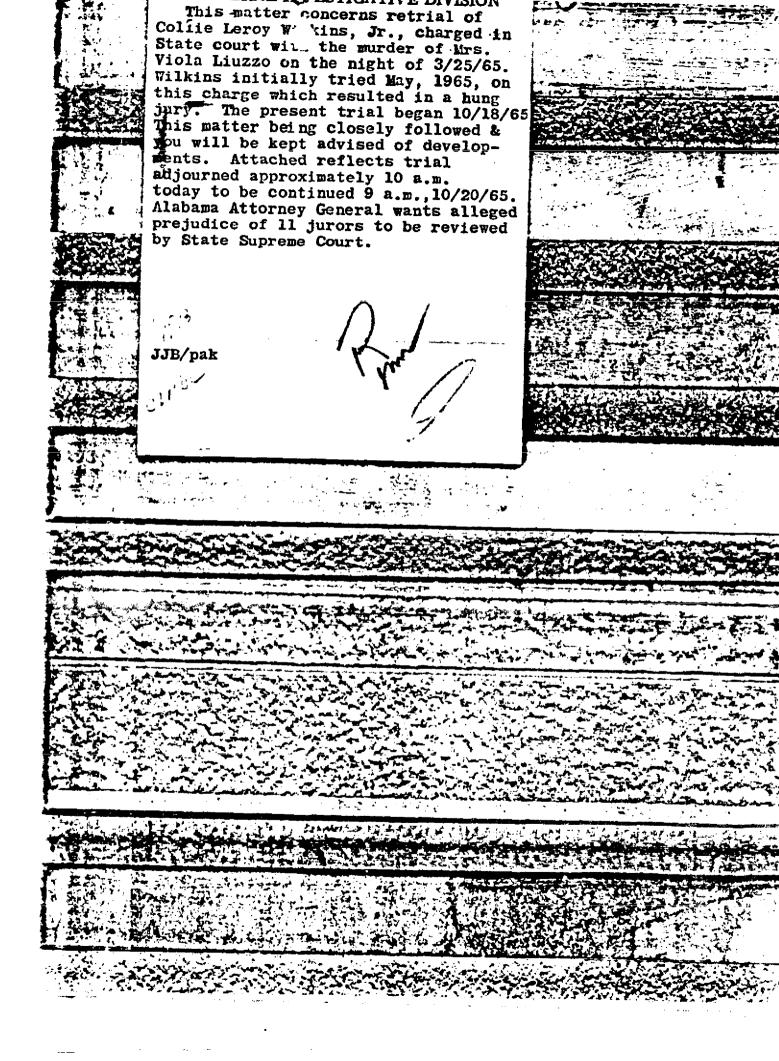


#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

# VIOLA LIUZZO MURDER

## **PART 11 OF 14**

**FILE NUMBER: 44-28601** 



F. AL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
S. DEPARTMENT OF AUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
OCT 19 1965

TELETYPE

FBI MOBILE

11:25 AM CST OURGENT 10/19/65 FBW

TO DIRECTOR (44-28601) AND BIRMINGHAM (44-1236)

FROM: MOBILE (44-1245)

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL; VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO; ET AL - VICTIMS.

CR-vell.

zremotel oct. Eighteen, last.

TRIAL OF KLANSMAN COLLIE LEROY WILKINS, JR. COMMENCED
SECOND DAY AT NINE AM TODAY AT HAYNEVILLE, ALA., AND AT
APPROX. TEN AM, CASE WAS CONTINUED UNTIL NINE AM OCT. TWENTY,
NEXT. ALABAMA ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHMOND FLOWERS PRESENTED
MOTION TO LOWNDES COUNTY COURT THAT ELEVEN OF THE JURORS
TESTIFIED YESTERDAY THAT THEY FELT CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS WHO
ASSOCIATED CLOSELY WITH THE NEGROES IN LOWNDES COUNTY WERE
INFERIOR, THEREFORE, ACCORDING TO ATTORNEY GENERAL FLOWERS,
THESE JURORS WOULD BE PREJUDICED AND HURT THE STATE'S CASE.
SAID THE STATE COULD PROVE MRS. VIOLA LIUZZO WAS A CIVIL
RIGHTS WORKER. FLOWERS REQUESTED THE TWENTY-FOUR HOUR
CONTINUANCE SO THE FACTS CONCERNING THESE ELEVEN JURORS COULD

END PAGE ONE

MR. BELMONT FOR THE DIRECTOR

M DCT 28 1965

Mr. Mr.

Mr. Trotter\_ Tele. Room\_ Miss Holmes

Miss Gundy.

D' NUY Z 1405

PAGE TWO

BE REVIEWED BY THE ALABAMA STATE SUPREME COURT AND IT IS ANTICIPATED A RULING WILL BE RENDERED LATE THIS AFTERNOON.

END

WA ...LRA

FBI WASH DC

BH...JGA

FBI BIRMGHAM

TU CLEAR OYX

CCAIR IDEAN

E GATIVE DIVISION This case concerns the retrial of Collie Leroy Wilkins, Jr., in State court charged with the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo on the night of 3/25/65. Wilkins driginally tried in May, 1965, on this charge thich resulted in a hung jury. Present trial began 10/18/65. The 'prosecution witness" mentioned herein is our informant. We previously received information he may be served with a subpoena or warrant arising from a lien against him for unpaid State sales taxes. We are closely following this matter and you will be kept advised of developments.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
OCT 19 1965

PM CST /URGENT

10/19/65

1.1.0

TO:

DIRECTOR (44-28601)

FROM:

MOBILE (44-1245)

29

J WICTIMS

Tele Room\_ Mas Heimes

Miss Gandy:

Mal

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL. VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, ET AL - VICTIMS

CR. EL. DO MOBILE.

STRONGLY FEELS A CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEM EXISTS WHICH WILL PREVENT THE STATE OF ALABAMA FROM OBTAINING A FAIR TRIAL. HE BASES THIS ARGUMENT UPON THE FACT THAT ELEVEN OF THE THIRTY VENIREMEN ANSWERED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE TO THE QUESTION OF DEFENSE COUNSEL AS TO WHETHER THEY FELT CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS WERE INFERIOR WHITES. HE POINTED OUT THAT UNDER ALABAMA LAW, ONLY THE DEFENSE AND NOT THE PROSECUTION CAN OBTAIN A CHANGE OF VENUE AND THAT A FAIR TRIAL CANNOT BE OBTAINED WITH THE PRESENT LIST OF PROSPECTIVE JURORS.

BASED ON THIS ARGUMENT, HE REQUESTED THE ELEVEN JURORS BE OCT 28 1965.
STRUCK FROM THE PANEL AND WHEN THIS MOTION WAS OVERRULED BY
JUDGE THAGGARD, HE OBTAINED A TWENTYFOUR HOUR RECESS TO APPEAL

END PAGE ONE

MR. BELMONT FOR THE DIRECTOR

6-WX

PAGE TWO

THIS RULING TO THE ALABAMA STATE SUPREME COURT BUT EXPECTS JUDGE THAGGARD'S RULING TO BE UPHELD, AT WHICH TIME HE WILL REQUEST REMOVAL OF MOTION TO FEDERAL COURT AS A CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEM, AND IF NECESSARY WILL APPEAL DIRECTLY FOR A RULING ON THE MOTION TO THE U.S. SUPREME COURT.

FLOWERS ADVISED HE CHECKED WITH STATE DEPT. OF REVENUE,
MONTGOMERY, ALA., TODAY AND NO CIVIL ACTION INVOLVING PROSECUTION
WITNESS FOR NONPAYMENT OF SALES TAXES OUTSTANDING.

ADVISED THAT BY

DURING FIRST TRIAL OF SUBJECT, CIVIL PAPER ORIGINATING IN BESSEMER, ALA., CHARGING PROSECUTION WITNESS WITH NONPAYMENT OF SALES TAXES WAS SENT TO HIS OFFICE BUT WAS NOT SERVED AND WAS RETURNED TO BESSEMER. HE STATES HIS OFFICE NOT NOW IN POSSESSION OF ANY SUCH CIVIL PAPERS.

BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS.

END AND ACK PLS

WA BMS

FBI WASH DC

CC-MR. ROSEN

Transmit the Silowing in  Vio ARTEL AIRMAIL  (Priority)  TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601)  FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-2236)  EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL  VIOLA LIUZZO, aka; ET AL - VETIMS  CR - KL  AUSA R. MACEY TAYLOR telephonically contacted ASAC on 10/25/65. At this time AUSA TAYLOR advised that the U. S. Attorney's Office in Birmingham was not at all pleased with the verdict which had been returned in this case in Lowndes County. AUSA TAYLOR stated he realized that there was still an indictment outstanding in Federal Court in this case which was scheduled for arraignment on 11/5/65 in Montgomery.  AUSA TAYLOR stated he had been in contact with a repre- sentative of the Justice Department and had presented his views regarding possible revocation of probation of COLLIE LEROY WILKIN For the Bureau's information it should be noted that COLLIE LEROY WILKINS has been on probation since sometime in November, 1964, when he was convicted for violation of the National Firearms Act.  JUSA TAYLOR stated that in order to revoke the probation of COLLIE LEROY WILKINS a probation hearing would, by necessity, have to be held. AUSA TAYLOR pointed out that among the things that would have to be proved at this hearing would be the fact that COLLIE LEROY WILKINS a did depart the State of Alabams or the areas of his supervision without permission from his Probation officer. AUSA TAYLOR requested that any such information as contained in various newspaper accounts which disclose that COLLIE LEROY WILKINS did appear in the various surrounding states  Approved:  Special Agent in Charge	٠.		• .	Date:	10/26/65	
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C Approved: Sent M Per 511/		3 Birmingha \$2 44-12 \$1 157-1	236) 1 33 1 #1 /	الراوية	12 OCT 28 196	<b>5</b>
Special Agent in Charge		(6) TC •	Wick	TIME		111
	F.	Approved: Spe	cial Appnt in Charge		M Per B	<b>b</b>

Date:

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Via	•		-		i		1
		(Priority)					3

BH 44-1236

It is known that COLLIE LEROY WILKINS did not secure permission to attend all of these rallies, although permission has been granted for at least one rally out of state. In addition, the identification record of COLLIE LEROY WILKINS discloses various additional arrests since his being placed on probation. This information will be furnished by the Birmingham Office to the Probation Officer for his assistance in this matter.

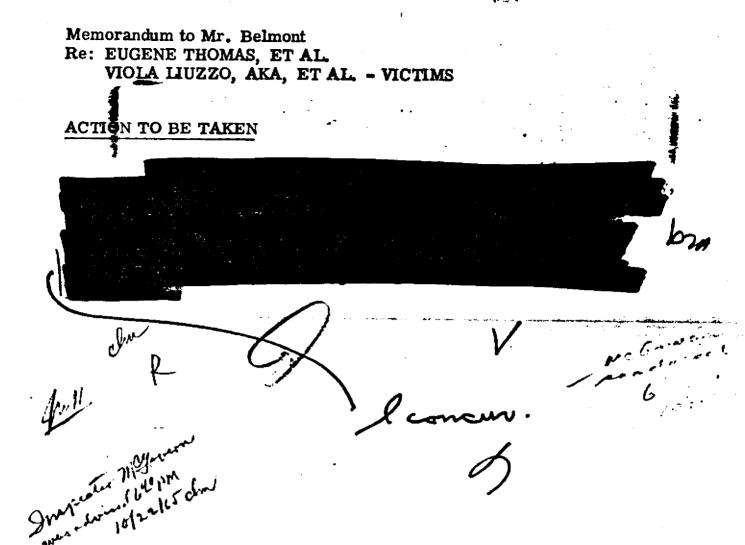
AUSA TAYLOR also stated that he hoped to be able to use a transcript of the testimony of the LIUZZO case in connection with the revocation hearing for COLLIE LEROY WILKINS. AUSA TAYLOR stated the possibility existed that this transcript might not be accepted and, therefore, in order to revoke the probation of COLLIE LEROY WILKINS it might be necessary that the testimony of GARY THOMAS ROWE be offered in person at this hearing. It was pointed out to AUSA TAYLOR that unless absolutely mandatory the presence of ROWE in the city of Birmingham could create unusual security problems insofar as insuring the safety of the informant. AUSA TAYLOR stated he recognized this and preferred not having to use the informant if at all possible. He did, however, indicate he wanted to point this possibility out to the Bureau in the event the revocation hearing is scheduled in the near future.

AUSA TAYLOR stated that even though the Department might be willing to proceed on an immediate basis insofar as the probation hearing, he wished to point out the possibility that it could have some bearing on the scheduled arraignment in Montgomery. AUSA TAYLOR also stated that regardless of the Department's wishes the ultimate decision as to whether or not to proceed against COLLIE LEROY WILKINS rested with the Federal Judge. TAYLOR also stated the maximum sentence which could be hoped for was only 1 year and 1 day. He was of the opinion that it would be advantageous, if at all possible, to revoke the probation of COLLIE LEROY WILKINS and have him serve at least the 1 year and 1 day sentence. AUSA TAYLOR stated that his primary purpose in making the telephone call was to insure that the FBI knew of the plans and contemplated action that might be taken against COLLIE LEROY WILKINS.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES G'. ERNMENT MemoranaumMr. Belmont DATE: October 22, 1965 1 - Mr. Belmont 1 - Mr. Rosen FROM 1 - Mr. Malley 1 - Mr. McGowan SUBJECT: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL. 1 - Mr. Hines VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL. - VICTIMS CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS Inspector McGovern advised that the state and the defense have rested their cases in the trial of Collie Leroy Wilkins for the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo. The closing arguments are being given to the jury and it is anticipated that the Judge will give the charge to the jury sometime today. REC 98 44- 21/01 **OBSERVATION** CONTINUED - OVER



# GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION 10/29/65

Gary Thomas Rowe is our informant who testified in the recent trial in Hayneville, Alabama, of Collie Leroy Wilkens in connection with the murder of Mrs. Liuzzo in Lowndes County, Alabama, on March 25, 1965. We will not under any circumstances make Rowe available for interview by any news media. The Department is being advised of the request made by the Canadian Broadcasting Company.

JV/H

Miller

ENCLOSURE

44 2xev1- 5-

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

FBI WASH DC

FBI MOBILE

4-40 PM CST URGENT 11-5-65 JEB

TO DIRECTOR (44-28601)

FROM MOBILE (44-1245) IP

Mr. Trocter Tele. Room. Miss Holmes Miss Gandy.

DeLuzch Carner

Tavel

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL. VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, AKA.; ET AL - VICTIMS. CR - EL.

REMYTEL INSTANT.

CONTACT WITH CLERK, CIRCUIT COURT, HAYNEVILLE, TODAY DEVELOPED THAT EVIDENCE INTRODUCED AT TRIAL OF COLLIE LEROY WILKINS IS PRESENTLY IN CUSTODY OF COURT REPORTER CHARLES HIGGINS, GREENVILLE. ALA. HIGGINS IS PRESENTLY IN STATE OF TEXAS AND NOT EXPECTED TO RETURN UNTIL NOVEMBER EIGHT. NEXT.

. MOBILE HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO CONTACT COURT REPORTER. OBTAIN EVIDENCE AND DELIVER SAME TO USM, MONTGOMERY, WHEN REPORTER RETURNS TO GREENVILLE. EX 109

END

FBI WASH DC

57 NOV 121965 Ce / fines

UNITED STATES GO: 'RNMENT Memorandum: Mr. Belmont DATE: October 20, 1965 1 - Mohr 1 - Mr. DeLoach : Al Rosen 1 - Mr. Callahan I - Mr. Conrad SUBJECT: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; - Mr. Belmont

> Inspector McGovern telephonically advised the Bureau today that the trial of Collie Leroy Wilkins for the murder of Mrs. Liuzzo had begun today in Hayneville, Alabama. Testimony is being taken from witnesses at this time.

l - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley 1 - Mr. McGowan 1 - Mr. Hines

VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS

CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

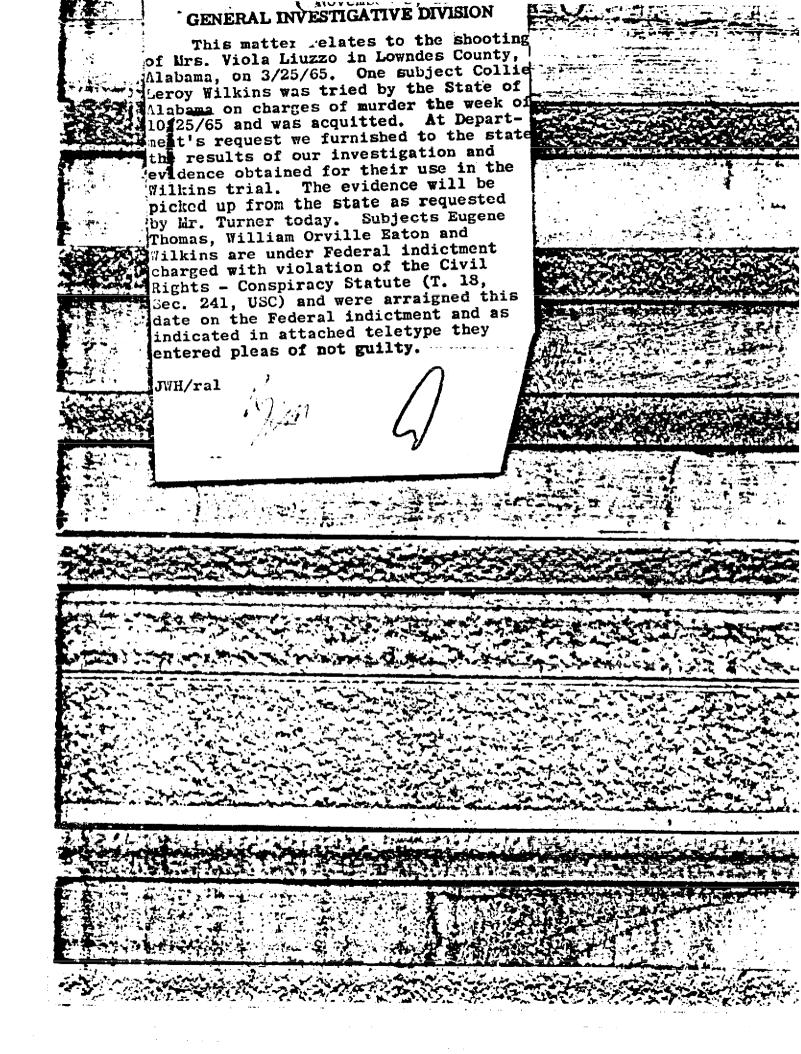
The prosecutor for the State has requested that Marion Williams who conducted examination for the FBI Laboratory for this case and Maurice Row of the Administrative Division who can testify as to the payments made to the informant (Gary Rowe) be available at the court house at Hayneville, Alabama, the first thing in the morning, Thursday, October 21, 1965. The trial is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. Central Standard Time and the prosecutor desires to confer with these men prior to that time.

#### ACTION: 2

FROM

The FBI Laboratory and the Administrative Division have been advised of the above information. Arrangements are being made for Messrs. Williams and Row to proceed to Hayeville, Alabam

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TALET VPE

FBI WASH DC

1:01 PM CST URGENT

11/5/65

TER

Tele. Room \_ Miss Holm.ce Miss Gandy

Mr. Tretur.

TO:

DIRECTOR (44-28601)

FROM: MOBILE (44-1245)

2 PAGES

2 Mar

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL. VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO AKA; ET AL - VICTIMS.

CIVIL PRINTS - ELECTION LAWS

CR - EL.

ON THIS DATE DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEY JAMES TURNER ADVISED
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL JOHN DOAR INSTRUCTED HIM TO REQUEST
FBI TO PICK UP THAT EVIDENCE WHICH STATE OF ALABAMA OBTAINED
FROM FBI AND ENTERED INTO EVIDENCE DURING TRIAL OF WILKINS IN
HAYNEVILLE, ALA. ATTORNEY STATED HE HAD CONTACTED JUDGE
WERTH THAGGARD WHO AGREED THAT THE EVIDENCE COULD BE PICKED
UP AND REQUESTED THAT ANY WRITTEN EVIDENCE BE REPRODUCED
AND REPRODUCTION LEFT IN HANDS OF CLERK OF COURT IN HAYNEVALLE.

TURNER REQUESTED EVIDENCE BE PICKED UP THIS DATE.

MACE REQUEST WILL BE COMPLIED WITH.

FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU, ENELECTS THOMAS, EATON AND.

WILKINS ACCOMPANIED BY ATTORNEY ART HANES WERE ARRAIGNED IN USE TO TO THE THIS DATE AND ENTERED PLEAS OF NOT GUILTY.

END PAGE ONE

Towns !

GM

PAGE TWO MO 44-1245

DATE OF TRIAL NOT SET, BUT BELIEVED TO BE NOVEMBER TWENTYTWO, NEXT. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED.

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FBI WASH DC

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Date: 11/10/65

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# Memorandum

Director

To Federal Bureau of Investigation

John Doar FROM: Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division

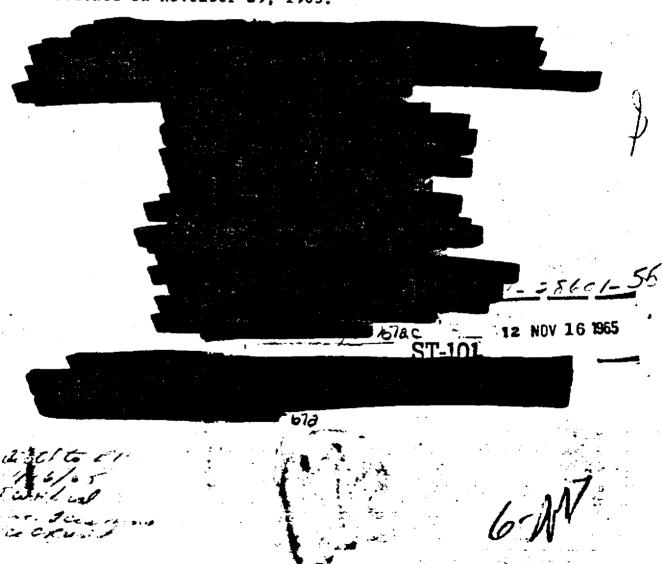
SUBJECT: Eugene Thomas; et al., Subjects; Viola Liuzzo, et al., Victims. CIVIL RIGHTS; ELECTION LAWS MAY 1 2 m/s

DATE: JD:JPT:db #144-2-470 DJ 1-085-2

milland:

10-

The trial of Subjects Eugene Thomas, W.O. Baton and Collie Leroy Wilkins for violation of 18 U.S.C. 241 has been set for the Tterm beginning November 22, 1965, at Montgomery, Alabama. It will probably be reached on November 29, 1965.



Airtel

1 - Mr. Hinės

To:

SAC, Birmingham,

Prom:

Director, FBI (44-28601) - 55/

PUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL VICTIMS CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

Enclosed herewith are two copies of a Department memorandum dated 11/13/65 requesting background information on possible defense witnesses. Also enclosed are two copies of Department memorandum dated 11/13/65 requesting investigation relating to some events not directly connected with the shooting of Mrs. Liuzzo. With regard to Department's request for background information on possible defense witnesses, you should obtain this information from a check of your files, a credit criminal check and a check with logical informants and confidential sources. Do not conduct any active investigation.

Birmingham will conduct the investigation concerning the events as set forth in Department's memorandum. Furnish necessary background information to Nobile for handling lead in item 4 at Selma. It will not be necessary to handle the lead set forth in Item 5.

Surep setting forth the results of your investigation no later than 11/23/65. Furnish copy to Mobile for Departmental Attorney James Turner who will be in Montgomery.

Enclosures (4)

-iOV15 1965

1 - Mobile (Enc. 2)

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FBI WESH DC

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FBI MOBILE

4-48 PM CST URGENT 11-9-65 JEB

TO DIRECTOR (44-28601)

FROM MCBILE (44-1245) IP

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS. CR, EL. DO MOBILE.

REMOTEL NOV. FIVE, LAST.

THE MOBILE OFFICE HAS SECURED THE EVIDENCE THAT WAS INTRODUCED IN THE TRIAL OF THIS CASE AT HAYNEVILLE. ALA.

DEPT. ATTORNEY TURNER HAS INDICATED HE MIGHT POSSIBLY DESIRE FURTHER EXAMINATION OF PORTIONS OF THE EVIDENCE BY THE LAB.

IN VIEW OF THE MEARNESS OF THE TRIAL, IT IS RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED THE BUREAU CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT TO DETERMINE THE RETENTION OF THE EVIDENCE IN MOBILE TERRITORY AND WHETHER FURTHER EXAMINATION IS DESIRAD.

END

A 40 orig - Mr. Rosen

FAI WASH DC

11/10/65 mFW:6

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KA, ET AL - VICTIMS. CR

FBI WASH DC

FBI 80-221-7333 CLG FBI CONF CALL HOLD LINE PLS

FBI MOBILE

54-48 PM CST URGENT 11-9-65 JEB

TO DIRECTOR (44-28601)

FROM MOBILE (44-1245) 1P

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS. CR, EL. DO MOBILE.

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EXAMINATION IS DESIRED.

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FBI WASH DC

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VICTIMS. CR.

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Date: 11/15/65

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TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI	(44-28601)			·
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UNITED STATES GOTERNMENT Memorandum1 - Mr. Conrad DATE: 11/15/65 1 - Office, Room 7133 FROM H. Jevons l - Mr. Williams EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL.; VIOLA GREGG SUBJECT: LIUZZO, AKA.; LEROY JEROME MOTON, VICTIMS; CR - EL This case concerns the murder of Mrs. Liuzzo, a civil rights worker, near Selma, Alabama, on the evening of 3/25/65. The Federal trial involving a conspiracy indictment has been set for 11/29/65, in Montgomery, Alabama. Da.c ACTION: For information. 44-28501 1 - Mr. Belmont 1 - Mr. Mohr l - Mr. DeLoach 1 - Mr. Rosen REC 20 /// MÈW:bsm NOV 18 1965 5 9 HOV 291985

Date: 11/16/65 Transmit the allowing in (Type in plaintext or code · AIRMAIL (Priority) TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601) SAC, MOBILE (44-1245)(P) FROM: RE: EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL; VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, aka; ET AL - VICTIMS CR - EL Re San Francisco airtel, 11/12/65, no copy to the Bureau or Birmingham. Referenced airtel requested the Mobile Office to forward to San Francisco Xerox or readable transcript of that portion of ROWE's testimony in the second WILKINS trial. ARTHUR GAMBLE, Circuit Solicitor, advised that Departmental Attorney and State officials had made requests for transcript of the retrial of WILKINS, however, it has not as yet been completed. GAMBLE advises that PAUL HIGGINS, Court Reporter, will be in Court at Hayneville for the remainder of the week and doubts whether the transcript will be completed this week.

GAMBLE advises t requesting an expedite cop	hat Departm y of ROWE's	nental At testimo	ttorney ha	as been
(3) - Bureau . 2 - Birmingham (44-1236) 2 - San Francisco (44-609)	REC 20	44.	2860	1-56
Z - Mobile  RC: gre	i saya	25	NOV 18 1965	
Approved:  Special About in Charge	Sent	М	Per	

Considering economy, it is suggested that the Burgau may wish to maintain contact with Departmental Attorney TURNER to make available a copy of ROWE's testimony or the transcript of record as he receives it.

Close liaison has been maintained with U.S. Attorney BEN HARDEMAN, Montgomery, Ala. He advises that the Federal charges against the subjects will be handled by Departmental Attorneys. The next session of Court begins 11/22/65, however, he confidentially advises that according to the Department instant matter will be heard 11/29/65. He does not desire this information to be given any publication.

Mobile will keep the Bureau and interested offices advised.

MORTLE	MOBILE	11/16/65	10/14-11/16/6	
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### UNI D STATES DEPARTMENT OF J. FICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

1 - United States Attorney, Montgomery, Alabama

Report of:

SA MOBILE

Date:

November 16, 1965

Field Office File #:

44-1245

Bureau File 4. 44-28601

Title:

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL;

VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO; ET AL - VICTIMS

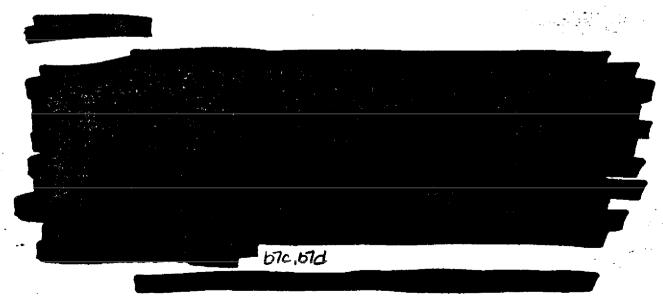
Character:

CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

Synopsis:

Retrial of subject WILKINS was held at Hayneville, Ala., on 10/18-22/65, resulting in not guilty verdict on the State murder charges. All subjects arraigned in USDC, Montgomery, Ala., on Federal charge and entered pleas of not guilty. Next session of Court begins 11/22/65. Dc. 51d





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

Retrial of subject COLLIE LEROY WILKINS was held at Hayneville, Alabama, October 18 to 22, 1965, the Jury returning a verdict of not guilty.

Subjects THOMAS, EATON and WILKINS, accompanied by their attorney ARTHUR HANES, were arrianged in United States District Court, Montgomery, Alabama, November 5, 1965, and entered pleas of not guilty.

District Court, Montgomery, Alabama, advised there was no date of trial set but the next session of Court would begin November 22, 1965.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION U. 1. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMMUNICATIONS SECTION NOV 18 1965

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

11/13/19

FBI MOBILE

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Mr. Hollivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Tele. Room
Miss Polinea
Miss Gaudy

Mr. Be'mor!

Mc. Callaban

Mr. Fe

Mr. Mohr ..

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537 PM CST URGENT -11/18/65

VFP

TO DIRECTOR

FROM MOBILE /44-1245/

EUGENE THOMAS ET AL; VILA LIUZZO, ET AL-VICTIMS, CR.

AT HEARING THIS DATE IN USDC ON MOTIONS FILED EARLIER
THIS WEEK BY ART HANES TO DISMISS THE INDICTMENT AGAINST
SUBJECTS AND FOR A BILL OF PARTICULARS FROM GOVERNMENT.

JUDGE FRANK M. JOHNSON JR, STRONGLY INDICATED HE WOULD
DENY THE MOTION TO DISMISS AND HINTED WOULD DENY MOTION FOR
BILL OF PARTICULARS ALTHOUGH STATED WOULD GIVE FORMAL
JUDGMENT NEXT DATE.

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BUREAU WILL BE ADIVSED. MCT

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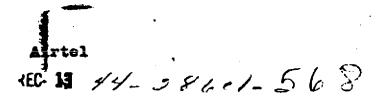
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FROM:	SAC, MOBILE (44-1245)(P)	7/1
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RE:	EUGENE THOMAS;	
	ET AL;	1/2 1/11/1
i	VIOLA LIUZZO, aka;	JU . W.
	ET AL - VICTIMS	× . ' '
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l - Mr. Hin**q**s

To:

BACs, Birmingham (44-1236) (Enc. 2) Mobile (44-1245) (Enc. 2)

From:

Director, FBI

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS CIVIL RIGHTS

ReBuairtel 11/17/65.

Enclosed herewith for Birmingham and Mobile are two copies of a self-explanatory memorandum from the Department dated 11/20/65 requesting certain additional investigation in connection with the upcoming trial in this matter.

Birmingham conduct the investigation as set forth in Items 1, 2 and 4. Mobile will handle Item 3. Sureps no later than 11/27/65. Furnish appropriate copies to Departmental Attorney James Turner who is in Montgomery preparing for the trial.

JWH/ral (6)

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l - Mr. Hines

To:

SAC, Mobile (44-1245)

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Director, FB13 (44-28601) - 569

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL - VICTIMS CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

ReBuairtel 11/22/65.

Enclosed herewith for Mobile are two copies of a memorandum from the Department dated 11/19/65 requesting that we furnish certain information concerning logical routes to Birmingham as reportedly traveled by subjects. A copy is also enclosed to Birmingham for information.

Mobile handle and surep no later than 11/27/65. Results may be included in the report of investigation forwarded to you by Bureau airtel dated 11/22/65. Furnish copy to Departmental Attorney, Montgomery, Alabama.

Enclosures (2)

1 - Birmingham (44-1236) (Enc.) (for info)

JWH/ral (5)

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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535 EUGENE TE MAS; ET AL.; VIOLA DATE: 11/24/65 LIUZZO, aka; ET AL. - VICTIMS CR - EL TO: Federal Bureau of Investigation Room 301D, Federal Building 44-28601 Montgomery, Alabama Attention: Special Agent FBI Laboratory M 31/2/6 Invoice of Contents Crypt.-Tran Evidence specimens Document Electropies AIR EXPRESS Special Instructions:
Mail Room: Show shipment date and registry number. FBI File No. 44-28601 Shipping Room: Show shipment dute; bill of lading number; initial invoice; return to Section checked in block; after initialing'in block, invoice to be placed in administrative file.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVEST ATION

CUMMUNICATIONS SECTION Mr. Tolson FBI WASH DC Mr. Belmont NOV 231965 TELETYPE Mr. Callahan MOBILE Mr. Conrad 5:37 PM CSI URGENT 11/23/65 TEB #DIRECTOR (44-28601) FROM: MOBILE (44-1245) Tele. Room 1 PAGE Miss Holmes Miss Gandy.

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL: VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, ET AL - VICTIMS CR - EL.

ON THIS DATE AAG JOHN DOAR, AND DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEY

JAMES TURNER ADVISED SA

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, DIC

THAT ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER TWENTYNINE, NEXT, WHEN THEY

RECEIVE JURY LIST FOR TRIAL IN THIS MATTER, THEY WILL WANT AN

IMMEDIATE CHECK MADE OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE JURY. DOAR INDICATED

THAT A MERE INDICES CHECK WILL NO SUFFICE AND SUGGESTED THAT

AGENTS BE STANDING BY IN MONTGOMERY AND IN OTHER RESIDENT

AGENCIES IN THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA TO DO IMMEDIATE

BACKGROUND CHECKS ON ALL MEMBERS, STATING ONLY APPROXIMATELY

THREE HOURS WILL BE ALLOWED FOR THIS CHECK AND REPORTING SAME.

THE ABOVE IS FOR INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU AND BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED WHEN SUCH REQUEST IS ACTUALLY RECEIVED.

END

FBI WALH DC TO ALLE COLOTTU DIC

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FORRECTION

REC. 24 / 4 - 2 / 6 / 965

TO DIC

REC. 24 / 4 - 2 / 6 / 965

#### PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

IRCENT.

TO SAC, MOBILE (44-1245)
FROM DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601) 5 7 3

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; SVIOLA LIUZZO, AKA, ET AL DASH VICTIMS; CIVIL RIGHTS: ELECTION LAWS.

REURTEL NOVEMBER TWENTY THREE LAST. BY REFERENCED TELETYPE
YOU ADVISED THAT AAG JOHN DOAR WILL DESIRE AN IMMEDIATE CHECK BE
MADE OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE JURY ON THE JURY LIST FOR TRIAL IN
THIS MATTER WHEN IT IS RECEIVED AND THAT A MERE INDICES CHECK WILL
NOT SUFFICE. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, THIS MATTER WAS TAKEN UP WITH
MR. DOAR AT THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT NOVEMBER TWENTY FOUR INSTANT
AND DOAR ADVISED THAT DEPARTMENT DID NOT DESIRE ANY CHECK OF THE
JURY LIST BEYOND A CHECK OF YOUR INDICES, CREDIT AND CRIMINAL CHECK
AND A CHECK WITH LOGICAL CONFIDENTIAL SOURCES AND INFORMANTS OF
YOUR OFFICE. UPON RECEIPT OF DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST BOR A CHECK OF
THE JURY LIST FROM MR. DOAR OR MR. TURNER WHO WILL BE IN
MONTGOMERY AT THE TRIAL YOU WILL INSURE THAT NECESSARY PERSONNEL
ARE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO CONDUCT THE CHECK AS ABOVE LIMITED.
YOU MAY FURNISH RESULTS ORALLY TO DOAR OR TURNER AND CONFIRM BY

TELETYPE TO SAC MOBILE
RE: EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL;

REPORT. DO NOT FURNISH ANY AGENTS UNOTES OR ROUGH DRAFT THREE ZERO TWO'S OR ANY OTHER WRITTEN RESULTS OF YOUR CHECKS WHICH ARE NOT IN TYPED AND APPROVED FINAL FORM.

#### NOTE:

Mobile advised that AAG Doar and Department Attorney Turner on 11/23/65 stated that on the morning of 11/29/65 when they received the jury list that they will want an immediate check made of jury members on the list. Mobile said Doar indicated a mere indices check would not suffice and that there would only be approximately 3 hour's time within which to conduct the checks before the jury will be selected for the list. This matter was discussed with Mr. Doar in Washington, D. C., on 11/24/65. Mr. Doar stated that he had not wished to indicates that he deisred any actual investigation into the background of the members of the jury list and that a check of our field office indices, a credit and criminal check and a check with confidential sources and informants who could possibly be in a position to be acquainted with any jury members would be sufficient. This does not constitute a jury panel investigation and we conducted a similar check of the state jury panels in the twostate trials of " Collie Leroy Wilkins.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
NOV 24 1965

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		Date: 11/24/65	
Transm	nit the following in	n	
		(Type in plaintext or code)	
Via	ARTEL	- AIRMAIL	
		(Priority)	
	TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601)	
	FROM:	SAC, MOBILE (44-1245)(P)	• •
	RE:	EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL VIOLA LIUZZO, aka; ET AL - VICTIMS CR - EL	
	request.	ReBUairtel, 11/22/65, with attached De	partmental
	Montgomer	As indicated, the birth certificate is directly to the Departmental Attorney by, Ala. U.S. Attorney, Montgomery, fur letterhead memorandum.	at ,
	6)- Burea 2 - Mobil JRC:gre (5)	u (Encs 4) FNCLOSURF	
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Special Agent in Charge



In Reply, Please Refer to File No. UN D STATES DEPARTMENT OF TICE

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Mobile, Alabama November 24, 1965

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL VICTIMS

Reference is made to Departmental request of November 20, 1965, and particularly Paragraph 3 thereof in reference to the certification of the birth of Viola Liuzzo.

Being forwarded herewith to the Departmental Attorney at Montgomery, Alabama, is the requested certification of birth.

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

ENCLOSURE 44-28601-575

PEDERAL BUREAU OF UNITSTICATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CONMINUNICATIONS SECTION ir. Talean ir. Belmant Mr. Mohr\_ NOV 231965 Mr. DeLonch Mr. Casper. TELETYPE Mr. Callahan FBI MOBILE Mr. Gale Mr. Rosen #\57 PM CST **URGENT** 11/23/65 LLO Mr. Bullivan Mr. Tavel /OT DIRECTOR. ATLANTA. BIRMINGHAM, KANSAS CITY. NEW Mr. Trotter Tele. Room Miss Holmes ORLEANS, NEW YORK, SAVANNAH, AND ST. LOUIS. Miss Gandy\_ NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON FROM MOBILE \44-1245\ 3P EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, ET AL - VICTIMS. CR. EL. DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEY JAMES TURNER ADVISED THIS DATE HE DESIRES FOLLOWING AGENTS REPORT TO U. S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. MONTGOMERY, ALA., ELEVEN A.M., CST, NOVEMBER TWENTYEIGHT, NEXT, FOR CONFERENCES IN CONNECTION WITH THEAL OF THIS CASE. WHICH STARTS IN USDC. MONTGOMERY. NOVEMBER TWENT ATLANTA KANSAS CITY NEW ORLEANS NOV 26 1965 AND MOBILE. 6/C\_ TURNER STATED WILL BE IN FIRMINGHAM TEN A.M., NOVEMBER TWENTYFOUR, NEXT, AND DESIRES TO MEET AT BIRMINGHAM OFFICE WITH AS MANY OF FOLLOWING AGENTS AS ARE AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS INSTANT CASE, AFTER WHICH WILL SELECT THOSE AGENTS WHOM HE DESIRES TO REPORT TO MONTGOMERY, ELEVEN A.M., NOVEMBER RELAYED 10

PAGE THO

TWENTYEIGHT, FOR ADDITIONAL CONFERENCES

INSPECTOR MC GOVERN. SANS

bic

TURNER ADVISED DESIRES FOLLOWING PERSONS BE AVAILABLE AT AREAS OF ASSIGNMENT FROM NOVEMBER TWENTYNINE, NEXT, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE FOR POSSIBLE SUBPOENAS, ALTHOUGH DOES NOT DESIRE THEIR PRESENCE UNLESS ADVISEDS

AND BOTH OF ATLANTA. De

TURNER DESIRES FOLLOWING AGENTS BE AVAILABLE AT THEIR

USUAL AREAS OF ASSIGNMENT FROM NOVEMBER THIRTY, NEXT UNTIL

FURTHER NOTICE SO THEY CAN BE CALLED FOR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

IF NEEDED

NEW YORK CITY

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BIRMINGHAM

AND

BOTH

OF MOBILE. 676-

UACB EACH OFFICE WILL INSURE ABOVE DEPARTMENTAL REQUEST COMPLIED WITH.

END PAGE TWO

### PAGE THREE

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OFFICES OF ASSIGNMENT OF ABOVE AGENTS COMPILED FROM DATA
AVAILABLE MOBILE AND BIRMINGHAM OFFICES. IF AGENT ASSIGNED
AT OFFICE OTHER THAN INDICATED, PLEASE FORWARD REQUEST TO
OFFICE OF ASSIGNMENT.

ALL OTHER OFFICES ADVISED SEPARATELY
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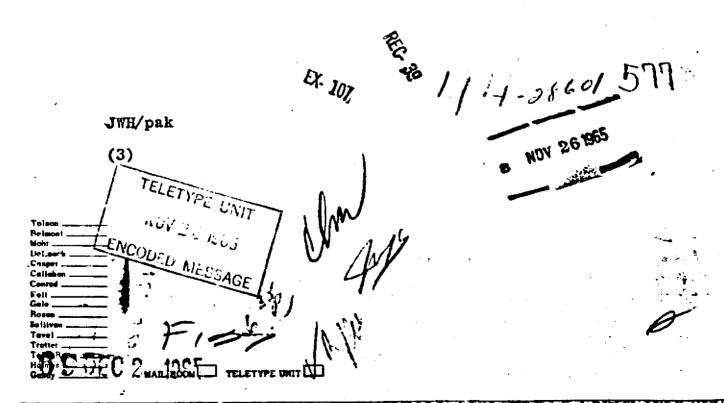
TO SAC NEW YORK

1 - Mr. Hines

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA GREGG LIUZZO, ET AL - VICTIMS, CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS.

THE FEDERAL CIVIL RIGHTS TRIAL IN THIS MATTER IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE BLEVEN TWENTY-NINE, SIXTYFIVE, IN U. S. DISTRICT COURT, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA. DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEY JAMES TURNER WHO IS IN MOBILE PREPARING FOR THE TRIAL HAS REQUESTED THAT SA NOW ASSIGNED TO YOUR OFFICE REPORT TO THE USA'S OFFICE AT MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, AT ELEVEN A.M., CST, ELEVEN TWENTY-EIGHT, SIXTYFIVE, FOR CONFERENCES IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRIAL. INSTRUCT SA TO REPORT AS REQUESTED.



Date: 11/24/65

4 1 (1115)	nit the following	(Type in plaintext or code)	
Via	AIRTEL	AIR MAIL (Priority)	
	TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-28601)	
	FROM:	SAC, MOBILE (44-1245)(P)	·
-	RE:	EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL;	
	i	VIOLA LIUZZO, Aka; ET AL - VICTIMS CR - EL	
•		(OO: MOBILE)	Carrier of the Spiriter States and the Spiriter of the Spirite
1		P. D. J.	
		ReBuairtel dated 11/22/65.	
	letterhe	Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are 4 c ad memorandum reflecting investigation con	
•	requeste 11/19/65	d by the Department Of Justice memorandum	dated
-		Copies of this letterhead memorandum are e to the U.S. Attorney and Departmental Acomery, Ala.	
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In Reply, Plance Refer to File No.

## U ED STATES DEPARTMENT O. STICE

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Mobile, Alabama November 24, 1965

EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO; ET AL - VICTIMS

Set forth below are results of investigation conducted to determine routes between Selma and Birmingham, Alabama:

44. 28607-582 ENCLOSUET

Dot- Movember 24, 1965

Observation of official Alabama State Highway Map reflects that the following are the routes from Selma, Alabama to Birmingham and Bessemer, Alabama:

The most direct route is United States Highway 80 from Selma, Alabama to State Highway 14, State Highway 14 to State Highway 219, State Highway 219 to State Highway 5, State Highway 5 to United States Highway 11, and United States Highway 11 to Bessever, Alabama.

Another route is State Highway 22 from Selma to Maplesville, Alabama and State Highway 191, State Highway 191 to United States Highway 31, United States Highway 31 to Birmingham, Alabama, or to State Highway 150, which cuts off to Bessever, south of Birmingham, Alabama.

Another route is State Highway 22 to Maplesville, Alabama and State Highway 139, State Highway 139 to State Highway 25, State Highway 25 to Montevallo, Alabama and State Highway 119, State Highway 119 to United States Highway 31, and United States Highway 31 to Birmingham, Alabama, or to State Highway 150, as stated above.

A map with a legend reflecting any road repairs, automobile accidents, landmarks, and bridges will be made available directly to the Departmental Attorney in Montgomery, Alabama.

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On 11/24/65 of	Selma, Alabama	File#_ <b>HO_24</b> _	1245
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by This document contains neither	recommendations ner conclusions of the FB	Date dictated  It is the property of the FBI of	and to bound to your agenty;

If and its contents are not to be distributed autoids your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 24, 1965

Bureau Of Construction, State Highway Department, Montgomery, Alabama, advised that on March 25, 1965 there was no construction jobs under construction from his office in the following counties: Dallas, Autauga, Perry, Chilton, Bibb, Shelby, and Jefferson. All routes from Selma to Birmingham, Alabama or Bessemer, Alabama would pass through these counties.

File# MO 44-1245 Montgomery, Alabama \_Date dictated \_\_11/24/65 1.1es This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the It and its contents are not to be distributed outside your egency.

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 24, 1965

Bureau Of Engineers, State Highway Department, Montgomery, Alabama, advised that in travel from Selma to Bessemer, Alabama by United States Highway 80 to State Highway 14, State Highway 14 to State Highway 219, State Highway 219 to State Highway 25, and thence to United States Highway 11 the only bridge of major size is the bridge over the Cahaba River in Centerville, Alabama.

In travel from Selma, Alabama via State Highway 22 to Maplesville, Alabama, then State Highway 191 to United States Highway 31, and thence to Birmingham, Alabama the only major bridge would be that at the Jefferson County-Shelby County Line over the Cahaba River.

In travel from Selma, Alabama via State Highway 22, State Highway 139, State Highway 25, and State Highway 119 to United States Highway 31, and thence to Birmingham or Bessemer, Alabama the only major bridge would be that over the Cahaba River at the Jefferson County - Shelby County Line.

On 11/24/65 of Montgomery, Alabama File # MO 44-1245

Thy SA Doie dictated 11/24/65

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

Dote November 24, 1965

Alabama Department Of Public Safety, Montgomery, Alabama, advised that a check of accident reports for March 25, 1965 reflected that between 6:20 P.M. and 10:30 P.M. there were no accidents on the following highways in the following counties:

> United States Highway 80, State Highway 14, State Highway 219, State Highway 5, United States Highway 11, State Highway 22, State
> Highway 191, United States Highway 31, State
> Highway 139, State Highway 25, State Highway 119,
> State Highway 150, in Dallas, Autauga, Perry,
> Bibb, Jefferson, Chilton, and Shelby Counties, Alabama.

On	11	/24/65 at	Montgomery,	Alabam	a	File#	MO	44-1245	- Size
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EUGENE THOMAS; ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO; ET AL - VICTIMS

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office	CHICAGO	Office of Origin MOBILE	11/24/65	Investigative Period 11/23/65	•
TITLE OF CASE	<del>-                                    </del>	<u> </u>	Report made by		Typed By
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	Etal; VIOLA LIU	ZZO. aka	CHARACTER OF CA	SE	
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Milwaukee, and Mobile,

Additionally all interviewed noted a "ABC News car" variously described as a white Ford or Chevrolet, parked near the police car. Also several were of opinion an additional private vehicle was stopped at that location when they pulled up, and were of opinion another vehicle was stopped behind them. This information was also set out in referenced Chicago teletype for consideration of Mobile Office, as additional leads assuming the Alabama State Trooper may have also ticketed these vehicles.

- B\* -COVER PAGE FD-204 (Hev. 3-3-59)

### UNI D STATES DEPARTMENT OF JULIE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

1 - USA JAMES TURNER MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Report of: Date: SA 11/24/65 b/c

Office:

CHICAGO

Field Office File #: 44-773

Bureau File #: 44-28601

Title:

EUGENE THOMAS.

Etal;

VIOLA LIUZZO - VICTIMS

Character:

CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

Synopsis:

Volkswagen microbus, are residents of threago, Illinois, advised 11/23/65, that they recall being stopped for speeding on the Montgomery, Albama to Selma, Alabama Highway while en route to Selma on evening of 3/25/65, by Alabama State Trooper

Estimate time as between 8:30 AM - 9:30 PM. None noted identities or descriptions of passing vehicles going either direction. Noted "ABC News car" parked near police car as well as an additional unidentified vehicle believed stopped by police prior to their arrival. Several believed additional vehicle following theirs was stopped under similar circumstances.

- RUC -

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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Dole 11/24/65

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microbus.

He is the Owner of 1961 Volkswagen

advised that he was in the company of a group of people from Chicago who went to Selma, Alabama, in March, 1965, to join in the Selma to Montgomery—march by civil rights advocates. The group was made up primarily of students and associates who frequent the Campus Christian Association which is next to the Illinois State Teachers College. His 1961 Volkswagen was used as the transportation.

Montgomery, Alabama, on March 25, 1965, with some of the group referred to above, in his Volkswagen en route to Selma, Alabama. He recalls they drove on the main highway from Montgomery to Selma, were heading west and believed departed Montgomery at approximately 8:00 PM.

The group consisted in addition to himself, of

After driving approximately 25 miles, they were flagged down by an Alabama State Trooper holding a flashlight and subsequently pulled over on the gravel shoulder. Both he

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CG 44-773

and got out of the vehicle at which time they were advised by the trooper that they had passed a radar car and were noted as speeding. was given a ticket although he, the signed the ticket as owner of the vehicle.

He would estimate the time at about 8:30 p.m., and that they were only stopped for "a few minutes". He did not notice the identities of any passing vehicles but does seem to recall there was some traffic on the road. He does recall an "ABC News car", possibly a white Chevrolet parked next to the police car but did not notice a driver. He thought there was another vehicle stopped there prior to their arrival but also the make and model are unknown. He seems to recall that another vehicle following them was stopped probably after running through the radar but also did not notice the make and model. He stated that several in the bus were of the opinion that this was a road block and did not realize it was a traffic radar set up.

to by him are estimated, however, he does recall leaving St. Judes Roman Catholic Church in Montgomery about 8:00 p.m. that evening and noted from the ticket received, they were eleven miles from Selma, b/c.

advised he can furnish no additional information. He stated he would be willing to testify in court to this information and would furnish signed statement at a latter date, if necessary.

Dale 11/24/65

the latter part of March, 1965, for the civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery. He went to that area from Chicago with a group of people who frequent and are associated with the Campus Christian Association at 6720 South Stewart Avenue, Chicago, which group was primarily made up of students.

He recalls that on March 25, 1965, he was in the

company all of Chicago, as well in Montgomery, AS The group departed Montgomery at approximately Alabama. 8:00 p.m. on March 25, 1965, if Volkswagen for the trip to Selma. tired and as a result he, did the driving. After approximately 20 or 25 miles while; heading towards Selma along Highway 80, they passed an Alabama State Patrol radar car and were subsequently flagged down by an officer with a flashlight standing near the highway. After stopping the vehicle on the shoulder, both he and got out and discussed the matter with the officer. told he had been exceeding the speed limit by at least five miles per hour and was issued a ticket. Following this they continued their trip to Selma. tated that he believe may have been exceeding the limit about five miles per tated that he believes

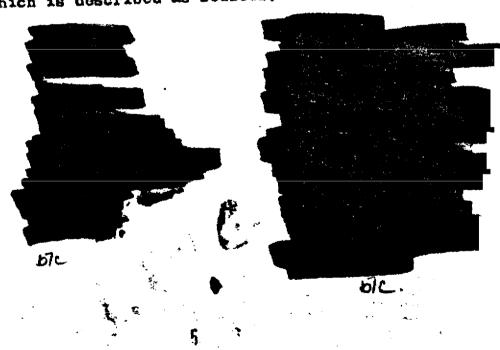
hour but certainly no more than that.

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they were stopped as between 8:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on March 25, 1965. He did not take any special notice of any passing vehicles and cannot identify any such vehicle by description, make, or model. He is sure that some traffic passed or at least assumes that some passed at that time as there were certainly other automobiles on the road.

He recalls a News car, believed to be from ABC News, parked near the State Trooper's car although did not notice any driver. He also observed another vehicle parked which probably was stopped for a similar violation. This vehicle, make and model unknown, left before they did. He is also of the opinion that a vehicle following theirs was subsequently stopped, also make and model not noted. In view of this, he was of the opinion at first it was a State Police road block and that they were stopping all traffic to Selma; however, when advised of the speeding charge, he realized it was a radar installation.

blc stated he has a copy of the ticket issue him which is described as follows:



CG 44-773

advised he could furnish no additional information and did not care to furnish a statement, however, would testify to the above information.

Data	11	/24/	65

214

during Earch of 1965 for the civil rights march from Selma, Almbama, to Montgomery, Almbama. She recalls being in Montgomery on March 25, 1965, as that is the date they departed Montgomery for Solma and subsequently began their return to Chicago. She continued she orginally left Chicago with a group representing the Campus Christian Association, a student group affiliated with an Episcopal Church at 6720 South Stewart Avenue, Chicago, which is near the Illinois Teachers College. She cannot recall the entire group nor who was riding with whom on each and every occasion as automobiles were at a premium and transportation was scarce. She believes that on the trip from Montgomery to Selma she was in the company of

that is as to whother he actually made this trip but does recall him being in the crowd from time to time. He

St. Judes Roman Catholic Mission near Hontgomery at about 8:00 p.m. that date. She would estimate that sometime between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. their car was stopped by an Alabama Police officer. She did not get out of the car but did look out the window and observed the driver getting a ticket. She also noticed a police car and at least one other car parked near it. She did not note the description of this other car. She believes there was traffic on the highway going the opposite direction but

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CG 44-773

in view of the darkness, did not notice any makes or models. She had no reason to take any undue notice of any passing vehicles.

After approximately 10 minutes they again were on their way and went to Selma. Several hours later they heard rumors that a woman had been killed somewhere on the highway. She estimates they departed Selma for Chicago at about 11:30 p.m. March 25, 1965.

information.

11/24/65 Date bic advised that she was in Alabama 67c during the latter part of March, 1965, and participated in the civil rights march from Selma, Alabama, to Montgomery, Alabama. She left Chicago with a group from the Campus Christian Association (CCA), 6720 South Stewart Avenue, Chicago, primarily students, all of whom participated in the march. On March 25, 1965, she, along with about six others of their group, departed Montgomery, Alabama, for Selma. Alabama, in a Volkswagen bus owned by was driving. Iney were at St. Judes Mission hear Montgomery on that evening and would estimate they departed at 8:00 p.m. for their trip to Selma. To the best of memory she believes that besides and herself, the occupants of the vehicle included She recalls that after approximately a half hour drive their vehicle was stonged by the Alabama Highway The driver, was subsequently ticketed for speeding. She believes only and Reverend got out of the car. b7c

On 11/23/65 at	Chicago, Illinois		File# CG 44-773	
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stated that it was dark and that she did note some automobiles passed; however, they were only "headlights" to her. She did observe a "News car" parked near the police car and assumed the driver had been stopped by the police. She also believes another car, which had been following them, was also stopped but cannot be sure. She stated the rear of the Volkswagen bus had no seats and those in the rear, which were at least four, sat on the floor which restricted their vision.

no additional information on this matter. 57c

### EDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIO.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVLSTIGATION

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### D STATES DEPARTMENT OF J. FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Departmental Attorney JAMES TURNER. ontgomery, Alabama

Report of:

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Milwaukee

Date:

November 24, 1965

Field Office File #:

MI 44-249

Title:

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL: VIOLA LIUZZO, ET AL - VICTIMS

CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

Synopsis

occupant of 1961 Volkswagen bus detained on State Highway 80, near Selma, Alabama on night of 3/25/65, stated he observed no passing vehicles on highway during the time Volkswagen was stopped for speeding violation.

– RUC –

DETAILS:

AT WAUSAU, WISCONSIN On November 24, 1965

the hight of march 25, 1965, he was an occupant of a 1961 Volkswagen bus, owned by one been stopped for speeding by local authorities on State Highway 80, east of Selma, Alabama. The bus, after being stopped, was later released with the driver having been issued a warning ticket on the speeding charge.

advised he saw no cars passing on the highway during the time the Volkswagen bus was stopped, as this vehicle, as well as several others, after being stopped were directed into a roadside parking area. The Volkswagen, in which was a front seat occupant, was parked facing

away from the highway at a 90 degree angle. stated that as he had stayed in the bus the entire time it was detained, he was in no position to see any passing fraffic on the highway and saw none during the entire time the vehicle was retained.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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FD-323 (Rev. 11-29-61)



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

## UN1\_ED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ; STICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Birmingham, Alabama November 22, 1965

Title

EUGENE THOMAS, ET AL; VIOLA LIUZZO; ET AL - VICTIMS

Character

CIVIL RIGHTS - ELECTION LAWS

Reference

Report of SA dated 11/22/65 at Birmingham, Alabama.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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# FEDERA BUREAU OF INV STIGATION

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### APPENDIX

### UNITED KLANS OF AMERICA, INC., KNJGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN

Records of Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia, reflect that this Klan organization was granted a corporate charter on February 21, 1961, at Atlanta, Georgia, under the name United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc.

A source advised on February 27, 1961, that United Klans was formed as a result of a split in U.S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc. According to the source, the split resulted from a leadership dispute and United Klans has the same aims and objectives as the parent group. These are the promotion of Americanism, white supremacy, and segregation of the races.

The first source and a second source advised in July, 1961, that United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc., merged with Alabama Knights, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. The merged organization established headquarters in Suite 401, the Alston Building, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. (The organization is directed by Robert Shelton, Imperial Wizard, and is the dominant Klan group in the South, with units in several Southern states.)

Second source advised that at a meeting at Prattville, Alabama, on October 22, 1961, the U. S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, merged with the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

Third source advised on August 4, 1965, that the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, is currently an active organization, with Klaverns in several Southern states. This source said that Robert M. Shelton is the Imperial Wizard of this organization, and was last elected to this position on September 5, 1964, at a National Klonvocation in Birmingham, Alabama. Source said that the activity of the UKA is increasing and that the national office remains in Suite 401, Alston Building, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

### APPENDIX

BH 44-1236

### RE: WILLIAM ORVILLE EATON

On November 24, 1965, ANTHONY TRIOLA, Deputy
Clerk, U. S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama,
Birmingham, Alabama, prepared one copy of the entire file
captioned "Record of Proceedings, U. S. District Court for
the Northern District of Alabama, Southern Division; RE:
WILLIAM O. EATON - Debtor in Bankruptcy; dated February 12,
1965, Case No. X-38,305. This single copy of the Record
of Proceedings was personally furnished on the same date
at Birmingham, Alabama, to JAMES TURNER, Attorney, Civil
Rights Division, U. S. Department of Justice.