negro "non-violence" seminar here, Gayle said.

No conclusions were reached at the meeting, Gayle said.

Montgomery Negroes are planning a week-long "rededication to non-violence" which will be conducted Dec. 3 through Dec. 9. The meeting will be sponsored by the MIA.

Termed an "Institute on Non-Violence and Social Change," the seminar is intended by the association to fall during the week of the Montgomery bus boycott's first anniversary.

### Sellers Denies Parley Held On White Boycott

Rumors that the City Commission was meeting with certain local groups to organize a white boycott of racially integrated city buses was vigorously denied yesterday by Public Affairs Commissioner Clyde C. Sellers.

When questioned by The Advertiser about the rumors, which had been widely circulated, Sellers said "the City Commission is in no way considering any method to upholding any boycott of whites of the city bus system."

A boycott of city buses by any group would probably be considered a violation of a state anti-boycott law, observers said.

## FOLSOM CALLS FOR SETTLING RACE ISSUE OUTSIDE COURT

Gov. James E. Folsom urged white and Negro leaders again today to try to settle their racial differences without going to court.

"The only way I know to defeat the Supreme Court decisions regarding segregation is to keep such cases out of the courts," Folsom said in a prepared statement commenting on Tuesday's decree outlawing bus segregation.

That is what I have been preaching for the past two years," the statement continued, "and I am going to continue to do so by working with men of goodwill of all races."

Folsom asked the Legislature last year to create a biracial commission with authority to negotiate segregation differences, but the Legislature rejected it.

Montgomery Advertiser  
Montgomery, Alabama  
November 16, 1956  
Page One

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Bufile: 100-135-61  
Mofile: 44-439

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 cle/gcl

ICC: AAG GENERAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95

ENCLOSURE

100-135-11-211

# CITY PLANS NEW BUS CASE PLEA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 ckl/gcl

ICC: AAG CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION  
FORM 6-95

THE ALABAMA JOURNAL  
November 20, 1956  
Latest Edition  
Montgomery, Alabama

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
Montgomery, Alabama  
MoFILE: 44-439  
BuFile: 100-135-61

ENCLOSURE  
13-01-54

## Appeal Slated On Integration Rule by Court

Action Expected  
In 25-Day Deadline  
Set by Tribunal

The City Commission said today it will ask the Supreme Court to reconsider its decision holding city and state bus segregation laws unconstitutional.

A request for rehearing will be filed with the court within the 25-day deadline beginning with announcement of the ruling Nov. 13.

### LITTLE HOPE OF SUCCESS

City authorities had said privately that they have little hope of winning a rehearing in view of the unanimous action of the court in knocking the segregation laws out.

Meanwhile, Justice Black's refusal to speed up official notice of the court ruling brought "no real disappointment" to leaders of the Montgomery Negro bus boycott.

The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "We were optimistic enough to hope for the best, but realistic enough to know it was possible the court would deny the request, and we knew that that was the greater possibility."

### HEADS MIA

King is president of the Montgomery Improvement Assn., coordinating body for the boycott that began Dec. 5. Out of it grew a federal suit on which the Supreme Court ruled a week ago that city and state bus segregation laws are unconstitutional.

The decision will be formally relayed to U.S. Dist. Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. of Montgomery about Dec. 12, a Supreme Court official said yesterday after Black refused a Negro request to shorten the normal delay. A permanent injunction against city bus segregation here will go into effect when the decision arrives.

Until then, "the protest will continue," King said. "We don't intend to return to segregated buses."

Boycotters voted a week ago to end their protest when the decision goes into effect. Meanwhile, they are walking to work and sharing rides with friends since a state court ban issued last week stopped their car pool transportation.

City officials announced after the court decision that they would use all legal means available to continue separate seating arrangements for Negroes on buses here.

They said this was necessary to preserve public safety and to promote order.

### BROWNELL CALLS MEETING

Comment from Montgomery and Alabama officials was not immediately available on the call issued in Washington yesterday by Atty. Gen. Brownell for a conference of federal prosecutors in 14 Southern states on how to carry out the Supreme Court decree against racial segregation on buses.

In a letter to the prosecutors, Brownell said it is clear from the court's decision on the Montgomery case that racial discrimination against passengers on buses is "a crime against the United States."

The attorneys general of two Southern states were quick to react to Brownell's conference.

Atty. Gen. Joe Patterson of Mississippi said the conference "is just another instance of utter disregard of the rights of states."

In Florida, Atty. Gen. Richard W. Ervin said Brownell "will do more harm than good" if he attempts to force action to end segregated seating on intrastate buses in the South.

cc Liaison Secti  
cc Mr. [redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY [signature]

100-135-61  
100-7801

Date: November 27, 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

*Rason - Mobile*

U. S. KLAN,  
KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INCORPORATED,  
Known in Alabama as U. S. Klans of Alabama,  
Knights of the Ku Klux Klan  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Reference is made to my memorandum dated  
November 21, 1956, in which you were advised concerning

[redacted]

[redacted]

BY COURIER SVC.  
18 NOV 27  
COMM - FBI

COMM - FBI  
NOV 27 1956  
MAILED 30

REC'D  
NOV 27 11 26 AM '56

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-7801-7D

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

*7c*  
*(8)*  
*NOV 27 1956*

NOV 27 11 22 AM '56  
RECEIVED - SECTION

RECORDED-18  
EX-126

FBI - MOBILE  
REC'D BEYOND 1956

67 DEC 4 1956

Letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

7D  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The afternoon activities consisted of about 100 Klansmen in groups of 10 to 20 walking around the Montgomery business district posing for pictures and passing out leaflets and membership applications. Klansmen occasionally engaged citizens in conversations but no information was received reflecting any specific attempt to influence the situation concerning segregation on buses.

Neither of the sources nor Agents of this Bureau saw evidence of Klansmen being armed.

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 BY COURIER SERVICE  
Building Tempo E  
4th and Adams Drive, S. W.  
Washington, D. C.

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

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 11/23/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

For information of the Bureau, attached are two copies of an item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 11/19/56, captioned "COUNCIL ASKS FOR NEW TRIAL IN CAR POOL."

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

(3)

7C

2 ENCLOSURE

1-0

58 DEC 11 1956

RECORDED - 54

INDEXED - 54

1cc genl  
to Johnson's typ. 6  
11-27-56  
el

7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 dly/gcl

file 100-135-61

100-135-61-276

23 DEC 4 1956

INDEXED

276  
Lester

## Council Asks For New Trial In Car Pool

A brief outlining arguments for a new trial for the Inter Civic Council and 21 Negroes, who were convicted of operating an illegal transportation system, was filed today with City Court Judge John A. Rudd.

The main point in the brief by Francisco A. Rodriguez, Tampa Negro attorney, was that the car pool operation was not a business and failed to meet "for hire" provisions of the law.

Judge Rudd did not rule immediately on the motion for a new trial, which was argued Nov. 13. Special Prosecutor Mark R. Hawes will have an opportunity to file a brief before the decision if he thinks it is necessary.

Rodriguez's brief was similar to previous motions made in the car pool cases, stating the car pool was a part of a protest movement, which he described as "peaceful picketing" —and not a business venture.

Arrests of car pool operators violated the 14th Amendment of the Constitution which guarantees free speech against abridgement, the brief said.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/24/83 BY sp3 clj/hel

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 11/19/56

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

jam

100-135-61-276

ENCLOSURE



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Boardman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Parsons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tamm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Winter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Holloman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

NOV 26 1956

TELETYPE

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3cl/gcl

FBI, MOBILE

11-25-56

11-06 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI

... URGENT ...

U. S. KLANS, KNIGHTS OF THE KKK. IS - S. RE BUAIRTEL

TWENTYFIRST INSTANT.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

AFTERNOON

ACTIVITIES CONSISTED OF ABOUT ONE HUNDRED KLANSMEN IN GROUPS OF TEN TO TWENTY WALKING AROUND MONTGOMERY BUSINESS DISTRICT, POSING FOR PICTURES, PASSING OUT LEAFLETS AND MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS, ACCORDING TO OBSERVATION BY BUREAU AGENTS [REDACTED] KLANSMEN OCCASIONALLY ENGAGED CITIZENS IN CONVERSATION ON STREET, BUT NO REPORTS REFLECT ANY SPECIFIC ATTEMPT TO INFLUNCE BUS SITUATION. [REDACTED] NOR AGENTS SAW EVIDENCE OF KLANSMEN BEING ARMED, AND NO NEGROES OR KLANSMEN MOLESTED, OR ANY OTHER NOTABLE DISORDER. ONLY TWO MINOR INCIDENTS REPORTED, BOTH NON-RACIAL AND INCONSEQUENTIAL. [REDACTED]

RECORDED 31

100-135-61-277

EX-121

18 DEC 8 1956

END PAGE ONE  
 Lett AG, Rogers, Tappan & Olney  
 Lett ASI, ONI, OSI 11-27-56  
 cat

S-QW

7C

PAGE TWO

**CD**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] NO SOURCES REPORT ANY  
KLANSMEN TOURING NEGRO <sup>EIGHT</sup> NEIGHBORHOOD, EXCEPT ONE BRIEF TOUR IN  
NEGRO BUSINESS DISTRICT, BY A GROUP OF TWENTY. SOME <sup>F</sup> LICENSE  
NUMBERS AND NUMEROUS PHOTOS OF KLANSMEN OBTAINED BY AGENTS.  
FULL COVERAGE BY PRESS AND TV NOTED. DETAILS, CLIPPINGS, AND  
LEAD DATA FOLLOW IN LETTER TO BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICES.

HALLFORD

END AND ACK PLS

WA 12-14 AM OK FBI WA ELR

MR. ELLIOTT  
AND SUPERVISOR  
DOM. INTEL. DIVISION

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

7C  
November 27, 1956

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

100-135-61-277  
Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY 43 clj/gcl

RECORDED-31

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

U. S. KLANS,  
KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INCORPORATED,  
Known in Alabama as U. S. Klans of Alabama,  
Knights of the Ku Klux Klan  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Reference is made to my memorandum dated  
November 21, 1956, in which you were advised concerning

[REDACTED]

MAILED 2  
NOV 27 1956  
FBI

NOV 27 11 26 AM '56

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-135-61-277

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

100-135-61  
100-780x

FBI - JUSTICE  
REC'D RECORDED

*Handwritten signature*

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten initials*

7C  
OUI  
100-135-61-1704

Letter to The Attorney General

7D  
[REDACTED]

The afternoon activities consisted of about 100 Klansmen in groups of 10 to 20 walking around the Montgomery business district posing for pictures and passing out leaflets and membership applications. Klansmen occasionally engaged citizens in conversations but no information was received reflecting any specific attempt to influence the situation concerning segregation on buses.

Neither of the Sources nor Agents of this Bureau saw evidence of Klansmen being armed.

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

cc Mr. William F. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General

cc Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

cc Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Olney III

MAR 15 5 11 PM '56

RECEIVED  
MAR 15 1956

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nichols	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Belmont	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Casper	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. DeLoach	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Evans	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gale	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

DATE: 11/29/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (44-439)

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3 CLK/...

There are enclosed herewith the original and six copies of a blank memorandum pertaining to captioned matter. To synopsize the data therein, this memorandum sets forth the following data:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] no Klan killing or unsolved killing is known to Police of Montgomery Improvement Association.

[REDACTED] cites unequal treatment of Negroes in matter of giving out traffic tickets as possible reason for downtown boycott, and cites details of one allegedly aggravated case, where respectable elderly colored lady was jailed on arrest for not having drivers license, and passing red light.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] that MIA plans boycott of downtown merchants to force hiring of Negro employees, and that NAACP intends to import "Negro goons" into Montgomery to create difficult conditions on buses after Supreme Court Mandate is received.

[REDACTED] MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOC.

Informants in the blank memorandum are as follows:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

For the information of the Bureau, [REDACTED] requested SA [REDACTED] to "use his influence" to try to get the Supreme Court to hold back [REDACTED] issuing their mandate

- ② - Bureau (100-135-61) (AIRMAIL) (Encl. 7)
- 1 - Mobile (44-439)

[REDACTED]-bwt  
(3)

ENCLOSURE

RECORDED 96

100-135-61-278  
5  
11 DEC 3 1956

rec and 6 imples, by 6/6  
6-3, ONE, ONE, ONE, ONE  
12-3-56

7C  
7C  
7C  
7C  
7C  
7C  
7C  
7C

7C

Handwritten signature/initials

MO 44-439

on integration on city buses, because of the possible violence indicated by the report he had received about the "Negro goons." It was explained to [redacted] that neither SA [redacted] nor the Bureau had any authority to make recommendations of this kind. On 11/28/56, later in the afternoon, it was noted that [redacted] paid a visit to the office of Honorable HARTWELL DAVIS, U. S. Attorney, MDA, Montgomery. The purpose of his visit was not known.

BC  
7D

[redacted] he was asked only if he had heard any rumor that a Negro had been killed by "Ku Kluxers." He volunteered all other information furnished. In describing the incident about [redacted] the elderly colored lady who was jailed for traffic violations, [redacted] gave no appearance of making a complaint, or indicating that any Federal jurisdiction was involved. It was apparently meant only as a possible explanation for the telephone boycott calls.

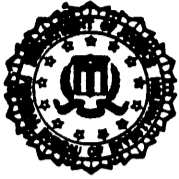
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Any additional information will be promptly forwarded to the Bureau.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Mobile, Alabama  
November 29, 1956

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

b2  
7D

[REDACTED]

7C  
7D

[REDACTED] Montgomery Police Department, advised that his department had received no information about any Negro man being killed on November 26, 1956, and has no unsolved recent killings, and no information that anyone was killed or attacked by the Klan, or any Klansman. [REDACTED] had no explanation for the above rumor.

7C  
7D

[REDACTED] Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) was asked if he had heard of any Klan killing, and advised that he knew of no Negro being killed recently by the Klan or by an unknown person. He volunteered the information that he had received information that telephone messages of the above description were being circulated, and expressed regret at this. He said that he had no idea who had initiated the calls, but said that he knew of a general, "unorganized" movement on the part of Negroes to avoid the downtown shopping districts in Montgomery. He said that this movement has resulted from an increasing tendency on the part of the Montgomery Police Department to give traffic tickets to Negroes for "borderline" traffic rule infractions, where normally no ticket is given. He gave an example of one Negro who was given a ticket for momentarily stopping his car alongside of a parked car (double parking) to pick up a passenger. [REDACTED] said that ordinarily,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3cl/9d

ENCLOSURE  
100-135-61-278



Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

7C  
7D

if a traffic officer sees such a minor violation, he will motion the driver to drive on, but in this case, he gave the driver a ticket. [redacted] also described the following incident, and said that this incident had stirred a strong resentment among the Negro people, and might be responsible for the telephone campaign: One day last week, believed to be November 24, 1956, [redacted]

[redacted] was stopped by a policeman about one block from her house, for running a red light. The officer asked to see her drivers license, and she then discovered that she had left it at home. [redacted] allegedly pointed to her house, and requested that the officer permit her to go home and get her license. The officer then allegedly inquired if [redacted] lived on that one block of Morgan Street where all the other houses are occupied by white people, and if she was a member of the only Negro family on that block. When she answered in the affirmative, the officer said, "I'm going to take you down to the jail." Allegedly the officer did then take [redacted] to jail. A neighbor observed her being taken by the officer, and shortly after she arrived, an inquiry was made, and it was learned that she was being held on \$200.00 bond. The bond was raised, and she was released within an hour or two.

62  
7C  
7D

[redacted]

7C  
7D

On November 28, 1956, [redacted]

[redacted] when contacted in connection with another matter, volunteered the information that he has heard [redacted] that the MIA has positive plans to [redacted]

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

boycott downtown city merchants in Montgomery after the bus seg-  
regation matter is settled, for the purpose of forcing them to  
hire Negro employees. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the National Association  
for the Advancement of Colored People has plans to import a  
large number of "Negro goons" to Montgomery immediately after  
the Supreme Court hands down its mandate outlawing segregation  
on city buses in Montgomery, for the purpose of getting on the  
buses in large numbers, with each Negro occupying a different  
seat on the bus, making it necessary for any white passengers  
to take a seat beside a Negro. [REDACTED]

TC  
TD

b2  
TD

[REDACTED]

cc Mr. [REDACTED]

December 4, 1956

Airtel

7C

RECORDED - 96

100-135-61-278

BAC, Mobile (44-439)

RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA.

Reurlet dated November 29, 1956, with which you furnished a blank memorandum concerning captioned matter.

Furnish local reliable authorities and intelligence agencies of the Armed Forces information contained in the blank memorandum relative to "Negro goons." Keep Bureau advised of any pertinent information received in addition to that furnished in the blank memorandum.

Hoover

100-135-61

NOTE ON YELLOW:

[REDACTED] furnished information to Mobile Office that he had learned [REDACTED] that the NAACP plans to import a large number of "Negro goons" to Montgomery immediately after the Supreme Court hands down its mandate prohibiting segregation on city buses in Montgomery. These goons will be used for purpose of compelling whites to sit next to Negroes on buses.

7C  
7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY [REDACTED]

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

7C

[REDACTED] 1j  
(4)

DEC 12 1956

MAILED 11  
DEC - 4 1956  
COMM - FBI

J. Orisk  
JHC  
OH

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 12/4/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile

*RACON*

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

For information of the Bureau, I am attaching here-  
to two copies of an item appearing in the Alabama Journal,  
Montgomery, Alabama, under date of 12/3/56 captioned "NON-  
VIOLENCE, SOCIAL CHANGE SEMINAR SET FOR HOLT STREET BAPTIST  
CHURCH."

2 - Bureau (Encl. 2) (100-135-61)  
1 - Mobile (44-439)

*7C*

RECORDED - 97

100-135-61-279

INDEXED - 97

17 DEC 10 1956

ENCLOSURE

*cc g end to Tompkins*

58 DEC 12 1956

*7C*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY *sp3ck/gcl*

## Non-Violence, Social Change Seminar Set For Holt Street Baptist Church

The week-long institute on "Non-Violence and Social Change," sponsored by the Montgomery Improvement Assn., is scheduled to begin tonight with the annual mass meeting at the Holt Street Baptist Church.

The Rev. Doctor M. L. King Jr., president of the organization, will deliver his annual address, and will be the main speaker. Music will be furnished by the choirs of the Holt Street and Dexter Avenue Baptist Churches. The Rev. R. D. Abernathy will preside at this meeting, and the Revs. G. F. Lewis, H. H. Johnson, S. S. Seay and H. L. Anderson of Selma, will par-

ticipate. Mrs. Georgia Black will sing a solo.

On Tuesday night at 7 at the Bethel Baptist Church a public forum will be heard, with Rev. Glenn Smiley, Field Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, New York, serving as moderator. Participants on the forum will be Revs. T. J. Jemison, Baton Rouge; C. K. Steele, Tallahassee; F. L. Shuttlesworth, Birmingham; and B. D. Lambert, Montgomery.

On this night music will be furnished by choirs of Mt. Zion AME Zion and Bethel Baptist churches. Dr. Moses Jones will preside at

the meeting. Participants will include the Rev. Robert Graetz and N. H. Smith of Birmingham.

### WOMEN'S NIGHT

On Wednesday night the women will come to the front in participation and two of the foremost women of America will be guest contributors. Miss Lillian Smith, noted novelist, and Miss Nannie H. Burrough, noted Negro pioneer, will speak. The presiding officer will be Mrs. Jo Ann Robinson. Other participants will include Mesdames A. W. West Sr., Jule C. Lewis, the Revs. R. W. Hilson and A. W. Murphy. Music will be furnished by the choirs of First Baptist and Beulah Baptist churches. Meeting place will be at First Baptist Church.

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 12/3/56  
Page 5-B

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.  
Bufile 100-135-61  
Mofile 44-439

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 c/c/gcl

- 100-135-61-277  
ENCLOSURE

On Thursday, beginning at 9:45 at Mt. Zion AME Zion Church, a seminar on "Non-Violence and the Social Gospel" will be conducted. But each church is asked to begin the day by ringing its bell at 6 a.m. to begin a day of fasting and prayer. One hour of prayer service will take place at each church. At the seminar the Rev. J. W. Hayes will preside. Two lectures will be given by the Rev. Glenn Smiley and Dr. H. V. Richardson on the subjects "Non-Violence and Social Change and Social Aspects of the Christian Gospel." The Rev. Buford of Tuskegee will conduct the devotional.

At noon Thursday, James B. Cobb, president of Postal Alliance, Washington, D.C., will be guest speaker, at the same place.

There will be another seminar on "Non-Violence and the Social Gospel" at 2:45 at the Mt. Zion AME Zion Church. The Rev. Glenn Smiley and Dr. H. V. Richardson will be guest contributors. The Rev. J. W. Bonner will preside. Dr. R. D. Crockett will participate.

#### MUSICAL SING

As a special feature on Thursday evening, Miss Mahalia Jackson, gospel singer of Chicago, will sing, in a musical to be staged at St. John AME Church. Local talents to appear will include the Spiritual Flames, Bells of Paradise and Spiritual Four. The Revs. H. H. Johnson and H. J. Palmer will participate.

A state-wide seminar will be held on Friday morning at 9 at the First Baptist Church. Guest contributors will be the Rev. Glenn Smiley, W. H. Borders, Wheat Street Baptist, Atlanta; and Gardner C. Taylor, Concord Baptist Church, Brooklyn. The Rev. Powell will preside. Local participants will include the Revs. W. Fields, and J. E. Lowery, Mób.

At the afternoon session at 2:45, Dr. Borders and Rev. Smiley will again participate. Also participating will be Revs. J. L. Ward, A. H. Hogan and H. H. Hubbard presiding.

"Youth Night" is Friday night when young people over the city will compete in an oratorical contest on the subject of "Non-Violence in Social Change." Two guest speakers will be Dr. Homer A. Jack, Unitarian pastor of Evanston, Ill. and Attorney J. B. Curbertson, Greenville, S.C. This will take place at Hutchinson Street Church. Participating will be the Revs. A. W. Wilson, presiding, A. Tunstall, Mobile; Leon Craft, Birmingham; Mrs. Rosa Parks and C. W. Lee. Music will be furnished by Magge Street and Hutchinson Street churches.

The final meeting of the week's observance will terminate on Sunday at 2:30 at the Holt Street Baptist Church when the Rev. Dr. J. H. Jackson, National Baptist Convention president, will address a vast audience. Dr. M. L. King will preside. Participants will include the Revs. Vernon Johns, R. D. Abernathy, A. W. Wilson, E. W. Williams of Fairfield, M. C. Cleveland. Professor Robert Williams will sing a solo. Music will be furnished by all church choirs, under the direction of Mrs. Georgia Black.

To all these programs the public is cordially invited.

FBI

Date: 12/6/56

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 AIR-TEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

FROM: SAC, MOBILE

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

RACON

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

As of possible further interest to the Bureau, attached hereto are two copies of an item appearing in the Alabama Journal, Montgomery, Alabama, 12/4/56, captioned "NEGRO LEADER SAYS U. S. INDEBTED TO BUS BOYCOTT."

3 - Bureau (Encl. 2) (AM) (100-135-61)  
1 - Mobile (44-439)

lo

(4)

7C  
ne

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3ck/fcl ne

DEC 15 11 15 AM '56

100-135-61-280  
12-11-56  
12 cc and to  
2 copies by 0-6  
7C

RECORDED-68

INDEXED-68

100-135-61-280  
7C  
5-ent

10 DEC 12 1956

EX-125

DEC 10 5 30 PM '56

64 DEC 17 1956

Special Agent in Charge

Mr. Rosen

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

## Negro Leader Says U.S. Indebted to Bus Boycott

A Negro historian said today the nation is indebted to bus-boycotting Montgomery Negroes for their pattern of peaceful resistance to segregation.

"Through them," said Prof. L. D. Reddick of Alabama State College for Negroes in Montgomery, "we have seen that there is a way, even under the most distressing conditions, to transform the old, obsolete pattern of life.

"We should be grateful for this example, for some of us had feared and concluded that we would have to fight it out. Now we know that the transition can be made peaceably."

Use Trailways Package Express Service for convenient, fast and economical service. Phone Trailways, 4-5336. (adv.)

The historian spoke at a south-wide race relations institute sponsored by leaders of the bus boycott which will mark its first anniversary tomorrow. Montgomery Negroes except for a few dissenters have refused to ride segregated city buses since last Dec. 5.

Reddick, who teaches history at the college, said there are two big questions still unanswered:

"First, will our media of communication — our newspapers, radio, television, etc.—make the transition less painful for our people (especially those of us who are mixed up) by fair and accurate reporting and by editorially facing forward?

"Secondly, if this transition is (See RACE INSTITUTE, Pg. 2-A)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3cle/hcl

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 12-4-56  
Page 1

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

MOFILE 44-439

KUFILE 100-135-61

100-135-61-280  
ENCLOSURE



## Race Institute

(Continued From Page 1-A)

a positive good for the nation—and perhaps for the world—how much will the nation and the world help to bring it about, or will the Negroes of the South have to continue to carry the main weight of this task alone?"

The history professor told his luncheon audience that "the old South is gone, the Confederacy is indeed a lost cause. And a great deal of our pain today, whether we realize it or not, comes from the effort to maintain a set of human relations that were developed to serve a plantation, master slave society. . ."

For example, he said, there are some towns "not too far away" where Negroes are denied telephone service and others where Negro and white customers "are never knowingly put on the same party line."

"This is ridiculous," Reddick added. "In terms of the efficiency of the telephone service and community needs, this is absurd."

Reddick said the South is becoming industrialized faster than any section of the nation except possibly California, and asked:

"Are we going to impose on these industries, these cities, these broad highways, these new skyscrapers and the cultural institutions that they help make possible, a set of ideas and human relations that do violence to the service and civilization that these developments represent?"

The week-long racial institute opened last night with a bus boycott leader outlining to his people five ways to speed the "inevitable" end of segregation.

The other, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. told a packed church, is the "legal and sociological death blow" dealt segregation by the Supreme Court's 1954 decision against segregation in public schools.

"We must speed up the coming of the inevitable" end of segregation, the youthful Baptist minister told a mass meeting opening the "first annual institute on non-violence and social change."

### DESCRIBED FIVE WAYS

King described five ways Negroes could do this:

1. "We must continue to gain the ballot . . . one of the basic keys to the solution to our problem." Both the Democratic and Republican parties have "betrayed" Negro hopes, King said.

2. "In order to control the external effects of prejudiced internal feelings, we must continue to struggle through legislation."

3. "We must donate large sums of money to the cause of freedom." Several thousand dollars were collected at the meeting to support the Montgomery Improvement Assn., the group that coordinates the boycott and is sponsoring the institute. King is its president.

4. Negroes must "develop intelligent, courageous and dedicated leadership . . . one of the pressing needs of the hour."

5. And, "we must have the moral courage to stand up and protest against injustice wherever we find it. Wherever we find segregation, we must have the fortitude to passively resist it."

Negroes should "meet every act of violence toward an individual Negro with the fact that there are thousands of others who will present themselves in his place as potential victims," King said.

"This dynamic unity, this amazing self-respect, this willingness to suffer, and this refusal to hit back will soon cause the oppressor to become ashamed of his own methods."

During the boycott several small bombs have been tossed at the home of its leaders but no injuries have been reported.

In his prepared speech, King paid tribute to white persons in Montgomery for their conduct during the boycott. "If there had not been some discipline and moral sensitivity in the white community, we would have had much more violence," King declared.

"It is only the fringe element, the hoodlum element, which constitutes a numerical minority, that would resort to the use of violence," King said in copies of his speech passed out to the audience. He later said the comments on the white community were not included in the delivered speech because of lack of time.

Today a luncheon of the MIA executive board was scheduled.

Dr. Preston Valien, chairman of the Fisk University Social Science Department, was on the program for a sociologist's view of "The Montgomery movement." Dr. L. D. Reddick, chairman of the history department at Alabama State College, was to present a historian's view to the luncheon.

A public forum will be held tonight on "nonviolence in social change." Participants will include the Rev. C. K. Steele, a leader of the Negro bus boycott in Tallahassee, Fla., and the Rev. T. J.

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Page 2

Re:

Jemison, Negro leader from Baton Rouge, La., where a short Negro bus boycott several years ago protested segregation.

A statewide seminar on "nonviolence and the social gospel" is scheduled for Friday. Climax of the institute is a public meeting planned for Sunday afternoon to which white and Negro religious and lay leaders from throughout Alabama have been invited.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 12/27/56

✓ FROM : SAC, MOBILE  
A. J. ...

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

SP.  
11/1  
3

ReMotel to Bureau, 12/26/56.

Herewith enclosed to the Bureau are two copies each of the following newspaper clippings:

Alabama Journal, daily published at Montgomery, 12/24/56, page 2, captioned, "New Integration Targets Outlined by I.I.A. Head."

Montgomery Advertiser, daily published at Montgomery, Ala., 12/22/56, page 1, captioned, "Segregation Ends Quietly on Bus Line."

Ibid., 12/24/56, page 12-a, captioned, "King Reports Home Fired on Early Sunday."

Ibid., 12/25/56, page 4-e, captioned, "Three White Men Beat Negro Girl at City Bus Stop."

7C

With reference to the attack by two white men upon [redacted] on 12/24/56, described in retel, it is noted that this matter has not as yet been reported by any news media at Montgomery.

- 1 - Bureau (8 enc.) (100-135-61)
- 2 - Mobile (44-439)
- bls (4)

7C

RECORDED-20  
INDEXED - 20  
EX-117

100-135-61-281

2 DEC 31 1956

1cc sent to  
Jompson by 10-6  
1-4-57

7C  
92 encs to  
Chief 1/9/57 (Photostats)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 dcl/gcl

# New Integration Targets Outlined By MIA Head

Schools and public recreation may be the next goals for Montgomery Negroes now that they have gained integrated buses, a spokesman suggested last night.

Less than 12 hours after an unidentified person loosed a shotgun blast into the front of his home, the Rev. M. L. King Jr., president of the Montgomery Improvement Assn., outlined possible new segregation targets.

King said the group which sparked the mass bus boycott still has plenty of work to do.

"Some of our people have apparently fallen in love with protesting," he said. "We've got to stop protesting and go in for reconciliation."

The Negro minister said the MIA will continue to have mass meetings — "We have just started our work."

### POSSIBLE GOALS

He outlined these as possible new MIA goals:

"Recreation: We have none, but we must work toward being able to use all facilities with the same determination we worked on with the buses. Separate but equal always winds up with it being separate but far from equal."

King added that Oak Park (largest and best equipped city park) would certainly be nice for us."

"Voting: The more Negroes we can get registered, the stronger we'll be. If a city commissioner or official doesn't please us, we can use our vote in a determining and decisive way."

"Internal areas: We must work within our race to raise economic, health and intellectual standing."

**WILL LOSE WHITE FRIENDS**  
"Education: Here, we are going to lose many of our white friends that helped us during the bus boy-

cott. But still we must have integrated schools as the Supreme Court in 1954 said we can. That is when our race will gain full equality. We cannot rest in Montgomery until every public school is integrated."

Urging all Negroes to resume riding the buses, King said. "We must go back to the buses in big numbers. Then, perhaps, we might even be able to do something about the fares."

Some Negroes, he said, have complained because the fare has gone now up from 10 to 15 cents since they first began their boycott.

"Let me say, however, I would rather pay \$2 to ride an integrated bus than pay one cent to ride a segregated one," King added.

The MIA president advised bus riders to remain "calm in case there should be any violence."

"Get the facts, watch for people who look as if they might start trouble. If there are cars following the bus suspiciously, by all means, get the tag numbers," he suggested.

"Without all of this, you don't have a case. Even if the police, perhaps, won't do anything there is always the FBI."

Other than the shotgun blast at King's home yesterday, no violence was reported as City Lines buses went through their third day of integrated service under a federal court order.

### TWO ROUTES OPERATED

The bus company manager, J. H. Bagley, said only two routes operated during the day and that only a few customers used them because of a heavy rain most of the day.

Even before the boycott began Dec. 9, 1955, the bus company had reduced its service on Sundays to a bare minimum.

Capt. E. P. King sent two police officers to investigate the shooting incident at King's house. They reported that the load was apparently "birdshot."

Little damage was done.

King told his congregation Sunday that someone fired at his home in the early morning hours.

He said there were two holes in a front window and that some of the pellets came into the house. No one was hurt.

Shortly after the bus boycott began, a crude bomb was set off on King's front porch. The minister's wife and child were at home but neither were injured and little damage resulted.

"I would like to tell who ever did it that it won't do any good to kill me," King said, referring yesterday's incident.

"There are 50,000 others in our movement seeking equal treatment under the law. They can't solve it this way."

ALABAMA JOURNAL  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
DECEMBER 24, 1956  
PAGE 2

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
MOFILE: 44-439

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 clj/gcl

100: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
NO. 6-95 -C-1/9/57-4000

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-381

## King Reports Home Fired On Early Sunday

A shooting incident involving Rev. M. L. King Jr., was revealed yesterday by the Negro minister.

King interrupted a series of announcement during the noon church service to calmly tell how someone had shot at his home early Sunday morning.

The Negro leader did not report the incident to the police, but when authorities learned of it they investigated that afternoon.

Police Capt. E. P. Brown said two officers confirmed that a shotgun had been fired at King's home. He said they reported it apparently was "birdshot."

A crude bomb was exploded on King's front porch last Jan. 30 shortly after the bus boycott hit full swing.

Meanwhile, city bus lines ran an abbreviated Sunday schedule with no incidents reported.

J. H. Bagley bus company manager, said only two routes operated during the day. Patronage was light on both runs because of inclement weather, he noted.

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
DECEMBER 27, 1956  
PAGE 12A

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
LOFILE: 44-439  
*ymw*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY *sp3 cke/gcl*

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 - *6-1/9/57-jmw*

3 100-135-61-281

# Segregation Ends Quietly On Bus Line

Company Officials  
Unable To Report  
On Passenger Total

By BOB INGRAM

Racial segregation on city buses in Montgomery ended serenely here yesterday.

Negro and white passengers took seats on buses where they found them, and in isolated instances members of the two races sat side by side.

The calm but cautious acceptance of this significant change in Montgomery's way of life came without any major disturbances.

A statement by Police Chief G. J. Ruppenthal last night told the story in full—there were no reports of violence made to the police, no additional officers were called into duty.

**NO MASS RETURN**

"It was just another Friday before Christmas for us," Ruppenthal said.

There was no mass return to city buses by Negroes. And many of those who did return walked to the rear of the bus to take a seat, just as they had been required to do by law until yesterday.

There was also a scarcity of white people on the buses. Even during late afternoon rush hours yesterday most of the vehicles were only partially filled.

Instead of riding the buses, numerous Montgomerians watched them with mixed emotions. Throngs crowded the downtown area during the late afternoon, and every time a bus pulled to a curb to pick up passengers, passers-by stopped to watch.

## FEWER PASSENGERS

Bus company officials said last night they were unable to determine to what extent business had increased, but it was apparent the number of passengers yesterday was far below the pre-boycott average.

Wire services reported a Negro woman was struck in the face by a young white man just as she departed from a bus, but police officials said no such incident was reported to them.

Rarely during the day did whites and Negroes sit side by side, the first such case occurring early yesterday morning when a young salesgirl boarded a bus and sat beside a Negro woman although there were seats available which she could have shared with white passengers.

"I figure if they stay in the place and leave me alone, I'll stay in mine and leave them alone," she commented later to newsmen.

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
DECEMBER 22, 1956  
PAGE 1

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

SUP FILE: 100-135-62  
MO FILE: 64-450

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3C/BJC

100: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
6-95-C-1/1/57-gmw

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-281

~~A 12/25 4E~~  
**Three White Men  
Beat Negro Girl  
At City Bus Stop**

A 15-year-old Negro girl was beaten at a bus stop here yesterday by at least three young white men, in the first incident of violence reported since buses were integrated last Friday.

Ollie Mae Collins, 519 High St., said she was standing at a bus stop when a youth yelled at her, "Don't ride the bus any more," jumped from the vehicle with a companion, and began beating her.

The incident was verified by bus passengers, at least one of whom gave an account to The Advertiser, but asked that his name not be used.

The girl said that after the two young men jumped from one car and began beating her, three others left another vehicle and joined them. She suffered minor head injuries, but said she did not go to a doctor "because I was afraid."

Police immediately began an investigation, but reported last night they had not found the assailants.

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
DECEMBER 25, 1956  
PAGE 4E

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
MOFILE: 44-439

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 - e-1/1/57-gau

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY Sp3 ctk/gcl

ENCLOSURE 100-135-61-281

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-135-Sub 61)      DATE: 12/31/56

✓ FROM : SAC, Mobile (44-439)

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

For the additional information of the Bureau, there are attached hereto two copies of an item appearing in the Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery, Alabama, under date of 12/27/56 captioned DISCORD, VIOLENCE MAR BUS RIDING IN 4 CITIES.

- ② - Bureau (Enc. 2)
- 1 - Mobile
- mem
- (3)

2/7C

ENCLOSURE

22/1/1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 cde/gcl

*M. J. ...*

re grand to complens  
by 8-6 1-7-57-*[redacted]*.al

7C

10

100-135-61-283

JAN 2 1957

RECORDED - 22

EX-117

INT. SEC. *[initials]*

52

88 JAN 7 1957

# Discord, Violence

## Mar Bus Riding

### In 4 Cities

#### Guns Rake Local Vehicles; 21 Arrested In Birmingham As Tallahassee Line Halted

Discord triggered by attempts of Negroes to force integration of city bus lines flared yesterday in four cities in Alabama and Florida.

The only violence was reported here last night as two city buses were peppered by shotgun pellets and rifle bullets. The incidents occurred in widely separated areas of the city within a period of about 15 minutes. One of the buses was empty but the other carried four Negro passengers. None was injured.

At Birmingham, Negroes last night suddenly reversed an earlier decision and voted at a mass meeting to continue riding city buses on an integrated basis. Yesterday, 21 Negroes were arrested after they defied the city's segregated seating laws on buses. Following the arrests, Negro leaders called off their cry at integration but at a later meeting last night, a telegram from the Rev. M. L. King urging continuance of the move toward desegregation was read and the meeting then voted to ride the buses on an integrated basis.

The Mobile city commission ordered Mobile City Lines, Inc., a sister line of the Montgomery City Lines, to enforce segregation ordinances on its buses. The city's move was made after the company instructed its drivers not to enforce the laws.

The Tallahassee city commission last night ordered immediate suspension of the franchise of Cities Transit Co. because of "efforts of local Negroes to integrate" the buses.

Earlier, 11 Negroes boarded two city buses serving white sections of the city and three white persons took seats in the rear. Drivers made no attempts to prevent the Negroes from taking front seats. This development came after the city council had instructed the company to enforce segregated seating.

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER, MONTGOMERY, ALA., 12/27/56  
FRONT PAGE

Re: RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

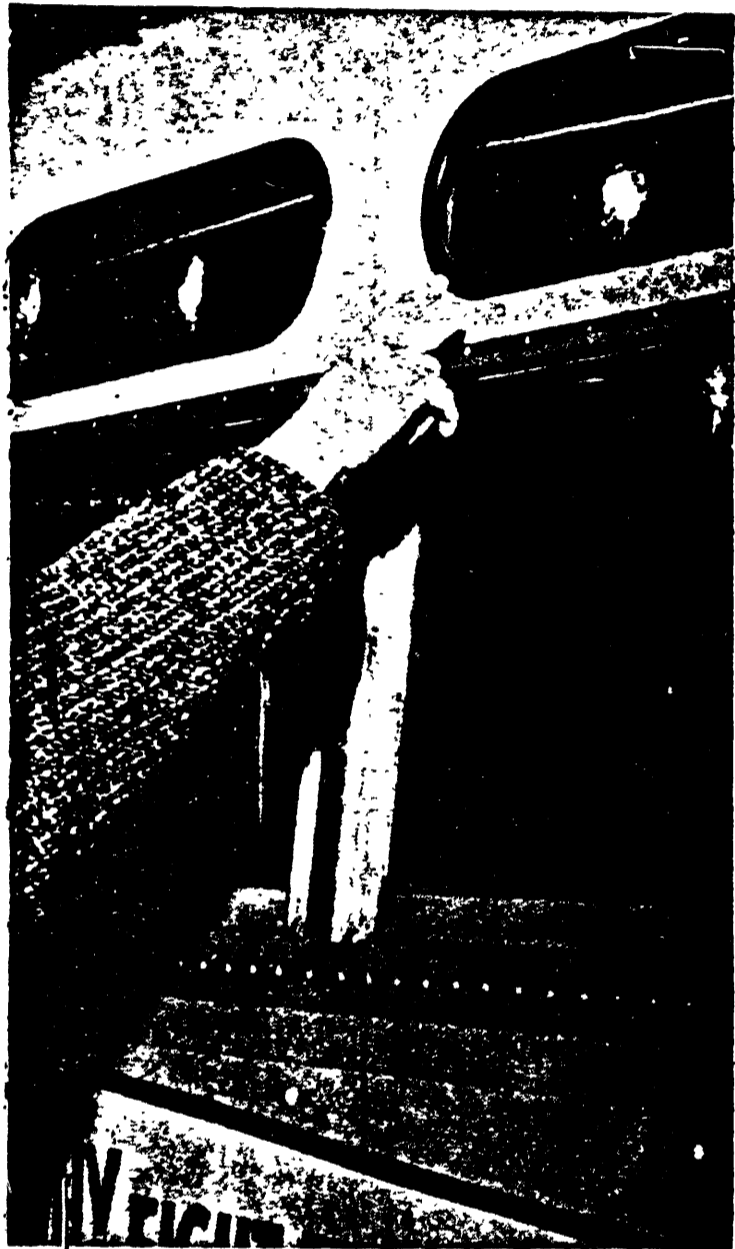
BUFILE 100-135-Sub 6  
MOFILE 44-439

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sps/ck/ga

100-135-Sub 6  
MOFILE





**ONE OF TWO BUSES FIRED ON IN MONTGOMERY**  
Bystander Points To Bullet Holes In Window

Four unidentified Negroes — three men and a teen-age girl — narrowly escaped injury as a bus in which they were riding was hit by a shot from what police described as a .22 caliber rifle shot. A bullet passed less than a foot from the girl's head. All dropped to the floor and then ran from the bus without identifying themselves, driver H. L. Warren said.

Warren, 55, of Wetumpka, said, "At first I thought it was a fire-cracker but when they started running, I knew it was a gun-shot." He said one of the fleeing Negroes said the shot was fired from a moving car. The incident occurred at 6:45 p.m. as the bus

turned off Mobile road onto Early street.

Warren said all the Negroes were sitting behind the center of the bus.

The other incident took place 15 minutes later — at 7 p.m. — shortly after bus driver J. H. Hall turned his empty coach off Sodie street onto Jackson.

Hall told police he "hit the floor" when he heard two shots strike the bus. The bus was hit nine times and police theorized the bullets were fired from a shotgun "at close range."

100-135-61-283

**CHANGED TO**

44-11126-8

**JAN 24 1957**

*Bw*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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

DATE: 12/19/56

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1361)

RACIAL SITUATION - MOBILE

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

7C  
7D  
|

For the information of the Bureau, [redacted] furnished the following information on 12/18/56 to SA [redacted]

The boycott of the city buses at Tallahassee by Negroes is continuing, although Negroes in slightly increasing numbers are beginning to ride the buses daily. The defendants in the car pool operations at Tallahassee, who were recently convicted in City Court there for violations of the city ordinances, have all posted cash bonds pending the results of their appeals to higher courts.

[redacted] said there has been no racial agitation at Tallahassee in connection with this matter, and he anticipates none in the foreseeable future.

The results of the Negro defendants' appeals to a higher court will probably not be known until sometime in January or February, 1957, however, the Bureau will be kept promptly advised of any further developments in this matter.

- ② - Bureau
- 2 - Mobile
- mem
- (4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY Sp3ck/gcl

7C

RECORDED - 86 / 100 - 135 - 61 - 284

EX-110

7C

52 JAN 8 1957

[redacted]

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  
100-135-61-285

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

7D

PAGE TWO.....

[REDACTED]

MIA HAS NOT DONE

THIS YET. THE ALA. JOURNAL, MONTGOMERY DAILY, DEC. TWENTY INSTANT, REPORTED THAT THE US SUPREME COURT ORDER OUTLAWING SEGREGATION ON CITY BUSES ARRIVED HERE TODAY AND USDJ JFRANK M. JOHNSON, MDA, MONTGOMERY, ISSUED <sup>AN?</sup> AND INJUNCTION, DIRECTED AGAINST CITY COMMISSION, ALA. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, MONTGOMERY POLICE CHIEF G. J. RUPPENTHAL AND HIS OFFICERS AND MONTGOMERY CITY LINES, INC., BUS OPERATORS, WHICH WAS SERVED BY <sup>U.S. MARSHAL</sup> USM TODAY, ENJOINING AND RESTRAINING THE CITY COMMISSION, ETAL FROM ENFORCING ANY AND ALL LAWS, STATUTES OR ORDINANCES REQUIRING NEGROES TO SUBMIT TO SEGREGATION IN THE USE OF BUS TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES IN THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY. ARTICLE ALSO QUOTES SEN. SAM M. ENGELHARDT, JR., EXECUTIVE SEC., CITIZENS COUNCILS OF ALA., AS SAYING AT A CC RALLY DEC. NINETEEN LAST WE CAN WALK IF WE HAVE TO TO COMBAT INTEGRATION AND URGED LISTENERS TO RISE UP AND SAY NO TO BUS INTEGRATION. ENGELHARDT IS REPORTED AS SAYING THAT IF WHITE RESIDENTS OF MONTGOMERY GIVE IN TO BUS INTEGRATION IT WILL BE ONLY THE BEGINNING OF NEGRO EFFORTS TO END SEGREGATION. ARTICLE RESTATES STATEMENTS OF NEGRO LEADERS THAT AS SOON AS DISTRICT COURT

END PAGE TWO .....

PAGE THREE.....

ISSUES FORMAL DECREE WE SHALL BE RETURNING TO THE BUSES. HOWEVER, REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE DECISION TO RETURN TO THE BUSES WILL IN ALL X LIKELIHOOD BE REACHED TONIGHT AT TWO NEGRO MASS MEETINGS. THE NEWS ARTICLE REPORTS ALSO THAT A CIRCULAR LETTER WAS CIRCULATED AMONG NEGROES BY MIA URGING A COURSE OF RESTRAINT, SILENCE AND PRAYER AS PROPER COURSE FOR NEGROS TO FOLLOW WHEN THEY RETURN TO BUSES. ARTICLE ALSO SAYS THAT THERE HAS BEEN TALK OF A CLUB OPERATING A FLEET OF STATION WAGONS TO PICK UP WHITE PASSENGERS BUT SAID THAT NO OFFICIAL WORD OF SUCH ACTION WAS FORTHCOMING FROM EITHER CITY OR STATE OFFICERS. SAME ARTICLE STATES THAT AT CC RALLY DEC. NINETEEN, U. S. REPRESENTATIVE GEORGE GRANT OF ALA. PLEDGED TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION IN CONGRESS CALLING FOR POPULAR ELECTION OF FEDERAL DISTRICT JUDGES. GRANT ALSO SAID THAT NEGROES SHOULD REMEMBER THAT A BOYCOTT IS A TWO EDGED SWORD DASH IT CAN CUT TWO WAYS. HE DID NOT ELABORATE. SUPT. J. H. BAGLEY, MGR. OF MONTGOMERY CITY LINES, HAS ADVISED ONLY THAT HIS COMPANY WILL OBEY THE LAW IN SEATING THE RACES. THE BUS CO. IS NOW UNDER A STATE COURT INJUNCTION TO CONTINUE ENFORCING SEGREGATION LAWS, BUT ALA. CIRCUIT JUDGE WALTER B. JONES HAS SAID THAT HE WILL DISSOLVE THIS INJUNCTION WHEN THE HIGHER COURT

END PAGE THREE .....

PAGE FOUR.....

RULING ARRIVES HERE. MAYOR W. A. GAYLE, MONTGOMERY ADVISED PRESS THAT CITY HAS NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO RECOGNIZE SUPREME COURT RULING, BUT WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO PERSUADE SUPREME COURT THAT CITY HAS POLICE POWER TO REGULATE CITY TRANSPORTATION.

*Copy news story recs  
12/18/56 sent by [unclear]  
sent down by [unclear]*

[REDACTED]

7C  
1D

NO INVESTIGATION CONTEMPLATED UNTIL RECEIPT OF COMPLAINT IN ORDER TO PROTECT INFORMANT.

[REDACTED]

END PAGE FOUR.....

PAGE FIVE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BUREAU HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY  
FURNISHED WITH DATA [REDACTED]

7D

[REDACTED]

NO ADDITIONAL DATA RE THIS MATTER RECEIVED FROM INFORMANTS  
HALLFORD

END AND ACK PLS

WA 8-41 PM O OK FBI WA NRB

TU DIS

CC MR. ROSEN  
AND SUPERVISOR  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION



## Commissioners Issue Segregation Statement

Following is the complete statement of the Montgomery City Commission in answer to the U.S. Supreme Court's refusal to grant petitions for rehearing in the bus segregation ruling.

We have been advised that our petition for rehearing has been denied in connection with the case involving the segregation of the races on buses operating exclusively on the streets of Montgomery.

This decision sweeps away the wise and long-standing ordinance of the City of Montgomery, which experience over the years has shown has contributed to the peace and social order of our city. An ordinance of the city admitted as valid by the United States Supreme Court for over half a century is nullified by a court which could find no reason for ruling as it did, and hence could write no opinion to tell the people of Montgomery why their ordinance was unconstitutional.

The Supreme Court of the United States, repudiating all former decisions rendered years ago, by a court composed of the wisest jurists of the nation, has now set itself up as a fourth department of government. In addition to the judicial power given it by the Constitution, it has gone out of its orbit as a judicial body, and now arrogated to itself the right to be and to act as a super-lawmaking body, over the Congress, the State Legislatures, and to assume powers which are denied to it by the Federal Constitution.

For a layman it comes as a shock to learn that the fundamental law of this country, that is, the Constitution, can mean one thing today and something entirely different tomorrow. If the separation of the races was legal in 1896, and during the years thereafter, it is hard for the average citizen to understand how the meaning given to it at that time can be changed 60 years later by nine men sitting on the United States Supreme Court to mean something directly opposite.

This decision in the bus case has had a tremendous impact on the customs of our people here in Montgomery. It is not an easy thing to live under a law recognized as constitutional for these many years and then have it suddenly overturned on the basis of psychology and not by amending the Constitution.

The City of Montgomery, having at heart the welfare of both the white and black races and carrying out the wishes of 90 per cent of our people, has done all in its power to uphold the city ordinance providing for the separation of races on the buses. It has faithfully fought the effort to nullify this ordinance through all the courts of the land, and with every legal weapon available. The people of Montgomery realize that the good order and peace of our city imperatively requires the separation of the races on the buses, each race being given equal and identical accommodations.

INDEXED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 cle/gcl

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 12-18-56  
Page 1B

Re:

100-135-61-285  
ENCLOSURE

Now that our wise, time-tested, and proper ordinance for the separation of the races on buses has been declared void, we have neither state nor city law providing that the races be given separate but equal seats on the buses. Although we consider the Supreme Court's decision to be the usurpation of the power to amend the Constitution, which belongs to the people and not the court, we have no alternative but to recognize it. That is not to say, however, that we will not continue, through every legal means at our disposal, to see that the separation of the races is continued on the public transportation system here in Montgomery.

The City Commission will not let up in its efforts to convince the Supreme Court at Washington, that the city authorities have under their general police power, a power until recently never questioned by any court in the land, the undoubted right to regulate bus service on the streets of Montgomery.

The Negro race, whose National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People has secured this decision, should not be led into conduct which will embarrass the race and lead to bloodshed, engender conflict and disorder on the buses and bring the curse of trag-

edy to our city. It is hoped that those recent comers to Montgomery, who claim to be the leaders of the boycott-crusaders here, and who have day in and day out, in nearly every state in the Union for over a year, denounced the white race, will cease their hypocritical and unjustifiable attacks upon the people of Montgomery and their Board of Commissioners and will counsel the members of their race not to act unwisely.

The City Commission, and we know our people are with us in this determination, will not yield one inch, but will do all in its power to oppose the integration of the Negro race with the white race in Montgomery, and will forever stand like a rock against social equality, intermarriage, and mixing of the races in the schools. In these matters, for the common good of all the people of Montgomery, and for the public peace and quiet of this city, there must continue the separation of the races under God's creation and plan. In so doing, we know that the best interests of both races will be served.

Mayor W. A. Gayle

Frank W. Parks

Clyde C. Sellers

**PSC PREPARES BUS ORDER**

# Federal Injunction Is Awaited Here

By CHARLES SULLIVAN  
City officials expected a federal injunction to be issued here this week prohibiting further enforcement of state and city bus segregation laws in Montgomery.

The injunction has been stayed pending appeal of a three-judge

### City Commission Issues Statement

The full statement of the Montgomery City Commission on the bus segregation situation is published on Page 1-B of this edition of The Journal.

federal court panel's June decision holding the laws unconstitutional as they apply to Montgomery.

Yesterday the U. S. Supreme

Court refused to reconsider its Nov. 13 decision upholding the decision of the three-judge panel, thus okaying the injunction.

### NEGROES CAUTIONED

Though vowing further legal efforts to continue racial separation on buses here, the City Commission has announced, "We have no alternative but to recognize the Supreme Court's final rejection of appeals to the ban."

Negroes were cautioned by the commission to behave in such a way that will not "embarrass the race and lead to bloodshed."

Meanwhile Supt. J. H. Bagley of Montgomery City Lines said his company will "obey the law" in the seating of races on buses. On the state level, the president of

(See INJUNCTION, Page 2-A)

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 12-17-56  
Page 1

Re: . . .

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY 725 clc/gcl

100-135-61-285

ENCLOSURE

## Injunction

(Continued From Page 1)

the Alabama Public Service Commission which administers laws affecting transportation hinted at action designed to preserve "peace and harmony on buses in Alabama."

### PSC PREPARES ORDER

PSC President Jack Owen said the order will be issued upon arrival of the Supreme Court mandate here which will be the signal for the federal injunction to be put into effect. Owen declined to reveal the nature of the planned move but left little doubt it will be aimed at continued segregated seating.

Previously Owen has talked of action giving bus drivers authority to regulate the seating of passengers to "prevent violence."

Negro leaders said they were preparing to meet the new conditions of integrated buses peacefully. The Rev. Martin Luther King, leader of the Negro boycott of city buses, asked both white and black Montgomerians to make the transition to integration "smooth and orderly."

### NEGROES SCHOOLED .

Another Negro minister, the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, has said Negroes are being schooled to begin integration of city buses and that Negro ministers and lay leaders will be riding every bus in the early stages of integration to help smooth the transition.

U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr., one of the panel members who voted with the 2-1 majority in holding the laws invalid, said his court clerk will issue a writ of injunction as soon as the Supreme Court order reaches Montgomery.

The expected injunction is interpreted as enjoining only defendants in the original suit filed by Negroes here last February from enforcing the state and city statutes requiring segregation on public buses here. Among those expected to be enjoined from enforcement will be the City Commission, Police Chief G. J. Ruppenthal, Montgomery City Lines, the Alabama Public Service Commission and "any of their agents, employees or successors."

Thus, as the injunction would originally stand, the public would not be under the injunction. Judge Johnson today refused to discuss the situation or injunction, saying it would probably be "next week" before he would have time to say anything more.

The Supreme Court action applies specifically to this case, but the principle will serve as a guide to lower federal courts wherever the issue may arise again.

In its statement, the City Commission deplored the decision of the Supreme Court as unwarranted authority for sweeping away "the wise and long-standing ordinance of the City of Montgomery."

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3ck/gcl

DEC 26 1956

TELETYPE

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	

FBI, MOBILE 12-26-56 5-49 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI ... U R G E N T ...

O Recon - Mobile

RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA. REMOTEL TO BUREAU

DEC. TWENTYTWO LAST CAPTIONED U. S. KLANS OF ALABAMA, KNIGHTS  
OF THE KLU KLUX KLAN, IS DASH X. ON DEC. TWENTYSIX INSTANT

[REDACTED]  
FURNISHED FOLLOWING DATA.. ABOUT FOUR P. M., DEC. TWENTYFOUR,  
LAST, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A NEGRO , BOARDED HIGHLAND AVE. BUS AT MILDRED AND  
GOLDTHWAITE STREETS AND SAT ON REAR SEAT OF BUS. HE OBSERVED  
TWO WHITE MEN GETTING ON THE BUS AT LAWRENCE AND DEXTER STREETS.

[REDACTED] GOT OFF AT HALL ST. BUS STOP AND BOTH WHITE MEN  
FOLLOWED HIM OFF BUS. ONE BUMPED INTO HIM AND APOLOGIZED,  
BUT AS [REDACTED] TRUNED TO ACKNOWLEDGE APOLOGY, THE MAN STRUCK  
HIM, HITTING HIS ARMS TWICE. THE OTHER MAN THEN SWUNG AT

[REDACTED] BUT MISSED. ONE [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] WAS STANDING ACROSS THE STREET AND OBSERVED  
ABOVE INCIDENT AND LATER TOLD [REDACTED]

NOT KNOWN. [REDACTED] REPORTEDLY STARTED TOWARD THE FIGHT AND  
THE TWO MEN GOT INTO A CAR WHICH ALREADY HAD THREE MEN IN IT.  
AS THE CAR DRIVE OFF, IT WAS OBSERVED BY [REDACTED] TO BE A

END PAGE ONE..

Mr. Belmont

7C  
7D

*Samuel J. Jones*  
*6-11-56*

*See AG, via [REDACTED]*  
*12/28/56;*  
*See G 2 - via OSI, DVI,*  
*AG - Memphis (6-6)*  
*12/28/56;*

RECORDED - 40  
EX-117  
100-135-61-716

[REDACTED]  
7C

PAGE TWO...

NINETEEN FORTYEIGHT OR FORTYNINE DODGE OR PLYMOUTH WITH FIFTY SEVEN ALA. TAG [REDACTED]

SAID THAT ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] CALLED POLICE AND WAS STILL THERE WITH [REDACTED] WHEN PATROL CAR ARRIVED AND STARTED TO GIVE DETAILS TO POLICEMEN. ALLEGEDLY THE OFFICERS REFUSED TO LISTEN TO [REDACTED] OR ACCEPT INFORMATION FROM HIM.

[REDACTED] ALSO ALLEGEDLY SAID THAT TWO OF THE MEN IN THE CAR HAD SHOTGUNS. MONTGOMERY PD [REDACTED] ON DEC. TWENTYFOUR, LAST, ADVISED THAT A NEGRO MAN HAD BEEN ATTACKED BY WHITE MEN UPON ALIGHTING FROM BUS ON THAT DATE AND SAID THAT A WITNESS HAD FURNISHED A LICENSE NUMBER AND FURNISHED THE SAME LICENSE TAG AS ABOVE. AS OF DEC. TWENTYFOUR,

[REDACTED] SAID THAT THE OWNER OF THE VEHICLE HAD NOT BEEN LOCATED. MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION RECORDS AT MONTGOMERY REFLECTED ABOVE TAG REGISTERED TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] NAME HAS NOT APPEARED IN CONNECTION WITH KLAN ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA. THE FOLLOWING DATA WAS DESCRIBED IN NEWS ARTICLE IN SECTION E, MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER, DAILY AT MONTGOMERY, DEC. TWENTYFIVE. OLLIE MAE COLLINS, A FIFTEEN YEAR OLD NEGRO GIRL WAS ATTACKED BY THREE WHITE MEN AFTER ALIGHTING FROM A BUS AT HIGH AND DECATUR STREETS  
END PAGE TWO...

PAGE THREE...

IN MONTGOMERY, BUT WAS NOT SERIOUSLY HURT OR HOSPITALIZED.

7C  
7D  
[REDACTED] FURNISHED FOLLOWING DATA RE THAT INCIDENT. COLLINS ALLEGEDLY ATTACKED BY ~~XXXXXX~~ TWO WHITE MEN AT APPROXIMATELY THREE P.M., DEC. TWENTYFOUR AFTER ALIGHTING FROM BUS STOP DESCRIBED ABOVE. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ THREE OTHER WHITE MEN JOINED THE ORIGINAL THREE AND AFTER SEVERAL BLOWS WERE STRUCK AT COLLINS, ALL OF THE MEN RAN AND GOT INTO TWO AUTOMOBILE AND LEFT.

[REDACTED] SAID A WITNESS TO THIS INCIDENT WAS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WHOSE NAME HAS BEEN WITHHELD FROM PUBLICATION AND WHO DESIRES TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS. [REDACTED] DESCRIBED THE ABOVE INCIDENT ON DEC. TWENTYFOUR, LAST AND SAID THAT A LICENSE NUMBER HAD BEEN ANONYMOUSLY RECEIVED ALLEGEDLY FROM THE TAG ON ONE OF THE TWO CARS ABOVE. HE GAVE THIS NUMBER AS FIFTYSEVEN ALA. TAG

[REDACTED] SAID THE ANONYMOUS WITNESS DESCRIBED THE CAR AS A BLACK AND WHITE CHEVROLET. REGISTERED OWNER OF ABOVE TAG IS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FOR A FIFTYONE GREEN PONTIAC. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
NOT KNOWN TO BE CONNECTED WITH KKK ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA.

END PAGE THREE...

PAGE FOUR...

[REDACTED]

7C  
7D

[REDACTED] AS BUREAU WAS PREVIOUSLY ADVISED, ON DEC. TWENTYONE, LAST, A NEGRO WOMAN WAS SLAPPED AND KNOCKED DOWN BY A WHITE MAN AS SHE ALIGHTED FROM A BUS AND HER ASSAILANT GOT INTO A WAITING CAR AND LEFT. THE ABOVE ARE ALL OF THE INCIDENTS KNOWN TO HAVE OCCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH BUS INTERGRATION SINCE BUSES INTEGRATED IN MONTGOMERY. PERTINENT NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS BEING FORWARDED TO THE BUREAU. THE DEC. TWENTYFOUR, LAST MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER CARRIED AN ARTICLE REFLECTING THAT A SHOTGUN HAD BEEN FIRED AT THE HOME OF REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., PRESIDENT OF MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION. THE ARTICLE SAID THAT NO ONE WAS INJURED AND THAT APPARENTLY THE SHOTGUN HAD BEEN LOADED WITH BIRDSHOT. THE ARTICLE STATED THAT MONTGOMERY PD WAS INVESTIGATING. NO INFORMATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED SUGGESTING A SUSPECT IN ABOVE MATTER. ON DEC. TWENTYSIX, INSTANT, REV. KING TELEPHONED MONTGOMERY RESIDENT AGENCY AND REQUESTED THAT

END PAGE FOUR....



PAGE FIVE...

A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BUREAU JOIN IN A CONFERENCE WITH HIM AND OTHER NEGRO MINISTERS TO DISCUSS THE ABOVE INCIDENT AND TO QUOTE "FURNISH ADVICE" ENCLOSES. REV. KING WAS ADVISED BY SA [REDACTED] THAT HE COULD NOT TAKE PART IN ANY SUCH CONFERENCE BUT THAT HE WOULD BE GLAD TO RECEIVE ANY INFORMATION WHICH REV. KING WAS ABLE TO FURNISH CONCERNING THESE MATTERS. AN APPOINTMENT WAS TENTATIVELY MADE FOR NOON OF DEC. TWENTYSIX, INSTANT, BUT AS OF THREE P. M. REV. KING HAD NOT ARRIVED. KING SAID THAT HE HAD AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE U. S. ATTORNEY HARTWELL DAVIS AT MONTGOMERY AT ELEVEN THIRTY A. M. TODAY. IT IS KNOWN THAT HE WAS IN MR. DAVIS- OFFICE UNTIL ONE TEN P. M. AT ONE TWENTY P. M., DEC. TWENTYSIX, INSTANT, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] TELEPHONED MONTGOMERY RA AND SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT REV. KING WAS IN THE BUILDING. HE REQUESTED THAT IF SA [REDACTED] SHOULD SEE REV. KING THAT HE TELL REV. KING THAT HE, [REDACTED] DESIRED TO SEE REV.,. KING. PERTINENT INFORMATION CONTAINED IN RETEL PERTAINING TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

EXPRESSED INTEREST AND APPRECIATION IN ABOVE MATTER AND STATED  
END PAGE FIVE ...

PAGE SIX...

THAT HE HOPED THAT ANYONE ASSAULTING NEGRO PERSONS UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD BE IDENTIFIED<sup>D</sup> SO THAT THE VICTIM COULD SUE THEM CIVILLY FOR SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF MONEY. ██████ EXPRESSED OPINION THAT SUCH LITIGATION WOULD PUT AN END TO SUCH ASSAULTS. ██████ COMMENTED ~~QUOTE~~ "THEY COULD ALSO BE PUT IN JAIL ██████ ALSO SAID THAT HE WOULD CONFER WITH CHIEF G. J. RUPPENTHAL, MONTGOMERY, PD , CONCERNING ABOVE MATTER AND INDICATED THAT HE MIGHT SUGGEST TO CHIEF RUPPENTHAL THAT THE LATTER PUT PLAINCLOTHESMEN ON THIS DETAIL TO FOLLOW BUSES AND IDENTIFY PERSONS MAKING SUCH ASSAULTS. THE SAME INFORMATION HAD BEEN FURNISHED EARLIER ON DEC. TWENTYTWO, LAST, TO CHIEF RUPPENTHAL AND AT THAT TIME THE CHIEF INDICATED THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY ~~QUOTE~~ "PREVENTIVE MEASURES ~~EMPHOTE~~ WERE FEASIBLE. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD BE ██████████ GRATEFUL FOR ANY INFORMATION WHICH MIGHT ASSIST IN IDENTIFYING PERSONS MAKING SUCH ASSAULTS ON NEGROES, SHOULD SUCH ASSAULTS TAKE PLACE.

H A L L F O R D

END AND ACK PLS

8 WA 7-16 PM OK FBI WA JS

TU DISC

MR. BELLONY  
AND SUPERVISOR  
DOM. INTEL. DIVISION

cc Boardman  
Rosen  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. [redacted]

The Attorney General

December 28, 1956

RECORDED - 40 Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

EX-117 RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DATE 3/31/83 BY [redacted]

U. S. KLANS OF ALABAMA,  
KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INCORPORATED  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Reference is made to my previous correspondence setting forth information concerning the racial situation of Alabama and the activities of the U. S. Klans of Alabama, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Incorporated.

On December 26, 1956, a confidential source, who is in a position to furnish reliable information, advised that about 4:00 P.M. on December 24, 1956, [redacted] Negro,

[redacted] boarded a Highland Avenue bus at Mildred and Goldthwaite Streets and sat on the rear seat of the bus. [redacted] observed two white men getting on the bus at Lawrence and Dexter Streets. When [redacted] got off the bus at Hall Street both white men followed him off the bus and one bumped into him and apologized. When [redacted] turned to acknowledge the apology the man struck him hitting him on the arms twice while the other man swung at [redacted] but missed.

An individual named [redacted] reportedly was standing across the street and observed the above incident. [redacted] reportedly started toward the fight and the two men got into a car which already had three men in it. As this car drove off it was observed by [redacted] to be a 1948 or 1949 Dodge or Plymouth with 1957 Alabama license number [redacted]. [redacted] reportedly called the police and was still there with [redacted] when a patrol car arrived, at which time [redacted] started to give the details of the incident to the policemen. The policemen allegedly refused to listen to [redacted] or accept any information from him. [redacted] also reportedly stated that two of the men in the car had shotguns.

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

100-135-61  
100-7801

64 JAN 10 1957

DEC 28 1956  
COMM-FBI

7C  
7D

HEAD  
A 11

DEC 27 1956  
DEC 28 1956  
DEC 29 1956  
DEC 30 1956  
DEC 31 1956

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

*The Attorney General*

7C  
7D

On December 24, 1956, [redacted] of the Montgomery, Alabama, Police Department advised that a Negro man had been attacked by white men upon alighting from a bus on that date; that a witness had furnished a license number, which license number was the same as that set forth previously; and that as of December 24, 1956, the owner of the vehicle had not been located.

The records of the Motor Vehicle Division at Montgomery reflect the above license number is registered to [redacted]

The December 25, 1956, issue of the "Montgomery Advertiser," a daily Montgomery newspaper, carried a news article stating that a fifteen-year old Negro girl, Ollie Mae Collins, was attacked by three white men after alighting from a bus at High and Decatur Streets, Montgomery, but was not seriously hurt nor was she hospitalized. In connection with this incident the previously mentioned source advised that Collins was allegedly attacked by two white men at approximately 3:00 P.M., December 24, 1956, after alighting from the bus. Further, that three other white men joined the original three men and after several blows were struck at Collins all of the men ran and left the scene in two automobiles. The source advised that a witness to this incident was [redacted] whose name has been withheld from publication and who desires to remain anonymous.

On December 24, 1956, the afore-mentioned [redacted] in describing the above incident stated that a license number of one of the two cars had been received anonymously; that this number was 1957 Alabama license number [redacted] that the anonymous source described the car as a black and white Chevrolet; that the registered owner of the above license number is [redacted] for a 1951 green Pontiac car; [redacted]

*The Attorney General*

7C  
7D  
[REDACTED]

7C  
*The Mobile Office of this Bureau has advised that the afore-mentioned [REDACTED] are not known to be connected with Ku Klux Klan activities in that area.*

*The December 24, 1956, issue of the "Montgomery Advertiser" reflected in an article that a shotgun had been fired at the home of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., president of the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA); that no one was injured; that the shotgun had been loaded with birdshot; and that the Montgomery Police Department was investigating the incident.*

*On December 26, 1956, Reverend King telephonically contacted a Special Agent of the Mobile Office and requested that a representative of the Bureau join in a conference with him and other Negro ministers to discuss the above incident and to "furnish advice" to them. Reverend King was advised by the Agent that an Agent could take no part in any such conference but would be glad to receive any information which Reverend King was able to furnish concerning any of the above matters. An appointment was made with Reverend King for 12:00 noon on December 26, 1956, but he failed to keep the appointment.*

*Reverend King also advised he had an appointment to see United States Attorney Hartwell Davis at Montgomery on December 26, 1956, and the Mobile Office has advised that he was in the office of Mr. Davis on that date.*

*The Attorney General*

7C  
For your additional information, on December 26, 1956, [redacted] telephonically contacted the afore-mentioned Special Agent of this Bureau stating he understood that Reverend King was in the building and requested that in the event the Agent saw Reverend King he should tell him that he, [redacted] desired to see Reverend King. This message was apparently not given to Reverend King inasmuch as he failed to keep the appointment with the Agent.

PC  
ND  
For your information, data previously furnished concerning [redacted]

[redacted] expressed interest and appreciation in this matter stating that he hoped anyone assaulting Negroes under such circumstances would be identified in order that the victim could sue the assailants civilly for substantial amounts of money.

[redacted] expressed the opinion that such litigation would put an end to such assault. [redacted] commented, "They could also be put in jail, [redacted] also stated he would confer with Chief of Police G. J. Ruppenthal of the Montgomery, Alabama, Police Department concerning the above and indicated he might suggest to Ruppenthal that plainclothesmen be put on detail to follow buses and identify persons making such assaults.

The same information as furnished Governor Folsom and Lyerly was furnished Chief Ruppenthal on December 22, 1956, who indicated at that time he did not believe any "preventive measures" were feasible and that he would be grateful for any information which might assist in identifying persons assaulting Negroes, should such assaults take place.

*The Attorney General*

*Further pertinent information developed concerning this matter will be furnished to you upon receipt in the Bureau thereof.*

*2cc - Mr. William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General*

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 dfg/cl

DEC 27 1956

TELETYPE

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	_____

FBI MOBILE 12-27-56 10-08 AM ALS  
DIRECTOR, FBI URGENT *Mobile*

RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALA. THE MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER,  
DAILY AT MONTGOMERY, ALA., DEC. TWENTYSEVEN, INSTANT, CARRIES  
FRONT PAGE ARTICLE HEADLINED ~~THE~~ DISCORD, VIOLENCE MAR BUS  
RIDING IN FOUR CITIES ~~ENROUTE~~. ARTICLE RELATES THAT TWO  
MONTGOMERY BUSES WERE FIRED UPON WITHIN FIFTEEN MINUTES IN  
DIFFERENT PARTS OF MONTGOMERY NIGHT OF DEC. TWENTYSIX, FIFTYSIX.  
THE FIRST BUS AT SIX FORTYFIVE PM HAD FOUR NEGRO PASSENGERS,  
ONE A TEENAGE GIRL, WHO WAS NARROWLY MISSED BY A BULLET FIRED  
FROM WHAT POLICE DESCRIBE AS TWENTYTWO CALIBER RIFLE. ONE  
PASSENGER SAID THE SHOT WAF JAYEDNFCOM A MOVING CAR. THIS  
FIRST INCIDENT OCCURRED AT MOBILE ROAD AND EARLY STREET. BUS  
DRIVER H. L. WARREN OF WETUMPKA, ALA. SAID ALL FOUR PASSENGERS  
WERE SEATED BEHIND CENTER OF BUS. THE SECOND SHOOTING WAS  
AT SEVEN PM, WHEN WHAT POLICE BELIEVE WAS A SHOTGUN FIRED AT  
CLOSE RANGE THREW NINE PELLETS AT A BUS OCCUPIED BY DRIVER  
ONLY, J. H. HALL, AT SUDIE AND JACKSON STREETS. TWO SHOTS  
WERE HEARD BY HALL. IN NEITHER INSTANCE WAS ANYONE HIT OR  
INJURED. IN BROADCAST OVER WSFA DASH TV, TEN PM DEC.  
TWENTYSIX, FIFTYSIX, NEWSCASTER CRAWFORD RICE SAID THE SECOND

RECORDED - 85-135-61-287

JAN 3 1957

EDDEPAC

Mr. Belmont

Let to AG  
cc - Rogers, Tompkins, O'Neil  
Let to ACSI  
cc - O'Neil, OSI 12-28-56  
JMK:YFT

70



PAGE TWO

SHOOTING OCCURRED AT SUDIE AND STEVENSON STREETS. HIS ACCOUNT DIFFERED ALSO IN THAT HE SAID THE FIRST SHOOTING WAS DONE WITH A SHOTGUN BLAST WHICH STRUCK NEAR THE DOOR JUST AFTER A TEENAGE GIRL BOARDED BUS, AND THAT THE SECOND SHOOTING WAS DONE WITH A RIFLE. MONTGOMERY PD [REDACTED]

7C  
7D  
[REDACTED] ADVISED DEC. TWENTYSEVEN, INSTANT, THAT HIS DEPT. ARRESTED THREE MEN ~~XXXXXXXX~~ ELEVEN PM DEC. TWENTYSIX, FIFTYSIX, ON US THIRTYONE BYPASS, MONTGOMERY, IN A FIFTYSIX PONTIAC STATION WAGON, ALA. TAG [REDACTED] IN POSSESSION OF FIFTEEN STICKS OF DYNAMITE, A THREE TEN SHOTGUN AND A THIRTYTWO CALIBER PISTOL. HE NAMED THEM AS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SAID THAT HE HAD NO SPECIFIC EVIDENCE CONNECTING THESE MEN WITH LAST NIGHT-S SHOOTINGS. MOBILE DATA RE CHILTON COUNTY KLAVERN NINETEEN OF U. S. KLANS OF ALA., KKKK, WHICH MEETS AT CLANTON, IS LIMITED, BUT ABOVE PERSONS NOT KNOWN TO BE KLAN MEMBERS AT THIS TIME.

CO CHVRR PAGE ONE LINE FOURTEEN FIRST THREE WORDS SHOULD BE AT SEVEN PM WHEN

LINE SIXTEEN SHOULD READ AS FOLLOWS

~~ONLY~~ ONLY, J. H. HALL, AT SUDIE AND JACKSON STREETS. TWO SHOE PAGE TWO LINE SEVEN SHOULD BE THREE MEN ELEVEN PM DEC. TWENTYSIX, FIFTYSIX, ON US THIRTYONE

END AND ACK PLS

WA 11-21 AM OK FBI WA JS

TU DISV

*John Belmont*

cc - Liaison

7C

100-135-61  
100-7801

100-135-61-287

RECORDED - 86  
DATE: 2-11-86

December 28, 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

U. S. KLANS, KNIGHTS OF  
THE KU KLUX KLAN, INC.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

REC'D-READING ROOM  
DEC 28 6 19 PM '56  
FBI

Reference is made to previous correspondence captioned as above.

The December 27, 1956, issue of the "Montgomery Advertiser," a daily Montgomery, Alabama, newspaper, contained a front-page article captioned "Discord, Violence Mar Bus Riding in Four Cities." This article relates that two Montgomery buses were fired upon within fifteen minutes in different parts of Montgomery on the night of December 26, 1956; that the first bus, which was fired upon at 6:45 P. M., had four Negro passengers, one a teen-age girl who was nearly hit by a bullet fired from what police described as a .22 caliber rifle; that one passenger said the shot was fired from a moving car; that this incident occurred at Mobile Road and Early Street; and that the bus driver, H. L. Warren of Wetumpka, Alabama, said all four passengers were seated behind the center of the bus. The article further relates that the second shooting occurred at 7:00 P. M. when what police

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 cly/d

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

DEC 28 11 20 AM '56

MAILED 5  
DEC 28 1956  
COMM-FBI

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

believed was a shotgun fired at close range threw nine pellets at a bus occupied only by the driver, J. M. Hall, at Sudie and Jackson Streets; and that two shots were heard by Hall.

No one was hit or injured in either incident.

News-caster Crawford Rice, in a broadcast over WSPA-TV at 10:00 P. M. on December 26, 1956, stated the second shooting occurred at Sudie and Stevenson Streets. Rice's account also differed in that he said the first shooting was done with a shotgun which struck near the door of the bus immediately after a teen-age girl boarded it and that the second shooting was done with a rifle.

On December 27, 1956, [REDACTED] Montgomery Police Department, advised that his department arrested three men at 11:00 P. M. on December 26, 1956, on U. S. Highway 31 Bypass at Montgomery in a 1956 Pontiac station wagon bearing Alabama license number [REDACTED] that these individuals were in possession of fifteen sticks of dynamite, a shotgun, and a .32 caliber pistol; that these individuals were [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and that he had no specific evidence connecting these men with the December 26, 1956, shootings.

The Mobile Office has advised that the aforementioned three individuals are not known to be Klan members at the present time.

Further pertinent details received concerning the afore-mentioned 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.

1 - Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. McGowan  
Mr. [redacted]  
Mr. [redacted]

7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY [signature]

100-135-61  
100-7801

Date: January 2, 1957

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 (RACON) MOBILE  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

U. S. KLANS, KNIGHTS OF  
THE KU KLUX KLAN, INC.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Reference is made to previous correspondence  
captioned as above.

At 7:00 P.M., on December 28, 1956, Television  
Station WSPA-TV, Montgomery, Alabama, issued a special  
news release announcing that a short time prior thereto  
a shot had been fired at a bus at the corner of Ripley  
and Columbus Streets, Montgomery, Alabama, injuring a  
Negro woman.

RECORDED - 86 100-135-61-288

At 8:10 P.M., December 28, 1956, [redacted]  
Montgomery Police Department, advised that at  
6:30 P.M., December 28, 1956, a bus was fired upon while  
passing a Negro housing development at the corner of  
Union and Columbus Streets, Montgomery, Alabama. He added  
that a bullet struck one Rosie Jordan, a Negro female  
passenger on the bus, in the leg. All passengers and the  
driver were questioned by officers of the Montgomery  
Police Department regarding this incident and none could

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

7C  
7D  
7E

Called all but  
leg to At  
COMM-FBI  
(11)

JAN 3 1957

58 JAN 8 1957

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-135-61-288

**Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence**

7C  
7D  
furnish any information of value with the exception of one Negro woman who, according to [redacted] was "trying to make up a story about seeing some white men in a car." [redacted] indicated that he is convinced that the shot was fired from one of the apartments in the Negro housing development referred to above. He added that after this bus and the passengers were released by the police, the bus was fired upon again as it passed the corner of Union and Columbus Streets.

It is noted that the Washington City News Service issued a release dated December 28, 1956, reflecting that attendants at the Oak Street Hospital, Montgomery, Alabama, where Rosie Jordan was taken after the shooting, were quoted as stating that Jordan was shot through both legs with either rifle or pistol bullets. Her condition was listed as "fair." The release also reflected that Police Commissioner Clyde Sellers of Montgomery ordered the bus company to halt operations for the night following the shooting.

The December 30, 1956, issue of the "Birmingham News" contained an article reflecting that a bus at Birmingham, Alabama, was fired upon at 11:00 P.M., on December 29, 1956. The article quoted Captain J. W. Garrison, Birmingham Police Department, as stating that shots fired at the bus were from a B-B gun and that only two pellets hit the bus. Garrison was further quoted as stating that police had classified the incident as a mischievous prank and did not feel that it was of significance in so far as the bus segregation issue is concerned.

7C  
7D  
[redacted]

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

PC  
D  
|

[REDACTED]

On December 30, 1956,

[REDACTED] advised that he had received information on December 29, 1956, to the effect that the individual responsible for bombing the home of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Further pertinent details received concerning the afore-mentioned will be furnished to you promptly.

**Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence**

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

**1 - 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.**

Mr. Rosen  
Mr. [REDACTED]  
Liaison Section

100-135-61  
100-7801

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 ckl/gcl

7c

**Date:** December 28, 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

**U. S. KLANS OF ALABAMA,  
KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INCORPORATED  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X**

Reference is made to my previous correspondence setting forth information concerning the racial situation of Alabama and the activities of the U. S. Klans of Alabama, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Incorporated.

On December 26, 1956, a confidential source, who is in a position to furnish reliable information, advised that about 4:00 P.M. on December 24, 1956, [REDACTED] Negro, [REDACTED], boarded a Highland Avenue bus at Mildred and Goldthwaite Streets and sat on the rear seat of the bus. [REDACTED] observed two white men getting on the bus at Lawrence and Dexter Streets. When [REDACTED] got off the bus at Hall Street both white men followed him off the bus and one bumped into him and apologized. When [REDACTED] turned to acknowledge the apology the man struck him, hitting him on the arms twice while the other man swung at [REDACTED] but missed.

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

lcc - Assistant Attorney General (By Form 0-6, same date)  
Warren Olney III  
lcc - Assistant Attorney General (By Form 0-6, same date)  
William F. Tompkins

RECORDED-11  
EX-112

DEC 30 15 31 1956  
JAN 4 1957

7c  
7d

7c

Various handwritten initials and signatures, including "V. [unclear]", "J.B.", and "V. [unclear]".



*Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence*

7B  
An individual named [REDACTED] reportedly was standing across the street and observed the above incident. [REDACTED] reportedly started toward the fight and the two men got into a car which already had three men in it. As this car drove off it was observed by [REDACTED] to be a 1948 or 1949 Dodge or Plymouth with 1957 Alabama license number [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] reportedly called the police and was still there with [REDACTED] when a patrol car arrived, at which time [REDACTED] started to give the details of the incident to the policemen. The policemen allegedly refused to listen to [REDACTED] or accept any information from him. [REDACTED] also reportedly stated that two of the men in the car had shotguns.

On December 24, 1956, [REDACTED] Montgomery, Alabama, Police Department advised that a Negro man had been attacked by white men upon alighting from a bus on that date; that a witness had furnished a license number, which license number was the same as that set forth previously; and that as of December 24, 1956, the owner of the vehicle had not been located.

The records of the Motor Vehicle Division at Montgomery reflect the above license number is registered to [REDACTED]

The December 25, 1956, issue of the "Montgomery Advertiser," a daily Montgomery newspaper, carried a news article stating that a fifteen-year old Negro girl, Ollie Mae Collins, was attacked by three white men after alighting from a bus at High and Decatur Streets, Montgomery, but was not seriously hurt nor was she hospitalized. In connection with this incident the previously mentioned source advised that Collins was allegedly attacked by two white men at approximately 3:00 P.M., December 24, 1956, after alighting from the bus.

**Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence**

Further, that three other white men joined the original three men and after several blows were struck at Collins all of the men ran and left the scene in two automobiles. The source advised that a witness to this incident was [REDACTED] **7C**

[REDACTED] whose name has been withheld from publication and who desires to remain anonymous.

**7C**  
**7D**  
On December 24, 1956, the afore-mentioned [REDACTED] in describing the above incident stated that a license number of one of the two cars had been received anonymously; that this number was 1957 Alabama license number [REDACTED] that the anonymous source described the car as a black and white Chevrolet; that the registered owner of the above license number is [REDACTED] for a 1951 green [REDACTED] car.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Mobile Office of this Bureau has advised that the afore-mentioned [REDACTED] are not known to be connected with Ku Klux Klan activities in that area.

The December 24, 1956, issue of the "Montgomery Advertiser" reflected in an article that a shotgun had been fired at the home of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., president of the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA); that no one was injured; that the shotgun had been loaded with birdshot; and that the Montgomery Police Department was investigating the incident.

**Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence**

**Further pertinent information developed concerning this matter will be furnished to you upon receipt in the Bureau thereof.**

**2cc - 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.**

**2cc - Director of Naval Intelligence**  
**Department of the Navy**  
**The Pentagon**  
**Washington 25, D. C.**

1 - Mr. Boardman  
1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

JANUARY 4, 1957 **7C**

DIRECTOR, FBI  
Firmin - Mobile  
RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3ck/gol

UNITED STATES KLAN  
KNIGHTS OF THE K' KLEI KLAN, INC.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - I

Reference is made to my previous correspondence captioned as above.

[REDACTED]

Firmin, an police Department, is aware of the above information and has stated that he will arrest any and any of his followers who attempt to take such action. [REDACTED] added that he intends to arrest anyone who interferes with the Firmin segregation laws concerning buses since he feels that the situation may get out of hand if prompt and effective action is not taken in each instance.

[REDACTED]

**7C**  
**7D**  
JAN 11 1957  
MAILED 5

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

JAN 11 1957  
EX-125  
V.

RECORDED-20

JAN 7 1957

RECORDED IN 100-100-100-100

The Attorney General

On December 31, 1956, [REDACTED]

7C  
7D

[REDACTED] advised that at  
1200 P. M., December 31, 1956, a bullet was fired into  
a bus operated by [REDACTED] This bullet struck  
the bus in the left front side just under the driver's  
seat, but no one was injured. [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] that the shot was  
fired as he was driving south on Loxer Lumpka Road  
in front of the Hirs Transfer Company in Montgomery.  
[REDACTED] stated that a car traveling north passed  
the bus just as the shot was fired and expressed the  
opinion that the shot had been fired from this car.  
However, he was unable to furnish any description of  
the car or of its occupants. [REDACTED] added  
that [REDACTED] had been the driver of the bus that had  
been fired upon twice on the evening of December 26, 1956.

Further pertinent details received concerning  
the afore-mentioned will be furnished to you promptly.

- 1 - Mr. William F. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Olney, III
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins



# Negroes Plan 'Unsegregated' Return To Buses

The Tallahassee Inter-Civic Council has told the City Commission its seven-month old bus boycott has ended and Negroes will return to the buses in an "unsegregated fashion."

The letter said "we seek your unqualified assistance in maintaining order and preventing violence of any sort as our people return to the buses in unsegregated fashion. The fact that there are violent factions in both races dictates that we be ever mindful."

The letter was signed "The Executive Committee," by M. C. Williams, executive secretary.

Dr. Williams, a Tallahassee dentist, declined to comment on what move the Negroes plan next or to say whether any Negroes would attempt to board the buses on an integrated basis. He said "the letter speaks for itself."

Charles Carter, manager of the Cities Transit bus company, today said he had no reports of Negroes trying to sit in front seats of buses. He would not comment on what action he would take if Negroes tried to force seating on an integrated basis.

Mayor John Humphress said "I guess we (the City Commission) will have to get together and talk it over." He said the Commission had made no plans.

## POLICE WATCHING

Police Chief Frank Stoutamire said he was watching the situation closely and would personally handle any incidents if they occurred. He said there had been no reports of incidents on the buses.

It was the arrest of two Florida A. and M. students on May 26 that led to the boycott. The Negroes were arrested after they attempted to take seats in the front of a bus.

Shortly after the incident the bus  
(Continued on Page 2, Col. 8)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS

DATE 3/31/83

sp 3 d/s/cl

From Page 1

# Negroes Plan 'Unsegregated' Return To Buses

boycott began. It curtailed business so that the bus company shut down for a month but resumed operations after a Ride-The-Bus campaign sponsored by local white residents.

Many Negroes returned to riding the buses when service resumed but Negro patronage has continued "way below normal," Carter said.

The letter from the Inter-Civic Council to Mayor Humphress said "In the wake of the Federal court order ending bus segregation, our protest against segregated seating in Cities Transit Buses is now ended."

"We seek your unqualified assistance in maintaining order and preventing violence of any sort as our people return to the buses in unsegregated fashion."

"The fact that there are violent factions in both races dictates that we be ever mindful."

We are begging that in such circumstances the law will be equitably applied, and the peace maintained. We have instructed our people towards this end with profound sincerity."

~~INDEXED~~ - 36

M.C. WILLIAMS

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 12-22-56

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

100-135-61-271

ENCLOSURE |

# Mayor Appeals To Both Races And Bus Firm

## Segregation Meet Called

Tallahassee Mayor John Humphress today appealed to the people of both races and the bus company to cooperate in maintaining segregation on City bus lines.

The Tallahassee Inter Civic Council announced it will hold a public meeting tonight at AME Church in Bond Subdivision to decide "whether to return to the buses on an unsegregated basis" or continue boycotting the bus company.

Rev. C. R. Steele, president of the council, said yesterday's statement that the Negroes will return to the buses in an unsegregated fashion was "premature." Steele said the Inter Civic Council never takes final action without a vote of the people at a mass meeting. He said the statement was the feeling only of the officers of the council.

City officials received a letter from the Council, signed by M. C. Williams, executive secretary, which said the Negroes were ending their seven-month old boycott and asked the City's assistance in maintaining order as Negroes "return to the buses in unsegregated fashion."

### VOTED EMPHATICALLY

Steele made it clear there would be no vote taken on the possibility of returning to the buses on a segregated basis. "We know they wouldn't do that. They've voted emphatically on that issue before," he said.

Mayor Humphress made his appeal for cooperation and continued segregation after a special, closed meeting of the City Commission yesterday afternoon.

Humphress said the letter from the Negro Council was discussed at length and it was the feeling of the City Commission that "the buses should continue to operate on a segregated basis."

### 'IF AND WHEN'

Asked what the City would do if the Negroes attempted to force segregation by taking seats in the front of a bus, Mayor Humphress said: "We'll just have to face that situation if and when it arises."

Humphress said the City Commission, in consultation with the City Attorney, had discussed that possibility but  
(Continued on Page 6, Col. 3)

From Page 1

# Mayor Appeals To Both Races

would not comment on what, if any, decision had been reached.

There have been no reported incidents of any efforts by Negroes to sit in the front of buses since the letter was sent. City law requires Negroes to seat from the rear of the bus.

It was the arrest of two Florida A. and M. students for refusing to move to the back of a bus last May which caused the start of the bus boycott. The boycott forced Cities Transit to suspend operations but the buses resumed operation after one month. Charges against the students were dropped.

Steele said tonight's mass meeting would begin at 8:30 in Fountain Chapel in AME Church. He said the meeting would be open to the general public.

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 12-23-56

~~INDEXED~~ 36

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3 CAC/gcl  
100-135-61-271

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
DEC 28 1956	
FBI - MOBILE	

ENCLOSURE 2



## Keeping Order Is The Main Thing

The Supreme Court of the United States has ruled that segregated seating of the races on Montgomery, Ala., city buses must end because it is unconstitutional discrimination.

We doubt that we ever will agree that the Supreme Court of the United States was within its scope of judicial operations when it stepped so far into the internal affairs of a state and one of its cities to regulate their customs and ordinances, but the Supreme Court has usurped that authority and apparently is getting away with it.

Segregated seating on the buses in Montgomery has ended, and—we are gratified to hear—without the violence and discord many of us had feared.

Now, certain leaders of Tallahassee Negroes, following the pattern of the Montgomery developments, have advised their people to board the buses and sit where they please—preferably nearer the front than the back.

They have put the next move up to the City Commission and City law enforcement officers.

The Supreme Court's decision in the Montgomery case does not automatically apply to Tallahassee. The City can rely on its own segregation ordinances and fight the case through a long and expensive series of court appeals.

The day can be stalled but when it gets to the Supreme Court, our buses will be desegregated just as Montgomery's have been.

Unfortunately while the case runs through the courts, there will be agitation, notoriety, more ill-feeling.

Already a leader of the Negro boycott has announced his candidacy for the City Commission. He will be using the issue to exhort and excite his people, further dividing our citizenry along racial lines.

In this situation, the question of keeping peace and order is of most immediate importance.

We don't know how many Negroes really will go all out to defy the old customs, nor how many white people will insist on maintaining the customs at all costs. We have an idea that most of the Negroes who are agitating the matter aren't regular bus riders—and neither are most of the white people who talk loudest about "keeping them in their places."

The Negro leaders have appealed to their people to bend over backwards to avoid violence. We believe our white citizenry, almost to a man, has the same desire.

Seeing that such violence does not occur, that the hotheads of neither race shall not take over this situation, should be the first obligation of our police today.

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 12-24-56

JOHN TAPERS, Editor

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3clt/ghl

100-135-61-291

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

# Negroes Try Front Seats

## Ministers Test Local Bus Integration; No Incidents

By DON MEIKLEJOHN  
Democrat Staff Writer

Teams of Negro ministers and leaders in the Inter-Civic Council began seating themselves near the front of Cities Transit buses today, but most other Negroes were still sitting in the rear.

No arrests were made for violating the city ordinance requiring Negroes to seat from the rear and no disturbances were reported during the morning.

The City Commission and City officials held a closed meeting this morning at a local restaurant. Commissioners and bus company officials could not be reached for comment, and were apparently continuing the meeting at an undisclosed location.

### EARLY VENTURE

Shortly after 8 a.m., the Rev. C. K. Steele, president of the Inter-Civic Council, and two other Negro ministers boarded the Beard Street bus at Monroe street and Park Avenue.

They were putting into effect a resolution adopted at a mass meeting last night urging Negroes to make a deliberate effort to break the rear-seating pattern, but advising them to make every effort to avoid violence.

Getting on the bus with Steele were the Rev. A. C. Redd, pastor of the St. James CME Church, and the Rev. H. McNeal Harris, pastor of the Bethel AME Church.

They sat in the second seat in back of long seats at the front of the bus, and rode as far as Carr Buick Co., where

### "VERY NICE"

No white passengers were on the bus, and the Rev. Steele said the driver and Bus Manager Charles L. Carter "were very nice."

The Rev. J. Meta Rollins, treasurer of the Inter-Civic Council, and Dan B. Speed, transportation chairman of the ICC, boarded a Florida A & M bus, and rode to the downtown section, where they switched to a Betton Hills bus.

Rollins and Speed said the driver asked them to "kindly move to the rear," but they did not answer the request and continued to sit at the front.

No other conversation was held between the driver and the Negro passengers.

Rollins sat in the first seat in back of the long seat and Speed sat in the seat behind him.

On the Thomasville Highway, they switched to another bus that took them through the Northeast section of town and returned to downtown.

There were several white people on this bus, but none sitting in the same seats as the Negroes.

Steele said he did not have

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 clc/gcl

~~INDEXED~~ .76

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Date 12-24-56

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

100-135-61-291

any plans to make any more trips today, but Rollins and Speed said they would continue to ride at least for a while.

They said they also might ride the bus later this afternoon.

During the early morning hours, Negro domestics were boarding the buses and riding at the rear of the bus with the exception of the Florida A & M and Frenchtown runs that have had Negro drivers since September.

On these runs, the Negroes have been sitting close to the front since the buses were put back on the street after a month's layoff. Few white patrons ride on these lines.

#### NO PICTURES

The only scuffle today was between Bus Company Manager Carter, and a Jacksonville television cameraman.

Carter issued orders that no pictures could be taken on the buses, and when the Jacksonville camera man attempted to get on to shoot pictures of the Rev. Steele, Carter took his camera and forced him off the bus.

After they were off the bus, Carter returned the camera, and told the cameraman, "You can shoot all you want out here, but those are my buses and I don't want you on there with a camera."

At a meeting last night of the Inter Civic Council, about 400 Negroes voted to return to the buses in an "unsegregated manner" this morning.

The Rev. C. K. Steele, president of the ICC and other leaders urged the Negroes to avoid violence, and handed out detailed instructions on how to implement the move back to the buses.

The instructions specifically urged that the Negroes "sit more to the front of the bus, rather than to the rear," and promised legal aid for those arrested.

Steele told the group, "Before I'll be a slave, I'll be buried in my grave."

Referring to the Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation on buses in Montgomery, Steele said, "If it's unlawful in Montgomery it also is unlawful in Tallahassee and in Florida if they are still in the Union."

The instructions, among other things, advised Negroes against going to the aid of others who get in trouble over efforts to break the bus seating segregation pattern.

## Negroes Try Front Seats

From Page 1

can lead to a riot," Steele said.

The instructions similar to those recently given to Negroes boarding desegregated buses in Montgomery also said:

"1. If someone strikes you, turn the other cheek.

"2. If someone curses you, ignore it.

"3. If someone pushes you, keep your balance physically, mentally, and spiritually.

"4. Do not hold conversations with anyone unless utterly necessary.

"5. Please sit more to the front of the bus, rather than to the rear."

The instructions said the bus company and drivers "will be

glad to have you return, for their company and the drivers' jobs are very shaky without us. No one will molest you for you are walking with God.

"Remember the carrying out of this part of our movement can make all the steps we have walked worthwhile or not," the instructions said.

"The Federal Court order outlawing segregation on public carriers has arrived at the federal courts in Tallahassee. Upon receipt of the order by the courts all laws pertaining to segregation are dead," the Negroes were advised.

(Although the Supreme Court has ruled that segregation on Montgomery buses is illegal, Florida Atty. Gen. Richard Er-

vin has said laws in other cities and states must be specifically tested before they are invalid.)

"From here on if a Negro sits on the back of a transient carrier, he or she is voluntarily segregating himself. In order to break the seating pattern which we have grown accustomed to we are requesting that you restrain from sitting on the rear end of the bus unless there are no other seats available," the instructions said.

During the meeting, Steele said that his comments, quoted Sunday that the release of a letter stating the Negroes would return to the buses had been "premature" was a reference to the City and not about the ICC leaders.

"He said we did not expect them to release the statement since they have been so shy in the past," Steele said.

During the meeting, ICC officers reported receiving unsolicited contributions from out-of-town agencies.

One of the contributions was from an agency that listed Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt as a contributor. Dr. M. C. Williams, secretary of the ICC, told the audience.

The boycott of local buses will be seven months old Dec. 28, and started after the arrest of two Florida A&M women students who sat next to a white woman on a Cities Transit bus. They were charged with placing themselves in a position to incite a riot, but the charges were dropped.

As a result of the boycott, the Inter Civic Council and 21 members were arrested and convicted in City Court on charges of operating an illegal transportation system set up as a car pool without a franchise.

These cases have been appealed to Circuit Court.

The 22 defendants were fined a total of \$11,000 for the violations.

# Dupont Plans To Seek City Commission Spot

The Rev. K. S. Dupont, vice president of the Negro Inter Civic Council, announced last night that he will be a candidate for the City Commission in February, if he's eligible.

Dupont, who opened a mass meeting of the ICC at the Fountain Chapel A.M.E. Church last night, with the announcement, a under conviction in City Court for operating an illegal transportation system in connection with the Negro boycott of Cities Transit buses here.

The City Charter prohibits anyone who has been convicted of a crime from holding office.

### URGES REGISTRATION

He said "I want everyone to register to vote in February.

"The reason I want you to register to vote is I'm going to

run for City Commission," he added.

Among his qualifications, Dupont said, "I've never been drunk . . . I've been a pretty fair citizen, and I'm honest."

The announcement was made in a whimsical vein, but when questioned after the meeting Dupont said he was serious about running.

He said he planned an "active campaign."

### ATKINSON'S SPOT

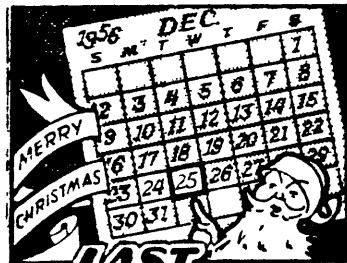
Only one seat will be involved in the February City elections—the one now held by City Commissioner Davis Atkinson. Atkinson has made no formal announcement but is considered a sure bet to run for election.

Atkinson was appointed to the post after the resignation of Fred Winterle, who resigned when he moved outside the city limits.

Dupont is pastor of the Fountain Chapel A.M.E. Church.

He is 57 years old, and was born in Midway in Gadsden County. Besides his church activities, he owns a truck line.

He is married, and has three sons and two daughters.



THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 12-24-56

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3cl/jcl

100-135-61-291

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 26 1956	
FBI - MOBILE	

cc - Boardman  
Belmont

7C

December 28, 1956

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Director, FBI

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

U. S. KLANS, KNIGHTS OF  
THE KU KLUX KLAN, INC.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE

3/3/83 BY [signature]  
Ramon - Mobile

Reference is made to previous correspondence captioned as above.

The December 27, 1956, issue of the "Montgomery Advertiser," a daily Montgomery, Alabama, newspaper, contained a front-page article captioned "Discord, Violence Mar Bus Riding in Four Cities." This article relates that two Montgomery buses were fired upon within fifteen minutes in different parts of Montgomery on the night of December 26, 1956; that the first bus, which was fired upon at 6:45 P. M., had four Negro passengers, one a teen-age girl who was nearly hit by a bullet fired from what police described as a .22 caliber rifle; that one passenger said the shot was fired from a moving car; that this incident occurred at Mobile Road and Early Street; and that the bus driver, H. L. Warren of Wetumpka, Alabama, said all four passengers were seated behind the center of the bus. The article further relates that the second shooting occurred at 7:00 P. M. when what police believed was a shotgun fired at close range threw nine pellets at a bus occupied only by the driver, J. H. Hall, at Sudie and Jackson Streets; and that two shots were heard by Hall.

No one was hit or injured in either incident.

Newscaster Crawford Rice, in a broadcast over WSFA-TV at 10:00 P. M. on December 26, 1956, stated the second shooting occurred at Sudie and Stevenson Streets.

100-135-61  
100-7801

MAILED 5  
DEC 31 1956  
COMM-FBI

DEC 28 11 20 AM '56

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

58 JAN 9 1957

RECORDING ROOM  
DEC 28 6 26 PM '56  
UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Memorandum for The Attorney General

Rice's account also differed in that he said the first shooting was done with a shotgun which struck near the door of the bus immediately after a teen-age girl boarded it and that the second shooting was done with a rifle.

7C  
7D

On December 27, 1956, [REDACTED] Montgomery Police Department, advised that his department arrested three men at 11:00 P. M. on December 26, 1956, on U. S. Highway 31 bypass at Montgomery in a 1956 Pontiac station wagon bearing Alabama license number [REDACTED] that these individuals were in possession of fifteen sticks of dynamite, a shotgun, and a .32 caliber pistol; that these individuals were [REDACTED]

The Mobile Office has advised that the aforementioned three individuals are not known to be Klan members at the present time.

Further pertinent details received concerning the afore-mentioned will be furnished you promptly.

cc - Mr. William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General

cc - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

cc - Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Olney III

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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

DATE: 12/28/56

H  
FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1361)

Racon

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

del

For the information of the Bureau, there are attached two copies of an item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, under date of 12/26/56 captioned SEGREGATION LAW TEST SET BY BUS FIRM.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 2)

1 - Mobile

mem

(3)

7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 clj/gcl

RECORDED - 9 100-135-61-243

EX-108

JAN 9 1957

1cc genl to Tompkins  
by odc 1-3-57

7c

file  
100-135-61  
JK #5

met  
B  
JAN 11 1957

ENCLOSURE

EX-108

1. sub. detached  
& filed with copy  
61 JAN 11 1957  
7c  
1cc sent to AA 22 Bluey  
From 2-9-56 under  
Rac Segregation (44-11126)  
- 8-57 - Copy also  
placed in that file  
1956

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 114-11126-1

# Segregation Law Test Set By Bus Firm

Tallahassee bus segregation laws will be tested by Cities Transit Inc. in a suit that the company hopes to file "before the end of the week" probably in federal court here.

Charles Ausley, bus company attorney, said today the action will be taken after receipt of written instructions from the City to maintain segregation on the buses.

Bus service was resumed today after a Christmas Day lay-off with little evidence that a movement of the Inter Civic Council to urge Negroes to sit nearer the front of buses was being carried out generally.

After a seven hour meeting Monday, the City Commission instructed City Mgr. Arvah Hopkins to order the bus company to maintain segregation on the buses.

At the same time, the bus company announced its plans to get a ruling on local bus segregation laws in light of the decision by the Supreme Court outlawing segregation on Montgomery, Ala., buses.

Hopkins said oral instructions have been given to the company, and these will be followed up with written instructions sometime today.

## THEY SIT BACK

During the early runs leaving the Park Avenue and Monroe street bus stop, only one Negro sat in front of the back door, and there were no white passengers on the bus.

The Rev. C. K. Steele, president of the Negro Inter Civic Council, said no organized plans had been made, but there would be Negroes on the buses today sitting "quite near the front."

On Monday teams of Negro ministers and members of the Council rode buses sitting near the front following up a vote of the members of the ICC to go back to the buses in an "un-segregated manner."

There have been no reports of Negroes attempting to take seats beside white people.

At a special meeting of the ICC executive committee and advisory board, the Negro leaders voted to continue sitting near the front of buses.

The group is composed of all Negro ministers and the members of the ICC board of directors. About 25 attended the meeting.

A regular meeting of the Inter Civic Council will be held tonight at the Bethel Baptist Church.

In a statement issued after the meeting, the group said it regretted that the City Commission action "forces us to differ with them while in agreement with the great Constitution of our nation and the Brownell statement.

"We will not pay the same fare as others and be segregated illegally and unfairly," the statement said.

Other portions of the statement contained a pledge that if the segregation is eliminated, the ICC will "do all in our power to see to it that Cities Transit, Inc. will thrive, grow, and even expand its services."

The statement added: "We further believe that if there is a Southern city anywhere in America where there is enough goodwill for the practice of real genuine Americanism, Tallahassee is that city."

On buses checked early this morning, there were few white riders, and the Negro patronage did not appear any heavier than before the announced end of the boycott by the Inter Civic Council.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3 CLK/gcl

On buses with white passengers, no Negroes were in the front of the buses, and even on buses with only Negroes riding, they were seated at the extreme rear in most cases.

City Mgr. Hopkins said the police have not been given any specific instructions other than to keep order.

Tallahassee Democrat  
Tallahassee, Fla.  
12/26/56

Re:  
Racial Situation  
Tallahassee, Fla.

Bufile 100-135-Sub  
61  
Mofile 100-1361

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 1-1-57 *Lee/pms*

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-293



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

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	_____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DEC 31 1956

TELETYPE

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3clg/d

FBI MOBILE 12-31-56 11-21 AM ALS

DIRECTOR, FBI U R G E N T *RACON - RACIAL*

RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALA. RE MOTEL DEC. TWENTYEIGHT.  
FIFTYSIX. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED TODAY THAT AT SIX TWENTY AM DEC. THIRTYONE,

INSTANT, A BULLET WAS FIRED INTO A BUS OPERATED BY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WHO WAS DRIVER OF THE BUS FIRED UPON TWICE ON

NIGHT OF DEC. TWENTYEIGHT, FIFTYSIX. THE BULLET FIRED TODAY

STRUCK THE BUS IN LEFT FRONT SIDE JUST UNDER DRIVER-S SEAT

BUT STRUCK NO PERSON ACCORDING TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] JUST AS SHOT WAS FIRED, WHILE HE WAS TRAVELING SOUTH

ON LOWER WETUMPKA ROAD IN FRONT OF DIXIE TRANSFER CO., A

CAR PASSED THE BUS GOING NORTH. [REDACTED] BELIEVES THAT

SHOT WAS FIRED FROM THAT CAR, BUT WAS UNABLE TO FURNISH ANY

DESCRIPTION OF CAR OR OCCUPANTS. WITH REFERENCE TO SECOND

SHOOTING DEC. TWENTYEIGHT, FIFTYSIX, [REDACTED] SAID THAT

SHOTGUN BLAST STRUCK THE BUS NEAR THE DRIVER-S SEAT.

[REDACTED] STATED THAT THERE ARE NO KNOWN WITNESSES TO THE SHOOTING

THIS MORNING OTHER THAN [REDACTED] JAN 9 1957

END ACK PLS

12-26 PM OK FBI WA JS

TU DIE

EX-117

HALLEFORD

Mr. Belmont

*cc Mr Belmont*

*Mem + AG  
cc Rosen, Tompkins  
1/31/57  
A.T. & A.C.S.I.  
cc 015, 017, 018  
1/31/57*

*7C*

1 - Mr. Tolson  
1 - Mr. McClellan  
1 - Mr. [redacted]  
1 - Mr. [redacted]

7C

100-135-61-294

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

RECORDED-37

DATE 3/31/83 BY [signature]

Date: January 9, 1957

EX-117

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

Attention: Chief, Security Division

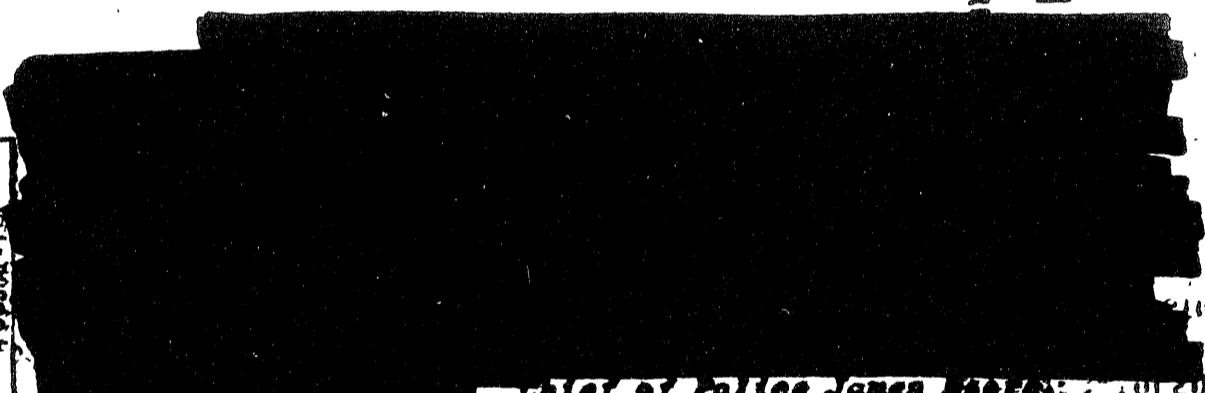
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

UNITED STATES KLAN  
KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INC.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - K

Reference is made to my previous correspondence captioned as above.

REC'D-READING R  
FBI  
JAN 11 11 AM



7C  
7D

BY COURIER SVC.  
66 JAN 9 1957  
COMM-FBI

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

Chief of Police James Moore, Birmingham Police Department, is aware of the above information and has stated that he will arrest [redacted] and any of his followers who attempt to take such action. Moore added that he intends to arrest anyone who interferes with the Birmingham segregation laws concerning busses since he feels that the situation will get out of hand if proper action is not taken in each instance.

1 - 100-7801

[redacted] jets: fjb/ [signature]

MAILED 6  
JAN 14 1957  
AF  
COMM-FBI

7C

[Handwritten initials and marks]

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

7D  
[REDACTED]

On December 31, 1956, [REDACTED]

7C  
7D  
[REDACTED] advised that at 6:20 A.M., December 31, 1956, a bullet was fired into a bus operated by [REDACTED]. This bullet struck the bus in the left front side just under the driver's seat, but no one was injured. [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] that the shot was fired as he was driving south on Lower Stumpka Road in front of the Dixie Transfer Company in Montgomery. [REDACTED] stated that a car traveling north passed the bus just as the shot was fired and expressed the opinion that the shot had been fired from this car. However, he was unable to furnish any description of the car or of its occupants. [REDACTED] added that [REDACTED] had been the driver of the bus that had been fired upon twice on the evening of December 28, 1956.

Further pertinent details received concerning the afore-mentioned will be furnished to you promptly.

- 1 - 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.
- 1 - Director of Naval Intelligence  
Department of the Navy  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

cc Mr. [redacted]

January 8, 1957

Airtel

7C

SAC, Mobile (105-17)

<sup>ACON</sup>  
RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA; U. S. KLANS OF ALABAMA, KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, IS - X.

Reurairtel dated January 3, 1957, captioned as above.

Practically all of the information set forth in the referenced 3-page airtel could have been included in a blank memorandum suitable for dissemination and thereby it would have been unnecessary for this information to be redictated at the Seat of Government.

In the future you will be expected to adhere strictly to Bureau instructions with regard to submission of information in blank memorandum.

Hoover

100-135-61  
100-7801

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-7801-1

RECORDED - 53

100-135-61-295

16 JAN 9 1957

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/21/83 BY sp3 cl/gol

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

alj  
(5) 7C  
60 11/27/57

MAILED 4  
JAN 8 1957  
COMM-FBI

7-10-57  
Gite  
cul



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

JAN 5 1957

TELETYPE

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	_____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY Sp3 clc/pcl

FBI, MOBILE 1-5-57 5-59 PM MCM  
DIRECTOR, FBI URGENT

RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALA., U. S. KLANS OF ALA., KKKK,  
IS DASH X. [REDACTED] ADVISED TODAY

THAT ABOUT MIDNIGHT JAN. FOUR, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] KNOWN AS MEMBERS KLAVERN TWENTYTHREE, MONTGOMERY,  
WERE CUT IN A FIGHT WITH UNIDENTIFIED NEGRO MALE NEAR LITTLE  
KITCHEN, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THEY WERE TAKEN TO PROFESSIONAL CENTER HOSPITAL,  
MONTGOMERY, BY [REDACTED] ALSO KLAVERN  
TWENTYTHREE MEMBERS, AND AT HOSPITAL [REDACTED] ASSAULTED AND  
STRUCK [REDACTED] NEGRO ELEVATOR OPERATOR, WHEN [REDACTED]  
REFUSED TO GET OFF ELEVATOR AT [REDACTED] DEMAND. UPON REACHING  
HOSPITAL FLOOR OF PROFESSIONAL CENTER BUILDING, [REDACTED]  
ALLEGEDLY DREW A KNIFE ON [REDACTED] NEGRO HOSPITAL  
ATTENDANT, WHO ALSO DREW KNIFE. OTHERS INTERVENED, PREVENTING  
FIGHT. [REDACTED] ARRESTED AND CHARGE WITH A AND B AND RELEASED

ON BOND. [REDACTED] SAID THAT BOTH [REDACTED] GOT INTO TROUBLE 9 195  
WITH A NEGRO AT SEVEN SEAS RESTAURANT APPROXIMATELY THREE WEEKS  
AGO. [REDACTED] ADVISED ALSO THAT AT TEN AM TODAY, FOUR BOYS, AGE  
END PAGE ONE..

Mr. Belmont

EX-108

Handled on es

7C  
7C  
7D

100-135-61-997  
1 AUTOSTAT 11-11-57

52 JAN 18 1957

RECEIVED

12 19 7 2 14

53 12 19 19 1 19 1 19

PAGE TWO...

ELEVEN TO FIFTEEN, WERE ARRESTED FOR SHOOTING SPARK PLUGS AT BUS WINDOWS WITH SLING SHOTS AT JONES AND SAYRE STS., MONTGOMERY. ALL FOUR BOYS RELEASED TO CUSTODY OF PARENTS, BUT WILL BE ARRAIGNED IN JUVENILE COURT, MON.

HALLFORD

END ACK PLS

7-07 PM OK FBI WA NRB

TU

12 19 7 2 14

12 19 7 2 14

*e e Baugher*

7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3cle/gol

100-135-61  
100-7801

Date: January 8, 1957  
To: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

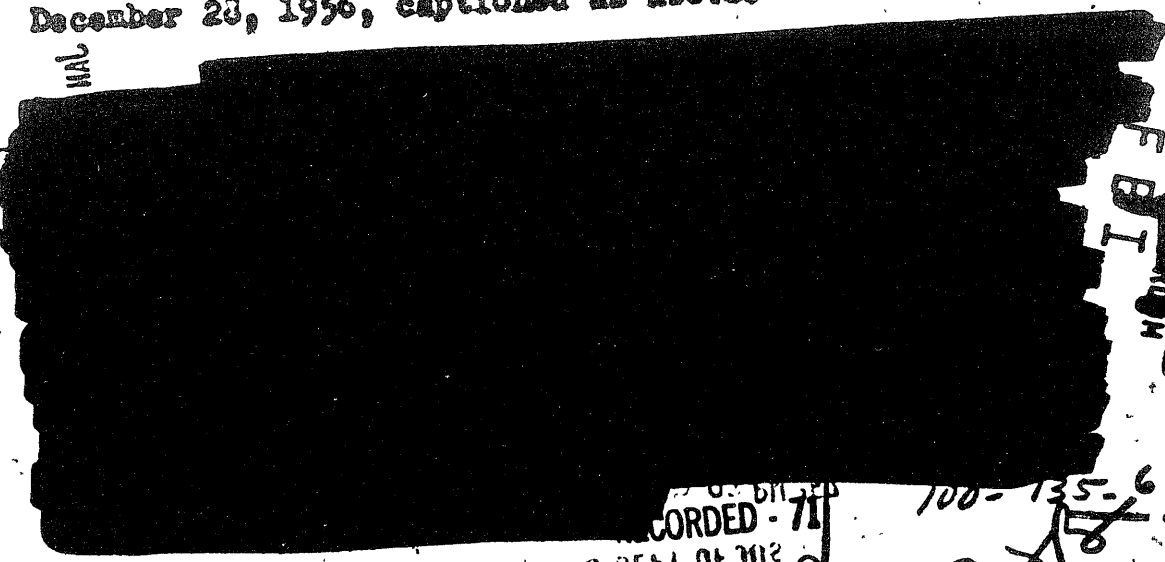
Attention: Chief, Security Division

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: RACIAL SITUATION Racon Mobile  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

U. S. KLANS OF ALABAMA,  
KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INCORPORATED  
INTERNAL SECURITY - K

Reference is made to my memorandum dated  
December 23, 1956, captioned as above.



BY COURIER SVC  
cc to A.F. only  
73 JAN  
COMM-FBI

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

REC'D-READ ROOM  
JAN 8 3 35 PM '57

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

cc Bufl

52 JAN 14 1957  
7C

MAILED 3  
JAN - 8 1957  
A.F. COMM-FBI

RECORDED - 711

100-135-61-298

JAN 9 1957

Handwritten signatures and initials, including 'E.B.', 'J.W.', and 'Klan'.



Letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

[REDACTED]

7C  
7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Chief of Police Goodwyn J. Ruppenthal, of the  
Montgomery Police Department, is aware of the above  
information.

[REDACTED]

Letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

7C  
7D

On January 5, 1957, [redacted] advised that about midnight January 4, 1957, [redacted] members of the Montgomery Klavern of the U. S. Klans of Alabama, were cut in a fight with an unidentified male Negro near the Little Kitchen Tavern. They were taken to Professional Center Hospital in Montgomery, by [redacted] Klan members. At the hospital [redacted] assaulted and struck [redacted] Negro elevator operator, when [redacted] refused to get off the elevator at [redacted] demand. Thereafter, [redacted] allegedly drew a knife on [redacted] Negro hospital attendant, who also drew a knife. Other persons present intervened and prevented a fight. [redacted] was arrested and charged with assault and battery and was released on bond.

[redacted] also advised that at 10 a.m., January 5, 1957, four boys, ages 11 to 15, were arrested for shooting spark plugs at bus windows with sling shots at Jones and Sayre Streets, Montgomery. All four boys were released to the custody of their parents but were scheduled to be arraigned in juvenile court on January 7, 1957.

[redacted]

[redacted]

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

**Letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence**

**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.**

44

1 - Mr. Boardman  
1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. McGowan  
1 - Mr. [redacted]  
January 2, 1957  
1 - Mr. [redacted]

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DIRECTOR, FBI

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

U. S. KLANS, KNIGHTS OF  
THE KU KLUX KLAN, INC.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/21/83 BY [redacted]  
Reason  
Mobile

Reference is made to previous correspondence captioned as above.

At 7:00 P.M., on December 28, 1956, Television Station WSPA-TV, Montgomery, Alabama, issued a special news release announcing that a short time prior thereto a shot had been fired at a bus at the corner of Ripley and Columbus Streets, Montgomery, Alabama, injuring a Negro woman.

At 8:10 P.M., December 28, 1956, [redacted] Montgomery Police Department, advised that at 6:30 P.M., December 28, 1956, a bus was fired upon while passing a Negro housing development at the corner of Union and Columbus Streets, Montgomery, Alabama. He added that a bullet struck one Rosie Jordan, a Negro female passenger on the bus, in the leg. All passengers and the driver were questioned by officers of the Montgomery Police Department regarding this incident and none could furnish any information of value with the exception of one Negro woman who, according to [redacted] was "trying to make up a story about seeing some white men in a car." [redacted] indicated that he is convinced that the shot was fired from one of the apartments in the Negro housing development referred to above. He added that after this bus and the passengers were released by the police, the bus was fired upon again as it passed the corner of Union and Columbus Streets.

7C  
7D

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

RECORDED-37 100-135-61-299  
It is noted that the Washington City News Service issued a release dated December 28, 1956, reflecting that attendants at the Oak Street Hospital, Montgomery, Alabama,

100-135-61-143  
100-78015-1357  
MAILED 6  
(12) JAN - 2 1957  
COMM - FBI

REC'D - [redacted]  
[Handwritten signatures and initials]

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN [redacted]

**Memorandum for the Attorney General**

where Rosie Jordan was taken after the shooting, were quoted as stating that Jordan was shot through both legs with either rifle or pistol bullets. Her condition was listed as "fair." The release also reflected that Police Commissioner Clyde Sellers of Montgomery ordered the bus company to halt operations for the night following the shooting.

The December 30, 1956, issue of the "Birmingham News" contained an article reflecting that a bus at Birmingham, Alabama, was fired upon at 11:00 P.M., on December 29, 1956. The article quoted Captain J. V. Garrison, Birmingham Police Department, as stating that shots fired at the bus were from a B-B gun and that only two pellets hit the bus. Garrison was further quoted as stating that police had classified the incident as a mischievous prank and did not feel that it was of significance in so far as the bus segregation issue is concerned.

TC  
SD

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Memorandum for the Attorney General**

7C  
7D

[REDACTED]

On December 30, 1956,

[REDACTED] advised  
that he had received information on December 29, 1956,  
to the effect that the individual responsible for handling  
the home of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Further pertinent details received concerning  
the afore-mentioned will be furnished to you promptly.

- 1 - Mr. William F. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Cinsy III

100-135-61-300  
**CHANGED TO**  
44-11124-71

FEB 4 1957

2220  
            
C

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

DATE: 1/11/57

Enclosed herewith for the information of the Bureau are two copies of a clipping from the 1/9/57 issue of the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, captioned "NEW BUS RULES UP FOR STUDY".

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

vlw

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3clgcl

RECORDED-5

100-135-61-301

JAN 14 1957

EX-125

EX-125

JAN 20 1957

7C  
2  
1-D  
5  
1cc per to Sampkin  
sub 0-6  
1-27-57  
7C

*me*  
*M. S. [unclear]*

*old*



## New Bus Rules Up For Study

Operating rules and regulations for a new passenger assignment plan on City buses are scheduled to be submitted to the City Commission today for approval.

At the same time, the Negro Inter Civic Council, which has spearheaded the local bus integration movement, issued a statement that said "We cannot and will not subscribe to the iniquitous scheme or anything less than full compliance with the Supreme Court's decision . . ."

A meeting of the ICC was scheduled for 8 p.m. today at the Bethel AME Church.

The City Commission passed the new assignment law at a special meeting Monday.

Although it makes no direct reference to segregation, it gives each bus driver authority to assign passengers to numbered seats.

### ASSIGNED SEATS

Persons who refused to take assigned seats can be fined up to \$500 and 60 days in jail.

D. Fred McMullen, attorney for the bus company, said the operating rules are being drawn and probably will be submitted at a regular City Commission meeting at 2:30 p.m. this afternoon.  
(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

soon.

He said he could not discuss the rules until they were submitted to the Commission.

The operating rules and regulations are expected to be based on numbered tickets corresponding to seats on the buses.

As a person gets on the bus, he would be sold a specific seat—much like a seat on a train.

### NO INDICATION

The plan is expected to pave the way for resumption of bus service, but Gov. LeRoy Collins, who suspended service New Year's Day, had not indicated when the suspension order will be lifted.

In its statement, the ICC said "The plan is merely a delaying tactic of the City Commission to evade the spirit and letter of the U. S. Supreme Court decisions."

The ICC statement said, it was "clear that the enforcement of any segregation law amounts to a wilful deprivation of constitutional rights and, in addition, constitutes a crime against the United States."

"We cannot and will not subscribe to this iniquitous scheme nor anything less than full compliance with the Supreme Court's decision for do so would make us parties to the violations of the laws of the United States."

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Date 1/9/57

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83

BY sp3cl/jcl

100-135-61-301

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 1/11/57

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

For the information of the Bureau, attached hereto are the following:

Two copies of an item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 1/8/57, captioned "NEW BUS SEATING PLAN VOTED BY TALLAHASSEE".

Two autostat copies of an item appearing in the Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 1/8/57, captioned "BUS SEAT SYSTEM DEFIANCE PLANNED".

ENCLOSURE

- 2 - Bureau (100-135 Sub 61)(Encls. 4)
- 1 - Mobile (100-1361)

vlw

(3)

7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY [signature]

RECORDED-5

EX-125

100-135-61-302

JAN 14 1957

rec send to  
Sampson by 0-6  
1-22-57  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
50 JAN 28 1957  
[signature]

7C

[signature]

# New Bus

# Seating Plan

# Voted By

# Tallahassee

**Non-Mix  
Action  
Is Taken**

A passenger assignment plan for seating on local buses was passed yesterday by the City Commission in a speedy special meeting.

The plan—aimed at preserving segregation on City buses—makes no direct reference to segregation, but gives the driver authority to assign passengers to numbered seats. It establishes a maximum fine of \$50 or 60 days in jail for violations.

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 1-8-57

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 dc/gcl

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-302

The action yesterday amends the present bus company franchise, and knocks out a provision requiring the bus company to "make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations providing for the segregation of the human races when more than one race is transported on the same bus."

Two court suits—one filed by the City and the other by Cities Transit, Inc.—to get clarification on the old provision have been dropped by general agreement between the City and the bus company.

#### CITY DROPS CASES

The City also has dropped cases against nine bus drivers and Bus Company Manager Charles L. Carter, who were arrested for operating the buses without a franchise.

D. Fred McMullen, attorney for the bus company, submitted a letter in which the bus company accepted the new franchise provision.

Mayor John Y. Humphress issued a statement urging citizens to cooperate with the bus company in enforcing the new regulation.

He said, "In taking this action, the City Commission calls upon the citizens of Tallahassee to assist the bus company in discharging its duties under the ordinance when bus transportation is resumed. We urge the people of this community to refrain from any acts of demonstrations which will have the effect of increasing racial tension or which will cause violence, disorder or further breaches of the peace in our City."

#### WILL TAKE EFFECT

The ordinance will take effect immediately, but rules and regulations established by the bus company must be approved by the City Commission before they are put into operation.

The ordinance was passed as an emergency measure, and

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 5)

From Page 3

## New Bus Plan

lists events of the past few weeks as the basis for the emergency.

Listed as reasons for the action were violence and the destruction of property, threats to the safety of bus passengers, the "doubtful validity" of the old segregation provision, and the need for public transportation.

Last week Federal Judge Emmett C. Choate held that Florida laws and Miami ordinances requiring segregated seating on buses were unconstitutional on the basis of the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Montgomery, Ala., case.

Although the ruling is not binding in the Tallahassee situation, it was generally agreed that it would be a "persuasive argument" in any segregation law cases here.

Gov. LeRoy Collins suspended the bus operation New Years Day after rocks were thrown at the Rev. C. K. Steele's house, and a window in Speed Brother's Grocery Store was shot out.

An aide of Collins said the governor didn't have any plans to restore service today or tomorrow.

The City Commission will meet at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, and probably will consider the bus company rules and regulations at that time.

#### 'PEACE, TRANQUILITY'

The ordinance calls for passengers to be seated to assure "peace, tranquility and good order . . . is preserved."

The key paragraph says, "The rules and regulations to be adopted by the company (bus company) . . . shall provide for the seating of its passengers for hire; shall provide for the assignment of a numbered seat for each passenger so transported, and shall provide that each passenger so transported shall occupy only the seat so assigned; and shall provide for the placement of its passengers who are permitted to stand."

The new ordinance follows generally a pattern established in Florida's pupil assignment law designed to preserve segregated schools.

From Page 3

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 dc/gol

BY LEON NEGROES

# Bus Seat System Defiance Planned

TALLAHASSEE, Jan. 8 (AP)—Negro leaders today denounced the new bus seat assignment plan ordered by the City Commission as an "iniquitous scheme" to delay integration and declared they would not subscribe to it.

The unique plan was enacted by the commission yesterday to preserve traditional segregation on Tallahassee city buses. It replaces a segregation section of the bus franchise which was repealed as having "doubtful validity."

The plan allows drivers to assign riders to specific seats for which they are handed tickets. Passengers are required to occupy these seats under penalty of a possible \$500 fine or 90 days jail sentence unless they elect to have their fares refunded.

A statement of Negro Liter-Civic Council directors handed out by the Rev. C. K. Steele said the announced purpose of the council, to ride integrated remained unchanged despite the new regulation.

"The plan is merely a delaying tactic of the City Commission to evade the spirit and letter of the U. S. Supreme Court decisions," the statement said.

"It is equally clear that the enforcement of any segregation law amounts to a wilful deprivation of constitutional rights and, in addition, constitutes a crime against the United States.

### No Basis for Test

"We cannot and will not subscribe to this iniquitous scheme, nor anything less than full compliance with the Supreme Court's decision, for to do so would make us parties to the violation of the laws of the United States."

There will be no basis for testing the new seating plan until Gov. LeRoy Collins orders a resumption of bus service in Tallahassee.

Collins invoked his emergency powers on New Year's Day to suspend bus service after Steele's house was stoned and a Negro grocery store was hit by shotgun fire.

The governor, who was inaugurated for a new four-year term today, hasn't indicated when he would order resumption of service.

In his inaugural address today, Collins appealed for mutual understanding on racial problems, and said specifically with regard to moves toward integrated riding on buses:

"I am convinced that the average white citizen does not object to non-segregated seating in buses—any more than he objects to riding the same elevators with Negroes or patronizing the same stores.

"He does resent some of the methods being used to achieve certain ends. Boycotts, sit-ins, and preemptory demands can never achieve what persuasion, peaceful petitions and normal judicial procedures can do for the Negro race."

## GEORGIA, ALABAMA Collins' Bus Views Hit In 2 States

ATLANTA, Jan. 8 (AP)—Georgia Atty. Gen. Eugene Cook today criticized Florida Gov. LeRoy Collins for endorsing some forms of voluntary integration in Florida.

Cook said Collins is "doing precisely what Gov. (Frank) Clement of Tennessee did in the Clinton school matter—calling it a local matter. But the NAACP has let the world know it will have integration no matter what."

Cook said bus integration in Georgia, either voluntary or involuntary, could lead to "dire circumstances." He said there is "no such thing as voluntary integration."

"There is a likelihood of serious trouble if Negroes continue to force their way into positions of association," Cook said. "White people of Georgia will not tolerate it."

In Montgomery, Alabama Public Service Commission President Jack Owen also said he could not subscribe to Collins' views.

"The white people of Alabama are in no frame of mind to accept segregation in any respect," Owen said.

But the City Commission today instructed Atty. George S. O'Neil to file an answer to U. S. Dist. Judge Ernest Choate's ruling requiring Negroes to take rear seats on buses is unconstitutional.

The judge handed down an oral ruling last Thursday and gave the city 10 days to file an answer, although he said he would not change his mind.

O'Neil, however, told the commissioners at an informal conference that the city should file an answer so that it would not be prevented from appealing Choate's order to a higher court if it decided to do so at a later date.

There have been no reports of Negroes taking front seats on buses since Choate's decision.

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
January 8, 1957

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
File 100-1361  
Sub 61

## Miami Acts Toward Bus Rule Appeal

MIAMI, Jan. 8 (AP)—The City of Miami today authorized the first legal step to appeal a federal court ruling outlawing racial segregation on Miami Transit Co. buses.

Whether the city will take the case on to the U. S. Court of Appeals in New Orleans will not be decided until later.

CLOSING

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 1/11/57

FROM : SAC, Mobile

*(REGION)*

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Enclosed herewith for the information of the Bureau are the following:

Two copies of clipping from 1/10/57 issue of the Alabama Journal, a daily published at Montgomery, Ala., captioned "NO INJURIES LISTED IN NEW OUTBREAKS IN BUS INTEGRATION", with general headline of "6 DYNAMITE BLASTS ROCK CITY; 4 CHURCHES AND 2 HOUSES HIT".

Two copies of clipping from 1/11/57 issue of the Mobile Register, a daily published at Mobile, Ala., captioned "ALL BUS SERVICE ENDED IN ALABAMA CAPITAL AFTER BOMBINGS".

Two copies of clipping from 1/6/57 issue of the Montgomery Advertiser, a daily published at Montgomery, Ala., captioned "4 YOUNGSTERS ADMIT HURLING SPARKPLUGS AT LOCAL BUS".

- 2 - Bureau (100-135-61)(Encls. 6)
  - 1 - Mobile (44-439)
- vlw  
(3)

*7C*  
*4-2*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY *[signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

*1 cc of Encl Alney  
1-28-57*  
*1 cc of Encl to Tompkins  
1-22-57*

RECORDED - 22  
100-135-61-303  
JAN 14 1957

58 JAN 29 1957  
100-135-61-303  
FORM 6-55  
DIVISION  
*[Handwritten initials]*

# No Injuries Listed In New Outbreaks In Bus Integration

## Bus Service Halted After Attack; Graetz and Abernathy Houses Hit

By HY BROWN

A series of six dynamite explosions rocked the city during pre-dawn hours this morning as violence flared anew in the city's 13-month-old bus integration fight.

Montgomery City Lines buses have been halted indefinitely following blast damage to four Negro churches and the residences of two ministers, one white and one Negro.

There were no injuries.

At least five explosions were known to have occurred within one half-hour period shortly after 2 a.m.

The bombings came less than 2 hours after a city bus was ambushed last evening by gunfire, the sixth such incident since segregation ended on buses here Dec. 21.

### THOUSANDS STRANDED

Thousands of workers were left stranded and had to find rides with friends or in taxicabs or walk to their jobs. Taxicab companies both white and Negro were jammed with calls.

It was perhaps the biggest single outbreak of violence in the South since the fight to preserve segregation began with announcement of the Supreme Court's school integration decision in May, 1954.

No injuries resulted from the series of blasts here, the first of which was directed at the home of the Rev. Robert Graetz, at 1104 Cleveland Ave. Other explosions took place at the home of the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, Negro boycott leader; Bell Street Baptist Church; Hutchinson Street Baptist Church, and the Negro First Baptist Church, Columbus and Ripley streets.

The home of Graetz, who is the white pastor of a predominantly

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83

BY Sp3 cle/gcl

### HEADLINE:

"6 DYNAMITE BLASTS ROCK CITY;  
4 CHURCHES AND 2 HOUSES HIT"

Alabama Journal  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Date 1/10/57  
Page One

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

BUfile: 100-135-61  
LOfile: 44-439

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 C-1-28-59 7000

100-135-11-313

(Continued From Page 1)

Negro congregation, was bombed last August while the minister and his family was out of town. The minister and his wife and two young children were asleep in the house at the time of this morning's blast which shattered the front door.

A second home-made bomb, consisting of 11 sticks of dynamite taped around a length of hollow metal tube, was found unexploded in the driveway of the Graetz home. On arrival at the explosion scene, police removed the fuse from the bomb which had not gone off.

The most serious damage resulted from a bomb hurled at the Bell Street Baptist, a Negro church at 503 Oak St., where a large portion of the building was blasted out causing a partial cave-in of a roof section. Also seriously damaged was the Abernathy residence at 1327 S. Hall St., where the entire front of the house was shattered by the blast of several sticks of dynamite.

Later reports showed that the Mt. Olive Baptist Church, located on the Old Selma Road, was seriously damaged. No estimate of the destruction was immediately available, but police said an outside wall was demolished and inner walls of the church were heavily affected by the sixth in the series of early morning dynamite blasts.

**BUS SERVICE HALTED**

Mayor W. A. Gayle took quick action in calling an indefinite halt to bus service in the city. Night schedules had been withdrawn early last night following a sixth shooting incident since mid-December involving a Montgomery City Lines, Inc., vehicle.

Only the bus driver, identified as C. P. Canty, 50, of 2956 McQueen St. was aboard the Washington Park bus when it was peppered with shotgun pellets about 6 p.m. The driver was not injured.

Following the series of blasts which rocked the city during the early morning hours today, Mayor Gayle was asked if extra protection would be requested for Montgomery.

**CITY WON'T ASK AID**

"We can handle the situation ourselves," Gayle replied. "We don't need any additional help," he said.

A number of off-duty policemen, however, were reportedly pressed into service as crowds gathered at scattered bombing scenes.

As the mass of curious spectators sought to inspect damage done by the dynamite blasts, Negroes and whites mingled in an atmosphere drawn with tenseness. Negroes were obviously frightened but even more evident was their anger.

Some spoke militant words directed at white people who came to view the splintered wood and brick and broken glass. Others, however, spoke in quiet tones, milling as close to the scene of violence as police would allow as the investigations continued.

This latest outbreak of violence in the long and often heated integration row in Montgomery, prompted comment from Governor James E. Folsom who observed that he thinks "they do not want to kill anyone" but stressed importance of a halt of violence.

**FOLSOM OFFERS REWARD**

"Any person or group of persons that would bomb the house of the Lord endangers the life of every man, woman and child in Montgomery," the governor said. "I call on all people of Alabama to help stamp out such lawlessness wherever it may occur," he continued.

Folsom said a \$2,000 reward would be offered for information leading to the arrest of persons guilty of the violence action.

State Safety Director Bill Lyerly meanwhile stood by on the scene from first reports of this morning's bombing incidents. City Commissioner Clyde Sellers was with Lyerly, who said the local police could depend on "any needed aid" from state officers under his command.

**MOBILE HOME BLASTED**

While Montgomery police investigated the most serious flareup of racial violence in the city's long fought integration drive, police in Mobile reported slight damage resulted from a blast at the home of a Negro there.

Eight persons were in the house at the time of the explosion but none was injured.

The blast occurred at the home of 51-year-old Walter Johnson, who told police that a cross was burned in front of his home last Nov. 23.

**FBI INVESTIGATING**

At Washington the Justice Department said it is looking into the bombing incidents.

An aide to Atty. Gen. Brownell said the preliminary inquiry was "automatic" to determine whether there has been any violation of federal law. The FBI makes such inquiries and afterwards submits a report to the justice department's criminal division for a determination of what further action, if any, is indicated.





### GOVERNOR SEES BOMB'S DAMAGE

Gov. James E. Folsom is pictured as he made a pre-dawn inspection of damage at the scene of one of six dynamite explosions which early today ripped four Negro churches and the homes of one white and one Negro minister. Following the personal inspection of the violence scenes, Folsom announced a \$2,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of persons responsible for the worst outbreak of destructive action in the city's long and often stormy integration fight.

### All Bus Service Ended In Alabama Capital After Bombings

By The Associated Press  
New bombings in Alabama Thursday emphasized the growing racial tension throughout the South over attempts to desegregate schools and public buses.

The blasting of four Negro churches and residences of two antisegregation ministers in Montgomery brought an order halting all bus service in Alabama's capital city.

In Atlanta, capital of Georgia, six Negro ministers were arrested for breaking state segregation laws Wednesday by riding in bus seats normally occupied by whites.

#### \$2,000 Reward

Taken to jail, they quickly made bonds of \$1,000 and the Rev. W. H. Borders, leader of the "love, law and liberation movement," said no further attempts would be made to integrate buses. He said the group had been successful in their aim—to get into the courts.

No one was injured in the Alabama bombings, which Gov. James E. Folsom denounced as the work of "Negro hoodlums, Communist hoodlums or white hoodlums, but whoever did these bombings must surely be a hoodlum." He offered a \$2,000 reward for arrest and conviction of the bomb throwers.

The bombs damaged the homes of the Rev. Robert Graetz, a white minister who has taken an active part in attempts to strike down racial barriers, and the Rev.

(Page 10, Col. 4, BOMBINGS)

## Bombings

(Continued From Page One)

Ralph D. Abernathy, a Negro minister.

#### 2 Churches Unsound

The four Negro churches had walls blown in, windows shattered and other damages.

Fire Chief Robert L. Lampley said two of the churches were structurally unsound as a result of the bombings and could not be used. The other two churches may be used, he said.

A group of about 25 white ministers, including Graetz, issued a statement deploring the violence. They called for "an act of repentance" by all citizens and an offer of "fervent thanks" that there were no injuries.

"Whatever our differences of opinion may be, we cannot remain silent and allow our community to lapse into the barbarity of terrorism and intimidation," the Protestant ministers plus one Jewish rabbi said.

The six Negro ministers arrested in Atlanta were Borders and the Revs. R. Joseph Johnson, H. Bussey, R. B. Shorts, R. H. Williams and A. Franklin Fisher.

If the grand jury returns indictments against the six, the cases will proceed through the courts, the aim of the Georgia antisegregationists since the Supreme Court outlawed segregation on public conveyances in Montgomery, Ala. Lower courts in Florida cited this ruling in banning segregation laws in Tallahassee, which like Montgomery now is without public transportation.

Federal court trial of 16 persons charged with interfering with Clinton, Tenn., High School integration was postponed indefinitely at Knoxville Thursday. Trial had been set for Jan. 28.

THE MOBILE REGISTER  
MOBILE, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 11, 1957  
FINAL EDITION

FRONT PAGE

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

MOfile: 44-439  
BUfile:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 ctk/gcl

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 C 128-577

100-135-61 363

## 4 Youngsters Admit Hurling Sparkplugs At Local Bus

Four white youths ranging in age from 11 to 15 were picked up by police yesterday and two of them admitted bombarding a Cleveland avenue bus with discarded sparkplugs.

It was the sixth attack on city buses reported since integration went into effect Dec. 21. However, police believe the weapon used in yesterday's attack was a sling-shot, not firearms as in five previous ambushes.

The attack took place in the 800 block of Sayre street at mid-morning. None of the three Negro passengers was reported injured. They got off and did not reboard the bus after the shelling.

The youngsters were released

to their parents and a report was filed with juvenile authorities, Detective Capt. E. P. Brown said. He said further action would be up to the juvenile court judge.

The four boys were taken into custody by Detectives R. F. Moulton and W. H. Simpler as the boys strolled away from the scene. They made no attempt to escape, detectives said.

Bus driver E. E. Stubblefield said a window was struck twice but not pierced. The sparkplugs struck the center section on the right side.

Yesterday's attack was the first (See BUS, Page 2A)

(Continued From Page 1)

to occur in daylight. Four previous ambushes took place in the early evening, and the fifth happened in pre-dawn darkness. Police have theorized that the earlier attacks were the work of adults since all involved firearms.

One of the snipings wounded a Negro laundry worker, Mrs. Rosa Jordan, who is reported in fair condition at Oak Street Hospital. She was shot in both legs but attending doctors have not removed the bullet because of her pregnant condition.

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 6, 1957  
PAGE ONE

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
NOFILE: 44-439

100: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-55 C-1-28-57 gmm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/31/83 BY sp3ck/gcl

100-135-61-303  
IT

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 1/11/57

FROM : SAC, Mobile  
*(PHSON)*  
SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MOBILE, ALABAMA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3 CLK/gcl

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau's information are two copies of a clipping appearing in the 1/11/57 issue of the Mobile Register, Mobile, Alabama, captioned "McFADYEN ATTACKS MOBILE VIOLENCE; FOLSOM SPEAKS UP".

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

vlw

(3)

*7c*  
*2*

*McFadyen*

*100-135-61-300*

RECORDED - 22

6 JAN 14 1957

*icc genl to  
Sampkins by 06  
1-22-57*

*Photostat of Encl*

100-135-61-300  
FBI - MOBILE  
FORM 6-95 C-1-29-57 *fmw*

67 JAN 29 1957

*[Signature]*

# McFadyen Attacks Mobile Violence; Folsom Speaks Up

## Police Chief Declares Racial Trouble Will Not Be Tolerated

Mobile Police Chief Dudley McFadyen, saying further acts of race violence "will not be tolerated," yesterday alerted police to an around-the-clock watch in areas of the city where racial tension may flare.

Chief McFadyen referred to a series of bombing attempts and cross burnings Wednesday night, one of the bomb incidents at the home of a prominent race integration leader.

One Negro family, whose residence was damaged when a bomb exploded in the yard Wednesday night, moved out yesterday afternoon, the father explaining he was "afraid for my children."

Another aftermath of Wednesday night's violence was reported last night by J. L. LeFlore, one-time executive secretary of the now-outlawed Mobile chapter of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People and now research secretary of the Mobile United Citizens Assn., who told police of several anonymous telephone calls to his home in which the callers threatened to "return and successfully complete the bombing mission." LeFlore's residence was one of three at which bombing attempts were made Wednesday night.

In ordering the alert, Chief McFadyen said:

"Constructing and throwing of bombs, such as occurred in Mobile last night, break the basic laws under which we live. In taking the law into their own hands, the persons who committed the acts have placed themselves in jeopardy.

"The important thing in the acts last night was that lives of persons innocent of any crimes were threatened. In the homes in which bombs did not explode, there were women and children.

### 8 Persons Home

"In the residence where the bomb exploded in the yard, there were eight persons, a man and his wife, and a mother with five children, the youngest of which was three months.

"We cannot tolerate such action. I have alerted the police to make arrests in all cases of this nature."

The violence came just two days after Circuit Judge David H. Edgington told the January session of the Mobile County Grand Jury that this city was "singularly free of racial tensions."

"Our courts and juries," he said,

(Page 10, Col. 5, VIOLENCE)

# Violence

(Continued From Page One)

"have always consistently returned equal justice without regard to creed or race."

The chief's warning came after bomb attempts were made at three Negro residences, and crosses burned at three other Negro homes.

LeFlore reported that he found a crude home-made bomb nestling against his front door shortly after midnight.

The integration leader said that he was going to close his car windows for the night when he noticed a newspaper-wrapped bundle, approximately 16 inches in length and three inches in diameter, on his front porch.

### Fuse Went Out

City Det. Charles Nall and Det. Lt. Joe Burch, called to investigate, said that the fuse on the home-made bomb, consisting of two sticks of dynamite encased in an iron pipe, had not been properly lit, and had gone out.

Det. Nall, formerly a demolition expert, said that due to the concrete construction of the front porch at LeFlore's home, 1504 Chatague Ave., the blast would have ripped the front of the house away and could have seriously injured the occupants, LeFlore and his wife.

LeFlore reported last night receiving four anonymous telephone calls at his home, all threatening a repetition of the bombing attempt.

LeFlore quoted one caller as saying:

"Say, nigger . . . last night, that was just a warning—next time it's going to be the real thing."

He said one caller talked to his wife, and identified himself as "one of the party that visited your home last night."

LeFlore, in his capacity as a spokesman for the group leading the integration effort, issued the following statement last night:

"We are not frightened by the acts of violence, but, at the same time, we realize the potential danger of mob law. We hold no ill will against the persons involved; on the contrary, we pity

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 dcl/hcl

THE MOBILE REGISTER  
 MOBILE, ALABAMA  
 JANUARY 11, 1957  
 FINAL EDITION

FRONT PAGE

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
 MOBILE, ALABAMA

MOfile: 100-1342  
 BUfile:

100: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
 FORM 6-95 C 1-29-57 final  
 JWS

100-135-61-314

In another attempt, a crude bomb actually exploded at the residence of Walter Johnson, 51-year-old Negro of 2513 St. Stephens Rd., shortly before midnight, but none of the eight occupants of the home were injured.

The bomb, reportedly thrown from a moving auto, landed at the side of the home, located on the corner of Idell Street and St. Stephens Road.

Effects of the blast, heard two miles away at the Prichard Police Station, consisted of ripping part of the siding from the home, smashing six windows and destroying a portion of a small picket fence.

Inside the home at the time were Johnson, his wife, a daughter, Marjorie Johnson, visiting from Chicago, and her five children, the youngest of which is three months old.

Johnson moved his family away from the neighborhood yesterday afternoon, saying he was "afraid for my children."

#### Cross Burned There

On Nov. 28, the daughter reported, a cross had been burned at the residence, and the family believes that the latest incident is a continuation of protests because the Johnsons moved into a house adjacent to white residences on Idell Street.

A neighbor of the Johnsons reported that at approximately the same time as the bombing occurred, he observed two white men drive from Idell Street.

He said the men drove down St. Stephens Road in a late model auto and then came back by the Johnson home.

The other bomb, which did not explode, was discovered under the house at the home of William Jackson, Negro, at 326 Cedar Dr.

#### Heard Noise

Jackson said that late last night, during the time of the other bomb throwings, he heard a noise like a firecracker exploding near the house.

He did not investigate at the time, but discovered the bomb lying under the bedroom, where he and his wife slept, when he took a walk around the house this morning.

The bomb, largest of the three, contained three sticks of dynamite and was incased in a tape-wrapped length of copper tubing.

"Evidently," Nall explained, "the primer cap was jerked loose when the bomb was thrown, and it made the noise the Jackson heard. The fuse on the bomb had been lit, but not fully, and it went out."

Nall said the two-foot fuses on all of the bombs would have allowed the throwers to light the fuses, and then make a good retreat. He said they would have had a full two minutes before the bomb would have exploded.

Patrolmen H. Johnson and George Crawford investigated the Jackson bomb.

#### Three Crosses Burned

During the bombing attempts, three crosses were burned at residences at 562, 564 and 568 Helveston St., all occupied by Negro families.

The burnings were reported by Thomas McCreary, of 564 Helveston, who lives at the house with his wife and four children.

Joel Malone and family live at 562, and Clyde Noble lives at 568, where the other crosses were burned.

Investigating the crosses, Dets. Jack Clark and Clyde Hix said that they were not the work of teen-agers, but were of a type that have burned in the area over the past year.

#### Six Feet Tall

The crosses were described as about six feet tall, constructed of heavy two-by-four timbers. They were covered with burlap soaked in kerosene. On each base a metal spike, approximately 16 inches long was attached to fasten them to the ground.

"I believe the bombs were made by amateurs," Detective Nall concluded, "for although they were well-constructed, and if they had exploded could have done a lot of damage, they were not properly handled."

"Dynamite is a dangerous explosive, and the person or persons doing the throwing of the bombs was afraid and did not properly light the fuses, or have the fuses taped down."

#### Meeting Postponed

Later in the morning, LeFlore announced postponement "until further notice" of a Negro mass meeting tentatively scheduled for last night to discuss the bus desegregation issue.

LeFlore, regarded as a leader in the movement for racial integration here, said the postponement was agreed upon "in view of the earnest desire of Mobile colored citizens to avoid a hasty strategy to effect bus desegregation which would give the few persons here opposed to law and order an excuse to appeal to hatred and incite violence."

LeFlore said he feels that "all the Negro leaders here want to act in good faith with their own people and work in an atmosphere of good will with their fellow white citizens in the transition from a segregated to an integrated seating policy on buses." It is hoped that another mass meeting may be scheduled "within a few days," LeFlore said.

He indicated that "a number of complaints" may be filed with the Justice Department and the Interstate Commerce Commission "with regard to travel conditions affecting colored interstate and intrastate passengers."

Negroes have already conducted two mass meetings for a discussion of the bus segregation issue, but have decided to proceed slowly in the matter.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

GIR 8

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 1/12/57

FROM : SAC, MOBILE

*RA-011* *NIPE/LE*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DATE 3/31/83 BY *sp3 cl/gd*

Herewith enclosed for the Bureau are two copies each of the following clippings from the January 11, 1957, issue of the Montgomery Advertiser, daily newspaper published at Montgomery, Ala.:

*me-gain*

<u>Page</u>	<u>Caption</u>
2A	Pre-Dawn Dynamite Blasts Spotted on Map
2A	Negro Churches, Residences Suffer \$50,000 Bomb Damage
2A	All-Out Scientific Probe Under Way in Blast Cases
6A	FBI Gives Report on Bombings Here
4A	Editorial: Shall Montgomery Surrender?
8C	Negroes Here Termed "Mad" Over Bombing
2A	White Clerics In Report Flay Violence Here
1	Police Muster Reserves In Wake Of Dynamiting
1	Folsom Posts \$2,000 Reward For Information on Bombings
1	Persons Who Blasted Homes Of Clergy Could Get Chair
1	Curfew Urged For City Youth By Commission
1	Tear Gas, Arms Issued Special Patrol Squads

*1 cc encl. Army  
6-25-C-1/2/57  
yurial*

② - Bureau (100-13561)  
(24 encls. ENCLOSURE)  
Mobile (44-439) 55  
bls

*7c*

*1 cc genl to  
Jenkins by 0-6  
1-22-57*

RECORDED-56

100-13561-30

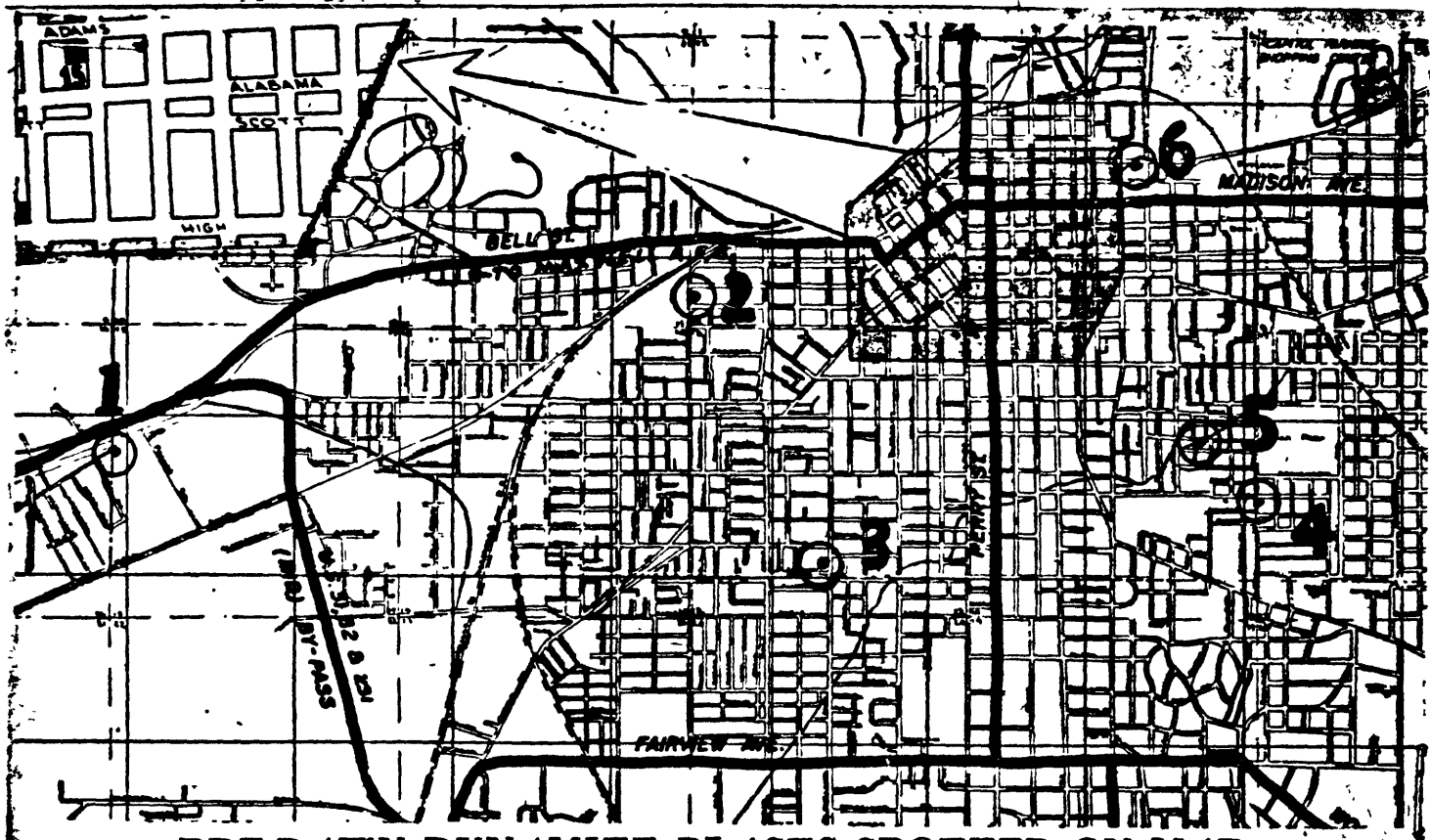
100: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 1-24-57  
175

JAN 14 1957

51 JAN 30 1957

*7c*

*John*



**PRE-DAWN DYNAMITE BLASTS SPOTTED ON MAP**

Six early morning bombings which rocked four churches and two homes are pointed out on this map prepared by The Advertiser staff. All four of the churches are attended by Negro congregations. The dynamited homes belong to two ministers, one white, the other Negro. 1) Mount Olive Baptist Church, Old Selma Road near Southern Bypass; 2) Bell Street Baptist Church, 503 Bell St.

3) Home of The Rev. Robert Graetz, white pastor of the Negro Trinity Lutheran Church, 1104 Cleveland Ave.; 4) Home of the Rev. F. D. Abernathy, 1327 S. Hall St.; 5) Hutchinson Street Baptist Church, 924 Hutchinson St.; 6) First Baptist Church, 347 N. Ripley, which is presided over by the Rev. Abernathy. The series of blasts took place between 2 a.m. and 5:45 a.m.

Montgomery Advertiser  
 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
 JANUARY 11, 1957  
 PAGE 2A

Re: RACIAL SITUATION  
 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA.

SUFILE: 100-135-61  
 MOBILE: 44-439

100: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
 FORM 6-95 C-1-28-57 jme

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83

b1, 7/3 dcl/gcl

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-305



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 dcl/gcl

## All-Out Scientific Probe Under Way In Blast Cases

By STEVE LESHER

Montgomery police are pulling out the stops of science in an effort to solve cases of six bombings and six bus shootings here.

Headed by Vann V. Pruitt, a state toxicologist, police are busy gathering clues which may send the person or persons terrorizing Montgomery to prison for life or to the electric chair.

As far as bus shootings are concerned, police were told yesterday that the bullet lodged in Mrs. Rosa Jordan's leg was removed last night. Mrs. Jordan is the expectant Negro mother who was wounded while riding a city bus Dec. 28.

If the bullet is not severely damaged, police will be able to check it against bullets fired from the guns of suspects. Ballistic readings, which Pruitt is qualified to make at headquarters here, are as accurate as fingerprints in tracing a criminal.

The unexploded bomb found on the lawn of a local minister's home yesterday, and the circumstances surrounding the bomb-tossing have afforded police a number of leads.

Tape used to wrap the 11 sticks of unexploded dynamite is being examined for fingerprints. Efforts are being made to trace the tape to its source, as it is a relatively unusual type of masking tape.

Police know that the very nature of the bomb excludes amateurs from suspicion. The persons who contrived the device had, ac-

ording to police, a knowledge of high explosives.

Dynamite, while relatively scarce in Montgomery, is used profusely by farmers and construction workers. Police believe that there are at least three bombers. The first three explosions took place within minutes and at scattered points in the city.

They feel certain the bombers had planned their attacks and that coincidence was not involved.

A two and one-half foot aluminum rod attached to the unexploded bomb was used, police said, to permit the culprit to toss the bomb from his car. The fuse was

25 inches long, permitting two minutes prior to the explosion.

Tire scratches made in front of one Negro church also are under police scrutiny. Measurements from points of explosion to points from which bombs were tossed may even yield some clues as to the physical descriptions of the criminals, officials say.

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 11, 1957  
PAGE 2A

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
MOFILE: 44-439

ICC: AAG DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 C 1-28-57 gmm

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-322

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3clp/d

### FBI Gives Report On Bombings Here

Facts surrounding yesterday's bombing of four Negro churches and two homes in Negro neighborhoods have been reported by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Fred Hallford, chief of the Mobile office, said last night "available facts" had been submitted to the U.S. Department of Justice for further evaluation.

The department will determine whether there has been any federal violation, he said. In case there is federal violation, the FBI will make further investigations, he said.

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 11, 1957  
PAGE 6A

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-155-61  
MOBILE: 44-439

ICC: AIG COMMERCIAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-50 C 1-28-57 ymm

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-2-2

**Shall Montgomery  
Surrender?**

IS the night air of this genteel old city, the capital of a state and once the capital of a nation, to reverberate with dynamite explosions?

Is Montgomery to be a city in which dynamite sticks are tossed onto lawns like the morning paper?

Is Montgomery to be a city in which bullets fly between sundown and sun-up?

Is Montgomery to be a city in which a handful of terrorists overawe the police power of city, county and state—squeezing a trigger and abolishing a bus fleet?

Are the powers of government of the City of Montgomery to be surrendered to outlaws?

★  
MONTGOMERY will sow to the wind if it does not meet this challenge headon.

This city can become a badlands, or at worst, a bloody cockpit.

The soundest preventive action is a stern response to this challenge—right now.

The violence is probably manageable at this point.

It will be less so if it seems to the outlaws that they can put the government to rout with a few random bursts of gunfire and a bundles of dynamite.

Those buses should run on schedule if they run empty. They should run as a symbol that the police apparatus of our government has not abdicated.

Whatever it takes in special police details, sheriffs deputies and highway patrolmen should be assigned in such fashion that a bus driver can take a bus from one side of town to the other without ambush, empty though it may be.

The constabulary from more than one source is available. It needs only to be summoned and assigned.

The issue now is no longer segregation on city buses. Neither white people nor colored people need ride the buses during this time.

The issue now has passed beyond segregation. The issue now is whether it is safe to bus in Montgomery, Ala.

★  
THOSE buses should run with a police protection so obvious and so determined that outlaws will desist or be run down. If not checkmated now, will the outlaws not become more bold and more numerous?

Will not continued violence poison this city just as you poison a well?

★  
WE ARE already paying a grievous toll. The story of Thursday's dynamiting is already broadcast all over the world, blackening this city's name. Such events firm the hand of the South's enemies in Congress. Those who are at this moment seeking enactment of unbearable civil rights legislation welcome such events, for they serve their cause.

★  
THE prospect is that this violence will continue and swell in volume and daring unless there is decisive action. Sooner or later a stand will have to be taken, and it will be easier now.

Otherwise we face the prospect of retaliatory violence between groups.

The issue is not segregation. No one need ride the buses. The issue is whether it is to be safe to live in Montgomery.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY Ag3 ckl/scl

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 21, 1957  
PAGE 4A

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
MOFILE: 44-430

IC: MAG CRIMINAL DIV  
FORM 6-95 01-28-57

100-135-61-3

## Negroes Here Termed 'Mad' Over Bombing

Montgomery Negroes are "mad and disgusted" about yesterday's early morning bombings of four churches and the homes of two ministers, a white pastor of a Negro church declared yesterday.

But it's "not the kind of mad" that would bring them to seek reprisals against whites for the bombings, the Rev. Robert Graetz asserted.

Graetz, whose home at 1104 Cleveland Ave. was one of the two residences bombed, voiced confidence that Negroes would maintain their policy of "non-violence" adopted during a year-long bus boycott.

Graetz is the pastor of the Negro Trinity Lutheran Church. Yesterday's bomb, which shook him, his wife and their three children from sleep at 2 a.m., was the second thrown at his house.

Or, to be more exact, either the second or third.

**CROWDS GATHER**  
When crowds gathered at the Graetz house, they found a hole where one bomb had gone off, while another composed of 11 sticks of unexploded dynamite lay in the driveway.

The first action against Graetz came in mid-August when the house was bombed while he and his family were in Tennessee. While Graetz did not say so directly, he indicated that the bombing came as no surprise to him.

Negroes who swarmed to Graetz' home after the bombing showed their anger with such remarks as: "It's about time somebody did something about this."

One woman asserted angrily that "I think it's time the FBI was called in" (to investigate). But Graetz remained confident there would be no retaliatory action on the Negroes' part—that open violence between the two races would not result from the bombs.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/31/83 BY SP3/clg/bcl

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 11, 1957  
PAGE 8c

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
LOFILE: 44-439

ICC: AIR CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 C 1-28-57 372/44

100-135-61-3  
ENCLOSURE

## White Clerics In Report Flay Violence Here

While a victim of yesterday's bombings looked on, a group of white religious leaders issued a statement deploring a renewal of violence here.

The group of about 25 Protestant ministers and a Jewish Rabbi included the Rev. Robert Graetz, white pastor of a Negro church, whose home was one of the six buildings dynamited in a series of pre-dawn bombings here yesterday.

Nearly two hours in formulating their statement, the church group urged residents to maintain law and order. Segregation was not mentioned in the document.

Their statement follows:

"As a group of religious leaders of this community, we feel it our sacred duty to issue this statement to our people and to all the citizens of this community:

"1. We call upon all citizens to join with us in an act of repentance for the violence done against the homes of some of our citizens, against houses of God, against peace, order and good will of our community.

"Whatever our differences of opinion may be we cannot remain silent and allow our community to lapse into the barbarity of terrorism and intimidation.

"2. We call upon you to offer fervent thanks to Almighty God that none were injured in the bombings of Jan. 10, and to pray both publicly and privately that by His grace, we may be guided into the ways of righteousness and peace.

"3. We call upon the God fearing people of Montgomery to highly resolve that violence must not be allowed to continue and that law and order must be maintained in our midst."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3ch/ghd

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 11, 1957  
PAGE 2A

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
LOPEL: 44-439

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 C 1-28-57 gmc

100-135-61-  
ENCLOSURE



**GOV. FOLSOM INSPECTS BOMB DAMAGE**  
In Dawn Tour of Shattered Churches and Homes

## Folsom Posts \$2,000 Reward For Information On Bombings

An aroused Gov. James E. Folsom, disturbed by the sudden outbreak of racial violence in Alabama, posted a \$2,000 reward yesterday for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the "hoodlums" who dynamited four

churches and two homes here early yesterday.

The announcement of the reward was made by Col. Bill Lyerly, director of the Department of Public Safety. Lyerly said the reward also applied in Mobile, where two bombings were reported yesterday.

Noting that the governor ignored the acts of violence, Lyerly quoted Folsom as saying the bombings could have been done by "Negro hoodlums, Communist hoodlums, or by white hoodlums, but whoever did these bombings must certainly be hoodlums."

Gov. Folsom made a personal inspection of the bomb damage inflicted here, being taken on a dawn tour by Col. Lyerly. Later he assured city officials his "full cooperation" during the tense situation.

"I talked privately with Mayor Goble today," Folsom said, and assured him the state was ready at any time to help if our city. (See FOLSOM, Page 2A)

### Folsom

(Continued From Page 1)

ices are necessary to maintain peace and order."

Folsom disclaimed reports that he might order out the National Guard, adding that "I think it is a little late to do that. The damage has already been done."

However, Folsom said he was keeping close watch on all developments through Lyerly, and declared emphatically that he would not condone any damage to life, limb or property in any community in Alabama.

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 11, 1957  
PAGE 1

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
MOFILE: 44-439

100: SAC CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FOR 6-95 C 1-28-57 gaw

100-135-61-305  
ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 cde/hcl



**BELL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH CORNER DEMOLISHED**  
All Windows In Church Shattered In Worst Explosion

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY [signature]

### PERSONS WHO BLASTED HOMES OF CLERGY COULD GET CHAIR

The person or persons who dynamited the homes of two ministers here early yesterday morning could die in Kilby Prison's electric chair if arrested and convicted.

Alabama law (Title 14, Section 123) specifically provides that the bombing of an inhabited house, even if unoccupied at the time of the explosion, is a capital offense punishable by death. The minimum penalty on conviction of such a charge is 10 years in prison.

The same law further provides that the dynamiting of an uninhabited house, if it is adjoining an inhabited dwelling, is also punishable by death.

The penalty for bombing an unoccupied church is a maximum of 10 years imprisonment and a minimum of two years.

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 11, 1957  
PAGE 1

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

MOFILE: 44 - 439  
BUFILE: 100-135-61

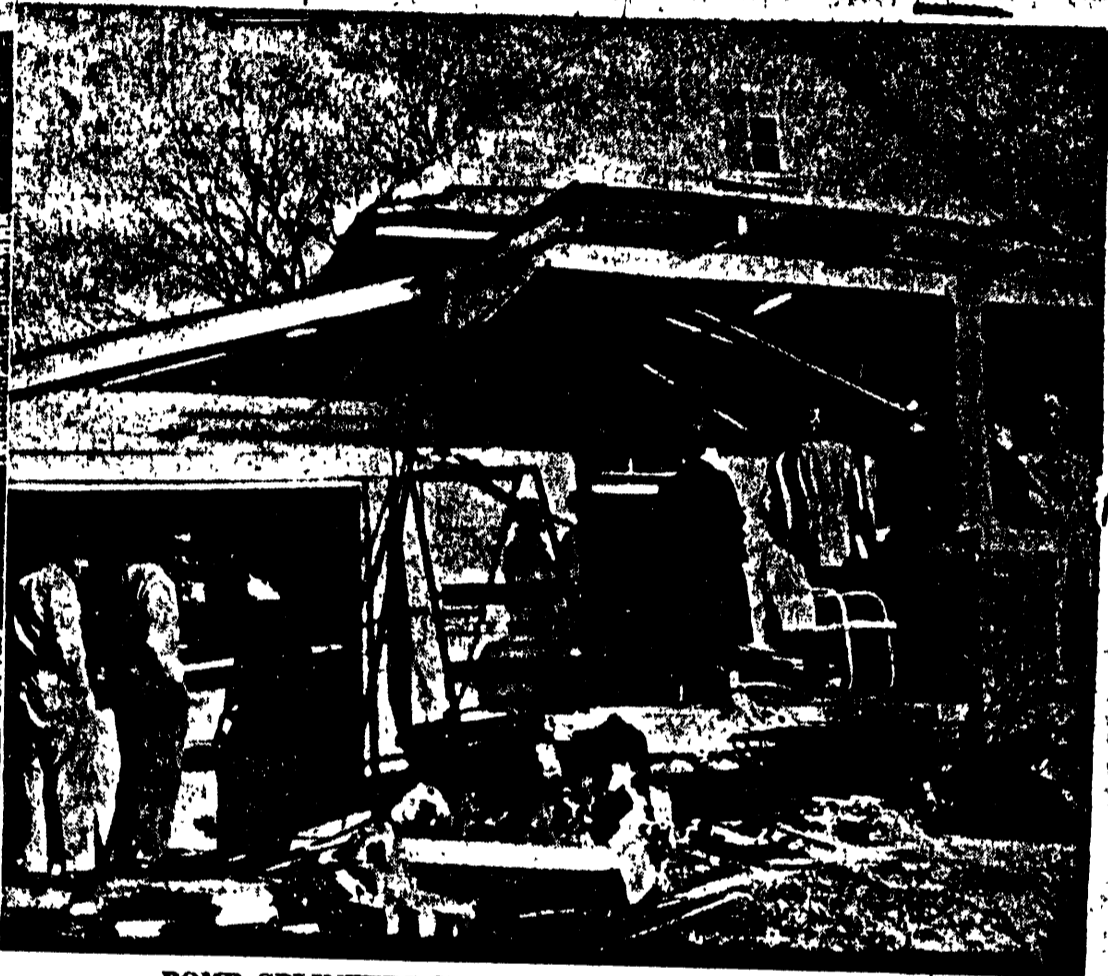
ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 C1-28-57 g.m.u.

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61



**MT. OLIVE CHURCH HIT HARD**  
Pastor Estimates \$20,000 Damage



**BOMB SPLINTERS THE REV. ABERNATHY'S HOME**  
Negro Minister Not At Home When Incident Occurred

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3 cld/gd



# Curfew Urged For City Youth By Commission

The City Commission urged a midnight curfew for teen-agers of both races and ordered all bus service halted for an indefinite period following outbursts of violence here yesterday.

Mayor W. A. Gayle and Commissioners Frank Parks and Clyde Sellers took the action at an extraordinary commission meeting yesterday morning spurred by dynamite blasts that rocked four Negro churches and the homes of two leaders of the Negro Montgomery Improvement Assn.

The mayor said the proposed curfew of Montgomery youth was only a safety precaution. He said he did not think that teen-agers were responsible for the bombings.

Earlier yesterday, a City Lines bus had been fired upon with a shotgun. The shooting took place scant hours after the commission had lifted a 5 p.m. curfew placed on city buses as a result of previous shootings.

### BOMBINGS DEPLORED

The commission said they deplored the bombings and urged Montgomerians to remain calm while police restored law and order.

"Parents of all teen-age children, white and colored, male and female," were urged by the commission to "know the whereabouts of their children at all times and have them at home by 12 o'clock midnight unless accompanied by a parent."

Bus service is halted, the commission said, to protect "life, limb and property" of city residents.

"This has become necessary because of the firing on a bus last evening, making a total of six such incidents. The suspension is for an indefinite period or until (See CURFEW, Page 2A)

# Curfew

(Continued From Page 1)

something further can be worked out," the commission said.

### NO HELP NEEDED

The statement continued:

"The Board of Commissioners does not deem it necessary to call for extra help from any other agency at this time as we are of the opinion that our forces are adequate to maintain law and order within our jurisdiction.

"The City Commission deplores the recent bombings and are thankful that no injuries or loss of life resulted from the incidents. We are using every effort possible to apprehend the persons guilty.

### 'REMAIN CALM'

"The City Commission admonishes the people of Montgomery to remain calm and cool-headed, in order that we may enjoy the peaceful and progressive life to which we are accustomed in this city.

"The Board of Commissioners has already authorized 20 additional new policemen to supplement our present police force. The Personnel Board is calling for applications and is acting on them immediately.

"Commissioner Sellers has called his auxiliary policemen into action to assist the regular police force in patrolling the city to maintain law and order."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sps/clg/dcl

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 11, 1967  
PAGE 1

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
NOFILE: 44-439

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 C-1-28-57 ymm

100-135-61-300

TWO - A

## Negro Churches, Residences Suffer \$50,000 Bomb Damage

Damage estimates on yesterday's early morning bombings of Negro residences and churches ranged from \$50,000 upward and two churches have been condemned temporarily.

Insurance adjusters reported at least a dozen claims on which they were working, but no insurers could be found for the Bell Street and Mt. Olive Baptist churches—the worst hit.

The two also were reported unusable by Fire Chief Robert L. Lampley following an official inspection. Lampley said the Hutchinson Street and Negro First Baptist churches were damaged but usable.

An unofficial estimate made by a city official set the damages at \$50,000. However, insurance adjusters who asked that their names not be used, indicated the totals probably would climb far above that.

One declared that destruction of large lead-stained glass in church windows, most of them shattered by the blasts, could run total damages into "big money." He would give no figure.

But the same spokesman, representing one of the larger agencies in the city and investigating four of the bombings, said there were many side claims for smashed windows in homes near where the blasts were set off.

Another spokesman set the total number of claims from the six bombings at "10 or 12" for his firm and one other.

A check of every adjustment firm in the city failed to reveal any involved in an investigation of the Bell Street and Mt. Olive church bombings. An adjustment firm spokesman said they probably were covered by fire insurance which had clauses restricting payment in case of mob action.

Chief Lampley said there was structural damage at the First Baptist Church, and only slight at the Hutchinson Street church.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY jps/ckj/gcl

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 21, 1967  
PAGE 2A

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
NOFILE: 66-480

100: AND CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 C1-28-57 ym

100-135-61-505

ENCLOSURE

# Tear Gas, Arms Issued Special Patrol Squads

Every available police reservist has been called to active duty following the pre-dawn bombings of four Negro churches and two homes yesterday, Police Chief G. J. Ruppenthal said last night.

Key officers also shuttled in and out of the chief's office for secret conferences but followed stern instructions not to discuss the case.

Asst. Police Chief Marvin Stanley said reservists and special patrol squads have been issued shotguns, tear gas and rope in a preparedness move.

## TOXICOLOGIST'S REPORT

And in another development, Asst. State Toxicologist Vann Pruitt, who has been investigating bomb fragments and other clues, said he will hand his report to Ruppenthal early today.

Meanwhile, all city bus service came to a standstill and Mayor W. A. Gayle may be considering a ban on all inter-racial gatherings such as sporting events. Amateur fights slated for tonight have been cancelled.

At an emergency meeting only a few hours after thousands of Montgerians had been awakened by the series of jarring explosions, the City Commission ordered a halt to bus operations for an "indefinite" period.

In a separate move indicative of the tense situation, the commission urged a midnight curfew for all teen-agers in Montgomery.

The six blasts that rocked Montgomery caused extensive property damage but no one was injured.

The first blast was reported at approximately 2 a.m. Four other blasts followed in rapid succession in scattered sections of the city. The sixth and final explosion occurred at approximately 4:30 a.m.

## MINISTERS' HOMES

The homes bombed were those of two ministers active in the integration movement in the city—the Rev. Robert Graetz, 1104 Cleveland Ave., and the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, 1327 S. Hall St.

The churches damaged in the wave of bombings were the Bell Street Baptist Church, Hutchinson Street Baptist Church, Mt. Olive Baptist Church and the First Baptist Church (Negro).

The first explosion was reported at the home of Abernathy. He was in Atlanta attending a meeting of Negro leaders, but his wife and two-year-old child were both in the home at the time. Neither was injured, but Abernathy was hospitalized.

(See BUSES, Page 2A)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 cle/50

LEADLINE: "POLICE MUSTER RESERVES  
IN WAKE OF DYNAMITING"

MONTGOMERY ADVE. ISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 11, 1957  
PAGE ONE

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
COFILE: 44-439

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 C-1-28-57 JMN

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-3008

## Buses

(Continued From Page 1)

Abernathy later said both were "shocked" by the blast.

Only minutes after the first blast two others rocked the city. The first came at Hutchinson Street Baptist Church, the second at the home of Rev. Graetz, white pastor of the Trinity Lutheran Church for Negroes.

Part of a wall and most of the windows of the Hutchinson Street Church were blown out by the explosion.

The explosion at the Graetz home caused considerable damage to the front part of the house, and broken china was scattered throughout the kitchen by the blast. The pastor, his wife and three small children were asleep in the rear of the home but were not hurt by the bomb.

This marked the second time the Graetz home has been bombed. Last August a bomb exploded in the front yard of the residence, but no one was home at the time.

Officers, investigating the Graetz bombing yesterday found a second home-made bomb unexploded in Graetz's driveway. It consisted of 11 sticks of dynamite taped around a hollow metal tube.

The unexploded bomb was quickly de-fused by police officers. Detective Capt. E. P. Brown said it was hoped that a rack to which the bomb was attached might yield some fingerprints but that the dynamite itself had been "thrown in the river."

Brown noted that the Police Department had no demolition experts and because of this the bomb was "too dangerous to fool with."

Less than 10 minutes after the Graetz home was blasted, another explosion shook the city. This time the blast was at the Bell Street Baptist Church, at 503 Oak St. This bomb caused serious structural damage to the building. A large part of the building's walls were blasted from their foundation, and as a result a part of the roof collapsed.

The First Baptist Church was the next target. This building, located on Jefferson and Ripley, was not seriously damaged. The bomb apparently was hurled into the basement where considerable damage was done. Abernathy is the pastor of this church.

The sixth and final blast was reported at the Mt. Olive Church at Old Selma Road. This building, along with the Hutchinson Street church, was most heavily damaged.

The outside walls of the building were demolished and the inner walls were affected to such an extent as to make the building unsafe for use.

Gov. James E. Folsom, clad in a leather jacket and khaki trousers, made a personal inspection of the damaged areas at dawn yesterday. He later offered his full cooperation to city officials in meeting the emergency and offered a \$2,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons guilty of the bombings.

"Any person or group of persons that would bomb the house of the Lord endangers the life of every man, woman and child in Montgomery," Folsom declared. "I call on all people of Alabama to help stamp out such lawlessness wherever it may occur."

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

## Negro Ministers Here Blame 'White Hoodlums' For Blasts

"White hoodlums" were blamed by Negro ministers yesterday for damaging what they called the city's "three finest Negro churches."

Churches were made targets of dynamite bombs yesterday for the first time since the first bombing incident occurred in 1955, after the Negro bus boycott began.

The Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, after flying from Atlanta, Ga., surveyed the damage in the basement of the First Baptist Church yesterday afternoon.

Pastor of what he described as "Montgomery's oldest and most historic Negro Church," the minister said, "It's ridiculous to think that Negroes are doing this for publicity."

"God is on our side. The Supreme Court and the Constitution are on our side. Even when white hoodlums dynamite our houses of worship that will not stop us in our search for freedom," the Negro minister said.

Abernathy's home on Hall street also was slightly damaged as a result of an early morning dynamite blast.

The minister was in Atlanta at the time of the bombing and his

wife called him to inform him of the incident.

In Abernathy's home yesterday, friends and relatives gathered to discuss the early morning bombings. Insurance adjusters worked about the one-story wooden structure, estimating the damage, mostly confined to the front porch area.

Outside a group of curious spectators, all Negroes, gathered, inspecting the damage.

"It's the work of the Devil."  
"They've gone too far this time," they said.

The Rev. E. D. Bell, pastor of the newly rebuilt Mt. Olive Church estimated that "at least \$20,000 damage" was done to the brick structure.

"The church is demolished," he said, pointing to two buckled brick walls.

"We must rebuild."  
The Rev. Robert Graetz, whose home also was shaken by a dynamite blast, said, "It's about time the quiet white ministers woke up in Montgomery. They've been very quiet on giving sermons about racial hatred."

The Lutheran white minister has a Negro congregation in the church next door to his home.

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 11, 1957  
PAGE 3A

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
MOFILE: 44-439

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3 CLK/gcl

ICC: AAG CRIMINAL DIVISION  
FORM 6-95 C1-28-51  
JMC

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 1/7/57

FROM : SAC, Mobile

*10001*

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

For additional information of the Bureau, attached are two copies each of the following newspaper items:

1. Item appearing in The Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 1/3/57, captioned "CROSS BURNED AT STEELE CHURCH."
2. Item appearing in same paper 1/3/57 captioned "MIAMI BUS SEGREGATION HELD INVALID; NO EFFECTS HERE."
3. Editorial appearing in same paper 1/3/57 captioned "PLACE FOR THE CROSS."

*ENCLOSURE 51*

- 2 - Bureau (Encl. 6) (100-135 Sub 61) (AM)
  - 1 - Mobile (100-1361)
- lo*  
*(3)*

*McGowan*

*7C*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 ckc/gcl

*ice g and to Jampkins*  
*Jan 9-6*  
*1-10-57*

RECORDED - 51 / 100-135-61-306  
INDEXED - 51  
EX-172  
JAN 8 1957  
*14*

*7C*

60 JAN 10 1957

*James [unclear]*

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	_____

## Cross Burned At Steele Church

A four-foot cross covered with kerosene-soaked Spanish moss was burned last night in front of the Rev. C. K. Steele's church while he was across town presiding at a Negro Inter Civic Council meeting.

The cross was placed in front of the Bethel Baptist Church, 224 N. Boulevard St., and was first seen by Clifford Steele, 12, one of the minister's five children.

Police Chief Frank Stoutamire said police were dispatched to the scene after the call from Mrs. Steele, but no evidence was found indicating who might have burned the cross.

Steele said he did not place "too much significance in the sign" and personally would not have reported it to police.

He said the people who burned the cross "need sympathy."

### INCIDENT REPORTED

The burning was reported to police about 9:30 p.m. by Steele's wife, who was at home with Clifford, and two other children.

Mrs. Steele and a neighbor knocked the cross over and threw water on it.

It was the second incident involving Steele this week.

He reported New Year's day that rocks were thrown at the windows of his home during the night, and four panes of glass were broken.

### A LITTLE AFRAID

Mrs. Steele said:

"I'm a little afraid for my children, but you can't fight anything that's in the dark. Whoever did it, I don't believe they could possibly know anything about what Christianity means."

Steele said he was notified of the incident at the meeting shortly after it happened.

He said it must have happened about the same time he was urging Negroes attending the meeting to "seize every opportunity to create goodwill in the community."

The meeting last night was primarily an observance of the anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation signed Jan. 1, 1863 by President Abraham Lincoln.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY Sp3cl/jcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 1/3/57

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

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - MOBILE	

100-135-61-306  
ENCLOSURE

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	_____

# Miami Bus Segregation Held Invalid; No Effects Here

## Collins Sees No Direct Results Here

A federal judge in Miami ruled today that bus segregation there is unconstitutional but Governor Collins said the decision "doesn't have any immediate and direct effect on the situation" in Tallahassee.

The Governor told the Associated Press that the ruling by Judge Emmett Choate "may have some effect on the attitude of the people and in that sense it will affect the situation."

On his suspension of bus service, the Governor said:

"I want to see these buses resume operations as soon as I feel that the attitude of the people will justify such and that includes the attitude of both the white people and the colored people."

"If we can eliminate the desire to demonstrate on the part of the extremists on both sides, I am satisfied that the buses can resume operations in peace and harmony."

### AN ORAL RULING

Judge Choate gave an oral ruling in refusing to dismiss a petition of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People asking an end of segregation on Miami buses. He said both the Miami city  
(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3 CLK/gcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 1/3/57

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

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
FBI - MOBILE	

100-135-61-306  
CORE



from Page 1

# Miami Bus Segregation

ordinance and state bus segregation laws were unconstitutional.

Atty. Gen. Richard Ervin questioned whether an actual Florida law was before Judge Choate. He indicated there is some doubt as to whether segregation regulations apply to buses operating within municipalities although they may cover buses running between cities.

### NO OTHER COMMENT

Ervin had no other comment on the ruling.

The Rev. C. K. Steele, who has directed Tallahassee's bus integration effort, said he felt the ruling should make any further litigation unnecessary.

"I am not the least bit surprised," he said. "It was inevitable that the courts would rule that way in view of the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Montgomery case."

"This ruling should clarify the matter and make any further litigation unnecessary. It seems to me that any further litigation in Florida or anywhere else would be just a waste of time and money."

### MAYOR DECLINES

Mayor John Humphress declined to comment on the ruling until he has consulted attorneys. Suits which might test bus integration are pending in state and federal courts here. Attorneys for the City and bus company could not be reached for comment.

The judge refused to convene a three-judge court to hear arguments in the case. He said there was no substantial question of constitutional law in view of the recent U. S. Supreme Court decision banning segregated seating on buses in Montgomery, Ala.

### SUIT BY NAACP

The NAACP filed the suit Oct. 12, 1956, against the Miami Transit Co., city of Miami and individual commissioners.

Choate dismissed the transit company as a defendant, ruling it was a private enterprise and not an arm of the state. He gave the city 10 days to file an answer.

The judge's action touched only segregation on city transit buses, but G. E. Graves Jr of Miami, attorney for the NAACP, said "it is apparent that the decision has a much more far reaching effect than that. It can be extended to trains, suburban and interurban buses."

Dr. A. Joseph Reddick, pastor of Miami's St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church, instituted the suit as president of the Florida NAACP.

### NO 'DIRECT LINK'

He said it had no "direct link" with legal attacks on bus segregation in Montgomery and Tallahassee but "came out of the Supreme Court decision in the Montgomery case."

Miami Transit buses have signs asking Negro passengers to seat themselves from the rear.

Dr. Reddick noted that Miami Negroes have not been involved in a boycott and had not used any violence in their campaign against segregated seating.

"Our main concern has been to remove the statutes from the books," he said.

The bus company has contended since the case was filed that in requiring segregated seating it was merely following the laws of Florida and the ordinances of Miami and that it would continue to do so until the laws were changed.

- 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 \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 ckl/gcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 1/3/57

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

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
FBI - MOBILE	

4

# Tallahassee Democrat

Thursday, January 3, 1957

## No Place For The Cross

However much we might regret the provocative zealotry and disagree with the tactics and judgment of some of Tallahassee's Negro leaders, we hold nothing but revulsion in our hearts for those who would creep up to one's house at night and burn a cross on the lawn.

It was described as a "crude cross." Of course it was, designed by a crude man with a cowardly streak and a warped sense of justice—or perhaps a youngster with a crude background or a warped sense of humor. In this crazy situation, we might not even discount the possibility that a Negro seeking sensation might have done it to create another incident. Darkness cloaks all sorts of chicanery and makes everyone suspect.

It's strange that a symbol of Christian tolerance and forbearance can be twisted into a symbol of hatred and terror and intolerance.

If the true symbolism of The Cross has

no effect on the minds and the hearts of those who would use it in this manner, let them ponder then:

That it is a shameful device unbecoming any citizen of a free country, that it is an ineffective device which will not scare but only intensify feelings in these times, that it is an act which will only bring discredit and disgrace to the community and all its citizens.

We have been critical of some Negroes for turning to excessive methods of demonstration and thereby creating an exaggerated and dramatized tension. At least they demonstrated out in the open where they could be seen and identified.

This community, this nation has no place in its esteem for those who would demonstrate for their views in the hiding of darkness by burning crosses, throwing rocks and shooting windows.

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

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Date 1/3/57

JOHN M. TAPERS, Editor

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3C/9cl

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - MOBILE	

100-135-61-306

ENCLOSURE

Date: 1/2/57

Transmit the following message via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, MOBILE (44-439)

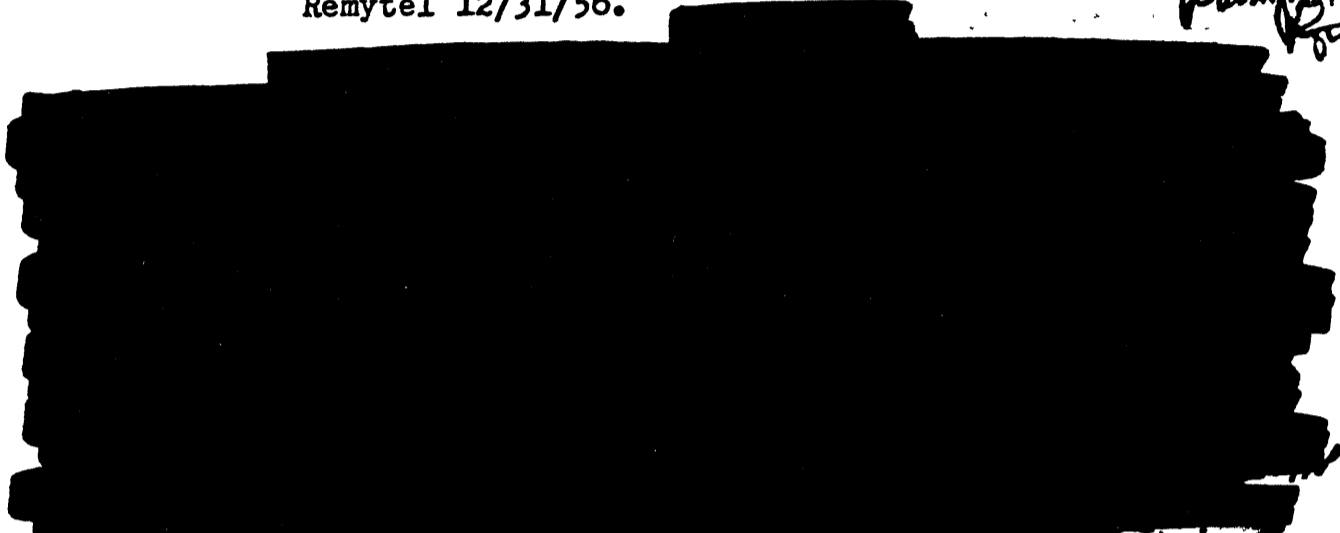
To: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-135-Sub 61)

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

RACON - MOBILE

Remytel 12/31/56.

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	



It is noted that none of the above names appear in data re Klavern #23, U.S. Klans of Ala., Knights of the KKK, Montgomery.

HALLFORD

- 3 - Bureau (100-135-Sub 61) (REGISTERED)
- 2 - Mobile (105-17) (44-439)

7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 ckc/gcl

Mr. Belmont

RECORDED - 21

100-135-61-30

18 JAN 4 1957

50 JAN 17 1957

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

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

INCL

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.
- 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:

  100-135-61-308  

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

F B I

55638

Date:

Transmit the following message via \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC,

To:

PAGE TWO

MO 105-17

7C  
7D

[REDACTED]

Pertinent data from foregoing was furnished to Chief of Police GOODWIN J. RUPPENTHAL, RA, Montgomery PD, upon receipt.

[REDACTED]

Referring to proposed visit of Rev. M. L. KING, JR., <sup>ALA</sup> Montgomery Improvement Association President, to Montgomery RA on 12/26/56, Rev. KING did not show. He telephoned late on

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

FBI

Date:

Transmit the following message via \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC,

To:

PAGE THREE

MO 105-17

12/26/56, and apologized, indicating that he would call on 12/31/56, for another appointment. He has not called to date.



7C  
7D

HALLFORD

~~MR. BELMONT~~  
~~AD SUPERVISOR~~  
~~COMM. INTEL. DIVISION~~

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

cc Mr. Boardman  
cc Mr. Belmont  
cc Mr. [redacted]

X

January 8, 1957

RECORDED - 2  
400-135-61-308  
Director, FBI

EX-117

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY [signature]

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

U. S. KLANS OF ALABAMA,  
KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INCORPORATED  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Reference is made to my memorandum dated  
December 28, 1956, captioned as above.

[Large redacted block]

[Large redacted block]

[Large redacted block]

X  
7D

MAILED 2  
JAN 9 1957  
COMM - FBI

RECORDED - 8  
JAN 8 3 35 PM '57  
MAILING ROOM

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-2801-2783

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

100-135-61  
100-7801  
See note on yellow page

FBI - JUSTICE  
REC'D DETROIT

McGowan

55634

Letter to The Attorney General

7C  
7D

[REDACTED]

Chief of Police Goodwyn J. Ruppenthal, of the Montgomery Police Department, is aware of the above information.

7C  
7D

[REDACTED]

7C  
7D

On January 5, 1957, [REDACTED] advised that about midnight January 4, 1957, [REDACTED] members of the Montgomery Klavern of the U. S. Klans of Alabama, were cut in a fight with an unidentified male Negro near the Little Kitchen Tavern [REDACTED] They were taken to Professional Center Hospital in Montgomery by [REDACTED] Klan members. At the hospital [REDACTED] assaulted and struck [REDACTED] Negro elevator operator, when [REDACTED] refused to get off



55635

Letter to The Attorney General

7C  
7D

the elevator at [redacted] demand. Thereafter, [redacted] allegedly drew a knife on [redacted] Negro hospital attendant, who also drew a knife. Other persons present intervened and prevented a fight. [redacted] was arrested and charged with assault and battery and was released on bond.

[redacted] also advised that at 10 a.m., January 5, 1957, four boys, ages 11 to 15, were arrested for shooting spark plugs at bus windows with sling shots at Jones and Sayre Streets, Montgomery. All four boys were released to the custody of their parents but were scheduled to be arraigned in juvenile court on January 7, 1957.

[redacted]

[redacted]

7D

[redacted]

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

55636

Letter to The Attorney General

cc Mr. William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General

cc Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

cc Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Olney III

NOTE ON YELLOW:

The above is being furnished the Attorney General inasmuch as previous correspondence regarding the 15-year-old Negro girl who was assaulted on December 24, 1956, was furnished to the Attorney General. Attorney General also furnished information because of the next to last paragraph of this letter. Intelligence agencies are being advised by separate communication.

FBI

Date: 1/3/57

Transmit the following message via AIR-TEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

FROM: FBI, MOBILE  
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

- 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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY 3034/BJP

0  
RACON - MOBILE

advised on 1/2/57 that some time during the night of 1/1/57 an unidentified person had thrown a rock at the home of Reverend C. K. STEELE, one of the Negro leaders in the bus boycott at Tallahassee. The rock broke a window at the STEELE home but did not go into the house. STEELE reported the incident to the local police department and stated that he saw a young white boy running away shortly after the rock was thrown. [redacted] said that his department was investigating the matter but had been unable to identify the person who threw the rock. He added that no one had been injured in this incident and the only property damage involved was the broken window.

Continuing, he advised that some time during the same night an unidentified person apparently fired a shotgun into the window of a Negro grocery store at 601 S. Boulevard, Tallahassee, shattering a window in the store. It was unoccupied at the time and no further damage occurred. [redacted] explained that this store is operated by DENNIS and CORNELIUS SPEED, brothers, who have not taken an active part in the current bus boycott at Tallahassee. [redacted] theorized that their cousin, DAN SPEED, who has taken an active part in the bus boycott in behalf of the Negroes, operates another Negro grocery store at 801 Floral Street, Tallahassee, and it is probable that the person who fired the shot through the window of the grocery at 601 S. Boulevard thought it was the grocery store operated by DAN SPEED.

Further, [redacted] stated that at 10:15 A.M., 1/2/57, an employee of the State Department of Education, Knott Building, Tallahassee, advised the Tallahassee Police Department that some unidentified person had apparently fired a .32 caliber bullet into the basement of that building some time during the New Year's holidays, inasmuch as a spent .32 caliber bullet had been found in a

copy each article  
 (encl) to AGS Tompkins by cps 1-10-57

- 3 - Bureau (100-135 Sub 61) (AM) (Encl. 12)
- 2 - Mobile (100-1361)

RECORDED - 37  
INDEXED - 37  
100-135-61-309

15 ENCLOSURE  
Approved: [redacted] Special Agent in Charge

EX-108  
10 JAN 6 1957  
Sent [redacted] M Per [redacted]

7C  
7D

7C

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following message via \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

(NO 100-1361)

PAGE TWO

filed cabinet there during the morning of 1/2/57. [REDACTED] said that although this incident could possibly have some connection with the local bus boycott situation it could also have been done by some unidentified New Year's reveler out celebrating the holiday.

[REDACTED] pointed out that the three incidents described above represent the only three incidents which could possibly be described as "acts of violence" in connection with the tense racial situation presently existing in Tallahassee. He pointed out that Governor LEROY COLLINS, Governor of Florida, had issued an order on the night of 1/1/57 under the emergency powers granted him, which ceases the operations of the city busses at Tallahassee for an indefinite period of time. This action was taken by the Governor "to prevent violence and to allow sufficient time for the tense racial situation to be worked out," according to [REDACTED]. Accordingly, the city busses at Tallahassee have discontinued their runs as of 1/2/57.

In concluding, [REDACTED] said that he did not anticipate any actual physical violence or bloodshed in connection with the current situation at Tallahassee "if the press and radio will discontinue the publishing of inflammatory racial articles." He said that the Governor's action in discontinuing the runs of the city busses was "a good move" and "the controversy can be taken through the appropriate courts during the cooling-off period."

This situation at Tallahassee will be closely followed and the Bureau will be promptly advised in the event any actual violence occurs.

For the information of the Bureau, attached hereto are two copies each of the following newspaper items:

1. Item appearing in Tallahassee Democrat, Tallahassee, Florida, 1/1/57 captioned "SEIZE BUSES, COUNCIL ASKS."
2. Item appearing in same paper 1/1/57 captioned "SHOTGUN BLASTS STORE WINDOW."
3. Item appearing in same paper 1/1/57 captioned "ROCKS ARE THROWN AT STEELE'S HOUSE."

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

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following message via \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

MO 100-1361

PAGE THREE

4. Item appearing in same paper 1/2/57 captioned "COLLINS SUSPENDS CITY BUS SERVICE."
5. Item appearing same paper 1/2/57 captioned "GOVERNOR COLLINS' EXPLANATION TEXT."
6. Editorial appearing same paper 1/2/57 captioned "COOLING OFF THE BUS SITUATION."

HALLFORD

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

8

8

From Page 1

## Seize Buses, Council Asks

## Seize Buses, Council Asks

Members of the Tallahassee Chapter, Florida Citizens Council last night voted to ask Gov. LeRoy Collins to use his emergency powers to take over city buses and prevent integrated seating on them.

The 75 or 80 people attending a meeting of the Council at the Courthouse voted to send a resolution to the governor asking him to "promulgate rules and regulations" relating to the bus situation.

The resolution said the action of local Negroes to force integration on the buses had created racial tension to such an extent that it "may result in open violence and bloodshed."

The Governor has said he planned to take no action in the bus dispute at the present time.

All Council officers stressed, however, that they would never condone violence. Speakers at the meeting were outspoken against any further integration of the races.

### STAY SEPARATED

Main speaker at the meeting was Rev. George Downs of Orlando. He said he had no hatred for Negroes but felt the races should be separated and stay separated. He said it was his feeling that the Negro integration movement was Communist inspired.

The resolution sent to the governor said he should declare that an emergency exists with regard to seating passengers on buses here. The Legislature in special session last summer gave the Governor almost unlimited powers to cope with emergency situations. The Governor also was given the power to determine when an emergency exists.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

emergency existed.

Others who were introduced at the meeting included Charles Atchison, secretary of the Marianna Council; Fred W. King of Sneads, president of the Marianna Council; I. A. Adams of St. Marks, secretary of the Wakulla County Council; and C. L. Parker of Chattahoochee, acting president of the Gadsden County Council.

The council voted to meet again on Jan. 11 here in Tallahassee. It was announced at the meeting that the Gadsden Council will meet tonight (Tuesday) at 7:30 at the Courthouse and the Marianna Council will meet Jan. 10 at 8 p. m. (CST)

### CIRCUS ATMOSPHERE

Last night's meeting was held in the courtroom with a circus atmosphere prevailing as two TV cameramen and their assistants scurried around with cameras whining and strong lights focusing in all directions. At times the whirl of the cameras made it difficult for spectators in the back of the room to hear.

Homer Barrs, secretary-treasurer of the local and state councils, who presided, at the end of the meeting thanked the large number of newsmen for their attendance.

When they held a statewide meeting here nearly a year ago, only one reporter attended. Last night there were reporters for two TV stations, the three international wire services, and at least two large Florida dailies.

A resolution adopted by the citizens council last night said in part:

"The agitators of racial integration, have by their recent actions, elected to defy the laws of the state of Florida and the ordinances of the city of Tallahassee and have thereby openly flaunted said laws, customs and traditions by their arrogant attitude toward constituted lawful authority.

"Racial tension caused by these agitators has increased in the past few weeks to the degree that a serious threat against the peace and dignity of Florida now exists which, unless impeded, may result in open violence and bloodshed and constitute a real emergency."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83

Biops dc/gcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Date 1/1/57 1/1/57

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

100-135-61-309

ENCLOSURE

3

## Shotgun Blasts Store Window

Someone shot the plate glass window out of Speed Brothers Grocery at 621 S. Boulevard last night.

The store is operated by Cornelius and Dennis Speed, Negro brothers.

There was speculation at the police station that the shooting had some connection with the bus dispute, but if it was a white person's reprisal action it was a case of mistaken identity.

The store is operated by Cornelius and Dennis Speed, Negro brothers, who are not active in the bus integration movement.

There is another store, on Floral street, operated by their cousin, Dan Speed, a leader of the Negro Inter-Civic Council. Dan Speed's store served as a message center for the summer car pool run by the boycotters.

Cornelius and Dennis Speed have had nothing to do with the bus integration movement, except that Cornelius was one of 15 Negroes who signed resolution last June asking the boycotters to accept a City Commission compromise settlement of the dispute. The boycotters rejected it.

Police Lt. Billy Bennett said a load of buckshot, fired at close range, shattered the window, damaged a meat showcase and some merchandise inside the store.

He said it apparently happened about midnight, because a resident in the neighborhood reported hearing shots but assumed they were New Year fireworks.

The damage was not reported to police until Cornelius Speed found it this morning.

A window at the same store was broken one night last summer.

3

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3cic/gcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 4/1/57

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

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-309 2-

3 3

★ ★ ★  
**Rocks Are Thrown  
At Steele's House**

The Rev. C. K. Steele, leader of the Tallahassee bus integration movement, reported to police this morning that rocks were thrown at four of his windows about 2 a.m.

He said a window was broken, but the rocks did not come in the house.

He said he saw a white youth running away.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 dc/gcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 1/1/57

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

100-135-61-309

3





From Page 1

## Collins Halts Bus Service

ing and shotgun blast incidents which caused the Governor to declare an emergency, were provoked by the white citizens council "to impress upon the Governor that a state of emergency existed and violence was in the air."

### RESOLUTION ADOPTED

The Citizens Council adopted a resolution Monday night asking the Governor to act in the dispute but Collins said he hadn't received the resolution and it had no bearing on the action he took.

Apparently Tallahasseeans took the bus suspension order in stride, with both white and Negro riders alike getting to work somehow today.

There were few reports of difficulties being encountered

Steele said the suspension of bus service would work a hardship on Negro riders but he added many of them had already worked out other transportation agreements during the time they were boycotting the buses.

In his formal order suspending bus service, Collins said there has been assemblages of white and negro citizens at which statements had the calculated effect of inspiring violence or overt threats of violence."

### MAY WELL ENDANGER

He added: "The continued operation of said public transportation facilities under conditions now existing in Tallahassee may well endanger life, limb and property of the citizens . . . and will cause or tend to cause further breaches of the peace and will endanger the peace and good order of society."

Steele said the Inter Civic council will hold a regular meeting tonight at the Fountain Chapel AME church with an emancipation anniversary theme. He said "some reference" to the incidents of the last two days would be made at the meeting.

The incidents that precipitated the Governor's order, were rock throwing at Steele's house and a shotgun blast at the window of a Negro grocery store. No one was injured in either incident.

### WINDOWS BROKEN

Steele said two cars pulled up to his house about 3 a. m. yesterday and a white youth got out of a car, shouted and threw rocks that broke two upstairs and two downstairs windows.

There was no action today in either circuit or federal court where suits have been filed in an effort to settle the bus dispute.

Steele told the Associated Press today there had been some discussions about moves toward racial integration in other public facilities here but no definite plans for it.

There were no further incidents reported last night.

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Date 1/2/57

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

# Governor Collins' Explanation Text

Following is the text of Governor Collins' statement of explanation after issuing an official proclamation suspending operation of Tallahassee's city bus system:

"I regret the necessity for the issuance of this proclamation.

"However, I regard the situation now existing in the City of Tallahassee as an emergency and, under the duty imposed upon me as Governor to protect the public safety and preserve the public tranquillity, feel I must exercise the authority vested in me so to do.

"I am satisfied the emergency is a temporary one because the reasons for its having come about are synthetic.

"The reality of the situation is that a great majority of the citizens of Tallahassee, both White and Negro, are not deeply concerned with the issue at hand. Furthermore, they are peaceful and law-abiding. They are willing to abide by the law, whatever that may be, and this has not been specifically determined here.

"Unfortunately conditions have been created which have carried the problem beyond the point of law and reason.

"The situation has been dramatized in the press and over television and radio, and the result has been a stimulation of emotions and a competition for headlines.

"Irresponsible Negro leader-

ship, not satisfied with quiet acceptance, has sought to force the issue, through demonstrations and staged occasions. The result has been to focus attention on their attitude. It is one of challenge and not sincerity; for these leaders have not been on the buses for the normal purpose of getting somewhere in Tallahassee, but rather for getting somewhere in the magazines.

On the other extreme, rabid pro-segregationists have engaged in intimidation and the result has been that shots have been fired and rocks thrown in this community of fine people, all of whom reserve the fullest measure of protection."

"In this emotionally-charged atmosphere and in the face of threats and overt acts of violence, there is only one logical and effective answer for the present and that is the suspension of bus operations. This will be an inconvenience to the people of both races, and I realize a progressive community needs a public transportation system.

"Nevertheless, I am convinced the suspension of operations until such time as the emergency passes is in the public interest. I confidently believe that, without the opportunity for continuing agitation by those who actually seem to want to provoke incidents, a sound and wise and harmonious solution can be worked out within a relatively short time."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83

lp3ck/gcl

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Date 1-2-57

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

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-509

Wednesday, January 2, 1957

## Cooling Off The Bus Situation

We in Tallahassee don't like the idea of having a Governor, even though he's one of us, stepping into a local dispute and closing down our bus system—but he acted for our best interests.

We have been proud of the restraint shown by our people in handling this bus problem over a period of seven months without violence.

Our appraisal of the temper of our people would not lead us to believe that even the New Year's Eve incidents of property destruction would be repeated and intensified.

But there was no point in taking chances. The Governor had full authority, handed to him by the Legislature last summer, to step in and act as he did. It was his duty to act when he saw danger to the peace and tranquility.

There's no question, the tension was increasing. As the Governor said in the explanation of his action, that tension was somewhat synthetic—the product of over-

dramatization in some quarters, and the inclination of integrationists to feel their oats and ride for the ride's sake and purposes of demonstration. This attitude was bringing patience of white residents to a straining point—and it snaps more quickly with some people than others.

So the buses are off the streets.

It won't make much difference to the community's activities. It was getting to the point that most people of both races were staying off them because the question of where they sat didn't seem worth the risk of a fight.

The Governor's action will let the situation cool off, and let the courts reach a decision without pressure from the fear that violence would flare if they didn't hurry.

With no instrument of dissension at hand, there should be little risk of incident, and maybe the rest of the nation will begin to view our situation as calm as we have here at home.

THE TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
Date 1-2-57

JOHN TAPERS, Editor

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 ctk/gcl

ENCLOSURE  
100-135-61-209

Liaison Section  
Mr. [REDACTED]

7C

100-135-61-309  
RECORDED-37

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 clj/gcl

Date: January 10, 1957  
To: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

EX-108

Attention: Chief, Security Division

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: RACIAL SITUATION  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Reference is made to previous correspondence  
concerning the captioned matter.

On January 8, 1957, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that at sometime  
during the night of January 1, 1957, an unidentified  
person threw a rock at the home of Reverend C. K. Steele,  
one of the Negro leaders in the boycott of buses in  
Tallahassee. The rock broke a window at the Steele home.  
Steele reported the incident to the local police and  
stated that he saw a young white boy running away shortly  
after the rock was thrown. [REDACTED] said his Department  
was investigating the matter but had been unable to identify  
the person who threw the rock.

7C  
7D

BY COURIER SVC.  
cc To A.F. only  
77 JAN 1 1957

COMM. FBI

MAILED 4  
JAN 10 1957  
COMM. FBI

[REDACTED] advised that at sometime during the  
same night an unidentified person apparently fired a  
shotgun at a window of a Negro grocery store at 601 South  
Boulevard, Tallahassee, shattering a window in the store.  
This store is operated by Dennis and Cornelius Speed,  
brothers, who have taken no active part in the current  
boycott of buses at Tallahassee. [REDACTED] ascertained  
that their cousin, Dan Speed, who has taken an active part  
in the bus boycott in behalf of Negroes and who operates  
another Negro grocery store at 801 Floral Street,  
Tallahassee, was the intended victim of the shotgun blast.

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

7M 2 - Assistant Attorney General [REDACTED] (By Form 0-6)  
1 - [REDACTED] Olney, [REDACTED] (By Form 0-6)  
6C - Assistant Attorney General [REDACTED] (By Form 0-6)  
1 - William F. Tompkins (By Form 0-6)

7C  
[Handwritten initials and marks]

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

7C  
7D

[redacted] also advised that at 10:15 A.M. on January 2, 1957, an employee of the State Department of Education advised the Tallahassee Police Department that some unidentified person had apparently fired a .32 caliber bullet into the basement of the Knott building in which the State Department of Education is located, sometime during the New Year's holiday, inasmuch as a spent .32 caliber bullet had been found in a filing cabinet there during the morning of January 2, 1957. [redacted] said that although this incident possibly could have some connection with the local bus boycott situation, it also could have been done by some New Year's reveler celebrating the holiday.

[redacted] pointed out that the three incidents above represent the only three incidents which could possibly be described as being "acts of violence" in connection with the tense racial situation presently existing in Tallahassee. He pointed out that Florida Governor Leroy Collins had issued an order on the night of January 1, 1957, under the emergency powers granted him which ceased the operations of the city buses at Tallahassee for an indefinite period of time. This action was taken by the Governor "to prevent violence and to allow sufficient time for the tense racial situation to be worked out," according to [redacted]. Accordingly, the buses at Tallahassee discontinued operation as of January 2, 1957.

[redacted] said that he does not anticipate any actual physical violence or bloodshed in connection with the current racial situation at Tallahassee "if the press and radio will discontinue the publication of inflammatory racial articles." He said that the Governor's action in discontinuing operation of city buses was "a good move" and "the controversy can be taken through the appropriate courts during the cooling-off period."

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

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

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

**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**

100-135-61-310,311  
**CHANGED TO**  
44-11124-76,75

FEB 4 1957

                      
          2110



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9/31/83 BY sp3dc/gol

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

JAN 10 1957

TELETYPE

- 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

RAEON - MOBILE

FBI MOBILE 1-10-57 6-54 PM CST VFP

DIRECTOR, FBI URGENT

RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA. RE MOBILE TEL TO BUREAU TODAY. REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PRESIDENT, MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, ACCOMPANIED BY REV.

[REDACTED] MONTGOMERY NEGRO MINISTER, APPEARED AT THE MONTGOMERY <sup>Resident Agency Office</sup> RAO AT ONE P. M. TODAY AND REQUESTED INFO AS TO WHAT FBI COULD DO TO SOLVE OR ASSIST IN SOLVING BOMBINGS OF NEGRO CHURCHES AND RESIDENCES OF MINISTERS AND OTHER VIOLENT ACTIONS AGAINST NEGROES AND MIA PERSONNEL. KING SAID HE NOTED IN PAPER THAT THE FBI WAS CONDUCTING A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION AND HEARD THAT DAVE GARRAWAY STATED ON HIS MORNING BROADCAST TODAY THAT THE JUSTICE DEPT. WAS LOOKING INTO THE MATTER. REV. KING ALSO COMPLAINED THAT THE NEGROES OF MONTGOMERY DO NOT KNOW WHERE TO TURN BECAUSE THEY ARE ALL CONVINCED THAT THE MONTGOMERY PD IS MAKING NO REAL ATTEMPT TO SOLVE THE BOMBINGS, AND THAT THE CITY'S ITS PUBLIC UTTERANCES, HAVE NOT ENCOURAGED NON-VIOLENCE

END PAGE ONE

Mr. Belmont

INT. SEC.

1-11-57  
Memo to AG, re Rev. Martin Luther King  
G-2, omi, OSI

7C

PAGE TWO .....

AND HAVE CREATED AN ATMOSPHERE CONDUSIVE TO VIOLENCE.  
REV. KING WAS ADVISED THAT THIS BUREAU DESIRES TO RECEIVE  
ALL INFO CONCERNING MATTERS OF THIS KIND AND THAT THE  
BUREAU PLACES THE FACTS IN THE HANDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
JUSTICE, BUT THAT THE BUREAU HAS NO AUTHORITY TO ACTUALLY  
INVESTIGATE SUCH MATTERS LACKING AN INTERPRETATION OF KNOWN  
FACTS BY THE DEPT. OF JUSTICE, THAT THERE MAY BE A VIOLATION  
OF FEDERAL LAW WITHIN THE INVESTIGATIVE JURISDICTION OF THE  
BUREAU. REV. KING WAS TOLD THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE  
OF THE FACTS PERTAINING TO THIS MORNINGS BOMBINGS IN  
MONTGOMERY. [REDACTED]

C  
70

[REDACTED]

END PAGE TWO .....

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:  
100-135-61-512

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

PAGE FOUR .....

791 [REDACTED] GOV. FOLSOM, BILL LYERLY, DIRECTOR, ALA. DEPT. OF PUBLIC SAFETY, AND CHIEF OF POLICE G. J. RUPPENTHAL, MONTGOMERY PD, HAVE BEEN ADVISED. INFO BEING DISSEMINATED TO LOCAL ARMED FORCE INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES. LYERLY SUBSEQUENTLY CONTACTED SRA [REDACTED] AND SAID GOV. FOLSOM WANTED FBI TO KNOW THAT HE HAD PERSONALLY OFFERED TO MONTGOMERY CITY AUTHORITIES ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE OF ALA. DEPT. OF PUBLIC SAFETY ON FOUR OR FIVE OCCASIONS AND NO REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE TO DATE FOR SUCH ASSISTANCE BY MONTGOMERY AUTHORITIES AND THAT FOLSOM FEELS THAT POLICE COMMISSIONER CLYDE SELLERS IS MAKING BONIFIDE EFFORTS TO SOLVE BOMBINGS CASES PREVIOUSLY REPORTED TO THE BUREAU.

HALLFORD

David Irons, Criminal Division, advised. 1-10-57. LHM

END AND ACK PLS

WA 8-09 PM OK FBI WA JS

TU DISC

following advised 1/10/57

MR. BELMONT  
DOM INTEL DIVISION

[REDACTED] ONI  
[REDACTED] b-2  
[REDACTED] OSI  
[REDACTED] Wm

7C

Above being confirmed in writing 7/13

FBI  
RECORDED  
LEB 2 11 33 AM '57

FBI  
RECORDED  
H

Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. McGowan

January 11, 1957

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Director, FBI

100-135-61-312  
RACIAL SITUATION  
STATE OF ALABAMA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY [signature]

RECORDED - 7A

INDEXED - 7A

EX-172

Reference is made to my memorandum dated January 10, 1957, captioned "Unknown Subjects; Dynamiting of Churches and Homes of Ministers, Montgomery, Alabama, January 10, 1957; Racial Situation."

This will confirm information orally furnished by Special Agent [redacted] of this Bureau to Mr. David Irons of the Department of Justice on January 10, 1957.

At 1:00 p.m., January 10, 1957, Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., president of the Montgomery Improvement Association, and Reverend W. J. Powell, a Negro minister, contacted a Special Agent of the Mobile Office of this Bureau and requested information as to what action the FBI could take to solve the bombings of Negro churches, the bombings of residences of ministers, and other violent actions which have been taken against Negroes and members of the Montgomery Improvement Association. Mr. King stated that he had noted in the public press that the FBI was conducting a preliminary inquiry concerning such matters and that Dave Garroway had stated during his morning broadcast on January 10, 1957, that the Department of Justice was looking into the matter. Mr. King further stated that the Negroes of Montgomery, Alabama, do not know where to turn because they are convinced that the Montgomery Police Department is not attempting to solve the bombings and that city officials of Montgomery by their public utterances have created an atmosphere conducive to violence.

Mr. King was advised that the Bureau desires to receive full facts concerning matters of this kind in order that such facts may be referred to the Department of Justice. He was further advised that this Bureau has no authority to

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

RECEIVED  
FEB 11 11 30 AM '57  
FBI  
FEB 5 30 6H '57  
FBI

100-135-61

FBI MAILED  
JAN 11 1957  
COMM-FBI

51 FEB 7 1957

Memorandum for The Attorney General

investigate such matters in the absence of an interpretation of such facts by the Department of Justice indicating that there may be a violation of a Federal law within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau. Mr. King was also advised that the Department of Justice is aware of the facts pertaining to the bombings which occurred in Montgomery, Alabama, on January 10, 1957.

7C  
7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Memorandum for The Attorney General

7C  
7D

[REDACTED]

On January 10, 1957, Mr. Bill Lyerly, Director, Alabama Department of Public Safety, advised that Governor Folsom wanted it known that he had personally offered Montgomery city officials the assistance of the Alabama Department of Public Safety on four or five occasions and that to date such officials had not requested assistance. He further advised that Governor Folsom is of the opinion that Montgomery Police Commissioner Clyde Sellers is making a bona fide attempt to solve the bombings.

For your additional information, on January 10, 1957, [REDACTED] advised that at 11:40 p.m., January 9, 1957, the home of [REDACTED] a Negro, [REDACTED] was bombed.

[REDACTED] that at approximately 11:25 p.m. on that date he had heard a thump on the side of his house and as he went to investigate the source of this noise he observed two white men in a 1956 blue and white Chevrolet pull away from the curb in front of his house. He added that immediately thereafter the bomb exploded and that subsequent to the explosion he again observed this car as it passed in front of his house.

[REDACTED] further advised that at 2:17 a.m. on January 10, 1957, [REDACTED] who has been active in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Mobile, Alabama, reported that he had found an unexploded bomb on the front porch of his residence. [REDACTED] stated that he had not heard any unusual noises or observed anyone in the vicinity of his residence. He said he found the bomb by chance when he arose at 22:10 a.m. to close the

Memorandum for The Attorney General

windows of his automobile. [REDACTED] found two unexploded sticks of dynamite incased in a copper tube to which was attached a two-foot length of slow-burning, waterproof fuse and a detonator cap. They expressed the opinion that the bomb had been placed by amateurs since the individuals so placing the bomb apparently had not known how to light the fuse and had been unable to light the powder train of the bomb.

[REDACTED] further advised that at 8:17 a.m., January 10, 1957, an unexploded dynamite bomb was found at the residence of [REDACTED] Negro, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] further advised that three crosses consisting of two-by-fours wrapped in burlap and soaked in kerosene were burned on the evening of January 9, 1957, between 11:32 and 11:40 p.m. These crosses were burned in front of the residences of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and all of whom are Negroes.

Appropriate local authorities are aware of the above information.

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

cc - Mr. William F. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General

cc - Assistant Attorney General  
Warren Olney III



100-135-61-313  
**CHANGED TO**  
44-11124-74

FEB 4 1957

---

*2220*

---

*W*

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

JAN 1 1957

TELETYPE

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 dkl/cl  
FBI MOBILE 1-10-57 12-48 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI URGENT  
Bacon - mobile  
RACIAL SITUATION, MOBILE, ALA.

ADVISED TODAY AS FOLLOWS - AT ELEVEN FORTY FOUR P. M.,  
NINTH INSTANT THE HOME OF [REDACTED] NEGRO,

[REDACTED] WAS BOMBED,  
[REDACTED]

THAT AT ELEVEN TWENTY FIVE P.M. HE HEARD A THUMP ON THE  
SIDE OF HIS HOUSE AND AS HE WENT TO INVESTIGATE OBSERVED  
A FIFTY-SIX BLUE AND WHITE CHEVROLET OCCUPIED BY TWO  
WHITE MEN PULL AWAY FROM THE HOUSE AND IMMEDIATELY THERE-  
AFTER BOMB WENT OFF. THE CAR TURNED AROUND AND CAME  
BACK PAST THE HOUSE. NO LICENSE NUMBER OBTAINED. AT  
TWO THIRTEEN A.M., TENTH INSTANT, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE  
LOCATION OF AN UNEXPLODED BOMB ON HIS FRONT PORCH.

[REDACTED] FOUND TWO UNEXPLODED STICKS  
OF DYNAMITE IN A COPPER TUBE TO WHICH WAS ATTACHED  
TWO FOOT LENGTH OF SLOW BURNING WATERPROOF FUSE AND  
A DETONATOR CAP. [REDACTED] WHO HAD RETIRED,

DID NOT HEAR OR SEE ANYTHING, BUT HE OBSERVED THE BOMB  
ON HIS PORCH WHEN HE GOT UP AT TWO TEN A.M. TO CLOSE THE

*Info disseminated  
AG, Albany, Albany  
by memo 1/11/57  
6-21 PWT - OST  
date 1/27/57 - memo*

END PAGE ONE 26  
61 JAN 22 1957

Mr. Belmont

INDEXED-86 RECORDED-86 11 JAN 16 1957

EX-172

PAGE TWO

7C  
D

WINDOWS ON HIS CAR. [REDACTED] OF OPINION THIS WAS PLACED BY AN AMATEUR AS THEY DID NOT PROPERLY KNOW HOW TO LIGHT THE FUSE AND NEVER DID GET THE POWDER TRAIN LIT BUT ONLY SEARED THE EXTERIOR END OF THE FUSE WITH A MATCH OR CIGARETTE LIGHTER. [REDACTED] CONTACTED THIS OFFICE RE ABOVE INFO AND ONLY ADDITIONAL INFO OBTAINED FROM HIM WAS THAT THE BOMB WAS WRAPPED IN NEWSPAPER.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] AT EIGHT SEVENTEEN A.M. TODAY THAT UNEXPLODED DYNAMITE BOMB FOUND AT HOME OF [REDACTED] NEGRO, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] NOT YET AVAILABLE FOR INFO. FRAGMENTS OF COPPER CASING OBTAINED [REDACTED] AT HOME OF [REDACTED] AND IT IS NOTED THAT BOMB AT [REDACTED] PLACE WAS

CONTAINED IN COPPER TUBE. UNEXPLODED DYNAMITE TOT [REDACTED] STATE TOXICOLOGIST, MOBILE. ADDITIONALLY, THREE CROSSES MADE OF TWO BY FOUR WOOD WRAPPED IN BURLAP AND SOAKED IN KEROSENE, HAVING IRON FOOTINGS AND SPIKES TO STAND IN THE GROUND, WERE BURNED LAST NIGHT BETWEEN ELEVENTHIRTY AND ELEVEN FORTY TWO P.M. THEY WERE AT THE HOMES OF THE FOLLOWING NEGROES-- [REDACTED]

END PAGE TWO

*Mobile, Ala*  
*Mobile, Ala*

PAGE THREE

*mobile, Alaj*  
*mobile*

**[REDACTED]**  
CONTACT BEING MAINTAINED WITH MOPD, **[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED]** CONTACT ALSO BEING MADE WITH CI, MO,

*CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT*

RE MO BOMBINGS AND CROSS BURNINGS. NO OTHER OACTIVE  
INVESTIGATION CONTEMPLATED UACB. A.P. IS ONLY PRESS  
INQUIRY RECEIVED SD FAR IN MO. BUREAU WILL BE KEPT  
INFORMED.

HALLFORD

END ACK PLS

2-00 PM OK FBI WA EW

TU DCI

*unless advised  
to contrary -*

CO MR. BELMONT  
~~DOM. INTEL DIVISION~~

6:21 PM

*Alcoa - mobile*

January 15, 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON  
MR. ROSEN  
MR. NICHOLS

Deputy Attorney General Rogers called to bring me up-to-date on his discussion with Judge Johnson with whom he had talked last night. He stated he told the Judge pretty much what had been agreed upon and that he thought it would be a mistake to get the FBI involved in the investigation of the bombings in Alabama. Mr. Rogers said he had gotten a copy of the order and the injunction was really pretty limited; that it merely enjoined the respondents from enforcing state statutes and local ordinances and he had indicated that he thought the grand jury would have the same disadvantage and would relieve the local people of the responsibility without chance of success. He stated the Judge wanted to reconsider and broaden the order and then the Department would reconsider the matter and the Judge seemed to be reasonably satisfied with this.

Very truly yours,

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3 CLK/gel

cc-Mr. [redacted]  
[redacted] (9) **7C**

SENT FROM D. O.  
TIME 6:28 PM  
DATE 1-15-57  
BY [initials]

100-135-61-31

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

RECORDED - 54  
INDEXED - 54  
EX - 126

JAN 17 1957

713  
JAN 16 1957

100-135-61-316  
**CHANGED TO**  
44-1124-72

~~100~~ 1957

100  
e

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Boardman *JB*

DATE: January 11, 1957

FROM : A. Rosen *R*

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

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

In accordance with the Director's instructions, I called SAC Hallford and advised him that we were not going to proceed with any inquiry in this case unless and until we got specific orders from the Department. Hallford was cautioned not to commit himself one way or another concerning this matter. It was pointed out to Mr. Hallford that this is purely a departmental matter and was not one in which the Bureau should participate. Hallford stated that he clearly understood this position and had not committed the Bureau, that their conversation with the judge merely was one in which they listened to his views.

ADDENDUM:

Time of call: 7:10 p.m.

Subsequent to talking with Mr. Hallford, I called Mr. Nichols merely to advise him of the Director's comments.

Mr. Nichols indicated that he had just gotten some additional information concerning this matter. Mr. Nichols stated that after Judge Johnson had talked with Deputy AG Rogers about this matter, Rogers called Mr. Caldwell. Caldwell is head of the Civil Rights Section of the Department. Caldwell then telephonically communicated with USA Davis to discuss this matter and Caldwell asked Davis for the complete text of the court order. This was discussed by Caldwell and Davis. Caldwell then indicated to USA Davis that, on the basis of the information furnished, he did not think we could get into this matter and that he, Caldwell, was going right up to Mr. Rogers and tell him so.

No further action is being taken unless and until we get specific instructions from the Department in accordance with the Director's observations.

AR:ek  
(8)  
cc: Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont

*Memo to Boardman 1-14 A.R.*

RECORDED - 51

JAN 18 1957

*ORACON - MOBILE*

*ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED*

*DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 cdc/lcd*

*Just when did Nichols call up - the U.S. Atty of the Judge?*

*Why wasn't I telephonically advised of this at once. Had I known of this in my conference with Rogers on Saturday I would have been prepared for it.*

*MEMO BEING SUBMITTED*



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. L. V. BOARDMAN *LB*

DATE: 1/14/57

FROM : A. ROSEN *AR*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DATE 3/31/83 BY [Signature]

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

The Director has inquired as to why he was not telephonically advised of the information which Mr. Nichols furnished in the attached memorandum after I had called Mr. Hallford and then called Mr. Nichols to advise him of the Director's comments based upon information previously furnished by Messrs. Hallford and Nichols.

I should have immediately relayed this information rather than to immediately dictate a memorandum which subsequently was sent forward. There is no excuse for not having handled this matter telephonically. I regret that this matter was not handled properly so that the Director would have been fully apprised of this information.

RECORDED - 5700-135-61-318  
JAN 18 1957

1/14/57 - The attached memorandum was received in my office at 12:43 p.m., 1/12/57 and was read by me shortly before the Director's call to me Saturday afternoon.

L. V. Boardman *LB*

AR:WW  
(3)

71 FEB 1 1957

*The point I make is that I was in the Bureau on Friday evening & was never called to my attention until 10 p.m. during*

*MOBILE  
RACON*

*Share with Boardman*



January 16, 1957

AIRTEL

7C

SACs, Detroit  
Mobile

RACON - M 11.0

RACIAL SITUATION, STATE OF ALABAMA

Re Detroit teletype January 15, 1957.

Intense efforts should be made to determine the identity of the truck involved as described in retel. Detroit should consider the feasibility of contacting the Springfield Office in the event it has not already done so in an effort to identify this truck by the available numbers on the license plate and type of truck.

Advise Bureau immediately all pertinent developments.

Hoover

Bufile 100-135-61

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3cl/gcl

MAILED 6  
JAN 16 1957  
COMM - FBI

RECORDED - 80

100-135-61-311

EX - 117

JAN 17 1957

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

7C

gtg/f 424  
6000  
CJ 119

7C  
K  
JAN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 clc/gcl

Date: January 14, 1957

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

*Racism - mobile*

Attention: Chief, Security Division

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
DYNAMITING OF CHURCHES AND HOMES  
OF MINISTERS, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA,  
JANUARY 10, 1957  
RACIAL SITUATION

BY COUNCIL  
CC TO AF  
only

The following information was received by our  
Mobile, Alabama, Office concerning the dynamiting of four  
Negre churches and the homes of two ministers at Montgomery,  
Alabama, on January 10, 1957.

On January 13, 1957, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that the [REDACTED] on that date  
had discovered a discarded homemade dynamite bomb similar to  
those which were used in the bombings on January 10, 1957.  
It was reported that the bomb consisted of three sticks of  
50% Dupont dynamite wrapped with masking tape which is  
identical with the tape recovered from the bombs exploded  
on January 10, 1957. The bomb was also reported to have a  
fuse the length of which is identical with the fuse of the  
unexploded bomb which was recovered at the home of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] on January 10, 1957. The discarded dynamite  
bomb was found under a bridge in North Montgomery, Alabama.  
Beside the bomb was a box of trash containing three .38 caliber  
short shells and one aluminum screw reportedly identical with  
the screws which were used to assemble the throwing frame  
attached to the bomb at [REDACTED] house. The box also  
contained bills addressed to [REDACTED]

7C  
7D

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

JAN 15 1957  
INDEXED RECORDED  
cc: MR. [REDACTED]  
ews (7)  
7C

Letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

AC  
7D  
believes that the aluminum throwing irons on the bomb found at [REDACTED] house on January 10, 1957, has tool marks and that the material may be traceable. [REDACTED]

The above is furnished for your information.

cc: Director of Naval Intelligence  
Department of the Navy  
The Pentagon  
Washington, 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

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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

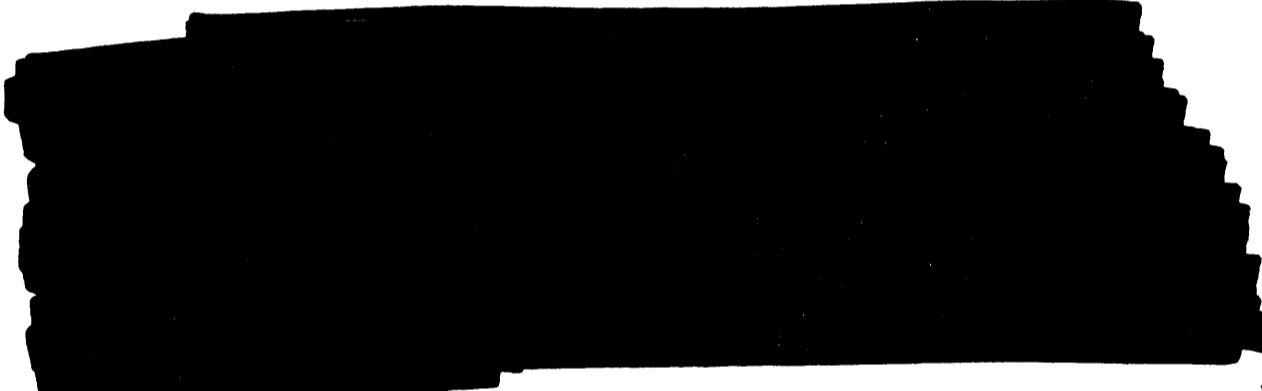
DATE: 1/16/57

FROM : SAC, Mobile (44-439)

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Forwarded herewith to the Bureau are two copies each of three clippings from the January 12, 1957 issue of the Montgomery Advertiser, published daily at Montgomery, Alabama, Page One, captioned as follows:

- ✓ POLICE CAPTURE 2 MEN, ARSENAL
- ✓ PLANS ANNOUNCED TO ORGANIZE WHITE BUS LINE IN MONTGOMERY
- ✓ ARRIVAL OF STATE EMPLOYEE MAY HAVE HALTED BOMBING.



7C  
7D

2 - Bureau (Enc. 6) (AIRMAIL)  
1 - Mobile  
mem

7C

RECORDED-32  
INDEXED

100-135-61-321

JAN 18 1957

ENCLOSURE

EX-125

FBI  
RECEIVED

EX-125

JAN 25 1957

rec'd and a copy  
by 10-6  
1-24-57

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY [signature]

[Handwritten signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83

BY *sp3 cl/gcl*

## Plans Announced To Organize White Bus Line In Montgomery

By JO ANN FLIRT

A local attorney confirmed last night that he represents a group seeking to organize a new all-white bus system to operate in Montgomery on a "club" plan.

State Rep. O. J. Goodwyn, who declined to name the persons who retained him, reportedly conferred earlier yesterday with city officials who would have to approve a new transit line before it could operate.

He later accompanied City Atty. Walter Knabe and Drayton Hamilton in an hour-long conference with U.S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr., one of two federal judges who ruled bus segregation here unconstitutional last June.

Neither Judge Johnson nor members of the delegation would comment on the subject of the conference. City officials presumably are concerned with the possibility of being in contempt of a federal court injunction ordering them to refrain from enforcing segregation laws on public buses.

Speculation yesterday centered around a legal move planned by city officials, but no papers had been filed when the District Clerk's office closed.

Knabe declined to say whether

the city will seek federal advice—possibly by a petition requesting further instructions, or by clarification of the recent court order.

The proposed new transit system would operate as a "private" line with only members of a club allowed to ride. Membership would be limited to white persons.

Negro leaders were turned down when they requested authority to operate their own bus service here during the year-long boycott. The

(See BUS LINE, Page 7A)

City Commission denied its request on grounds that Montgomery City Lines, Inc., only existing bus line here, offered "adequate" bus service.

The bus line has halted all operations following an outbreak of violence culminated by six bombings in Negro neighborhoods before dawn Thursday. Earlier, five buses were ambushed by gunfire and a Negro woman passenger wounded in both legs.

The planned all-white bus service would be the third type transportation system other than the city lines proposed here during the past year.

A car pool, composed largely of church-owned station wagons, was operated by Negro boycotters before halted by court order. City attorneys argued the motor pool operation was a "private enterprise" operating with out a license rather than a share-the-ride pool as Negroes claimed.

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY ALABAMA  
JANUARY 12, 1967  
PAGE 1

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-155-61  
MF FILE: 44-439

F20

CLOSURE

NEAR CHAUFFEUR'S HOME

## Police Capture 2 Men, Arsenal

By KLINK COOK

Two heavily armed Negro men were arrested here early yesterday by highway patrolmen who had been assigned to guard the home of Winston Craig, Negro chauffeur for Gov. James E. Folsom.

The men arrested were identified by city police as William Singleton Jr., 34, and Marion Smiley, 37. No address was available for either man. They were arrested at 1:35 a. m. yesterday at 3219 Mobile Road, a few blocks from Craig's home at 2615 Rutland in Mobile Heights.

Found in the Negroes' automobile was a small arsenal of weapons including a 12-gauge shotgun loaded with six shells, a 16-gauge automatic shotgun fully loaded with 6 shells, a .32 caliber automatic pistol fully loaded with eight cartridges. Also found was an additional supply of shotgun and pistol ammunition.

Both men were booked at Police Department on charges of possessing concealed weapons.

The arrests were made by highway patrolmen who had been ordered to guard Craig's home after

his life reportedly had been threatened by other Negroes.

The patrolmen assigned to the Mobile Heights subdivision were dressed in plain clothes and patrolled in privately-owned automobiles.

Arresting officers in the case were Highway Patrolmen T. E. Posey and James R. Farr. Also assigned to the same beat was Patrolman Stanley Kezziah.

There was no confirmation to the reports, but it was learned from a reliable source that Craig's life had been threatened by disgruntled Negroes who had lost their jobs with white employers because of the racial unrest here.

The Negroes who made the threats allegedly blamed Gov. Folsom for the situation, and in turn blamed Craig for the part he might have played in the overall developments.

Capt. E. P. Brown of the Montgomery Police Department confirmed that the arrests had been made, but said he had no information indicating that the two men arrested had made the threats on Craig's life.

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 18, 1957  
PAGE ONE

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

SUFILE: 100-135-61  
MFILE: 44-439

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3dc/jcl

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-321

**AT KING'S CHURCH**

**Arrival Of State Employee  
May Have Halted Bombing**

By GEORGE WHITTINGTON  
Montgomery police have been provided information that three men in an automobile were believed to have been foiled early Thursday in an attempt to dynamite the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church of which the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. is pastor. The three were spotted by a state employee who arrived at the

Highway Department Building, across from the church, in the middle of a series of six bombings during Thursday's pre-dawn hours.

Capt. E. P. Brown, chief of Montgomery detectives, verified the report, but said the description of the auto was "general." He said he also had not been told whether the men were white or colored.

Capt. Brown said he had not talked to the man, and did not have his name.

However, it was learned, the information has been passed on to the office of Gov. James E. Folsom, who has already offered to throw state investigators into the bombing probe. The city so far has declined all offers of outside assistance.

The state employee, whose name was not revealed, has the routine duty of going to the post office about 3 a. m., and delivering mail to the various offices in the Highway Department.

According to the account given The Advertiser, the man was following this procedure Thursday after four bombs already had ex-

(See BOMBING, Page 7A)

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
AUGUST 12, 1957  
PAGE ONE

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
NOFILE: 44-633

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3UC/gcd

ENCLOSURE

100-135-61-321

## **Bombing**

(Continued From Page 1)

ploded at churches and the homes of ministers in the city when he drove up to a spot near the Decatur Street entrance to the building.

He was quoted as saying that when he stopped his vehicle, he noticed a car parked by the Dexter Avenue Church which fronts on the corner of Dexter at Decatur.

The spot where he parked is less than 30 yards from the church.

The state employe said he watched the men for a minute or so, then got out and carried a mail bag into the highway building. When he started turning on lights in the building, he said, the three men drove away.

### **CENTER OF ACTIVITY**

The Dexter Avenue church has been the center of much activity by Negroes in their bid for integration on city buses. The Rev. King, its pastor, led a bus boycott to successful conclusion when the Supreme Court ordered that buses be integrated.

Although the homes of the Rev. R. D. Abernathy, pastor of the Negro First Baptist Church, and the Rev. Robert Graetz, white pastor of the Negro Trinity Lutheran Church, were among those bombed, King's was not.

Although situated only a block from the state capitol and across from the Highway Department Building, King's church is considered vulnerable to would-be bombers from the Decatur Street side, which is relatively quiet during late night hours.

King keeps his home spotlighted at night as a precautionary measure, since his home was bombed during the early days of the boycott.

The time at which the three men were seen near the Dexter Avenue church places the reported incident a short time after the fourth bomb of the night—at the First Baptist Church—and before two others which followed.

The fifth and sixth bombing of the morning, at the Bell Street Baptist Church and Mt. Olive Baptist Church on Old Selma Road, happened about an hour after the men were reported seen leaving the area.



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.
- 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:  
100-135-61-322

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED]

b2  
7D

DATA NOT BEING FURNISHED TO

MONTGOMERY PD, UACB.

↳ Unless Advised to Contrary by Bureau

HALLFORD

END AND ACK PLS

WA 4-XX

5-58 PM OK FBI WA CS

TU SISM

cc Mr Belmont

ASAC Holtzman telephonically instructed to get specifics from informant to support above general statement + submit teletype tonight. 1-11-57

[REDACTED]

7C

7D  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] In view of  
the generalities in the first teletype,  
Mobile was instructed to give specifics,  
resulting in the second teletype.  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

We are furnishing this information  
to the Department by memorandum prepared  
over the weekend to be delivered Monday  
morning but will not insist that Mobile  
furnish it to the local authorities.

We are investigating this Klan  
organization to see if it should be cited  
under EO 10450. Reports have been sent  
to the Department. Mobile was telephonically  
instructed today to intensify the  
investigation.

*aw*  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3 clt/gcl

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

JAN 11 1957

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY sp3cljcl

TELETYPE *ef*

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nichols	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Boardman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Parsons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tamm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Holloman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

FBI MOBILE 1-11-57 8-20 PM CST VFP

DIRECTOR, FBI *URGENT*  
RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, U. S. KLANS OF AMERICA,  
KKK, IS DASH X. REMYTELCON WITH [REDACTED] BUREAU SUPERVISOR  
TONIGHT. [REDACTED]

*2  
C  
D*

[REDACTED]

*1957  
UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 10-99*

END PAGE ONE.....

Mr. Belmont

67 JAN 24 1957

*EX-125  
This is RECORDED - 40 pages  
Classified by [unclear]  
Teletype 1/13/57  
Memo sent to AG  
Tampabay 1/14/57  
100-135-61-32  
JAN 18 1957  
INT *owl**

PAGE TWO .....

[REDACTED]

b2  
7D  
7C

THEREFORE RECOMMENDATION

REITERATED THAT IT NOT BE DISSEMINATED.

HALLFORD

END AND ACK PLS

WVA 9-27 PM OK FBI WA EP

TU DIS C

CC SA BELMONT  
AND SUPERVISOR  
DOM. INTEL DIVISION

FBI  
RECEIVED  
SEP 28 1951  
FBI

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. C. A. Tolson

DATE: January 12, 1957

FROM : Mr. L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: RACIAL MATTERS  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

*RACON - 11.061E*

Tolson	
Boardman	
Belmont	
Mohr	
Parsons	
Rosen	
Tamm	
Nease	
Winterrowd	
Tele. Rm.	
Holloman	
Gandy	

Reference is made to the attached United Press dispatch date line at Montgomery, Alabama, and received over the Washington, City News Service tickler at 11:04 a. m., today. The dispatch quotes L. B. Nichols' remarks before the Alabama Press Association last evening.

The dispatch is incorrect in stating (paragraph three) that he remarked "full investigation into the Montgomery bombings, if delegated to the FBI, would be pursued with the same intensity as any other case coming under the Bureau's jurisdiction." What he did say is that the same FBI which investigates robberies, kidnappings and other serious crimes is the same FBI which investigates violations of Civil Rights within our jurisdiction.

I would like to also point out that the last paragraph of the dispatch relating to the potential of the Civil Rights problem was not said by me.

Enclosure

cc - Mr. Boardman  
cc - Mr. Rosen

*bjv*  
(4)

**7C**  
ENCLOSURE  
51

EX-125 RECORDED - 51 100-135-61-21

JAN 18 1957

*This is most unfortunate particularly in view of A. G.'s displeasure with previous announcement that D. J. had ordered FBI to investigate the Montgomery incident. If any inquiry is received re attached there is to be "no comment" & mean "no comment".*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/31/83 BY 4306/ldg

125 1057

PELS. FILE

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 \_\_\_\_\_

## Newspaper Men Come to Town; Always Welcome to Capital City

Alabama newspaper men and their ladies always seem like homefolks when they come to Montgomery, and they accordingly always receive a homely and folksy welcome. Members of the Alabama Press Association are spending three days with us this weekend and we hope they are enjoying the customary hospitality which the Capital City always extends to them.

This convention is the organization's annual affair devoted more strictly to business than are the midsummer meetings. New officers are elected and new plans outlined for the coming year's work.

The association's officials have scheduled some important items of entertainment and information themselves through the selection of some notable speakers, and the local papers are arranging special events of hospitality.

Mr. Louis B. Nichols, assistant to Director J. Edgar Hoover, of the FBI will be the speaker at the association's annual banquet Friday evening, taking as his subject "The FBI and the Press." On this occasion the association will also formally receive Judge Walter B. Jones as an honorary mem-

ber of the organization in recognition of his continued and unvarying defense of freedom of the press.

The scheduled speaker for the Friday luncheon period is Dr. Emmett Kilpatrick of the faculty of Troy Normal, a scholar and traveler of renown.

At Saturday's luncheon the speaker will be George A. Cornish, executive editor of the New York Herald Tribune, an old Demopolis Times boy who graduated from the State University and served on the Birmingham Age-Herald until he joined the Herald Tribune in New York in 1923. His brother-in-law, Ben George, is editor and publisher of the Demopolis Times and has been president of the Alabama Press Association for the past year. It was on the Demopolis Times that George Cornish received his first newspaper training.

A number of smaller meetings are being held in connection with the annual convention, but the best feature of all is the opportunity which is given to the newspaper men of the state to do some visiting and renewing the personal contacts among themselves which they regard as such an important part of their meetings.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3CLG/PL

FBI

Alabama Journal  
 Montgomery, Alabama  
 January 10, 1957

ENCLOSURE

100-135-11-351

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE January 14, 1957 BY [redacted]

FROM : L. B. NICHOLS

SUBJECT: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DATE 3/31/83 BY [redacted]

Tele. Room  
Nichols  
Boardman  
Mohr  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
Nease  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

The Director has inquired as to why I called on the U. S. Attorney and the Judge. My explanation is as follows:

U. S. Attorney Hartwell Davis was an Assistant U. S. Attorney in 1934 when I was assigned to the Birmingham Office and worked out of Montgomery.

[redacted] Of course, there was publicity in the Montgomery papers on the Alabama Press Association and my name was mentioned as being on the program; in fact, there is attached an editorial which appeared in the "Alabama Journal" of January 10 mentioning that I would speak at the banquet on Friday evening. I am also attaching the program of the Alabama Press Association, which lists the speakers.

On Thursday night, January 10, after I arrived in Montgomery, SAC Hallford and the Senior Resident Agent, [redacted] informed me that Hartwell Davis and the Federal Judge, Frank Johnson, had called to inquire when I would get in town. Both of them asked that I drop by their offices or that they be informed where they could get me as they wanted to see me. On Friday morning, January 11, I went by the Resident Agency office. Both Davis and Johnson had called on Friday morning to inquire where I was as they desired to see me. While I was in the Resident Agent's office, Hartwell Davis called and invited Hallford and me to have lunch with him at his home on Friday. I did not think this was desirable and told the Senior Resident Agent to tell Davis that I had another appointment. Davis then asked if he could come up to the Resident Agent's office to see me or if I could come by. I went by his office because I figured I could get in and get out a lot quicker than if he came up to the Resident Agent's office.

I did visit with Davis and he actually discussed the situation in Montgomery; more particularly, the case involving the cross-burning with the Judge. I told him that was a matter for the Department and him to decide. On Friday evening, as I was dressing to go to the banquet, Hartwell Davis called me on the

Enclosures  
cc-Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Rosen  
LBN:jmr  
(4)

52 FEB 1 1957

3 JAN 18 1957

Handwritten notes and stamps: "INDEXED-50 RECORDED-50 100-135-61-325", "70", "COPY FILED IN 100-135-61-325", "RECEIVED", "JAN 18 1957", "52 FEB 1 1957", "copy - [redacted] - 30-57"



Memorandum to Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols  
Re: Racial Situation, Montgomery, Alabama

phone and informed me of the call he had just had from Caldwell regarding Judge Johnson's call to Rogers. He told me that Caldwell wanted him to read the injunction to him, which he did, and Caldwell told him he did not see where there was any possible jurisdiction for the Department and that he, Caldwell, was going back and tell Rogers. Davis also told me he had discussed the case of the cross-burning on the Judge's premises with Caldwell and Caldwell stated that they would discuss that on Monday morning.

7C As to the Judge, I have known Frank Johnson since he has been U. S. Attorney. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He, too, had seen my name in the paper, had called the Resident Agency and stated that he wanted to see me while I was in town. I was informed of this when I arrived on Thursday night. On Friday morning, January 11, he called the office and stated he wanted to see both Hallford and me. I told Hallford he should go ahead and see him as it was known the Judge wanted to discuss the case of the cross-burning and I frankly did not desire to get involved in any operational matters in Birmingham. The Judge got tied up in a pre-trial conference Friday morning and Hallford did not get to see him. Hallford had an appointment to go out and see [REDACTED] at 2 o'clock but before going out to see [REDACTED] Hallford checked with the Judge's secretary and found that the Judge was still tied up. While we were at [REDACTED] the Judge's secretary called the Resident Agency and said the Judge had a few minutes before he went on the bench if Hallford was available. He was told that they could get Hallford in 10 minutes but the Judge stated Hallford should see him later in the afternoon.

N Later that afternoon, when we got back to the Resident Agency, the Judge called and asked for Hallford and I to come by, which we did. After exchanging greetings, the Judge brought up his idea of a possible contempt case by telling us he had called Bill Rogers and he outlined his conversation with Rogers and asked Rogers to take up with the Bureau the matter of making an investigation in Montgomery. This is the last thing that we, of course, should get involved in and while the Judge was telling us of this it was at this point that I injected the grand jury in an effort to divert this away from the Bureau in the event the Department should order us into such an investigation and to lay the groundwork for the Bureau to object in the event the Department was inclined to get into the investigation.

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols  
Re: Racial Situation, Montgomery, Alabama

At no time did the Judge ask Hallford or me for anything as far as the contempt case was concerned and at no time in the 15 minutes that we were with the Judge did we make any commitment whatsoever. The Judge did ask Hallford for the reports on the cross-burning case on his front yard and Hallford did state that he would check on the matter and see if he could give the Judge a summary. The Judge also told us at the very outset of our meeting that a delegation from the Birmingham papers had been in, had talked about the program, and that one of the individuals was an old friend of mine

TC  
[REDACTED]

✓ ✓ ✓  
Under normal circumstances such contacts would have been satisfactory but this was an <sup>an</sup> inflammatory situation as could be seen & such a meeting should have been tentatively avoided.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

UP5

(MONTGOMERY, ALA. -- THE FBI HAS PROMISED TO INVESTIGATE CIVIL RIGHTS CASES AS VIGOROUSLY AS THOSE INVOLVING BANK ROBBERIES AND KIDNAPINGS.

THE PLEDGE WAS MADE LAST NIGHT BY LOUIS B. NICHOLS, ASSISTANT TO FBI CHIEF J. EDGAR HOOVER, IN AN ADDRESS BEFORE THE ALABAMA PRESS ASSOCIATION.

HE SAID FULL INVESTIGATION INTO THE MONTGOMERY BOMBINGS, IF DELEGATED TO THE FBI, WOULD BE PURSUED WITH THE SAME INTENSITY AS ANY OTHER CASE COMING UNDER THE BUREAU'S JURISDICTION.

"THE FBI SEEKS TO ESTABLISH THE INNOCENT WITH THE SAME VIGOR AS THE WRONGDOER," NICHOLS STRESSED.

NICHOLS PRAISED THE "VIGILANCE OF THE PRESS, WHICH HAS MADE A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TOWARD MAKING THE PUBLIC AWARE, THROUGH EDUCATION, THAT JUSTICE UNDER LAW IS THE CORRECT SOLUTION TO PROBLEMS INVOLVING CIVIL RIGHTS."

NICHOLS SPOKE OUT AGAINST "VIGILANTES AND EMOTIONAL OUTBURSTS" IN THE PROBLEMS OF CIVIL RIGHTS.

HE SAID PROBLEMS CONCERNING CIVIL RIGHTS WERE NOT RESTRICTED TO THE SOUTH, CITING A BEACON HILL BOSTON PEONAGE CASE WITHOUT FURTHER IDENTIFICATION AND AN INSTANCE WHEN A NORTHERN POLICE COMMISSIONER, NOW RETIRED, BARRED FBI AGENTS FROM POLICE FILES.

"POTENTIALLY, THE CIVIL RIGHTS PROBLEM IS GREATER IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY THAN IN THE SOUTH," NICHOLS SAID.

1/12--CB1104A

INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3dc/gcl

434

ENCLOSURE 100-135-61-325

copy - auto 1-30-57

WASHINGTON CITY NEWS SERVICE

Official Program



86th Annual Convention  
Alabama Press Association



WHITLEY HOTEL  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

January 10, 11, 12, 1957

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/31/83 BY SP3 de/gcl

(copy - auto  
.. 70-57)

ENCLOSURE 100-135-61-325

OFFICERS OF THE  
**ALABAMA PRESS ASSOCIATION**  
1956

BEN G. GEORGE, Demopolis Times..... President  
GEORGE M. COX, Mobile Press Register..... First Vice-President  
C. G. THOMASON, Industrial Press, Ensley..... Second Vice-President

**Board of Directors**

GEORGE WATSON, East End News, Birmingham, Chairman  
WILLIAM STEWART, Monroe Journal, Monroeville..... Cong. Dist. 1  
GLENN STANLEY, Greenville Advocate..... Cong. Dist. 2  
NEIL O. DAVIS, Lee County Bulletin, Auburn..... Cong. Dist. 3  
COL. HARRY M. AYERS, Anniston Star..... Cong. Dist. 4  
FRED EILAND, Cleburne News, Heflin..... Cong. Dist. 5  
BUFORD BOONE, Tuscaloosa News..... Cong. Dist. 6  
JACK M. PRATT, Pickens County Herald, Carrollton..... Cong. Dist. 7  
HAROLD MAY, Florence Herald..... Cong. Dist. 8  
JAMES E. MILLS, Birmingham Post-Herald..... Cong. Dist. 9

**Advisory Committee: All Past Presidents**

JONES W. GILES, Secretary-Treasurer and Field Manager

**ALABAMA PRESS ASSOCIATION—FOUNDED 1871**

A non-profit Cooperative Service Association  
of Alabama Newspapers

OFFICERS OF THE  
**ALABAMA NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING SERVICE, INC.**  
1956

WILLIAM STEWART, Monroe Journal,  
Monroeville..... President and Director  
J. C. HENDERSON, Alexander City  
Outlook..... Vice-President and Director  
PORTER HARVEY, Advertiser-Gleam,  
Guntersville..... Secretary and Director  
JAY THORNTON, Haleyville Advertiser..... Treasurer and Director  
JONES GILES, Tuscaloosa..... Manager

OFFICE: 109 Manley Hall, University of Alabama  
P. O. Box 2008, University, Alabama  
Phone—PLaza 2-4710, Tuscaloosa

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1957**

4 P.M. to 6 P.M.

REGISTRATION, STATE ROOM LOBBY

7:15 P.M.

DINNER FOR PAST-PRESIDENT OF APA  
Guests of Montgomery Advertiser-Journal  
The Lounge

followed by

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

8 P.M.

HOSPITALITY HOUR

Civic Room

Courtesy Associate Members of APA



**FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1957**

Whitley Hotel

9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Registration  
State Room

OPENING SESSION

10 A.M.

Welcome to Delegates from APA President Ben George  
Blue-Grey Room

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1957**

**Whitley Hotel**

**BLUE-GREY ROOM**

**10 A.M.-12 Noon. COMMUNITY PROMOTION—Presiding, George Cox, Mobile Press-Register, First Vice-President Alabama Press Association.**

**Panel Members:**

**Mr. Jay Thornton—The Haleyville Advertiser  
Mr. Bob Morrissette—The Baldwin Times, Bay Minette  
Mrs. Libba George—The Demopolis Times  
Mr. Fred Eiland—The Cleburne News, Heflin**

**Open Discussion—You are invited to ask questions and offer ideas and suggestions on the subject.**

**12:30 P.M.—LUNCHEON—State Room**

**APA President Ben George, Demopolis Times, presiding.**

**Introduction of guests.**

**Introduction of speaker by Glenn Jones, The Troy Messenger.**

**ADDRESS by Dr. Emmett Kilpatrick, Head of the Department of English and Foreign Languages, Troy State Teachers College.**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1957**

**Whitley Hotel**

**STATE ROOM**

**2:30 P.M. to 4 P.M. Newspaper Session: LOOKING AT OURSELVES—Presiding C. G. Thomason, Publisher,**

**Industrial Press, Ensley, APA Vice-President.**

**For this session please have at least one issue of your paper with you. Please sit at the table indicated for you. If you do not have a copy of your paper please see a staff member.**

**"11,000 Crying Needs for Better Newspapers"—Prof. C. E. Bounds, Head of the Department of Journalism, University of Alabama.**

**BLUE-GREY ROOM**

**6 P.M. RECEPTION—APA delegates guests of the Montgomery Advertiser-Journal.**

**BLUE-GREY ROOM**

**7:15 P.M. ANNUAL BANQUET—President Ben George presiding.**

**Introduction of guests.**

**Presentation of APA Honorary Membership to Judge Walter B. Jones.**

**Introduction of speaker by George Cox, Mobile Press-Register.**

**ADDRESS: "The FBI and the Press" by Mr. Louis B. Nichols, Assistant to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice.**

**BLUE-GREY ROOM**

**DANCE to 1 A.M. to the music of the TROY WAVEMEN. Refreshments courtesy APA Associate Members.**

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED**