FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION

Subject:

GEORGE JACKSON

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GEORGE JACKSON

FILE 44-HQ-47984

FBI

Date: 2/5/

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SF 44-1058 GAH:rap

attention in BUFILE 44-44439, captioned SUBJECT, PRISON GUARD, SOLEDAD STATE PRISON, SOLEDAD (MONTEREY COUNTY), CALIF.; VICTIMS, SUMMARY PUNISHMENT, CR.

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TO:

SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (44-1058)

FROM:

DIRECTOR, FBI

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ET AL;
GEORGE LESTER JACKSON, VICTIUS

CIVIL RIGHTS

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Reurairtel dated 2/5/71.

By return mail, advise status of this matter.

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SF 44-1058 CAG/dak

ENCLOSURES:

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies of each of the following:

civil action complaint number C-71 140.

One copy of each of the above have been designated for USA, SF.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Every person interviewed in this matter was advised that this investigation was being conducted at the specific request of Assistant Attorney General JERRIS LEONARD, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice.

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COVER PAGE

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FD-264 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

1-USA, SAN FRANCISCO (5 encls.)

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Report of:

February 17, 1971

Office: SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Date:

Field Office File #:

44-1058

Bureau File #:

Title:

State of California;
Adult Authority;
California Department

of Corrections;

Monterey, California; GEORGE LESTER JACKSON,

- VICTIMS

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Character: Synopsis:

CIVIL RIGHTS

advises no inmates have received special and favored treatment, or promised same to act as witnesses for the State in MILLS murder. To contrary, State witnesses have been locked in protective custody, and had to give up privileges.

Corrections officials have gone to great lengths and expense to see that defense attorneys have been able to interview inmate witnesses. No interviews have been denied to the defense. Five inmates interviewed at CTF, advised they signed form indicating they did not desire interview with defense counsels, but did so out of personal choice, not fear of prison reprisal or denial of parole.

Correctional Officers have filed suit against inmate

and his attorneys for allegations made by

prison records reflect one officer named in that allegation was in Canada on vacation, and the other two were off work on leave, at the time the incident was to have taken place. Five inmates interviewed at CTF, advised they indicated on forms that they did not desire interview by defense counsel, but did so on own free will. None of these inmates refused interview out of fear of reprisal or denial of parole. Inmate

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not to be distributed outside your agency.

SF 44-1058 CAG/dak

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Inmate

advises an Attorney, he believes to

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informs that the Attorney asked him to

formerly incarcerated CTF, Results set out.

interviewed at

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ENCLOSURES

Inmate

One copy of each of the following are enclosed for the USA's Office:

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DETAILS

This is a preliminary investigation.

United States Attorney (USA) JAMES L. BROWNING, JR., San Francisco, California, furnished a copy of a civil action #c-71 146, which was filed in United States District Court, San Francisco, California, on January 26, 1971. Mr. BROWNING suggested that this complaint be reviewed and a preliminary investigation be conducted to ascertain if the allegations contained therein may possibly violate Title 18, United States Code, Sections 241 and/or 242. Mr. BROWNING requested that interviews be conducted with logical persons to develop facts concerning the allegations made in the civil action.

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GEORGE JACKSON,

, inmates of the California Department of
Corrections, have been indicted in the State of California,
and have been charged with assault and murder of a
Correctional Officer. The civil complaint alleges in part
that plaintiffs JACKSON,
deprived of the rights, privileges and immunities secured
by the Constitution of the United States of America and in
particular, in the criminal case pending against them they
were deprived of effective assistance of counsel, the right
to confront witnesses, due process of law, equal protection
of law and freedom from the bonds of slavery.

On February 9, 1971, SA

Field Office, notified of the Governor's Office, State of California, that instant investigation was being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). On that same date, SA

EVELLE YOUNGER, Attorney General, state of California, of this investigation.

On February 11, 1971, JERI ENOMOTO, Deputy
Superintendant, Correctional Training Facility, Soledad,
California, was advised by SA
being conducted by the FBI.

q

California State

Department of Corrections, voluntarily appeared at the Salinas Resident Agency of the FBI, 100 West Alisal Street, Room 216.

Room 216.

Investigation, verbally and through display of official credential cards.

Was advised of the purpose of the investigation being conducted by these Agents.

That he knew nearly a week ago that and others had filed a had

2/17/71

Date.

complaint in United States District Court (USDC), alleging deprivation of rights from certain inmates of the Correctional Training Facility. He wondered just when he would be contacted in this regard. He would not divulge his source of the information.

that early in May 1970,
requested interviews with all of the inmates
who had been housed in "Y" Wing of the Correctional Training
Facility (CTF) on January 16, 1970, when Correctional Officer
JOHN MILLS was murdered by inmates in that wing.

61C

This form explained to the inmates that the defense counsel for GEORGE JACKSON, ET AL, had made a request to interview all inmates who were housed in "Y" Wing on January 16, 1970. The form provided a space for the inmates to indicate whether they did or did not want to be interviewed.

returned the form, with indication they did not want to be interviewed in the matter. Later, showed up to interview inmates, these questionnaire type forms

On 2/10/71 at SALINAS, CALIFORNIA

by SA

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2 SF 44-1058 CAG/dak

were presented to the Attorneys. The Attorneys flatly rejected the forms, stating that "how were they to know that the inmates names which appeared on the forms, really signed the forms." After rejecting the forms, the Attorneys requested to interview all of the inmates in "Y" wing.

to the fullest extent of the institution regulations and then some to oblige the Attorneys. He stated that an example was the extension of normal visiting hours. Normal visiting hours at that time were from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The officials at CTF extended this time from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. He stated this resulted in many overtime hours worked, and a great expense to the State. A good number of the inmates called in for interviews refused to talk to them, and some inmates even made comments to the Correctional Officers on duty that they wanted nothing to do with this group of Attorneys.

furnished information against JACKSON,
receive any promises of preferred treatment or early release
date in exchange for their testimony. In fact, inmates that

Cwere developed or volunteered as witnesses for the State
in that case, had to make sacrifices.
were locked in maximum security for their own protection.
Because of this action, they lost out on normal privileges
available to them. These inmates were unable to attend
vocational or educational classes, unable to receive visitos,
missed out on movie privileges, and certain other privileges
they would have normally been intitled too.

that a number of inmates were transferred from "Y" Wing a short time after the murder of Officer MILLS. These transfers were in no way designed to prevent the defense Attorneys for the accused from interviewing these inmates.

some of these transfers were normal transfer process, some were work furlough releases, others population reduction, inmate requests for transfers, security reasons, changes in program design, and even some were management transfers for classification purposes.

3 SF 44-1058 CAG/dak

at this point, that he would like to resume the interview at another time when which will have bearing on this matter. He stated that he preferred not to rely totally on memory during interview.

and be available later

for continuation of the interview.

an inmate at

Correctional Training Facility, was contacted at the barracks
gate of the South Facility at that institution.
orally advised of the identity of Special Agent
of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and was shown an official
credential card by this Agent.

That he was not confined in 'Y' wing
during January, 1970, when a Correctional Officer was killed by
inmates in that wing. His only knowledge of that killing is
second hand information, and from the newspaper.

On 2/10/71 of Soledad, California Files SF 44-1058

by SA Dote dictored 2/11/71

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2 SF 44-1058 CAG/mer

In October, 1970, he was visited in prison by two Attorneys. They identified themselves as counsel for the defendants, meaning the seven defendants commonly known as the 'Soledad 7'. He does not recall the names given him by these Attorneys. One of the Attorneys, a white male, age about 35, who wore a red beard, did most of the talking. This man told him that

This man mentioned also that

The Attorney with the beard also told him,

At that point in the interview,

Neither of these
Attorneys have tried to contact him since. He was too afraid at
the time to mention this interview to the prison officials.
These men seemed to know and he was
afraid they might carry out their threats.

asked if any of these names could have been used by the Attorneys who questioned him in the threatening manner. He stated that he is fairly sure that the Attorney with the red beard gave his name as

described as follows:

Race Sex Date of Birth Place of Birth Height Weight

Male Detroit, Michigan

Negro

b10

2/17/71

California State Department of Corrections, voluntarily appeared at the Salinas Resident Agency of the Federal Bureau of Investiga-

tion, 100 West Alisal Street, Room 216. identified themselves to

Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, verbally and through display of official credential cards. was further advised of the purpose of the investigation being conducted.

that on January 16, 1970, there were 144 inmates assigned to "Y" Wing at the central facility of the correctional training facility. He stated, or that 144, 14 were out of the wing on work assignment or at other locations at the time Correctional Officer of that 144, 14 were out of the wing on work assignments JOHN MILLS was murdered in Y Wing. prison records are available to establish this fact. available a typed sheet prepared and submitted to the Monterey County District Attorney's Office on April 14, 1970. This sheet contains a listing by name and prison number of all inmates who were in Y Wing on January 16, 1970 and have since been transferred to other institutions. as of April 14, 1 38 inmates have been transferred from Y Wing or paroled. as of April 14, 1970, Of the 38 inmates transferred, 15 of that total are State's witnesses in the murder case of Officer JOHN MILLS. He stated, these inmates were obviously transferred for security and protective custody purposes. He further advised that the remaining 23 inmates transfers were normal institutional procedure and could have been for varying reasons. He emphatically denied that any of these inmates transfers were performed for the specific purpose of denying attorneys access to interviewing these inmates. He stated that this list was prepared on April 14, 1970 and submitted to the District Attorney's Office, as this is the date

that the defense attorneys for GEORGE JACKSON,

Salinas, California

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requested interviews with all inmates of Y Wing.

that when the defense attorneys, requested interviews with all

of the inmates in Y Wing

 $b_{\gamma}^{\ell_1}$ drafted a form type questionnaire to be distributed to the inmates of Y Wing. This form was prepared at the institution and distributed to the invator of institution and distributed to the inmates of Y Wing, so that they could indicate their desire to be interviewed by the defense attorneys for JACKSON,

Seventy nine inmates indicated that they did not wish to be interviewed by the defense attorneys, and 22 indicated that they did want to be interviewed.

the 22 who had indicated that they did want to be interviewed. This form contained a space for them to mark whether they wanted a member of the staff present during the interviews or not.

18 inmates indicated that they wanted no institutional staff present during interviews, and four indicated they wanted the staff present.

that, upon the arrival of at the institution, to these attorneys. These forms were flatly rejected by the attorneys, as they felt the institution was picking the inmates they desired to be interviewed. a handwritten men a handwritten memo reflecting that

she believed the inmates were preinterviewed and selected for identification as those to be interviewed by her staff.

states in her memo that she would prefer alphabetical interviews of everyone in the wing.

by 1C

advised that all rooms of Unit II in the central facility at the institution were provided for and their staff to conduct inmate interviews. He stated these interviews were conducted in the firstweek of May, 1970. He stated that in the five to six days these interviews lasted, the attorneys and the inmates were provided complete privacy in the Unit II interview rooms. He stated there were three to four attorneys present at all times during the interview sessions.

inmates from Y Wing. He stated the attorneys terminated their interview sessions at their own accord, and have not recontacted the institution for more interviews of inmates in the Y Wing.

made request of the Department of Corrections to bring in Black extremist as a cultural advisor.

request on the basis of an allegation that was an investigator. This request was denied by the institution, as they had public knowledge of background and knew that she was not a qualified investigator; and therefore, not entitled to coming in for interviews under the institutional regulations. He stated that made a second request to bring into the prison as a "cultural investigator". He stated that this request was also denied for administrative purposes.

that after the discovery of the murder of the Correctional Officer, JOHN MILLS on January 16, 1970, interrogated inmates

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from approximately 8 p.m. on that date to 2 a.m. on January 17, 1970. He stated at that hour the interviews were terminated, as the names of anywhere from two to five inmates had been obtained and indicated by witnesses as the responsibles or prime suspects in the murder of MILLS. He stated that at that time five inmates from Y Wing were locked in the maximum security and advised of their rights at that time. other interviews were conducted at that time. He stated two or three days later the five inmates locked in the maximum security were again interviewed officials of the prison, and the District Attorney's Office, He stated that subsequently, three of these five suspects were formally charged with the murder of Officer MILLS. He stated that since that time, the other two who were thought to be suspects, have been paroled. He stated that any other interviews of inmates in Y Wing since that time have been conducted as investigative techniques or at the request of the inmates involved.

b1D

that the only promise given to State's prosecution witnesses in the murder case of Officer MILLS have been to provide these inmates with protection while they are in the Department of Correction care. He stated this promise was made to the inmates and will be carried out to the best of the ability of the employees of the Department of Corrections. He stated that in offering testimony and accepting this protection, the inmates involved have been deprived of any privileges normally granted to them. He stated among those privileges are scheduled visiting, vocational programs, recreational facilities, educational programs, regular movie attendance, and freedom to be housed on a medium security wing. He stated in addition, some of the witnesses had parole dates set and had to give up their 72 hour attendance passes. He stated that these passes are given to inmates who have a parole date set.

that counsel for the defendants in the MILL's case have never been denied interview with inmates of Y Wing or any other section of the institution. He stated that every request for interview which has been in accordance with the institutional rules has been allowed and inmates have been made available to the attorneys. He stated he is aware that the attorneys for the defendants have claimed the institution has used harassment tactics by watching them interview the defendants.

61C 61D

of the attorney (one of which was a female) and was due largely in part to the high violence potential of the inmates being interviewed.

that the entire Y Wing inmate population was placed in lockup for 16 to 18 days following the murder of Officer MILLS.

officials could complete the investigation of the murder. He stated that the five suspects and some extreme behavioral problem inmates were segregated from Y Wing. He stated these extreme behavioral problem inmates were segregated because of their continuing efforts to disrupt things in the wing.

palm prints were taken from all inmates housed in Y Wing, and compared with the bloody palm print found on a metal railing in the wing after the murder of MILLS.

610

and stated that the palm print of inmate matched the palm print found on the railing. He stated that he personally interviewed inmate and advised of his rights. At that time stated he did not want to talk to them but said he would talk at a later date. That he went to Folsom Prison 30 days later to visit with told him, "Man, I won't talk till I'm out of here".

bestransferred to CMC, San Louis Obispo, California, a minimum security institution. Stated that he would contact when he was ready to talk about the murder. Stated that he has not been contacted by since that time, and has not attempted to reinterview him.

that he is aware of allegations and another inmate by the made by inmate; has alleged He stated that that he was approached by three prison employees and name of offered special favors for murdering another inmate; stated that the three as being responsible namely, prison employees named by for this offer have since filed a civil suit on their and their attorneys own against because of this allegation. He stated that prison personnel records can substantiate that none of the three prison officials alleged to have made this offer were on duty at the prison at the time. He stated that one of the officers was in Canada on vacation, and the other two officers were on their days off.

it 610

that in his personal opinion, and the other associated attorneys to provide counsel for Y Wing inmates at their adult authority hearings is an attempt by these attorneys to influence the inmates to furnish testimony in behalf of the defendants. He stated that it is quite logical that an inmate would accept such an offer of counsel and probable parole in exchange for testifying to any facts that the defense would require or request of them. He stated this is only a personal belief and has no actual facts to substantiate this.

inmates; for instance, been approached by either or one of her associates and asked to furnish false testimony.

14

2/17/71

an inmate at Correctional Training Facility, was contacted at the Central b7C Services Office of that institution. was orally advised of the identity of Special Agents of the FBI, and was shown an official credential card by these agents. was further advised of the purpose of the investigation being conducted by these Agents.

that he is now housed in MA" Wing at the institution, but in January, 1970, he was housed in "Y" Wing at the institution. On the night of January 16, 1970, when a Correctional Officer named MILLS was murdered in "Y" Wing, he was not present. He stated that at the time the murder occurred, he was out of the wing and was

He recalled that a questionnaire type form was circulated to the inmates of "Y" Wing, inquirying as to whether they desired to be interviewed by defense attorney's for the persons charged in the murder of Correctional Officer MILLS. He recalls that the form stated that an immate should indicate whether he did or did not want to be interviewed by the attorneys. He stated that he indicated on the form given him that he did not want to be interviewed. He signed it this way because he did not observe any of the events surrounding the murder of Officer MILLS, and further, had no knowledge of that event. He strictly did not want to get involved. He stated that there were no promises made to him or threats made to him by officials of the Prison to influence his signing the questionnaire form to the negative that he did not want to be interviewed.

At the time, he knew of many other inmates who signed the questionnaire stating they did not want to be interviewed. He stated their reasons were about the same as his,

On 2/12/71	Soledad, California	File # SF 44-1058
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2 SF 44-1058 CAG:jab

they just didn't want to become involved with the whole thing. He knows of no single case of intimidation of the inmates by prison officials in regards to the answer they should have placed on this form.

He stated that in March or April, 1970, he was interviewed by an attorney named and a young female attorney concerning they MILLS murder. Attorney showed him photographs of the defendants in that murder case, and photographs of certain witnesses. He was asked if he knew the defendants or the witnesses. He truthfully told them at the time that he did not recognize the people in the photographs. He explained to and the female attorney that he was the time of the murder and saw nothing.

b 100

At that point, Attorney asked him on the night of the murder. He told them he couldn't because he really doesn't recall He stated he wasn't about to testify that he did see

Throughout the interview, Attorney kept asking him if he was sure that he didn't see any of the defendants on the night of the murder.

675

He advised that sometime later, he received a letter from the when he was subpoensed to testify in the trial of the defendants charged with murdering Officer MILLS. He stated that he signed this form in the affirmative, because he was looking out for himself. He explained this by stating he knew he would get a trip out of the prison to testify, and he knew that someone would furnish him coffee and cigarette money in a place they might be confined while awaiting to testify.

3 SF 44-1058 CAG: jab

He further advised that in January, 1971, he was interviewed at the prison by another lady attorney by the This attorney stated that she represented and indicated that she was not for either side, meaning that she was not gathering evidence for the defendants in the case or for the state. He stated that this attorney's words were very carefully placed, but there was a strong inference that if he would help the defendants, he would be given help by

when he next goes to the parole board. He stated that he has been interviewed by many attorneys in the past, and although this lady did not specifically state, he

understood her very clearly on this point.

Dote 2/17/71

an inmate at Correctional Training Facility, was contacted in the Central was orally advised 170 Services Office of that institution. of the identity of Special Agents of the FBI, and was shown an official credential card by these Agents. was further advised of the purpose of te investigation being conducted by these Agents.

that he was housed as an inmate in $\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{K}}$ "Y" Wing at this institution on January 16, 1970, when Correctional Officer MILLS was killed by inmates in that wing. He stated that he did not observe the murder, neither did he observe any events leading up to the murder. Further, he didn't even know that the murder was coming off.

Sometime after the murder of Officer MILLS, a questionnaire type form was circulated by the officials to the inmates of "Y" Wing. This form was self explanitory, and informed the inmates that attorneys for the defense of the subjects charged in the MILLS murder wanted to interview inmates housed in "Y" Wing. This form had a space indicated where the inmates should check off whether they did or did not want to be interviewed in this matter by the defense attorneys. He stated that he checked off that he did not want to be interviewed in this matter and returned the form to the prison officials.

He advised that his reason for indicating he did not want to be interviewed, was strictly that he felt he knew nothing and could be of no help.

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In signing that he did not want to be interviewed, there was absolutely no fear of reprisal from the prison officials in his mind. He stated every inmate was given a free choice to check off on the form exactly as they desired. He knows of no instances where inmates felt that if they signed that they wanted to be interviewed, that they would have a fear of reprisal from the prison officials or the parole board.

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Correctional Training Facility, was contacted at the Central Services Office at that institution. was orally advised of the identities of Special Agents of the FBI, and was shown an official

Date 2/17/71

of the purpose of the investigation being conducted by these Agents.

of the institution during January, 1970 at the time Correctional Officer MILLS was killed by inmates in that wing. He stated that he did not observe the murder and had no actual first hand knowledge of the murder. He advised that he was not in a vantage point at the time the murder occurred where he could have observed anything.

that sometime after the murder of Officer MILLS, the prison circulated a questionnaire type form to the inmates of "Y" Wing, inquirying as to who desired to be interviewed by the attorneys for the defendants in the MILLS murder case. He recalls that there was space on the form for the inmates to indicate whether they wanted to be interviewed or did not want to be interviewed. He stated that he signed the form indicating he did not want to be interviewed, because he really didn't see anything, and felt he had nothing to offer. He advised that there was no threats from the prison officials, even on an implied basis, that any inmate indicating that he desired to be interviewed would suffer reprisal. He advised in his opinion, all of the inmates knew that they had the personal choice of being either interviewed or not being interviewed without any fear of harassment by the prison officials.

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He reiterated that he had no personal fear of reprisal, and he would have indicated that his choice to be interviewed, but he felt that he just couldn't help by telling them that he knew nothing.

it was all over.

wanted to be interviewed.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

2/17/71 1 an inmate at Correctional Training Facility, was contacted at the Central 61C was orally Services Office of this institution. advised of the identity of Special Agents of the FBI, and was shown an official credential card by these Agents. was further advised of the purpose of the investigation being conducted by these Agents. advised that he was housed as an inmate 110in "Y" Wing at the institution on January 16, 1970, when an Officer MILLS was killed. He advised that he did not observe the murder of the Officer, and knew nothing about it until

He advised that sometime after the murder of Officer MILLS, the prison officials circulated a form on which the inmates of "Y" Wing were to indicate whether they wanted to be interviewed or not by the defense attorneys for the accused in the MILLS murder. He recalled that he signed this form, and indicated that he did not want to be interviewed by the defense attorneys. He stated that he signed the form in this manner strictly because he knew nothing about the murder of MILLS, and wanted no involvement with the defense attorneys. He stated he had a free choice in signing the questionnaire form, and there was no threats from prison officials or no fear on his part of reprisal from the prison officials if he should have indicated he

He stated further he knows of no instance where an inmate was afraid to indicate he desired to be interviewed for fair reprisal from the prison officials.

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