Federal Bureau of Investigation

Freedom of Information / Privacy Acts

Release

Subject: Black Gangster Disciples

Memorandum

To : Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: [redacted] b7C

Date

From : Assistant Director
Criminal Investigative Division

Subject: VIOLENT DRUG GANG;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI) - DRUGS;
MEMPHIS DIVISION

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

On this date, authority was granted to this Bureau's Memphis Division to open an REI for a 180-day period on captioned matter, pursuant to "The Attorney General's Guidelines on General Crimes, Racketeering Enterprise and Domestic Security/Terrorism Investigations," effective March 21, 1983, and revised April 4, 1989.

Information supplied by the Memphis Division established indication of the existence of a racketeering enterprise involving illicit drug trafficking.

The enclosed letterhead memoranda provides additional details regarding this matter.

Enclosure

APPROVED: Inspection ____ Off. of EEO Affs. ____
Intell. ____ Off. of Liaison & Int. Affs. ____
Laboratory ____ Off. of Public & Cong. Affs. ____
Legal Coun. ____ TQM Off. ____
Tech. Servs. ____
Training ____

1 - [redacted]
(Attn: [redacted] (Memphis Control File)
b7C 1 - [redacted] Memphis Sub A - REI Folder)
1 - [redacted] (Gang Sub H21)
1 - DIU Sub 46
1 - [redacted] (Set T _____)
PJS: pjs (6)

U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

841 Clifford Davis Federal Building
Memphis, Tennessee 38103
March 30, 1993

BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATIONS - GANGS;
MEMPHIS DIVISION

I. SYNOPSIS

The Black Gangster Disciples (BGD) have traditionally been a loosely organized gang involved primarily in burglaries, robberies, and auto theft. Since the mid-1980's, however, drug trafficking appears to have become the chief profit-making activity for the gang.

The Memphis Police Department established a "Youth Gang Task Force" in the mid-1980's to address the criminal activities of street gangs. Their findings indicated an increase in gang membership and activity even at that time. Memphis gangs were primarily influenced by the Chicago based Gangster Disciples and Vice Lords.

The Black Gangster Disciples in Memphis have aligned themselves with the Los Angeles based Crips gang. As a part of the "Folk Nation", the BGDs maintain their own identity, however, new members are now being trained to think of the Crips as "Cuzzins". (The Crips typically refer to gang members as "Cuzz"). In the neighborhoods where the BGD dominate, a combination of BGD and CRIP graffiti has been observed. Total membership for the BGDs in Memphis is estimated between 900 and 1,000. Gang members recognize the confusion they have created by their changing organizational structure and use it to their advantage. Often times they use hand symbols, graffiti, and other gang affiliation symbols interchangeably.

U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 92D-ME-45363

841 Clifford Davis Federal Building
Memphis, Tennessee 38103

March 30, 1993

RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATIONS - GANGS;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES;
OO: MEMPHIS

(March 30, 1993)

Profile Prepared By: SA [redacted] b7C
MEMPHIS DIVISION

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

II. DETAILS

A. ORGANIZATION

The Black Gangster Disciples (BGDs) are currently the most visible and are believed to be the most violent of Memphis street gangs. They are located geographically in South and Southwest Memphis where heavy recruiting is being conducted in the middle and high schools. Member complement includes the sub-groups, the Gangster Disciples (GDs), the Gangster Disciples Queens (GDQs), a female gang, the Maniac Disciples (MDs), and the Insane Disciples (IDs). These four gangs are further divided into sets, and their members are between the ages of 12 and 19. The GDs strive to become full-fledged members of the BGDs.

Recruitment by the various gangs is on the increase, and many are joining to be protected from rival gangs. Others join gangs due to their fear of the gang members who attack them if they resist.

One initiation ritual requires a prospective member to be physically beaten by other members. The prospective members are expected to commit a crime to be accepted into the gang. In order to move up the ranks in the organization, members must commit crimes of a more violent nature, usually involving firearms.

It has been documented in the past year that gang members who are subjects of investigation by other FBI field offices have come to Memphis to recruit and teach existing gangs their methodology and ideology. The high incidence of drive-by shootings, several drug-related homicides, including execution-style murders, the sharp increase in the overall violent crime rate for juveniles, and numerous aggravated assaults in area schools are largely attributable to gang activity.

Key/Dominant Figures

Information to date on the individuals who lead the BGD's is sketchy. The street names [redacted] and [redacted] have been used to describe two [redacted] a black male, allegedly has [redacted] Memphis BGD's. His drug trafficking territory includes the area [redacted] South Memphis. It has been said that [redacted] carries a fully automatic weapon and "controls" [redacted] Identifying [redacted] and his actual role as

b7C

a BGD will be a priority objective of this REI. There is no further description of [redacted]

[redacted] is allegedly [redacted] This individual is a [redacted] has been described as a black male, tall, slender, with a medium brown complexion. [redacted] An attempt to identify [redacted] is underway.

b7C

Members:

The BGD members listed below have prior criminal records with the Memphis Police Department. All have committed violent criminal acts, including aggravated robbery and burglary.

[redacted] a black male, date of birth (DOB) [redacted] is currently being held on a charge of 1st degree Murder and Aggravated Robbery.

[redacted] a black male, DOB [redacted], is considered a [redacted]

[redacted] a black male, DOB [redacted] is also a [redacted]

b7C

[redacted] a black male, DOB [redacted]

[redacted] a black male, DOB [redacted]

[redacted] a black male, DOB [redacted] is currently being held by the Memphis Police Department on aggravated robbery charges. [redacted] is believed to have committed a recent homicide in Memphis.

[redacted], a black male, DOB [redacted]

[redacted] a black male, DOB [redacted]

[redacted] a black male, DOB [redacted], was considered [redacted] police record includes several armed robberies.

Memphis has compiled a list of over 200 individuals who claim to be or who are believed to be members of the BGD's. Through the cooperation of the Memphis City Schools, Juvenile Court and Memphis Police Department, the list continues to grow.

B. OPERATION

It has been determined through FBI Memphis debriefings of several BGD members and a rival gang member that several Memphis gangs and/or individual members are being supplied cocaine by local drug trafficking organizations. BGD members have stated that some drug traffickers who are currently being investigated or have already been prosecuted in the Western District of Tennessee (WDTN), are supportive of gang ideology and are cooperative with gang members when it comes to drug trafficking. BGD members involved in drug trafficking are supplied to some extent by these local drug traffickers. The cocaine is usually distributed by BGD gang members in the form of crack in the housing projects, around the schools and neighborhoods.

Some cocaine and marijuana is being supplied by gang members who travel to and from Los Angeles, Chicago, Detroit, New York, and other major cities carrying varying amounts of drugs. These members are not always Memphis based, but recognize Memphis as fertile ground for gang activity and drug trafficking.

C. FINANCES

Further investigation must be conducted in order to determine how the BGDs handle their finances.

D. POLICE/PUBLIC CORRUPTION

There is no known police/public corruption at this time.

E. COMMUNICATIONS

A local GDQ recently advised there are individuals called "messengers" who have the job of keeping BGD members informed. The information comes from Chicago to Memphis by facsimile according to this GDQ, and is further disseminated by the "messengers". It is believed the messengers

are concerned with information which affects the BGDs as an organization.

Communication among individual sub-groups is generally by telephone. Memphis BGD's also allegedly meet on a bi-monthly basis at local hotels to discuss gang-related business. Information is also passed during informal meetings at the various high schools. BGD members believed to be dealing drugs near the schools have been observed carrying pagers. Other types of personal communications equipment used by individual gang members has not been identified.

F. CHARACTERISTICS

As a protective measure, the younger gang members serve as "lookouts" and "decoys" for marked police vehicles when they enter gang areas of operation. Other typical methods are used to disassociate themselves from the drug transactions with unfamiliar individuals.

BGD members have stated it is very easy to obtain weapons and most carry some type of weapon at all times. They advised that the attitude of most BGD members regarding shooting someone or being shot is that it is considered in the line of duty.

BGD members have robbed several pawn shops and have stolen weapons which they use in their turf skirmishes, and robberies. Vehicles can be borrowed from suspect car dealers who also provide cars to the local drug traffickers.

Other sources of supply of weapons must be determined.

G. ASSESSMENT

Based upon available information, the BGDs are considered the most formidable Memphis street gang. It is a Secondary drug trafficking organization with potential to expand its operation as membership and influence continue to grow.

The BGDs are armed with all types of firearms and have shown a willingness to employ these weapons in their drug distribution activities. BGD and other Memphis gang members seeking to rise in their respective organizations use violence to

get respect from the leaders, thus the almost daily drive-by shootings. Crimes of violence have increased dramatically among juvenile offenders over the past year in Memphis, largely due to gang recruitment and initiation rituals as well as drug distribution activities.

H. BASIS OF INFORMATION

Information contained in this organizational profile was obtained through FBI field divisions in Buffalo and Los Angeles; Memphis Division files and intelligence sources; state and local law enforcement agencies; and the Memphis City School System.

Because of the sensitive and complex ongoing FBI investigations, the above information is to be used for intelligence purposes only. Any projected investigative activity based on the above information should be coordinated with the Intelligence Unit, Organized Crime/Drug Branch, FBI Headquarters, and the Memphis Division of the FBI.

ACTION COMMUNICATION Date: 03/30/93

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363) (P)
SQUAD 5

CONTACT: SSA [redacted]
SA [redacted] b7C
SQUAD 5

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (Encl. 4)
INTELLIGENCE UNIT (IU),
ORGANIZED CRIME/DRUG BRANCH, CID
ROOM 7325

TITLE: RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATIONS - GANGS;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES;
OO: ME

ENCL: Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and three (3) copies of an REI profile of the BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES.

REQUEST(S): Based on the information set forth, process the enclosed REI submission and obtain approval for the initiation of the GANG REI.

DETAILS: No previous REI has been conducted on the captioned investigation.

Information to date indicates that of the approximately 20 street gangs identified in Memphis, there are three or four accountable for the majority of the criminal acts committed. The BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES (BGD) and the VICE LORDS (VL) are the two major gangs identified by law enforcement in the mid 1980's. The BGD are currently the most visible and most violent. They are located primarily in southwest Memphis in predominantly black neighborhoods.

The VL are a remnant of the past and less is known about their current activities. They appear to be active mainly in north Memphis where their graffiti is prominently displayed. One of the VL sets, formally known as [redacted] was considered the largest and best organized gang in Memphis. It must be determined how the VL are currently organized and the extent of their criminal activities. b7C

1 - File # 92D-ME-45363
1 - Working Copy
AKH:emw (4)

-2

Heavy recruiting is being conducted in many Memphis high schools. Recruiting methods involve a great deal of intimidation and appears to be meeting with some resistance. Many students carry weapons to school in order to protect themselves from gang members. Numerous assaults involving firearms and knives have occurred on junior high and high school campuses during the current school year. The schools report the incidents are a result of gang recruiting and initiation rituals. One initiation ritual requires a prospective member to receive a physical beating from gang members. The Memphis City School system has formed its own task force on violence to address the gang problem and other issues.

In addition to the above mentioned gangs, the BLOODS and CRIPS have become entrenched in Memphis neighborhoods. The Crips appear to have the larger membership of the two, currently estimated at 1,000, having recruited BGD members and members of other gangs into their ranks. Recruiting efforts by the BLOODS are also apparent, but not to the same extent as the CRIPS.

Sets of the HOOVER STREET CRIPS and the GRAPE STREET CRIPS have been identified as well as the 62nd STREET BRIM BLOODS.

There are several gangs indigenous to Memphis that have been identified as being involved in drug trafficking. These gangs tend to be smaller in number and may actually be sub-groups of some larger gangs. It must be determined how the recent recruiting efforts of the CRIPS and BLOODS have affected the gang territorial boundaries, membership complement and the drug trafficking operations of the existing gangs.

Memphis Division plans to aggressively address violent/drug gang activity via a joint task force with the MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT. Other federal, state and local agencies also recognize the urgent need to confront the gang situation and have pledged their cooperation in the efforts of the task force.

The objectives of the BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE REI is to further identify Memphis street gangs, prioritize and target them for investigation based on the extent of their drug trafficking activities, their propensity for violence, and their involvement in criminal activity. Memphis will attempt to identify the gang leaders and members who facilitate the gang's drug trafficking operations. The types of drugs trafficked and the methods of operation, to include: identifying suppliers, means of transportation and distribution networks must be discerned. Memphis will attempt to determine the organizational structure and roles of the key members and associates.

b7C

SA [redacted] is assigned to this investigation and will serve as the point of contact regarding the REI. SA [redacted] can be reached at (901) 575-[redacted] or (901) 525-[redacted] Memphis Division requests authority to load REI information into the Intel data base upon approval by FBIHQ.

Memorandum

Dep. Dir.
ADD Adm.
ADD Inv.
Asst. Dir.:
Adm. Servs.
Crim. Inv.
Ident.
Info. Mgmt.
Insp.
Intell.
Lab.
Legal Coun.
Tech. Servs.
Training
Cong. Affs. Off.
Off. of EEO
Off. Liaison & Int. Affs.
Off. of Public Affs.
Telephone Rm.
Director's Office

To : [redacted] b7C

Date 4/12/93

From : [redacted]

Subject : VIOLENT DRUG GANG;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI);
OO: MEMPHIS

92D-ME-45363
Approved 4-20-93
Expires 10-17-93

PURPOSE: To recommend that the Memphis Field Office be granted authority to open an REI on captioned investigation.

RECOMMENDATIONS: 1. That the Assistant Director approve the opening of the REI pursuant to Bureau policy.

APPROVED:

Director	Adm. Servs.	Inspection	Off. of EEO Affs.
Dep. Dir.	Crim. Inv.	Intell.	Off. of Liaison & Int. Affs.
ADD-Adm.	Crim. Jus. Info. Servs.	Laboratory	Off. of Public & Cong. Affs.
ADD-Inv.	Ident.	Legal Coun.	TQM Off.
	Info. Mgmt.	Tech. Servs.	
		Training	

2. That the attached notification letter to the Assistant Attorney General, United States Department of Justice, be approved for forwarding.

APPROVED:

Director	Adm. Servs.	Inspection	Off. of EEO Affs.
Dep. Dir.	Crim. Inv.	Intell.	Off. of Liaison & Int. Affs.
ADD-Adm.	Crim. Jus. Info. Servs.	Laboratory	Off. of Public & Cong. Affs.
ADD-Inv.	Ident.	Legal Coun.	TQM Off.
	Info. Mgmt.	Tech. Servs.	
		Training	

b7C

Enclosures (6)

1 - [redacted] (Info)
(Attn: [redacted] (Memphis Control File)
1 - [redacted] (Memphis Sub A - REI Folder)
1 - [redacted] (Gang Sub H21)
1 - DIU Sub 46
1 - [redacted]
PJS (6)

(CONTINUED - OVER)

-3

Memorandum from [redacted] to [redacted] b7C
Re: Violent Drug Gang;
Black Gangster Disciples;
Racketeering Enterprise Investigation (REI);
OO: Memphis

DETAILS: Based upon information provided by the enclosed letterhead memoranda, authority has been requested to open an REI regarding a Violent Drug Gang. Available information reflects captioned organization is engaged in illegal activities involving drug trafficking and money laundering. The scope, course and conduct of this organization appear to meet the "racketeering" definition as set forth in the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Statute (Title 18, United States Code, Section 1961) and requirements set forth in the "The Attorney General's Guidelines ~~and~~ on General Crimes, Racketeering Enterprise and Domestic Security/Terrorism Investigations" dated 3/21/83 and revised 4/4/89.

0-93 (Rev. 01/25/91)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATION MESSAGE FORM

TRANSM. VIA:
[X] Teletype

DATE: 4/21/93

PRECEDENCE:
[ ] Immediate
[ ] Priority
[X] Routine

CLASSIFICATION:
[ ] TOP SECRET
[ ] SECRET
[ ] CONFIDENTIAL
[X] UNCLAS E F T O
[ ] UNCLAS

^PAGE 1 OF 2

FM DIRECTOR FBI

TO FBI MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363)/ROUTINE/

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

CITE: //0669//

SUBJECT: VIOLENT DRUG GANG; BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES;

RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI);

OO: MEMPHIS; EXPIRES: OCTOBER 17, 1993.

RE MEMPHIS AIRTEL TO FBIHQ, DATED MARCH 30, 1993.

FBIHQ AUTHORITY IS GRANTED TO OPEN AN REI CONCERNING CAPTIONED MATTER FOR A PERIOD OF 180 DAYS COMMENCING APRIL 20, 1993.

B

//

-4

****** FOR COMM CENTER USE ONLY ******

NOTE: Copy Designations Are On The Last Page Of This Teletype!!!

Approved By DWJ/CEH

MRI/JUL 644/112

ISN 7

APR 22 1993

0-93A (Rev. 01/25/91)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATION MESSAGE FORM

^PAGE 2 UNCLAS E F T O

MANUAL OF INVESTIGATIVE OPERATIONS AND GUIDELINES, PART I, SECTION 92, SHOULD BE CONSULTED RELATIVE TO CONDUCTING THIS INVESTIGATION.

IN THE EVENT CONTINUATION OF THIS INVESTIGATION IS WARRANTED UPON NEARING THE END OF THE 180-DAY PERIOD, THE MEMPHIS DIVISION SHOULD REQUEST RENEWAL AUTHORITY 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION DATE OF OCTOBER 17, 1993.

MEMPHIS IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE THE INTELLIGENCE UNIT, ATTENTION [redacted], WHEN THE LHM HAS BEEN LOADED INTO THE "INTEL" DATABASE OF INTERIM DIS.

b7C

BT

////

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE/TICKLER COUNT:

TELETYPE TO FBI MEMPHIS
RE: VIOLENT DRUG GANG; BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI);
OO: MEMPHIS; EXPIRES: OCTOBER 17, 1993.

NOTE: THIS TELETYPE AUTHORIZES THE MEMPHIS DIVISION TO OPEN AN REI CONCERNING CAPTIONED MATTER FOR A PERIOD OF 180 DAYS COMMENCING APRIL 20, 1993, DUE TO EXPIRE ON OCTOBER 17, 1993.

THE BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES (BGD) IN MEMPHIS HAVE ALIGNED THEMSELVES WITH THE LOS ANGELES BASED CRIPS GANG. IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS WHERE THE BGD DOMINATE, A COMBINATION OF BGD AND CRIP GRAFFITI HAS BEEN OBSERVED. TOTAL MEMBERSHIP FOR THE BGDS IN MEMPHIS IS ESTIMATED BETWEEN 900 AND 1,000.

IT HAS BEEN DOCUMENTED IN THE PAST YEAR THAT GANG MEMBERS WHO ARE SUBJECTS OF INVESTIGATIONS BY OTHER FBI FIELD OFFICES HAVE COME TO MEMPHIS TO RECRUIT AND TEACH EXISTING GANGS THEIR METHODOLOGY AND IDEOLOGY. THE HIGH INCIDENCE OF DRIVE-BY SHOOTINGS, SEVERAL DRUG-RELATED HOMICIDES, INCLUDING EXECUTION-STYLE MURDERS, AND NUMEROUS AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS IN AREA SCHOOLS ARE LARGELY ATTRIBUTABLE TO GANG ACTIVITY.

Drafted By: TLD Room/TL #: 7325 Phone No: [redacted]

b7C

COPY DESIGNATIONS:

1 - [redacted] (INFO)

(ATTN: [redacted] (MEMPHIS CONTROL FILE)

1 - [redacted] (MEMPHIS SUB A - REI FOLDER)

1 - [redacted] (GANG SUB H21)

1 - DIU SUB 46

1 - [redacted]

TLD (6)

ACTION COMMUNICATION Date: 05/11/93

FROM: SAC MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363) (P)
Squad 5

CONTACT: SA [redacted]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI b7C

ATTN: [redacted] Room 5121, Investigative Support Section, Administrative Unit

TITLE: FBI DEPUTATION AUTHORITY;
DRUG MATTERS

REQUEST(S): The Investigative Support Section, Administrative Unit is requested to process the herein contained names for Deputation by the FBI with Title 21 authority and by the United States Marshal's with Title 18 authority.

DETAILS: The Memphis Division is initiating a Gangs Task Force to identify street gangs for investigation based on level of drug trafficking and propensity for violence during commission of criminal activity. Leaders and members of gangs will be identified as well as organizational structure and documentation of the specific areas of operations unique to a drug trafficking organization.

ADD DUTS EXISTING T.F

The Memphis Division sponsored Gangs Task Force consists of one (1) FBI, Supervisory Special Agent, four (4) FBI Special Agents and three (3) officers of the MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT (MPD). Additionally, one deputy of the SHELBY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT (SCSD) will be assigned to the Task Force and is presently the only local office who has not been deputized.

General deputation is being requested under both Title 18 and Title 21 authority due to the nature of the offense which is being investigated by the Gangs Task Force.

Deputized participants will be operating under FBI guidelines and supervision and conducting investigations and making arrests in the same manner as Special Agents. They will receive training in Federal legal procedures, FBI firearms policy and procedures, and FBI high risk arrest procedures.

1 - File # 92D-ME-45363
1 - Working Copy
AKH:pjs (4)

Rm 5127

62-120718

02/22/93, Re: 92D-ME-4[illegible]53

The following individual has been selected for deputation:

Shelby County Sheriff's Department

[redacted] Deputy, SCSD, SSAN [redacted]
[redacted], DOB [redacted] white male, 5', 10", 195 pounds, brown hair, blue eyes, eighteen years law enforcement experience, last firearms qualification May 7, 1993.

b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

27 AUG 93 22 28z

0365 MRI 01465

PP RUCNFB FBIAT FBILA FBIME RECEIVED TELETYPE UNIT

DE FBICG #0025 2392036

ZNR UUUUU

P 272034Z AUG 93

FM FBI CHICAGO (92D-ME-45363) (RUC)

TO ACTING DIRECTOR FBI/PRIORITY/

FBI ATLANTA/PRIORITY/

FBI LOS ANGELES/PRIORITY/

FBI MEMPHIS/PRIORITY/

BT

UNCLAS

CITE: //3150;SQ8A//

PASS: SSA [redacted] GANGS/OTHER GROUPS UNIT, ORGANIZED CRIME/DRUG BRANCH (OC/DB), ROOM 3015; SSA [redacted] INTEL UNIT, OC/DB, ROOM 7325B; SSA [redacted], VIOLENT CRIMES UNIT, VIOLENT CRIMES MAJOR OFFENDERS SECTION (VCMO), ROOM 5042; ACTING SSA [redacted] SOUTHEAST REGIONAL DRUG INTELLIGENCE SQUAD, ATLANTA; SSA [redacted] LOS ANGELES.

SUBJECT: VIOLENT/DRUG GANG; BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES (BGD);

Dep. Dir.
ADD Adm.
ADD Inv.
Asst. Dir.:
Adm. Servs.
Crim. Inv.
Ident.
Info. Mgmt.
Insp.
Intell.
Lab.
Legal Coun.
Tech. Servs.
Training
Cong. Affs. Off.
Off. of EEO
Off. Liaison & Int. Affs.
Off. of Public Affs.
Telephone Rm.
Director's Office

6-[redacted] CCH

b7C

73250

[redacted]

3015

b7C

b7C

[redacted]

Rm 5042

-6

1CC 3015
1CC 5042

RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI) - GANGS; OO: ME.

RE MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO ACTING DIRECTOR DATED AUGUST 6, 1993.

PURSUANT TO THE SAFE STREETS INITIATIVE, CHICAGO FORMED IN 1992 THE JOINT TASK FORCE ON GANGS (JTFG) AND HAS FOCUSED LARGELY ON THE BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE NATION (BGDN), A PREDOMINATELY BLACK STREET GANG HEADQUARTERED IN CHICAGO. THE BGDN ORGANIZATION OPERATES LARGELY THROUGH THE USE OF VIOLENCE, INTIMIDATION, AND SALE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS. A RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION IS BEING CONDUCTED BY THE JTFG IN CHICAGO.

REFERENCED TELETYPE DESCRIBED A HIGH LEVEL CHICAGO BLACK DISCIPLE (BD) GANG MEMBER KNOWN ONLY AS [redacted] THE JTFG MEMBERS QUERIED CHICAGO DIVISION DATA BASES, CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT (CPD) GANG SPECIALISTS IN THE SOUTH CHICAGO AREA, AND CONFIDENTIAL SOURCES FOR INFORMATION REGARDING [redacted] TO DATE, NO SUCH PERSON HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED, SO DESCRIBED AS A BLACK MALE WITH [redacted] b7C

[redacted] A BLACK MALE, BORN [redacted] [redacted] CHICAGO, HAS TWO CHICAGO ARRESTS. ON MARCH 31, 1992, [redacted] WAS CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL

TRESPASS TO LAND. ON APRIL 27, 1993, HE WAS CHARGED WITH MOB ACTION. BOTH CHARGES WERE ULTIMATELY DISMISSED IN STATE COURT. ACCORDING TO CHICAGO GANG SPECIALISTS, [redacted] IS A KNOWN BGDN MEMBER WITH LITTLE RANK WITHIN THE CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION. b7C

A REVIEW OF MID-JULY, 1993, CPD MAJOR CASE REPORTS FOR A SHOOTING OR HOMICIDE LOCATED NEAR 91ST STREET OR 92ND STREET REVEALED ONLY ONE SUCH INCIDENT - A HOMICIDE LOCATED ON THE STREET AT 9849 SOUTH THROOP, CHICAGO. THE VICTIM, WALTER R. CASEY, A BLACK MALE, 42 YEARS OLD, WAS SHOT IN THE HEAD BY A HANDGUN AT CLOSE RANGE WHILE WALKING DOWN THE SIDEWALK AT 0019 HOURS. THOUGH NO ARRESTS HAVE YET BEEN MADE, IT APPEARS CASEY MAY HAVE BEEN SHOT AS A RESULT OF AN ONGOING NEIGHBORHOOD DISPUTE. NO OTHER SHOOTINGS WERE REPORTED IN THE AREA FOR THE TIME FRAME REQUESTED.

TO DATE, CHICAGO HAS NOT EXPERIENCED THE TYPE OF INITIATION RIGHTS INVOLVING THE MURDER OF INNOCENT MOTORISTS.

A REVIEW OF CHICAGO FILES FOR KNOWN BGDN CONNECTIONS TO MEMPHIS LOCATED ONLY TWO INCIDENTS, BOTH PROVIDED BY CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS (CI). ON ONE OCCASION, A CI ADVISED

ON [redacted] OF AN UNIDENTIFIED [redacted] b7C

[redacted] AFTER RECEIVING [redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7F

[redacted] MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

THE OTHER TENNESSEE REFERENCE INVOLVED A [redacted] b7C

[redacted] CI INFORMATION IMPLICATING AN INDIVIDUAL KNOWN ONLY AS b7D

[redacted] b7F

[redacted] MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE. NO FURTHER INFORMATION, HOWEVER, WAS MADE AVAILABLE.

AS NO FURTHER INFORMATION WAS REQUESTED, CHICAGO CONSIDERS THIS CASE IN RUC STATUS.

BT

#0025

NNNN

0036 MRI 01651

PP ADHQ FBIAT FBICG FBILA

DE FBIME #0004 2162044

ZNY EEEEE

P 062041Z AUG 93

FM FBI MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363) (P)

TO ACTING DIRECTOR FBI/PRIORITY/

FBI ATLANTA/PRIORITY/

FBI CHICAGO/PRIORITY/

FBI LOS ANGELES/PRIORITY/

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

SECTION ONE OF TWO SECTIONS

CITE: //3440//

PASS: SSA [redacted] GANGS/OTHER GROUPS UNIT, ORGANIZED CRIME/DRUG BRANCH (OC/DB), ROOM 3015; SSA [redacted], INTEL UNIT, OC/DB, ROOM 7325B; SSA [redacted] VIOLENT CRIMES UNIT, VIOLENT CRIMES MAJOR OFFENDERS SECTION (VCMO), ROOM 5042; SSA [redacted] CHICAGO; ACTING SSA [redacted] SOUTHEAST REGIONAL DRUG INTELLIGENCE SQUAD, ATLANTA; SSA [redacted] LOS ANGELES.

b7C

X

b7C

-7

I-Gangs

Sub H 21

SUBJECT: VIOLENT/DRUG GANG; BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES (BGD); RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI) - GANGS; OO ME.

FOR INFORMATION OF RECIPIENTS, ON [redacted] (PROTECT IDENTITY), A BLACK MALE, DATE OF BIRTH (DOB) [redacted] AND A [redacted] [redacted] WAS INTERVIEWED AT [redacted] [redacted] BY SPECIAL AGENT [redacted] AND DETECTIVE [redacted] MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT (MPD), MEMBERS OF THE VIOLENT/DRUG GANG TASK FORCE, MEMPHIS DIVISION. [redacted] AND WAS ARRESTED ON FRIDAY [redacted] WAS ADVISED OF THE IDENTITIES OF THE INTERVIEWING OFFICERS AND THE NATURE OF THE INTERVIEW. [redacted] CONSENTED TO BEING INTERVIEWED REGARDING DRUGS AND CRIMINAL GANG ACTIVITY [redacted] [redacted] HE THEREAFTER PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

b7C
b7D
b7F

FOLLOWING [redacted] [redacted] WHILE THERE, HE BECAME [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] HIS [redacted] IS A

b7C
b7D
b7F

[redacted] AND ADVISED [redacted]

[redacted]

b7C
b7D
b7F

[redacted] NEW GANG MEMBERS WILL HAVE A NEW INITIATION RITUAL BEGINNING IN AUGUST 1993. NEW MEMBERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO DRIVE ALONG THE STREET AT NIGHT WITH THE HEADLIGHTS TURNED OFF AND THE FIRST DRIVER WHO SIGNALS TO THEM TO TURN ON THEIR HEADLIGHTS BY BLINKING THEIR LIGHTS, THE PROSPECTIVE MEMBER WILL FOLLOW THE OTHER DRIVER HOME AND KILL THE OCCUPANTS OF THE VEHICLE, EVEN IF THERE ARE WOMEN AND CHILDREN INSIDE. [redacted] ADVISED EVERY NEW MEMBER IS ISSUED A WEAPON JUST

AS HE WAS AND IS EXPECTED TO USE IT. THE GANG HAS A STOCK PILE OF WEAPONS AND USE AK-47'S AND OTHER AUTOMATIC WEAPONS. THE GANG ALSO HAS ACCESS TO A QUANTITY OF DYNAMITE. HE DESCRIBED [redacted] DID NOT [redacted] b7C b7D b7F [redacted] THE MEETINGS ARE HELD AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS b7D AND [redacted] THEY WERE HELD OVER A THREE DAY b7F PERIOD. HE ESTIMATED AT LEAST 300 GANG MEMBERS ATTENDED THE MEETINGS. MEMBERS PAY FIFTY DOLLARS ($50) IN DUES EACH MONTH AND ARE FINED IF THE MONEY IS LATE. DUES ARE PAID IN PART TO BAIL MEMBERS OUT OF JAIL AND TO PAY ATTORNEY FEES. A MEMBER WILL NOT BE BONDED OUT IF THEY HAVE MURDERED A FAMILY MEMBER OR IF THEY HAVE RAPED SOMEONE. [redacted] REPEATEDLY STATED HE DID [redacted] b7C

THE BD'S AND GD'S [redacted] b7D b7F [redacted] THEY BELIEVE [redacted] [redacted]

[redacted]

b7C
b7D
b7F

[redacted] SAID ONE OF THE [redacted] BD MEMBERS, UNSUB, ALSO KNOWN AS (AKA) [redacted] A BLACK, MALE, 5'5", [redacted], (NOTE: [redacted] EXPLAINED THAT IN CHICAGO IT IS [redacted] IS ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO WANT TO [redacted] IN MEMPHIS. [redacted] HE SAID [redacted]

b7C
b7D
b7F

PAGE SIX DE FBIME 0004 UNCLAS E F T O

AKA [redacted] AKA [redacted]

[redacted] AND [redacted]

AKA [redacted] NOTE: MOST SUBJECTS ARE WELL KNOWN TO THE MEMPHIS LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY AND ARE SUBJECTS OF ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS). THE BD'S ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN [redacted]

b7C
b7D
b7E

ON ONE OCCASION [redacted] AFTER THIS INCIDENT, [redacted]

[redacted] A LOT OF VIOLENCE [redacted]

BT

#0004

NNNN

0037 MRI 01652

PP ADHQ FBIAT FBICG FBILA

DE FBIME #0005 2182047

ZNY EEEEE

P 062041Z AUG 93

FM FBI MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363) (P)

TO ACTING DIRECTOR FBI/PRIORITY/

FBI ATLANTA/PRIORITY/

FBI CHICAGO/PRIORITY/

FBI LOS ANGELES/PRIORITY/

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

SECTION TWO OF TWO SECTIONS

CITE: //3440//

PASS: SSA [redacted] GANGS/OTHER GROUPS UNIT, ORGANIZED CRIME/DRUG BRANCH (OC/DB), ROOM 3015; SSA [redacted] INTEL UNIT, OC/DB, ROOM 7325B; SSA [redacted] VIOLENT CRIMES UNIT, VIOLENT CRIMES MAJOR OFFENDERS SECTION (VCMO), ROOM 5042; SSA [redacted] CHICAGO; ACTING SSA [redacted] SOUTHEAST REGIONAL DRUG INTELLIGENCE SQUAD, ATLANTA; SSA [redacted] LOS ANGELES.

b7C

SUBJECT: VIOLENT/DRUG GANG; BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES (BGD); RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI) - GANGS; OO ME.

TEXT CONTINUES:

[redacted]

b7C
b7D
b7F

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7C
b7D
b7F

CONCENTRATE ON SELLING MORE DRUGS. TO HELP BOOST DRUG SALES,

[redacted] JOIN FORCES WITH A JAMAICAN POSSE [redacted] CONTROLS MORE OF THE DRUG MARKET. THE JAMAICANS REFUSED TO WORK WITH THE BD'S WHICH THEY CONSIDERED AN INSULT AND THEY ARE NOW TALKING ABOUT HAVING A GANG WAR WITH THE JAMAICANS.

[redacted] WAS ASKED IF HE WAS FAMILIAR WITH TAVIN CHANDLER, WHO WAS SHOT TO DEATH OUTSIDE THE BEAUTY SALON HE OWNED ON RAINES ROAD IN MEMPHIS. [redacted]

b7C
b7D
b7F

[redacted] ALSO NAMED [redacted]

[redacted] HAD KNOWLEDGE OF [redacted]

THE BOS IS A DIFFERENT GANG AND DOES NOT COOPERATE WITH THE OTHER TWO. [redacted] SAID THAT ALTHOUGH IT IS BELIEVED ALL THE GANGSTER DISCIPLE GANGS ARE ONE, THEY ARE NOT ALWAYS UNITED. HE STATED THERE ARE NUMEROUS SETS OF THE GANGS AND HE WAS MORE FAMILIAR WITH THE 9-0, THE 9-1 AND THE 9-2 SETS OF THE GANGSTER DISCIPLES. THE NAME OF THE SET CORRESPONDS WITH THE STREET NAME. [redacted]

b7C
b7D
b7F

[redacted]

b7C
b7D
b7F

THROUGHOUT THE INTERVIEW [redacted]

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM INTERVIEW AND OBSERVATION:

NAME - [redacted] BLACK MALE, DOB [redacted] SSAN [redacted] 5'6", 130 POUNDS, [redacted] AKA [redacted] ADDRESS - [redacted] TELEPHONE [redacted]

(NOTE: AN INQUIRY DISCLOSED [redacted] BLACK MALE, 5'6", MEDIUM COMPLEXION, [redacted] DATE OF BIRTH [redacted] CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.)

b7C
b7D
b7F

CHICAGO DIVISION AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. IS REQUESTED TO ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY UNSUB BLACK MALE, AKA [redacted] BASED ON ABOVE PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION, VERIFY HIS RANK IN THE BD GANG, AND PROVIDE PHOTOGRAPHS AND PERTINENT BACKGROUND DATA TO MEMPHIS IF AVAILABLE.

CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INQUIRIES OF CHICAGO GANG DATABASES, AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO IDENTIFY SUBJECT [redacted] AND VERIFY, IF POSSIBLE, HIS MEMBERSHIP IN THE GD'S.

ASSESS INFORMATION PROVIDED BY [redacted] FOR VERACITY

CONCERNING THE GANG-RELATED KILLING NEAR 91ST AND 92ND STREETS.

VERIFY, IF POSSIBLE, THE NEW INITIATION RITE INVOLVING THE MURDER OF INNOCENT MOTORISTS.

FURNISH MEMPHIS ANY KNOWN CONNECTIONS WITH THE CHICAGO GANGS DELINEATED ABOVE.

LOS ANGELES DIVISION AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA. IS REQUESTED TO FURNISH MEMPHIS AN ASSESSMENT OF WHETHER [redacted] INFORMATION PERTAINING TO [redacted] CONSISTENT WITH CURRENT INTELLIGENCE. ALSO ASCERTAIN IF ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED SUBJECTS ARE DOCUMENTED GANG MEMBERS IN LA GANG DATA BASES, ETC.

b7C
b7D
b7F

MEMPHIS DIVISION AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE. WILL ATTEMPT TO THOROUGHLY DEBRIEF [redacted] AND DISSEMINATE INTELLIGENCE GLEANED FROM INTERVIEWS ACCORDINGLY.

BT

#0005

NNNN

53

ACTION COMMUNICATION Date: 09/16/93

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363) (P)

CONTACT: SSA [redacted]

SA [redacted] b7C

SA [redacted]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (Encl. 4)
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION (CID);
INTELLIGENCE SECTION; INTELLIGENCE UNIT (IU);
ROOM 7325B
ATTN: INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH SPECIALIST [redacted]
[redacted] b7C
SAC, ATLANTA
SAC, CHICAGO
SAC, JACKSON
SAC, KANSAS CITY
SAC, KNOXVILLE
SAC, LITTLE ROCK
SAC, LOS ANGELES

TITLE: VIOLENT DRUG GANGS;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION - VCMO;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES;
OO: MEMPHIS
(EXPIRES: 10/17/93)

RE: FBIHQ teletype authorizing REI, dated April 22, 1993.

ENCL: Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and three (3) copies of the BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES (BGD) REI profile.

REQUEST(S):

1. Process the enclosed REI submission and obtain approval for the renewal of the BGD REI.

2. No budget and resource requests are being made at this time in connection with captioned matter.

DETAILS: Referenced Bureau teletype dated 4/22/93 authorized the opening of captioned matter for a period of 180 days commencing 4/20/93 and expiring 10/17/93. For the information of the Intelligence Unit, the LHM enclosed in the original submission on

-8

1 - File # 92D-ME-45363
1 - Working Copy
AKH:emw

the BGD gang was loaded into the "INTEL" Database of INTERIM DIS on 7/28/93.

Since the opening of the REI, two confidential informants and one cooperating witness have been opened and are being operated by Task Force personnel specifically for this REI. During the upcoming authority period, these sources should provide significant intelligence regarding the BGD organization and possibly other drug trafficking organizations.

The goal of the BGD REI is to collect all available intelligence regarding the activities of this organization and determine its structure and magnitude as well as its methods of operation. These objectives will be realized through various investigative techniques including:

1. Development of quality confidential informants (CI) and cooperating witnesses (CW) and debriefings of known reliable sources who can provide relevant information.

2. Expansion of our resource base by working closely with other Federal, State and Local agencies and glean all available data regarding anyone associated with members of the BGD gang.

3. Analysis of appropriate databases.

As of 8/24/93, $1,839.51 has been expended in operational funding in connection with captioned matter. There have been no drug evidence purchases.

The following Memphis Division Agents are assigned to this matter:

SA [redacted] Extension [redacted] b7C
SA [redacted] Extension [redacted]

Upon approval, this REI will be loaded into the INTEL Database. Authorization is requested to disseminate enclosed profiles to field divisions and outside agencies upon notification of approval.

Memorandum

Dep. Dir.
ADD Adm.
ADD Inv.
Asst. Dir.:
Adm.Servs.
Crim.Inv.
Ident.
Info.Mgmt.
Insp.
Intell.
Lab.
Legal Coun.
Tech. Servs.
Training
Cong. Affs. Off.
Off. of EEO
Off. Liaison & Int. Affs.
Off. of Public Affs.
Telephone Rm.
Director's Office

To : [redacted]

Date 9/20/93

b7C

From : [redacted]

Subject : VIOLENT DRUG GANGS;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI);
OO: MEMPHIS
EXPIRES: 10/17/93

PURPOSE: To recommend that the Memphis Field Office be granted authority to renew an REI on captioned investigation.

DETAILS: Based upon information provided by letterhead memoranda, authority has been requested to renew an REI concerning the Black Gangster Disciples street gang. The attached letterhead memoranda set forth facts and circumstances indicating the existence of a racketeering enterprise whose activities involve violent gang activity.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Assistant Director approve the renewal of this REI pursuant to Bureau policy.

APPROVED:

Adm. Servs.	Inspection	Off. of EEO Affs.	
Crim. Inv.	Intell.	Off. of Liaison & Int. Affs.	
Director	Crim. Jus. Info. Servs.	Laboratory	
Dep. Dir.	Ident.	Legal Coun.	Off. of Public & Cong. Affs.
ADD-Adm.	Info. Mgmt.	Tech. Servs.	
ADD-Inv.		Training	TQM Off.

Enclosures (6)

1 - [redacted] (Info)
(Attn: [redacted]
1 - [redacted]
(Attn: [redacted] - IU Gang File)
1 - [redacted] (Set T 3/16/94)
TLD:tld (4)

b7C

APPROVED 10/17/93
EXPIRES 4/16/94

BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES
(Prepared 9/13/93)

U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Memphis, Tennessee 38103

September 16, 1993

BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SYNOPSIS..... 1

DETAILS..... 2

A. ORGANIZATION..... 2

B. OPERATIONS..... 3

C. FINANCES..... 3

D. POLICE/PUBLIC CORRUPTION..... 4

E. COMMUNICATIONS..... 4

F. CHARACTERISTICS..... 4

G. ASSESSMENT..... 4

H. BASIS OF INFORMATION..... 4

U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.
92D-ME-45363

Memphis, Tennessee 38103

September 16, 1993

BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION

I. SYNOPSIS

The Black Gangster Disciples (BGD) Street Gang under investigation in Memphis has been determined to be a faction of the BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE NATION (BGDN) based in Chicago, Illinois. Of the estimated 900 to 1,000 suspected members in Memphis, the Memphis Gang Task Force has identified approximately 400 since the initiation of this REI investigation. The membership continues to grow, feeding primarily from the induction of junior and senior high school students.

The BGD is the largest street gang operating in Memphis and one of the most violent. A number of BGD members has been interviewed and provided valuable information regarding their organizational goals and activities. What they refer to as "taking care of business" includes a host of illegal activities.

Intelligence to date shows that high ranking BGD members from Chicago have full knowledge and operational oversight of drug distribution in Memphis. Memphis members have also been found to be engaged in murder, kidnapping, robbery, prostitution and burglary.

II. DETAILS

A. ORGANIZATION

The largest set of the BGD goes by the numerical identifier 2.7.4. This set has the largest membership and appears to be the most organized. It's members live and operate in the South and Southeast area of the city, which they refer to as the "Third World". The organizational structure is more defined, but there has been and continues to be a struggle over who will be the designated leader.

The female BGD members generally hold subservient roles and are not divided into sets separate from the male members, however, they perform duties assigned to them by the male member who initiated them into the gang. Scores of young females recruited during the normal school year are not full-fledged

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

members, but serve as sexual partners for the male members or as prostitutes to help make money for the gang. Female members who perform sexual acts with a number of male members as their primary means of gaining membership do not gain the respect of male members and cannot rise in the rank structure as do the females who choose to engage in a physical battle against a specified number of made female members.

Intelligence gathered indicates the majority of the females and many of the younger males have not experienced the total intake ritual requiring the memorization of the gang literature handed down from the Chicago leadership, the required physical beating by other gang members and the commission of a criminal act prior to becoming a member. The membership prerequisites vary from one set to another. The willingness of a new recruit to support the criminal enterprise by the paying of dues and engaging in criminal activities is apparently more important than having knowledge and understanding of the doctrine of the BGDN.

The structure of the BGD organization regarding drugs centers around distribution. To date, it is undetermined the volume being distributed by the street dealers.

Key/Dominant Figures

The individual identified only as [redacted] was allegedly [redacted] however, he could not be fully identified. b7C b7D
He somehow [redacted]

[redacted] also considered a high ranking member, was identified as [redacted] a black male with date of birth (DOB) [redacted], who is originally from Memphis and travels back and forth to Chicago.

[redacted] aka [redacted]", black male, DOB [redacted] 5'6", 130 pounds, black hair, brown eyes, medium complexion, holds high rank, and at age [redacted] is very familiar with BGDN doctrine. [redacted] was detained at Juvenile Court of Memphis in April, 1993, and was interviewed. He maintained [redacted], a black female and BGD member [redacted] black male, age [redacted] claimed to be in the position [redacted] members or any targeted individual. b7C b7D b7F

[redacted] aka [redacted], a black male, DOB [redacted] has been identified as a high ranking member. His role is unknown at present.

[redacted], known only by this alias, is the alleged leader of the [redacted] He operates [redacted] is from CHICAGO and recruits new members. b7C b7D b7F

B. OPERATION

BGD members are heavily involved in robbery, including that of other drug traffickers. A common technique employed is to have a female BGD member lure the targeted individual to a secluded area where he is assaulted and robbed of any drugs and money or jewelry. Intelligence is being gathered to determine the scope of the BGD's drug trafficking activities. It has been indicated that members within the BGDN organization in Chicago are responsible for supplying at least some portion of the cocaine and crack being distributed by memphis BGD members. The method of operation including the processing of the crack and the transportation routes used to deliver drugs to Memphis must be determined.

During a debriefing of a Memphis BGD member who has [redacted] b7C b7D b7F Information was provided regarding the purchase of multi-kilograms of cocaine by Memphis drug traffickers from BGDN members in Chicago. Further intelligence regarding such transactions will be key to the furtherance of the REI.

C. FINANCES

One female member has been identified as a treasurer for the Memphis BGD organization. The duties of the treasurer include maintaining bank account(s) for the gang. Each member is required to pay dues on a monthly basis. The dues go into the treasury. Members are allowed to make loans from the organization and repay the loans with interest. When BGD members are arrested, funds are taken from the treasury to pay the bail.

D. POLICE/PUBLIC CORRUPTION

There is no verified information regarding corruption at this time.

E. COMMUNICATIONS

BGD members continue to hold regular meetings. Scheduled meetings en masse have been held at the Scottish Inn, 1970 East Shelby Drive in the "Third World". Younger members meet informally at the Crystal Palace Skating Center, 3364 South Third Street and other such night spots as well as on the public school grounds.

Numerous copies of gang literature including names of members belonging to particular sets have been confiscated upon

arrest of various gang members by the local police. Members xerox copies of materials and pass it along to others.

While incarcerated, BGD members have used 3-way calling to issue orders or conduct other gang business. A member will also cause his own arrest in order to relay information to another member in the jail.

Federal Express and other overnight mail companies are believed to be used for communications purposes as well as for the transportation of drugs.

F. CHARACTERISTICS

In debriefing BGD members, it has been found the teachings [redacted] are followed b7C
religiously by the more learned members. They emphasize the goals of the organization are to move up in society, especially in the ownership of businesses. Legitimate businesses being opened by gang members will facilitate money laundering. These members hold higher ranks than other members.

Contrary to the belief that most gang members come from poor and violent neighborhoods and/or families, many of the newly recruited BGD are from middle income families and are top students in their schools.

G. ASSESSMENT

Recognizing that the BGD gang in Memphis is still in the early stages of growth and organization, law enforcement has an excellent opportunity to address the situation. The apparent link between the Memphis BGD gang and the local drug traffickers who are presently under investigation by the various law enforcement agencies must be fully examined, enhancing significantly the impact of this REI.

The current juggling of the leadership positions of the BGD is a disruption within the organization. Close monitoring of any Chicago members traveling to Memphis may produce verification of their intentions to carry out death threats against local traffickers and further empower Memphis BGD members in the drug trade.

H. BASIS OF INFORMATION

Information contained in this organizational profile was obtained through Memphis Division files and intelligence sources; state and local law enforcement agencies; and the Memphis City School System.

Because of the sensitive and complex ongoing FBI investigations, the above information is to be used for intelligence purposes only. Any projected investigative activity based on the above information should be coordinated with the Intelligence Unit, Organized Crime/Drug Branch, FBI Headquarters, and the Memphis Division of the FBI.

FD-3 (Rev. 01/25/91)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATION MESSAGE FORM

53

TRANSMIT VIA:
[X] Teletype

DATE: 10/17/93

^PAGE 1 OF 2

PRECEDENCE:
[ ] Immediate
[ ] Priority
[X] Routine

CLASSIFICATION:
[ ] TOP SECRET
[ ] SECRET
[ ] CONFIDENTIAL
[X] UNCLAS E F T O
[ ] UNCLAS

FM DIRECTOR FBI

TO FBI MEMPHIS {92D-ME-45363}/ROUTINE/

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

CITE: //0669//

SUBJECT: VIOLENT DRUG GANGS; BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES; RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION {REI}; OO: MEMPHIS; EXPIRES: APRIL 16, 1994.

RE MEMPHIS AIRTEL TO FBIHQ, DATED SEPTEMBER 16, 1993.

FBIHQ AUTHORITY IS GRANTED TO RENEW AN REI CONCERNING CAPTIONED MATTER FOR A PERIOD OF 180 DAYS COMMENCING OCTOBER 18, 1993.

-10

****** FOR COMM CENTER USE ONLY ******

NOTE: Copy Designations Are On The Last Page Of This Teletype!!!

Approved By FJJ/CRH

MRI/JUL 1453/278

ISN 075

Transmitted 0117

0-93A (Rev. 01/25/91)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATION MESSAGE FORM

^PAGE 2 UNCLAS E F T O

MANUAL OF INVESTIGATIVE OPERATIONS AND GUIDELINES, PART I, SECTION 92, SHOULD BE CONSULTED RELATIVE TO CONDUCTING THIS INVESTIGATION.

IN THE EVENT CONTINUATION OF THIS INVESTIGATION IS WARRANTED UPON NEARING THE END OF THE 180-DAY PERIOD, THE MEMPHIS DIVISION SHOULD REQUEST RENEWAL AUTHORITY 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION DATE OF APRIL 16, 1994.

BT

////

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATION MESSAGE FORM

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE/TICKLER COUNT:

TELETYPE TO FBI MEMPHIS
RE: VIOLENT DRUG GANGS; BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES; RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI); OO: MEMPHIS;
EXPIRES: APRIL 16, 1994.

NOTE: THIS TELETYPE AUTHORIZES THE MEMPHIS DIVISION TO RENEW AN REI CONCERNING CAPTIONED MATTER FOR A PERIOD OF 180 DAYS COMMENCING OCTOBER 18, 1993, DUE TO EXPIRE ON APRIL 16, 1994.

THE BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES (BGD) STREET GANG UNDER INVESTIGATION IN MEMPHIS HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO BE A FACTION OF THE BGD BASED IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. THE BGD IS THE LARGEST STREET GANG OPERATING IN MEMPHIS AND ONE OF THE MOST VIOLENT. INTELLIGENCE TO DATE SHOWS THAT HIGH RANKING BGD MEMBERS FROM CHICAGO HAVE FULL KNOWLEDGE AND OPERATIONAL OVERSIGHT OF DRUG DISTRIBUTION IN MEMPHIS. MEMPHIS BGD MEMBERS HAVE ALSO BEEN FOUND TO BE ENGAGED IN MURDER, KIDNAPPING, ROBBERY, PROSTITUTION AND BURGLARY.

Drafted By: TLD/TLD Room/TL #: 7325 Phone No: [redacted] b7C

COPY DESIGNATIONS:

1 - [redacted] (INFO) b7C

(ATTN: [redacted]

1 - [redacted]

(ATTN: [redacted] IU REI FILE)

1 - [redacted]

FD-759 (Rev. 5-31-91)

To: Director, FBI ( )
Attn: CID, OC/DP-OCDETF Section

Date: 8/17/94

From: SAC, MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363)([redacted]

Title: VIOLENT/DRUG GANG;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE (BGD),
REI-GANGS;
OO: MEMPHIS

Notification of SAC Authority Granted
for Emergency Use of Consensual Monitoring Equipment (Nontelephonic) Telephonic &

Form must be submitted within 5 working days of the date authorization was granted.

1. Reason for Proposed Use: (Check)
   ☒ Corroborate Testimony ☒ Protect Consenting Party ☐ Protect Government Property
   ☐ Other (Specify)

2. Type of Equipment: (Check)
   ☒ Transmitter/ Receiver ☐ Microphone/ Amplifier ☒ Concealed Recorder
   ☒ Other (Specify) telephone equipment

3. Consenting Party (Check one)
   ☐ Nonconfidential Party [redacted] b7C
   ☐ Confidential Source (Name)
   ☒ Cooperative Witness b7D

4. Interceptee(s): (Include Title if Public Official)
   [redacted] and other yet unknown

5. Duration of proposed use:
   (Not to exceed 30 days) 90 days
   Date Authorized: 8/17/94
   Expiration Date: 11/16/94

6. Installation of Equipment: (Check)
   ☒ Concealed on Person ☐ In Vehicle
   ☐ In Motel Room ☒ Other (Specify)
   telephone recording

7. Location where equipment will be utilized: (City and State)
   Memphis, Tn.

8. The following requirements have been fulfilled:
   ☒ a. Consenting party has agreed to testify.
   ☒ b. Consenting party has executed consent form.
   ☒ c. Recording/transmitting device will only be activated when consenting party is present.

9. Government attorney in judicial district where interception will take place foresees no entrapment and concurs in the use of this technique being appropriate.
   ☒ Yes ☐ No Date 8/3/94
   Identity of Gov't Atty. AUSA JOHN W. FOWLKES
   Judicial District Western District of Tn.

10. Violation(s): Title(s) 21 Sec(s) 841 U.S.C.

11. DOJ notification required ☐ Yes ☒ No If "Yes" check reason below:
   ☐ Interception relates to an investigation of a member of Congress, a Federal judge, member of the Executive Branch at Executive Level IV or above, or a person who has served in such capacity within the previous 2 years.
   ☐ Interception relates to an investigation of any public official and the offense investigated is one involving bribery, conflict of interest, or extortion relating to the performance of his/her official duties.
   ☐ Interception relates to an investigation of a Federal law enforcement official.
   ☐ Consenting/nonconsenting person is a member of the diplomatic corps of a foreign country.
   ☐ Consenting/nonconsenting person is or has been a member of the Witness Security Program and that fact is known to the agency involved or its officers.
   ☐ Consenting/nonconsenting person is in the custody of the Bureau of Prisons or the U.S. Marshals Service.
   ☐ Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Associate Attorney General, Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division, or the U.S. Attorney in the district where an investigation is being conducted has requested the investigating agency to obtain prior written consent for making a consensual interception in a specific investigation.

12. Synopsis of Case: (Attach additional page if necessary)
   The captioned matter involves a CW who is in a position to purchase significant quanties of crack cocaine from high level BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE NATION (BGDN) members.

13. Justification statement necessitating emergency authorization:
   SAC authority per Bureau teletype dated 9/23/92.

Emergency use approval
☐ 14. (SAC) Signature [signature] Date 8/17/94
☐ 15. To be executed at FBIHQ (Unit Chief) Signature Date
☐ 16. To be executed at FBIHQ (Section Chief) Signature Date
☐ 17. To be executed at FBIHQ (LCD) (Complete only if DOJ notification is necessary) Signature Date

WUW 2 Bureau (Substantive Desk)

COPY 1

FBI/DOJ

Memorandum

To : Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Paul Coffey

Date September 23, 1994

From : Assistant Director
Criminal Investigative Division

Subject: VIOLENT DRUG GANGS;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES NATION;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI);
MEMPHIS FIELD DIVISION

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

The Special Agent In Charge of the Memphis Field Division approved the reopening of an REI for a 180-day period on captioned matter, pursuant to The Attorney General Guidelines on General Crimes, Racketeering Enterprise and Domestic Security/Terrorism Investigations, revised March 2, 1994. This reopening of captioned REI commenced on June 14, 1994 and will expire December 10, 1994.

Information supplied by the Memphis Field Division established indication of the existence of a racketeering enterprise involved in burglary, robbery, murder, auto theft, extortion, and drug trafficking.

Enclosure

-12

TO → ME DIV. RMA

1 - SAC, Memphis (Personal Attention)
In the event continuation of this investigation is warranted beyond the 180-day period, SAC, Memphis should ensure renewal authority is given prior to December 10, 1994.

1 - [redacted]
1 -
1 -
1 -
1 -
1 -
1 -

b7C

KLM:klm (9)

U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Memphis, Tennessee 38103

September 19, 1994

BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES NATION (BGDN)
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI)
MEMPHIS DIVISION

I. SYNOPSIS:

The Memphis BGDN Street Gang is the largest and most violent street gang in Memphis, Tennessee. According to estimates, approximately 1,000 BGDN members reside within the Memphis, Tennessee area. Since the investigation was initiated, approximately 300 members have been identified.

The Memphis BGDN Street Gang has very definable ties with the Chicago-based BGDN. The Memphis BGDN is made up of the Black Gangster Disciples, Gangster Disciples, Gangsters, Dark Side, Third World, and Triple Six Mafia factions. Memphis has experienced a marked increase in violence among male and suprisingly, female gang members. The violent crimes committed by these gangs are not confined to traditional jurisdictional boundaries and often occur in states other than Kansas and Missouri. Their illegal activities include burglary, robbery, murder, auto theft, and extortion, with drug trafficking appearing to be the chief profit making activity for the BGDN.

II. DETAILS

A. Organization

The Black Gangster Disciple Nation (BGDN) gang members are currently the most visible and violent of the Memphis street gangs. They are located geographically in the south and southwestern portions of the city. The BGDN is engaged in heavy recruitment in the middle and high schools in the area. Member compliment includes the Gangster Disciples (GDs), the Gangster Disciple Queens (GDQs), a female gang, the Maniac Disciples (MDs), and the Insane Disciples (IDs). The BGDN members are between the ages of 12 and 30.

Recruitment by the BGDN is on the increase. Most individuals join the gang because they want to. However, in some cases individuals join the gangs or the gang to be protected from rival gangs. Although some are intimidated into joining gangs, the actual number appears to be low.

One initiation ritual requires a perspective member to be physically beaten by other members of the gang. The potential members are also expected to commit a crime to demonstrate their loyalty to the organization. Respective GDQ members have the choice of either sleeping with male gang members or being beaten by female gang members in order to join the organization. In order to move up in rank, members must commit crimes of a violent nature normally involving firearms.

It has been documented over the past two years that gang members from Chicago, New York, California, and Kentucky have traveled to Memphis to recruit and teach existing gangs their methods. The presence of the Los Angeles Gangster Crips in the Memphis area is one example of the aforementioned practice.

The numerous aggravated assaults in area middle schools and high schools are largely attributed to gang activity. The high incidence of drive-by shootings, drug related homicides, robberies, and other violent crimes demonstrate the violent posture that many street gangs have assumed.

Key/Dominant Figures

Information developed indicates that [redacted] and [redacted] appear to be the [redacted] BGDN members in the Memphis area. [redacted] aka [redacted], black male, date of birth [redacted], is a high ranking BGDN member from Chicago, Illinois. [redacted] travels to Memphis from Chicago to oversee his BGDN drug operation. [redacted], aka [redacted] black male, date of birth [redacted] appears to be the

b7C

second highest ranked BGDN member in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

Members

The individuals listed below are known BGDN gang members. Pertinent information concerning the criminal history of each individual is listed:

GD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] aggravated assault;

GD[redacted] age [redacted] disorderly conduct, assault;

GD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offense - drugs;

ID[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offense - drugs;

GD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - assault, distribution of cocaine;

GD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offense - aggravated robbery; b7C

MD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - sexual battery, criminal trespass;

GD[redacted] black female, age [redacted] prior offense - assault;

GDQ [redacted] black female, age [redacted] prior offense - assault;

GD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - burglary, vandalism, assault;

GD [redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offense - aggravated assault;

MD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - aggravated robbery, possession of weapon;

GD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] no priors.

GD[redacted] age [redacted] prior offense - burglary;

ID [redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - burglary, criminal trespass, public drunk, and aggravated robbery;

GD [redacted], age [redacted] prior offense - house robbery;

GD [redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offense - robbery (locked victim in trunk of victim's car);

MD [redacted] age [redacted] prior offense - murder, distribution of cocaine;

IG [redacted], black male, age [redacted] prior offense - distribution of drugs;

GD [redacted] age [redacted] black male, prior offense - vandalism; b7C

GD [redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - aggravated kidnapping, disorderly conduct;

GDQ [redacted] black female, age [redacted] prior offense - criminal trespass;

GD [redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - disorderly conduct, criminal trespass, and carrying a concealed weapon;

MD [redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offense - assault;

GD [redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offense - disorderly conduct;

GD [redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offense - disorderly conduct;

IG [redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - aggravated assault, threaten to kill police;

GD [redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offense - robbery;

GD [redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offense - disorderly conduct;

IG [redacted], black male, age [redacted] prior offense - disorderly conduct;

BG[redacted] black male, age [redacted], prior offense - threaten to kill police officer;

GD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offense - carrying a concealed weapon;

GD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - aggravated assault, disorderly conduct, assault, malicious mischief;

GDQ[redacted] black female, age [redacted] prior offense - disorderly conduct; b7C

GD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - assault, criminal trespass, possession of drugs;

MD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - shoplifting, criminal trespass;

GD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offense - aggravated assault;

ID[redacted], black male, age [redacted] prior offense - assault;

GI[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - aggravated burglary, shoplifting, vandalism, aggravated assault;

GDQ[redacted] black female, age [redacted] prior offense - assault;

GD[redacted] black male, age [redacted] prior offenses - possession of concealed weapon, aggravated assault.

The above list represents a small portion of known BGDN members in the greater Memphis area. In Memphis, the Violent/Drug Gang Task Force (VDGTF) has compiled a list of over 300 individuals who are thought to be members of the BGDN. Through the cooperation of the MEMPHIS CITY SCHOOLS, JUVENILE COURT, MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT, and the SHELBY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, the list continues to grow.

B. Operation

It has been determined through Memphis VGDTF debriefings of several BGDN members and rival gang members that several Memphis gangs are being supplied cocaine by local secondary drug trafficking organizations that do not have any true gang affiliations.

The BGDN members are involved in murder, robberies, carjackings, and the distribution of illegal narcotics (namely cocaine). Cocaine is normally distributed by BGDN members in the form of crack, in and around housing projects and schools in the greater Memphis, Tennessee area. The main distribution points are located in areas under BGDN control.

A portion of the cocaine and marijuana distributed in the Memphis, Tennessee area is also being supplied by gang members who travel to and from Chicago, Los Angeles, Detroit, New York, and Kentucky. These members are not always Memphis based, but they recognize Memphis as fertile ground for gang activity and drug distribution. Each BGDN member pays dues of $18.00 per month. The BGDN money is kept by a treasurer (normally a female). The money is used to bail members out of jail and pay attorney's fees. Members are allowed to borrow up to $200.00 for miscellaneous uses without having to pay interest. If more than $200.00 is borrowed, the member is required to pay double that amount back in a reasonable period of time. Individual BGDN sets have been known to accumulate over $25,000.00 or more in their legal defense fund. The amount of money accumulated in each individual set's fund, depends on the size of the membership.

C. Police/Public Corruption

To date, there is no evidence of police corruption associated with the BGDN; however, their have been rumors to the effect that some police officers are working with the gangs.

D. Communications

The Memphis BGDN have individuals called "messengers" who have the responsibility of keeping BGDN members informed. The information comes from Chicago to Memphis, which affects the BGDN as an organization.

Communications among individual subgroups are generally accomplished by telephone, which includes local and long distant telephone calls. Memphis BGDN members also allegedly meet on a bimonthly basis in local hotels or gang members homes to discuss gang-related business. Information is passed during informal meetings at various middle schools and high schools. BGDN members believed to be dealing drugs near the schools have been observed carrying pagers and using portable telephones. The BGDN members attend out of state regional meetings for information to bring back to their members. During the weekends, BGDN members get together at locations around the city, to discuss business. Upper lever BGDN members use FEDERAL EXPRESS, UPS, and other courier companies to transport drugs and pertinent communications.

E. Characteristics

The female members have been known to go to the airport where they set up "Johns", either through prostitution or drug deals, and then rob them. The females have also been known to go to public businesses (namely hotels) and pick up male individuals while pretending to be prostitutes. Upon gaining access to the individual's hotel room, the individual is then robbed by male GD members after they are let into the room by the female GDQs. The female GDQs or "Queens" have also been known to set up fake drug deals and rob the potential drug customers.

During a street drug distribution operation, young gang members serve as "lookouts" and "decoys" for marked police vehicles. Once a vehicle thought to be a police vehicle is observed, the individuals attempt to lure them away from the actual drug distribution point.

During a street distribution operation, individuals designated as security personnel can normally be found within a few yards of the individuals who are actually engaged in selling the crack cocaine. The security personnel normally hide their gun(s) within arms reach, so as to gain easy access when the need arises. By maintaining the gun in the area as opposed to on their person, the security personnel avoids detection by the police.

F. Assessment

Based on the available information, the BGDN appear to be the most formidable Memphis street gang as a drug trafficking organization with the potential to grow and expand its' operation as its' membership and influence expands.

The BGDN members are armed with all type of firearms and display on a daily basis a willingness to employ these weapons in their gang and drug distribution activities. Individual BGDN members attempting to advance in the organization, use violence to gain respect from their leaders. Crimes of violence have increased dramatically among juvenile offenders in the Memphis, Tennessee area. This dramatic increase is largely due to gang recruitment and initiations as well as the fact that the younger members committing acts od violence in an attempt to gain respect from older more seasoned members.

The VGDTF is in the process of addressing the BGDN organization as follows:

1) Develop, expand, and enhance the current BGDN intelligence data base;

2) Identify the gang hierarchy and formulate strategies to attach the organization's head;

3) Engage gang members as often as possible in an attempt to identify members that might be willing to become FBI informants;

4) Identify the field generals assigned to various areas of the city so as to better assess the scope of the BGDN situation as it exist in the Memphis Division;

5) Provide training for VGDTF and state and local law enforcement gang units;

6) Coordinate school systems, communities, community service agencies, and other organizations in a multi-faceted alliance designed to attack the problem from all sides.

G. Bases Of The Information

Information contained in this organizational profile was obtained through FBI field divisions in Chicago, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, and Indiana. A great deal of information has also been obtained from the Memphis Division's files, informants and other intelligent sources such as state and local law enforcement agencies, as well as the MEMPHIS CITY SCHOOLS and the JUVENILE COURT SYSTEM.

ACTION COMMUNICATION Date: 06/14/94

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363) (P)

CONTACT: SA [redacted]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (Encl. 4)
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION (CID)
INTELLIGENCE SECTION;
ROOM 7325
ATTN: SSA [redacted]
SAC: ATLANTA
PASS: Regional Intelligence Squad [redacted]

b7C

TITLE: VIOLENT DRUG GANGS;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION - VCMO;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES NATION;
OO: ME
(EXPIRED: 4/16/94)

RE: FBIHQ teletype authorizing REI, dated 10/5/93, Memphis Information Communication to Director dated 03/22/94, and Memphis teletype to Director dated 5/27/94.

ENCL: Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and three (3) copies of the Black Gangster Disciples Nation (BGDN) REI profile which was approved by SAC Memphis on 06/14/94, for a period of 180 days with an expiration date of 12/11/94.

REQUEST(S): 1. The Intelligence Section will process the enclosed REI submission in accordance with your revised procedures.

2. No budget or resources are being requested at this time in connection with the captioned matter.

DETAILS: Referenced Bureau teletype authorized the renewal of the captioned matter for a period of 180 days commencing 10/17/93. The REI was inadvertently allowed to expire on 4/16/94 due to the belief that the referenced communication forwarded to the Organizational Intelligence Unit (OIU) on 3/22/94, would renew the REI. The REI submission forwarded to (OIU) was in response to Bureau airtel to all SACs dated 01/27/94, which requested intelligence information on the scope and dimension of the Black Gangster Disciple Nation (BGDN).

1 - File # 92D-ME-45363
1 - Working Copy
WUW:skh (4)

RECEIVED IN SIU ON 6/20/94.

Since the opening of the REI, several confidential informants and cooperating witnesses have been opened in connection with this investigation. These individuals are being operated by the Memphis Violent/Drug Gang Task Force personnel in a manner that will be most beneficial to the captioned matter.

The goal of the BGDN REI is to structure and focus intelligence concerning the composition and activities of the BGDN in an attempt to disrupt and dismantle the various sets of the BGDN. These objectives will be realized through the following investigative techniques:

1. The development of quality confidential informants and cooperating witnesses.

2. Expansion of our resource base by working closely with other Federal, State and Local agencies.

3. Analysis of appropriate database.

Memorandum

To : Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Paul Coffey

Date September 23, 1994

From : Assistant Director
Criminal Investigative Division

Subject: VIOLENT DRUG GANGS;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES NATION;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI);
MEMPHIS FIELD DIVISION

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

The Special Agent In Charge of the Memphis Field Division approved the reopening of an REI for a 180-day period on captioned matter, pursuant to The Attorney General Guidelines on General Crimes, Racketeering Enterprise and Domestic Security/Terrorism Investigations, revised March 2, 1994. This reopening of captioned REI commenced on June 14, 1994 and will expire December 10, 1994.

Information supplied by the Memphis Field Division established indication of the existence of a racketeering enterprise involved in burglary, robbery, murder, auto theft, extortion, and drug trafficking.

Enclosures

APPROVED:

Director _____ Deputy Director _____

Crim. Inv. _____ Crim. Jus. Info. Servs. _____ Finance _____ Info. Res. _____ Inspection _____

Laboratory _____ Legal Counsel _____ National Sec. _____ Personnel _____ Training _____

Off. of EEO Affairs _____ Off. of Public & Cong. Affs. _____

1 - SAC, Memphis (Personal Attention)
In the event continuation of this investigation is warranted beyond the 180-day period, SAC, Memphis should ensure renewal authority is given prior to December 10, 1994.

Dep. Dir. _____
ADD Adm. _____
ADD Inv. 1 -
Asst. Dir.:
Adm. Servs. 1 -
Crim. Inv. 1 -
Ident. _____
Insp. 1 -
Intell. 1 -
Lab. _____
Legal Coun. 1 -
Rec. Mgmt. 1 -
Tech. Servs. _____
Training _____
Cong. Affs. Off. _____
Off. of EEO _____
Off. Liaison & Int. Affs. _____
Off. of Public Affs. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Sec'y _____

KLM:klm (9)

b7C

-14

MAIL ROOM

U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Memphis, Tennessee 38103

September 19, 1994

BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES NATION (BGDN)
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI)
MEMPHIS DIVISION

I. SYNOPSIS:

The Memphis BGDN Street Gang is the largest and most violent street gang in Memphis, Tennessee. According to estimates, approximately 1,000 BGDN members reside within the Memphis, Tennessee area. Since the investigation was initiated, approximately 300 members have been identified.

The Memphis BGDN Street Gang has very definable ties with the Chicago-based BGDN. The Memphis BGDN is made up of the Black Gangster Disciples, Gangster Disciples, Gangsters, Dark Side, Third World, and Triple Six Mafia factions. Memphis has experienced a marked increase in violence among male and suprisingly, female gang members. The violent crimes committed by these gangs are not confined to traditional jurisdictional boundaries and often occur in states other than Kansas and Missouri. Their illegal activities include burglary, robbery, murder, auto theft, and extortion, with drug trafficking appearing to be the chief profit making activity for the BGDN.

ACTION COMMUNICATION Date: 12/5/94

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363) (P)

CONTACT: SA [redacted] b7C

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (Encl. 4)
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION (CID);
SENSITIVE INFORMATION UNIT;
INTELLIGENCE SECTION;
ROOM 4944
ATTN: SSA [redacted] b7C
SAC: ATLANTA (Encl. 2)
PASS: Southeast Regional Intelligence Squad
Attention: SSA [redacted]

TITLE: VIOLENT DRUG GANGS;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION - VCMO;
BLACK GANGSTERS DISCIPLES NATION;
OO: ME
(EXPIRES: 12/10/94)

RE: FBIHQ Memorandum to Memphis dated 09/23/94.

ENCL: Enclosed for the Bureau is the original and three (3) copies of the Black Gangster Disciples Nation (BGDN) REI profile. Enclosed for the Atlanta Southeast Regional Intelligence Squad are (2) copies.

REQUEST(S): 1. The Intelligence Section is requested to process the enclosed REI submission in accordance with your revised procedures.

2. No budget or resources are being requested at this time in connection with captioned matter.

DETAILS: Since the opening of captioned REI, several confidential informants and cooperating witnesses have been opened in connection with this investigation. These individuals are being operated by the Memphis Violent/Drug Gang Task Force personnel in a manner that will best provide information beneficial to the investigative matter.

On 12/21/94, [redacted] with SA [redacted] and b7C advised that a statement was required which advises that SAC approved the renewal.

1 - File # 92D-ME-45363
1 - Working Copy
WUW:wuw (2)

The goal of the BGDN REI is to gather information on the criminal activities of the organization, and to prosecute the guilty parties.

The above objectives will be realized through the following investigative methods:

1. The development of quality confidential informants and cooperating witnesses.

2. Expansion of the gang resource base by working closely with other Federal, State and Local agencies.

3. Analysis of appropriate databases.

ACTION COMMUNICATION Date: 01/04/95

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363) (P)

CONTACT: SA [redacted] b7C

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION (CID);
SENSITIVE INFORMATION UNIT;
INTELLIGENCE SECTION;
ROOM 4944
ATTN: [redacted]

TITLE: VIOLENT DRUG GANGS;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION - VCMO;
BLACK GANGSTERS DISCIPLES NATION;
OO: ME

Telephone call from SSA [redacted] to Memphis dated 12/19/94.

DETAILS: SAC Memphis granted approval for the continuation of the captioned REI investigation on 12/05/94.

-16

1 - File # 92D-ME-45363
1 - Working Copy
NJW:wnw (4)

AIRTEL

1/10/95

Director, FBI

SAC, Memphis (92D-ME-45363)

VIOLENT DRUG GANGS;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE NATION (BGDN)
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI)

Pursuant to The Attorney General Guidelines on General Crimes, Racketeering Enterprise and Domestic Security/Terrorism Investigations, revised March 2, 1994, SAC, Memphis approved the renewal of captioned REI, which commenced December 11, 1994 and will expire June 8, 1995.

In the event continuation of this investigation is warranted beyond the 180-day period, SAC, Memphis should ensure renewal authority is given prior to June 8, 1995.

CEH

1 -
1 -
1 -
1 -
1 -
1 -
1 -

b7C

PJS:pjs (10)

-17

b7C

Dep. Dir.
Asst. Dir.:
Crim. Inv.
CJIS
Finance
Info. Res.
Insp.
Lab.
Legal Coun.
National Sec.
Personnel
Training
Off. of EEOA
Off. of Public & Cong. Affs.
Director's Office

MAILROOM

FBI/DOJ

FD-621 (Rev. 4-12-89) (Nontelephonic Co[redacted]al Monitoring Usage Report)

AIRTEL

Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: SAC MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363) P Date: 12/14/94

To: DIRECTOR, FBI
Attn: **ELSUR Index**

Subject: VIOLENT/DRUG GANGS
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE (BGD);
REI-GANGS;
OO: MEMPHIS

__X__ ~~Emergency~~ SAC Authority. Re Memphis FD-759 to FBIHQ dated 8/17/94 captioned as above.

_____ Routine Authority. Re _____ to FBIHQ dated _____ and Bu _____ to _____ dated _____ captioned as above.

NOTE: If no confirming communication received from FBIHQ in response to your request for routine use of a nontelephonic consensual monitoring device, mark below:

__X__ No confirming communication received from FBIHQ to date.

The following information relates to the use of the equipment:

__x__ Its use provided information which corroborated or assisted in corroborating the allegation or suspicion.
_____ It was used, but no information of value was obtained.
_____ It was not used.
(Only one of the above applies)

18

Complete and submit within 30 days of expiration of each and every period of authorization granted for nontelephonic consensual monitoring by either the SAC, DOJ or FBIHQ-CID (whether an initial or a subsequent authorization), and for each extension or renewal thereof.

Transmit to FBIHQ in a sealed brown envelope labeled "Director, FBI, ELSUR Index, FBIHQ."

1-6712

2 - Bureau
1 - 92D-ME-45363 ELA (Field Office Elsur Case Sub File)
1 - ME 66-823-SUB A (Field Office Optional)

WUW/mbc

FD-759 (Rev. 5-31-91)

To: Director, FBI ( )
Attn: CID, REI-GANGS Section

Date: 12/5/94

From: SAC, MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363)(P)

Title: VIOLENT/DRUG GANG;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE (BGD),
REI-GANGS;
OO: MEMPHIS

Notification of SAC Authority Granted
~~for Emergency Use~~
of Consensual Monitoring Equipment (Nontelephonic) Telephone &

Form must be submitted within 5 working days of the date authorization was granted.

1. Reason for Proposed Use: (Check)
   - [x] Corroborate Testimony
   - [x] Protect Consenting Party
   - [ ] Protect Government Property
   - [ ] Other (Specify)

2. Type of Equipment: (Check)
   - [x] Transmitter/ Receiver
   - [x] Microphone/ Amplifier
   - [x] Concealed Recorder
   - [x] Other (Specify) telephonic equipment

3. Consenting Party (Check one)
   - [x] Nonconfidential Party [redacted] b7C
   - [x] Confidential Source (Name) b7D
   - [x] Cooperative Witness

4. Interceptee(s): (Include Title if Public Official)
   [redacted] and others yet unknown

5. Duration of proposed use:
   (Not to exceed ~~30 days~~) 90 days
   Date Authorized: 12/5/94
   Expiration Date: 3/7/95

6. Installation of Equipment: (Check)
   - [x] Concealed on Person
   - [ ] In Vehicle
   - [ ] In Motel Room
   - [x] Other (Specify)
   telephone recording

7. Location where equipment will be utilized: (City and State)
   Memphis, Tn.

8. The following requirements have been fulfilled:
   - [x] a. Consenting party has agreed to testify.
   - [x] b. Consenting party has executed consent form.
   - [x] c. Recording/transmitting device will only be activated when consenting party is present.

9. Government attorney in judicial district where interception will take place foresees no entrapment and concurs in the use of this technique being appropriate.
   [x] Yes [ ] No Date 11/30/94
   Identity of Gov't Atty. AUSA JOHN W. FOWLKES
   Judicial District ME WDTN

10. Violation(s): Title(s) 21 Sec(s) 841 U.S.C.

11. DOJ notification required [ ] Yes [x] No If "Yes" check reason below:
   - [ ] Interception relates to an investigation of a member of Congress, a Federal judge, member of the Executive Branch at Executive Level IV or above, or a person who has served in such capacity within the previous 2 years.
   - [ ] Interception relates to an investigation of any public official and the offense investigated is one involving bribery, conflict of interest, or extortion relating to the performance of his/her official duties.
   - [ ] Interception relates to an investigation of a Federal law enforcement official.
   - [ ] Consenting/nonconsenting person is a member of the diplomatic corps of a foreign country.
   - [ ] Consenting/nonconsenting person is or has been a member of the Witness Security Program and that fact is known to the agency involved or its officers.
   - [ ] Consenting/nonconsenting person is in the custody of the Bureau of Prisons or the U.S. Marshals Service.
   - [ ] Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Associate Attorney General, Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division, or the U.S. Attorney in the district where an investigation is being conducted has requested the investigating agency to obtain prior written consent for making a consensual interception in a specific investigation.

12. Synopsis of Case: (Attach additional page if necessary)

The captioned matter involves a CW who is in a position to purchase significant quanties of crack cocaine from upper level Black Gangster Disciple Nation (BGDN) members.

13. Justification statement necessitating emergency authorization:

SAC authority per Bureau teletype dated 9/23/92.

Emergency use approval
- [ ] 14. (SAC) Signature Robert P. Knight Date 12/6/94
- [ ] 15. To be executed at FBIHQ (Unit Chief) Signature _____ Date _____
- [ ] 16. To be executed at FBIHQ (Section Chief) Signature _____ Date _____
- [ ] 17. To be executed at FBIHQ (LCD) *(Complete only if DOJ notification is necessary)* Signature _____ Date _____

2 - Bureau (Substantive Desk)
WUW

COPY 1

Printed on Recycled Paper

FD-621 (Rev. 4-12-89) (Nontelephonic Con[redacted]al Monitoring Usage Report)

AIRTEL 31

Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: SAC, MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363) P Date: 3/27/95

To: DIRECTOR, FBI
Attn: **ELSUR Index**

Subject: VIOLENT/DRUG GANG;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE (BGD);
REI-GANGS;
OO: MEMPHIS

X ~~Emergency~~ SAC Authority. Re Memphis FD-759 to FBIHQ dated 12/5/94 captioned as above.

____ Routine Authority. Re _____ to FBIHQ dated _____ and Bu _____ to _____ dated _____ captioned as above.

NOTE: If no confirming communication received from FBIHQ in response to your request for routine use of a nontelephonic consensual monitoring device, mark below:

X No confirming communication received from FBIHQ to date.

The following information relates to the use of the equipment:

____ Its use provided information which corroborated or assisted in corroborating the allegation or suspicion.
____ It was used, but no information of value was obtained.
X It was not used.
(Only one of the above applies)

Complete and submit within 30 days of expiration of each and every period of authorization granted for nontelephonic consensual monitoring by either the SAC, DOJ or FBIHQ-CID (whether an initial or a subsequent authorization), and for each extension or renewal thereof.

19

Transmit to FBIHQ in a sealed brown envelope labeled "Director, FBI, ELSUR Index, FBIHQ."

1-6718

2 - Bureau
1 - 92D-ME-45363 SUB ELA (Field Office Elsur Case Sub File)
1 - ME 66-823-SUB A (Field Office Optional)
WUW/mbc
(4)

ACTION COMMUNICATION Date: 5/9/95

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (92D-ME-45363) (P)

CONTACT: [redacted]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (Encl. 4)
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION (CID); b7C
SENSITIVE INFORMATION UNIT;
INTELLIGENCE SECTION;
ROOM 4944
SAC: ATLANTA (Encl. 2)
PASS: Southeast Regional Intelligence Squad
Attention: SSA [redacted]

TITLE: VIOLENT DRUG/GANGS;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION - VCMO;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE NATION (BGDN);
OO: ME
(EXPIRES: 12/5/95)

RE: FBIHQ Memorandum to Memphis dated 09/23/94.

ENCL: Enclosed for the Bureau is the original and three (3) copies of the Black Gangster Disciple Nation REI profile. Enclosed for the Atlanta Southeast Regional Intelligence Squad are (2) copies.

REQUEST(S): 1. The Intelligence Section is requested to process the enclosed REI submission in accordance with the Bureau's revised procedures. SAC Memphis authorized the renewal of the captioned REI investigation for 180 days on 5/12/95.

2. No budget or resources are being requested at this time in connection with captioned matter.

DETAILS: Since the opening of captioned REI, several confidential informants and cooperating witnesses have been opened in connection with this investigation. These individuals are being operated by the Memphis Violent/Drug Gang Task Force in a manner that will best provide information beneficial to the investigative matter.

Expiration: 6/8/95

1 - File # 92D-ME-45363
1 - Working Copy
YR:wyo (2)

The goal of the BGDN REI is to gather information on the criminal activities of the organization, and to prosecute the guilty parties.

The above objectives will be realized through the following investigative methods:

1. The development of quality confidential informants and cooperating witnesses.

2. Expansion of the gang resource base by working closely with other Federal, State and Local agencies.

3. Analysis of appropriate databases.

AIRTEL

7/5/95

Director, FBI

SAC, Memphis (92D-ME-45363)

BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE NATION (BGDN)
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION (REI)

Pursuant to The Attorney General Guidelines on General Crimes, Racketeering Enterprise and Domestic Security/Terrorism Investigations, revised March 2, 1994, SAC, Memphis approved the renewal of captioned REI, which commenced June 9, 1995 and will expire December 5, 1995.

In the event continuation of this investigation is warranted beyond the 180-day period, SAC, Memphis should ensure renewal authority is given prior to December 5, 1995. Appropriate notification and letterhead memorandum (LHM) are to be submitted in a timely manner to the Sensitive Information Unit (SIU), Intelligence Section (IS), Criminal Investigative Division (CID) for dissemination to the Department of Justice.

Memphis should forward a copy of the REI profile(s) on floppy disk, in Wordperfect format, to the SIU, IS, CID, Room 4944. Memphis should ensure that the floppy disk is labelled with the file number, to include the serial number. The SIU will subsequently enter the profile(s) into the Criminal Intelligence Support Program (CISP).

- 21

WE/NCS

Dep. Dir. 1 -
ADD Adm. 1 -
ADD Inv. 1 -
Asst. Dir.: 1 -
Adm. Servs. 1 -
Crim. Inv. 1 -
Ident. 1 -
Insp. 1 -
Intell.
Lab.
Legal Coun.
Rec. Mgmt.
Tech. Servs.
Training
Cong. Affs. Off.
Off. of EEO
Off. Liaison & Int. Affs.
Off. of Public Affs.
Telephone Rm.
Director's Sec'y

[redacted] (enclosure)

[redacted] (enclosure)

PMC:pmc (9)

b7C

MAIL ROOM

RM. 4944

U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Memphis, Tennessee 38103

November 8, 1995

BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES (BGDN);
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATIONS-GANGS;
MEMPHIS DIVISION

I. SYNOPSIS

The existence of the Black Gangster Disciple Nation (BGDN), was first detected in Memphis, Tennessee, approximately ten (10) years ago. Since that time, the BGDN has developed into the largest street gang in the city of Memphis. Of the approximately 5000 or more individuals (both male and female) claiming gang affiliation within the Memphis, Tennessee area, more than 3500 have been identified as having some affiliation with the BGDN.

The Memphis neighborhood gangs are no longer in sole control of the lucrative drug distribution markets within the city. With the hard core element of the Memphis BGDN street gang firmly in place, more and more of the lucrative drug distribution points are exchanging hands. However, it should be noted that the leaders of the neighborhood gangs and neighborhood drug distribution operations continue to maintain an upper hand when it comes to having access to reliable sources for quality drugs (namely cocaine). In view of this fact, it appears that the leaders of the Memphis neighborhood gangs and neighborhood drug distribution operations, will continue to play a significant role in the overall control and availability of drugs within the city.

92D-ME-45363-125

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

II. DETAILS

A. Organization

The Memphis BGDN is made up of the following factions: Black Gangster Disciples faction; Gangster Disciple Queen faction; Gangsters Disciple faction; Gangster faction; Dark Side faction; Third World faction;, Insane Gangster Disciple faction; and the Triple Six Mafia faction.

The Gangster Disciple Queens (GDQ) or female BGDN gang members, tend to participate in the same types of criminal activities as their male counterparts.

BGDN gang members are currently the most visible and arguably the most violent of the Memphis street gangs. They are located geographically in the south and southwestern portions of the city. The BGDN power centers appear to be in and around the various Memphis area housing projects.

Key/Dominant Figures

Investigative efforts have identified [redacted] as the [redacted] member of the Memphis BGDN street gang. [redacted] is thought to share responsibility for leadership of the Memphis BGDN with two individuals known only as [redacted] last name unknown (LNU) aka [redacted] and [redacted] LNU aka [redacted] b7C

Members/Associates

[redacted] a BGDN gang member, has been arrested and charged with murder, in a gang related shooting incident in Memphis, Tennessee.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

b7C

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to being involved in the distribution of cocaine and other related crimes, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, has been arrested and charged with murder, in a gang related shooting incident in Memphis, Tennessee.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine and/or "crack" cocaine in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine and other related crimes, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of "crack" cocaine, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine and other related crimes, in the Memphis, Tennessee area. b7C

[redacted] aka [redacted]" a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in gang related aggravated assaults and the distribution of cocaine, in the Memphis, Tennessee area. b7C

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved gang related robberies, aggravated assaults, and the distribution of cocaine, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine and other related crimes, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine and other related crimes in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine and other related crimes in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is involved in criminal activity in the Memphis, Tennessee area

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

B. Operation

The Memphis BGDN street gang has displayed a remarkable ability to adapt to it's surrounding. Individuals identifying with the BGDN street gang, continue to form alliances with several of the local secondary drug trafficking organizations. Most of the local drug trafficking organizations are family operated. If members of the Memphis BGDN are unable to obtain drugs from their Chicago connections, they turn to the local organizations. The local distributors tend to do the same.

Members of the Memphis BGDN street gang tend to be involved in murders, robberies, car jacking, and the distribution of illegal drugs (namely cocaine). Cocaine is normally distributed by BGDN members in the form of crack, in and around housing projects and schools in the greater Memphis, Tennessee area.

Each BGDN member is required to pay dues of $18.00 per month. The BGDN money is kept by a treasurer (normally a female who may or may not be an actual gang member). The money is used in most cases to bail gang members out of jail and pay attorney's fees. Members are allowed to borrow up to $200.00 for miscellaneous uses without incurring interest charges. If more than $200.00 is borrowed, the member is subject to incur interest charges that could require them to pay double the amount borrowed back. Individual BGDN sets have been known to accumulate as much as $25,000.00 or more in their legal defense fund. The amount of money accumulated in each individual set's fund varies depending on the actual size of the gang.

C. Police/Public Corruption

To date, there is no evidence of police corruption associated with the Memphis BGDN street gang.

D. Communications

Communications among individual subgroups are generally accomplished by telephone, which includes local and long distance telephone calls. Memphis BGDN members also allegedly meet on a bimonthly basis in local hotels or gang at their homes, to discuss gang-related business. Information is passed on during informal meetings. BGDN members involved in the distribution of drugs have been observed carrying pagers and using cellular telephones.

Some Memphis BGDN members have attended out of state regional meetings. The last known regional meetings were held in Chicago, Illinois and Kansas City, Missouri.

Upper lever BGDN members allegedly use FEDERAL EXPRESS, UPS, and other courier services to transport drugs and pertinent information.

E. Characteristics

The Memphis BGDN, like the Chicago based BGDN, are affiliates of the Folks alliance. Members of the BGDN tend to wear their clothing and jewelry to the right. The gang's colors are black and blue. The Memphis BGDN has also been known to use numbers to represent the letters of the alphabets, when they are attempting to encode messages (example A = 1, B = 2 and so on).

During a street drug distribution operation, young gang members serve as "lookouts," drug distributors and "decoys."

During a street distribution operation, individuals designated as security personnel can normally be found within a few yards of the individuals who are engaged in the distribution of "crack" cocaine. The security personnel hide their guns within arms reach in most cases, so as to avoid detection if detained by the police.

F. Assessment

Memphis BGDN gang members tend to be well armed. Individual BGDN members have been found to use several different types of firearms.

Individual BGDN members attempting to advance in the organization, use violence to demonstrate their loyalty and toughness.

Crimes of violence have increased dramatically among juvenile offenders in the Memphis, Tennessee area. This dramatic increase is believed to be largely due to the increase in gang recruitment and gang initiations, as well as the fact that the younger members tend to commit acts of violence in an attempt to gain respect from the older more seasoned members.

The Memphis VD/GTF is in the process of addressing the BGDN organization as follows:

1) The continued development, expansion, and enhancement of the BGDN intelligence base;

2) Identification of the members of the BGDN hierarchy in Memphis and the formulation of strategies to attack the various BGDN hierarchies;

3) Engage gang members as often as possible in an attempt to identify members who are potential FBI informants and cooperating witnesses;

4) Identify the field generals assigned to various areas of the city so as to better assess the scope of the BGDN situation as it exist in the Memphis Division;

5) Obtain training for V/DGTF and state and local law enforcement gang units;

6) Coordinate V/DGTF investigative efforts with the school systems, various community organizations, community service agencies, and other neighborhood oriented organizations in a multi-faceted alliance designed to attack the problem in a holistic manner.

G. Bases Of The Information

Information contained in this organizational profile was obtained from the Memphis Division's investigative files, informants information and other intelligence sources such as state and local law enforcement agencies, as well as the Memphis City Schools and the Memphis Juvenile Court System.

(03/31/95)

4/9

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE **Date:** 11/08/1995

To: Criminal Investigative Division (CID); Sensitive Information Unit; Intelligence Section; Room 4944 **Attn:** SSA [redacted]
Atlanta **Attn:** SSA [redacted]
Southeast Regional Intelligence Squad b7C

From: Memphis
Squad 5
Contact: SA [redacted], Ext. [redacted]

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] wuw

File Number(s): 92D-ME-45363 (P)

Title: VIOLENT DRUG/GANGS;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION - VCMO;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE NATION (BGDN);
OO: ME
(EXPIRES: 6/3/96)

Reference: FBIHQ Airtel to Memphis dated 7/5/95.

Package: Being forwarded under separate cover for the Bureau are the original and three (3) copies of the Black Gangster Disciple Nation REI profile. Also being forwarded under separate cover for the Atlanta Southeast Regional Intelligence Squad are (2) copies.

Synopsis: The Intelligence Section is requested to process the enclosed REI submission in accordance with the Bureau's revised procedures.

92D-ME-45363-126

Details: SAC Memphis authorized the renewal of the captioned REI investigation for 180 days on 11/6/95.

No budget or resources are being requested at this time in connection with the captioned matter.

New 180-day period is 12/7/95-6/3/96

CC

File

(03/31/95)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

To: CID
Atlanta
Re: 92D-ME-45363, 11/08/1995

Since the opening of captioned REI, several confidential informants and cooperating witnesses have been opened in connection with this investigation. These individuals are being operated by the Memphis Violent Drug/Gang Task Force in a manner that will best provide information beneficial to the investigative matter.

The goal of the BGDN REI is to gather information on the criminal activities of the organization, and to prosecute the guilty parties.

The above objectives will be realized through the following investigative methods:

1. The development of quality confidential informants and cooperating witnesses.

2. Expansion of the gang resource base by working closely with other Federal, State and Local agencies.

3. Analysis of appropriate databases.

(03/31/95)

81

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE **Date:** 11/08/1995

To: Criminal Investigative Division (CID); Sensitive Information Unit; Intelligence Section; Room 4944 **Attn:** SSA [redacted]
Atlanta **Attn:** SSA [redacted]
Southeast Regional Intelligence Squad

b7C

From: Memphis
Squad 5
Contact: SA [redacted] Ext. [redacted]

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] wuw

File Number(s): 92D-ME-45363 (P)

Title: VIOLENT DRUG/GANGS;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION - VCMO;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE NATION (BGDN);
OO: ME
(EXPIRES: 6/3/96)

Reference: FBIHQ Airtel to Memphis dated 7/5/95.

Package: Being forwarded under separate cover for the Bureau are the original and three (3) copies of the Black Gangster Disciple Nation REI profile. Also being forwarded under separate cover for the Atlanta Southeast Regional Intelligence Squad are (2) copies.

Synopsis: The Intelligence Section is requested to process the enclosed REI submission in accordance with the Bureau's revised procedures.

92D-ME-45363-126

Details: SAC Memphis authorized the renewal of the captioned REI investigation for 180 days on 11/6/95.

No budget or resources are being requested at this time in connection with the captioned matter.

1 ENCLOSURE

Rm

92D-ME-45363-126

U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Memphis, Tennessee 38103

November 8, 1995

BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLES (BGDN);
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATIONS-GANGS;
MEMPHIS DIVISION

I. SYNOPSIS

The existence of the Black Gangster Disciple Nation (BGDN), was first detected in Memphis, Tennessee, approximately ten (10) years ago. Since that time, the BGDN has developed into the largest street gang in the city of Memphis. Of the approximately 5000 or more individuals (both male and female) claiming gang affiliation within the Memphis, Tennessee area, more than 3500 have been identified as having some affiliation with the BGDN.

The Memphis neighborhood gangs are no longer in sole control of the lucrative drug distribution markets within the city. With the hard core element of the Memphis BGDN street gang firmly in place, more and more of the lucrative drug distribution points are exchanging hands. However, it should be noted that the leaders of the neighborhood gangs and neighborhood drug distribution operations continue to maintain an upper hand when it comes to having access to reliable sources for quality drugs (namely cocaine). In view of this fact, it appears that the leaders of the Memphis neighborhood gangs and neighborhood drug distribution operations, will continue to play a significant role in the overall control and availability of drugs within the city.

920-MB-45313-126
ENCLOSURE

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

II. DETAILS

A. Organization

The Memphis BGDN is made up of the following factions: Black Gangster Disciples faction; Gangster Disciple Queen faction; Gangsters Disciple faction; Gangster faction; Dark Side faction; Third World faction;, Insane Gangster Disciple faction; and the Triple Six Mafia faction.

The Gangster Disciple Queens (GDQ) or female BGDN gang members, tend to participate in the same types of criminal activities as their male counterparts.

BGDN gang members are currently the most visible and arguably the most violent of the Memphis street gangs. They are located geographically in the south and southwestern portions of the city. The BGDN power centers appear to be in and around the various Memphis area housing projects.

Key/Dominant Figures

Investigative efforts have identified [redacted] as the highest ranking member of the Memphis BGDN street gang. [redacted] is thought to share responsibility for leadership of the Memphis BGDN with two individuals known only as [redacted] last name unknown (LNU) aka [redacted] and [redacted] LNU aka [redacted] b7C

Members/Associates

[redacted] a BGDN gang member, has been arrested and charged with murder, in a gang related shooting incident in Memphis, Tennessee.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

b7C

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to being involved in the distribution of cocaine and other related crimes, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, has been arrested and charged with murder, in a gang related shooting incident in Memphis, Tennessee.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine and/or "crack" cocaine in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine and other related crimes, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of "crack" cocaine, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine and other related crimes, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in gang related aggravated assaults and the distribution of cocaine, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved gang related robberies, aggravated assaults, and the distribution of cocaine, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

b7C

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine and other related crimes, in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine and other related crimes in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine and other related crimes in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is involved in criminal activity in the Memphis, Tennessee area

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

[redacted] aka [redacted] a BGDN gang member, is suspected to be involved in the distribution of cocaine in the Memphis, Tennessee area.

B. Operation

The Memphis BGDN street gang has displayed a remarkable ability to adapt to it's surrounding. Individuals identifying with the BGDN street gang, continue to form alliances with several of the local secondary drug trafficking organizations. Most of the local drug trafficking organizations are family operated. If members of the Memphis BGDN are unable to obtain drugs from their Chicago connections, they turn to the local organizations. The local distributors tend to do the same.

Members of the Memphis BGDN street gang tend to be involved in murders, robberies, car jacking, and the distribution of illegal drugs (namely cocaine). Cocaine is normally distributed by BGDN members in the form of crack, in and around housing projects and schools in the greater Memphis, Tennessee area.

Each BGDN member is required to pay dues of $18.00 per month. The BGDN money is kept by a treasurer (normally a female who may or may not be an actual gang member). The money is used in most cases to bail gang members out of jail and pay attorney's fees. Members are allowed to borrow up to $200.00 for miscellaneous uses without incurring interest charges. If more than $200.00 is borrowed, the member is subject to incur interest charges that could require them to pay double the amount borrowed back. Individual BGDN sets have been known to accumulate as much as $25,000.00 or more in their legal defense fund. The amount of money accumulated in each individual set's fund varies depending on the actual size of the gang.

C. Police/Public Corruption

To date, there is no evidence of police corruption associated with the Memphis BGDN street gang.

D. Communications

Communications among individual subgroups are generally accomplished by telephone, which includes local and long distance telephone calls. Memphis BGDN members also allegedly meet on a bimonthly basis in local hotels or gang at their homes, to discuss gang-related business. Information is passed on during informal meetings. BGDN members involved in the distribution of drugs have been observed carrying pagers and using cellular telephones.

Some Memphis BGDN members have attended out of state regional meetings. The last known regional meetings were held in Chicago, Illinois and Kansas City, Missouri.

Upper lever BGDN members allegedly use FEDERAL EXPRESS, UPS, and other courier services to transport drugs and pertinent information.

E. Characteristics

The Memphis BGDN, like the Chicago based BGDN, are affiliates of the Folks alliance. Members of the BGDN tend to wear their clothing and jewelry to the right. The gang's colors are black and blue. The Memphis BGDN has also been known to use numbers to represent the letters of the alphabets, when they are attempting to encode messages (example A = 1, B = 2 and so on).

During a street drug distribution operation, young gang members serve as "lookouts," drug distributors and "decoys."

During a street distribution operation, individuals designated as security personnel can normally be found within a few yards of the individuals who are engaged in the distribution of "crack" cocaine. The security personnel hide their guns within arms reach in most cases, so as to avoid detection if detained by the police.

F. Assessment

Memphis BGDN gang members tend to be well armed. Individual BGDN members have been found to use several different types of firearms.

Individual BGDN members attempting to advance in the organization, use violence to demonstrate their loyalty and toughness.

Crimes of violence have increased dramatically among juvenile offenders in the Memphis, Tennessee area. This dramatic increase is believed to be largely due to the increase in gang recruitment and gang initiations, as well as the fact that the younger members tend to commit acts of violence in an attempt to gain respect from the older more seasoned members.

The Memphis VD/GTF is in the process of addressing the BGDN organization as follows:

1) The continued development, expansion, and enhancement of the BGDN intelligence base;

2) Identification of the members of the BGDN hierarchy in Memphis and the formulation of strategies to attack the various BGDN hierarchies;

3) Engage gang members as often as possible in an attempt to identify members who are potential FBI informants and cooperating witnesses;

4) Identify the field generals assigned to various areas of the city so as to better assess the scope of the BGDN situation as it exist in the Memphis Division;

5) Obtain training for V/DGTF and state and local law enforcement gang units;

6) Coordinate V/DGTF investigative efforts with the school systems, various community organizations, community service agencies, and other neighborhood oriented organizations in a multi-faceted alliance designed to attack the problem in a holistic manner.

G. Bases Of The Information

Information contained in this organizational profile was obtained from the Memphis Division's investigative files, informants information and other intelligence sources such as state and local law enforcement agencies, as well as the Memphis City Schools and the Memphis Juvenile Court System.

92D-ME-45363

Precedence: ROUTINE **Date:** 11/17/1995

To: EL PASO
HONOLULU
HOUSTON
INDIANAPOLIS
LITTLE ROCK
LOS ANGELES
MEMPHIS
NEWARK
NEW HAVEN
NEW YORK
OKLAHOMA CITY
PHOENIX
PITTSBURGH
PORTLAND
RICHMOND
SACRAMENTO
SAN FRANCISCO
ST. LOUIS
TAMPA

From: FBIHQ
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION/INTELLIGENCE SECTION/INTELLIGENCE DEVELOPMENT UNIT
Contact: SSA [redacted] (202) 324-[redacted] b7C

Approved By: [redacted] NCS

Drafted By: [redacted] : mt b7C

File Number(s): 92 MATTERS

Title: RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATIONS (REI)

Synopsis: The below listed REIs have been approved by the Intelligence Section (IS), Intelligence Development Unit (IDU). Authorization for budget/procurement matters will be addressed in separate communications.

92D-ME-45363-129

Details: The below listed REIs have been approved by the IDU for renewal, reopening or initiation as requested. Budget and procurement matters are not approved in this communication and will be addressed separately. All receiving offices are reminded that SACs are authorized to initiate, renew or reopen REIs involving drugs, violence, extortion or systemic public corruption. The REI must be reviewed at FBIHQ, IS, IDU followed by appropriate notification of the REI's existence to the Attorney General. Offices should ensure that SAC authority for renewals is obtained 30 days prior to expiration, with timely notification to the IDU. Profiles with detachable summaries on

an LHM must be included for forwarding to the Department of Justice. Offices that do not have CISP terminals should forward to IDU a copy of the profile(s) on a disk in Wordperfect format, noting the file and serial number. The IDU will enter the profile(s) into CISP. Offices which have submitted REIs not listed below shall be notified in future communications. The approved REIs are as follows:

EL PASO
92D-EP-31324

HONOLULU
92E-HN-13011

HOUSTON
92B-HO-31980

INDIANAPOLIS
92D-IP-79696

LOS ANGELES
92C-LA-113314
92E-LA-169809

LITTLE ROCK
92C-LR-36633

MEMPHIS
92D-ME-45363

NEWARK
92A-NK-6133
92A-NK-6136, 6137, 6138, 6139
92B-NK-73286
92B-NK-76872
92B-NK-76908
92B-NK-80841
92F-NK-85590

NEW HAVEN
92A-NH-31784

NEW YORK
92A-NY-9281, 9284
92A-NY-236792
92B-NY-231528
92B-NY-232664
92D-NY-245973
92E-NY-231026
92G-NY-214640

OKLAHOMA CITY
92C-OC-55506

PHOENIX
92B-PX-46832

PITTSBURGH
92F-PG-55241

PORTLAND
92C-PD-37364

RICHMOND
92F-RH-44934

SACRAMENTO
92C-SC-15183

SAN FRANCISCO
92B-SF-102598
92C-SF-92442
92D-SF-96286

ST. LOUIS
92A-SL-175206

TAMPA
92A-TP-33313

♦♦

(03/31/95)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE **Date:** 5/3/1996

To: Criminal Investigative Division (CID); Sensitive Information Unit; Intelligence Section; Room 4944 **Attn:** UNIT CHIEF [redacted]

Atlanta Southeast Regional Intelligence Squad **Attn:** SSA [redacted] b7C

From: Memphis
Squad 5
Contact: SA [redacted] Ext. [redacted]

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] wuw

File Number(s): 92D-ME-45363 (Closed)

Title: VIOLENT DRUG/GANGS;
RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION - VCMO;
BLACK GANGSTER DISCIPLE NATION (BGDN);
OO: ME
(EXPIRES: 6/3/96)

Reference: Memphis EC to the Director, dated 11/8/96.

Synopsis: The purpose of this document is to notify the Intelligence Section of the closing of the captioned REI investigation.

92D-ME-45363-130

Details: On February 27, 1996, an investigation was opened to address the criminal activities of [redacted] and his organization. The file number for the [redacted] investigation is [redacted] is currently operating a drug distribution street crew, consisting of approximately 20 individuals. b7C

(03/31/95)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

To: CID
Atlanta
Re: 92D-ME-45363, 5/3/1996

The goal of the investigation is to prosecute and incarcerate [redacted] and the guilty members of his organization through the possible use of the RICO statute, the Hobbs Act statute, the Carjacking statute or the illegal drug statutes.

As provided in the referenced document, investigative efforts have identified [redacted] as the highest ranking member of the Memphis BGDN street gang. [redacted] is thought to share some of the responsibility for leadership of the Memphis BGDN with [redacted] last name unknown (LNU) aka [redacted] and [redacted] LNU aka [redacted] b7C

In view of the above developments, UACB, the captioned REI investigation is considered closed.

♦♦