FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION

SUBJECT: LEANDER PEREZ





FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

available for release to <u>Sect</u>	ion 552	Section 552a
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DECEMBER BIX AND YOU WILL BE MOVISED. FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Belmont FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Mr. Mason. U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Mr. Mohr. **COMMUNICATIONS SECTION** Mr. Taper DEC 5 1955 Mr. Holloman Miss Gandy. 7-01 PM CST FBI, NEW ORLEANS 12-5-55 DIRECTOR, FBI URGENT CIVIL RIGHTS LEANDER PEREZ, UNKNOWN VICTIM, CR. COMPLAINANT, WHO PERSONALLY APPEARED IN THE OFFICE AT THE DIRECTION OF USA BLUE, USA GEORGE R. BLUE ADVISED WHEN REFERRING COMPLAINANT TO OFFICE THAT HE DESIRES THAT COMPLETE INVESTIGATION OF THIS MATTER BE MADE AND INDICATED IF FACTS COULD BE ESTABLISHED, HE WILL DEFINITELY CONSIDER PROSECUTION. INVESTIGATION WILL END PAGE ONE RECORDED - 87 Mr. Rosen 50 DEC 9 1955

PAGE TWO UNION Advised to Chatenay By Barend

BE INSTITUTED UACB. BUREAU-S ATTENTION IS DIRECTED TO

PAGE FIVE OF THE REPORT OF SA IN THE CASE 57C

ENTITLED

- VICTIM, CR, IN WHICH

ALSO

REPORTED THIS OR SIMILAR INCIDENT.

CHILES

CORRECTION LINE TWO WD ONE SH READ

END AND ACK PL

8-10 PM OK FBI A WA 55C

TU DIS

Jel 17-67-5

Expedits.

INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Assistant Attorney General Warren Olney III

December 7, 1955

Director, FB

LEANDER PEREZ UNKNOWN VICTIM CIVIL RIGHTS

This will confirm a conversation between Mesers. A. B. Caldwell, Chief, Civil Rights Section, Criminal Division, and Henry Putsel, Jr., attorney, Civil Rights Section, Criminal Division, and a representative of this Bureau on December 6, 1955.

Our New Orleans, Louisians, Office has advised that

According to United States Attorney Blue.

United States Attorney Blue advised a Special Agent of the New Orleans Office that he desired that a complete investigation of this matter be made and indicated that if facts could be established he would definitely consider prosecution.

Amesers. Caldwell and Putsel, after being furnished the above information, instructed that the

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See note pade

Memorandum to Assistant Attorney General Varren Olmey III

investigation requested by United States Attorney Blue should be conducted. Our New Orleans Office has been advised accordingly and upon the receipt of a report a copy of same will be forwarded to you.

In connection with this matter your attention is directed to the case entitled

Victim, Civil Rights, your

file wherein an investigation was conducted by this Bureau

b7



Note: New Orleans advised by teletype 12-6-55 to conduct the investigation requested by USA Blue and the Department.

DECEMBER 6, 1955

SAC, NEW ORLEANS

LEANDER PEREZ; UNENOWN VICTIM, CIVIL RIGHTS. REURTAL ECEMBER
FIVE, LAST. DEPARTMENT ADVISED INVESTIGATION REQUESTED BY USA
BLUE SHOULD BE CONDUCTED. IMMEDIATELY CONFER WITH USA AND
DETERMINE EXTENT OF INVESTIGATION DESIRED INCLUDING SPECIFIC
INDIVIDUALS TO BE INTERVIEWED. INVESTIGATION TO BE INSTITUTED
IMMEDIATELY AND GIVEN PREFERRED AND CONTINUOUS ATTENTION. ALL
PERSONS INTERVIEWED ARE TO BE ADVISED INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED
AT SPECIFIC REQUEST OF ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL WARREN OLNEY III,
CRIMINAL DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, AND USA. ADVISE BUREAU
IN DETAIL RESULTS OF INTERVIEW WITH USA AND SUBMIT ESTIMATE OF DATE
WHEN INVESTIGATION CAN BE COMPLETED AND REPORT SUBMITTED.

67C

(3)

NOTE: By teletype 12/5/55 New Orleans advised

57D

Harbo

Sizoo ____ Winterrowd

USA desired complete investigation. Facts presented to A. B. Caldwell, Chief, Civil Rights Section, Criminal Division and Henry Putzel, attorney, Civil Rights Section, on 12/4/55, who instructed that investigation requested by USA should be conducted. A memorandum confirming the conversation with Messrs. Caldwell and

HOOVER

R 687 JUL 25 1962

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECTIONS

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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	FD-86
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	Mr. Tolson Mr. Nichola Mr. Boardman Mr. Belmont
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	Mr. Mason Mr. Moloar Mr. Parsons
12/7/55 AIR-	TE Mr. Nease Mr. Winterroad Tike Room
	ATRIA TOTAL

FBI, NEW ORLEANS Transmit the following Teletype message

DIRECTOR, FBI

LEANDER PEREZ, UNKNOWN VICTIM CIVIL RIGHTS

ReButel, 12/6/55.

USA GEORGE R. BLUE contacted 12/6/55, advised that he desired the facts obtained regarding subject PEREZ' possible violation of the CR statute by depriving individuals of Plaquemines Parish, and particularly the people of Belle Chase, Louisiana, their rights of freedom of religion, advised that in his opinion it would be necessary to show a definite abridgementof the rights of freedom of religion and not a possibility that PEREZ as District Attorney of Plaquemines Parish was enforcing the state segregation laws as they applied to white. and colored people in the schools.

He suggested that of New Orleans by contacted. USA BLUE again contacted this date, and the facts discussed with him. Mr. as developed from BLUE advised at this time he desired a preliminary investigation instituted to develop the full and complete facts and also requesting interview with the nums who were involved in the incident reported in of 12/14/54. Mr. BLUE advised that if possible the names of the children involved be secured from (5)

Special Agent in Charge

PAGE TWO

NO 44-711 AIR-TEL TO DIRECTOR, 12/7/55

Mr. BLUE advised that at this time he desired the investigation to be confined to a preliminary stage, and at the conclusion of the above interviews he be furnished a services report in order that he might take up the entire matter-with the Department of Justice.

For the information of the Bureau and the Department there is enclosed herewith two copies of of December 14, 1954, and April 18, 1955, and letter of April 26, 1955.

With regard to the incident referred to in MS letter of April 26, 1955, Paragraph One, Mr. BLUE advised that he desired no inquiry conducted as this incident occurred in New Orleans and involves a discussion backeen PEREZ and

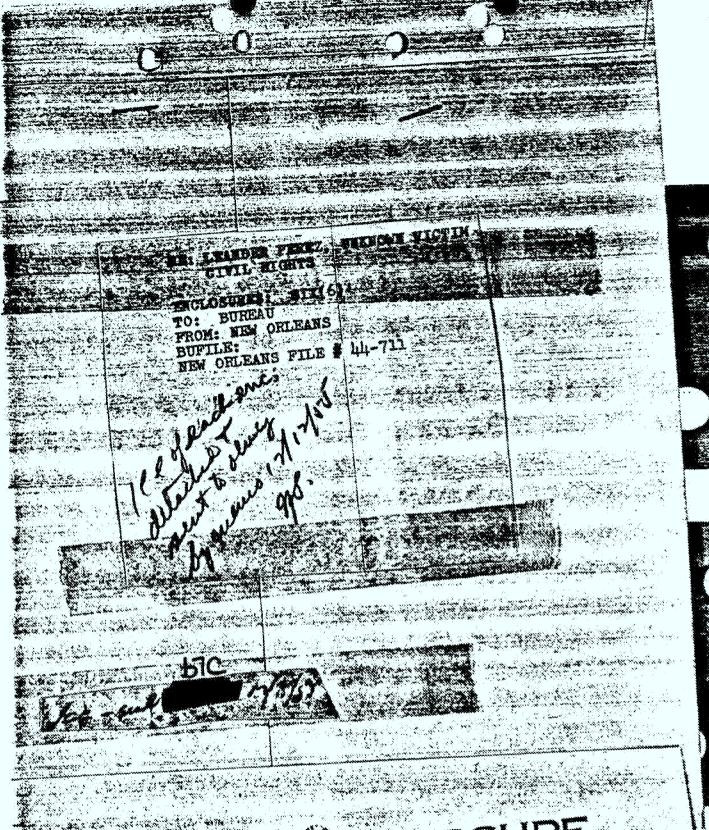
> In view of the fact that PEREZ is an elected official no other state official is being advised of the fact that this perliminary investigation is being conducted.

> UACB by 8:30 A.M., (CST), 12/9/55, be interviewed at established and they

will be interviewed.

CHILES

DIVESTIGATIVE DIVISION



ENCLOSURE
44-9732

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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request. Information pertained	only to a third party. Ye	h no reference to you or the subject of your name is listed in the title only. • ***********************************
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December 13, 1955

Assistant Attorney General Warren Olney III

Director, FBI

LEANDER PEREZ; UNKNOWN VICTIM CIVIL RIGHTS

RECORDED-20

Reference is made to my memorandum dated December 7, 1955.

Enclosed for your information is one Photostat each of letters dated December 14, 1954, April 18, 1955, and April 26, 1955, regarding captioned matter which were made available to our New Orleans Office by

57C 57D

United States Attorney George R. Blue when contacted by Special Agents of our New Orleans Office regarding the investigation to be conducted in this matter, stated that he desired the investigation to be conducted to determine whether subject Leander Perez violated the Civil Rights Statutes by depriving individuals of Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, and Belle Chasse, Louisiana, of their rights of freedom of religion. United States Attorney Blue stated in his opinion it would be necessary to show a definite abridgement of the right of freedom of religion and not a possibility that Peres as District Attorney of Plaquemines Parish was enforcing the state segregation laws as they applied to white and colored people in the schools.

United States attorney Blue suggested that

Fegarding this matter. The information obtained from

Ves discussed with United States

Attorney Blue and he requested that a preliminary investigation be instituted to develop the full and complete
facts from

and also requested that the nums who were involved in the
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United States Attorney Blue slee requested that if possible
the names of the children involved in the incident reported

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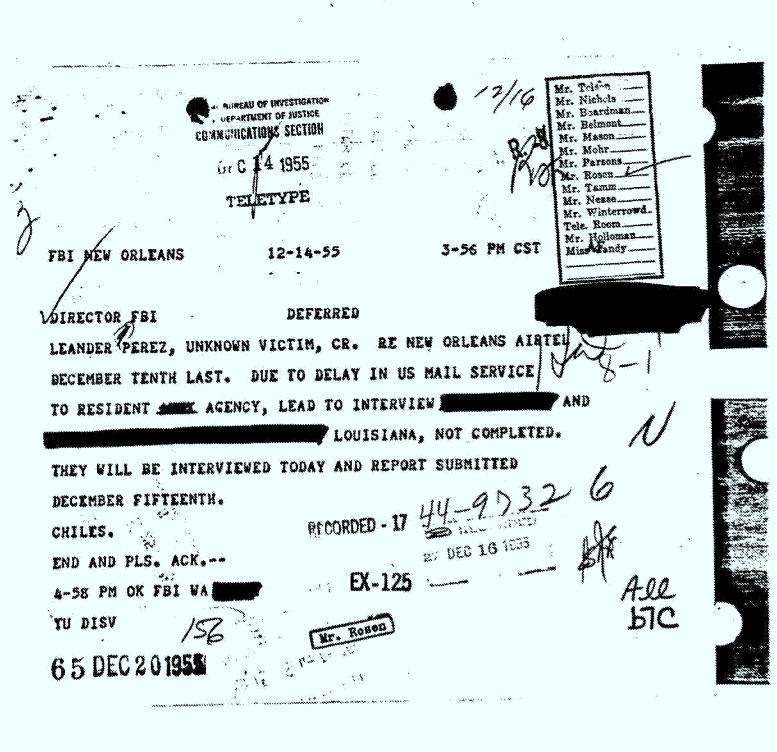
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Memorandum to Assistant Attorney General Warren Olney III

United States Attorney Blue stated that he desired the investigation to be confined to a preliminary investigation and at the conclusion of the investigation and the submission of a report reflecting the interviews he requested, he would take up the entire matter with the Department.

Our New Orleans Office is conducting the investigation requested by United States Attorney Blue and upon the receipt of the report, a copy of same will be forwarded to you.



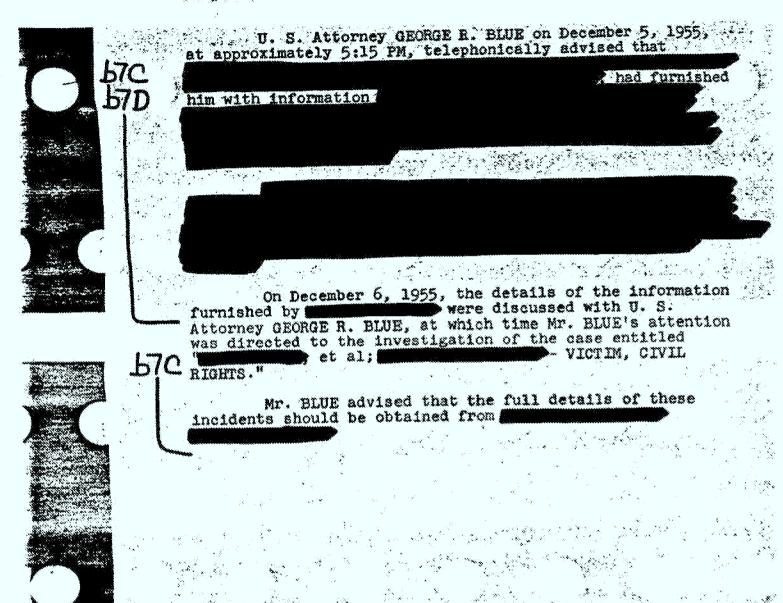
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW ORLEANS	
REPORT MADE AT DATE WHEN PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY LTC
NEW ORLEANS 12-15-55 12/5,6,7,9,	
LEANDER PEREZ, SR.; - VICTIM; - VICTIM;	CIVIL RIGHTS
- VICTIM; - VICTIM; - VICTIM; - VICTIM; - VICTIM; - UNKNOWN VICTIMS	(1) 871 (14) 3
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:	\setminus_{∂}
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requesting additional investigation.	eview the report before
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DETAILS: The title of this case is maple	ked CHANGED to
The names of the children involved in the	and and are not
being carried as Victims at this time.	aide The Order
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PROPERTY OF FBI-THIS REPORT IS LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI, AND NEITHER IT NOR ITS CONTENTS ARE TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE THE AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

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NO #44-711



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

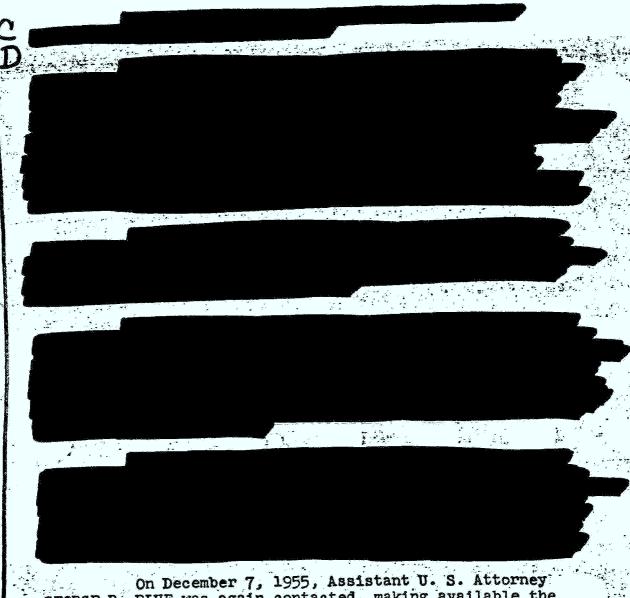
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NO #44-711



On December 7, 1955, Assistant U. S. Attorney
GEORGE R. BLUE was again contacted, making available the
information received from at which time he
advised that the Sisters involved in the incident and
should be interviewed. He advised that he did not
at this time believe that it would be necessary to interview
in view of the fact that LEANDER PEREZ
would not have any authority in the Parish of Orleans.

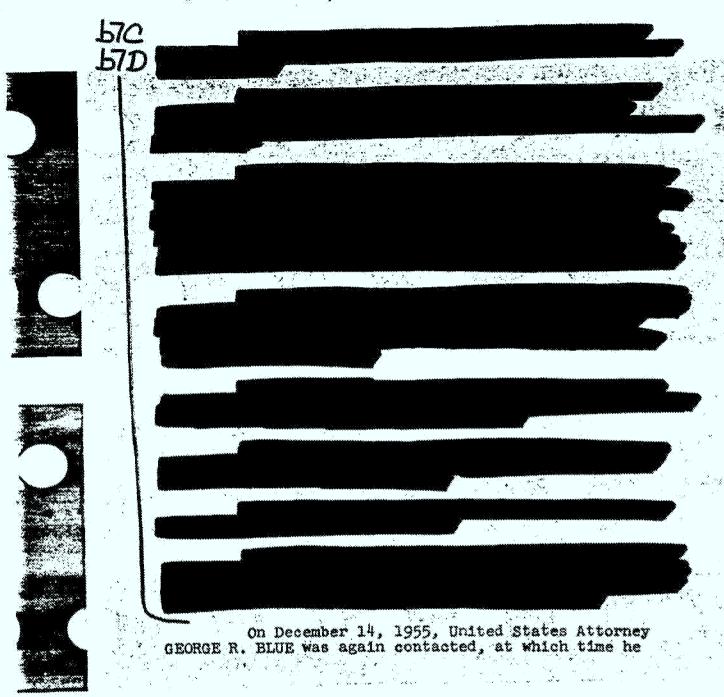
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NO 44-711

advised that he desired to read and study the report to date before requesting additional investigation.



ADMINISTRATIVE

LEANDER PEREZ, SR., is a well known and prominent individual in political circles in Plaquemines Parish in the State of Louisiana. He is a State Rights advocate, and extremely active in the maintaining of the segregation movement in Plaquemines Parish.

In view of the fact that this investigation was in its preliminary stages, it was not deemed advisable to notify any State official that the investigation was being conducted, and further it was not considered advisable to verify his election as District Attorney, Plaquemines Parish.

In the event investigation is reinstituted, it is believed that the Governor of the State of Louisiana will be the proper person to notify that investigation will be conducted.

LEADS

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION

AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Will maintain contact with USA GEORGE R. BLUE for his instructions as to additional investigation desired.

REFERENCES:

New Orleans teletype to Bureau 12-5-55;
Bureau teletype to New Orleans 12-6-55;
New Orleans airtel to Bureau 12-7-55;
New Orleans airtel to Bureau 12-16-55;
New Orleans teletype to Bureau 12-14-55.

MITTEL

December 20, 1955

BAC, New Orleans

UNENOWN VICTIMS

at Nov Orleans.

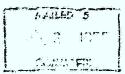
Referenced report reflects that all of the victims carried in the title of the above matter were interviewed as set forth in rereport. However, the descriptions of the victims were not included in the report. Bureau instructions are that descriptions should be obtained from subjects and victims and set forth in the details of the reports in Civil Rights matters.

You are to insure that descriptions of the victims who have been interviewed are available in your file and in the future you should be sure that Bureau instructions are couplied with in this regard.

Boardman .. Nichols Belmont Harbo . Parsons Rosen Temm

Tinterrowd . Tele, Room

this 3



PERSONAL ATTENTION SAC, New Orleans (44-711) New Orleans. should maintain close limison with the USA whove matter. In the event additional investigation

tion promptly conducted.

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Melge

Mr. Nichols. Mr. Boardman Mr. Belipent FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Mr. Masson UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Mr. Person AIR TEL Transmit the following/poletype message to: Mr. Halloman Nice Sec. 12/21/55 FBZ NEW ORLEANS IRECTOR, FBI LEANDER PEREZ. (Sr.; UNKNOWN VICTIMS CIVIL RIGHTS Description of known victims being obtained for inclusion in subsequent report. Also, descriptions of any additional victims identified will be similarly included. - Bureau - New Orleans (44-711) Mr. Rosen PECOLLED - 78 11 DEC 22 1955' Ex.107 & O DEC 291955 Approved !

Special Agent in Charge

Mr. Tolson Mr. Nichels. Mr. Boardman. Mr. Belmont. Mr. Mason. Mr. Mohr. Mr. Parsons. Mr. Rosen dr. Tamm. Mr. Nease 1-. Winterrowd Tele. Room_ Mr. Holloman Miss Gandy_ DIRECTOR, PBI CIVIL RICHTS Information received today that USA GEORGE R. BLUE, EDLA, has written the department suggesting that a full investigation be conducted in the above captioned CRECE. Bureau will be promptly advised of any additional developments. CHILES . Buresu NOT RETORDED 167 DEC 30 1955 pusi ionuna W. 1. C. 1886.

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EDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIG. SON UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following AIRTEL message to:

FBI, NEW ORLEANS (44-707)

12/23/55

(AIRMAIL)

UNKNOWN VICTIMS

Information received today that USA GEORGE R. BLUE EDLA, has written the department suggesting that a full investigation be conducted in the above captioned cases.

Bureau will be promptly advised of any additional developments.

CHILES

- Bureau

New Orleans

NOT RECORDED 156 JAN 3 1956

DITTIME ON GREGINAL

January 14, 1956 SAC, New Orleans

LEANDER PEREZ

rtels 12/23/55. Bureau in receipt of memorandum from Department dated 1/12/56, together with copy of Department's letter to USA Blue of same date. Memorandum instructs as follows:

case a full investigation as requested in Department's memorandum of November 16, 1955 is to be conducted including pursuit of specific leads set CHALLERY HARRY AND THE WAR PARTHERS forth therein.

In the Perez case you are to contact the USA and conduct such investigation as he may desire.

case is to be handled immediately by mature and experienced Agent personnel with two Agents conducting all pertinent interviews. Report reflecting results is to reach Bureau not later than January 26, next

In the Perez case you should contact USA immediately and determine extent of investigation desired. Advise Bureau by airtel by January 18, 1956, as to extent of investigation and date it will be completed and report sent to Bureau. Two Agents should also be present at all pertinent interviews in this case.

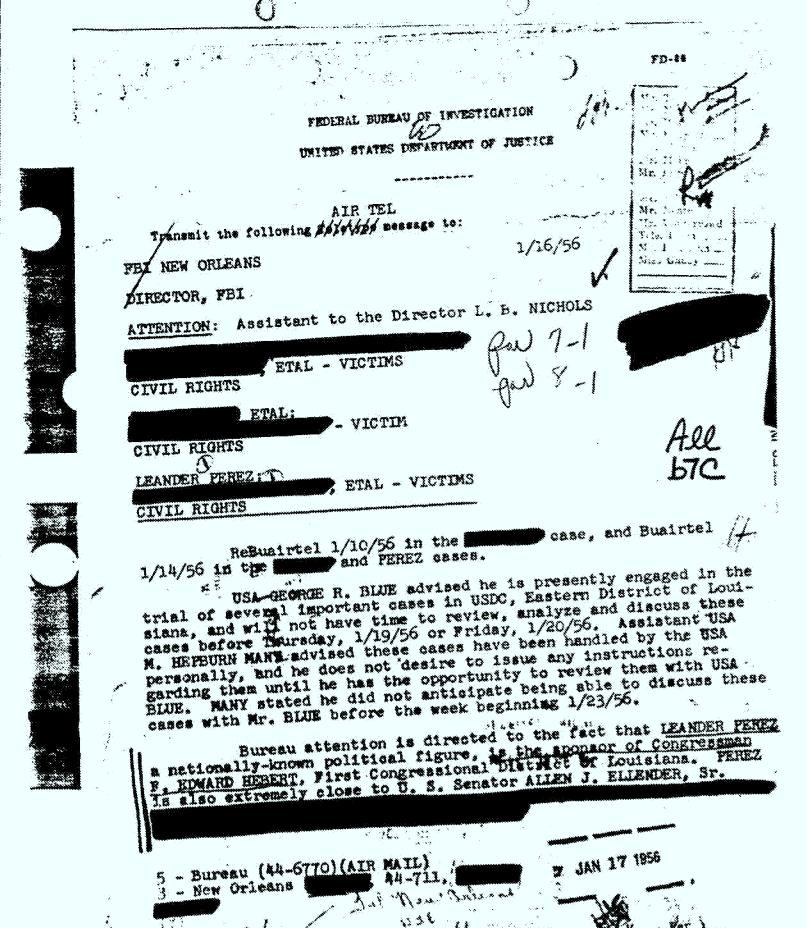
Bureau should be advised of pertinent development

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DUPLICATE JAN14 MAILED

Personana. Nichols Reimont Harbo . Mohr Parsons Winterrowd. Tele, Room

69JAN 191956



DIRECTOR, FBI 1/16/56

When investigation is initiated, it is probable that political opponents of the PEREZ machine or the USA or members of his staff may make available to the press information concerning the investigation. Considering the prominence of the individuals involved, extensive publicity can be expected. Opponents of PEREZ, HEBERT and ELLENDER will undoubtedly seize upon anything they can to exploit politically.

The Louisiana Democratic primary election will be held on 1/17/56. It appears likely that a "run-off" primary will be necessary, and, if so, this is generally held approximately thirty days later.

Another factor which should be noted in connection with these matters is that while PEREZ is a member of the Catholic Church, his interests are adverse to the stand against segregation in Catholic churches taken by Archbishop JOSEPH FRANCIS RUMNEL.

who has handled these cases from the outset, will attend the Civil Rights school at the Seat of Government beginning Monday, 1/23/56. - 3 1hill had hadde Mis

cases are very closely related and case is but one of a series of incidents The PEREZ and which have occurred in the Belle Chasse, Plaquemine Parish, Louisiana Catholic church parish. Investigation in the

effect be an investigation of the PEREZ case. For this reason, it is recommended by this office that they be investigated simultaneously case be deferred until such time and that investigation of the as the investigation in the PEREZ case is initiated. Investigation in the case will, of course, be deferred pursuant to Bureau instructions until the USA indicates the scope of investigation desired. Here again, the investigation of will, in fact, be an investigation of LEANDER PEREZ. This office will very closely follow the USA's office, and when he determines the scope of inves-

tigation desired in the PEREZ case, investigation will be initiated immediately.

Press inquiries and inquiries from the general public during the course of the investigation will be answered as follows: "An inquiry is being made at the specific instructions of Assistant Attorney General WARREN OLNEY, III, of the Criminal Division, Department of Justice."

CHILES END ME BOYEN

INVESTIGITIVE DIVELOR

January 23, 195

Assistant Attorney General Varren Olmey III

Director, 781 44-9732 - 4

TET AL - VICTIMS

CIVIL RIGHTS (Your Deference lbh-12-190, MAN) (Bureau Pile

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CIVIL RIGHTS (Your Reference 144-12-252, MP) (Bureau File

LEANDER PEREZI

RY AL - VICTIMS

CIVIL RICHTS
(Your Reference 144-)2-254, EP)
(Bureau File 44-9732)

ALL

Reference is made to your memorandum dated

January 6, 1956, in the
to your memorandum dated January 12, 1956, in the
et al, and Leander Feren matters.

This will confirm a conversation between Mesars. A. B. Caldwell, Masse W. Hubbard and Henry Putsel, Jr., Civil Rights Section, Criminal Division, and a representative of this Eureau on January 16, 1956.

United States Attorney George R. Blue, New Orleans, Louisians, has advised our New Orleans Office that he is presently engaged in the trial of several important cases in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisians, and will not have time to review, analyse and discuss these cases before January 19 or 20, 1956. Assistant United States Attorney M. Mepburn Hany advised that the above matters have been handled by the United States Attorney personally, and he does not desire to issue any instructions regarding them until he has had the epportunity to review them with Mr. Blue. Many advised he did not anticipate being able to discuss these cases with Mr. Blue before the week beginning January 23, 1956. In view of the

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SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

(8)

Memorandum to Assistant Attorney General Warren Olmey III

elose semmestion between the Individuals involved in the above matters, Mr. A. B. Caldwell was advised of the above and asked as to whether the investigation as requested in the sease should go forward or be withheld until discussion with the United States Attorney concerning additional investigation in the and Leapler Feres matters.

Open being furnished the above information, Mr. Caldwell advised that the investigation in the ease should be withheld until after discussion is had with the United States Attorney concerning the and Leander Feres matters.

For your additional information in senneation with the above matters, our New Orleans Office has advised that Leander Peres, allegedly a nationally-known political figure, is allegedly the sponsor of Congressman F. Edward Rebert, First Congressional District of Louisians. Peres allegedly is also sloss to United States Senator Allen J. Ellender, Tr.

You will be kept advised as to pertinent developments in the above matters.

ALL

WOTE: The New Orleans Office was advised by teletype dated 1/18/56, to withhold investigation in the case until after discussion with the USA concerning the other two matters.

JANUARY 18, 1956 SAC, NEW ORLEANS

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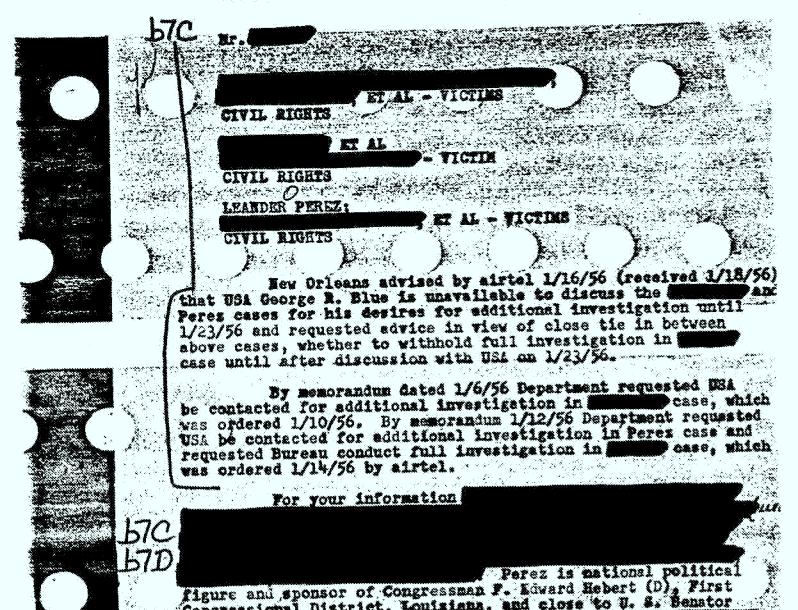
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Above instructions concerning withholding investigation in the case until after discussion with USA in the Perez and cases are on the instructions of Messrs. A. B. Caldwell Maceo W. Hubbard and Henry Putzel, Jr., Civil Rights Section, Criminal Division, on 1/18/56. A confirming memorandum is being prepared.

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file in Leander Rusg Cace - 44-9732



Congressional District, Louisians, and close to U. S. Benator allen J. Ellender, Sr. (D).

Peres is a member of Catholic Church, however, his futerests are adverse to stand taken by Catholic Churches in that area. In view of prominence of individuals involved, extensive publicity can be expected. Preliminary investigations previously completed these matters at request of USA and Department.

At4-9732 (Parez)

| <u>/// - 9732</u>| NOT RECORDED 183/// - 184

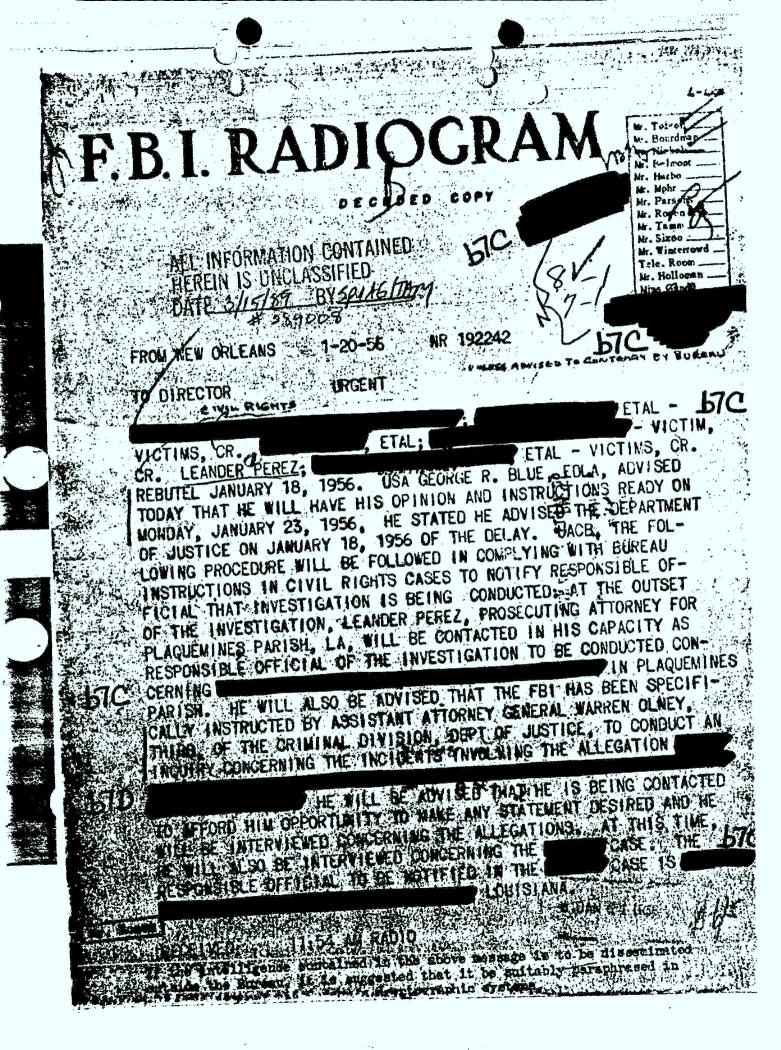
Memorandum to Mr. Rosen

ACTION TAXES

1. Matter of withholding investigation in tease until after discussion with USA 1/23/56 concerning additional investigation in and Perez cases taken up with Messrs.

A. B. Caldwell, Maceo W. Hubbard and Menry Putsel, Jr., Civil Rights Section, Criminal Division, 1/18/56. On advice of Putsel who is handling case. A. B. Caldwell instructed full investigation requested in case should be withheld until after discussion with USA 1/23/56 on and Perez cases. A confirming memorandum is being furnished the Department

2. New Orleans instructed by teletype 1/18/56 to 57 withhold investigation in case until after 1/23/56. New Orleans instructed to advise Bureau immediately when cases discussed with USA and action being taken, and keep Bureau advised of all developments.



F.B.I. RADIOCKAM

DECODED COPY

Nr. Tolson

Nr. Boardman

Nr. Nichols

Nr. Helmont

Nr. Harbo

Nr. Parsons

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JANUARY 20, 1956

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4-9732 - SAC, NEW ORLEANS

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ET AL - VICTIMS, CR. REURRADIOGRAM

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IS, IN FACT,

RESPONSIBLE TO PEREZ - PROCEDURE OUTLINED IS ACCEPTABLE.

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RESPONSIBLE ONLY TO PEOPLE, HIMSELF SHOULD BE

ADVISED OF FACT INVESTIGATION REQUESTED AND NOT PEREZ.

ADVISE BUREAU IMMEDIATELY OF USA'S REQUEST IN PEREZ

AND CASES.

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NOTEL

It appears that is an elected official and would be answerable only to the people insofar as superior authority is concerned. Therefore, he should superior authority is being asked whether official. However, New Orleans is being asked whether official. However, New Orleans is being asked whether official. In fact, responsible to Perez and if such is the case, the procedure outlined by New Orleans is correct.

CC: 1-44-9732 (Peres case)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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JANUARY 24, 1956

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SAC, NEW ORLEANS

LEANDER PEREZI REURRADIOGRAM JANUARI TVENTITEREE, LAST. REQUESTS FULL INVESTIGATION IN INCLUDING INTERVIEW OF ALL PERTINERS WITHESSES IN CIVIL DEPARTMENT REQUESTS CASE. SUITS NOW PENDING IN WEA BE CONTACTED FOR WHATEVER ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION DESIRED PEREZ CASE. SUTEL RESULTS OF DISCUSSION USA RE PEREZ CASE, NUMBER OF AGENTS TO BE USED AND DAYS ESTIMATED TO COMPLETE INVESTIGATION CASES. THESE NATTERS MUST BE ASSIGNED FOR IMMEDIATE PREPERRED ATTENTION AND PERTIRENT INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED

KEEP BUREAU ADVISED OF ALL PERTISENT

BY TWO AGENTS.

DEVELOPHENTS

(Perez case)

Above issued on instructions of Mr. A.B. Caldwell, Chiff, Civil Rights Section, Criminal Division, on 1/24/56. A confirming memorandum is being prepared.

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Mr. Rosen

1/25/56

CIVIL RIGHTS

CIVIL RIGHTS

LEANDER PEREZ

CIVIL RIGHTS

For background the Department by meno 1/6/56 requested USA contacted for additional investigation in ordered 1/10/56. By memo 1/12/56 Department requested USA be contacted for additional investigation in Perex case and requested Bureau conduct full investigation in case which was ordered 1/14/56. Freliminary investigations previously completed in these matters at request of USA and Department. For your information in these matters.

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Peres. Prosecuting Attorne!

New Orleans advised by sirtel 1/16/56 that the USA was unavailable to discuss the manufacture and Perez cases for his desires as to additional investigation until 1/23/56 and requested advice in view of elose tle in between above cases whether to withhold full investigation Case until efter discussion with USA on 1/23/56. The Department was advised on 1/18/56 that matter could not be discussed with USA until 1/23/56 and Department requested that no investigation be conducted in case until the desires of the WA are obtained in the Perez naradi l CASOS.

On 1/23/56 USA advised New Orleans Office that he had written to the Department suggesting that the witnesses in the above matters be brought before the Federal Grand Jury, Eastern District of Louisiana, and that he was awaiting departmental Instructions and desired no investigation by this Bureau until reply received from Department.

Enclosures

Nichols

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44-9732 (Perez)

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Memorandus to Mr. Rosen

ACTION TAKENS

Upon receipt of information from New Orleans on 1/24/56
the above matters were immediately discussed with Messrs. A.B. Caldwell,
Menry Putsel, Jr., and Macco W. Hubbard, Civil Rights Section, Criminal
Division on 1/24/56. Mr. Caldwell was asked whether he desired investigations be withheld in above matters in order to allow UKA to present to
Federal Grand Jury or whether he desired investigations go forward.
After discussion, Mr. Caldwell instructed that full investigations shoul
the conducted in the mand cases and whatever additional
investigation USA desires in the Peres case. Caldwell further requested
that all pertinent witnesses in the civil suits now pending in the

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Office instructing that office to conduct investigation in accordance with the Department's request as reflected above. New Orleans further instructed to sutel results of discussion with USA in Perez case and number of Agents to be used and days estimated to complete investigation in and cases and to keep Bureau advised of all pertinent developments. New Orleans further advised that all pertinent interviews should be conducted by two Agents.

2. Attached is a confirming memorandum to Mr. Olney for your approval and if approved same should be forwarded.

Assistant Attorney General Varren Olney III

Director, FBI

January 25, 1956

Civil bienes (Your Reference 144-32-190, MAR (Bureau File

et al.

CIVIL RIGHTS (Your Reference 144-32-252, 27) (Bureau File

LEANDER PEREZIC

et al. - YETOS

CIVIL BIGHTS (Your Reference 144-32-254, MP) (Bureau File 44-9732)

Reference is made to my memorandum dated January 23, 1956, in the above matters.

This will confirm a conversation between Messrs. A. B. Caldwell, Henry Putsel, Jr., and Maceo W. Bubbard, Civil Rights Section, Criminal Division, and a representative of this Bureau on January 24, 1956.

United States Attorney George R. Blue, New Orleans, Louisians, has advised our New Orleans Office that he has written to the Department of Justice suggesting that the witnesses in the above matters be brought before the Federal Grand Jury in the Eastern District of Louisians. He advised that he is now awaiting instructions from the Department in line with his letter and he desired no investigation by this Bureau until the Department replies either approving or disapproving his suggestion of presenting above, matters to the Federal Grand Sury.

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Memorandum to Assistant Attorney General Varren Olney III

Upon being furnished the above information and after discussion by Messrs. Caldwell, Putsel and Hubbard of these matters, Mr. Caldwell instructed that full investigations should be conducted in the matters and that the United States Attorney should be contacted for whatever additional investigation be desires in the Peres case. Mr. Caldwell further requested that all pertinent witnesses in connection with the civil suits now pending in the matter be interviewed.

All 57C conduct the requested investigations in the and satters and to contact the United States and to contact the United States attorney in the Perez matter for his views as to additional investigation. You will be furnished reports reflecting the results of investigations conducted when same are received from our New Orleans Office.

NOTE: New Orleans Office has been instructed by teletype 1/24/56, to conduct investigation and contact the USA in accordance with Department Instructions,

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT office Memorandum Jan. 20, 1950 Mr. Tolson L. B. Nichols SUBTRCT: etal - VICTIMS Congressman Hebert (D., Louisiana) returned from New Orleans where he went for the elections on Tuesday. He told me on Thursday that he had had a long talk with Perez and has him quieted down. He does not think from what Perez has told him that Perez is involved in any of these civil rights Eddie inquired if we made any additional investigationif we would interview Perez. I told him that we obviously would. He stated that he had told Perez himself that if Perez had not done anything improper as he claimed, that Perez should take the initiative and call at the Bureau and offer his cooperation and furnish such information as he has. Eddie Hebert told me that they have a run-off election February 21, which would include candidates for the state legislature, judge and other local offices and he obviously is trying to avoid having any publicity stirred up. I told Eddie I had occasion to look into the matters we previously discussed and the situation was exactly as I told him I thought that it was; namely, that both instances we had merely acknowledged we were making an inquiry. With reference to the Jesuit Bend case, the first publicity started from an announcemen by the Department and then both the United States Attorney and the SAC confirmed we were making an inquiry. RECORDED - 96 cc: Mr. Boardman Mr. Rosen € JAN 31 1955 LBN (4) (see addendum, pg. 2) 90: 10

Memorandum for Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols

1/20/56 ET AL - VICTIMS

RE: LEANDER PEREZ.

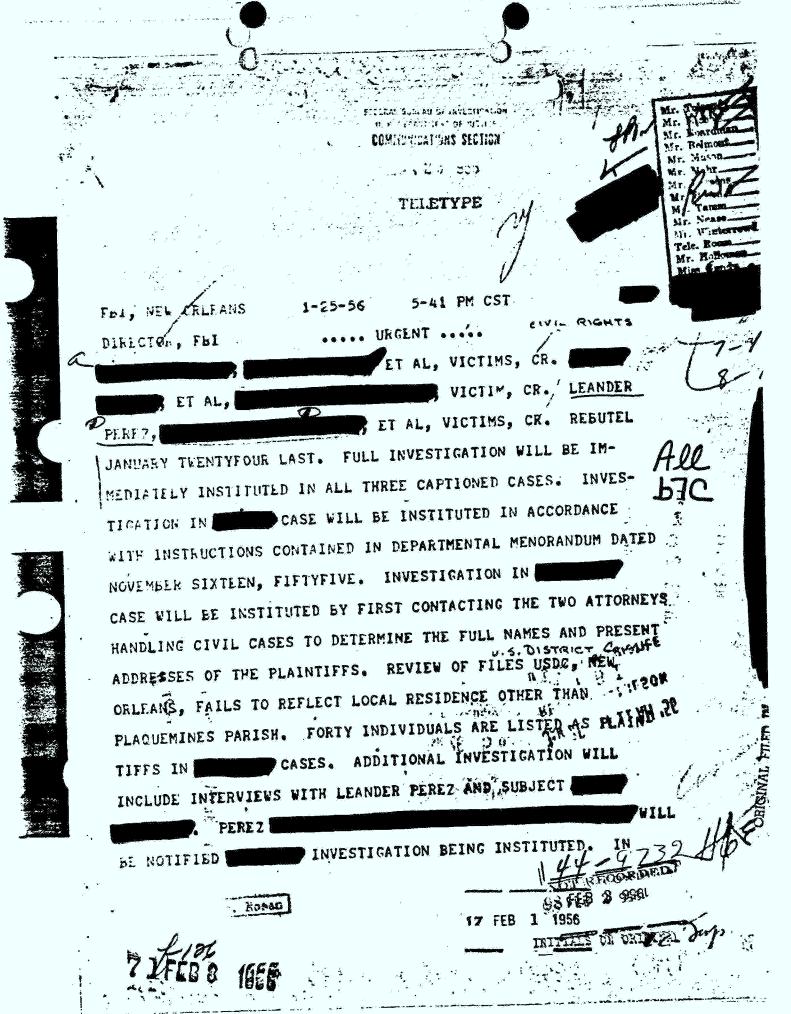
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ADDENDUM: LBN

1/23/56

On the late afternoon of 1/20/56, Congressman Hebert called. He stated he had talked to U. S. Attorney Blue who informed him that the Department was pushing the investigation of Perez; that he would see what he could do to prevent the investigation becoming involved in the run-off election on 2/21/56. Hebert raised the question with Blue as to whether Perez should come in and make his explanations. Blue told him that he thought this would be an excellent idea. Hebert talked to Perez. Perez told Hebert that he was going to call upon Bue and the FBI in New Orleans on Monday and furnish all information he has bearing upon the situation down there.

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PAGE TWO

PEREZ CASE INVESTIGATION QUILINED BY USA CONSISTS OF

INTERVIEW WITH PEREZ, IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVIEW OF

COLORED CHILDREN WHO WERE EXECTED FROM CHURCH, RE
INTERVIEW WITH

TWO AGENTS ARE

HANDLING THE CURRENT PHASES OF THIS INVESTIGATION AND

AS SOON AS FULL SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION IS DETERMINED,

PARTICULARLY LOCATION AND IDENTITY OF PLAINTIFFS IN

CASE, AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL ASSIGNED AND

ESTIMATED DATE OF COMPLETION WILL BE FURNISHED BY TELFTYPE.

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6-47 PM OK FBI WA

DISC

Assistant Attorney General Warren Olney III

February 2, 1956

Director, FBI

Reference is made to my memorandum January 25, 1956.

Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, was interviewed on January 30, 1956, by Agents of our New Orleans Office. He denies any connection with the matter entitled Et Al:

Civil Rights."

JJD

Belmoot

Herbo

Sizoo Winterrowd _ Tele. Room _ Holioman .

Perez advised that he has requested the investigation be discontinued at the Washington level and expects "FBI to be called off this investigation."

The above is furhished for your information and further details of the interview with Perez will be submitted when same are received from our New Orles. Office.

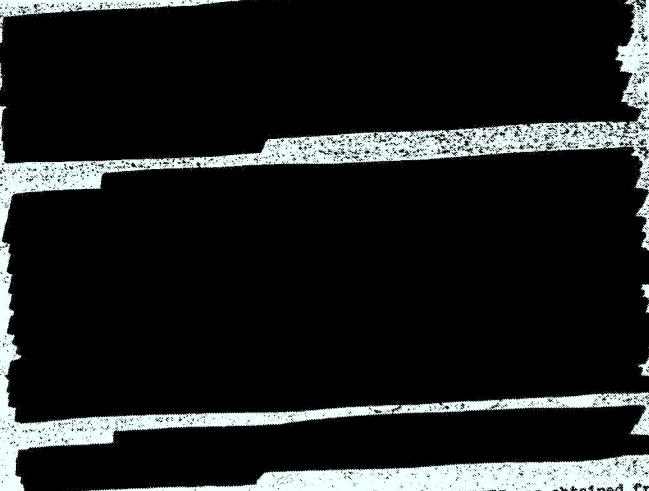
Department by memorandum dated January 24, 1956, requested USA be contacted for desired investigation.
USA requested full investigation. Matter is presently under investigation and Bureau deadline is set at 2/6/56.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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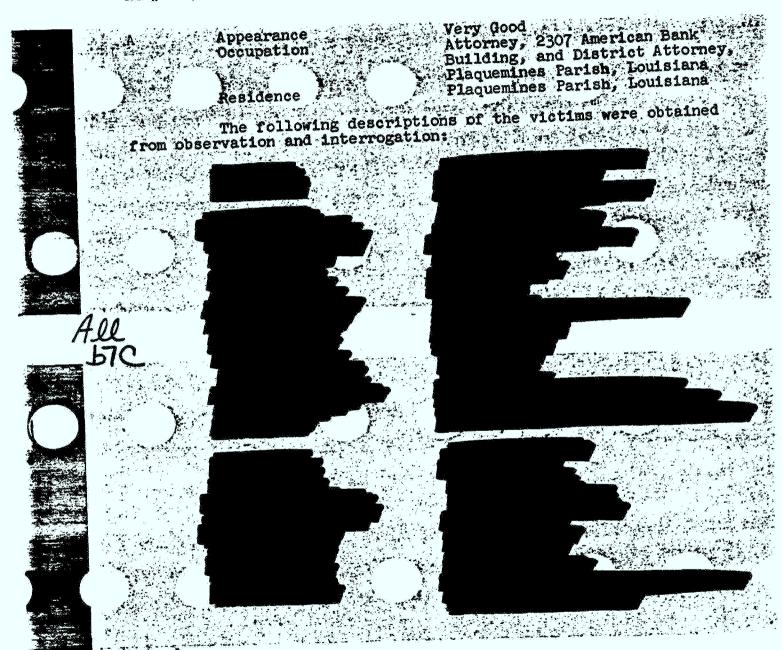
The following description of LEANDER PEREZ was obtained from observation and interrogation:

Name

IBANDER PEREZ, St.

Name Race Sex Age Height Weight Hair Male
Approximately sixty
5.60
170 pounds
Black, graying

NO #44-711



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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GEORGE R. BLUE, U. S. Attorney, Eastern District of Louisians, on February 3, 1956, advised that he desired to review the report in this case before rendering an opinion.

NO #44-711

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

All persons interviewed were advised that this investigation was being conducted upon the instructions of WARREN OLNEY, III, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice.

Signed statements were not obtained from the children who are listed as victims in this case in view of their tender age.

United States Attorney GEORGE R./BLUE advised he could see no purpose in interviewing who would possibly be the woman who complained to PEREZ. He advised this would have no bearing on the case.

LEADS

THE NEW ORLEANS OFFICE

AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Will maintain contact with the United States Attorney.

REFERENCE

Report of SA

<u>/C</u>

12/15/55. New Orleans