

January 31, 1956

DIRECTOR, FBI
SAC, NEW ORLEANS

b7C

[REDACTED] REAL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

[REDACTED] REAL;
CIVIL RIGHTS
①

LEANDER PEREZ; ①
[REDACTED] REAL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

On January 30, 1956, LEANDER PEREZ was interviewed at his office, 2307 American Bank Building, New Orleans, Louisiana, by SA's

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6 - Bureau (AIR MAIL)
3 - New Orleans [REDACTED]; 44-711; [REDACTED]

(9) b7C

144-1732-✓
NOT RECORDED
138 FEB 15 1956
INITIALS [REDACTED]

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- ☐ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☐ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☒ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

- ☐ 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.

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

- ☐ For your information:

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

44-9732 Unrecorded serial dated 1/31/56

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

DIRECTOR, FBI
January 31, 1956

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

For the information of the Bureau, PEREZ is District Attorney in Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes.

All
b7D

Since he has been District Attorney, gambling flourished in St. Bernard Parish and continued to operate openly, with four of the largest casinos in the state, until 1953, at which time the casinos were closed by the State Police. PEREZ has sponsored both Congressman F. EDWARD HEBERT and

DIRECTOR, FBI
January 31, 1956

Senator ALLEN J. ELLENBER. There appears to be some evidence that PEREZ is losing political power in St. Bernard Parish in view of the fact that Sheriff NICHOLAS P. TRIST, whom he opposed in the recent campaign, was re-elected Sheriff. However, all of PEREZ' candidates were overwhelmingly elected in Plaquemines Parish.

During the interview with PEREZ, he stated that he has requested the investigation be discontinued at Washington level and stated that he expects the FBI investigation will be called off.

It is the impression of the Agents conducting the interview of LEANDER PEREZ that he is a man completely obsessed with his opposition of the Federal Government, the Supreme Court of the United States, and his opposition to any integration of the races. It is not felt that any purpose could or would be served in attempting to discuss these matters further with PEREZ. It was observed that he is completely engrossed in his own ideas and opinions, and anyone or anything that is not in complete agreement with him is either a Communist or a Communist tool.

Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III

February 10, 1956

Director, FBI

9752 - ✓

b7C

[REDACTED] ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS
(Your Reference 144-32-190, MWH)
(Bureau File [REDACTED])

[REDACTED] ET AL;
[REDACTED] - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS
(Your Reference 144-32-252, HP)
(Bureau File [REDACTED])

LEANDER PEREZ;
[REDACTED] ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS
(Your Reference 144-32-254, HP)
(Bureau File 44-9732)

Reference is made to my memorandum dated
January 25, 1956, captioned as above.

On January 30, 1956, Leander Perez was interviewed
at his office, 2307 American Bank Building, New Orleans,
Louisiana, by Special Agents of our New Orleans Office.

b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

[REDACTED] b7C

FEB 21 1956

YELLOW
DUPLICATE
FEB 10 1956
MAILED

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☐ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☒ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

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- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

44-9732 Unrecorded serial dated 2/10/56

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FBI/DOJ

February 27, 1956

AIRTEL

SAC, New Orleans

LEANDER PEREZ, SR.; [REDACTED], ET AL. -
VICTIMS; CR. (44-9732) ✓

[REDACTED] ET AL.; [REDACTED] - VICTIM;
CR. (Bufile [REDACTED])

Rerep SA [REDACTED] dated 2/3/56, in
above-captioned cases.

Suairtel whether USA has rendered an opinion
in these matters.

HOOVER

All
b7C

(6)

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

71 MAR 1 1956

YELLOW
DUPLICATE
FEB 27 1956
MAILED

44-9732 ✓
NOT RECORDED
133 FEB 29 1956

XXXXXX
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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☐ For your information: _____

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

44-9732 Unrecorded serial dated 3/3/56

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____

☐ For your information: _____

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

44-9732-14

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

AIRTEL

Transmit the following ~~Teletype~~ message to:
FBI, NEW ORLEANS 3-1-56

DIRECTOR, FBI

LEANDER PEREZ, Sr.; [REDACTED], ET AL - VICTIMS, C.V.

Rebuairtel 2-27-56.

USA GEORGE R. BLUE, EILA, advised this date that he is engaged in the trial of several important cases and that he will not have an opportunity to render an opinion in this case before Friday, March 9, 1956.

CHILES

3 - BUREAU (44-9732) (AM)
1 - NEW ORLEANS (44-711)

(4)

All
b7C

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED - 51

EX-121

44-9732-15
2 MAR 3 1956

Approved: me
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 3:30 M Per _____

Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III

Director, FBI

RECORDED - 51
LEANDER PEREZ, ET AL, VICTIMS

CIVIL RIGHTS
(Your reference 44-32-254 HP)

March 6, 1956

Reference is made to your memorandum of February 28, 1956.

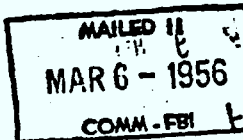
United States Attorney George R. Blue of the Eastern District of Louisiana, advised on March 1, 1956, that he is presently engaged in a trial of several important cases and he will not have an opportunity to render an opinion in this matter before Friday, March 9, 1956.

The above is submitted for your information.

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

44-9732

(4)



58 MAR 13 1956

COMM - FBI

Handwritten signatures and initials:
Hy, PW2Pik, mms, 8 1956, clm

3/12/56

Airtel

SAC, New Orleans (44-711)

LEANDER PEREZ; [REDACTED]

ET AL - VICTIMS, CR.

Reurairtel 3/1/56. Suairtel results of your discussion with USA in this matter.

Hoover

(4)

EX-122

RECORDED-38

44-9732-16

17 MAR 13 1956

MAILED 8
MAR 12 1956

FBI

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

285-99
63 MAR 16 1956

7th

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mason
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

FBI, NEW ORLEANS

3-9-56

AIRTEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

DIRECTOR, FBI

AIR MAIL

LEANDER PEREZ, SR.;
[REDACTED] ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

Re New Orleans airtel dated 3/1/56.

USA GEORGE R. BLUE, Eastern District of Louisiana,
advised on 3/9/56 that he has not completed his review of
this case. He stated that he will submit his opinion to
the Department on 3/12 or 3/13/56.

CHILES

3cc - Bureau (44-9732) (AIR MAIL)
1cc - New Orleans (44-711)

(4)

All
b7C

Mr. Rosen

cc Mr. [REDACTED]

M

None add
3/14/56

RECORDED-38

EX-103

44-9732-17

MAR 12 1956

Approved: me
Special Agent in Charge

Sent M Per me

Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III

March 15, 1956

Director, FBI

44-9732-17
LEANDER PEREZ;

b7C
ET AL - VICTIMS

CIVIL RIGHTS

(Your reference 144-32-254, HP)

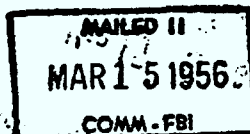
Reference is made to my memorandum dated
March 6, 1956.

United States Attorney George R. Blue, Eastern
District of Louisiana, advised our New Orleans Office on
March 9, 1956, that he had not completed his review of
this case. He stated that he would submit his opinion to
the Department of Justice on March 12 or 13, 1956.

The above is submitted for your information.

(4)

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____



71 MAR 21 1956

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. FD-36n	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. [unclear]	_____
Mr. [unclear]	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Airtel
Transmit the following teletype message to:

SAC, NEW ORLEANS
DIRECTOR, FBI

AIR MAIL
3/15/56

LEANDER PEREZ; [REDACTED] ET AL
VICTIMS, CR

ReBuTel 3/12/56.

USA GEORGE BLUE advised he has not received
an opinion in this case and does not expect to be in a
position to give an opinion until approximately March 23.
CHILES

③ Bureau
1-New Orleans (44-711)
[REDACTED]
(4)

Mr. Rosen

Airtel NO
3-19-56
HJF

RECORDED - 12
EX-108

44-9732-18
10 MAR 1956

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

RECORDED - 12

March 19, 1956

Airtel

SAC, New Orleans

(44-711)

44-9732-18

LEANDER PEREZ;

ET AL - VICTIMS

EX-108

CIVIL RIGHTS

b7C

Reurairtel 3/15/56.

It is not clear from reairtel whether the USA has submitted his opinion to the Department and is awaiting a reply or whether he has not yet expressed his views in this matter and will not do so until March 23, 1956.

In the event the USA has expressed his views to the Department in this matter, you should obtain those views and immediately advise the Bureau. You should maintain close contact with the USA until his views are obtained in this matter.

HOOVER

44-9732

(4) [REDACTED] b7C

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

MAILED 11

MAR 19 1956

COMM - FBI

71 MAR 23 1956

725

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

3/23

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

AIR TEL

Transmit the following ~~teletype~~ message to:

FBI, NEW ORLEANS

March 22, 1956

DIRECTOR, FBI

AIR TEL

LEANDER PEREZ;
ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

b7C

b7C

ReBuairtel March 19, 1956.

USA has not submitted his opinion to the Department.
USA's views will be obtained and submitted to the
Bureau as soon as a conclusion is reached by USA.
Contact being maintained with USA.

CHILES

END

- 3 - Bureau (44-9732) (AIRMAIL)
1 - New Orleans (44-711)

(4)

b7C

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED-32

44-9732-19

13 MAR 24 1956

EX-125

68 MAR 28 1956¹⁹²

Approved: MOO
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

F B I

Date: March 26, 1956

Transmit the following message via AIR-TELAIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, NEW ORLEANS

To: DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: LEANDER PEREZ; **b7C**
[REDACTED], et al - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

USA GEORGE R. BLUE, Eastern District of Louisiana, advised today that he contemplates contacting the Department and discussing this case orally with the Department officials about April 8, 1956, when in Washington.

Contact is being maintained with USA, who advised he has not as yet submitted written recommendation to the Department.

3 - Bureau (44-9732)
1 - New Orleans (44-711)

(4)

Mr. Rosen

RECORDED-57

EX-121

44-9732-20
24 MAR 28 1956Approved: [Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

G. I. R. -10

March 30, 1956

Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III

RECORDED-57

Director, FBI

44-7732-20

EX-121

LEANDER PEREZ; © b7C

, et al - VICTIM

CIVIL RIGHTS

(Your reference 144-32-254 HP)

Reference is made to my memorandum of
March 15, 1956.

United States Attorney George R. Blue,
Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans, Louisiana,
advised a Special Agent of our New Orleans Office on
March 26, 1956, that he contemplates contacting the
Department and discussing this case orally with Department
officials about April 8, 1956, when in Washington.

The above is submitted for your information.

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

b7C

(4)

2 APR 10 1956

66 APR 5 1956

MAILED 12
MAR 30 1956
COMM-FBI

Handwritten signature/initials

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

44-9732 Unrecorded serial dated 5/4/56

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FBI

Date: 5/10/56

Transmit the following message via AIRTELAIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC,

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS

LEANDER PEREZ;

ET AL - VICTIM

CIVIL RIGHTS

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

USA Mr. GEORGE R. BLUE advised on 5/9/56, that he has written the department requesting permission to close this investigation. He advised he is now waiting for a reply from the department authorizing the case to be closed and upon receipt of this letter he will notify this office.

CHILES

Mr. Rosen

3 - Bureau (44-9732)
1 - New Orleans (44-711)

(4)

RECORDED-61

44-9732-21
MAY 12 1956

EX - 120

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office NEW ORLEANS	Office of Origin NEW ORLEANS	Date 5/16/56	Investigative Period 3/1, 9, 15, 22, 26; 4/20; 5/9, 10/56
TITLE OF CASE LEANDER PEREZ, SR.; [REDACTED] ET AL - VICTIMS		Report made by [REDACTED] b7C [REDACTED]	
		CHARACTER OF CASE CIVIL RIGHTS	

Synopsis:
The Department of Justice advised no additional investigation desired.

DETAILS:

AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

By memo dated May 4, 1956 Assistant Attorney General WARREN OLNEY III advised that U. S. Attorney GEORGE R. BLUE conferred with the Department on April 18, 1956 and it was mutually agreed that no further action will be taken in these cases and that no additional investigation is desired.

~~EX. 108~~

<p>Approved: <i>[Signature]</i> Special Agent in Charge</p> <p>Copies Made: 2 - Bureau (44-9632) 1 - USA, New Orleans 2 - New Orleans (44-711)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Do not write in spaces below</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 44-9732-22 </div> <p style="text-align: center;">RECORDED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EX-108</p> <p style="text-align: center;">57 MAY 21 1956</p>
---	--

**COPIES DESTROYED
R 637 JUL 25 1962**

55 MAY 29 1956

NO 44-711

ADMINISTRATIVE

Contact was maintained with U. S. Attorney GEORGE R. BLUE, Eastern District of Louisiana, on March 1, 9, 15, 22, 26; April 20; May 9, 10, 1956, in an effort to obtain his opinion regarding this case.

REFERENCES

Report of SA [REDACTED] b7C New Orleans, 2/3/56.
New Orleans air-tel to Bureau, 5/10/56.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Parishioners Reiterate Views

Members Vote Opposition to Negro Pastor

Members of Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish in the Belle Chasse, Jesuit Bend and Myrtle Grove areas Tuesday night voted almost unanimously to present a resolution to their pastor reiterating their stand against the appointment of a Negro pastor.

The group of several hundred parishioners met at the Belle Chasse auditorium. The meeting was followed by another meeting of the Plaquemines Parish Citizens Council.

The meetings followed the reading of a letter from Archbishop Joseph F. Rummel in church Sunday in which he threatened excommunication to the entire parish if they did not accept "any priest" assigned to the church. The archbishop's letter was followed Monday by a letter from the Rev. Clement Meyer, S. M., pastor of the church, asking parishioners to sign a statement of submission to the archbishop's wishes.

Several of the parishioners declared at the meeting their intentions of not signing the statement.

The statement reads: "In conformity with the teachings of the church on the dignity of the priesthood and the dignity of the human person I regret the offenses committed in our community against this teaching. Henceforth I will accept any priest appointed to give us Sunday masses and other services."

The statement was printed on cards enclosed in the letter from Fr. Meyer.

Members of the congregation called the archbishop's letter "a threat" and said it was "up to the people" to solve the threat.

They said they were "astounded, disappointed and couldn't believe they could ever have received such a message."

One parishioner assured the group that as long as they believe in what is right God would be with them.

A tentative resolution drawn up by the group stated that Catholic people of Belle Chasse, Jesuit Bend and Myrtle Grove are dedicated to the maintenance of segregation or the separation of races in all matters which affect their families and that they must be unyielding against any effort made to desegregate or impose any person of the colored race upon them which would give him any spiritual, social or personal contact with members of their families.

It stated they felt sincere in their stand for the principle of segregation and felt that it was wrong being associated with religion.

C.District Attorney Leander H. Perez of Plaquemines parish branded as "Communist inspired" the movement toward desegregation. Perez was a speaker at the citizen's council meeting held after the parish meeting. He said the platform of the NAACP today is "identical with that of the Communist party in the 1920s with regard to racial issues."

He said the only way to combat the integration movement is to organize and make the weight of public opinion felt.

It's our aim to organize 50,000 white people in the Greater

New Orleans area into the citizen's council and in the next Legislature to outlaw that Communist-inspired organization," Perez said. "You would have the pressure taken off you right now if we had 50,000 members in this area."

Perez cited a book published by the Catholic Committee of the South named "Segregation in Catholic Schools" as containing Communist brain washing. The book, which he called a "per-

verted composition," has been distributed among priests and nuns in the New Orleans area.

Dr. Emmett L. Irwin, who spoke briefly, had cited the mingling of colored and white children would present a health problem. He said there would be a spread "of disease and vermin." He also said integration would mean the "mongrelization of races."

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LEANDER PEREZ;
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Leander Perez

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THE TIMES-PICAYUNE
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

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DEC 21 1955

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Rummel Denies Ouster Threat In Plaquemines

Archbishop Joseph Francis Rummel said today he did not threaten to excommunicate rebellious Catholics in Plaquemines parish but warned them that there was such a possibility if they continue to refuse to allow a Negro priest to say mass.

"There is a possibility of excommunication, particularly of the leaders," said the archbishop today.

He said however that the letter to parishioners from the Rev. Clement S. Meyer, S. M., pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish, might have been interpreted as a threat of excommunication.

Father Meyer's parish includes the Belle Chasse, Jesuit Bend and Myrtle Grove areas.

Members Meet

Members of the parish met last night and voted unanimously to present a resolution to their pastor, reiterating their stand against appointment of a Negro priest to the area.

They refused last October to allow a Negro priest to say mass in the mission chapel of St. Cecilia at Jesuit Bend.

The archbishop then refused to assign any priest to the mission until parishioners agreed to accept whoever was assigned.

This past Sunday, Father Meyer read from the pulpit a letter from the archbishop in which the prelate declared:

"It is our earnest desire to restore services in the mission chapel of St. Cecilia . . . but we must first receive from your leaders an expression of sincere sorrow over the grievous offense which they committed by refusing to permit the Rev. Father Gerard Lewis to celebrate holy mass . . . and inciting you to resist the lawful authority of the church . . ."

That letter was followed by one from Father Meyer yesterday in which the pastor asked his parishioners to sign a statement. Here is part of the letter:

"This letter is not intended to antagonize. We are facing a very serious danger of losing the privilege of receiving the sacraments. . . . We are in danger of excommunication. This is a matter of our holy faith. It is a doctrine to which all must submit; else we come liable to the penalty of personal excommunication."

Here is the statement which Father Meyer asked each parishioner to sign:

"In conformity with the teachings of the church on the dignity of the priesthood and the dignity of the human person I regret the offenses committed in our community against this teaching.

"Henceforth I will accept any priest appointed to give us Sunday masses and other services."

Draft Resolutions

Members of the congregation who met in the Belle Chasse auditorium last night drew up a tentative resolution in which they said they are dedicated to the maintenance of segregation or the separation of races in all matters which affect their families.

They said they must be unyielding against any effort made to desegregate or impose any person of the colored race upon them which would give him any spiritual, social or personal contact with members of their families.

District attorney Leader Perez spoke and said a book published by the Catholic Committee of the South and distributed among priests and nuns contained "Communist brain-washing."

The name of the book is "Egregation in Catholic Schools."

Dr. Emmett L. Irwin spoke briefly and said mingling of white and colored school children would present a health problem. He said there would be a spread "of disease and vermin."

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LEANDER PEREZ, SR.;

UNKNOWN VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

, et al - VICTIM

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THREATS DENIED BY ARCHBISHOP

Prelate Releases Letter on Negro Priest Matter

Archbishop Joseph Francis Rummel said Wednesday he did not threaten recalcitrant parishioners in Plaquemines parish with excommunication.

His remarks came after a mass meeting Tuesday night of parishioners of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, whose several hundred members balked at the appointment of a Negro priest to assist with masses.

Members of the Catholic parish who spoke at the meeting expressed the opinion that the archbishop had threatened excommunication in a letter which he directed be read in the church last Sunday.

The archbishop said the letter "was written in the spirit of conciliation rather than to antagonize."

And he said that the parishioners may have seen that a letter by the Rev. Clement Meyer, S. M., pastor of the church, was a threat.

Father Meyer on Monday said in a letter to church members that "we are in danger of excommunication" and that "there is a grave danger that if we do not respond to the archbishop's letter of last Sunday, the severest penalty of the church will be meted out to all of us."

Letter Made Public

Archbishop Rummel Wednesday made public the letter he had prepared for the members of the congregation of Belle Chasse and the affiliated missions of Jesuit Bend and Myrtle Grove.

Archbishop Rummel said there are no threats contained in the letter, but it had, rather, the church's estimate of priesthood.

In the letter the archbishop said, "we have no desire or intention to appoint a Negro priest permanently in your area, but we must receive your assurances that, if we find it necessary to send such a priest to give you the blessings of

Sunday mass or other services, you will receive him with the reverence and confidence which are due to his holy office as a priest of God."

The archbishop halted services at Jesuit Bend in October and curtailed services at Belle Chasse and Myrtle Grove after the parishioners turned away Rev. Gerard Lewis, a Negro priest assigned to the church.

Archbishop Rummel said Wednesday it was never intended to replace the parish priest with a Negro but that Father Lewis was to assist in giving the parishioners a sufficient number of masses for their needs.

Only Available Priest

"Father Lewis was the only available priest we had to send at the time," the archbishop said. "It was Father Lewis or nobody at that time. And we felt that the wish for a mass was superior to any other consideration."

Father Meyer, in his letter Monday, asked parishioners to sign an enclosed card addressed to the archbishop in which stated:

"In conformity with the teaching of the church on the dignity of the priesthood and the dignity of the human person I regret the offenses committed in our community against this teaching. Henceforth, I will accept any priest appointed to give us Sunday mass and other services."

At Tuesday's meeting, held in the Belle Chasse auditorium, several parishioners declared they did not intend to sign the cards. And they voted almost unanimously to present a resolution to their pastor reiterating their stand against the appointment of a Negro pastor.

Text of Letter

Following is the text of Archbishop Rummel's letter to the congregation of Belle Chasse and affiliated missions at Jesuit Bend and Myrtle Grove:

"Once more we appeal to you in the spirit of charity to consider prayerfully the teaching of our Holy Catholic Church about the dignity of every true priest of God and the respect and confidence which we owe to his person and services.

"Holy Mother Church selects worthy young men of every nation, every race and every color who give signs of a priestly vocation in the qualities of mind and heart that are essential in a true priest of God. With equal solicitude she trains and educates all candidates without exception over a long period of twelve years in the minor

and major seminaries; when the bishop lays his hands upon them and anoints the man the Sacrament of Holy Orders, every one of them becomes another Christ, sharing the priesthood of Christ and gifted with the powers which Christ gave to His Apostles.

"From the moment of his ordination, the priest has the mission to preach the Word of God, whether his countenance be white or black, yellow or brown; he has the mandate to raise souls to the dignity of children of God in Baptism, whether the hand that holds the shell of water be dark or light; he has the power to forgive sin to contrite hearts whether the absolving words come from the lips of a native of Europe or of America, of Asia or Africa; the fingers that clasp the bread and the hands that elevate the chalice of wine may be white or colored, but that bread becomes the Body of Christ, that wine becomes the Blood of Christ when the priest pronounces the sacred words: 'This is My Body . . . This is My Blood;' The Holy Mass which you attend is the same sacrifice which Christ instituted, whether the celebrant be light-skinned, but you may lose its benefits by unholy thoughts about 'the color line; whether in Holy Communion the Sacred Host is laid upon your tongue by a priest of your own or of another color, it still remains the true Body and Blood, the true Soul and Divinity of Christ, but beware lest you change its effects in your soul by harboring color prejudices!

'Priestly Dignity'

"From all this we see clearly why our Holy Church has, down through the ages, never hesitated to educate and train worthy men of every race and nationality to the holy priesthood, and why truly Catholic people have accepted with reverence and confidence the services of every priest duly vouched for by the proper ecclesiastical authority. Our Catholic people know that in the Mass and at the Communion Table, in the pulpit and in the confessional, at the Baptismal font and at the bedside of the sick, it is the Sacrament of the Priesthood that gives dignity and power to the priest and not the racial ex-

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Re: LEANDER PERTZ, SR.;

b7C UNKNOWN VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

et al-
VICTIM

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pression of his countenance or the color of his hands. This truly Catholic understanding of the priestly dignity was demonstrated at a great religious function in Washington only two weeks ago. Our illustrious Apostolic Delegate, who is Italian by birth, celebrated the Solemn Mass marking the golden jubilee of his Ordination to the Holy Priesthood. In the beautiful chapel of Trinity College there were present almost two hundred Bishops and Archbishops with many Monsignori and priests; in the sanctuary six Cardinals occupied equal thrones; four of these were our own American Cardinals, the fifth was a native of India and the sixth was of Chinese birth. This same Catholic mindedness shows itself here in our own Archdiocese of New Orleans, even in the churches of smaller towns, where so-called colored priests are received with respect when they celebrate Holy Mass, hear confessions, preach the Word of God and perform other priestly services for white or mixed congregations.

Asks for Expression

"From all this you will understand why we appeal again to you, our dearly beloved sons and daughters in Christ, to accept the Catholic mind and attitude towards the priests who may be sent to minister to you. It is our earnest desire to restore services in the mission chapel of St. Cecelia in Jesuit Bend and to increase the number of masses in Belle Chasse and Myrtle Grove, but we must first receive from your leaders an expression of sincere sorrow over the grievous offense which they committed by refusing to permit the Rev. Father Gerard Lewis to celebrate Holy Mass in Jesuit Bend on Sunday, Oct. 2, and by inciting you to resist the lawful authority of the church. We must further receive evidence that you, the devoted parishioners, regret what has happened and that you are willing to accept the services of any priest whom we consider it necessary to send. We have no desire or intention to appoint a Negro priest permanently in your area, but we must receive him with the reverence and confidence which are due to his holy office as a priest of God.

Asks Open Minds

"We trust that you will receive this appeal of your shepherd in Christ, speaking to you in the charity of Christ and out of a heart that has a deep concern for your souls. In the same spirit of charity we plead with your leaders to open their minds to truth and to let justice and charity take the place of hatred and prejudice in their

hearts. Only in this way can all of you look forward to the holy feast of Christmas with confidence that "the peace among men of good will" about which God's holy angels sang over the plains of Bethlehem, when Christ the Savior was born, will be your true Christmas gift. Unless you right the wrong that has been done to your colored brethren, to Father Lewis, to religion and to Christ Jesus, who came into the world to save

ALL men without exception, you cannot expect to have peace and true happiness on Christmas day. Remember the words of Jesus: "If thou art offering thy gift at the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother has anything against thee, leave thy gift before the altar and go first to be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift."

"Let us unite in prayer during this Advent Season, especially on the feast of and during the octave of the Immaculate Conception of the ever Blessed Virgin Mary, the Queen of Peace, that by God's grace you may see the Catholic way to true peace in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of all men.

"In the hope that we may soon hear favorably from you we pray that peace of Christ Jesus may descend upon you and abide always with you and all your loved ones and upon every home in your area, colored and white."

Text of Fr. Meyer's letter follows:

"This letter is not intended to antagonize. We are facing the very serious danger of losing the privilege of receiving the Sacraments, of Christian burial and other privileges of the church. We are in danger of excommunication.

"Through frequent communications from Our Beloved archbishop,

we've been told in clear terms the church's stand on the Dignity of the Priesthood and the dignity of the human person, irrespective of race, color or nationality. We as Catholics cannot continue to bypass the church's teaching as outlined to us. We cannot continue to overlook and avoid the request against the Priesthood and the human person committed in our community.

There is grave danger that if we do not respond to the archbishop's

letter of last Sunday, the severest penalty of the church will be meted out to all of us.

"To make it easy, I'm enclosing a card in this letter containing the matter to which all of us must submit. Please sign the card and return it to me in a sealed envelope.

"This is a matter of Our Holy Faith. It is a doctrine to which all must submit, else we become liable to the penalty of personal excommunication."

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Probe Completed At Jesuit Bend

Investigation of the Jesuit Bend incident involving a Negro priest has been completed and turned over to the justice department in Washington, the FBI in New Orleans disclosed today.

If there was a violation of the priest's civil rights, the justice department will ask US District Attorney George Blue to prosecute the case in federal district court here, said FBI officials.

The Negro priest was rebuffed last October by parishioners as he prepared to say mass at St. Cecilia's mission in Jesuit Bend in Plaquemines parish.

They refused to allow him to say mass and demanded that Archbishop Joseph Francis Rummel send them another priest. The archbishop has pointed out that he did not intend to assign a Negro priest permanently to the mission, but insisted that parishioners accept whatever priest is sent there.

When inhabitants of the area reaffirmed their decision to reject any Negro priest, the archbishop suspended masses at the mission.

File

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Desegregation Forum A Success

IN a commendable display of good common sense the Orleans Parish School Board last week brushed aside an attempted "road block" of citizens of the community interested in discussing the problems of desegregation in a calm and intelligent way in a public school auditorium. By a 4 to 1 vote a citizens group was permitted by the Board to schedule a series of public forums on desegregation of schools. The first public forum was held last Thursday night at Rabouin School Auditorium. The Rev. Allen Hackett, pastor of the Pilgrim Congregational Church of St. Louis, spoke on how that community prepared itself for racial integration in the schools.

It was most refreshing to hear an expression of positive, intelligent and constructive views on how a more mature community met the problem. After the sickening daily dose of claptrap from gubernatorial candidates "knuckling" under for votes on how they are going to "organize," "defy" and "ignore" the United States Supreme Court in this matter the Rev. Hackett was all the more interesting and made a whole lot more sense.

A quick comparison of what the gubernatorial candidates say on this subject and what the Rev. Hackett said give a keen insight as to why people generally have so little faith in politicians; why so few men of integrity are candidates for public office.

The Rev. Hackett told a most interesting story of how the whole community, being composed largely of law abiding and intelligent citizens with the will and determination, accomplished the job of integration with a minimum of incidents because there was a maximum of cooperation and good will.

Stressed was the fact that there was a competent, intelligent and firm school administration, community groups with "know how" in the field of human relations and a statesmanlike press that helped prepare the "climate" for acceptance of integration.

From almost any standpoint the meeting was a success. At long last the community began traveling in the right direction, one that would be expected of intelligent, law abiding citizens. Obviously we need a lot of preparation. It is our sincere hope that those who are sincerely interested will follow through with the Citizens Forum on Integration and contribute freely and liberally to the group so that more speakers may be brought here to tell us how integration has worked. Checks, money orders, etc., may be mailed to Citizen's Forum on Integration, P. O. Box 1101.

In the St. Louis story on integration the Catholic Church was credited with playing a very dominant role. Locally the Catholic Church is also playing a prominent role. The apparent difference appears that the "white supremacy boss" Leander

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C. C. DEJOIE, JR., EDITOR
THE LOUISIANA WEEKLY
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RE: LEANDER PEREZ, SR.; b7

ET AL - VICTIMS
UNKNOWN VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

Perez has more influence than the Archbishop. For the past three weeks Catholic parishioners have publicly opposed the Archbishop's announced plans of integrating Catholic schools in '56. Maybe they fear ex-communication from Perez's "high command" more so than from the Archbishop.

The New Orleans story is particularly interesting, for before all the talk about integration, most of us thought (comparatively speaking), we had a pretty fair community-race relations wise. Now we are not so sure. The "Race Hate" boys have obviously been working overtime preparing the community for a total breakdown in race relations.

The best thing that could have happened to New Orleans is the inauguration of the Citizen's Forum on Integration. Maybe we'll get out of the rut and shake off the peddlers of race hate who are crippling our fair city. We need to get out into the sunshine of "peace and good will to all mankind." People of character, intelligence and good will are not led around by the nose by a handful of racial bigots. We are on the side of God and the law. Let's act accordingly.

Integration Fight Pledged By Perez

District Attorney Leander H. Perez, in a bitter attack on the antisegregation ruling of the US supreme court, called for a showdown against the recent desegregation rulings in the district court here.

Perez told the Gentilly Citizens' Council last night that he wants men in responsible positions to join him in facing contempt charges in violation of the local court orders.

Labeling the high court today's "greatest menace to liberty and constitutional government," Perez charged that the three federal judges who recently ordered the Orleans parish school board to integrate public schools were "acting under orders from Washington."

Asks for Showdown

He added:

"Until we find men in responsible positions in the state government willing . . . to be charged with criminal contempt in violation of one of the court orders, we won't have a showdown."

He said he is willing to face such charges because he is confident no Southern jury would convict him for standing up for the rights of the people.

Perez was principal speaker at the meeting of the prosegregation organization at 4720 Painters.

He also attacked a recent editorial in Catholic Action of the South, official publication of the Catholic archdiocese, in which Catholics were reminded they face excommunication if they support legislation upholding segregation.

Cites Red Infiltration

"The Communists," he said, "have infiltrated into religious bodies just the same as Communists have infiltrated into the government."

And he added that the supreme court in Washington has "simply turned over to the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) every district court in the nation."

The district court in New Orleans did not consider any of the evidence in the case in which it ruled against the parish school board, he contended.

Richard Clark, president of the Gentilly Terrace Dads' Club, also spoke for the program. Council chairman L. P. Davis Jr. presided.

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SUPREME COURT CALLED MENACE

Jefferson's Fears Come to Pass, Perez Says

The United States supreme court is today the nation's greatest menace to liberty and constitutional government, Leander H. Perez, district attorney for St. Bernard and Plaquemines parishes, said Friday night.

He was principal speaker at a meeting of the Gentilly Citizens' Council at the Gentilly Terrace school, 4720 Painters. L. P. Davis Jr., council chairman, presided.

Thomas Jefferson, Perez said, warned of the strength of the supreme court and wondered what recourse there would be if the high court usurped powers not granted it by the Constitution.

"And now," Perez said, "his predictions, his fears have come to pass. Today the supreme court undoubtedly is the greatest menace to liberty and constitutional government . . ."

Called Unconstitutional

He said that the court's decision regulating the states' schools has sounded the death knell to individual freedom of the people.

"What right has the court to tell you that you must submit your children to racial integration, when that same court previously has held that (regulation of internal affairs) has been reserved to the states?" Perez asked.

Perez called the supreme court rulings unconstitutional.

"The supreme court has simply turned over to the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) and other Communist-front organizations every district court in the nation," Perez charged in discussing local segregation-integration suits.

Judges who handed down a recent decision holding segregation

laws invalid in a case against the Orleans parish school board were acting under orders from Washington, Perez said, and "did not consider any part" of evidence presented by the school board.

He added that an order for New Orleans schools to stop segregation "in a year or two" violates the law. An injunction, Perez said, must take effect immediately.

Ready to Stand Charges

"Until we find men in responsible positions in the state government willing . . . to be charged with criminal contempt in violation of one of the court orders," Perez said, "we won't have a showdown."

He said he would be willing to stand such charges if he could find any school board that would join him. No Southern jury, he said, would convict a man for standing up for the right of the people.

In referring to recent Catholic action against segregation, Perez said "the Communists have infiltrated into religious bodies just the same as Communists have infiltrated into the government."

Speaking briefly on the program was Richard Clark, president of the Gentilly Terrace Dad's Club.

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Integration Poe May Get Inquiry Post

Perez Considered
For Chief Counsel
In School Probe

(Picture on Page 29.)

Leander Perez, well-known Louisiana political figure and an outspoken foe of school racial integration, is being considered for appointment as chief counsel to the House District Subcommittee, which plans an investigation of District schools.

Perez, reached at Baton Rouge, La., confirmed Washington reports that he is a candidate for the post and that he had talked with Rep. James C. Davis (D-Ga.) about the appointment.

Davis refused to confirm or deny the report, saying he will issue a statement only after his Subcommittee meets Thursday. Perez said he would confer with Subcommittee members Thursday in Washington.

Perez said he did not know anything about staff arrangements for the investigation, scheduled to begin this week. It was learned, however, that James M. Thomson, a 30-year-old Alexandria attorney, is being considered for a staff post.

Perez, who is the district attorney of St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes (counties) in southern Louisiana, was National Director of the State Rights movement which ran an unsuccessful candidate for President in 1948.

He said he has been "reading about" the integration of Washington's public schools.

Perez said a person whom he would not identify has been "investigating" the Washington school situation for him. His interest was aroused, he said, "because of the threat of some racial integration (in the South) through the Federal Courts."

He said a police report of racial incidents in and around District schools, published June 10 in The Washington Post and Times Herald, "looks pretty bad." The report listed a total of 34 incidents of varying degrees of seriousness since Feb. 27, 1953.



Considered

Leander Perez, a Louisiana district attorney, who is a foe of school integration, is being considered for appointment as chief counsel to the House District subcommittee planning an investigation of D. C. schools. (Story, Page 1.)

If he received the appointment, Perez said, he would keep "an open mind to find facts that justify conclusions." Asked whether he believed an investigation is necessary, he replied: "The committee must feel there is grounds for an investigation."

The five-man subcommittee was set up to investigate alleged "lowered standards" in the schools and "juvenile delinquency" here. The action was suggested by Rep. John Bell Williams (D-Miss.), who was named to the group.

While in Washington, Perez said, he hopes to testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee "against those so-called civil rights bills."

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Gandy _____

LEANDER PEREZ; b7C

ET AL

VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

A full investigation was conducted at request of Department into allegation that Perez

Department by memo 5/4/56 advising that no further investigation would be undertaken in this case.

44-9732

b7C

Wash. Post and Times Herald Final
Wash. News _____
Wash. Star _____
N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
N. Y. Mirror _____
N. Y. Daily News _____
Daily Worker _____
The Worker _____
New Leader _____

NOT RECORDED
126 JUL 9 1956

Date 7-5-56

Leander Perez Being Considered For Chief Counsel

Leander Perez, well-known Louisiana political figure and an outspoken foe of school racial integration, is being considered for appointment as chief counsel to the House District Subcommittee, which plans an investigation of District schools.

Perez, reached at Baton Rouge, La., confirmed Washington reports that he is a candidate for the post and that he had talked with Rep. James C. Davis (D-Ga.) about the appointment.

Davis refused to confirm or deny the report, saying he will issue a statement only after his subcommittee meets Thursday. Perez said he would confer with subcommittee members Thursday in Washington.

Perez said he did not know anything about staff arrangements for the investigation, scheduled to begin this week. It was learned, however, that

James M. Thomson, a 30-year-old Alexandria attorney, is being considered for a staff post.

Perez, who is the district attorney of St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes (counties) in southern Louisiana, was National Director of the State Rights movement which ran an unsuccessful candidate for President in 1948.

He said he has been "reading about" the integration of Washington's public schools.

Perez said a person whom he would not identify has been "investigating" the Washington school situation for him. His interest was aroused, he said, "because of the threat of some racial integration (in the South) through the Federal Courts."

He said a police report of racial incidents in and around District schools, published June 10 in The Washington Post and Times Herald, "looks pretty bad." The report listed a total of 34 incidents of varying degrees of seriousness since Feb. 27, 1953.

If he received the appointment, Perez said, he would keep "an open mind to find facts that lead to conclusions." Asked whether he believed an investigation is necessary, he replied: "The committee must feel there is grounds for an investigation."

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The Worker _____
New Leader _____

Date 7-3-56

66 10321

Integration Foe Slated To Be School Quiz Aide

Appointment of Leander H. Perez, Louisiana State official and an opponent of school integration, as chief counsel to House investigators of the District schools, is expected to be announced Thursday.

The District schools' investigation is to be made by a House District subcommittee. The subcommittee's announced aims are to look into juvenile delinquency and lowered standards in the schools.

Mr. Davis said in Baton Rouge, La., today that he heard he was being considered for the subcommittee counsel post and had talked about it by telephone with Representative Davis, Democrat of Louisiana. He said he is not a candidate for the job, "but if I can be of service I'll consider it."

Mr. Davis said today he does not want to make any statement about Mr. Perez' appointment until after the subcommittee meets Thursday.

Read of Problems Here

Mr. Perez said he had read of the problems of school integration in the District, but had not investigated them himself. He said a couple of months ago he asked someone who had been recommended to him—he said he did not recall the name—to make an investigation of the school situation here. He said he had not received a report.

Asked about his interest in the matter, he said:

"Everybody is interested. This is an innovation in government, the first time in history an attempt is being made to use the coercive powers of the Government to force integration."

Mr. Perez is district attorney in St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes (counties) in Southern Louisiana. He was formerly head of the States' rights movement in Louisiana.

Primises Open Mind

He said that if he is appointed to the post here he would keep an open mind in the finding of facts on which conclusions could be based.

The State Legislature is in session at Baton Rouge and Mr. Perez said that is the occasion for his visit there. He added that he intends to visit Washington and would testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee in opposition to the civil rights bill.



LEANDER H. PEREZ
Appointment Expected

LEANDER PEREZ; b7C

ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

44-9732

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A full investigation was conducted at request of Department into allegation that Perez

b7D
Department by memo 5/4/56 advised that no further investigation would be undertaken in this case.

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Mr. Perez has been described as the lone remaining political boss in Louisiana and a benevolent dictator, with stress on "dictator" — in his bailiwick, Plaquemines Parish.

He also has been called a wizard when it comes to bringing about the results he wants in politics. He is rated one of the most able constitutional lawyers in the country. One description is that he is a fiery man of strong likes and dislikes and in nowise lacking in courage.

Known as "the Judge"

In Louisiana when you refer to "the Judge" only one person is meant—Mr. Perez. He was formerly judge in the district which includes St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes where he is now district attorney. In St. Bernard, however, his rule is not absolute; he has to divide it with a competitor.

He has been described as the brains behind the tidelands oil fight, and that covered the national effort as well as that in Louisiana. He is also said to have master minded the Dixie oil fight of 1948 when four

States voted for Gov. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina instead of Harry S. Truman.

Plaquemines Parish is described as perhaps the richest in Louisiana. It has valuable sulphur deposits and most of the tidelands oil is off its extensive shores.

Thomas L. Stokes, writing in The Star in August, 1949, said Mr. Perez is "heavy in oil," and continued:

"He owns royalties all over his Louisiana domain. He combines business and politics in a way of life that has made him both rich and powerful. . . . He runs a virtual dictatorship which . . . puts other famous bosses—the Hagues, Pendergasts and Crumps—in the shade . . ."

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Daily Worker _____
The Worker _____
New Leader _____

NIGHT FINAL
Date 7/3/56

144-9732-
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117 JUL 9 1956

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Perez Refuses School Probe Counsel Post

Chairman Davis of the House District Subcommittee planning to investigate juvenile delinquency and Washington's public schools today announced that Leander Perez, Louisiana political leader, has requested that the subcommittee not appoint him as counsel.

Mr. Davis, Democrat of Georgia, said he had received a telegram from Mr. Perez saying that pressure of other business would keep him from accepting the post.

Mr. Perez had been considered as counsel of the subcommittee. Mr. Davis said, indicating that Perez would have been appointed if he had not withdrawn.

Asked when his subcommittee may select someone else, the Georgian said he had fixed no date for the next meeting.

"We have several prospects on our list. However," Mr. Davis said.

NOT RECORDED
12 JUL 11 1956

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New Leader _____
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50 JUL 11 1956

0-19 (11-22-55)

LEANDER PEREZ; **b7C**, ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

44-9732

A full investigation was conducted at request
of Department into allegation that Perez

b7D
Department by memo 5/4/56 advised that no
further investigation would be undertaken in this
case.

FWA:

Six Others Ask for Job

Perez Turns Down Offer Of School Inquiry Post

By Eve Edstrom
Staff Reporter

Leander Perez, powerful school situation in Washington, D. C., impels me to request you to consider appointment of committee counsel other than myself.

Rep. James C. Davis (D-Ga.), who heads the House District Subcommittee which is planning the investigation, said he had unsolicited applications from six other lawyers who want the job. Davis would not reveal their names and gave no indication when the inquiry would begin.

Perez, reached in Baton Rouge, La., released the contents of a telegram he sent to Davis yesterday. The telegram confirmed a July 4 telephone conversation with Davis and advised that:

"Pressure of important public business here weighed with the fact that your subcommittee can secure well-qualified counsel to represent it in the investigation of interracial

school situation in Washington, D. C., impels me to request you to consider appointment of committee counsel other than myself.

"I appreciate your subcommittee's consideration and assure you of my fullest cooperation in your important undertaking and best wishes for accomplishment in the public welfare."

Perez explained that as District Attorney of St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes (counties) in southern Louisiana, he now was busy with "legislative and other local matters of public importance."

He added that he would be glad to be of service to the subcommittee but not in an official capacity.

When Perez' appointment was rumored earlier this week, it also was learned that James M. Thomson, a 30-year-old Alexandria attorney, was being considered for a staff post. Thomson yesterday said he was "at liberty" to discuss such an

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126 JUL 11 1956

Wash. Post and Times Herald **P.33**
Wash. News _____
Wash. Star _____
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Daily Worker _____
The Worker _____
New Leader _____

Date **7-6-56**

Profile 44-9732

FBI

Date: 12/10/59

PLAIN TEXT

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (44-

SUBJECT: LEANDER PEREZ, SR., District
Attorney, Plaquemine Parish,
Louisiana; ET AL;
[REDACTED] - VICTIM;
ET AL
CIVIL RIGHTS: ELECTION LAWS

For information Bureau [REDACTED]

Report follows.

- ③ - Bureau
2 - New Orleans

(5)

MCT-19

REC-58

BACHMAN

6 DEC 12 1959

X-100

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per [Signature]

12-17

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office NEW ORLEANS	Office of Origin NEW ORLEANS	Date 12/16/59	Investigative Period 12/16/59
TITLE OF CASE LEANDER PEREZ, SB., District Attorney, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana; ET AL; VICTIMS, ET AL		Report made by SA [REDACTED]	Typed by [REDACTED]
		CHARACTER OF CASE CIVIL RIGHTS ELECTION LAWS	

REFERENCE

Report of SA [REDACTED] dated 12/15/59 at New Orleans.

- C -

All
b7C

EXP. PROC.
30

Approved <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
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		5 DEC 17 1959	REC-4
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Rec: AAG Civil Rights Division
Form 6-94 11 12 31 59

COVER PAGE

62 DEC 30 1959

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, NEW ORLEANS

Report of: SA [REDACTED] b7C
Date: 12/16/59
Office: NEW ORLEANS

File Number: NEW ORLEANS (44-1082)

Title: LEANDER PEREZ, SR., District Attorney,
Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana; ET AL;
[REDACTED] - VICTIMS,
ET AL b7C

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS; ELECTION LAWS

Synopsis: Letter to New Orleans FBI Office from [REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] b7D

- C -

DETAILS:

The following undated letter, postmarked
December 11, 1959 at [REDACTED] Louisiana, was re-
ceived from [REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] b7D

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office NEW ORLEANS	Office of Origin NEW ORLEANS	Date 12/15/59	Investigative Period 12/9/59
TITLE OF CASE LEANDER PEREZ, SR., District Attorney, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana		Report made by SA [REDACTED]	Typed By [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]		CHARACTER OF CASE CIVIL RIGHTS ELECTION LAWS	

SUBJECTS:
 [REDACTED] **UNKNOWN**
 [REDACTED] **- VICTIMS;**
 [REDACTED] **- VICTIM;**
 [REDACTED] **- VICTIM;**
 [REDACTED] **- VICTIM;**
 [REDACTED] **- VICTIM;**
 [REDACTED] **UNKNOWN VICTIMS**

REFERENCE: New Orleans airtel to Bureau dated 12/10/59 entitled "LEANDER PEREZ, SR., District Attorney, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana; et al; [REDACTED] - VICTIM; et al, CIVIL RIGHTS, ELECTION LAWS."

*All
b7C*

- C -

ADMINISTRATIVE

No physical descriptions of the subjects or victims are set out inasmuch as no interviews were conducted with them.

Approved <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
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1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division
Form 6-94

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NO 44-1082

DETAILS:

This investigation is based upon information furnished by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], who were referred to the New Orleans FBI Office by United States Attorney M. HEPBURN MANY, Eastern District of Louisiana.

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 Mr. Mohr _____
 Mr. Parsons ☒
 Mr. Rosen ☒
 Mr. Tamm _____
 Mr. Trotter _____
 Mr. W.C. Sullivan _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Miss Gandy _____

UPI-11

(CIVIL RIGHTS)

THE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IS STUDYING REPORTS OF IRREGULARITIES IN ABSENTEE VOTING IN THE LOUISIANA DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY DEC. 5.

THE DEPARTMENT SAID IT HAD RECEIVED COMPLAINTS FROM PLAQUEMINES PARISH.

THE COMPLAINTS ARE UNDER STUDY, THE DEPARTMENT SAID, TO SEE WHETHER AN INVESTIGATION IS WARRANTED.

A SECOND PRIMARY WILL BE HELD JAN. 9, TO DETERMINE THE WINNER FOR THE GOVERNORSHIP. NEW ORLEANS MAYOR DE LESSEPS S. MORRISON AND FORMER GOV. JIMMIE DAVIS WILL OPPOSE EACH OTHER IN THE RUNOFF.

12/25--JR415P

Leander Perez Sn.

b7C

Civil Rights, Elections

44-15216-

NOT RECORDED

117 JAN 5 1960

30 JAN 7 1960

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Parsons _____
Mr. Rosen _____
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Mr. W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

Rerep SA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] NO, 12/16/59

62 JAN 11 1960

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FILE NO. 44-30670

SECTION MAIN

SERIALS 1 through 18
(except following serials not in
file on this date)

re: Leonidas Perez

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Plaquemines Parish Com- plaints Are Cited

Complaints involving absentee ballots cast in the first Democratic primary in Plaquemines parish are presently under investigation by the department of justice in Washington, United States Atty. M. Hepburn Many said Thursday.

The federal prosecutor for the eastern district of Louisiana confirmed that a number of complaints concerning the unusually large number of absentee ballots cast in the parish were received by his office. He said that they have been studied and a report sent to Joseph M. F. Ryan Jr., acting assistant attorney general in charge of civil rights, to determine if there has been any violation of federal laws.

Many would not discuss the nature of the complaints, but said that they were made by a number of Plaquemines citizens after the Dec. 5 primary.

11 PER CENT OF VOTES

Records of the secretary of state's office in Baton Rouge show that 640 absentee ballots were cast in Plaquemines, representing over 11 per cent of the 5704 votes cast. By comparison, only 1993 absentee ballots were cast in Orleans parish, representing only 1 per cent of the total vote of 169,705.

In Plaquemines parish, gubernatorial candidate Jimmie H. Davis received 614 absentee votes, compared to only 25 for deLesseps S. Morrison. The total vote in Plaquemines gave Davis 3822 and Morrison 1137.

Leander H. Perez, Plaquemines district attorney and chairman of the parish Democratic committee, issued a statement defending the

legality of the absentee ballots. He said that the parish fears no federal investigation.

PEREZ STATEMENT

His statement in full follows: "Front page publicity is given in the afternoon States to a statement from the United States attorney general's office in Washington and New Orleans that complaints by Plaquemines parish citizens (evidently a couple of disgruntled, defeated parish candidates with Chep Morrison's blessings) were made regarding absentee voting in the Dec. 5 primary election in Plaquemines parish showing a total of 640 absentee ballots cast.

"Unfortunately, more absentee ballots were not cast in Plaquemines parish because more than 1000 qualified electors in Plaquemines parish failed to vote, many of whom were out of the parish on election day.

"The absentee ballots were cast by a large number of Plaquemines parish voters who are engaged in offshore oil and sulphur operations outside the parish and some who are in the military service, besides others who are employed elsewhere and who expected to be out of the parish on election day.

URGED TO VOTE JAN. 9

"Under Louisiana law voters who expect to be out of the parish on election day have a right to vote absentee. This right cannot be denied them by a few sore heads who may make complaints to federal government agents, the same as they made complaints to the New Orleans district attorney's office before the first primary election, with the evident purpose of frightening qualified

voters from exercising their right to vote.

"We do not fear any investigation by federal attorneys. Our parish absentee ballots are preserved as required by state law by the clerk of court, ex officio parish custodian of voting machines. If any federal attorney desires to see them the clerk of court will be glad to make them available so they may be checked against the official tabulation of votes cast in the first primary.

"We again urge all voters in Plaquemines parish who expect to be out of the parish on election day Jan. 9, and who may lose their right to vote if they do not vote absentee to be sure to vote absentee and to vote solidly against Chep Morrison with his Jimmie Hoffa-NAACP Negro bloc combination.

"Plaquemines parish should be solidly against this sinister Morrison-Hoffa-NAACP threat to our peace, happiness and welfare and to Morrison's threatened interference in our parish affairs as he has openly declared."

Tally sheets show the following absentee voting, precinct by precinct, in Plaquemines, (D-Davis; M-Morrison; R-W. M. Rainach):

Ward-Precinct	D	M	R
1-1	25	0	0
2-1	47	1	0
3-1	68	0	0
4-1	0	0	0
4-2	29	3	1
4-3	5	0	0
5-1	24	1	0
6-1	114	2	0
7-1	20	1	0
7-2	5	0	0
7-3	9	2	0
8-1	89	8	0
10-1	31	0	0
10-2	150	7	0
Totals	614	25	1

THE TIMES-PICAYUNE
 DECEMBER 25, 1959
 NEWORLEANS, LOUISIANA
 NEW ORLEANS OFFICE

44-15206-A
 NOT RECORDED
 117 JAN 12 1960

LEANDER PEREZ, SR.,
 District Attorney,
 Plaquemines Parish,
 La., et al;

VICTIMS, et al; CR; EL

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 File
 6-2AC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE NEW ORLEANS	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW ORLEANS	DATE 9/22/65	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 9/20 - 9/21/65
TITLE OF CASE LEANDER PEREZ, SR., Parish President, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana; UNSUB. aka. 		REPORT MADE BY SA 	TYPED BY
		CHARACTER OF CASE CR	

- VICTIMS

REFERENCE

New Orleans airtel to Bureau, 9/20/65.

-C-

ADMINISTRATIVE

Investigation in this matter was initiated pursuant to the Manual of Instructions, Section 271,2, wherein exceptions to usual investigative procedures in non-brutality cases, note cases wherein a public official who is a witness to or cognizant of a deprivation of the Civil Rights of an individual and fails to take appropriate action to protect the individual person or rights. No further investigation is being conducted in this matter UACB.

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APPROVED 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
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	Dissemintation Record of Attached Report		
Agency	1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division		
Request Recd.	Form 6-34 - E. N. C. / dea		
Date Fwd.	9/22/65		
How Fwd.	1 cc CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT		

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FBI/DOJ

DETAILS

Investigation in this matter was instituted
following the telephone complaint on September 20, 1965 by



b7C
b7D

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET10 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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FBI/DOJ

SEP 30 1965
9/30/65

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TELETYPE

1 - Mr. [REDACTED] b7C

TO SAC NEW ORLEANS

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

LEANDER PEREZ, SR., ET AL; [REDACTED] b7C

VICTIMS, CIVIL RIGHTS.

REURAIRTEL NINE TWENTY, SIXTYFIVE AND REPORT OF SA [REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] NINE TWENTY-TWO, SIXTYFIVE.

BUREAU IS IN RECEIPT OF A COPY OF A LETTER FROM [REDACTED] b7C

WRITTEN TO THE PRESIDENT DATED NINE TWENTY-SEVEN, SIXTYFIVE
CONCERNING THIS MATTER.

b7C
b7D

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

(3) b7C
NOTE ON PAGE THREE...

REC-24

19 OCT 1 1965

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NOTE: In a letter to the President (ccs to Director,
Attorney General and Roy Wilkins, NAACP)

requested an investigation of allegations that

It is
noted Leander P. [redacted] is noted segregationist, is the political
leader in Plaquemines Parish.

Bureau records indicate [redacted] contacted New Orleans
Office on 9/16/65, making original complaint and was requested
to furnish details as to original source of information so that
it may be reported.

A report dated 9/22/65,
was furnished to the Department which contained results of
interview with [redacted] containing allegations [redacted]

All
b7C
b7D

SEP 30 9 54 AM '65
FBI

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

SEP 30 1965

TELETYPE

7-095

The Attorney General

October 4, 1965

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

LEANDER PEREZ, ET AL.;

ET AL. - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

A copy of a letter dated September 27, 1965, which was designated for me addressed to the President from [REDACTED]

has been received. This letter concerns allegations that [REDACTED]

A report dated September 22, 1965, concerning this matter has been furnished to the Civil Rights Division.

I am enclosing information clarifying contacts by [REDACTED] with representatives of this Bureau relative to this matter which may be of interest to you.

This information has also been furnished to Honorable Marvin Watson, Special Assistant to the President, The White House, Washington, D. C.

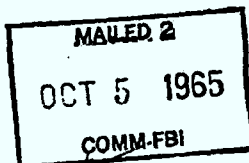
Enclosure

1 - The Deputy Attorney General (Enclosure)

1 - Mr. John Doar (Enclosure)
Assistant Attorney General

(12)

See Rosen to Belmont memo, 10/4/65, same caption, [REDACTED]



MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Oct 4 5 28 PM '65
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

REC-65

19 OCT 5 1965

30670-3

October 4, 1965

BY LIAISON

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

Honorable Marvin Watson
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Watson:

A copy of a letter dated September 27, 1965, which was designated for me addressed to the President from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has been received. This letter concerns allegations

that [REDACTED]

I am enclosing information clarifying contacts by [REDACTED] with representatives of this Bureau relative to this matter which may be of interest to the President.

This information has also been furnished to the Attorney General.

Sincerely yours,

REC-66

44-30670-4

Enclosure

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

(9)

See memorandum Rosen to Belmont, dated 10/4/65, captioned "Leander Perez, Et AL: [REDACTED] Et AL. - Victims, etc."

Delivered personally to Mr. Mitchell, Stegall, White House 10/5/65

57 OCT 11 1965

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

OCT 4 5 29 PM '65
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

RECEIVED OCT 6 1965

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

OCT 1 1965

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

FBI NEW ORLS

10-09 PM CST URGENT 9/30/65

TO DIRECTOR

FROM NEW ORLEANS (44-2737) 4 P

LEANDER PEREZ; ET AL;

ET AL - VICTIMS, CR.

RE BUTEL PM, SEPTEMBER THIRTY.

IN ORDER TO CLARIFY STATEMENTS MADE BY

IN HIS LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT, THE FOLLOWING
INFORMATION IS BEING SUBMITTED FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE
BUREAU:

REFERENCED TEL INDICATES THAT REPORTED THIS
MATTER TO SA ON SEPTEMBER SIXTEEN LAST.

SA WAS NOT CONTACTED ON SEPTEMBER SIXTEEN. SA

WAS CONTACTED ON SEPTEMBER SIXTEEN

BY

BUT UNABLE TO FURNISH SPECIFIC DETAILS AS TO PERSONS OR
THE ORIGINAL SOURCE OF THE INFORMATION IN ORDER TO CONDUCT
ANY INVESTIGATION WHICH MIGHT BE NECESSARY. (NEW ORLEANS AIRTEL
SEPTEMBER TWENTY LAST).

END PAGE ONE

57 OCT 13 1965

REC 14

9 OCT 7 1965

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

b7C

b7C

b7C

b7C
b7D

b7C

b7H

MEMO R to R...
10/4/65
H

44-30670-5

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] b7D
DID NOT CONTACT SA [REDACTED] ON SEPTEMBER EIGHTEEN AND b7C
THE FILE DOES NOT REFLECT HE CONTACTED ANYONE ON THIS DATE.

[REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] b7D
[REDACTED] SA [REDACTED] WAS
[REDACTED] b7C
TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED BY [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] REQUESTED
TWO AGENTS COME TO SEE HIM AT HIS OFFICE AS HE HAD THE
COMPLETE DETAILS CONCERNING THE ORIGINAL INFORMATION THAT HE
HAD PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED TO THE BUREAU. SA [REDACTED]
IMMEDIATELY PREPARED A MEMORANDUM ON HIS CONVERSATION.

ON SEPTEMBER TWENTY, SA [REDACTED] WAS INSTRUCTED TO CONTACT
[REDACTED] SA [REDACTED] CONTACTED [REDACTED] ON SEPTEMBER TWENTY AND
REQUESTED HE TALK TO [REDACTED] AT [REDACTED]'S EARLIEST CONVIENCE,
AND ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE TO INTERVIEW [REDACTED] AT HIS
OFFICE AT TEN THIRTY AM, SEPTEMBER TWENTY ONE LAST.
SA [REDACTED] WAS NOT CONTACTED ON SEPTEMBER TWENTY ONE
LAST. ON THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER TWENTY ONE LAST,
[REDACTED] TELEPHONICALLY

END PAGE TWO

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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PAGE FOUR

SA [REDACTED] WENT IMMEDIATELY TO MR. [REDACTED]'S OFFICE b7C
WITH ANOTHER AGENT. UPON ARRIVAL, MR. [REDACTED] AND A MR.
[REDACTED] WERE PRESENT. INTERVIEW OF TWO WITNESSES NOT
CONDUCTED IN PRESENCE OF [REDACTED] OR [REDACTED]

THE ABOVE FACTS ARE SELF-EXPLANATORY. MR. [REDACTED]
WHEN HE ORIGINALLY CONTACTED THE OFFICE, DID NOT HAVE
SPECIFIC INFORMATION. WHEN HE DID HAVE SPECIFIC INFORMATION
AN APPOINTMENT WAS MADE AT [REDACTED]'S EARLIEST CONVENIENCE
FOR THE FOLLOWING DAY. UPON RECEIPT OF INFORMATION THAT
THE VICTIMS IN QUESTION WERE ENROUTE TO THE NEW ORLEANS
OFFICE, THE MATTER WAS GIVEN TO THE AGENT WHO WAS HANDLING
THE CASE AND MR. [REDACTED] WAS SO ADVISED. THE ONLY TWO
INDIVIDUALS WHO HAD SPECIFIC INFORMATION WERE INTERVIEWED.

END

WA... b7C

FBI WASH DC

TU CLR

DEC 1 1961

FBI

RECEIVED

b7C
b7D

10/4/65

Airtel

To: SAC, New Orleans (44-2737)
From: Director, FBI (44-38861)
LEANDER PEREZ, ET AL
ET AL - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

Reurtel 10/1/65.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter dated 9/27/65, addressed to the President, a copy of which was designated for the Director. Also enclosed is a copy of an LHM furnished to the White House and Attorney General by the Bureau concerning this matter. In setting forth the series of events concerning this matter it appears that [redacted] may be inferring that Agents of your office delayed in handling his complaint.

It is also noted that he claims he reported this matter to SA [redacted] on 9/18/65; however, retel states that he did not contact SA [redacted] on 9/18/65, and your file does not reflect he contacted anyone on that date. Your tel also indicated that as soon as [redacted] advised he had specific details of this matter, an appointment was made with him to obtain the information. When the victims were interviewed on 9/21/65, they furnished information regarding an incident which did not take place until 9/20/65, the day before the date of the interview. The SAC should personally contact [redacted] to insure there is no misunderstanding on his part that there was a delay by the Bureau in the handling of this matter.

See airtel results of your contact with [redacted].

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Enc.

(4)
NOTE:

See memorandum A. Rosen to Mr. Belmont dated 10/4/65, same caption, [redacted]

OCT 14 1965

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

MAILED 25

OCT 5 1965

COMM-FBI

19 OCT 6 1965

OCT 4 5 28 PM '65
FBI
REC'D-READING ROOM

1 - Mr. [redacted]

6-1770
re 136
10-14-65
mt

All
b7C

44-38861-6

Rosen
[Signature]

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(6)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (b)(7)(B)☒ (b)(7)(C)☒ (b)(7)(D)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (b)(8)☐ (b)(9)Section 552a☐ (d)(5)☐ (j)(2)☐ (k)(1)☐ (k)(2)☐ (k)(3)☐ (k)(4)☐ (k)(5)☐ (k)(6)☐ (k)(7)

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

TO : Mr. Belmont *BA*

DATE: October 4, 1965

FROM : A. Rosen *RW*

SUBJECT: LEANDER PEREZ, ET AL;
b7C [REDACTED], ET AL -
VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED] *b7C*
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

In a letter to the President dated 9/27/65 (copies of which were designated to the Director, the Attorney General and Mr. Roy Wilkins, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), [REDACTED]

b7C
b7D [REDACTED] requested an investigation concerning allegations [REDACTED]

b7C [REDACTED] related he reported this matter to the FBI on 9/16, 9/18/65, and again discussed the matter on 9/20/65, at which time an appointment was made with him for an interview on 9/21/65. He states the appointment was canceled but subsequently on the same date briefed Agents who took statements from the alleged victims.

b7C The inferred delay by the Bureau in handling his complaint which [REDACTED] makes in his letter is not true and letters to the White House and Attorney General setting the record straight are attached.

BACKGROUND:

b7C
b7D The New Orleans Office has advised that [REDACTED] contacted that office on 9/16/65, alleging [REDACTED] He was unable to furnish specific details as to the identity of these persons or the source of this information. He said he would advise when he obtained additional details.

b7C The New Orleans Office has no record of any contact with [REDACTED] on 9/18/65.

On 9/20/65, [REDACTED] contacted the New Orleans Office and advised he had complete details concerning the matter. A request was made to interview him at his earliest convenience and an appointment was made with him for the morning of 9/21/65.

Enclosures - Sent 10-5-65

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: LEANDER PEREZ, ET AL

On the morning of 9/21/65, [REDACTED],

[REDACTED] contacted the office and advised that two victims [REDACTED] were en route to the New Orleans Office for interview. The Agent handling the case was instructed to interview these victims and notify Mr. [REDACTED] that he desired to postpone his appointment until these victims were interviewed.

[REDACTED] Agents immediately went to [REDACTED]'s office and interviews with [REDACTED] and each of the two victims were consummated in private.

A report dated 9/22/65, containing the results of these interviews was furnished to the Civil Rights Division and no additional investigation has been requested.

ACTION:

(1) Attached for approval is a letter to the White House and the Attorney General setting the record straight concerning our contacts with [REDACTED] regarding this matter.

All
b7C
b7D