

RECORDED

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DATE 2/1/81 BY SP-1 JTB

44-245 - 29

Date: August 31, 1943

To: SAC, Springfield

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

There are transmitted herewith for your information and possible assistance in the investigation of the captioned case, copies of memoranda numbered 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6, dated August 30, 1943, and captioned "Mine 'B' - Violations of Section 51, Title 18," which were received from the Criminal Division of the Department.

The investigative suggestions set forth by the Criminal Division should be developed at the present time currently with the other investigation in this case where it appears logical and bears on evidence that will be necessary for the presentation of this case to the grand jury. The investigative suggestions should also be followed where they can be conducted at the same time interviews and investigations are being conducted concerning other matters in this case. With regard to any of the investigative suggestions of the Department which you believe should be held in abeyance, you should advise the Bureau by letter in order that the Department may be informed accordingly.

With regard to memorandum #3, dated August 30, 1943, it is noted that an investigation was conducted in the case entitled [REDACTED]. It appears that your office has copies of all reports with the exception of the following, copies of which are attached hereto:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated October 30, 1939,
at Washington, D. C.

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated December 5, 1939,
at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated December 8, 1939,
at Oklahoma City.

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated December
19, 1939, at Kansas City, Missouri.

AUG 31 1943 Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated January 8, 1940,
at Oklahoma City.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated January 16, 1940,
at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated January 16, 1940,
at Kansas City, Missouri.

For your information, copies of all reports in the case entitled
[REDACTED] were transmitted to the
Criminal Division of the Department, which concluded that there was in-
sufficient evidence to warrant prosecution of subject [REDACTED]. With regard
to the attached memorandum #3, it is not believed that an extensive in-
quiry should be conducted with regard to the facts set forth in the memo-
randum unless it appears that [REDACTED] was connected with the Mine B
controversy or payments made by subject Lewis to subject Elshoff. At an
appropriate time inquiry should be conducted to determine if [REDACTED] was
connected with the captioned matter.

Enclosure

SPECIAL DELIVERY

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

Springfield, Illinois
August 17, 1943

Director, FBI

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, et al;
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Dear Sir:

The Bureau is advised that Mr. FRANK COLEMAN of the Department contacted me at Springfield, Illinois, on August 11, 1943. He had very little additional information to offer in connection with instant investigation, but those points which he did emphasize will be discussed later in this communication.

In connection with this investigation Mr. COLEMAN pointed out that probably some friction exists between the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General because of this investigation. According to Mr. COLEMAN,

and forwarded their report to the Secretary of the Treasury, and instead of the report being referred to the General Counsel for the Treasury Department, the report was sent direct to the President by the Secretary of the Treasury. Later it was determined that the matter should be referred to the Department for an opinion and the facts were taken up with the President by the Attorney General and the President desired that instant investigation be made. Mr. COLEMAN is of the opinion that some effort might be made to build up and publicize a possible feud between Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau and Attorney General Biddle similar to the Jones-Wallace affair.

Mr. COLEMAN indicated that the facts in this case might be presented to a Federal Grand Jury in either Washington, D. C. or Springfield, Illinois, about October 1, 1943, but he did not make any specific request that this investigation be completed by that date.

The following persons were interviewed by Mr. COLEMAN while in the vicinity of Springfield: W. M. RYAN, 801 South Douglas, Springfield; JOHN SCHNEIDER, member of the board of P.M.W.; JOHN W. HINDMARSH, regional organizer for the C.I.O., who works out of the C.I.O. Office in Chicago, Illinois, and FULLERTON FULTON, also of the C.I.O. in Chicago, Illinois. He mentioned

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L. J. PEPPERLE, an attorney with offices located in the Reich Building, Springfield, Illinois, who is alleged to be familiar with the Solomon Mines transaction. He suggested Mr. PEPPERLE be contacted during the course of this investigation. However, Mr. COLEMAN has not interviewed Mr. PEPPERLE.

In the presence of Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] the matter of re-investigation of certain information [redacted] was discussed, particularly with regard to documentary evidence pertaining to the payment of moneys to subject ELSHOFF. Mr. COLEMAN informed that he would assume full responsibility for developing the names of competent witnesses to introduce the documentary evidence developed by that organization and would also assume responsibility for the location of the original documents. In this connection it is believed advisable for the Bureau to communicate with the Department in order that a written confirmation may be received from the Department to this effect.

In connection with the preparation of reports in this case Mr. COLEMAN informed it would not be necessary to set out in detail the various documentary evidence submitted to the Bureau in the form of photostatic copies. He said it would be entirely satisfactory merely to refer to each exhibit by number for convenience in locating these documents in connection with data set forth in the investigative reports. He also specifically requested that no copies of the report in this connection be furnished at this time to the local United States Attorney.

With reference to the scope of the investigation, Mr. COLEMAN indicated it would be advisable to interview all of the 475 miners who were at work at Mine B on May 12, 1937, which was the date the mine was closed by a strike. He pointed out that if a majority of these miners would be willing to testify that they were liberated from what they considered the tyranny of the P.M.W. officials, such testimony would tend to show JOHN L. LEWIS as a champion of civil rights rather than a violator.

In connection with the 475 miners mentioned in the above paragraph, Mr. COLEMAN requested that signed statements be obtained from each person interviewed, even though the information furnished might be of a negative nature.

Director

- 3 -

8-17-43

Mr. COLEMAN specifically stated that the various memoranda submitted to the Bureau in this matter merely contain suggestions as to the information he desires developed. He said he desired to leave to the Bureau's discretion any additional investigation which might be pertinent to the case. It is believed that the Bureau may desire to closely follow this matter with Mr. COLEMAN as reports are submitted in order that specific suggestions and requests may be made by the Department as to investigation desired.

b7c As [redacted] at the Bureau was telephonically advised, Mr. JOHN L. LEWIS made his appearance in Springfield about the time Mr. COLEMAN arrived in this city. Attention is again called to the fact that publicity has already been released as to the scope of the investigation suggested in the original departmental memorandum submitted to the Bureau. Those newspaper clippings have already been forwarded to the Bureau.

The documentary evidence submitted to the Bureau by the Department has been carefully reviewed by Agents assigned to this case and the following exhibits are believed necessary prior to any actual inquiry in this case:

Exhibit #15 (contract between P.M.W. and Mine B dated 1-18-36).

Exhibit #18 (the first and last page of this exhibit are presently in the files of this office but the intervening pages containing names of persons appearing on the petition are not present and it is believed advisable to have all of these names for assistance in conducting the investigation).

Exhibits #59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64 and 65 ([redacted])

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T26, WSC,
\$6103

b7c [redacted] of the Bureau has already been telephonically contacted and requested to obtain these exhibits and forward them to this office immediately. He has also been informed that no actual investigation or inquiry will be made of any persons in connection with this investigation until all of these exhibits are received.

Director

- 4 -

8-17-43

In connection with the suggestion of the Department that the fourteen alleged U.M.W. spies employed in the P.M.W. be interviewed, after reviewing all the documentary evidence in this matter and other facts submitted by the Department, it is not believed advisable at this time to interview these alleged spies in the initial stage of this investigation. It is contemplated at the present time that a large number of the members of the P.M.W., as of May 12, 1937, will be interviewed and other background investigation conducted prior to the interviews with the alleged spies employed by P.M.W.

The Agents assigned to this case realize the importance of the investigation and to conduct intelligent interviews it is absolutely essential that all documentary evidence be in the hands of these Agents prior to making any investigation.

b7c When I telephonically communicated with [REDACTED] I pointed out that additional personnel would be necessary to handle this investigation by September 25, 1943, the Bureau deadline for completion of the case. I pointed out that at least twelve additional experienced agents would be necessary when the actual investigation was started, after receipt of all documentary evidence. It is believed that at least this number of agents will be required and possibly additional personnel. b7c

The Bureau will be kept closely advised as to the need for additional personnel, as well as any important developments.

Very truly yours,

FH:lmj

Fred Hallford
FRED HALLFORD,
Special Agent in Charge.

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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP4 JMB/bp

44-845
8/28/43
RECORDED
Date:

44-845-30

To: Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge
From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Subject: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

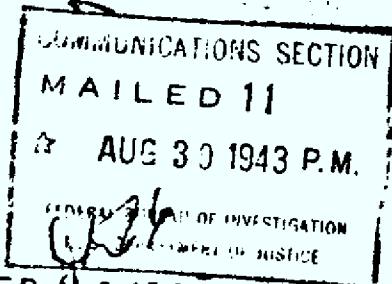
Reference is made to our previous correspondence in the
above entitled case, your file reference 144-10.

The Springfield Office of this Bureau has advised that Mr.
Frank Coleman of the Criminal Division of the Department recently
stopped at the Springfield Office and discussed the above captioned
matter. In connection with the discussion of the investigation

the Springfield Office has advised
that Mr. Coleman indicated the Department would develop the names of
competent witnesses to introduce the documentary evidence
with regard to the payments of
money by John L. Lewis and the United Mine Workers Union to Carl E.
Elshoff. Mr. Coleman also indicated that the Department would assume
responsibility for the location of the original documents in this
regard.

Your advice would be appreciated as to whether the arrange-
ments made by Mr. Coleman with the Springfield Office of this Bureau
as set forth above are in accordance with your desires.

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Hunford
Starks
Winn
Tamm
Case
Andy



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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

SEP 20 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP4 JAL/bx

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

There is transmitted herewith for your information a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 4, 1943, at Springfield, Illinois, in the above entitled matter.

As subsequent reports are received in this case they will be made available to you immediately.

Enclosure *pw*

44-845-31
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 7 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

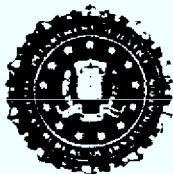
*Handed personally
to Mr. Frank Coleman
of the Dept. [redacted]*

TELETYPE
E. A. Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Humphreys
Starnes
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
SEP 6 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEP 10 1943

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

September 4, 1943

Time: 5:20 to 5:25 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL.
CIVIL RIGHTS AND
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

At the above indicated time, [REDACTED] in my office phoned SAC Hallford, Springfield, and requested advice in response to the question whether the initial report would be available to the Bureau by the first of the week, inasmuch as the Attorney General will be leaving on Tuesday next, namely, September 7, for a two weeks vacation.

Mr. Hallford advised that the initial report had been prepared and mailed at approximately 5:10 p.m. today by the Springfield office to the Bureau, first class special delivery. He stated that the report is composed of 500 pages and weighs about 30 pounds running into about 3 volumes. In addition, he advised that the report incorporates approximately 154 statements that have been taken from miners who have been interviewed and the report should reach the Bureau by Monday. Appropriate stops have been placed so that the report will be routed to me immediately upon its receipt in the Bureau, and at that time copies will be sent to the Department immediately and the material will be summarized in a memorandum for the Director, as requested by you.

As a matter of additional information, Mr. Hallford stated that accompanying the report will be a letter pointing out certain requests received from the Department and analyzing these requests in the light of referring them back to the Department for advice, in view of what has transpired to date in the investigation. He also stated that one angle covered in the letter is the suggestion that the matter of interview with the subjects be held in abeyance until such time as the Department requests the same.

In addition, Mr. Hallford stated that the Springfield office, starting today, is interviewing the 14 so-called "spies" who allegedly were members of the Progressive Mine Workers Union during the period of the strife between the two unions and who allegedly were paid by the United Mine Workers Union to furnish information to the UMWU as to what went on in the Progressive Mine Workers Union during the period of strife between the two unions.



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Mr. Ladd

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In addition, Mr. Hallford stated that two of the persons interviewed have requested copies of the statements that they made. He said that the requests were tactfully refused and the matter was not pressed in any way by the persons interviewed. It was pointed out to Mr. Hallford that if these requests became numerous and aggressive he should immediately notify the Bureau so that the matter could be forwarded to the Department for the Department's information and for whatever action the Department desires to take.

To date, according to Mr. Hallford, investigation is progressing very satisfactorily and it appears from present indications that the Springfield office will be able to complete the investigation by the deadline which has been furnished to it, namely, approximately September 25, 1943. SAC Hallford briefly commented that the statements taken to date appeared to be favorable to the Government's case as outlined by the Department in its brief of what it desires to establish in order to prove a violation.

ACTION:

As stated above, stops have been placed with the MAIL ROOM and from present indications it would appear that the report will reach the Bureau by Monday morning some time, at which time the summary for the Director will be prepared and copies of the report immediately forwarded to the Department.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch
F. L. Welch

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

September 7, 1943

Time: 12:15 to 12:30 p.m.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP4 JEM/BJP**

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL.
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

At the above indicated time SAC Hallford called from Springfield and talked to [redacted] in my office. He referred to his previous call to Mr. Mumford pointing out that certain individuals had requested copies of the written statements which had been submitted by them in this case and also referred to the indication that Ray Edmundson met with five of the individuals who were so-called "spies" for the UMW in the Progressive Mine Workers Union during the trouble between 1937 and 1941 at Springfield, Illinois. Apparently the meeting was held because of the fact that the Bureau Field Division at Springfield had interviewed two of the remaining twelve spies, namely Austin and Hale. The subject matter of the meeting, it was indicated through information received at the Springfield office, was to discuss the possibility of getting copies of statements which the Springfield office had taken.

Mr. Hallford advised that this morning an individual named Walter T. Day called at the Springfield office and identified himself as a partner of Attorney A. M. (Art) Fitzgerald of Springfield, Illinois, and stated that Fitzgerald was representing three individuals, namely, Austin, Hale and Bumgarner, and therefore demanded copies of the statements furnished by these men to the Springfield office. Mr. Hallford tactfully refused to furnish the statements, inasmuch as there was no foundation for the request and it was not known whether, in fact, the statements were desired by the individuals who had made them or whether Day's request was unauthorized to begin with.

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Mr. Hallford stated that, in view of the distinct possibility that Edmundson may be engaged in a program of checking for the benefit of all subjects in this case to ascertain who gave statements and then subsequently make requests in each case through the office of Attorney Fitzgerald for copies of the same, he feels that the matter should be brought to the attention of the Department for a specific instruction as to what the Department desires are in the matter.

SAC Hallford pointed out that some of the statements given by the men indicate that rough treatment previously was used on them because of statements that they had given and which they thought had been given for the use of the Government but which subsequently came into the possession of the United Mine Workers and resulted in physical punishment and other action being taken against them.



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Mr. Ladd

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Mr. Hallford desires, therefore, that the Department be contacted and the following questions be asked:

1. Should copies of statements taken from witnesses in this case be turned over to anybody?
2. Should copies of statements taken from witnesses in this case be turned over to the witnesses themselves in the event any one of them or all of them request a copy of the statement made by himself?
3. In the event a witness stipulates that he will not give a statement of any kind unless a copy of the statement is made available to him, should he be told that it is not possible to furnish him with a copy of a statement taken by Agents of this Bureau?

It is pointed out that the above questions are raised without any reference to subjects in this case.

SAC, Hallford suggested that the Bureau might also wish to call attention of the Department for its consideration the possibility of the use of subpoenas for all individuals whom the Department desires interviewed, including those already interviewed, so that the UMW would not know who had already been interviewed from an analysis of the subpoenas in the event the subpoenas were issued only for those who have not yet been interviewed.

While talking to Mr. Hallford, it was indicated to him that he should furnish additional copies of the reports to the Bureau, inasmuch as the Department has indicated a desire to receive more than one copy and this is being done.

SAC Hallford also advised that in the event the activity of Edmundson, as pointed out above, continues and expands there is a very distinct possibility of intimidation of witnesses and there has been a faint suspicion of the same, which he is having the Agents working on the case check on, in order to run it out in the event there is such.

In connection with the possibility of intimidation, SAC Hallford pointed out that if subpoenas were actually used by the Department for the remaining interviews, of course, the Department would be in a better position to do something about the intimidators.

Mr. Hallford stated that he desires to be advised today, if possible, telephonically as to the results of the Department's desires in the matter, inasmuch as it will be necessary for the Agents working on the case to know how to answer any requests for copies of statements in order that there will be no delay in the completion of the case.

67c ACTION: With your approval, Agent [REDACTED] will contact Mr. Frank Coleman in the Department telephonically regarding this matter, advising him that a memorandum of confirmation is being forwarded to the Department and requesting expeditious action on the reply.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

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DATE 2/14/81 BY SPJ/brp A

9/7/43 44-845-33

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
TOM C. CLARK

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Reference is made to the telephonic conversation between Mr. F. C. Coleman of your office and Mr. [redacted] of this Bureau on September 7, 1943, regarding the request for copies of the signed statements given by three of the individuals interviewed by the Springfield Office in connection with the captioned matter.

The Springfield Office of this Bureau has advised that James Hale and Frank Austin, two of the twelve individuals alleged to have been on the United Mine Workers pay roll while members of the Progressive Mine Workers Union prior to May, 1937, requested that they be given copies of the signed statements they executed subsequent to their recent interviews by Agents of this Bureau at Springfield, Illinois. The request of these individuals was not complied with by the Springfield Office.

The Springfield Office has now advised that on the morning of September 7, 1943, a Mr. Walter T. Day called at the Springfield Office and identified himself as a partner of attorney A. H. Fitzgerald of Springfield, Illinois. Mr. Day advised that Mr. Fitzgerald was representing three individuals, namely, James Hale, Frank Austin and a Mr. Bumgarner. It will be noted that a Mr. Bumgarner was formerly an organizer for the United Mine Workers of America at Mine B, Springfield, Illinois, and was interviewed as a prospective witness in the above captioned case. Mr. Day demanded that copies of the statements given by the above named three men be furnished to him. The request of Mr. Day was not complied with by the Springfield Office.

The Springfield Office advised that apparently a meeting was held between subject Ray Edmondson and five of the twelve individuals referred to above as having been on the pay rolls of both Unions in 1937, after Mr. Hale and Mr. Austin had been interviewed. The Springfield Office has further stated that the possibility exists that subject Edmondson may attempt to ascertain the names of all prospective witnesses interviewed by the Springfield Office in this case and thereafter may attempt to obtain permission from these prospective witnesses to request copies of statements which they have executed.

In view of the above facts, it will be appreciated if you would advise this Bureau whether copies of statements taken from prospective

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Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starks
Quinn
Nease
Gandy

MAILED 11

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

60 SEP 20 1943

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SEP 13 1943

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witnesses in the above entitled matter should be given to the witnesses in the event they, themselves, make such a request. Your advice would also be appreciated as to whether copies of statements taken from prospective witnesses in this case should be turned over to any individual other than the prospective witness who gave the signed statement. In the event the prospective witness stipulates that he will not give a statement of any kind unless a copy of the statement is made available to him, your advice is desired as to whether the witness should be informed that it will not be possible to furnish him with a copy of a statement that he may make. Your advice would also be appreciated as to the procedure that should be followed by Agents of this Bureau in the event a prospective witness in this case refuses to give a statement unless in the presence of his attorney.

b7c In this regard, it is noted in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 4, 1943, at Springfield, Illinois, a copy of which was transmitted to the Department on September 6, 1943, that many of the miners interviewed indicated that they did not desire the information given by them used except before a secret grand jury or in court inasmuch as they feared possible physical violence and other reprisals should the fact that they had given information possibly derogatory to the United Mine Workers Union of America become known.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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

AUG 21 1943

TELEMETER

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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP4 Jm/bs

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Acers
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Starke
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy
- Telephone Room

WASH FROM CHICAGO 6 21 3-50 PM

DIRECTOR, SAC SPRINGFIELD

JAPE. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS OF MR. ROBERT HENDON, THE
FOLLOWING THREE AGENTS ARE PROCEEDING ELEVEN FIFTY NINE P. M. AUGUST
TWENTY SECOND INSTANT TO SPRINGFIELD FIELD DIVISION ON SPECIAL
ASSIGNMENT FOR PERIOD OF THIRTY TO FORTY FIVE DAYS. SAS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WILL REPORT TO SPRINGFIELD

OFFICE MONDAY MORNING NEXT.

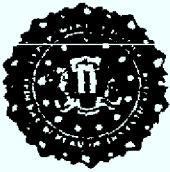
DRAYTON

60 SEP 8 1943
Springfield advised

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CALLED ON
CLERK OFFICE

15 SEP 15 1943

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



LBN:LVN

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

September 8, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

CC-287

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Acers	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Mumford	_____
Mr. Starke	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Beahm	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

I have made a vigorous protest to Malcolmson over the stories which have appeared in the papers on the investigation of John L. Lewis in Springfield. Malcolmson stated he is powerless to do anything about this, that he knows for a fact that Morgenthau and Irey are responsible for the statements.

Malcolmson told me strictly off the record that Morgenthau at one of his press conferences was asked, after he had finished his on-the-record conference and when speaking off-the-record, by one of the reporters present whether the Treasury Department was investigating John L. Lewis. Morgenthau stated off the record that the Treasury Department had turned the matter over to the Department of Justice and gave the facts in the case, which have been published in both the New York Times and in the New York Daily News.

b7c Malcolmson told me in confidence that he got this information from [redacted] who attended Morgenthau's press conference. He stated that Biddle got so mad that he wrote a letter to Morgenthau which he wanted to release to the press, condemning Morgenthau for his talking out of school. The letter was written on the same day that the President issued his statement that should any Government official see fit to criticize another Government official, he should submit his resignation. Accordingly, Biddle did not send the letter but instead called Morgenthau on the phone and made vigorous protest. Morgenthau denied making the statement and Biddle told him he knew he had made the statement.

I told Malcolmson that it was clear that the premature publicity was not helping our investigation, that if anything went wrong with our investigation we could merely state it was because of the premature publicity and that we were not responsible.

RECORDED
Respectfully
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FOR DEFENSE



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DATE 2/11/81 BY [signature]

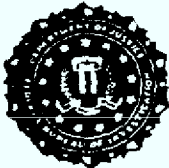
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SEP 15 1943

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



LBN:GDC

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
August 31, 1943

CC-287a

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Acers _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Starke _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

For record purposes ~~X~~ Berkley of the AP called me on August 30th to inquire whether the FBI had any comment on the story appearing in the August 30th issue of ~~the~~ news-paper to the effect that the FBI was investigating a \$350,000 loan which John L. Lewis made to a coal miner in Illinois which was connected in some way directly or indirectly with his trips out there and for which he is now being investigated by OPA.

I told him that we had no comment to make.

RECORDED
Respectfully,
INDEXED

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DATE 2/1/11 BY SP4 Jm/pp



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44-845-36
F B I
15 SEP 15 1943

C O

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Springfield, Illinois
September 10, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP8 JPL/PO

Director, FBI

O.

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, ETAL;
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Dear Sir:

b7c Reference is made to the recent conversation had with [redacted] at the Bureau, who requested that nine copies of all reports in this matter be furnished the Bureau in the future, as the Department had requested four copies of all reports.

I pointed out to [redacted] at the time of his call that when the report of Special Agent [redacted] Springfield, Illinois, dated September 4, 1943, was being prepared, two additional copies other than the ones outlined in the report had been prepared by this office and were about to be destroyed, as this office had all necessary copies. [redacted] requested that these two copies of Agent [redacted] report be transmitted to the Bureau.

Pursuant to [redacted] request, two copies of the above-referred to report are being transmitted to the Bureau under separate cover via bill of lading number J-244549.

Very truly yours,

FH:lmj
44-18

Fred Hallford
FRED HALLFORD,
SAC.

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44-845-37	
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**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
September 10, 1943

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/11/81 BY SP4 Jmg/ep**

Director, FBI

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Dear Sir:

The following information is being submitted pursuant to instructions of [REDACTED] of the Bureau.

The following information obtained in investigation of this case indicates that persons interviewed have been advised to guard their statements to Bureau Agents on the following occasions.

On the morning of September 4, 1943, ANTHONY J. PLOTCH, JOHN MANIAS, JR., and JOSEPH ALBANESE, went to the office of the United Mine Workers and had a conversation with RAY EDMUNDSON, who called Attorney ARTHUR FITZGERALD, who then came to the office and advised these men not to make any statements to agents of the Bureau unless he was present.

Sometime during Labor Day, September 6, 1943, [REDACTED] was approached on the street in Springfield and given a typewritten note by a person whose name he did not know, but whom he knew to be employed at Mine B. This person told [REDACTED] that if he was approached by Bureau Agents, to tell them nothing and tell them to see Attorney FITZGERALD. This note contained FITZGERALD's name and address.

On the morning of September 7, 1943, a meeting was held at the shaft at Mine B, and a lawyer, whose identity is not now known, reportedly made a stump speech and advised men not to talk to the FBI representatives when they called. A different interpretation of this statement was that the Attorney advised that they did not need to talk to the FBI Agents if they didn't want to. CHARLES BOHANNON and LEE OMER "CUDGE" BAUMGARNER were at the shaft and evidently arranged this impromptu meeting.

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In the afternoon of September 7, 1943, at the end of the day shift, BAUMGARNER and BOHANNON were at the shaft at Mine A and



18194

Director

- 2 -

JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL

advised former Mine B employees not to talk to Bureau Agents and to give them the name of Attorney ARTHUR FITZGERALD if they were asked why.

On September 7, 1943, Mr. WALTER P. DAY, Attorney-at-law, called at the Springfield Office, accompanied by FRANK AUSTIN, JAMES HALE and one BAUMGARTNER, who had previously been interviewed by Agents of this office in connection with this case. I conferred with Mr. DAY in the presence of Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] and Mr. DAY requested that he be furnished with copies of the statements executed by AUSTIN, HALE and BAUMGARTNER to Special Agents of this Bureau.

I specifically asked Mr. DAY who he was representing and he said he could not answer this question and I asked him if he was representing Messrs. AUSTIN, HALE and BAUMGARTNER, and he said he was not but that he was representing and assisting Mr. ARTHUR FITZGERALD, Attorney-at-law in Springfield who was counseling UMW miners who were sent to his, FITZGERALD's office. Mr. DAY stated that he knew of a number of persons who had executed statements to Agents of this Bureau and that eventually he would know the identity of most of the miners who had executed a statement to this Bureau and probably a request would be directed to this office to receive copies of all the signed statements executed by miners to Agents of this Bureau. I suggested to Mr. DAY that if Mr. FITZGERALD desired copies of all these statements that Mr. FITZGERALD should set forth such a request in a letter to this office but at the present time no assurance could be given him, Mr. DAY or Mr. FITZGERALD, that copies of such statements could be furnished.

Nothing else was discussed with Mr. DAY at the time he called at this office and Messrs. AUSTIN, HALE and BAUMGARTNER were not interviewed or present when this conversation transpired between Mr. DAY and myself.

I advised Attorney DAY today, September 10, 1943, that it would be necessary for him to communicate with the Attorney General in reference to obtaining copies of statements executed by his clients. Mr. DAY was satisfied with this statement.

Director

- 3 -

JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL

The following persons, upon being contacted by Agents, refused to give any information concerning matters involved in this case, saying that they had been advised to do so by Attorney FITZGERALD:

CHARLES BOHANNON, 131 Fitzgerald.
JOSEPH ALBANESE, 912 E. Carpenter.
ANDREW STRELEVICUS, 1731 E. Carpenter.
DOMINICK PASQUALE, 926 N. Daniel.
ANTHONY J. PLOTCH, 113 S. Paul.
JOHN WOOTTON ANANIAS, JR., 1200 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. 14th.
TONY KARA, 609 W. Carpenter.
PEARL BAUMGARNER, 1224 E. Capitol.

WILLIAM GANSKY, 1528 Pennsylvania Avenue, Springfield, refused to give any information until he had conversed with his Attorney BURKE, Attorney for the United Mine Workers.

ANDREW J. RYAN, 1846 Wirt, Springfield, refused to advise who had counseled him against giving any statements.

The following persons requested copies of their signed statements at the time they were first interviewed but gave statements even though their request had been refused:

FRANK AUSTIN, 3020 Woodward.
GEORGE SIRTOUT, 3520 E. Enos.
RAY A. SMITH, 1904 E. Cook.

The following persons advised that they had been counseled to give no statements but gave statements to Agents nevertheless:

67c

[REDACTED]

No persons other than AUSTIN, HALE and BAUMGARNER, who executed statements previously have requested copies be furnished to them after the completion of the interview.

Very truly yours,

Le Here
Fred Hallford
FRED HALLFORD
Special Agent in Charge

67c

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

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AUG 24 1943
TELETYPE

FBI MILWAUKEE 8-24-43

5-15 PM CWT

✓ DIRECTOR

PUNY. SA [REDACTED] WILL DEPART AT FIVE TEN AM, AUGUST
TWENTYFIFTH, FOR SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS TO REPORT TO SPECIAL
AGENT IN CHARGE F. HALLFORD, [REDACTED] FOR SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT PURSUANT
TO INSTRUCTIONS OF MR. ROBERT HENDON. WILL ARRIVE AT SPRINGFIELD
ELEVEN FORTYFIVE AM, AUGUST TWENTYFIFTH.

OCONNOR

END ACK PLS

6-16 PM OK FBI WASH DC ADK

RECORDED

44-845-39
F B I
15 SEP 15 1943

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Starke
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy
- Tele. Rm.

John S. O'Leary

176
30 SEP 16 1943

CAUTION
CLERK OFFICE
b7c

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

August 19, 1943

Call: 3:00 PM

Dictated: 4:45 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Asers _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Starke _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____

Reference is made to my memorandum dated August 17, 1943 in the above entitled matter, advising that Mr. Frank Coleman of the Department stated that certain exhibits [redacted] which had been forwarded to this Bureau and which were not complete, would be forwarded by special messenger on August 18, 1943.

Inasmuch as [redacted] is needed by the Springfield Office in conducting interviews with a number of the miners in this case, I had SA [redacted] contact Mr. Coleman at the above time with reference to this exhibit. Mr. Coleman advised that he had sent [redacted] to the Bureau by special messenger on the morning of Aug. 19, 1943. Mr. Coleman checked with his clerk, however, and discovered that the memorandum and exhibit had been sent through the regular mail and therefore it would probably not arrive at the Bureau before this evening.

During the course of the conversation, SA [redacted] made an incidental reference to his previous conversation on August 17, 1943, with Mr. Coleman, wherein the latter stated that the Attorney General might suggest to the Office of Price Administration that it withhold any contemplated prosecution of Lewis for violation of the pleasure driving ban in view of the fact that the Department was contemplating a more serious prosecution of Lewis. In this regard Mr. Coleman stated that the Attorney General had indicated to him that he would attempt to have the OPA prosecution stopped. Mr. Coleman then advised that in the event the Attorney General did not take any action on this matter within the next day or so, he, himself, with the permission of the Attorney General, would attempt to have the OPA informed of the Department's contemplated prosecution in this case. In this regard, it was pointed out to Mr. Coleman that the Bureau, of course, contemplated no action relative to the possible OPA prosecution as it was a matter within the province of the Department. Mr. Coleman indicated that he agreed and stated that he would follow the matter through.

ACTION:

Immediately upon the receipt of [redacted] from the Department, it will be forwarded to the Springfield Office.

RECORDED

44-845-40

SEP 15 1943

Respectfully,

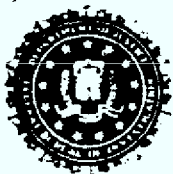
F. L. Welch



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DATE 10/11/81 BY SPJ/KBP

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



RCH:DSS

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 20, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

Pursuant to my discussion with Mr. Ladd today I telephoned the SACs and ASACs of the following offices and instructed that they have the number of men shown report on special assignment to SAC Hallford at Springfield, Illinois, not later than the dates indicated. They were instructed to select topnotch men who could handle interviews of the type necessary in this case and who could also properly represent the Bureau on the witness stand at a later date, if necessary.

Chicago	3	August 23
Cincinnati	1	August 23
Cleveland	2	August 23
Detroit	2	August 25
Indianapolis	1	August 23
Milwaukee	1	August 25
St. Louis	1	August 23
St. Paul	1	August 25

I told SAC Drayton and ASAC Damron if all of these men could not get there Monday they should get there not later than the 25th. All of the SACs were advised that the special would be for at least 45 days' duration.

Respectfully,

R. C. Hendon
R. C. Hendon



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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP4 Jra/bp

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44-845-41
F B I
15 SEP 15 1943

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

6 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7C b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- ☐ For your information: _____
- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
44-845-42

XXXXXX
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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Springfield, Illinois
September 9, 1943

AMSD
URGENT

Director, FBI

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP4 Jhp/ep

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS; RAY EDMUNDSON;
WALTER J. JAMES; CARL H.
ELSHOFF; OSCAR FALCETTI.
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE.
(Bureau file #44-845)

Dear Sir:

67c
The Norfolk Field Division is being requested to interview
[redacted] who is presently residing in care of [redacted]
Norfolk, Virginia.

For the information of the Norfolk Office, prior to 1932,
all coal mines in the state of Illinois had closed shop contracts with
the United Mine Workers, a labor organization of which subject LEWIS
is presently International President, and of which subjects EDMUNDSON
and JAMES are President and Treasurer, respectively, of District 12,
which comprises the state of Illinois. In 1932 the Progressive
Mine Workers of America was formed in Illinois, as a rival labor organiza-
tion for coal miners. The P.M.W. of A. was formed as a result of a
dispute between Illinois Coal miners and JOHN L. LEWIS over a proposed
wage reduction being sponsored by LEWIS. In 1932 almost all mines in
Illinois signed closed shop agreements with P.M.W. of A. By 1937,
however, following serious rioting and domestic disturbances, a large
number of the revolting local unions had rejoined the U.M.W.

The two mines, located near Springfield, Illinois, involved
in this case are Mine B, operated by subject ELSHOFF, with subject
FALCETTI as Mine Superintendent, and a neighboring mine, known as
* Mine A, then operated by WILLIAM * RYAN.

INDEXED
44-845-43
In 1937 both of these mines had closed shop agreements with
the P.M.W. of A. Approximately twelve men employed in Mine B at that
time were allegedly paid spies of the U.M.W. and were causing dissension
among the men at Mine B over the contract and otherwise. On May 12,
1937 a strike was called by the P.M.A. at Mine B, either as a result
of wage dissatisfaction, or because Mine B refused to discharge five
of these men who had been expelled from the P.M.A. because of activi-
ties in behalf of the U.M.W. Mine B did not reopen until November 6,
1939, when it reopened as an open shop. Following that the U.M.W.

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entered into a vigorous organization campaign, in which subjects ELSHOFF and FALCETTI allegedly assisted by favoring the U.M.W. members, and hindering the P.M.A. employees in every way. In February, 1941 following some violence an N.L.R.B. election was held and the U.M.W. was selected as bargaining Agent.

b3
T26. USC
§ 6103

[REDACTED]

Mine A adjoins Mine B and is connected underground with Mine B in several places. In the summer of 1941, WILLIAM RYAN sold his interest in Mine A to subject ELSHOFF for the sum of \$60,000 which was furnished by the U.M.W. at LEWIS' direction. At that time, Mine A was closed by seasonal closure. When the mine closed at the end of the former contract period, Mine A had been operated on a closed shop contract with the P.M.A. About 10 days following the announcement of the purchase of Mine A by ELSHOFF, the miners at Mine A joined the United Mine Workers, and Mine A was reopened. This occurred in the first two weeks of September, 1941.

b7c

The circumstances involved in the miners at Mine A changing unions at this time are not fully known, and involve one of the circumstances in this case possibly indicating a conspiracy among subjects to violate the civil rights of the miners. After the announcement of subject ELSHOFF's operation of Mine A was made, rumors spread quickly that Mine A was to be closed, and that the coal was to be taken from Mine A through Mine B, a condition which was known to be possible by the miners in Mine A. This was spread by impression among the P.M.A. miners that ELSHOFF favored the U.M.W. and would not operate with P.M.A. men. A rumor started that Mine A could be reopened if it would be operated by U.M.W. personnel. Two meetings were held of the P.M.A. local at the P.M.A. hall. At the first meeting a committee was appointed to contact ELSHOFF, which was unable to reach him. At the second meeting, the members all seemed to feel that they must change in order to work. A new committee was appointed which evidently reported to EDMUNDSON and arranged for a meeting held at Redman's Hall, occasionally used by the U.M.W. EDMUNDSON reportedly spoke to the local at that meeting. Another meeting was held at the Elk's Club soon thereafter when the men voted to change to the U.M.W. EDMUNDSON also addressed that meeting. [REDACTED] at both of these meetings, and may also have talked to EDMUNDSON with the committee.

Following the last meeting EDMUNDSON called ELSHOFF and negotiations were made that night for signing of a contract for Mine A

Director

- 3 -

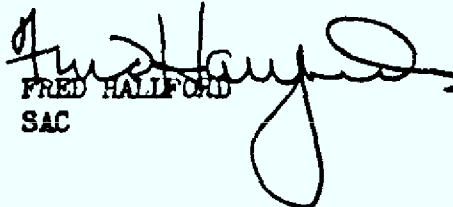
JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL

with the U.M.W. [REDACTED] may have been present at those negotiations. [REDACTED] should be interviewed in an effort to obtain information regarding any assurances EDMUNDSON made that the mine would open if the union were U.M.W., his statements concerning the extent of his relationship with ELSHOFF, and whatever statements ELSHOFF or FALCETTI may have made concerning their plans for operation of Mine A and their relationship with the U.M.W. He should be questioned as to the existence and location of any record made of those meetings.

A signed statement should be obtained from [REDACTED] containing any information either positive or negative that he may have concerning this matter.

A report in this matter should be submitted no later than September 15, 1943. Nine copies of this report should be submitted to the Bureau and five copies to this office.

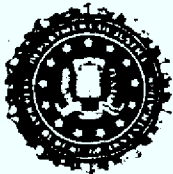
Very truly yours,


FRED HALFORD
SAC

[REDACTED]
44-18
cc to Norfolk

67c

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 27, 1943

Time: 3:20 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL.
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

At this time Mr. Frank Coleman of the Department, Civil Rights Section, called and talked to [redacted] of my office, at which time he stated that he had recently received information that an individual named [redacted] described as an official in the United Mine Workers of America, had offered a bribe to one [redacted] an official of the National Labor Relations Board in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which bribe may have been in connection with the subject matter of the instant investigation at Springfield, Illinois, that is, the differences between the Progressive Mine Workers Union of America and the United Mine Workers of America.

Mr. Coleman suggested that it might be a good idea to check the Bureau files and pointed out that he was having the Departmental files checked to ascertain if they contain any corroborating information relative to this allegation.

Of particular interest is the statement made by Mr. Coleman to [redacted] that he has been advised that the Chicago Daily News today, August 27, carried an article referring to the fact that the FBI is presently investigating John L. Lewis and the circumstances surrounding his activities at Springfield, Illinois, which activities are the subject matter of instant investigation, and he further indicated that the article contained a fairly accurate statement concerning the Department's plan to hold a grand jury either very late in September or early in October.

T 26, USC, § 6103

[redacted] indicated to Mr. Coleman that this was definitely a very undesirable situation and that he could understand the fact that the Bureau protested the same and felt that the Attorney General's office should be in a position to register a complaint with either the Secretary of the Treasury or [redacted] and should request that such a practice of issuing information about an investigation in which they are not concerned is not only undesirable but entirely unethical.

ACTION: 1. A check of the files is being made relative to the information regarding the alleged bribe being paid by [redacted] to [redacted] an NLRB official.



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DATE 2/11/81

RV Sp 4/1/80

SEP 15 1943

Mr. Ladd

- 2 -

63 T26, USC, §6102

2. It is suggested that you may wish to take up the angle as to the [REDACTED], with Mr. Nichols in order that he might in turn take the matter up with the Departmental officials through Mr. Malcolmson.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

F. L. Welch

J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 31, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. Tamm

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Acers _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Starke _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

Reference is made to my memorandum to you dated August 27, 1943, captioned as above, wherein you were advised that the Chicago Daily News carried an article dated August 27, 1943, referring to the fact that the FBI is presently investigating John L. Lewis and the circumstances surrounding the captioned case.

You will recall that the information regarding the article in the Chicago Daily News was furnished by Mr. Frank Coleman of the Department, who stated that the article was fairly accurate in its statement concerning the Department's plans to hold a grand jury either late in September or early in October, 1943.

Mr. Coleman has also indicated that there is some feeling between the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General with regard to the prosecution of this case.

With regard to the attached article captioned "Grand Jury to Probe \$350,000 Lewis 'Loan' to Mine," which appeared on August 30, 1943, in the newspaper P.M., it appears that someone has given a rather exact statement outlining the theory of investigation in the captioned case. In view of the fact that publicity is, of course, very undesirable from an investigative standpoint at this time, it is believed that the Bureau should be on record protesting such publicity with the Department.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is recommended that this memorandum be referred to Mr. Nichols in order that he might take the matter up with Department officials through Mr. Malcomson and possibly secure more definite advice as to the author of the publicity in this matter and thereafter register an appropriate protest.



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DATE 3/11/81 BY SP-1/10p

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

44-845-45

SEP 1 1943

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-1779-52

Grand Jury to Probe \$350,000 Lewis 'Loan' to Mine

FBI Is Working on Case; That Explains His 'Pleasure' Trip to Illinois

By GORDON H. COLE

PM's Bureau

3



WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, is innocent of any charge that he used gasoline for pleasure driving on his recent trip to Springfield, Ill.—even though he spent 36 hours visiting his 84-year-old mother, Mrs. Anna Lewis.

Any public report on the OPA investigation of the trip will exonerate Lewis of all charges and show that the mine union chiefs drive from Alexandria, Va., to the Illinois coal fields was no pleasure jaunt.

Covered It Up

Lewis drove to Illinois on business—business that he chose to cover up by his remark to a reporter at Decatur, Ill., that he was just driving up to Springfield to see his mother. Lewis' C book for gasoline permits him to use his Buick for union business.

The fact is that Lewis went to Springfield because agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were there checking into the financial transactions between Lewis' union and the Mine B Co., a coal operator that engaged in a long and costly lockout of members of a rival AFL union at a time when Lewis was trying to oust the rival union from the Illinois coal fields.

Listed as Loan

The case is scheduled to be presented to a grand jury at Springfield within the next few weeks, it was learned here.

The facts in the case, first reported by PM last Fall, indicate that Lewis' union handed the Mine B Co. some \$350,000 at about the time of the lockout that enabled UMW organizers to raid the rival union's membership.

The transaction is listed on the union books as a loan. Since the FBI investigation was begun, Carl Elshoff, president of the Mine B Co., is reported to have paid \$1000 on the debt.

There also are charges that Lewis kept some 14 members of the rival union, the Progressive Mine Workers of America, AFL, on its payroll during the time of the fight for exclusive bargaining rights.

The FBI is investigating the pos-

sibility that the union leaders conspired illegally to deprive employees of the Mine B Co. of their civil rights under the National Labor Relations Act. That law guarantees workers the right to join the union of their own choice.

A written law put on the books in 1870, principally to break the Ku Klux Klan, makes such conspiracy illegal.

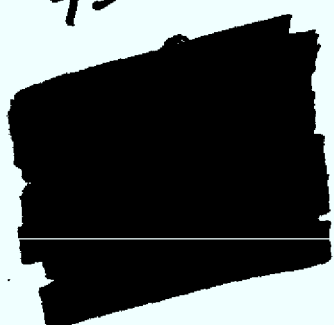
It was this same law that was used to aid the UMW in 1938—the year of the Mine B lockout—during the prosecution of coal operators in Harlan County, Ky. The Justice Dept. lost that case because the jury was unable to agree.

Conviction under this law carries criminal penalties.

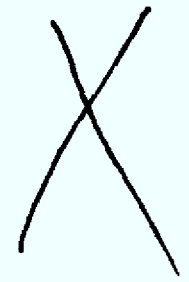
Evidence of the financial transaction between the UMW and the Mine B Co. was first discovered by agents of the U. S. Treasury Department during an investigation of Lewis' and the UMW books in a tax matter.

The facts were referred to the White House and thence to the Justice Dept. for prosecution. Justice officials, fearing charges that they were attempting to persecute Lewis for political reasons, delayed action in the case so long that there have been charges that they are neglecting their duty in the matter.

File



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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP4 JMB

9/31/43
memorandum
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This is a clipping from
page 3 of P M

for Aug. 30, 1943
Clipped at the Seat of
Government

44-845-45

ENCLOSURE

9/6/43

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

There is transmitted herewith for your information a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 1, 1943, at Miami, Florida, in the above entitled matter.

As subsequent reports are received in this case they will be made available to you immediately.

Enclosure *per*

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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP4 Jrm/ep

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 11

SEP 7 1943 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEP 18 1943

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
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**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

Springfield, Illinois
September 4, 1943

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP4 JMB/60**

Director, FBI

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
(Bureau File No. 44-845)

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the Bureau's copies of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Springfield, Illinois, September 4, 1943. It is noted that each copy of this report consists of three volumes.

For the Bureau's information, it is stated that an examination of the accounting phases of this investigation is under way, and will be made the subject of a separate report in the near future. In this connection it is noted that the accountant's work at present consists of examining the photostats which have been forwarded from the Bureau.

It is further noted that in the event the Department should deem it advisable to have testimony along the lines of such conclusions as the accountant may be able to make, it will be necessary either for the accountant to examine all of the original source material in order to be able to testify, [redacted]

In the event it should be deemed advisable for a Bureau accountant to prepare himself to testify, it appears that the Bureau accountant would have to spend several months locating and examining the original source data.

It is noted that Memorandum No. 1 dated August 30, 1943, signed by Tom C. Clark, Assistant Attorney General, mentioned that two individuals named [redacted] and [redacted] informed Jack Glasgow that District No. 12 was paying Elshoff during the shutdown of Mine "R". This memorandum contains a request that [redacted] be interviewed.

Glasgow has advised that [redacted] did not inform him that District No. 12 was paying Elshoff. He said [redacted] merely advised him that the International United Mine Workers of America had loaned District No. 12 \$400,000.00, and [redacted] inquired of Glasgow as to whether he thought there



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&
INDEXED

44-845-47
[redacted]

Director, FBI

- 2 -

September 4, 1943

was any possibility that part of this money had been paid to Elshoff. Accordingly, it does not appear that it would be essential to interview [redacted] Glasgow has advised that [redacted] presently holds a position of importance in U.M.W., and accordingly, it is felt an interview with him should be deferred until specific authority is received to interview the subjects of this investigation.

It is noted that Memorandum No. 3 dated August 30, 1943, signed by Tom C. Clark, Assistant Attorney General, requests investigation concerning the activities of [redacted] who apparently were involved in a matter concerning the Alston Coal Company, Pittsburg, Kansas. It is noted that the Department stated it is possible that the Alston Coal Company controversy may be linked into the case as part of the larger conspiracy to destroy the Progressive organization.

Inasmuch as the Alston matter is apparently entirely separate from the incidents under investigation in Illinois, it does not appear that it would be worthwhile to go into that matter at all unless the Department is prepared to request a complete investigation of the matter along lines similar to those involved in the instant investigation. Accordingly, no investigation of that matter is being undertaken by this office. However, in the event investigation of the instant matter reveals that [redacted] played some part therein, an investigation of his part in the instant matter will be made in due course.

Reference is made to Memorandum No. 1 dated August 19, 1943, signed by Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney General, in which it is requested that the principal Progressive Mine operators be interviewed to determine whether U.M.W. officials have made proposals to them of interest to this investigation. It is possible that inquiries along this line will result in information indicating that mines which have been operated under Progressive contracts have switched to U.M.W. contracts under conditions which would indicate a possibility of collusion between U.M.W. officials and mine operators.

The details of such incidents as may arise will be furnished to the Bureau immediately by letter. However, it is pointed out that the completed investigation of such incidents of that nature that may arise would probably require additional time inasmuch as it could be presumed that the facts surrounding each transaction of this nature would be at least as complicated as the facts surrounding the instant inquiry.

It is noted that a good many of the investigative suggestions which have been submitted by the Department seem to imply that the Department

b7c

Director, FBI

- 3 -

September 4, 1943

desires that the various subjects be interviewed by Bureau Agents. However, it is my opinion that before such interviews are undertaken, a specific request in writing from the Department should be obtained. Along this line it is noted that the Department has requested investigation concerning [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] It is believed that this lead should be held in abeyance until it is determined whether Agents of this office are to interview John L. Lewis.

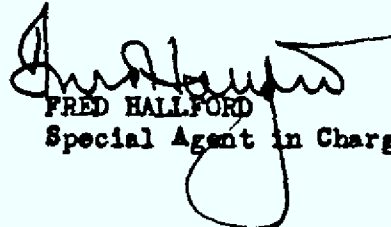
It is observed that the Department has requested that it be ascertained whether Phillip Murray, President of CIO, had any connection with the payments of U.M.W. funds to Elshoff. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] It is suggested that the Bureau ascertain from the Department whether it is desired that Murray be reinterviewed on this point. This office will, of course, make appropriate inquiries during the investigation to ascertain from persons interviewed whether there was any indication that Murray knew of, or participated in, these transactions.

It is further noted that in Memorandum No. 5 dated August 27, 1943, signed by Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney General, there is an implied request that John Q. Leary, an official of U.M.W., be interviewed. It is believed that this interview should likewise be held in abeyance until it is determined whether Agents of this office are to interview Lewis.

With reference to the instant investigation I feel that the work is progressing satisfactorily, and that it will be possible to complete all of the essential investigation requested by the Department to date by September 25, 1943.

Very truly yours,


FRED HALLFORD
Special Agent in Charge

b7c [REDACTED]
44-18

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

Springfield, Illinois
August 28, 1943

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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP-6 Jm/b

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director, FBI

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, et al
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated August 21, 1943 in captioned matter and particularly to paragraph 3 of that letter wherein it is stated that the criminal division has advised of an injunction proceedings in State Court in 1932 instituted by the Progressive Mine Workers of America against JOHN L. LEWIS. The Bureau requested two copies of the proceedings in connection with that matter.

In connection with that request there is submitted herewith five copies of a memorandum prepared by Special Agent [REDACTED] which is self-explanatory. No further action is contemplated in connection with this particular matter unless the Bureau instructs to the contrary.

Very truly yours,

FRED HALLFORD
SAC

Encl.

44-18

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9/14/43
ack

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44-845-48
15 SEP 15 1943
[REDACTED]



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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Springfield, Illinois
August 28, 1943

AUG 28 1943

MEMORANDUM

DATE 2/11/81 BY SP4 Jm/bs

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, et al.
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Reference is made to paragraph 3 of Bureau letter dated August 21, 1943 wherein it is set out that the Criminal Division has advised that in 1932 injunction proceedings were instituted in the State Court in Springfield, Illinois against LEWIS which resulted in an injunction forbidding LEWIS from interfering with Progressive Mine Workers' activity in Illinois. The Criminal Division requested a copy of these proceedings be secured and forwarded to the Department.

A careful search of the records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County, Springfield, Illinois, failed to reveal any injunction proceedings wherein the Progressive Mine Workers of America and JOHN L. LEWIS were parties to the action.

A similar search of the records of the Federal District Court, Southern District, Southern Division of Illinois, was negative.

The records, however, of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Sangamon County, Springfield, Illinois, under docket #52104, reflect that a bill of complaint was filed October 11, 1929 by HARRY FISHWICK, et al, against JOHN L. LEWIS, et al. This was an action in chancery requesting immediate temporary injunction and permanent injunction by the officers of the then District 12, U.M.W. of A. against JOHN L. LEWIS and other officers of the International U.M.W. and individuals whom LEWIS had appointed to assume the various offices of District 12 in place of the elected officers, HARRY FISHWICK being one of the elected officers. In this case JOSEPH A. LONDRIGAN and FLOYD E. THOMPSON were the principal attorneys representing FISHWICK. The principal attorneys representing JOHN L. LEWIS were HENRY CARRON, CHARLES E. FEIRICH, MAX PULVERMAN and GILLESPIE, BURKE, and GILLESPIE.

The docket alone in this case consumed several pages and it is believed at this time too voluminous to quote. Numerous pleadings were filed including several amended bills of complaint, several answers and amended answers, several cross bills, amended answers to cross bills and amended cross bills. From time to time numerous complainants and defendants were added and subtracted from the suit. The suit was very active during the remainder of 1929 and 1930. On April 17, 1930 the Court ordered a citation for contempt against JOHN L. LEWIS and several others. Later in July the citation against most of the others for contempt was dismissed. The pleadings in this case are very voluminous and would fill at least one file drawer.

ENCLOSURE

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#411 JAN 15 1962

44-845-78

MEMORANDUM

- 2 -

JOHN L. LEWIS, et al

A check of the records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Appeals, Supreme Court Building, Springfield, Illinois, revealed that as a result of the proceedings in Circuit Court of Sangamon County in connection with instant case, two appeals were taken. The first appeal by JOHN L. LEWIS contends that the temporary injunction imposed by the Circuit Court should be dismissed. The Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the Lower Court's decision and did not dismiss the temporary injunction.

The second case involves the contention of LEWIS that the permanent injunction should not have been issued and was erroneously issued by the lower Court in view of the fact that the complainant had not maintained the status quo in that that body had called an international convention and elected new international officers when previously LEWIS had secured a majority of signatures of members in favor of indefinitely postponing the international convention.

The printed record in the first case in the Appellate Court consisted of an abstract; statement brief in argument; and reply brief of the appellant, JOHN L. LEWIS. Also an additional abstract and brief of the appellee, HARRY FISHWICK. The printed record of the second case in Appellate Court consists of an abstract of record and statement brief in argument for the appellant, JOHN L. LEWIS; also reply brief of appellees and additional abstract for the appellees. All these printed documents are voluminous.

The result of both appeals was, lower court was upheld in both instances retaining in effect the temporary injunction and approving the permanent injunction. The two opinions of the Circuit Court of Appeal contain a brief concise summary of the facts and the law and are reported in the following citations:

"258, Illinois Appellate Court Reports, 402
260, Illinois Appellate Court Reports, 230"

In view of the voluminous nature of the case record and pleadings in this case, copies of the proceedings are at this time not being secured. It appears that they would have little value except as background information in connection with instant case, in view of the fact that the case involves a dispute within the U.M.W. of A. union and is not between members of the U.M.W. and the Progressive Mine Workers. Therefore no further action is contemplated in connection with this matter at this time unless the Bureau instructs to the contrary.

Submitted by -


Special Agent

44-18


b7c

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DATE 2/11/81 BY 4000/12

9/1/43

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
TOM C. CLARK

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Reference is made to your memorandum of recent date wherein you referred to injunction proceedings that were instituted in the State Court at Springfield, Illinois, forbidding John L. Lewis from interfering with the *Progressive Mine Workers' activities in Illinois. You requested that the Department be furnished with copies of these proceedings.

The Springfield Office of this Bureau was requested to secure the copies of injunction proceedings in this matter pursuant to your request. With regard to this matter, the Springfield Office has now advised as follows:

"A careful search of the records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County, Springfield, Illinois, failed to reveal any injunction proceedings wherein the *Progressive Mine Workers of America and John L. Lewis were parties to the action.

"A similar search of the records of the Federal District Court, Southern District, Southern Division of Illinois, was negative.

"The records, however, of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Sangamon County, Springfield, Illinois, under docket #52104, reflect that a bill of complaint was filed October 11, 1929 by Harry Fishwick, et al, against John L. Lewis, et al. This was an action in chancery requesting immediate temporary injunction and permanent injunction by the officers of the then District 12, U.M.W. of A. against John L. Lewis and other officers of the International U.M.W. and individuals whom Lewis had appointed to assume the various offices of District 12 in place of the elected officers, Harry Fishwick being one of the elected officers. This case Joseph A. Landrigan and Floyd E. Thompson were the principal attorneys representing Fishwick. The principal attorneys representing John L. Lewis were Henry Farrum, Charles E. Feirich, H. Palverson and *Gilligan, Burke and Gilligan.

The docket alone in this case consumed several pages and it is believed at this time too voluminous to quote. Numerous pleadings were filed including several amended bills of complaint, several
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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SEP 15 1943
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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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RECEIVED
SEP 6 1943
TO DIRECTOR
FROM
SEP 6 1943

answers and amended answers, several cross bills, amended answers to cross bills and amended cross bills. From time to time numerous complainants and defendants were added and subtracted from the suit. The suit was very active during the remainder of 1929 and 1930. On April 17, 1930 the Court ordered a citation for contempt against John L. Lewis and several others. Later in July the citation against most of the others for contempt was dismissed. The pleadings in this case are very voluminous and would fill at least one file drawer.

"A check of the records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Appeals, Supreme Court Building, Springfield, Illinois, revealed that as a result of the proceedings in Circuit Court of Sangamon County in connection with instant case, two appeals were taken. The first appeal by John L. Lewis contends that the temporary injunction imposed by the Circuit Court should be dismissed. The Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the Lower Court's decision and did not dismiss the temporary injunction.

"The second case involves the contention of Lewis that the permanent injunction should not have been issued and was erroneously issued by the lower Court in view of the fact that the complainant had not maintained the status quo in that that body had called an international convention and elected new international officers when previously Lewis had secured a majority of signatures of members in favor of indefinitely postponing the international convention.

"The printed record in the first case in the Appellate Court consisted of an abstract, statement brief in argument, and reply brief of the appellant, John L. Lewis. Also an additional abstract and brief of the appellee, Harry Fishwick. The printed record of the second case in Appellate Court consists of an abstract of record and statement brief in argument for the appellant, John L. Lewis; also reply brief of appellee and additional abstract for the appellees. All these printed documents are voluminous.

"The result of both appeals was that lower court was upheld in both instances retaining in effect the temporary injunction and approving the permanent injunction. The two opinions of the Circuit Court of Appeals contain a brief concise summary of the facts and the law and are reported in the following citations:

'258, Illinois Appellate Court Reports, 402
260, Illinois Appellate Court Reports, 230.'

The Springfield Office has further advised that the case record and pleadings in this case would be of a voluminous nature and would appear

to have little value except as background information in connection with the captioned case, in view of the fact that the case involves a dispute within the United Mine Workers of America Union and not between members of the United Mine Workers and the Progressive Mine Workers Union.

In view of the above facts, copies of the injunction proceedings, as referred to above, will not be secured in the absence of a specific request from you.

It is noted that in your memorandum #1, dated August 30, 1943, you mentioned that two individuals named [redacted] informed Jack Glasgow that District #12 was paying Elshoff during the shutdown of Mine B, and requested that [redacted] be interviewed. The Springfield Office has advised that Glasgow stated that [redacted] did not inform him that District #12 was paying Elshoff. Glasgow stated that [redacted] merely advised him that the International United Mine Workers of America had loaned District #12 \$400,000, and [redacted] inquired of Glasgow as to whether he thought there was any possibility that part of this money had been paid to Elshoff. Accordingly, it does not appear that it would be essential to interview [redacted]. Glasgow has advised that [redacted] presently holds a position of importance in the United Mine Workers, and, accordingly, it is felt that an interview with him might well be deferred until the subjects in this investigation are interviewed.

With reference to your memorandum #3, dated August 30, 1943, concerning the activities of [redacted] who were involved in a matter concerning the Alston Coal Company, Pittsburg, Kansas, no investigation will be conducted as the Springfield Office has advised that it appears that the Alston matter apparently is entirely separate from the incidents under investigation in Illinois. However, in the event the instant matter reveals that [redacted] played some part therein, an investigation of his part in the instant matter will be made.

With regard to your memorandum #1, dated August 19, 1943, wherein you request that the principal Progressive Mine operators be interviewed to determine whether the United Mine Workers officials have made proposals to them of interest to this investigation, such interviews will be made; however, it is possible that inquiries along this line will result in information indicating that mines which have been operated under Progressive contracts have switched to United Mine Workers contracts under conditions which would indicate a possibility of collusion between United Mine Workers officials and mine operators. In the event such a situation arises, the matter will be referred to you to ascertain if you desire an immediate investigation into that particular matter inasmuch as it is anticipated that such an inquiry might be as involved and complicated as the facts surrounding the instant case.

Tolson _____
E. A. Tamm _____
Clegg _____
Coffey _____
Glavin _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Acers _____
Carson _____
Harbo _____
Hendon _____
Mumford _____
Starke _____
Quinn Tamm _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

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It is noted that you have requested that Philip Murray, President of the CIO, be interviewed to ascertain if he had any connections with the payments of United Mine Workers funds to Kishoff, in view of the fact that

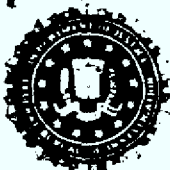
[REDACTED]

Your advice would be appreciated as to whether you desire that Murray be reinterviewed on this point at this time. The Springfield Office will, of course, make appropriate inquiries during the course of this investigation to ascertain from persons interviewed whether they had any indication that Murray knew of or participated in these transactions.

Reference is made to your memorandum #5, dated August 27, 1943, wherein you request that John L. Leary, an official of the United Mine Workers, be interviewed. Unless advised to the contrary by you, this interview will be held in abeyance until it is determined when and if subject Lewis and the other subjects in this case are to be interviewed. Upon conclusion of the other investigation in this matter, your advice will be requested at that time as to the desirability of interviewing John L. Lewis and the principal subjects in this case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

FLM:EK
Call: 3:00 P.M.
Transcribed: 3:20 P.M.

August 26, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, et al;
Civil Rights and Domestic Violence

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Piper _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____

At this time I received a call from Mr. Frank Coleman of the Civil Rights Section of the Department at which time he said he had received some information from apparently reliable people which he related as follows.

One item is that a man named [REDACTED] (first name unknown), who was once an official of the National Labor Relations Board and who was discharged because he was supposed to have accepted a bribe out at St. Louis, is now on Lewis' staff, and further that he is a "fixer" in cases of this kind. He said the Department is supposed to have a file on him and that the FBI looked into it, but he thinks they dropped the charges. He said he has asked the Labor Board to look it up, but they haven't done anything about it yet. I inquired if his sources couldn't determine [REDACTED] first name, and he said he will see that they do. He said that since this is such a common name, it would be difficult to identify him through a check of their files, and I explained that the same would be true in connection with the Bureau's files.

[REDACTED]

Mr. Coleman stated his source also advised that [REDACTED] (phonetic), two gunmen who Lewis has in Southern Illinois, are the men who do the even rougher stuff than [REDACTED] does; that is, they actually carry the guns and intimidate the witnesses.

Mr. Coleman said he has in mind sending the Bureau a memorandum suggesting that these men be watched, especially if they move into that area during the Bureau's investigation; that probably [REDACTED] should be put under some degree of surveillance for fear that they will actually go in the area to intimidate persons. He said he supposed the Agents had been active in the field in this connection for about four days, and the possibility no doubt is that they realize today how serious this thing is, and there



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is always a possibility, especially with the background of terrorism in that country, that they will come in to intimidate the people the Agents are talking to. I inquired if he knew the whereabouts of these individuals, and he said he doesn't know except that they are supposed to be in Southern Illinois. They are well known out there as Lewis' gunmen. He said that for years there have been accusations of Lewis' gunning and causing the Merrin Massacre and the killing of about thirty scabs out there, and all kind of tactics although they have never pinned them on him so they have no right to assume he is that type of an individual, but they do know that Ray Edmondson, the right-hand man out there, was a rather notorious gunman in his own right and was actually implicated in a murder or two and himself was severely wounded in a fray. He at one time before 1932 was a bitter enemy of Lewis, and Lewis often called him a gunman, but then took him over and they are fast friends now.

Mr. Coleman said the same source indicates that a man named ~~X~~O'Leary, Vice President of the Pittsburgh district and who they know from present evidence was a go-between for some of these payments, was probably used by Lewis to make sure that Edmondson did not appropriate this money to his own use, [REDACTED]

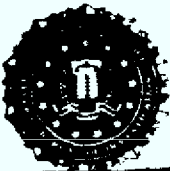
b7c [REDACTED]

He said he intends to embody the above in a memorandum to the Bureau for whatever action we feel desirable. I told him briefly that he should submit the memorandum and that consideration would be given to his request.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

*If memo read
we will only
send to Springfield
for its information
Flw*



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 24, 1943

Call: 11:00 AM
Dictated: 4:30 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Acers _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Starke _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

Reference is made to the attached memorandum to you dated August 23, 1943, advising that SAC Hallford of Springfield telephoned and requested that certain additional material be obtained from the Department in order that it might be utilized in the investigation of the captioned matter. It is noted that SAC Hallford requested four things:

1. List of the miners who voted in the first election held by the National Labor Relations Board for designation of a Union representative at Mine B on December 15, 1937, and an itemized list of how each voter cast his ballot.
2. Itemized list of the name of each voter and how he cast his ballot in the second election held February 21, 1941, by the NLRB at Mine B, Springfield, Illinois, to designate a Union bargaining agent.
3. The originals or photostatic copies of the original signatures of the application for membership cards which were submitted by the United Mine Workers Union and the Progressive Mine Workers Union prior to the second election which was held February 21, 1941, at Mine B. It is noted that both Unions submitted membership signatures requesting that an election be held to designate a bargaining agent at that time.
4. All petitions that might have been filed by either Union with the NLRB prior to the designation of a bargaining representative on February 21, 1941, at which time the United Mine Workers were certified by the NLRB.

At the above time, I had SA [redacted] contact Mr. Frank Coleman of the Criminal Division of the Department and request that the above material be furnished to the Bureau, if it were available. Mr. Coleman advised that he was certain that he would be able to obtain all of the material requested from the National Labor Relations Board and that it would be forwarded to the Bureau in the immediate future.



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A review of the exhibits forwarded to the Bureau by the Department would indicate that all of the petitions filed by either Union, as referred to in #4 above, have been secured and furnished to the Springfield Office; however, Mr. Coleman advised a check would be made in this regard and any petitions not secured to date from the files of the NLRB would be obtained immediately.

With regard to #3 above, Mr. Coleman stated that either Union has a right to hold an election to certify a bargaining agent. A specific number of Union members are not required, but it is rather a matter of reasonableness to be decided by the NLRB, which has discretion to hold an election at any time it feels one Union has sufficient members to justify an election to decide if that Union should be the sole bargaining representative of the employees.

Mr. Coleman also stated that in his opinion, it would not alter the validity of the election if it were proven that some of the signatures appearing on the application for membership cards submitted with the Union's petition for election were forgeries; however, he stated that any evidence of forgeries on the part of the United Mine Workers would make good testimony in court.

Mr. Coleman was advised that the Bureau would submit a memorandum immediately, formally requesting the above listed material.

ACTION:

A memorandum for the Criminal Division is being prepared, formally requesting the material requested by SAC Hallford, as referred to above.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch
F. L. Welch

Done
8/24/43
Sent to Hall
8/24/43
b7c



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 19, 1943

Call: 11:40 a.m.
toll: 46 a.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

At the above time Supervisor [redacted] of my office contacted SAC Hallford, Springfield Office, and requested advice as to the present status of the case and the date of the initiation of the investigation. In this connection he stated that the investigation had already started, in that inquiries and checks were being made to ascertain the present location of the miners to be interviewed, and in addition other steps such as a review of the newspaper morgue available in Springfield has gotten underway in order to satisfy the Department's request for information as to the sentiments of the people and their reaction to the strike conditions during the period under review. Mr. Hallford states that no publicity will result from checking the newspaper morgue since the newspaper is not interested in publicizing the case. Agent [redacted] requested advice from SAC Hallford as to his present estimate of the additional outside help he will need. He stated that as pointed out to [redacted] previously, he will have four Agents available and qualified in the Springfield Office, and in addition he believes that he will need at least twelve outside Agents who are experienced and qualified in order to hope to complete the investigation thoroughly, and also in order to complete it by the end of September so that it will be ready for presentation to the Grand Jury in accordance with the wishes of the Attorney General.

SAC Hallford advised that present indications are that the actual interviews will begin on Monday, August 23, and at the latest he would like to have the additional outside Agents available in the Springfield Office by Wednesday, August 25th.

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RECORDED

44-845-52

R411 JAN 11 1962 It was pointed out to SAC Hallford that every effort should be bent toward expediting the investigation in the case in order that it will be completed by the end of September. Specifically, September 25, has been indicated as the deadline for completing the investigation so that the Department will have some time to prepare the matter for the Grand Jury in October. He understands that and says that the matter is being pushed by him in order to comply with the Bureau instructions.



67c Memo

17th Mr. Tolson
8/20/43

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DATE 3/11/81 BY SP4 Jm/bp

SEP 18 1943

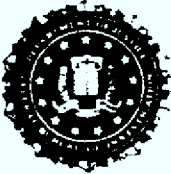
ACTION:

In view of the expedite nature of this case and the delicacy of the investigation, and particularly the fact that hundreds of persons will have to be contacted and possibly interviewed, it is not believed that the request of SAC Hallford for twelve additional Agents in order to make this a Special and completed on time is unreasonable. However, I did not advise SAC Hallford anything other than the request would be referred for consideration and he would be appropriately advised.

Respectfully,

FLW
F. L. Welch

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
August 23, 1943

0-287

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD *HL*

Time of call:
6:15 PM

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

At the above time SAC Hallford, Springfield, phoned and advised that he would like to have additional material obtained from the Department in order that it might be utilized by the Agents investigating this matter. *Miss Beahm*

b3 T26, USC 56103

SAC Hallford also indicated that during the course of the controversy regarding which union should be held as the bargaining agent for the employees in NLRB, various petitions were filed by either side. SAC Hallford feels that the Springfield Office should have for its assistance in the investigation, if possible, a copy of every petition so filed.



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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP/...

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

- 2 -

In connection with the latter request, the Springfield Office, it is believed, has most of the petitions filed. However, this matter is being doublechecked in order to be sure.

SAC Hallford advised that six of the twelve Agents assigned to him on this case as a Special, have already arrived at the Springfield Office and he also advised that the first interview in this case was conducted on Saturday, August 21, 1943. He stated that the case will be pushed vigorously from this point on in order to meet the deadline.

ACTION

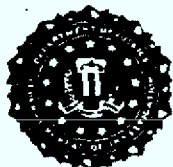
b7c
[REDACTED] to whom this case is assigned, is checking on the requests of SAC Hallford and expediting transmittal of the material which will be needed pursuant thereto.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch
F. L. Welch

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287a



**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

LBN:GDC

**Washington, D. C.
August 26, 1943**

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Acers _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Starke _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

For record purposes, Karl Bauman of the AP advised me that the Chicago Daily News was carrying a story which had a Washington date-line on it, to the effect that the FBI was investigating the alleged dirty financial dealings on the part of John L. Lewis with certain mine operators in Springfield. I told Bauman that we had no comment to make.

Respectfully,

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DATE 2/1/81 BY [signature]



60 JUL 18 1943

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44-845-54
F B I
15 SEP 15 1943

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

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DATE 2/6/81 BY SP-1 JAB/bs

SEP - 8 1943

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

FBI SPRINGFIELD

9-8-43

2-58 PM CWT

DIRECTOR AND

SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD

WAFT. URGENT. JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL. CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC

VIOLENCE. ~~REDACTED~~ SUBJECT CARL H. ELSHOFF ALLEGEDLY IN WASHINGTON, DC,
SOMETIME BETWEEN JUNE ELEVEN AND JULY SIX, NINETEEN FORTYTWO TO
DISCUSS WITH LEWIS PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE ~~REDACTED~~ PANTHER CREEK MINE

PROPERTIES. ~~REDACTED~~

~~REDACTED~~ ALSO ASCERTAIN IF SUBJECT RAY EDMUNDSON
~~REDACTED~~ SUBMIT REPORT NINE COPIES
MAY HAVE BEEN ~~REDACTED~~
TO BUREAU FOUR THIS ~~REDACTED~~ OFFICE BY SEPTEMBER ~~REDACTED~~ FIFTEEN NEXT.

END

ACK PLS

4-02 PM OK FBI WASH DC MFT

OK FBI WA ED

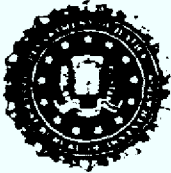
60 SEP 18 1943

HALLFORD
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44-845-55
15 SEP 15 1943
cc [REDACTED]



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

September 9, 1943

9:45 a.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL.
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____

At this time in response to [redacted] earlier call, Mr. Frank Coleman in the Department called and talked with [redacted] regarding the above captioned case.

He was specifically asked whether a decision had been reached by the Department relative to the request of Mr. Hallford for advice as to the reply which should be given to miners and others interviewed during the course of the Lewis investigation.

Mr. Coleman stated that the Department's attitude is that under no circumstances should copies of statements be given to lawyers. In addition, he stated that it is the over all opinion of the Department that it would be an undesirable practice to furnish copies of statements to individuals during the progress of the case. He stated that, however, where in an individual case it would appear that because of vital information being in the possession of the person being interviewed it might be desirable to furnish a copy of the statement, the Department would have no objection. Mr. Coleman stated he would leave a decision as to that up to SAC Hallford as being an "on the spot" decision.

Mr. Coleman stated that he was leaving today, September 9, 1943, for Springfield, Illinois, where he planned to spend approximately a week looking toward preparation of the matter for possible grand jury proceedings. He stated that he would get in touch with SAC Hallford while there.

[redacted] specifically asked Mr. Coleman if the Department had any objection to the Bureau Agents referring requests for copies of statements to the Department, that is, in the following manner. In the event a person being interviewed requests a copy of any statement to be given or which has been given, the Agent would advise the individual that his request would be referred to the office of the Attorney General or to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice for a decision relative to his or her request. Mr. Coleman agreed with the use of this procedure.

RECORDED

ACTION: SAC, Hallford is being apprised of the Department's decision in this matter.



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Respectfully,

15 SEP 15 1943

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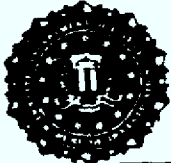
DATE

2/11/81

BY

F. L. Welch

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 16, 1943

5:15 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, et al
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC VIOLENCE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Acers _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Starke _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

At this time S.A.C. Hallford called from Springfield regarding this case. He stated that the Agents assigned to the case have pretty thoroughly reviewed the material furnished so far and at this time he wishes to have the Department furnish expeditiously the following exhibits: [redacted] Exhibits #59, #60, #61, #64, #65 and #66. He says these are needed right away in order to enable the Agents to start the investigation.

[redacted] assured him that the Department would be contacted immediately and advised of the necessity of forwarding these exhibits to the Bureau immediately. [redacted] is having [redacted] prepare a memo for the Department, special, requesting these exhibits, and [redacted] will call Mr. Frank Coleman in the Department tomorrow, Tuesday morning, advising him of the request and the fact that a formal memorandum is coming through requesting the same.

Mr. Coleman, according to S.A.C. Hallford, left Springfield, Illinois, Friday night, August 13, for Washington. Before leaving, Mr. Coleman stated that certain evidence [redacted]

[redacted] need not be re-checked by the Bureau. S.A.C. Hallford is incorporating this request in a letter to the Bureau at which time a memo will be prepared for the Department requesting confirmation of Mr. Coleman's oral advice along this line. [redacted] advised S.A.C. Hallford that the final batch of the exhibits has not yet been received from the Department but, as soon as it is received, photostatic copies will be furnished to the Springfield Office by special delivery. Preliminary inquiries are now being made to ascertain the location of the individuals to be interviewed and the investigation should be initiated by Wednesday, August 18, according to present indications, i.e. the actual interview should begin by then. RECORDED 44-845-57

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6411 JAN 11 1962
In addition, S.A.C. Hallford stated that he had discussed with Mr. Coleman generally the Department's suggestion that the fourteen, so-called "spies" of the U.M.W. which were within the ranks of the Progressive Mine Workers Union be interviewed at the outset and SAC Hallford states that Mr. Coleman understands that this request of the Department is being given due consideration by the Bureau but that it probably would not be advisable.



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DATE 2/11/81 BY [redacted]

Memorandum for Mr. Ladd

Page Two

b7c [REDACTED] pointed out to S.A.C. Hallford that this particular angle is being left more or less to him, S.A.C. Hallford's discretion. His present reaction is that it would not be advisable to interview these fourteen miners at the outset of the investigation.

Every effort is being made by S.A.C. Hallford to push the investigation as rapidly as possible in order to make the deadline.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch
F. L. Welch



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 17, 1943

Call: 10:00 AM
Dictated: 10:30 AM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beah _____
Miss Gandy _____

Reference is made to my memorandum to you dated August 16, 1943, wherein you were advised that SAC Hallford called from Springfield, requesting that Exhibits 59, 60, 61, 64, 65 and 66 be forwarded expeditiously as they were necessary to the investigation in this case. Inasmuch as the above Exhibits had not been received as yet from the Criminal Division of the Department, I had SA [redacted] contact Mr. Frank Coleman of the Criminal Division with regard to the above mentioned Exhibits. Mr. Coleman advised that he had just sent Exhibits 59 to 69, inclusive, to the Bureau by special messenger. A few minutes after calling Mr. Coleman, the above mentioned Exhibits arrived in my office by special messenger and they are now being photostated and will be sent to the Springfield Office today.

Mr. Coleman advised Agent [redacted] that photostatic copies of some of the remaining material taken from the files of the National Labor Relations Board would be forwarded to the Bureau in two or three days.

He stated that this material had been thoroughly reviewed by Mr. O'Donnell of the Criminal Division at the National Labor Relations Board and that the main exhibits had already been forwarded to the Bureau.

Mr. Coleman stated that he had just returned from Springfield, Illinois, where he had talked to SAC Hallford. He advised that SAC Hallford had mentioned that two or three of the exhibits furnished the Bureau by the Department were not complete and Mr. Coleman stated that Mr. O'Donnell of his office was at present reviewing all of the exhibits and that any exhibits [redacted] not previously forwarded would be sent to the Bureau immediately.

RECORDED

44-845-58

Mr. Coleman mentioned, incidentally, that he was a little disturbed over the fact that the Office of Price Administration was at present trying to prosecute Lewis for violation of the pleasure driving ban. He stated that it was possible that the Attorney General might suggest to the OPA that it withhold its prosecution in view of the fact that the Department was contemplating a much more serious prosecution of Lewis.

FOR DEFENSE

BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

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8411 JAN 11 1962

- 2 -

ACTION TAKEN

Exhibits 59 to 69, inclusive, which were received from the Department, as indicated above, are being transmitted to the Springfield Office.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch
F. L. Welch
gkmg

Done 8/17/47
b7c

EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



JHM:PC

Federal Bureau of Investigation...
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

September 6, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Acers _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Starke _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____

SAC Hallford of the Springfield Office called with reference to the above captioned matter to advise of further developments.

Hallford advised that they had appointments with the alleged spies of the UMW who joined the membership of the Progressive Mine Workers Union for the purpose of spying on this Union for the UMW, but only three of them showed up for the appointments. He advised that one came in today and stated that a number of these men were down at the UMW headquarters on Saturday morning talking to Ray Edmondson who got in touch with their attorney, Arthur Fitzgerald. The attorney told them not to talk to anybody unless in his presence.

Hallford stated they have secured signed statements from the three who showed up, but they did not tell anything of value. He stated that he does not believe any of them will tell anything but inquired if he should go out and contact each one of them to see if they are going to come in to be interviewed and also find out why they did not show up for their appointments. I told him it would be all right for him to go ahead with this. He stated if this does not work, and they do not get anything out of them, he would like to suggest that the Department be contacted to find out if they would be willing to hold off on them and put them under oath before a grand jury.

I told him to go ahead and work on this theory unless he is called back and advised to the contrary.

Respectfully,

J. E. Mumford

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DATE 2/11/81 BY SP9 JMB/SP



60 SEP 18 1943

44-845-39
SEP 15 1943

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

WR:EC:MLB

144-10

August 26, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 1

Re: Mine "B" -- Violations of
Section 51, Title 18.

I am attaching one copy of a document entitled "Outline of the Trial Brief" believing it may be of some value to your Field Office in Springfield.

In an effort to organize and estimate the significance of the investigative material which we now have, and which will be flowing in from your investigation, I have decided to set up a trial brief.

It should be carefully noted that the "Outline of the Trial Brief" constitutes no more than a series of tentative allegations, so organized as to present the case as a related whole. Some of these allegations are now established, others remain to be established. In some instances the investigation will require a weakening of certain allegations; in other instances it will permit a strengthening of them.

It will be our purpose to set up a trial brief based on this outline. A loose-leaf notebook will be used and a page inserted with each separate point in the outline typed at the top of the page. Beneath the point will be typed (a) an analysis of the proof now available, (b) requests for investigation directed to your Bureau, and (c) proof of the point resulting from your investigation.

I hope by September 1 to have a rough copy of this trial brief available for transmission to you. It may prove of considerable help to your Field Office in visualizing the significance and relevancy of investigative requests from the legal standpoint. The trial brief at this stage will show only items (a) and (b) referred to above.

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R411 JAN 11 1962

44-845-60

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-2-

It is probable that in future memoranda requesting investigation the numerology of the outline will be used to suggest the significance and relevancy of items referred to.

Respectfully,



WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

Enclosure
No. 240981

Illinois miners would accept a reduction of \$1.00 in the daily wage scale which Lewis and the operators were proposing.

In the first referendum, the miners had rejected the proposal.

2. In 19 , Lewis had abolished local autonomy in Illinois and set up a provisional government with a district president appointed and completely controlled by him. This was a second cause of discontent.

B. Lewis bitterly resolved to break the Progressive organization and bring all Illinois miners under his control.

C. From 1932 to 1937, Lewis, by espionage, violence, and other methods of labor warfare, fought relentlessly to win back the Progressive miners. It was a bitter struggle for supremacy between the two unions, marked by lawless rioting and mass picketing. Many persons were killed and several counties were long under martial law.

XI. IN THE SPRING OF 1937, LEWIS AND RICHMOND INDUCED ELSHOFF TO JOIN WITH THEM IN A SCHEME WHEREBY PROGRESSIVE LOCALS, BEGINNING WITH THE LOCAL AT MINE B, WOULD BE BROKEN IN PROCESS OF SUCCESSIVELY BUYING CONTROL OF PROGRESSIVE MINES WITH ELSHOFF AS "FRONT".

- A. Early in the spring of 1937, Lewis resolves to supplement violent persuasion with bribery of the operators at Progressive mines.
- B. Progressive mines "A" and "B" at Springfield, Illinois were the strongholds of the Progressive organization. Moreover, these mines were a symbol of victory or defeat for Springfield was Lewis' former residence and center of power. He and Edmundson agreed that the first attack should be made on these mines.
- C. In February, 1937, Edmundson approached William X Ryan, operator of Mine "A", and proposed that he shut down his mine to enable U.M.W. to win over the miners, offering to subsidize Ryan's operating costs and profits. Ryan flatly rejected the proposal.
- D. In April, 1937, Lewis and Edmundson met secretly with Elshoff in Springfield and plotted to incite a strike at Elshoff's Mine "B", with the understanding that Elshoff would continue a shut-down until U.M.W. could capture control, it being agreed that Elshoff's operating expenses and profits would be subsidized out of the U.M.W. Treasury. It was understood that this was to be but the first in the series of attacks on Progressive locals in which Elshoff would participate.

POINT TWO

THE PLAN TO DESTROY THE PROGRESSIVE LOCAL AT MINE "B" WAS PUT IN EXECUTION IN APRIL, 1937, AND CONTINUED UNTIL SUCCESS WAS FINALLY ACHIEVED WHEN U.M.W. SIGNED A CLOSED-SHOP CONTRACT WITH ELSHOFF IN MARCH, 1941.

I. IN APRIL AND MAY, 1937, LEWIS AND EDMUNDSON, WITH ELSHOFF'S KNOWLEDGE AND CONIVANCE, PLOTTED TO PRECIPITATE A STRIKE AND SHUT DOWN OF MINE "B" WHICH WAS SUCCESSFULLY ACHIEVED ON MAY, 12.

- A. Lewis and Edmundson bribed a small group of Progressive members to agitate a strike.
- B. These spies, by the circulation of false rumors and other methods, during April and early May, sought to precipitate a strike.
- C. The Progressives, early in May, 1937, discovered these activities and expelled the spies after trial.
- D. Progressives demanded that Elshoff fire these spies pursuant to the closed-shop contract but Elshoff refused.
- E. As a result of Elshoff's refusal to abide by his contract, the Progressives, on May 12, 1937, went on strike, and Elshoff shut down his mine indefinitely pursuant to the plot.

II. FROM THE SHUT-DOWN UNTIL HE SIGNED A CLOSED-SHOP CONTRACT WITH U.M.W. ON MARCH 6, 1941, ELSHOFF CONTINUOUSLY SUBJECTED HIS EMPLOYEES TO UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES, PURSUANT TO THE PLOT.

- A. From May 12, 1937, to January 4, 1938,
Elshoff imposed unfair labor practices
designed to effect a U.M.W. coup d'etat.
- B. From January 4, 1938, to November 6, 1939,
Elshoff imposed unfair labor practices
designed to starve his employees into
submission.
- C. From November 6, 1939, to March, 1941,
Elshoff imposed unfair labor practices
designed to guarantee the U.M.W. victory
in the membership campaign.

- 6 -

III. FROM THE SHUT DOWN OF THE MINE IN MAY, 1937,
UNTIL THE PROGRESSIVES WERE FINALLY BROKEN IN
MARCH, 1941, LEWIS AND EDMUNDSON, ACCORDING
TO THE PLOT, CONTINUOUSLY PAID ELSHOFF BRINE
MONEY IN A SUM AGGREGATING [REDACTED] THOUS
GUARANTEEING HIM AGAINST LOSS AND ASSURING HIM
A HANDSOME PERSONAL PROFIT.

b3
T26, USC,
§6103

A. The dates and methods of the several payments
were as follows:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

etc.

B. Lewis supplemented this bribery by conniving
with the Peabody Coal Corporation to pay Elshoff
exorbitant commissions on brokerage coal.

1. It was part of the scheme that Elshoff would
assist in the subsidization of the shut-down
by engaging in brokerage operations to make
a profit and to retain his good will with
his retail customers. For the first few
months of the shut-down, Elshoff purchased
brokerage coal from the Panther Creek Mines.

2. When attempts at a coup d'etat failed
and it became apparent that a long reign
was inevitable, Louis conspired with the
Peabody Coal Corporation, who were under
obligations of fear and favor to Louis, to
pay Kishoff exorbitant commissions on
brokerage coal.

- 3 -

2. Throughout the period of the payments, the financial condition of the corporation and Elshoff personally was notoriously bad and this fact was known to Lewis and Edmondson.

3. Lewis and Edmondson knew that the prospective earnings of the corporation and Elshoff would never suffice to repay.

4. The payments were made to Elshoff and not the corporation.

5. No security was taken from either the corporation or Elshoff.

6. No efforts were made to obtain repayment from Elshoff.

7. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

8. On March 16, 1941, defendants took from Elshoff a promissory note bearing only 3% interest and that not until the maturity of the note on March 16, 1946.

9. This note was taken only after defendants knew that there had been suspicions of bribery.

- 8 -

IV. THE PAYMENTS WERE MADE WITH THE INTENT TO INDUCE
ELSHOFF TO DEPOSE THE UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES.

A. Payment of money by a union official to an
employer during a jurisdictional struggle
violates per se a fundamental principal of
trade union ethics.

B. Payment of money by a union official to an
employer during a shut-down or a strike,
because it tends to lengthen the period in
which the men are kept from their jobs, also
violates a fundamental principal of trade union
ethics. The fact that the payments were made,
in the face of this tradition, is strong evi-
dence indicating guilty intent.

C. [REDACTED]

D. The payments were compensation, not loans. Only
on this hypothesis can the motives of the parties
be reconciled. The defendants eluded the trans-
actions in the guise of loans to avoid the
devastating effect of this circumstance.

1. Elshoff, unless the payments were compensa-
tion, had no motive for precipitating and
continuing the shut-down, which involved
huge losses.

a. From 1922 until the events of the spring
of 1937, the labor relations between the
Progressives and Elshoff had been amicable
and constructive.

- 2 -

b. The operations in Mine "F" had been profitable to Elshoff and there were

no legitimate business reasons for him to maintain the shut-down.

2. [REDACTED] was not a large price to pay for the dividends which Lewis and Edmundson hoped to recover.

63
Tel. USC,
§6103

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

F. The payments made to Elshoff were substantially in excess of maintenance requirements plus Elshoff's accustomed salary and profit. The excess was used by Elshoff for personal purposes. This fact was known to both Lewis and Edmondson.

1. Both Lewis and Edmondson were close acquaintances of Elshoff. They knew him as an extravagant, profligate, and dissipated individual.

2. During the period of the payments, Elshoff was living on a high scale and this fact was well known to Lewis and Edmondson.

3. The actual maintenance requirements of the mines were as follows:

4. Elshoff actually used \$ for these purposes. He appropriated \$ for his own personal use.

G. The specific payments coincided with strategic unfair labor practices by Elshoff.

H. As a matter of common sense defendants know that financial favors of Lewis and Edmondson to Elshoff

during the jurisdictional struggle necessarily
poisoned Elshoff's mind in favor of U.M.W.

- I. Lewis was kept apprised of all events and knew, as he authorized each payment, that unfair labor practices were being imposed.
- I. Elshoff and Edmundson openly pretended to be antagonistic in order to conceal guilty intent.
- J. In October, 1942, the St. Louis Post Dispatch published the report that a loan of \$500,000 had been made by Lewis to Elshoff during the controversy. Edmundson made false explanations to U.M.W. members, stifled all criticism, and suspended Jack Glasgow, a district board member, for daring to criticize.

POINT THREE

AFTER THE PROGRESSIVE UNION HAD BEEN DESTROYED AT MINE "B",
DEFENDANTS SET ABOUT TO EXECUTE THE PLAN AGAINST THE PROGRES-
SIVE UNION AT MINE "A" AND SUCCESSFULLY DESTROYED IT IN OCTOBER,
1941.

- I. ELSHOFF, FROM APRIL, 1941, UNTIL OCTOBER, 1941,
PERSISTENTLY SOUGHT TO HAVE WILLIAM NEAN,
OPERATOR OF MINE "A", SELL OUT TO HIM. THE
LEASEHOLD WAS PURCHASED FOR \$80,000 ON AUGUST
1, 1941.
- II. THE \$80,000 WAS ADVANCED BY U.M.W. AT THE DIRECTION
OF LEWIS.
- III. WITH ELSHOFF AS OPERATOR, THE PROGRESSIVE LOCAL
WAS DESTROYED BY THREATS TO OPERATE MINE "A"
THROUGH MINE "B".

POINT FOUR

LATE IN 1941, THE DEFENDANTS BEGAN TO PUT THE PLAN INTO
EXECUTION AT OTHER PROGRESSIVE MINES.

I. ELSKOFF NEGOTIATED PURCHASE OF THE PANTHER
CREEK MINES.

A. Louis and Edmondson agreed to advance
\$400,000 from the U.S.W. Treasury for
this purpose.

B. These negotiations were halted because
of the government's investigation.

II. ELSKOFF, in 1942 AND THE SPRING OF 1943, LAUNCHED
NEGOTIATIONS FOR OTHER PROGRESSIVE MINES.

POINT FIVE

PROBABLE DEFENSES AND REBUTALS:

I. DEFENDANTS CONTEND THAT THIS "LOAN" WAS CONSISTENT WITH LEGITIMATE AND RECOGNIZED TRADE UNION POLICY.

- A. The policy is illustrated by the history of U.M.W. loans to Josephine Roche and the formation of the Lee Markin Corporation.
- B. The policy is illustrated by the backing activities of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America over the past two decades.
- C. The policy is illustrated by the offer of assistance made by the Radio and Electrical Workers (C.I.O) to the Emerson Radio Corporation of St. Louis in 1936.
- D. It has always been the policy of U.M.W. to use its funds as loans for a legitimate union policy.

II. THE CONVENTION IS PALATIOUS. EITHER PAYMENTS OR LOANS BY A UNION UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS CASE HAVE BEEN UNIVERSALLY CONDEMNED BY TRADE UNIONS AS TRAITOROUS TO THE CAUSE OF LABOR.

- A. The Josephine Roche-Lee Markin financial transactions are not in point.
- B. The policies of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers are not in point.

- C. The St. Louis incident is not in point.
- D. It has been the policy of U.M.W. to conceal as "loans" advances and compensations made to political parties, other unions, and individuals. The Mine "B" "loans" barely follow this pattern of deceit.

III. DEFENDANTS CONTEND THAT IN THE MINE "B" INCIDENT THEY WERE NOT DEALING WITH A LEGITIMATE RIVAL UNION; THAT THE PROGRESSIVES WERE CONVICTS, DYNAMITERS, RADICALS, IRRESPONSIBLES, COMMUNISTS, AND AGITATORS.

IV. DEFENDANTS' CONTENTIONS ARE NOT SUPPORTED BY THE FACTS.

A. Labor relations at Mine "B" had been amicable up until the time U.M.W. spies agitated in the spring of 1937.

B. The U.M.W. had been guilty of practices in Illinois equally reprehensible as those indulged in by some Progressive leaders. U.M.W. had set the pattern of violence.

V. DEFENDANTS CONTEND THAT SUBSIDIZATION OF MINE "B" WAS NECESSARY AND LEGITIMATE IN ORDER TO PRESERVE INDUSTRIAL ORDER AND MAINTAIN COMMUNITY GOOD WILL.

VI. DEFENDANTS' CONTENTION IS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE FACTS NOR BY THEIR OWN RECORD.

- A. Defendants' contention is belied by their own record of strikes, violence, and industrial disturbances.
- B. Industrial peace would have been furthered by permitting reopening of the mine and compliance with the orders of the National Labor Relations Board.
- C. Lewis had never before manifested such keen solicitude for mine operators in financial or labor difficulty. In the spring of 1937, other operators were in difficult circumstances, but Lewis chose to be an operator's savior in only the case which involved the stronghold of his other rival organization.
- D. Lewis' contentions violate his own often expressed principles.

OUTLINE OF THE TRIAL BRIEF

POINT ONE

IN THE SPRING OF 1937, LEWIS AND EDMUNDSON, ^{Ray} DETERMINED
TO BREAK THE BACK OF THE PROGRESSIVE MOVEMENT IN ILLINOIS,
INDUCED ELSEOFF, ^{Carl H.} A COAL OPERATOR, TO JOIN WITH THEM IN A
SCHEME TO BREAK THE PROGRESSIVE LOCALS ONE BY ONE,
BEGINNING WITH MINE "B", THE PROGRESSIVE STRONGHOLD,
WHICH ELSEOFF THEN OPERATED, AND PROCEEDING SUCCESS-
SIVELY TO OTHER PROGRESSIVE MINES, USING ELSEOFF
AS A "FRONT" TO GET FINANCIAL CONTROL.

I. FROM 1932 UNTIL THE SPRING OF 1937, A BITTER AND
VIOLENT STRUGGLE WAS BEING FOUGHT BETWEEN U.M.W.
AND THE ~~PROGRESSIVE~~ MINE WORKERS, AN INDEPENDENT
UNION IN ILLINOIS.

A. IN 1932, 25,000 U.M.W. MEMBERS IN ILLINOIS,
ANGERED BY THE BELIEF THAT LEWIS HAD STOLEN
THE BALLOTS IN A WAGE SCALE REFERENDUM, AND
RESENTFUL OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WHICH
LEWIS HAD FORCED UPON THEM, REVELTED AGAINST
HIS LEADERSHIP AND SET UP AN INDIVIDUAL
ORGANIZATION WITH HEADQUARTERS AT GILLESPIE,
ILLINOIS.

1. The Progressives were angered by a belief
that Lewis had stolen the ballots in a
second referendum to determine whether the

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ENCLOSURE