

WILLIAM I. SIROVICH, N. Y., CHAIRMAN  
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 BRASWELL D. DEEN, GA.  
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 CHARLES KRAMER, CALIF.  
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 ABRAHAM A. BARDEN, N. C.  
 JOHN L. MCCLELLAN, ARK.  
 FRANK W. BOYKIN, ALA.  
 WM. B. ...

RANDOLPH PERKINS, N. J.  
 CLARENCE J. MCLEOD, MICH.  
 FRED A. HARTLEY, JR., N. J.  
 L. C. ARENDS, ILL.  
 RALPH E. CHURCH, ILL.  
 CHARLES F. RISK, R. I.

House of Representatives U. S.  
 Committee on Patents  
 Washington, D. C.

R. T. BUCKLER, MINN.  
 THOS. R. AMLIE, WIS.

EDWIN FAIRFAX MAULTY, CLERK

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Joseph	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

June 2, 1936

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
 Chief, Division of Investigation,  
 Department of Justice,  
 Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

A few days ago I was interviewed by  
 Mr. <sup>\*</sup>Betram Hopper whose letter I am inclosing to you.  
 He has advised me that he has in his possession  
 secret information regarding the work of the Black Legion  
 and other alien forces that are at the present time at  
 work against President Franklin D. Roosevelt. I  
 thought you would be rendering a commendable service  
 if you would request one of your representatives  
 in the City of New York to send for Mr. Hopper and see  
 what information he has to give to you that might be  
 utilized by your Department.

With every good and kind wish to you,  
 I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours,

*William I. Sirovich*  
 William I. Sirovich

*Check me 7 1/2  
 Ask 6-17-36  
 904*

RECORDED  
 &  
 INDEXED

61-7398-98  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 JUN 22 1936 11 A. M.  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 Tamm  
 TW

JUN 26 1936

*HW*

112 West 61st Street,  
New York City, N. Y.,  
May 31, 1936.

Hon. William I. Sirovich,  
14 C.D. New York, N.Y.

My Dear Congressman:-

No doubt you will recall me. I am Betram Hopper, the man who had the courage to fight the Republican Organization in the 14 C.D. New York, in 1926. I was a candidate in the Republican Primaries against the Hon. Nathan D. Perlman. I was defeated at the primary election.

On the plea of Mr. Charles Dewey Hillies, I withdrew my independent petitions for Congress in the 14 C.D. New York. I have in my possession, communications from the Hon. Ruth Pratt, Hon. Richard Lawrence, Charles Dewey Hillies and other outstanding Republicans of that day. All, if you please, telling me what a noble thing I did in withdrawing my petitions in the interest of Party harmony. However, notwithstanding these complimentary messages, after your election in 1926, I was read out of the Republican Party in New York County. I still have many friends within the ranks of the G.O.P.

I supported Franklin D. Roosevelt when he was elected President of the United States. I am an enrolled Democrat residing at 112 West 61st Street, New York City, in the 17 C.D. of New York. I do not belong to any political club. I am not interest in politics locally. But I am interested in good Government. I am especially desirous of protecting the good name of my President, the Hon. Franklin DeLano Roosevelt, against the snipers. While I am not in accord with everything the Administration is doing, nevertheless, when I know of wrong doings, I believe it my duty to first, report these overacts to the proper Authorities. If action is not taken within a reasonable period of time, then my only alternative would be to look to the press for justice.

On May 22nd, last past, I reported certain matters pertaining to Suffolk County to the Hon. Almon G. Rasquin, Collector of Internal Revenue of the 1st District of New York. I also reported this matter to the Hon. Leo Hickey, Federal District Attorney

617398-48

of the Eastern District of New York. Mr. Hickey turned me over to his first Assistant, Mr. O'Dougherty. I spent the entire day in the Brooklyn Federal Building. Finally, D.A. O'Dougherty, suggested that I report my matter to the F.I.B. at their New York Office, located at Room 607, in the new Federal Building, New York. This I have done. I reported on May 22nd, to Mr. Walter Murphy, Special Agent, in charge of the F.I.B. Mr. Murphy referred me to the WPA Bureau, at 641 Washington Street. I proceeded to 641 Washington Street, at about 4:30 P.M. on the day of May 22nd, 1936, and interviewed on the second floor of this building, Mr. C.D. Crockett, a Special Attache, of the WPA. Mr. Crockett, listened attentively to my story and said I would hear from him again on the 25th of May. I did not hear from Mr. Crockett on the 25th of May, so I again called upon Mr. Crockett on May 25th, around 11 o'clock P.M. Mr. Crockett then stated, he did not have jurisdiction in my matter, and turned me over to a Mr. Hosea, who, in turn made an appointment for me, with Mr. Thomas Cullen, Chief Investigator, of New York State, of all WPA Projects. I visited Mr. Cullen's Office at 265 West 14th Street, New York, N.Y. on the 25th inst., around 12 noon. I was greeted very friendly by Mr. Cullen, who turned me over to an assistant by the name of Smith. Mr. Smith, listened to what I had to say. He promised to get in touch with me on Wednesday, May 27, 1936, but he did not do so. So, about 2 P.M. on the day of May 27th, I called Mr. Smith, at Watkins 98181 and Smith told me that he could not do anything on my matter, as yet, because Mr. Cullen, the Chief of his Bureau, was in Albany, on business. However, he said I would hear from him without fail on Monday, June 1st.

My record with the Federal Government is one that I am proud of. I investigated the Raich-Ash S.D.A. Permit during 1923 or 1924. I presume the report of this investigation is still on file in the old files of the Pro. T. A. & C. Bureau, at Washington, D. C. Dr. James Duran, former Prohibition Commissioner, well knows the type of Reports that Hopper rendered in connection with his duties. Former Attorney (Assistant) General, William Donovan, knows about Bertram Hopper and why the Bosses tried to take my position from me. I resigned from the Prohibition Unit in utter disgust sometime during the early or latter part of 1927.

I have performed various phases of investigative work for many years. I am versatile and understand machinery, construction work, farming, also the Civic Structure of my Government. I am handy as a Rigger and I can also sail a boat. I am generally useful from a Porter to an Executive. I am a World War Veteran and an Organizer and Charter Member of the Greenwich Village Post No. 18 of the American Legion of New York County. I also was selected as a Delegate to the First Legion Convention held at the

Pennsylvania Hotel sometime during 1920 or 1921. I was elected as an alternate to the Republican State Convention in 1921. I was formerly President of the Marriweather Radio Corporation of Center Moriches, New York, County of Suffolk. I was a Charter Member of the Moriches Chamber of Commerce. I am a 32nd degree Mason, also a former member of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Past Vice-Commander and Executive Member of Greenwich Village Post No. 18 of the American Legion. I had charge of the outdoor meetings during the Harding Campaign of 1920 from the Battery to 14th Street, New York City. Associated with me, was Mr. Shamus O'Shield, a sympathizer with the Irish cause for freedom. My record of public achievements speak for themselves.

I do not seek a temporary appointment with Mr. Edgar Hoover's forces of the F.I.B. But Mr. O'Doughtery, Assistant D.A. of the Eastern District, suggested that I offer my services to my Country for a temporary period of ninety days. I agreed I would be willing to accept such an appointment, provided, I new an honest effort would be made to clean up the rotten conditions existing today in Suffolk County, New York.

In 1924, I was squeezed out of business in Center Moriches, by sinister forces, which I believe are again operating in this Country. I consider my first service and duty as to my President and my Country. I love my Country and I am willing to die for it. I have but one flag, and it waves for Freedom, Free Religious Belief, and the protection of every race, regardless the color or creed. My lineage goes back to the days of Bowling Green. My forebears were early Dutch Settlers. The Hopper Strider Mott lineage is available at the New York Public Library, 42nd Street, Fifth Avenue, New York. I am an individual thinker. No one carries me in their vest pocket. My patriotism is not for sale. May I submit the following references as to my character, integrity and general reliability:

- Monsignor Robert Keegan of Catholic Charities
- Colonel Francis R. Stoddard former State Supt. of Insurance, N.Y. 52 Bwy.
- Hon. Thomas F. McAndrews, Dearborn Apartments, West 55th St., N.Y.C.
- Father Ryan, Blessed Sacrament Church, West 71st St., New York.
- Father Delaney, St. Vernon's Church, West 14th St., New York.
- Father Donlan, St. Paul's Church, Congress and Court St., Bklyn., N.Y.
- Major Henry Curran, now a City Magistrate of New York.
- Hon. William Pelett, 5005 Fifth Avenue, New York.
- Edward Carpel, 285 Madison Ave., New York

Mr. Dave Edwards, President of the East End Democratic  
Club, Center Moriches, N.Y.  
Mr. Andrew Havens, Town Clerk, Center Moriches, New York  
Mr. Frank Baldwin Member of the District 32 School Board  
of Center Moriches, N.Y.  
Mr. Peter Drivas, Proprietor of Center Moriches Candy Kitchen,  
Center Moriches, N.Y.  
Mr. Lucas, Secretary, Suffolk County Trust Co., Riverhead,  
New York.  
Mr. Charles DeLeon, Southampton Lumber Corp., East  
Moriches, N.Y.  
Mr. William Byrnes, Taphank, Long Island  
Mr. Jack Snythe, Southampton, L.I.  
Mr. John Collins, Gas & Oil Dealer, of Easthampton, L.I.  
Mr. Anton Diebold of Wading River, L.I.  
Mr. Nute Swanack, East Quogue, L.I.  
Seeger Refrigerator Company, 25th St. 4th Avenue, New York City  
New York and Queens Electric Light Company, Bridge Plaza,  
Long Island City, New York  
Center Moriches Garage, Center Moriches, L.I.  
The Hon. Jacob H. Miller, Justice of the Peace, East Moriches,  
L.I.  
Hon. Joseph Kelley, Justice of the Peace, Riverhead, L.I.  
Theodore Sherry, South Jamesport, L.I.  
Mr. James Albion Mattituck, L.I.  
Capt. Brooks, Greenport, L.I.  
Mr. George Meyer, West Sayville, L.I.

I presume I have given a sufficient number of references. As  
far, as I know, most of the people given, are responsible and worthwhile  
citizens. All I ask of them, is, to tell the truth about me as they found  
me. Nothing more or nothing less. I have not interviewed any of the  
above mentioned references in advance of this communication. Neither  
do I intend to interview anyone concerning my record. If it is the  
honest desire of the present administration to clean up the nasty mess,  
I am willing to help in any capacity, where my services may prove of value  
to the interested parties. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

/s/  
Bertram Hoppe

RECORDED

June 20, 1936

61-7398-99

Mr. Paul R. Surlaw,  
Secretary,  
Harvester Local #57,  
United Automobile Workers of America,  
Box 187,  
New Haven, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 15, 1936, addressed to the Attorney General and referred to this Bureau, in which you request that an appropriate investigation be conducted in regard to the criminal activities on the part of the Black Legion.

For your information the jurisdiction of this Bureau is restricted by legislative enactment to investigating violations of specific Federal laws. In view of the absence of any indication that the activities of the Black Legion are in violation of any such Federal law, this Bureau is without authority to conduct any investigation in the premises. The activities of this organization appear to be purely local in nature and, therefore, solely within the jurisdiction of the appropriate local law enforcement officials.

Your courtesy in bringing this matter to my attention is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
JUN 22 1936  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
INDIANAPOLIS

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

United Automobile Workers of America

C. R. SHROCK, President  
P. R. BURLEW, Secretary  
New Haven, Indiana

G. SCHOOLEY  
Secretary-Treasurer  
New Haven, Indiana

~~FEDERAL LABOR UNION NO. 18776~~

Fort Wayne, Indiana

June 15, 1936

Mr. Homer Cummings,  
Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
Washington D.C.

38759



Dear Sir:-

The members of Local 57 of  
the United Automobile Workers of America  
respectfully request that the Department of  
Justice enter into the investigation of the  
Black Legion.

From all the information we have received  
relative to this organization we believe it  
to be a menace to our present form of  
government and would like to see it  
stamped out completely.

Respectfully yours

Paul R. Burlew Sec

Harvester Local # 57 of the  
United Automobile Workers of A.

Box 151, New Haven  
Incl

61-7398-  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUN 23 1936

RECORDED & INDEXED  
JUN 25 1936

TWO

6/20/36

JEH:JDD

June 24, 1936.

Time - 3:55 P.M.

38758

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

RE: Black Legion

35

Colonel Gates telephoned and stated that he had received an inquiry as to whether a Black Legion letter had been sent to Judge Hunsinker of Akron. I stated that I knew nothing about this. Colonel Gates stated that he had referred the request to the Post Office Department.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. E.A. Tamm .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Joseph .....
- Mr. Keith .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

RECORDED & INDEXED

EK

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
JUN 25 1936  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

61-2398-100  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUN 25 1936 P. M.  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

331

EFE:VTL  
62-7398-101

June 30, 1936.

38757

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Ohio

Dear Madam:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 18, 1936, furnishing information relative to certain suspicious activities on the part of your husband, who you indicate may be connected in some official capacity with the Black Legion, and requesting that appropriate action be taken by this Bureau relative to this organization.

For your information the jurisdiction of this Bureau is restricted to investigating violations of specific Federal laws. In view of the absence of any indication that the activities of the Black Legion are in violation of any such Federal law, this Bureau is without authority to conduct any investigation in the premises. The matter appears to be one solely for the consideration of the appropriate law enforcement officials in the State of Ohio.

However, your courtesy in referring this matter to me for my attention is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Ladd .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Rosen .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 cc-Cleveland  
 JUL - 1 1936  
 P. M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

Ark. 10-16  
see enclosed  
etc.

RECORDED & INDEXED

61-7398-101

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUN 25 1936

J. Edgar Hoover  
Dept. of Justice

Sir,  
JUL 2 1936

was here a few weeks ago  
I believe I have found out  
what "it" all means  
my husband brought me  
newspapers of the accounts  
of the Black Legion doings  
and as I read it I un-  
derstand many of the things  
he has told me in the past  
year. I ask him to let me  
join the B.L. too, and he  
said he would rather see me  
dead. He said man who  
had gotten in innocently would  
give all they possessed to be  
out. That fit was all sir.

MMW

JAN 11 1936  
TWO

and they and at the rate  
they had driven him for  
a few weeks he would  
not stand up to it much  
longer. That they were pledged  
to stop at nothing even death  
before reading newspapers account  
understand why he joined  
the National People's Association  
and why he tried to get into  
other organizations.

I know there is an awful  
force driving him.  
I begged of him to do as  
Dutch had done, tell all  
he knows, but he says they  
are fools as they will all get  
the electric chair or life.  
He can't see leaders of these  
things the organizations he stopped  
at one time of was an  
officer in the Ku Klux Klan

...  
I believe from what he tells  
me that he sees unlawful  
deeds done night after  
night, and is forced to take  
part in them for fear of his  
life. He once told me of  
being in a car (in another  
City) with three other men  
and said the driver tried  
to get a certain man at  
a street crossing but didn't  
quite complete the  
"accident".

I know from the appearance  
of his shoes and clothes  
that he spends much  
time in the woods <sup>at night</sup> and  
I believe that is where they  
meet for orders. He says

and will drive all through  
one end of town - several  
times and then leave by  
the opposite direction.

(He suspects every roomer  
in the house to be  
G-men.) He says he does

enjoy seeing some of these  
"Big Sam's" back down and  
I show how "yellow" they

are. Says he is going to  
find a new room again

soon as people in present room-  
ing house are getting to in-  
gultative. A week ago he told

me to tell a "brother" of mine  
to watch his step that he had  
sawed him once.

My brother has charge of U.S. P.A.  
gang and on inquiry I find  
his boss found it necessary

to discharge silver at sup.  
It appears that is what the  
meant. I am afraid of your  
plan. My brother and his  
are going to get permission from  
the Police chief to carry a  
revolver.

I believe these men are pledged  
forced to do everything, even  
murder, and from what I've  
learned they are only a bunch  
of hooded gangsters.

He told me a week ago that  
he now has men under his  
command and some <sup>of</sup> them  
were always ready to look  
after his interest, that they  
stop at nothing if necessary.  
Mr. Hoover, should such an  
organization exist and be al-  
lowed to go on doing their unlaw-  
ful work? And who must we

14  
said he was a man who "enforced" the law  
belong.

June 21, '36.

Saw him tonight, said he  
left town last evening, drove  
many miles to a distant

City and met other members  
and performed a "duty".

I seemed very nervous <sup>told me</sup> <sup>to turn</sup> <sup>on Police</sup>

Said he had slept 2 hrs <sup>new's</sup> <sup>on</sup> <sup>Radio</sup>  
in his car today on his trip

back. Got back to Warren

this evening. Again he brought

me papers of accounts of

the B.I. Told me that the

reported membership was

"not a drop in the bucket"

to the actual number.

I saw him write out orders

to "Angelo" and leave them

down town. I don't know

15  
The [unclear] is

He said he would be [unclear]  
fired to Youngstown, [unclear]  
to take the [unclear] of that end  
but would still work at the  
Republic, and drive back and  
forth to work.

Several of his trips were fol-  
lowed by a time, much could  
be learned about this terrible  
B. I. I think they know he has  
been watched there is why  
they are moving him.

I hope you will forgive me for  
taking so much of your  
valuable time, but in  
God's name help rid the  
Country of these terrible  
Hooded Hangers.

Mad [unclear]  
[unclear] B

P.O. Box 4766  
Cincinnati, Ohio

June 24, 1936

REH:SD

Post Office Inspector in Charge,  
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter under date of June 23, 1936, transmitting an envelope postmarked at Akron, Ohio, June 20, 1936, addressed to Judge Hunsicker, Domestic Relations Court, Akron, Ohio, together with the enclosure, which consists of words cut from a newspaper and pasted on brown paper reading as follows:

Judge Oscar A. Hunsicker. This is to notify you that during the last two months we have every cause to feel aggrieved and outraged. According to our records we find you have neglect your duty as Judge in the case of Boyes vs. Boyes. We demand new trial to be held June 24 at 4:30. 10 lives are threatened over failure in law. Let us see the other side of the case. Who witnessed the truth. Was there fraud. Check the records- duties of attorneys and witness. We are forced to the law. Every American citizen duty to a fair trial. Final notice. The victim. Wife. Mrs. L. Boyes. No alibi. Silent. June 25. Black Legion".

A review of this letter indicates that it does not fall within the provisions of the extortion statute coming under the jurisdiction of this Bureau, and the letter and envelope are consequently being returned to you herewith.

I am also returning herewith the note from Judge Hunsicker to the Postmaster at Akron, Ohio, which was transmitted with your letter.

Very truly yours,

61-7398-102

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUN 26 1936

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

ONE TWO FILE

JUN 29 1936

RECORDED & INDEXED

cc Cleveland  
cc Bureau

RECEIVED  
JUN 29 1936  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Special Agent in Charge

(Extortion Letter)

dear sir  
we the black legion have succeeded in organizing here with  
a good faithful membership it is the intention of the  
membership to use a razor blade on the throats of any official  
making trouble in any form against anybody for nonpayment  
of taxes of any kind, personal, land, auto, sales, etc. by suit,  
arrest, or devertising their land etc for sale, for taxes,  
now forget it all, cancel all interests on taxes so people  
can pay back taxes,,

Yes, we are the  
cranks, bolshevics, and murderers,  
we have our both eyes on you

REC'D  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
MAY 12 1934

Post Office Box 4907  
Jacksonville, Florida  
July 1, 1936

Mr. L. C. Jones  
Post Office Inspector  
Jacksonville, Florida

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of June 23, 1936, with which you transmitted a communication addressed to Tax Collector, Clyde Simpson, Jacksonville, Florida, and mailed at Jacksonville June 12, 1936.

This has been discussed with the office of the United States Attorney at Jacksonville and the opinion has been given that the mailing of the letter does not constitute a violation of the extortion statutes which could be successfully prosecuted. Accordingly, no investigation will be undertaken by this office.

Very truly yours,

R. B. Nathan  
Special Agent in Charge.

RM:G

Col. Bares (Enclosure) ✓  
SIA, Jacksonville. (Enclosure)

*Leach*

61-7398-	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUL 16 1936 A. M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
<i>W. C. W.</i>	FILE

EFE:RD

61-7398-96

4

61-7398

July 3, 1936

Dr. E. C. Harants,  
65 South Street,  
Stamford, Connecticut.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of June 15, 1936 addressed to the Honorable Augustus Handberg, United States Senate, Washington, D. C., which letter has been referred to this Bureau for appropriate attention. It is noted you make inquiry as to whether an investigation is presently pending in regard to the activities of the "so called Black Legion".

Please be advised that the jurisdiction of this Bureau is restricted to investigating violations of specific Federal Laws, and collecting evidence in cases in which the United States is or may be a party in interest. The facts contained in your communication, as well as in the enclosed circular have been carefully noted, but inasmuch as the activities of the "Black Legion" do not appear to be in violation of any such Federal Law, I regret that this Bureau is without authority to conduct any investigation in the premises.

Your courtesy in this matter, however, is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

- Nathan
- Tolson
- Baughman
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Carson
- Egan
- Gurnea
- Hendon
- Pennington
- Quinn
- Nease
- Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAIL ROOM  
 John Edgar Hoover,  
 Director.  
 JUL - 3 1936  
 P. M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

61-7398-103  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 JUL 6 1936 P. M.  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

cc-New York City

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

1.8 per Ida  
July 2, 1933

J. Edgar Hoover  
(Washington DC)

Dear Sir, In reply to a form  
letter to me you said there had been  
"no crime done" all right. Now  
there has been "no crime done" On Chris-  
mas eve 1930 this band of out laws I'm con-  
vally harassed by. Tied my son Edu-  
ard Sims (now 29) <sup>all night</sup> and tortured him till noon  
Christmas day. Gates worked it so I see  
him with ice 20 minutes after he was like  
(wound of bandages etc.) Some years ago, I  
think before the world war - a band  
was robbed at Hazelton, little town  
west of us (tho it was hushed & shushed)

RECORDED  
INDEXED

61-7398-  
JUL 18 1933

JUL 20 1933

ENCL W

as I can remember they were  
Nelson, E. (or Ola) Olsen, Harry  
(one present Post Master) and  
two other brothers in law.

U. F. Beymer and E. E. Olson is his partner in the sheep business. The two men own several stills. During the bootleg days they made young married people run those stills so if any body was caught Olson Turner would not have to take the "rap" well now I believe those stills are running probably in the same building the whiskey store - Federal liquor store - is operated and sold right out of the Federal liquor store R. B. Turner is a brother of Governor Tim Governor of Iowa just a few years ago now I have no doubt this band - who I want to call them - there treated the young people - both boys & girls same as they did my son. Just like there was gasoline poured in the irrigation ditch leading to my land ending to kill the grapes. The

38756

INDEXED  
SERIALIZED  
FBI - IOWA  
MAY 24 1975

RECEIVED  
MAY 25 1975

**To Give Lecture**

Rev. E. B. Turner of Honolulu, brother of Mayor R. B. Turner and Mrs. A. F. Beymer, who is spending several months in the United States, and who will arrive here this week from an eastern trip, will deliver a lecture "The Paradise of the Pacific," Sunday evening at the Methodist church at 8 o'clock, it was announced Wednesday by Rev. George G. Roseberry.

Rev. Turner will illustrate his lecture with special moving pictures taken on the Islands. He will show some of the scenic places in and around Honolulu and will describe life on the islands. The public will be welcomed.

RBH:CDW

August 27, 1936

61-7998 -105

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

It is desired that an appropriate check be made through the War Department to determine whether there is in existence any record relative to the loss or theft of .45 Calibre Colt Automatic Pistol bearing serial number 251440. This weapon is of the 1911 model.

The Bureau should be advised direct the results of your inquiry.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

AUG 27 1936

DIRECTOR  
JAMES A. GOSSETT



Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
1448 Standard Building,  
Cleveland, Ohio

July 31, 1936

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D.C.

Re: BLACK LEGION NIGHT RIDERS  
BULLET CLUB  
Miscellaneous - Confidential

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above captioned matter, please refer to the report of Special Agent C.E. Smith of this office, dated May 24, 1935, and to the letter of this office dated June 1, 1935, forwarding to the Bureau a .45 Colt Automatic Pistol on which the identifying numbers were obliterated, which numbers were subsequently developed and restored in the Bureau Laboratory, as covered by Laboratory Report #61-7898-5, and be advised that Mr. George T. Scheid of Lima, Ohio, on behalf of Mr. [redacted] from whom the said pistol was secured, has directed two communications to this office requesting a return of the said pistol to Mr. [redacted]

In the Bureau Laboratory the serial number on this pistol was found to be 251440 and the inscription indicating that the said pistol was the property of the United States was developed thereon, to wit, the inscription reading "United States Property".

This office has advised Mr. Scheid that a communication is being directed to Mr. [redacted] with whom any future correspondence in connection with the said pistol will be had. Mr. Scheid in his letter indicates that he does not want to have to take the matter of the return of this pistol up with the authorities at Washington and suggests that the same be returned to Mr. [redacted] forthwith.

This office has directed a communication to Mr. [redacted] at Lima, Ohio, a copy of which is attached hereto, advising him that in the event that he can produce bill of sale for this pistol, indicating a sale thereof either to himself or to the person from whom he purchased the said pistol, that appropriate consideration would be given to the matter of returning the same to him.

Very truly yours,

AUG 28 1936

J.P. MacFARLAND,  
Special Agent in Charge

Letter Wash 2/27/36 H.B.H.

61-7398-102

AUG 3 1936

A.M.

ENCLOSURE

JPM/lrl  
Enclosure (1)

ag  
79

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

LABORATORY  
CONFIDENTIAL

record of  
date  
61-7318  
15, 6  
8/3  
RECORDED IN LABORATORY

ca

1448 Standard Building,  
Cleveland, Ohio

July 31, 1936

Mr. [REDACTED]

Lima, Ohio

Dear Sir:

This office has received two communications from Mr. George E. [REDACTED], relative to a .45 Colt Automatic Pistol, which you turned over to Special Agent C.E. Smith of this office at the request of Mr. [REDACTED]. This pistol was traced through appropriate Government channels and it was determined that the said pistol was the property of the United States and consequently is being retained by the Government.

In the event that you have in your possession a bill of sale for this pistol, it is requested that you furnish this office with a copy thereof so that further consideration might be given to the matter of returning the pistol to you in the event that it was legitimately purchased by you from a person who was in lawful possession thereof. It will be necessary, however, before this pistol can be returned to you that the person from whom you purchased the same submit a bill of sale showing a purchase thereof.

Very truly yours,

J.P. MacFARLAND,  
Special Agent in Charge

JPM/lrl  
cc. Bureau ✓

65-7398-105

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR  
PEF:CDW

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

July 31, 1936.

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Beachman	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Dawson	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Joseph	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

Time - 8:55 A.M.

*was (15)*

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: Black Legion.

Mr. [redacted] connected with the Looge-Wiles Biscuit Company of Clarksburg, West Virginia, telephoned Mr. Foxworth and said he wanted to report that last night, he was approached by a business man out there to join the Black Legion. He said he was very much surprised at this invitation, and thought the Department of Justice should know about it.

Mr. Foxworth went to some length to explain the limitations imposed upon the investigative jurisdiction of the Bureau, and told Mr. [redacted] that while we appreciated the interest which prompted his bringing this matter to our attention, there was no active investigation which we could conduct. Mr. Foxworth suggested that the matter be referred to the appropriate local authorities.

Respectfully,

*E. A. Tamm*  
E. A. TAMM. *(E.A.)*

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED.

AUG 6 1936

61-7398-106

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AUG 4 1936 A. M.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON TWO

*Ph*

35



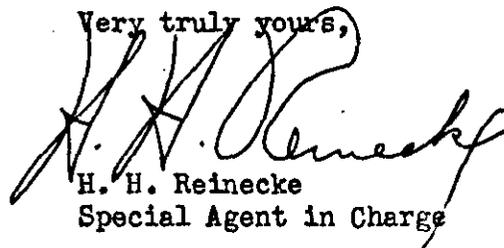
According to Mr. Colburn and Mr. McCrea, who talked to me over the telephone, they have determined that there is an organization known as the Night Riders which is a sort of higher organization within the Black Legion, and it is possible that this is the organization referred to by Mr. [REDACTED] in his statements.

Mr. McCrea also told me over the telephone that his information was that Virgil Effinger at Lima, Ohio, had a scroll listing the names of the members of the Night Riders. Mr. Colburn, of course, wanted me to immediately arrange to have Effinger's house raided at Lima, Ohio, for the purpose of locating this scroll and the infernal machine mentioned by [REDACTED]. He stated that they could secure no cooperation from law enforcing agencies in Ohio because they were all members of the Black Legion.

I explained to Mr. Colburn that there was some doubt in my mind as to whether the facts presented indicated any violation of a law over which the Bureau had jurisdiction and that I would promptly forward the information to Washington for appropriate study and advice.

Mr. Colburn and Mr. McCrea are rather anxious to receive prompt word as to what action we might take and I would appreciate immediate advice from the Bureau so that I might put these men at ease.

Very truly yours,

  
H. H. Reinecke  
Special Agent in Charge

HHR:AM  
3 enclosures

AIR MAIL—SPECIAL DELIVERY