

OFFICE OF THE POLICE DIRECTOR

NEWARK NEW JERSEY

M E M O R A N D U M

July 17, 1967.

TO: LIEUTENANT ROCCO FERRANTE
INTELLIGENCE UNIT

FROM: DETECTIVE JUNIOUS T. HEDGESPETH

SUBJECT: 374-2869 -- A MR. DON GOTTWERTH W/M RESIDENCE 250 MT. VERNON PLACE, CITY TRYING TO ORGANIZE WHITE CITIZENS AGAINST NEGROES IN THE CITY. THIS INFORMATION RECEIVED BY AGENT CHARLES HETZEL OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OVER THE PHONE

On 17 July, 1967, Don Gottwerth, 250 Mt. Vernon Place, Newark, N.J. Telephone 374-2869, was contacted by George Stone, 194 Pomona Avenue (fictitious) for information concerning the leaflet he passed out at the Ivy Hill Apartments. Gottwerth stated generally as follows:

Gottwerth is a bus driver on Springfield Avenue, and is also an Auxiliary Fireman. He wants to start some sort of organization to impress on the politicians of Newark, and the State of New Jersey that the white community do not like the happenings of the past few days in Newark. He also wants the politicians to stop giving concessions to the Negro.

He thinks that the destruction of the past few days should be cleaned up by the Negroes and not have a contract let to some company and paid for by the City of Newark. Gottwerth feels that he is a citizen of Newark who is not sure if he desires to remain in Newark or even the State.

Gottwerth added remarks as follows: When the troops are gone, this trouble is not going to stop and who will protect the residents. This trouble is costing the business community a large amount of money, and where will the tax money come from to pay for the services to run Newark. Governor Hughes should come out with facts and figures to show the numbers of negroes out of work, and the reasons, those unable to work because of their drinking habits, and the number of them who are buying large cars that the whites cannot afford, and this is being done with welfare funds (at our expense).

Gottwerth feels that the whites should gather together and tell of their experiences, and instead of writing individuals letters to politicians send in petitions so that politicians will start worrying about the white vote and not -the negro vote. Gottwerth feels that the negro has privileges which should be the same for all even the white community. After the troops are gone those whites who must drive or ride the bus through the negro belt of Newark will not be safe from negro violence. Gottwerth thinks that if some type of organized write-in campaign were to start it could possibly be as successful as the type of thing that we done in the case of the Sabre-jets for Yggoslavia. "There is going to be a lot of trouble even after this violence quiets down because the negro is after the white man".

Gottwerth feels that the City of Newark should go outside the city to hire policemen as other cities have done to improve the caliber of the police force. Gottwerth believes that anti-poverty funds are being channeled to organizations directly involved in the riots. Gottwerth is not thinking of forming a vigilante type organization, however because what he considers to be future problems the City may need a McAvey type organization.

Gottwerth does not respect Mr. Spina, Director of Police because he (Gottwerth) does not believe that Spina is doing a good job, and probably has his hands tied by the Mayor who appointed him.

Gottwerth thought of a name for the organization something like "Citizens Indignation League". He is not after any publicity for himself, but he is tired of losing sleep over what happened in the City of Newark. He is not seeking funds, but will contribute what limited funds he has, and all he is seeking is genuine effort from people who think like he does.

Gottwerth believes that Negroes are savages when in groups, however when they are alone in the company of whites they are like anyone else.

Gottwerth was raised at Peshine and Clinton Avenues, and attended Bergen Street School and South Side High School, and is a college dropout because he feels that his primary and secondary schooling was hindered by the numbers of negroes in his classes.

Gottwerth at present plans to go from door to door to seek assistance in getting this organization or program started.

Respectfully submitted,


Junious T. Hedgespeth
Detective #207