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Correspondence, John C. Stennis, Robert V. Murray, William A. Elliott, Everett L. Cooper, Thomas I. Herlihy, John L. Sullivan, March 19-22, 1963

District of Columbia. Police Dept.

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GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT





March 22, 1963

Honorable John Stennis, United States Senate, Room 5213, New Senate Office Building, Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Stennis:

This will acknowledge your letter of March 20th, relative to the group of demonstrators in front of your home on March 18th.

Your attention is invited to the attached reports in connection with this matter. If we are able to be of further service, do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Robert V. Murray Chief of Police

RVM:g

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

March 19, 1963

TO:

Captain Thomas I. Herlihy Special Investigation Squad

SUBJECT:

Picketing of Senator Stennis' Home, 3609 Cumberland St., N.W., on March 18, 1963, by the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee.

About 3:15 p.m., Monday, March 18, 1963, about 30 persons, representatives of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, prepared to leave the Senate Office Building where an attempt to meet with Senators Stennis and Eastland of Mississippi had failed.

Stanley Leroy Wise, a dental student at Howard University living in Cook Hall, 601 Fairmont Street, N.W., phone DU 7-6100, was chairman of the Committee. According to Wise, this group protests the shooting of James Travis, Mississippi Negro, who was wounded while rounding up potential Negro voters. Wise informed us that he and his group would begin picketing at the homes of Senator Eastland, 5116 Macomb Street, N.W., and Senator Stennis, 3609 Cumberland Street, N.W., after they went to the Our Redeemer Lutheran Church at 2 Rhode Island Avenue, N.E. to get more placards.

The group of 27 persons arrived at 36th & Cumberland Streets, N.W. about 6:00 p.m. and alighted from the following vehicles: A Rambler wagon, Md. tags AC 3449; a Valiant, West Virginia tags 394872, and a truck with "Flamingo Fast Movers" printed on both sides, D.C. tags CB 6686. They picketed in front of 3609 Cumberland Street, N.W., the home of Senator Stennis. Wise was assisted by Neale Sheahan, 14 - 3rd Street, S.E., who is also a member of C O R E.

At one point Messrs. Wise and Sheahan made an attempt to enter 3609 to confer with the Senator, who refused to see them at his home. The message was relayed to them by Lt. Glassman.

The pickets disbanded at 6:55 p.m., March 18, 1963.

Mr. Wise said he had no immediate plans for the future and promised to call this office when a plan was decided upon.

The following signs were carried by members in the line:

God Bless America and Mississippi Too.
Mississippi - We Dare You.
State Officials Stopped Federal Food in Mississippi.
America 1963 - Mississippi 1863.
Foreign Aid to Mississippi.
Jim Travis victim of fear, ignorance and Mississippi Tyranny.

It. Glassman, Sgt. Chapoutot and several privates from No. 8 Precinct were on the scene. Inspector Wright arrived later.

After learning that Senator Eastland was out of the City, no effort was made to picket his home.

Det. Sgt. William A. Elliott

Det. Everett L. Cooper

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Eighth Precinct

March 19th, 1963

To: Through: The Chief of Police
The Executive Officer

Attention:

Supervising Inspector Second District

Subject:

Demonstration of pickets who call themselves The Non-Violent Action Group at the home of Senator John Stennis of the state of Mississippi at 3609 Cumberland Street, N.W. at about 6:15 p.m., March 19th, 1963who were protesting the policy of the state of Mississippi concerning the voting of Negroes.

About 6:15 p.m. date a group of twenty seven (27) pickets arrived by private auto's to the home of Senator John Stennis located at 3609 Cumberland Street, N.W. led by Stanley Leroy Wise, Negor, male, 21 years of 601 Fairmont Street, N.W. who was the spokesman for the group who call themselves the Non - Violent Action Group. Stanley Leroy Wise is a student at Howard University and conducted this group in a orderly manner. This group carried placards which read as follows:

- 1. God Bless America and Mississippi too.
- 2. Mississippi we dare you.
- 3. State ifficials stepped Federal food in Mississippi.
- 4. America 1963 Mississippi 1863.
- 5. Foreign aid to Mississippi.
- 6. Jim Travis, victim of fear, ignorance and Miss Tyranny.
- 7. Mississippi is a morally depressed area.
- 8. America land of the free- Jim Travis shot in Greenville.
- 9. We are protesting the shooting of Jim Travis.
- 10. Man shall not live by bread alone.
- 11. Help free Mississippi negroes from tyranny.
- 12. N.A.G .- Non-Violent Action Group.
- 13. The right to vote is a fundemental American right.
- 14. Jim Travis shot- F B I watched.
- 15. Negro vote in Mississippi is suicide.
- 16. Federal government where are you ? Mississippi refightd the Civil war.

During this demonstration this group were advised of the orderly and lawful way that they could picket, and departed the area at 6:55 p.m. without any incident. They did not give any intention of their returning to the scene for further demonstrations but stated that they would further contact Senator Stennis at the Capitol.

A detail of three uniformed Privates from the Eighth precinct were proven adequate to handle this demonstration. Also on the scene were Inspector Charles R. Wright of Administrative Headquarters, Lieutenat William Glassman, Sergeant George R Chapoutot of the Eighth precinct. Detectives from the Special Investigation squad were also on the scene.

Sergeant Billy L Lemocks of the Communication and Records Bureau was notified of their arrival at 6:20 p.m. and also of their departure at 7:00 p.m. by Lieutenant William Glassman of the Eighth precinct.

FHD/gtk 3-19-63

Francis H. Dunn

Captain

Commanding, Eighth Precinct

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Metropolitan Police Department

March 22, d963.

TO:

John L. Sullivan,

Inspector,

Detective Division.

SUBJECT:

Letter from the Honorable John Stennis, United States Senate, to Chief Robert V. Murray, requesting a written report relative to a group of demonstrators who appeared at the front of his home at 3609 Cumberland Street, N.W., on Monday, March 18, 1963.

on Monday, March 18, 1903

Sir:

On the morning of March 18, 1963, this office received information that some type of demonstration was planned at the Capitol and the participants were assembling at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, #2 Rhode Island Avenue, N.E. Number 12 Precinct was advised and Lieutenant Clarence A. Chaney responded and met Detective Silas C. Vaughn of this office and attempted to learn their plans from some of the people who were gathering but no one would cooperate. The crowd reached about 30 persons and at about 3:00 P.M. a number got into a truck and others in private cars and were followed by Detective Vaughn to the New Senate Office Building.

Detective Sergeant William A. Elliott and Detective Everett L. Cooper responded to this location and relieved Vaughn. They contacted Stanley Leroy Wise who stated that he was Chairman of the group and he advised the officers that since they had been unable to see Senators Eastland and Stennis, they would go to their homes and picket, but first they would return to the Church and pick up their signs. The reports of Sergeant Elliott and Detective Cooper, and Captain Dunn, relating to this are included.

Persons identified as participating:

Cortland Cox Stanley Leroy Wise Stokley Carmichael Neale Shahan Lawrence Williams 302 Todd Place, N.E.
601 Fairmont Street, N.W.
Howard University
14 - 3rd Street, S.E.
Drew Hall, Howard University

The following vehicles were observed used by the group:-

Rambler Station Wagon, Maryland 1963, AC 3449, listed to - Frank Folke Furstenberg and Edith Hollander Furstenberg, 1918 Chelsea Terrace, Baltimore 16, Maryland.

Valiant, West Virginis 394872, listed to -Neale Shahan, 706 Kanawha Avenus So., Nitro, West Virginia. International Metro Panel Truck, DC CB6686, listed to -Nan'a Restaurant and Lounge, 2204 14th Street, N.W. The title for this vehicle was signed "Walker B. Johnson."

RE: Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee -

A conference of the SNCC was first held in Atlanta in October, 1960. Conference was attended by individuals from 16 Southern and Eastern States and the Districk of Columbia. Local Groups shall remain self-governing and autonomous. The general principle of the SNCC is the policy of non-violent pressure to force desegregation.

Lawrence Henry and William Mahoney, Howard University students, are known to be leaders in Washington, D. C.

The Non-Violent Action Group (NAG) is an affiliate of SNCC.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas I. Herlihy,

Captain,

Special Investigations Squad.

TIH: jlh