

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- E F T O
- CLEAR

Date 6/7/78

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-117290)
 FROM: SAC, SEATTLE (66-2940)(RUC)
 SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
 ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

Re Bureau teletype to Albany, dated June 5, 1978.

Seattle Division was not one of those designated as receiving a copy of BUlet to Albany, et al, August 25, 1967, captioned, "Counterintelligence Program, Black Nationalists - Hate Groups, Internal Security".

A review of Seattle file containing a copy of "BUairtel to Albany, et al, March 4, 1968, captioned "Counterintelligence Program, Black Nationalists - Hate Groups, Racial Intelligence", contain no reports, letterhead memoranda, airtels, letters, or teletypes concerning Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., or the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, up^{to} and including December 31, 1968.

In view of the above, no further investigation is being conducted.

2 - Bureau (62-117290)
 1 - Seattle (66-2940)
 TASH:ecf
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 Searched _____

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FM DIRECTOR FBI (62-117290)

TO FBI ALBANY PRIORITY

FBI KANSAS CITY PRIORITY

FBI SEATTLE PRIORITY

FBI ST. LOUIS PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

BUREAU DEADLINE OCTOBER 31, 1978.

FOR INFORMATION OF RECEIVING OFFICES, GEORGE BEN EDMONDSON ALSO KNOWN AS ALEX BORMANN, WHITE MALE, BORN AUGUST 3, 1937, WAS OPERATED AS AN INFORMANT FOR THE KANSAS CITY DIVISION DURING 1958-1959 AND WAS REOPENED FOR A BRIEF PERIOD IN 1968, (BUREAU FILE 137-7733). EDMONDSON WAS ALSO A BUREAU TOP-TEN-FUGITIVE FROM JUNE 20, 1966, TO JUNE 28, 1967, WHEN HE WAS APPREHENDED IN QUEBEC CANADA (RETURNED TO UNITED STATES THROUGH ALBANY DIVISION). WHILE IN PRISON AT THE MISSOURI STATE

*Bart
advise Whitson,
he will call
ANS of 10/25/78*

*Per [unclear]
WY*

66-2940-10
OCT 28 1978
FBI - SEATTLE
Whitson

PAGE TWO DE HQ 0110 UNCLAS E F T O

PENITENTIARY, HE FURNISHED INFORMATION REGARDING VARIOUS MEANS THAT ONE COULD UTILIZE IN GAINING ENTRY INTO CANADA, PROCURING PASSPORTS, AND METHODS OF GOING BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA WHEN IN A FUGITIVE STATUS.

IN CONNECTION WITH ITS INVESTIGATION INTO THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., THE HSCA HAS BEEN INTERESTED IN THE ACTIVITIES OF EDMONDSON, WHO WAS A FELLOW INMATE OF JAMES EARL RAY PRIOR TO RAY'S ESCAPE IN 1967. THE HSCA RECENTLY LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED EDMONDSON AT ROUTE 2, WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON. EDMONDSON FURNISHED THE COMMITTEE A SIGNED WAIVER AUTHORIZING HSCA ACCESS TO ALL MATERIAL UNDER CONTROL OF THE FBI CONCERNING HIM, INCLUDING INFORMANT OR CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE FILES.

CURRENTLY, BUREAU POLICY INVOLVING A SIGNED HSCA WAIVER OF THIS TYPE IS TO OBTAIN OUR OWN WAIVER IN ORDER TO PROTECT AGAINST CIVIL SUITS. SEATTLE SHOULD PROMPTLY INTERVIEW EDMONDSON (NOW USING THE NAME ALEX BORMANN), INFORM HIM OF RECEIPT OF THE HSCA WAIVER AND OBTAIN ANOTHER SIGNED WAIVER. THIS WAIVER SHOULD BE WORDED TO AUTHORIZE THE FBI TO RELEASE ALL INFORMATION IN ITS POSSESSION CONCERNING HIM INCLUDING THOSE RECORDS PERTAINING TO HIS CONFIDENTIAL RELATIONSHIP. THIS

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Date 10/27/78

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FM SEATTLE (66-2940) (P)
 TO DIRECTOR FBI (62-117290) ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA).

RE BUREAU TELETYPE, OCTOBER 23, 1978.

GEORGE BEN EDMONDSON INTERVIEWED IN WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 27, 1978, AND WAIVER OBTAINED. PREVIOUS SEATTLE FILES RE EDMONDSON 88-5458, DESTROYED OCTOBER, 1973, AS A RESULT OF DESTRUCTION PROJECT; AND 137-1589 DESTROYED FEBRUARY, 1978, ON DESTRUCTION PROJECT PER BUREAU INSTRUCTIONS JANUARY 17, 1978. AIRTEL WITH ORIGINAL WAIVER AND FD-302 FOLLOW.

BT

RAI:del

del
PKM/PC

66-2940-11

Approved: _____

Transmitted 2327z (Number) (Time)

Per TFC

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/31/78

GEORGE BEN EDMONDSON was contacted at his home, Route 2, Box 179, Walla Walla, Washington (509-525-2126), where he is living under the assumed name of ALEX P. BORMANN and employed by the Boise Cascade Company.

EDMONDSON was advised of the Bureau policy requiring its own Waiver for the release of information and that such a Waiver would authorize the Bureau to release all information concerning him, even that which had previously been considered confidential. EDMONDSON acknowledged that he understood the Bureau policy and specifically stated that it was his understanding that his 1959 confidential FBI file would be released to the House Select Committee on Assassinations, if so requested.

EDMONDSON also expressed concern that the House Select Committee on Assassinations would not be able to maintain proper control of the information in his file, pointing out that investigators for the Committee, to whom he has spoken, appear to be a little young and lacking in experience. EDMONDSON stated, however, that he would continue cooperate with the Committee, and executed the following Waiver authorizing release of information:

"AUTHORITY TO RELEASE INFORMATION

"I hereby authorize any Special Agent or other authorized representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation bearing this release, to furnish to the House Select Committee on Assassinations all information in its possession concerning me, including those records pertaining to my confidential relationship with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I realize that by authorizing this release I will disclose to the House Select Committee on Assassinations any confidential relationship I may have had with the FBI.

"/s/ George Ben Edmondson
"27 Oct 78

/s/ Witness: Robert A. Ibbotson
Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation"

Interviewed on 10/27/78 at Walla Walla, Washington File # SE 66-2940-10

by SA ROBERT A. IBBOTSON /ccf Date dictated 10/30/78

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Date 10/31/78

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-117290)

FROM: SAC, SEATTLE (66-2940)(RUC) - 6

SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA) 11/1/78
BUDED: 10/31/78

Re Bureau teletype, 10/23/78, and Seattle teletype, 10/27/78.

Enclosed for the Bureau are two (2) copies of an FD-302 concerning interview with GEORGE EDMONDSON and the original of a Waiver authorizing the release of information, signed by EDMONDSON.

- 2 - Bureau (62-117290)(Encl. 3)
 - 1 - Seattle (66-2940)
- RAI:ecf
(3)

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Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ (Number) _____ (Time) Per _____

DIRECTOR (62-117290)

11/17/78

SAC, SEATTLE (62-2940)

RUC

File Destruction Program

HOUST. SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

Enclosed are 1 items.
These items are forwarded your office since:

- All logical investigation completed in this Division
- You were OO at the time our case was RUC'd.

Enclosures are described as follows:

Original 302 re GEORGE BEN EDMONDSON, 10/27/78 at Walla Walla, Washington.

62-2940-14
 [Stamp: SEARCHED] [Stamp: SERIALIZED] [Stamp: FILED] [Stamp: NOV 20 1978] [Stamp: FBI - SEATTLE]
 [Handwritten: Per]

Enc. 1

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NOTE: DO NOT BLOCK STAMP ORIGINAL ENCLOSURES.

62-2940-14