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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**JOHN L. LEWIS**

**PART 2 OF 13**

**FILE NUMBER: 44-845**

FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT JOHN L. LEWIS

FILE NO. 44-845

SECTION NO. 2

SERIALS 61

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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For your information: b3 Statute is Title 26, United States Code, Section 4103

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Date: August 26, 1943

To: SAC, Springfield

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL  
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

There are transmitted herewith copies of three memoranda dated August 23, 1943, from the Criminal Division of the Department, and captioned, #1, #2 and #3, respectively, "King 'B' - Violations of Section 21, Title 18."

It is noted that these memoranda contain investigative suggestions set forth by the Criminal Division and they are forwarded for your information and assistance in conducting further investigation in this matter.

The investigative suggestions of the Criminal Division should be fully developed unless a specific reason exists as to why a particular suggestion should not be carried out.

*Enclosure*

SPECIAL DELIVERY

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**Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
Springfield, Illinois  
September 6, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, RAY EDMUNDSON,  
WALTER J. JAMES, Officials of  
the United Mine Workers of America;  
CARL H. ELSHOFF, Owner of Mine "B",  
Springfield, Illinois.  
**CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

URGENT

Dear Sir:

For the information of the Bureau, the following investigation is requested of the Indianapolis, Washington Field, San Francisco, Buffalo and Cleveland field divisions, in view of the fact that the enumerated officials of the National Labor Relations Board, who are reported to have participated in Mine "B" controversy between 1937 and 1941, are believed to reside within the area of the field divisions as set out below. For the information of all field divisions concerned this case must receive the most expeditious attention. In view of the extreme emergency and expeditious nature of this investigation, and if this field division is to meet a deadline set by the Bureau, a report of the results of this investigation must be in the hands of the Springfield Division within seven days of the receipt of this letter.

For the information of all field divisions concerned the Department has requested a full and complete investigation into the charges that JOHN L. LEWIS, President of the International United Mine Workers of America Union, RAY EDMUNDSON, President of District 12 (Illinois), United Mine Workers of America, and WALTER J. JAMES, Secretary Treasurer, District 12 (State of Illinois), and CARL H. ELSHOFF, owner of the Mine "B" Coal Company, a coal mine in Springfield, Illinois, conspired during the years 1937 to 1941 in violation of Section 51, Title 18, U.S.C. to injure and oppress ELSHOFF's employees in the free exercise of the right secured to them by the National Labor Relations Act. According to the information furnished by the Department, it is alleged that the sum of [REDACTED] was paid from the years 1937 through 1941 by officials of the United Mine Workers of America to CARL H. ELSHOFF.

2 cc Indianapolis (Encl.) S.D.  
Washington Field (Encl.) AMSD  
San Francisco (Encl.) AMSD  
Buffalo (Encl.) AMSD  
Cleveland (Encl.) AMSD

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Director, FBI

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9-6-43

with the intent to induce ELSHOFF to impose unfair labor practices upon his employees, who were at that time members of the rival union, the Progressive Mine Workers of America. If it can be proven that ELSHOFF and the officials of the United Mine Workers of America conspired to deprive members of the Progressive Mine Workers of America of their rights, as secured by Section 7 of the National Labor Relations Act, there can undoubtedly be established a violation of Section 51, Title 18, U.S.C.

The Department advises that the following individuals were officials of the National Labor Relations Board who actively participated in the Mine "B" controversy between 1937 and 1941. The Department has furnished the following names and the best addresses available:

Attention Indianapolis:

JAMES C. CLARK, formerly National Labor Relations Board Field Examiner working out of Chicago, Illinois, now reported in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Attention Washington Field:

O. S. SMITH, formerly National Labor Relations Board Field Examiner, Chicago, Illinois, now Director of the Field Division in Washington, D. C.

I. S. DORFMAN, formerly Acting Regional Director, National Labor Relations Board, 13th Region. Now in Washington, D. C. with the Office of Strategic Services.

Attention San Francisco:

MARTIN C. WERNER, formerly National Labor Relations Board Field Examiner, 13th Region, Chicago, Illinois. Now National Labor Relations Board Regional Director, San Francisco.

Attention Buffalo:

MEYER S. RYDER, formerly National Labor Relations Board Field Examiner, Chicago, Illinois. Now Regional Director, Buffalo, New York.

Director, FBI


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Attention Cleveland:

G. L. PATTERSON, formerly Regional Director, National Labor Relations Board, 13th Region. Now General Counsel, United Rubber Workers, Akron, Ohio.

The Department requests that each of the individuals enumerated above be interviewed to determine whether or not they have information regarding the issues of this case beyond that which is reflected in the file of the National Labor Relations Board. Many of these individuals conferred at length with ELSHOFF, EDMUNDSON, JAMES and others involved in this case.

 as a result of which this office is in possession of extremely voluminous photostats and exhibits. Because of the large volume, it is not possible to furnish in letter form all background information concerning this case. From one interview already conducted, it is believed highly possible that these individuals may not recall a great deal of information other than that which was made a matter of record of the National Labor Relations Board file at the time and which file is in the possession of the Department. However it is highly desirable to interview these individuals at length to determine what additional information they may have, what their attitude in the matter is, whether or not they will make good witnesses and for all details which they may recall.

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For the information of the Indianapolis Field Division, JAMES C. CLARK was Field Examiner for the 13th Region, National Labor Relations Board, with headquarters at Chicago. During December 1940 and January 1941 it is known that he had conversations with CARL H. ELSHOFF, owner of Mine "B", OSCAR PALCETTI, Superintendent of Mine "B", RAY EDMUNDSON, LEE ANSEL, attorney for the company, and JOHN P. LANE, attorney for the Progressive Mine Workers of America and it is also known that he interviewed a large number of employees of Mine "B", which at that time was operating as an open shop, who was also involved in a request of the Progressive Mine Workers of America for contempt proceedings in case No. XIII - C- 473, involving a stipulation dated August 10, 1938, signed by both unions and the company. It will be important to determine over what period of time CLARK was active in the Mine "B" matter. If he were connected with the matter on May 12, 1937, whether or not the dismissal or the refusal to dismiss the twelve miners expelled from the



Director, FBI

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Progressive Mine workers of America was ever taken up with him by CARL ELSHOFF to determine whether or not this might be an unfair labor practice. It should be determined whether or not RAY EDMUNDSON or WALTER J. JAMES ever showed Mr. CLARK any petition or other form of group signatures such as application cards or membership cards, prior to ELSHOFF'S signing a contract with United Mine Workers of America on August 13, 1937, or subsequent thereto, and prior to December 15, 1937 when the first National Labor Relations Board election was held.

For the information of the Washington Field Office, Mr. O. S. SMITH was Field Examiner out of the 13th Region, Chicago Office, National Labor Relations Board. Mr. LEONARD C. BURK, Regional Director, during part of the Mine "B" controversy, on interview has advised that SMITH was the Field Examiner most familiar with Mine "B" matters. Since he is presently connected with the National Labor Relations Board in Washington there is no doubt but what he will have access to any files necessary in connection with this matter. He should be particularly questioned as to whether or not CARL ELSHOFF ever contacted him on or about May 12, 1937 for an opinion as to whether or not the dismissal of or the refusal to dismiss the twelve miners expelled from the Progressive Mine Workers of America on May 11, 1937 was an unfair labor practice. He should also be questioned as to whether or not RAY EDMUNDSON, WALTER J. JAMES or any other official of the United Mine Workers of America ever showed to him a petition or a group of application cards or membership cards which would purport to prove that the United Mine Workers of America had a majority of the miners signed up in Mine "B" prior to that union's signing a contract with ELSHOFF on August 13, 1937, or after that and prior to the National Labor Relations Board election on December 15, 1937. Any information indicating that ELSHOFF and EDMUNDSON were working together in connection with this matter or any occasion when SMITH may have been contacted by both individuals would be important to this case. Mr. SMITH should be questioned concerning the National Labor Relations Board election of December 15, 1937 after which the United Mine Workers claimed fraud in connection with the election. He should also be questioned as to whether or not any investigation was made by the National Labor Relations Board on the allegation of fraud in the election and what, if any, was the conclusion of the investigation.

For the further information of the Washington Field Division, it is known Mr. DORFMAN represented the National Labor Relations Board in a stipulation and agreement between Mine "B" Coal Company, Progressive Mine Workers of America and United Mine Workers of America, which was signed on August 10, 1938. He also represented the National Labor Relations Board in a decision and order of the National Labor Relations Board, which was dated September 19, 1938.

Director, FBI

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9-6-43

This office is unable to advise the San Francisco and Buffalo Offices of any of the activities of MARTIN MAGNER or MEYER S. RYDER, who the Department states, were Field Examiners in connection with this case.


For the information of the Cleveland Office, G. L. PATTERSON was Regional Director, 13th Region, National Labor Relations Board, following LEONARD C. BJORCK during the approximate period of 1940-1941. He should be questioned concerning his knowledge of the case, particularly as to whether or not RAY EDMUNDSON and ELSHOFF ever appeared together at his office concerning the Mine "B" controversy, and if such is the case, the exact nature of their call.

For the assistance of all offices there is transmitted herewith one copy of a memorandum prepared by Special Agent [REDACTED] which sets out in brief a chronological resume of the principle incidents of interest in this investigation. For your information the Bureau has instructed that only "experienced and well-qualified agents" be assigned to this investigation.

In the event that any of the men interviewed are able to furnish any probative information, it should be reduced to signed statements. Five copies of this report should be furnished to the Bureau and three to this office. Springfield is the office of origin.

I again wish to impress upon you the importance of this investigation and the fact that it is imperative that these leads be covered immediately. In addition it is the Bureau's desire that you give this matter your personal attention.

Very truly yours,

  
FRED HILLFORD, SAC.

44-18

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Springfield, Illinois  
September 6, 1943



Director, FBI

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, et al;  
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Dear Sir:

The Bureau is advised that Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] who are in this office on special assignment to assist in the investigation of this matter, have been assigned to interviewing the twelve so-called spies of the U.M.W. in the P.M.W. of A. Local at Mine B in Springfield, Illinois. They made contact with each of the following persons and they agreed to appear at the Springfield Office for interview at the times specified:

- James Hale, 9:00 a.m., September 4, 1943.
- Frank Austin, 11:00 a.m., September 4, 1943.
- Andrew Skrelevious, 2:00 p.m., September 4, 1943.
- John Ananias, 4:00 p.m., September 4, 1943.
- Anthony J. Plotch, 10:00, September 5, 1943.
- Dominic Pasquale, 2:00 p.m., September 5, 1943.
- Emery Jacaway, 4:00 p.m., September 5, 1943.

Mr. Hale, Mr. Austin and Mr. Jacaway were the only persons who kept their appointments, although at the time of making each appointment, all seemed cooperative and willing to come to the Springfield Office for interview. Mr. Hale, Mr. Austin and Mr. Jacaway were seemingly cooperative and executed signed statements.

Dominic Pasquale was contacted telephonically and appears to have forgotten his appointment.

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Anthony J. Plotch was contacted at his residence on the morning of September 6, 1943, by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] and advised that on Saturday morning, September 4, 1943, he, JOE ALBANESE and JOHN ANANIAS were at the office of the United Mine Workers in Springfield and were talking to RAY EDMUNDSON. DOMINIC PASQUALE was downstairs and may have come up to EDMUNDSON'S office later. He said there were some other men there whom he had never seen before. He said EDMUNDSON called ARTHUR FITZGERALD, an

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memo on this & previous report  
to Clark 12-1-43  
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Director

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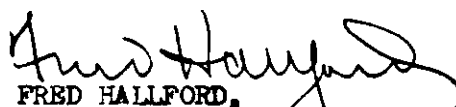
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attorney in Springfield, who came to the United Mine Workers office and advised them that they should not make a statement to the FBI unless he, FITZGERALD, was present at the interview, because they might incriminate themselves. Mr. PLOTCH stated that other persons were similarly advised but did not know specifically. Mr. PLOTCH was cooperative and willing to make any statement his attorney might permit.

In view of the above attitude of the alleged spies of the U.M.W., these facts were telephonically relayed to Mr. MUMFORD of the Bureau on September 6, 1943 and later discussed with [REDACTED] at the Bureau. It was pointed out that no interviews would be conducted with these alleged spies in the presence of their attorney unless the Bureau was specifically instructed to do so through the Department. However, it was pointed out to both [REDACTED] and Mr. MUMFORD that Agents of this office would contact each of the alleged spies personally to determine their attitude toward an interview and they would also be questioned specifically as to what occurred in the office of RAY EDMUNDSON on the morning of September 4, 1943.

This letter will confirm the telephone conversation of [REDACTED] and Mr. MUMFORD and the above investigative step will be taken in regard to each alleged spy of the U.M.W., but again it is stated no detailed interview will be had with any of these persons unless they agree to be interviewed without the presence of an attorney.

Very truly yours,

  
FRED HALLFORD,  
Special Agent in Charge.

FH:lmj  
44-18

b7c

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

W. J. [Handwritten signature]

Springfield, Illinois  
August 11, 1943

Director, FBI

AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, et al;  
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to my telephonic conversation with Mr. MUMFORD of the Bureau on August 11, 1943, at which time I informed him that there was a release in the St. Louis Post Dispatch under date of August 8, 1943, in regard to the ordered investigation in this matter.

I am enclosing herewith an item which appeared in the St. Louis Post Dispatch, St. Louis, Missouri, dated August 8, 1943, in regard to this matter. It will be noted that this release carries a Springfield, Illinois, date line.

I do not know who made this release. However, I received a telephonic inquiry from the Associated Press in this office on the night of August 7, 1943, at which time I was informed that an inquiry had been received from the Associated Press in Springfield from a paper in St. Louis desiring that the Associated Press here contact this office in order to determine the names of the fourteen spies who allegedly worked for the Progressive Mine Workers of America on a secret payroll of the United Mine Workers of America. The Associated Press representative here informed that he understood from the paper in St. Louis that a release in this matter had been prepared by the Attorney General.

No publicity has appeared in regard to this investigation in the Springfield papers.

As I informed Mr. MUMFORD at the time of my telephonic conversation with him on August 11, 1943, no interviews have been conducted in this case as yet. The exhibits transmitted by the Department contain a tremendous volume of information which must be thoroughly reviewed and other files in this office are presently being reviewed for background data in this case. It is anticipated that the Agents engaged in this case on special at the present will begin interviews with the alleged spies of the United Mine Workers by at least August 16, 1943, and that the investigation will move rapidly from that point.

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Director

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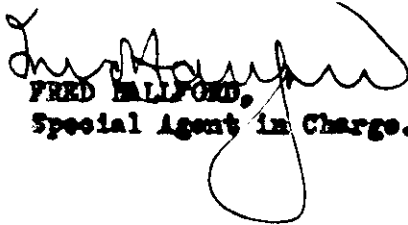
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It appears from a review of the file in this case and the data submitted by the Department that at least one accountant will have to spend considerable time on this case and it may be that the services of an additional accountant will be required from the Bureau.

It further appears that after initial interviews are conducted with the fourteen alleged spies of the United Mine Workers that it may be necessary to request additional experienced agent personnel be sent to this field division by the Bureau in order to expedite the completion of this investigation.

The Bureau will be further advised in this matter, as well as any important developments in the investigation.

Very truly yours,

  
FRED HALLFORD,  
Special Agent in Charge.

FH:lnj  
44-18  
Enclosure

ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH  
Dated 8-8-43  
St. Louis, Missouri.

## UMW PAID 14 PMW MEMBERS DURING MINE B DISPUTE

Payroll Was Secret, With  
Progressives Getting  
Cash From Edmund-  
son's District 12.

F. B. I. INQUIRY BEING  
MADE ON PAYMENTS

Agency Looking Into  
Charges That Conspira-  
cy Existed to Violate  
Labor Act.

By a Staff Correspondent of the  
Post-Dispatch.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Aug. 7. Fourteen members of the Progressive Mine Workers of America were on a secret payroll of the United Mine Workers of America during most of the time that the two unions were disputing control of Mine B here at Springfield, the Post-Dispatch has learned from a reliable source.

The 14 Progressives were paid in cash out of funds of UMW District 12, which embraces Illinois.

Their names were never carried on the books of District 12 for fear that they might become known. Disclosure would have meant immediate reprisal by loyal Progressives, who have engaged in a long and bloody warfare with the powerful UMW.

### Inquiry by F. B. I.

These secret payments are under inquiry by the Federal Bureau of Investigation which, on instruction of Attorney General Francis Biddle, is investigating charges that a conspiracy existed to violate the National Labor Relations Act. The inquiry is under the direction of Frank Coleman of the criminal division of the Department of Justice.

As has been told in the Post-Dispatch, the Treasury prepared a case involving income tax charges against Carl Elshoff, lessee of Mine B, and Ray Edmundson, head of UMW's District 12 and often referred to as John L. Lewis's "hatchet man." A Bureau of Internal Revenue report was sent to the Department of Justice for action after it had been seen by President Roosevelt, who gave it his endorsement.

Biddle thought far less of the tax case than Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau, and put the F. B. I. to work investigating the Wagner Act conspiracy phase. The Treasury was naturally not concerned with that angle.

Treasury investigation centered around a "loan" of between \$200,000 and \$300,000 which Edmundson is reported to have made to Elshoff just before Mine B was closed down for nearly two and a half years. That followed a Labor Board election in which the Progressives won an overwhelming majority. When the mine reopened at the end of the two and a half period, the Progressive majority had dwindled almost to nothing and the UMW won control.

### Significance of Inquiry

Investigation of the conspiracy charges has especial significance now in the light of John L. Lewis's application to re-enter the American Federation of Labor. The executive council of the AFL is meeting in Chicago tomorrow to pass on the Lewis application following a session in Washington a month ago with a special committee named to consider the question.

At the time Lewis walked out, the AFL in retaliation gave the Progressives a charter providing exclusive jurisdiction in the coal mining field. Recently Lloyd Thrush, PMW president, went to Washington to protest to William Green, AFL president, and others against consideration of the UMW application for reinstatement. Thrush has said that he would leave the AFL and affiliate with the CIO if Lewis were readmitted.

Latest information here is that the UMW will not go back into the AFL fold. The executive council will announce terms for readmission following the meeting in Chicago next week. Lewis, it is believed now, will find these terms unacceptable and will withdraw his application before the AFL convention this fall.

44-845-64

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"  
AND REFER TO  
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

WB:FC:MLB

144-10

August 19, 1943

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

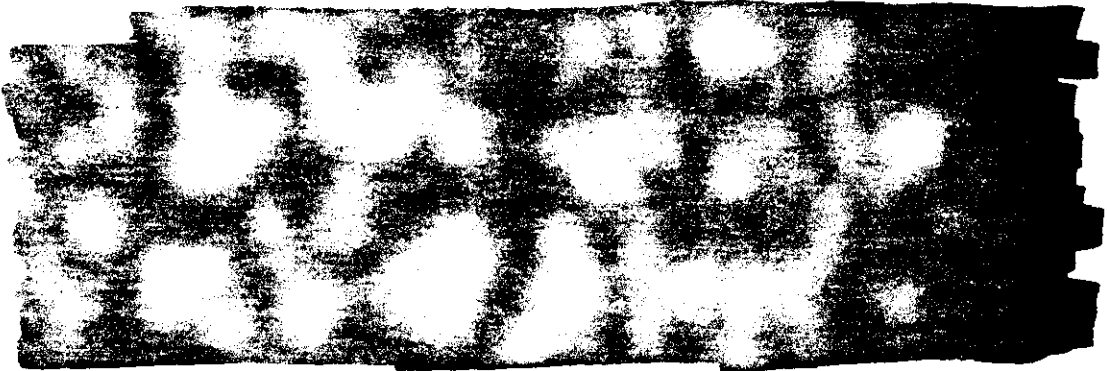
**WELCA**

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 1

Re: X Mine "B" -- Violations of  
Section 51, Title 18.

Frank Coleman has reported to me on his trip last week to St. Louis, Missouri, and Springfield, Illinois, of which I advised you in my memorandum dated August 6, 1943.



At Springfield, Illinois, on August 11, 12, and 13, Mr. Coleman conferred with United States Attorney Doyle and his staff who advised that they would, to the full extent of the facilities of that office, cooperate enthusiastically with the Bureau whenever called upon during the course of the investigation.

Mr. Coleman also consulted with Special Agent in Charge Hallford at your Springfield office, and was introduced to members of his staff assigned to this investigation. Mutually helpful discussions were had. Mr. Coleman advised Mr. Hallford fully of all the interviews that he proposed to undertake. Mr. Coleman interviewed the following individuals:

1. William Ryan, former operator of Mine "A", now retired, who lives at 801 Douglas Avenue, Springfield,

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2. John X Schneider, Board Member X Progressive Miners of America, Springfield, Illinois. Office phone-2722, home phone-5073.
3. Fullerton X Fulton, C.I.O. Regional Director, Chicago, Illinois.
4. John W. X Hindmarsh, C.I.O. Representative, Springfield, area. (Can be reached through Fulton's office.)

From these several conferences and interviews, Mr. Coleman makes the following observations:

1. It is apparent that the alleged violation is of broader scope than was first thought. The following picture begins to emerge. Sometime in 1936 or early in 1937, Lewis and Edmundson, fearing that the Progressive movement would spread beyond the confines of Illinois and challenge Lewis' national control, resolve to destroy the Progressives in Illinois piecemeal by buying out one mine after another, using Elshoff as the "front". Mine "B" was conquered between 1937 and March, 1941. A month later, Elshoff begins negotiations to purchase Mine "A" with \$50,000 of U.M.W. funds. A victory was achieved in this case in the fall of 1941. Soon thereafter, tentative negotiations are begun by Elshoff to purchase the Panther Creek Mines, also Progressive, with \$400,000 of U.M.W. funds. In my memoranda to you of June 24, and August 11, you were requested to investigate these three cases fully.

In his interview with Mr. Coleman, Mr. Ryan indicated that Elshoff had told him recently that he (Elshoff) proposed to buy another mine, also Progressive, in Bond County. Mr. Ryan stated that Charles X Malloy (who can be located through United States Attorney Doyle) knows the exact name and location of this mine. It is requested that the circumstances of this proposed purchase be fully investigated.

These four transactions suggest that Elshoff may have approached still other Progressive mine operators with the same purpose in mind. It is requested, therefore, that the principal Progressive mine operators be interviewed to determine whether any such overtures have been made over the past several years.

It does not appear from the evidence now available whether these cases will constitute, in law, separate conspiracies, or whether they can be joined--as would be highly desirable--in one indictment as parts of a single continuing conspiracy. It will be highly valuable, therefore, to discover any evidence which indicates that within the three year statute of limitations there

was a purpose on the part of Lewis and Elshoff to use this technique not only in an individual case but as a general means whereby the Progressive organization in Illinois would be driven to the wall.

2. It becomes probable that we can discover evidence which will establish that Lewis had connived with Elshoff prior to the closing of Mine "B" on May 12, 1937.

Mr. Ryan told Mr. Coleman and Mr. Doyle in confidence that sometime prior to the closing of the mine, he believes in February, 1937, Edmundson approached him with the proposition that if he would close down Mine "A", the U.M.W. would subsidize him during the shut-down. Mr. Ryan said that he flatly rejected the proposition with the statement, "I want to be able to go home, put my head on a pillow and go to sleep at night". (It was not clear whether he stated this as a matter of conscience or through fear of being dynamited as a result of inter-union warfare.) It is believed and hoped that Mr. Ryan will release his confidence in this respect and voluntarily make this statement to the grand jury.

Mr. Ryan gave Mr. Coleman the following lead;

gives  
1/16  
Ryan



The importance of evidence indicating connivance prior to the closing of Mine "B" cannot be overemphasized. From the standpoint of a jury trying this case, the reason for the strike of May 12, 1937, will be vital. The defense will insist that the strike was precipitated by a group of radical and criminal Progressive leaders, who were later convicted for dynamiting in the federal court, and that it was sound union policy to extend financial aid to the mine operator to prevent him from going into bankruptcy, a result which, they would say, would jeopardize the job opportunities of all the miners and would bring disrepute upon unionism generally among the coal operators and the general public. In this connection, it is noted that all the subjects contend that consideration of the "loans" was not broached until sometime in June, 1937, after the mine was shut down.

It is obvious the ground will be cut from under this defense if pursuit of the two leads which Mr. Ryan gives us establishes that the subjects conspired prior to the closing of the mine.

Every effort should be made to ascertain from [redacted] the full circumstances of the alleged meeting at [redacted]. It is believed that attorney [redacted] should also be appropriately interviewed in this connection. If the meeting can be established, every effort should be made to pin the witnesses down to the specific purposes of the meeting, in order to avoid attempts on the part of the defense later to concoct an innocent explanation.

3. There is a possibility that the Peabody Coal interests, the largest and most influential operators in Illinois, are involved in this violation. Mr. Ryan suggested that not only did Lewis make money payments to Elshoff, but that he also used his power with the Peabody interests to obtain favorable concessions and rebates to Elshoff in the sale of brokerage coal while Mine "B" was shut down. Mr. Ryan points out that during the first few months of the shut-down, Elshoff carried on his brokerage operations with the Panther Creek Mines, organized by the Progressives. Later, however, when it appeared that the shut-down would be extended indefinitely, he switched over to the Peabody Coal Company. Ryan states that his commissions with Panther Creek were the normal rate, \$.15 a ton, but that his commissions with Peabody reached the exorbitant figure of \$.50 a ton. It is requested that this lead be thoroughly investigated. Mr. Ryan had in mind several methods which could be used in following down this lead.

Mr. Ryan stated to Mr. Coleman that he would cooperate fully with the Bureau during the course of this investigation, and he was advised that Mr. Hallford's office would communicate with him within a few days. It is believed that Mr. Ryan will be of great assistance since he is an experienced operator and is familiar with all the personalities and events in connection with this case over the past decade. It is obvious, of course, that Mr. Ryan has a bias against subject Lewis and that he has a wholesome contempt for subject Elshoff. On the other hand, he gave Mr. Coleman and Mr. Doyle the impression of being a man of ability and integrity, and that he is motivated in his cooperation by the principal fundamentals of citizenship and patriotism.


Hallford Mr. Ryan stated that Elshoff had boasted lately of writing Secretary Ickes, as government manager and operator of the mines, demanding that the Federal Government subsidize his payrolls, otherwise threatening to shut off production. Ryan believes that Lewis is actually the author of these demands. I called the Attorney General's attention to these allegations, and he has asked me to confer with Secretary Icke's office regarding this correspondence which I intend to do in the near future. The results of this conference will be reported to you promptly.

It is believed that John Schneider, mentioned above, will also be of considerable assistance to the Bureau. He was not interviewed by Mr. Coleman until after several sources had indicated that he would not betray the government's confidence. It will be recalled that Schneider was one of the thirty-six defendants who were convicted in the federal court on the dynamiting charges. He states, however, that he bears no resentment against the government because of this, and that he will whole-heartedly cooperate in our present investigation. He is familiar with many of the relevant events and personalities involved.

Mr. Fulton and Mr. Hindmarsh, mentioned above, also indicated their willingness to cooperate fully. Of these two, Mr. Hindmarsh is more familiar with events and personalities. These two individuals stated that an attorney in Springfield, L. G. Pfefferle, Peisch Building, was familiar with many of Elshoff's negotiations in his attempts to purchase Progressive mines, and that he would be cooperative. It is suggested, therefore, that Mr. Pfefferle be appropriately interviewed.

The Attorney General and I conferred regarding this case on August 17, at which time we renewed our former decision to contemplate grand jury action in this case not later than October 1. We realize the immensity of the task which we have requested you to undertake. We are both deeply grateful to learn from Mr. Coleman's report that your investigative campaign has been undertaken in a spirit of achieving the impossible.

Respectfully,

  
WENDELL BERGE,  
Assistant Attorney General.

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*red*

RECORDED 44-845-65

Date: August 21, 1943

**SPECIAL DELIVERY**

To: SAC, Springfield

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL  
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

XO

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated August 20, 1943, in the above entitled matter.

For your information, there are transmitted herewith photostatic copies of a Memorandum for the Director received from the Criminal Division of the Department, dated August 19, 1943, and entitled "Mine 'B' - Violations of Section 51, Title 18." It is noted that this memorandum sets forth the names of the individuals interviewed by Mr. Frank Coleman of the Criminal Division while in St. Louis, Missouri, and Springfield, Illinois, in the recent past. The suggested investigation set forth in this memorandum by the Criminal Division should be fully conducted, and the individuals suggested by the Criminal Division should be interviewed unless a particular reason exists why this should not be done.

The Criminal Division has also advised that in 1932 injunction proceedings were instituted in the State Court at Springfield, Illinois, against Lewis, which resulted in an injunction forbidding Lewis from interfering with Progressive Mine Workers activities in Illinois. The Criminal Division has requested that a copy of these proceedings be secured and forwarded to the Department. It is desired that at least two copies of these proceedings be secured in order that your office may have a copy of at least one of these records.

It is desired that this matter be given expeditious attention.

Your attention is directed to the memorandum to the Attorney General dated July 24, 1943, copies of which were transmitted to you by Bureau letter dated August 2, 1943. Page 10 of this memorandum sets forth an area of investigation entitled "VIII - Investigation of Explanation Given for Continuation of Payment after Mine Opened in November, 1939." It is noted that subject James in his statements contends that these payments were intended to cover expenses of a fire and "MINE CAVING" at Mine B. The Criminal Division has requested that the circumstances of any fire or cave-in be investigated

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Acers \_\_\_\_\_
- Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mumford \_\_\_\_\_
- Starke \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 6  
 AUG 21 1943 P.M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Handwritten signature*  
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fully. In this connection, it is desired that you make inquiries to determine whether Klshoff did have insurance which would have compensated for some of the alleged losses. [REDACTED]

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§ 6103

There are also attached for your information copies of an affidavit made by John R. Kane and notarized September 13, 1940. This affidavit was secured from File 13-C-1345 of the National Labor Relations Board, Washington, D. C.

Your attention is invited to the material previously transmitted to your office which indicates that subject James maintains that he took the records of the local Union to Washington, B. C., [REDACTED]

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It is desired that your office appropriately instruct the Washington Field Office to conduct a thorough investigation into the allegations of subject James in an attempt to ascertain the truth of his story, when and if, in your opinion, such action appears to be logical.

Enclosure *ym*

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"  
AND REFER TO  
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

WE:FC:MLB

144-10

August 19, 1943

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

WELCH

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 2

Re ~~X~~ Mine "B" -- Violations of  
Section 51, Title 18.

Referring to my memorandum to the Attorney General dated July 24, 1943, which was transmitted to you, you will note, on page 10, an area of investigation entitled, "VIII. Investigation of Explanation Given for Continuation of Payment after Mine Opened in November, 1939."

*C. Walters*  
Subject James contends that these payments were intended to cover expenses of a fire and "big cave-in" in the mine. You were requested in that memorandum to investigate these circumstances fully. *40* In this connection, it is suggested that you inquire whether Elshoff did not have insurance which would have compensated for some of these alleged losses.



Respectfully,

*Wendell Berge*  
WENDELL BERGE,  
Assistant Attorney General.

4-845-66  
AUG 25 1943

Assistant Attorney General.



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*722*  
*2503*

*Handwritten notes at bottom left*  
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87-119  
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60 SEP 18 1943

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"  
AND REFER TO  
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

WB:FC:MLB

144-10

August 19, 1943

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

*WELCH*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 3

Re: Mine "B" -- Violations of  
Section 51, Title 18.

In 1932, injunction proceedings were instituted in the state court at Springfield, Illinois against Lewis, which resulted in an injunction forbidding Lewis from interfering with U.M.W. activities in Illinois. *yes*

I am not informed as to the extent of the hearings or proceedings in this case. I believe, however, that we should have copies of these proceedings. It is requested, therefore, that you arrange to have at least two copies obtained, forwarding one copy to this Division as soon as it is available.

Respectfully,

*Wendell Berge*  
WENDELL BERGE,  
Assistant Attorney General.

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44-845-67

80 SEP 1943

*Ad. 7/22/43*

*b7c*



JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



General Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

August 17, 1943

Time: 3:55 PM  
Dictated: 4:30 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL  
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

At the above time, Mr. O'Donnell of the Criminal Division of the Department personally delivered the attached memorandum dated August 17, 1943, to my office, where he talked with Supervisors [redacted] and [redacted] in my absence. The memorandum delivered by Mr. O'Donnell was in response to Bureau memorandum dated August 6, 1943, in the above entitled matter, which referred to a number of discrepancies in the exhibits [redacted] which had been forwarded to the Bureau. b3 T26, USC, § 6103

The Bureau memorandum to Mr. Berge dated August 6, 1943, pointed out that installment 4 actually included only Exhibits 30 to 43, inclusive, together with other material that was not marked, whereas the Department had advised that the 4th installment included Exhibits 30 to 58, inclusive. The Bureau memorandum also stated that Exhibits 11, 12 and 15 were either missing or had not been marked as such. Mr. O'Donnell advised he desired to make sure that the memorandum which he delivered identified all exhibits which had apparently been missing in the 4th installment.

[redacted] checked the exhibits with Mr. O'Donnell and it was found that Exhibits 44 to 58, inclusive, had actually been transmitted to the Bureau, although they were not numbered as such. Mr. O'Donnell advised that Exhibit 48 is an Analysis of the Records of Local #54, Progressive Mines of America, disclosing the membership of that Local from June, 1939, to June, 1941, instead of November, 1939, to June, 1941, as the Department had advised.

Mr. O'Donnell advised that Exhibit 13 consisted only of one page, numbered 8. He advised this appeared to be a page number but actually was not and made the exhibit appear incomplete.

It was pointed out to Mr. O'Donnell that only the first and last pages of Exhibit 18 had been received from the Department. Mr. O'Donnell stated that he had just secured all pages of this exhibit from the National Labor Relations Board, which would be forwarded to the Bureau on August 18, 1943. 144-845-68



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It is noted that all of the exhibits and photostats received from the Department have been forwarded to the Springfield Office; however Exhibits 44 to 58, inclusive, have not been designated by number to the Springfield Office.

The Bureau memorandum to the Department dated August 6, 1943, also advised the Department that the original as well as a photostatic copy of document 25. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] had been received with the 3rd installment of the exhibits. Mr. O'Donnell advised that the original had been erroneously transmitted and was returned to Mr. O'Donnell.

ACTION TAKEN:

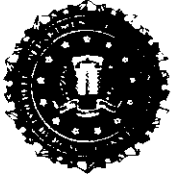
The Springfield Office is being advised of the correct number of photostatic copies of exhibits submitted to that office, as indicated by Mr. O'Donnell.

Respectfully,

*F. L. Welch*  
F. L. Welch

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usc,  
86103

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



Bureau of Inure  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Beahn \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

August 13, 1943

Time: 2:30 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL.  
CIVIL RIGHTS AND  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

At this time SAC Hallford called from Springfield and talked to Agent [redacted] in my office. He advised that Frank Coleman, the Departmental attorney assigned to this case, had arrived in Springfield and that he had talked to Coleman and had listened to Coleman's comment regarding the case but that he, Hallford, had declined to sit in on any interviews with Coleman, in accordance with Bureau instructions. He indicated that Coleman was apparently contacting two or three individuals for the purpose of enlisting their cooperation in instant matter. Mr. Hallford indicated that he was getting across to Mr. Coleman that the Bureau would conduct any interviews with regard to this investigation in the manner decided upon by the Bureau and Mr. Coleman understands this.

In addition, Mr. Hallford advised as a matter of interest that John L. Lewis had arrived in Springfield but that nothing had been done by Lewis nor had anything happened with regard to the case but he thought the Bureau would like to know that Lewis was in Springfield.

Mr. Hallford understands the necessity for discretion regarding the matter and he is forwarding a letter to the Bureau outlining generally what Frank Coleman incidentally discussed with SAC Hallford regarding the background of the case, including information regarding the Treasury investigation which may be of interest in the event it is not already contained in communications from the Department to the Bureau.

Mr. Hallford stated that his main purpose in calling is that according to indications which he received from Frank Coleman the Department will probably request that interviews be conducted with most, if not all, of the approximately 450 miners and officials involved in the case. Mr. Hallford understands, of course, that there is a possibility that not all of these may need to be interviewed; however, after analyzing the matter to date, he finds that he only has four qualified

men in the Springfield office whom he can assign to instant investigation in view of its nature. He feels at this time that



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Mr. Ladd

- 2 -

b7c he will need at least 12 additional experienced men from outside offices in order to hope to meet the deadline for completion. With regard to the deadline, [redacted] indicated to SAC Hallford that the matter should be handled and completed on or about September 25, inasmuch as the Department plans to present the matter to a grand jury, apparently from present indications, in October of this year.

b7c SAC, Hallford observed that it would undoubtedly be necessary for the interviews in these cases to be conducted by two Agents which, of course, is true. In addition, the Springfield office has a fraud case at Decatur, Illinois, which is apparently the case of [redacted] Fraud Against the Government and concerns the defective manufacture of shells, and which is tying up two Agents, according to Mr. Hallford. In addition, Mr. Hallford says that very recently a number of Agents were transferred out of the Springfield office, and a combination of all these circumstances prompts his request for 12 qualified men from outside offices.

b3 T26, 450, 8-17 Mr. Hallford also pointed out, incidentally, that although he had received exhibit #18 [redacted] the exhibit contained only the first and last pages of the report with which it was concerned and the intervening pages are missing.

b7c He also indicated that exhibit #13, namely contact between the \*Progressive Men Workers Union and Carl Elshoff, dated January 18, 1936, is not complete. [redacted] indicated that the matter would be checked immediately and would be straightened out.

In connection with his request, Mr. Hallford also pointed out that from the present indications he would estimate that a large percentage of the persons to be interviewed would be outside of the Springfield territory, which would necessitate expenditure of time in locating the individuals outside of that territory for appropriate interview.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Bureau consider assigning to the Springfield office the 12 men requested by SAC Hallford. The request would appear to be reasonable under the circumstances, that is, the nature of the case and the necessity for expeditious handling. In fact, it may be necessary after the case is initiated to assign additional Agents in order to appropriately handle the matter within the time allotted. Mr. Hallford indicated that the investigation would probably be initiated by the middle or the end of next week, that is around August 19 or 20. The last exhibits from the Department should be in his possession by the 17th or 18, inasmuch as the Department indicates it will forward the last group of exhibits at the latest by Monday, August 16, 1943.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

*[Handwritten signature]*

Bureau of Invest  
United States Department of Justice

Springfield, Illinois  
August 26, 1945.

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director, FBI

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, RAY EDMUNDSON,  
WALTER J. JAMES, Officials of  
the United Mine Workers of  
America,  
CARL H. ELSHOFF, Owner of Mine  
"B", Springfield, Illinois,  
CIVIL RIGHTS and DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Dear Sir:

URGENT

For the information of the Bureau the following investigation is requested  
of the Miami Field Division in view of the fact that [REDACTED] is now  
located in Carrabelle, Florida.

For the information of the Miami Field Division this case must receive  
the most expeditious attention, and a report of the results of this investi-  
gation must be in the hands of the Springfield Field Division within seven  
days of the receipt of this letter, in view of the extreme urgency and  
expeditious nature of this investigation, and if this field division is to  
meet a dead line set by the Bureau.

For the Miami Field Division's information, the Department has requested  
a full and complete investigation into the charges that JOHN L. LEWIS, RAY  
EDMUNDSON, and WALTER J. JAMES, officials of the United Mine Workers of  
America, and CARL H. ELSHOFF, owner of Mine "B", a coal mine in Springfield,  
Illinois, conspired during the years of 1937 to 1941 in violation of Section  
51, Title 18, U.S. Code, to injure and oppress ELSHOFF's employees in the  
free exercise of the rights secured to them by the National Labor Relations  
Act.

According to information furnished by the Department, it is alleged that  
the sum of \$225,000 was paid from the years 1937 through 1941 by officials  
of the United Mine Workers of America to CARL H. ELSHOFF, operator of Mine  
"B", with the intent to induce ELSHOFF to impose unfair labor practices  
upon his employees, who were at that time members of the rival union, the  
Progressive Mine Workers of America. If it can be proven that ELSHOFF and



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Director, FBI

- 2 -

8-26-43.

the officials of the United Mine Workers of America conspired to deprive members of the Progressive Mine Workers of America of their rights as secured by Section 7 of the National Labor Relations Act, there could undoubtedly be established a violation of Section 51, Title 18, U. S. Code.

The Miami Field Division is requested to interview

[REDACTED]

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CARL H. ELSHOFF has been President of Mine "B" Coal Company, an Illinois corporation, since December 22, 1927 when the company was organized, owning 498 shares of the 500 shares of stock. One share was owned by FLORENCE ELSHOFF, then subject's wife, who was also Vice-President of the Company. In 1932 SAMUEL R. GOURLEY acquired one share and became Secretary-Treasurer of the Company. On November 20, 1937, the Mine "B" Coal Company changed its name to the Elshoff Coal Company and on the same date transferred all of its assets and liabilities to the Mine "B" Coal Company, a Delaware corporation. CARL ELSHOFF retained 498 shares of the stock of the Delaware corporation, FLORENCE one share, and GOURLEY one share. The reason for this change is not known other than for the purpose of bringing matters concerning this company within the jurisdiction of the Federal courts.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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Director, FBI

- 3 -

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[REDACTED]

Subject CARL ELSHOFF is known to have traveled extensively especially to Chicago, Illinois, St. Louis, Missouri, New York City, New York, and Washington, D. C. He has been a lavish spender at hotels and private clubs. It is felt altogether possible and probable that CARL ELSHOFF has had meetings with and has entertained officials of the United Mine Workers of America during the pertinent period from 1937 to 1931, especially JOHN L. LEWIS, RAY EDMUNDSON, and WALTER J. JAMES. It is altogether possible that [REDACTED] may have accompanied subject ELSHOFF on some of these trips or may have been present during lavish entertaining of these individuals at Springfield, Illinois.

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[REDACTED]


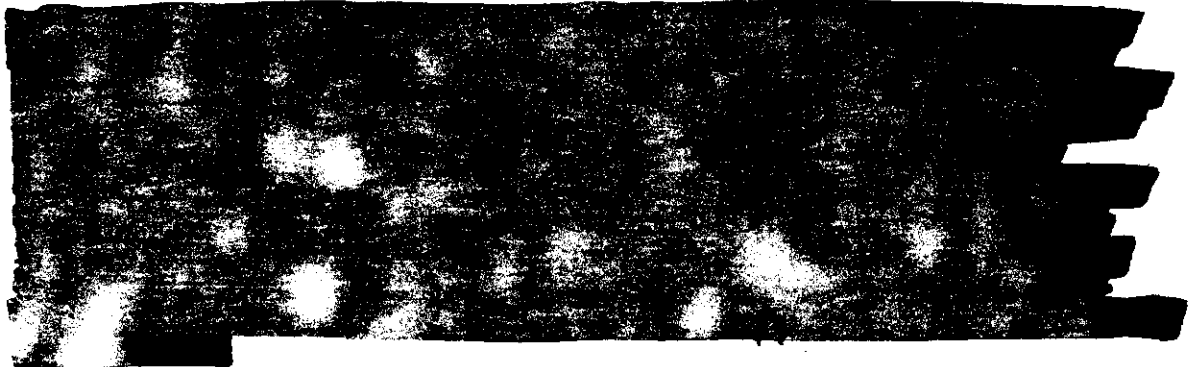
[REDACTED]

Director, FBI

- 4 -

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Because of this large volume, it is not possible to furnish in letter form all background information, but it is believed that this letter contains all pertinent information necessary to you.

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For your information and any assistance it may be in connection with this matter, I am transmitting, herewith, a copy of a memo prepared by Special Agent [redacted] which sets out in brief form a chronological resume of the principal incidents of interest in this investigation.

For your further information the Bureau has instructed that only "experienced and well qualified Agents" be assigned to this investigation. It is further the Bureau's instructions that all interviews in connection with this case be conducted by two Agents. The Bureau has further instructed that signed statements be obtained even though the information



Director, FBI

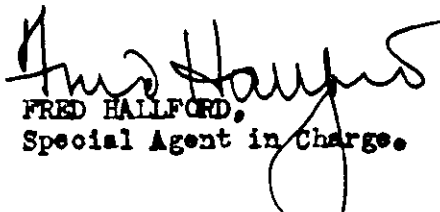
- 5 -

8-26-43

is negative. Five copies of this report should be furnished to the Bureau and three copies to this office. Springfield is the office of origin.

I again wish to impress upon you the importance of this investigation and the fact that it is imperative that this lead be covered immediately. In addition, it is the Bureau's desire that you give this matter your personal attention.

Very truly yours,

  
FRED HALLFORD,  
Special Agent in Charge.

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44-18

cc-Miami Field Division  
Enc.

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

44-5

BUFFALO, NEW YORK 9/9/43 9/8/43

JOHN L. LEWIS, RAY EDMUNDSON, WALTER J. JAMES,  
Officers of the United Mine Workers of America;  
CARL H. ELSHOFF, Owner of Mine "B",  
Springfield, Illinois

CIVIL RIGHTS AND  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

MEYER S. RYDER acted as NLRB dispute pacifier from approximately 2/5/41 to 2/21/41, during which time PMWA attorney submitted plan which relieved active belligerency of both unions at Mine "B" and which allowed for 2/21/41 election won by UMWA. RYDER has no knowledge of incidents indicating interference with rights of PMWA, nor has he ever seen any lists substantiating majority claims of either union, although he states that non-specific and common knowledge in Springfield and his own non-factually based opinion designates ELSHOFF as pro-NMWA.

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- R U C -

REFERENCE: Letter from Springfield Field Division to Buffalo Field Division dated September 6, 1943.

DETAILS: The following information was obtained during a personal interview between MEYER S. RYDER and Special Agent [redacted] in the presence of Special Agent [redacted]. The interview occurred in the offices of the National Labor Relations Board, Genesee Building, Buffalo, New York. Mr. RYDER'S statements were based upon personal recollections. The exact facts, he

- 9 - Bureau
- 4 - Springfield (44-18)
- 2 - Buffalo

*John B. Little*

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INDEXED

*memo to [redacted] 9/12/43*

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stated, were contained in the National Labor Relations Board files maintained in Chicago, Illinois. Mr. RYDER conversed willingly without clearance from his superiors in Washington.

MEYER S. RYDER stated that from hearsay he had learned that the National Labor Relations Board Field Examiners, LEISERSON and WILLIAMS, had investigated instant dispute about the time that the Progressive Mine Workers of America had filed a protest with the National Labor Relations Board that the "B" Mine had refused to bargain with the officials of their organization. RYDER stated that he was extremely uncertain as to the time of this investigation, but he fixed it at about the end of the long period during which the "B" Mine did not operate.

Mr. RYDER stated that the next investigation he had heard about was that conducted during late 1940 and early 1941 by JAMES C. CLARK, a Field Examiner working out of the Chicago office of the National Labor Relations Board. RYDER advised that he had heard from some source, presently unknown, that CLARK had at that time just finished extensive investigations in Kentucky concerning United Mine Workers and Progressive Mine Workers disputes and that in these Kentucky investigations CLARK had found the United Mine Workers justified in their claims. RYDER further advised that because of these Kentucky investigations the Progressive Mine Workers were claiming bias on the part of CLARK because he would not report that UMW were using illegal methods in obtaining membership increases in Mine "B". RYDER further stated that he did not know if this PMW claim was correct, nor had CLARK ever indicated to him his (CLARK'S) personal opinion in the matter.

Mr. RYDER stated that he accompanied CLARK to the "B" Mine area for about three days immediately after New Year's Day, 1941, during which time he assisted CLARK in interviewing numerous "B" Mine employees. RYDER stated that this was the only time he was ever concerned in a mine dispute and because it was believed by the National Labor Relations Board that he was entirely unprejudiced, he was assigned to "B" Mine sometime in the vicinity of early February, 1941.

RYDER advised that at the beginning of his assignment in "B" Mine there had been numerous beatings, small riots, etc., and that his assignment to the mine was not so much as an investigator into the relative merits of the different factions, but rather as a pacifier to bring about some type of agreeable settlement without further bloodshed. RYDER stated that he interviewed numerous beating victims, etc.; that he believed he incorporated the results of these interviews into the Chicago records, but that he remembered no definite information was obtained as a result of these interviews. Mr. RYDER was pressed as to specific evidence disclosed during the interviews with the victims he had mentioned, but steadfastly maintained that they yielded no certain information as to the identity of assailants,

BU 44-5

instigators of the beatings, or the immediate causes of any of the riots. RYDER advised that at about this time it appeared obvious that more men were switching from the PMW to the UMW. He said that nothing definite was present to form such an opinion, but that he was conscious of the trend, as was everyone else concerned. He said that, although there were numerous charges of duress by each union, his personal, baseless opinion was that the United Mine Workers were using every form of intimidation possible. RYDER explained, in illustration of this opinion, that at that time EDWARD HECKELBECK was employed as a mine inspector by the "B" Mine Company; that HECKELBECK as an inspector had access to every part of the mine; and that continuous "grapevine" reports indicated that HECKELBECK was propagandizing for the UMW at all times. RYDER stated that he believed there was a great deal of credence in these indirect reports, inasmuch as HECKELBECK left the mine immediately after the election and became a personal aid of JOHN L. LEWIS.

RYDER advised that he had received further indirect information indicating that JOHANNON, United Mine Workers local president, and others were terrorizing Progressive Mine Workers in attempts to have them sign with the UMW organization. RYDER said that, although he investigated all terrorizing claims, nothing definite had ever been determined. He further stated that he has never seen any list of any type showing who had signed with either union concerned, but that he had attempted to obtain the background of some sixty new employees when charges were made by the PMW that "B" Mine officials were "padding" the mine with employees favorable to the UMW. RYDER stated that the outcome of this check showed no conclusive UMW "padding", and that he had brought this to the attention of CHARLES KANE, attorney for and leader of the Springfield local, PMWA. KANE, he stated, took exception to this survey, claiming that the intimidation practiced by the UMW could never be observed by an investigation into a worker's background, inasmuch as, in self-protection, workers showed ostensible impartiality, even after deciding to vote as United Mine Workers of America.

RYDER advised as it became more obvious to all concerned that the UMW were gaining the upper hand, CHARLES KANE, on behalf of the PMWA, suggested an arbitrary policy to RYDER. KANE'S plan, RYDER explained, encompassed three general points, which were as follows. First, that the "B" Mine officials should have a notice posted at various obvious points throughout the mine, which notice should definitely state that "B" Mine officials had absolutely no partiality so far as either Progressive Mine Workers or United Mine Workers were concerned, and that they were not backing either of the organizations in any way. Second, that such notice posted by "B" Mine officials should contain a statement to the effect that, should any further demonstrations of violence be observed, all people concerned in the violence would be immediately dismissed from the employment of the organization without reinstatement possibilities. Third, that should the above two points be adhered to by the company officials and the UMW, the PMW would,

in turn, withdraw their objection to the election which had been requested of the National Labor Relations Board by the UMW.

RYDER stated that this decision on the part of KANE was more important to him as a dispute pacifier, inasmuch as the NLRB was, at that time, in a peculiar position. This peculiar position, he advised, had been brought about by the fact that, although on the basis of a past election the NLRB had designated the PMWA as the sole bargaining agent at "B" Mine, recent claims by the UMW had stated that this organization now had a substantial majority of the workers concerned. RYDER stated that he had never seen any documentary evidence of this majority, nor, to his knowledge, had any other official of the NLRB received a list of names for review at this time. RYDER stated that, nevertheless, the NLRB had been looking for some convenient method to settle the dispute and allow for an election, inasmuch as it seemed obvious that an election was the only method whereby further, state-wide bloodshed might be prevented. RYDER continued by saying that as a result of the arbitrary plan submitted by KANE, an election was held, inasmuch as the third point in his plan withdrew the PMW objections to this election; and that, as a result of the election, the UMW were designated as the sole bargaining agent at "B" Mine.

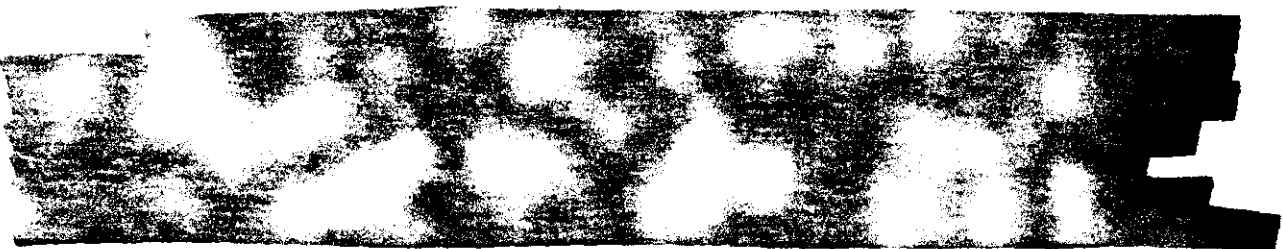
At this point, RYDER was pressed as to the reason for KANE'S arbitrary suggestion, inasmuch as KANE could have claimed that a previous NLRB decision had appointed the PMWA as the sole bargaining agent, and also inasmuch as at the time it was obvious to everyone concerned that an election would result in a UMW victory. RYDER stated that he was unable to explain this decision on the part of KANE, inasmuch as the "B" Mine was perhaps the "key" mine in Illinois. RYDER, however, stated that the workers concerned were tired of the long and bloody dispute; that school children of the different factions were experiencing great difficulties in working together in schools; and that, in general, the trend on the part of the PMW was a desire to go to work peacefully regardless of to whom they owe their allegiance. RYDER explained that KANE was conscious of this spirit on the part of the workers and that he was further conscious of the fact that, while the Progressive Mine Workers were entering increased financial difficulties, the United Mine Workers appeared to be growing financially stronger, and that, as the PMW were unable to pay sick and death benefits, etc., their power in the state was rapidly vanishing. RYDER stated that he believed KANE had suggested his arbitrary plan in an effort to salvage some portion of the prestige of the PMW.

During the above interview MEYER S. RYDER indicated a number of personal opinions, although it was determined throughout the conversation that these opinions were based upon no definite facts or documents and that their utility in court would be negligible. RYDER advised that, in his opinion, the "B" Mine Company, as represented by its owner, CARL H. ELSHOFF, was pro-UMW. he stated that this was a natural tendency on the part of the

BU 44-5

owner, since the experience in the state had indicated that the UMW contract was much better than a PMW contract, inasmuch as a greater volume of business was possible, more valuable contacts were made, and more permanent plans could be formulated in consideration of the nation-wide character of the union. RYDER further stated that to him a specific evidence of the pro-UMW attitude was the fact that the owner of the "B" Mine had never consented to a closed shop when dealing with PMW, but had immediately consented to a closed shop when the UMW held control following the last election. RYDER said that, in consideration of the belligerent faction nature of the neighborhood around "B" Mine, an open shop was, in effect, a strong agent for the UMW, for it allowed their strong militant and highly organized minority to propagandize more than the less organized majority of PMW. RYDER further claimed that, from his observation of the general attitude in the "B" Mine district, he felt that duress and every other method of obtaining UMW votes was used, although he had not been able to obtain specific evidence during his investigation.

RYDER stated that he had no knowledge of any financial arrangements between "B" Mine, ELSHOFF, and the UMW, nor had he ever heard of the transfer of any funds among them. He stated that the only money he had ever heard involved in the dispute was at the time of the death of a Progressive Mine Worker, when a representation of United Mine Workers appeared at the wake and gave a \$200 check to the widow. This type of perfectly legal propaganda, RYDER advised, was extremely powerful, inasmuch as at the time the PMW were unable to pay any of their death benefits.



REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

MEMORANDUM

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL.

-2-

9-9-43

served with process in conjunction with an injunction proceedings filed earlier that morning by the Wage and Hour Division. The injunction was filed under Civil Docket #191 on November 6, 1941. The case was heard and the court dismissed the injunction complaint on July 1, 1942.

Mr. BARBER pointed out that he was never able to ascertain to his satisfaction where the complaint was received from which caused the Wage and Hour Division to initiate an investigation; further, that the company had never received any such complaint from any of the company's miners. He pointed out that in hand-loading mines in this area and all areas, the same procedure and same method of pay is followed; that due to the nature of hand-loading, coal miners cannot be paid by any other method as it would be impossible and impractical to make any other arrangement. He stated that he made an exhaustive search to attempt to find information as to where the Wage and Hour Division had ever filed any other similar injunction proceedings, but without success.

Mr. BARBER advised that he felt that in view of the whole situation, and especially in view of the fact that CARL H. ELSHOFF, and the UMW probably through him, knew the financial status of the Panther Creek Mines and the fact that they were burdened with approximately \$400,000.00 indebtedness, caused this complaint to be made to the Wage and Hour Division immediately after negotiations with ELSHOFF failed at the price which ELSHOFF was willing to pay, in an attempt to force Panther Creek Mines to sell.

The above information is submitted in order that the Bureau and the Department may have the benefit of the same and determine whether or not they desire to have the Wage and Hour Division, United States Department of Labor, contacted for the purpose of determining whether or not the complaint in connection with this matter originated with the UMW and hence may be a part of the conspiracy between CARL H. ELSHOFF and UMW in instant case.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Special Agent.

44-18

cc Bureau (9) ✓  
Springfield (3)

b7c

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Springfield, Illinois  
September 9, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL.  
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are nine copies of a memorandum submitted by Special Agent [redacted]. This memorandum is submitted with the thought that you may desire to present same to the Department to ascertain whether or not the Department desires to make or have made any inquiry at the Wage and Hour Division, United States Department of Labor.

DEFERRED *[Signature]*

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
FRED HALLEFORD, SAC.

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I request that the circumstances surrounding this event be thoroughly investigated.

This investigation will be pertinent to Point Two, I, B of the "Outline of the Trial Brief" referred to in my memorandum to you dated August 26, 1943, numbered 1.

Respectfully,

  
WENDELL BERGE,  
Assistant Attorney General.

Springfield, Illinois  
September 9, 1943

MEMORANDUM:

Re: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL.  
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

In connection with an interview had with Mr. CLAYTON J. BARBER, attorney for the Panther Creek Mines, 10th Floor, First National Bank Building, Springfield, Illinois, by the undersigned on September 7, 1943, the results of said interview being reported elsewhere, the undersigned submits the following information.

Mr. BARBER stated that shortly after negotiations for Panther Creek Mines by CARL H. ELSHOFF failed, a Mr. HERMAN GRANT of the Wage and Hour Division, United States Department of Labor, 222 West North Bank Drive, Chicago, Illinois, came to his office and asked if he would enter a Consent Decree to an injunction against Panther Creek Mines, Inc. Mr. GRANT stated that a review of the records of Panther Creek Mines revealed that on each pay period all employees of the mine were not receiving the minimum amount per hour, as required under the Wage and Hour Statutes and rules and regulations. Mr. BARBER refused to enter a Consent Decree and advised that it would be, due to the nature of mining business, an impossibility for the mine to have watchmen for every miner in the mine to see that he actually worked the required number of hours; also that on some days a miner will shoot down large amounts of coal and his pay for that period would be light. At the beginning of the next pay period he might spend several days loading this coal, during which time his pay period would be much above average. Mr. BARBER pointed out that the company was attempting to comply with all these rules and regulations.

After Mr. GRANT's call, Mr. BARBER said he addressed a letter to the Wage and Hour Division in Chicago and sent a copy of this letter to the Labor Department in Washington, D. C. He received an answer from Chicago, wherein that office denied that he had ever been asked to enter a Consent Decree in connection with the injunction. Later he received advice that Mr. HERMAN GRANT was to be in the post office building in Springfield at a given time. Mr. BARBER went to the post office to meet Mr. GRANT. Mr. GRANT was not there but instead Mr. BARBER was

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44-845-72

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

FILE NO. **44-13**

REPORT MADE AT <b>CLEVELAND, OHIO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9/10/43</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>9/8/43</b>	REPORT MADE BY 
TITLE <b>JOHN L. LEWIS, RAY EDMUNDSON, WALTER J. JAMES, Officials of the United Mine Workers of America; CARL H. ELSHOFF, Owner of Mine "B", Springfield, Illinois</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

**GARNET L. PATTERSON**, general counsel for United Rubber Workers, Akron, Ohio, reviewed the facts in the Mine "B" controversy and advised that EDMUNDSON and ELSHOFF had appeared at his office to discuss matters of a general nature. No indication of conspiracy against the Progressive Mine Workers as evidenced by their line of questioning.

- RUC -

**Reference:**

Letter from the Springfield Field Division dated September 6, 1943.  
Teletype from the Springfield Field Division dated September 8, 1943.

**Details:**

At Akron, Ohio

**GARNET L. PATTERSON**, who resides at Navarre, Ohio, and is presently engaged as general counsel for the United Rubber Workers, with offices located on the fifth floor of the United Building, Akron, Ohio, stated that he remembered the "B" Mine controversy that occurred prior to his appointment as Regional Director for the National Labor Relations Board at Chicago and which continued during his term as Regional Director from February of 1939 to January of 1941. He added

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44-13

that since that time, however, situations of importance have arisen that dimmed the mine affair in his memory. PATTERSON summarized the "B" Mine incident that existed prior to his appointment as Regional Director and recalled some of the events that took place while he was in Chicago.

In answer to the question as to why dues are checked off the payroll, which matter is mentioned on page six of the Springfield office memorandum for the file dated August 23, 1943, PATTERSON advised that there is a provision whereby the company checks off and deducts monthly dues from union members and forwards the dues collected to the Union Headquarters.

He further stated that in August of 1940 an agreement was entered into by ELSHOFF, the United Mine Workers, and the Progressive Mine Workers, whereby ELSHOFF would bargain with the Progressive Mine Workers as the mine representative, and that interference with employees attempting to join or form a union of their own should be stopped. These agreements were entered by the National Labor Relations Board in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals. Late in the year of 1939, the "B" Mine was reopened on an open shop basis.

In July of 1940, the Progressive Mine Workers filed a new charge against the Mine "B" company, alleging that the Mine "B" operators were encouraging membership in the United Mine Workers Organization. At about this time the United Mine Workers petitioned the National Labor Relations Board for an investigation to determine if their organization should not be the bargaining agent in the mine. He explained that the Board had not acted on the United Mine Workers' Petition at that time because the Board was still investigating the charges made by the Progressive Mine Workers against the Mine "B" company, wherein it was alleged that the Mine "B" company had been engaging in unfair labor practices.

In January of 1941 the Board issued a notice that the question of representing would come up at a hearing at Springfield. He stated that a number of signatures for the United Mine Workers and the Progressive Mine Workers in relation to the company's payroll, represented a sizeable discrepancy and had later developed that some of the employees had signed both petitions with a view in mind of being with a group that emerged victorious at the election.

The Progressive Mine Workers filed a petition with the National Labor Relations Board, requesting that the United Mine Workers' petition for identification be dismissed on the grounds that the United Mineworkers

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

WE:DC:ALE

144-10

August 27, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR,  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 1

Re: \*Mine "E" -- Violations of  
Section 51, Title 18.

[REDACTED] b7c

In my memorandum of August 11, 1943, I listed on page 4 the names of twelve men believed to have been expelled from the \*Progressive Mine Workers of America prior to May 12, 1937.

We have statements that none of these men appealed from the order expelling them, and that in one case a man voted for his own expulsion.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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I do not believe that I have heretofore requested you specifically to investigate fully the circumstances surrounding the trial of these men by the Progressive Union's Trial Committee. It is possible that Lewis and Edmundson contemplated the expulsion of these men from the Progressive Union as a method of precipitating a strike, it being agreed that Elshoff would refuse to fire them as he was probably required to do under his contract. If this is the correct theory, these men would probably have been instructed not to put up any serious resistance to their expulsion and even to cooperate to that end.

INDEXED 44-845-74

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CV. F.O.  
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had resorted to unfair methods in bringing about a majority. This motion was filed after the hearing of the National Labor Relations Board at Washington had started action. The investigator working out of the National Labor Relations Board, Chicago office, that investigated the controversy, was called into Washington to testify before the Board there.

Mr. PATTERSON further stated that ELSHOFF had been in his office as well as EDMUNDSON, and that perhaps the two had been in the office at some time. Most of the meetings were attended by representatives of the United Mine Workers, the Progressive Mine Workers, and officials of the "B" Mine at the request of the National Labor Relations Board.

He advised that nothing ever developed in these meetings to indicate that there was collusion between ELSHOFF and EDMUNDSON, nor anything to indicate that the United Mine Workers and the "B" Mine operators were conspiring against the Progressive Mine Workers. Neither of these men have asked for information or opinions that could in any way be interpreted to mean that they were soliciting this information with a view in mind that they were anticipating engaging in some questionable activity that would permit them to keep within the law.

He further stated that the attorneys for EDMUNDSON and ELSHOFF appeared to be fine young men, clean cut, and very business like. EDMUNDSON and ELSHOFF also impressed him as being respectable, conscientious, and hard working. He advised that on one of his visits to Springfield, a Mr. ~~MAINE~~, attorney for the Progressive Mine Workers, contacted him and advised that the United Mine Workers had paid ELSHOFF a sizeable sum of money to influence his decision in favor of the United Mine Workers. This matter was investigated by one of the field men with negative results.

The interviewing agent questioned Mr. PATTERSON as to a possible explanation why ELSHOFF awarded the United Mine Workers a Closed Shop Contract in 1941 eight days after the National Labor Relations Board certified the United Mine Workers as the collective bargaining agent, whereas the Progressive Mine Workers had been negotiating since the summer of 1937 for the same type of contract. Mr. PATTERSON explained that it was his opinion that ELSHOFF was a member of the State Coal Operators Organization and in all likelihood their contracts with the union are for a closed shop agreement, and that ELSHOFF felt that he could not get by without offering the closed contract to the United Mine Workers.

In addition to this he stated that perhaps ELSHOFF was rather disgusted with all the bickering that had taken place between the unions, and that throughout this period, the mine had not operated as profitably as it

CV. F.O.  
44-13

should have and that this final action perhaps would mean that the trouble would be terminated. Mr. PATTERSON appeared to be very cooperative and expressed a willingness to help in any manner whatsoever. The discussion with Mr. PATTERSON was not reduced to a signed statement in view of the fact that it did not appear to be probative information.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

[Redacted]

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RECORDED 44-845 - 74

Date: August 28, 1943

To: SAC, Springfield

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL  
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

There are transmitted herewith photostatic copies of five memoranda dated August 27, 1943, from the Criminal Division of the Department, captioned 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively, "Mine B - Violations of Section 51, Title 18."

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With regard to your telephonic comments of August 23, 1943, regarding Exhibits 36, 34 and 38 [Redacted] you will note that memorandum #4 dated August 27, 1943, indicates that the ballots used in the elections held at Mine B on December 15, 1937, and February 21, 1941, did not show how an employee actually cast his vote. With respect to Exhibit 34, the Department indicates that the application for membership cards were not submitted to the National Labor Relations Board but merely exhibited to the field examiner for his information in making a decision as to whether an election to determine a bargaining representative for the Mine employees should be held.

Copies of the above memoranda are forwarded for your information and possible assistance in conducting the investigation in the above entitled case. You will note that these memoranda contain certain investigative suggestions as set forth by the Criminal Division. These investigative suggestions should be fully developed unless a specific reason exists making it inadvisable to do so.

Enclosure  
SPECIAL DELIVERY

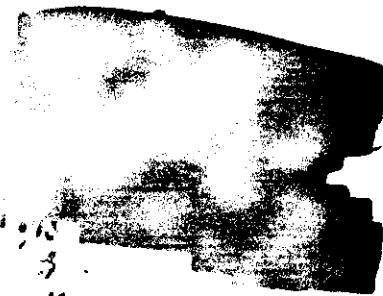
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
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WASHINGTON, D. C.

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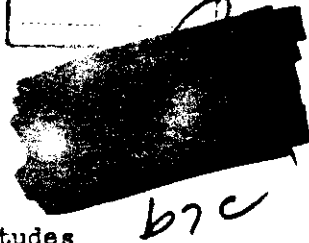
August 23, 1943

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Acers	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Mumford	.....
Mr. Starke	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
Files	.....

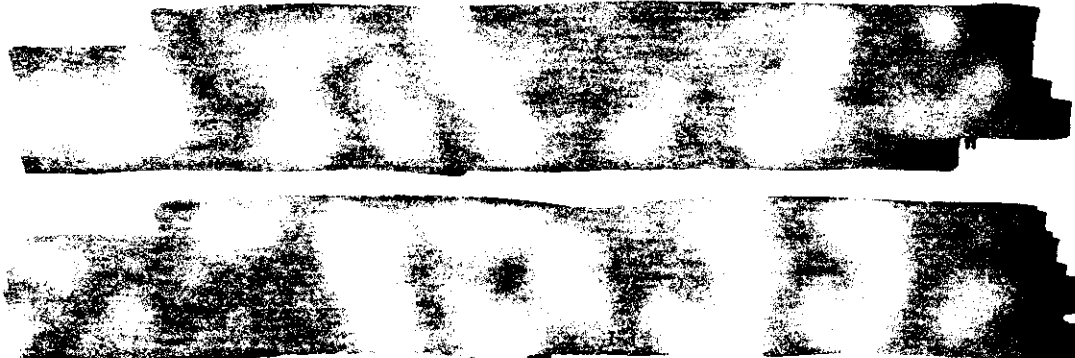
MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 3

Re: ~~X~~ Mine "B" -- Violations of  
Section 51, Title 18.



It is important to establish the subjects' attitudes regarding the length of the period over which payments would have to be made pursuant to their agreement. It is believed that in June, 1937, they were hopeful that these payments would have to be made only for a short time.



This possible inconsistency is being called to your attention for whatever value it may have for investigative purposes.

INDEXED  
Respectfully,

44-845-75  
Wendell Berge  
WENDELL BERGE,  
Assistant Attorney General.

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1943  
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THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
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WASHINGTON, D. C.

WB:PC:MLB

August 23, 1943

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Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Acers	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Mumford	.....
Mr. Starke	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
Files	.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 1

Re: Mine "B" -- Violations of  
Section 51, Title 18.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The significance of the audit report is not understood. It is requested that you make inquiry to determine whether the audit was specifically ordered by subject Lewis, whether it was a report made in the regular course of business, and, if not, why it was requested at this particular time.

The suspicion is that Lewis, learning that certain persons were showing an unwholesome interest in his relationships with Elshoff, determined that the records for this period should be destroyed, that an audit should be made to cover up and fill in the blank, and that thereafter the falsification of the records should be accomplished in a more subtle fashion.

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Respectfully,

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*Wendell Berge*

WENDELL BERGE,  
Assistant Attorney General

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In my memorandum to you of July 24, 1943, you were requested to interview Mr. Bajork.

G. L. ~~Patterson~~, formerly Regional Director, N.L.R.B. 13th Region. He is now General Counsel, United Rubber Workers in Akron, Ohio.

I am reliably informed that Mr. Patterson will cooperate to the fullest extent with your Bureau, and it is understood that he has significant information. Because he was Regional Director in Chicago during the Mine "B" controversy, he should be of considerable assistance to your Bureau.

It is requested that each of these officials and former officials be interviewed to determine whether or not they have information regarding the issues of this case beyond that which is reflected in the files of the National Labor Relations Board. Many of these individuals conferred at length with Elshoff and Edmundson, and for that reason, they may be valuable witnesses as to incriminating statements and admissions made by these subjects.

Respectfully,

  
WENDELL BERGE,  
Assistant Attorney General.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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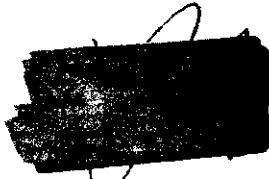
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August 27, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 2

Re: X Mine "B" -- Violations of  
Section 51, Title 18.



In connection with the history of the controversy between the Progressives and U.M.W. of 1932 until 1937, it will be helpful to have a comprehensive picture of the mines which were, at one time or another, controlled by these opposing forces.

It is believed that some of the Progressive officials will be able to furnish a map graphically portraying the shifting tides of fortune during this struggle.

This information will be of assistance in determining the relationship to the over-all state controversy of the U.M.W. campaign to break the Progressive locals at Mine "B", X Mine "A", the X Panther Creek Mines, and the other mines of which Elshoff was to be used to get control.

Carl

Respectfully,

*Wendell Berge*

WENDELL BERGE,  
Assistant Attorney General.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

RE: PC:MLE

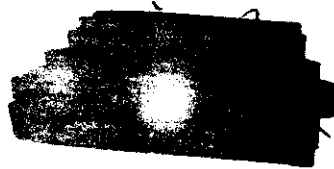
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August 27, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 3

Re: Mine "P" -- Violations of  
Section 51, Title 18.



The following individuals were officials of the ~~National~~ Labor Relations Board who actively participated in the Mine "B" controversy between 1937 and 1941. Some of them are now with the Board and others have gone into other employment. I checked with the National Labor Relations Board but could not obtain the exact addresses of these individuals in every case.

James C. ~~X~~Clark, formerly N.L.R.B. Field Examiner working out of Chicago, Illinois. I am informed he is now in Indianapolis, Indiana.

O. S. ~~X~~Smith, formerly N.L.R.B. Field Examiner, Chicago, Illinois. He is now Director of the Field Division in Washington, D. C.

I. S. ~~X~~Dorfman, formerly Acting Regional Director, N.L.R.B., 13th Region. He is now in Washington with the Office of Strategic Services.

Martin ~~X~~Wagner, formerly N.L.R.B. Field Examiner in the 13th Region. He is now N.L.R.B. Regional Director in San Francisco.

Meyer S. ~~X~~Ryder, formerly N.L.R.B. Field Examiner, Chicago. He is now Regional Director at Buffalo, New York.

Leonard C. ~~X~~Bajork, formerly Acting Regional Director, N.L.R.B. 13th Region. He is now probably in Chicago, Illinois, as private labor consultant.

*9-1-43*

*2/15/43*  
*cc - [redacted]*

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ADDRESS REPLY TO  
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"  
AND REFER TO  
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

RE: FC; MLB

144-10

August 27, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 4

Re: Mine "B" -- Violations of  
Section 51, Title 18.

I have your memorandum of August 25, 1943, referring to  
[redacted] Exhibits No. 36, No. 58, and No. 54.

In respect to the inquiry relating to Exhibit No. 36,  
I am reliably informed by officials of the National Labor  
Relations Board that in Board elections, the ballot does  
not disclose the name of the voter who cast it. Apparently,  
there is no way to determine from the Board's records how  
any employee actually cast his vote.

This information is equally applicable to the inquiry  
relating to Exhibit No. 58.

In respect to the inquiry relating to Exhibit No. 54,  
I am informed that the Membership cards referred to did  
not actually come into the possession of the Board officials  
but were simply exhibited to the Field Examiner who made  
calculations therefrom, and the cards were returned to the  
possession of the unions. Apparently, if these cards are  
available at all in their original form, they are to be  
found in the unions' files.

With respect to the last paragraph of your memorandum,  
I believe that all petitions addressed to the Board have  
been forwarded to the Bureau.

RECORDED  
Respectfully,  
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B  
Wendell Berge  
WENDELL BERGE,  
Assistant Attorney General.

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July 10, 1943

5743  
cc: [redacted]  
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ADDRESS REPLY TO  
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"  
AND REFER TO  
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

*X*  
TE:FC:MLB

144-10

August 27, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 5

Re: *X* Mine "B" -- Violations of  
Section 51, Title 18.



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There is reason to believe that O'Leary was used by Lewis as a means of checking to see that the payments actually reached Elshoff and were not misappropriated en route.



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8/26/43  
cc Springfield



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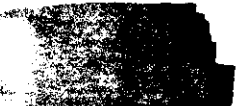
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Any information which you may discover regarding the identification and location of the missing \$15,000 will be extremely valuable. At an appropriate time, O'Leary should be interviewed.

Respectfully,



WENDELL BERGE,  
Assistant Attorney General.



JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 United States Department of Justice  
 Washington, D. C.

August 30, 1943

Time: 12:30 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: JOHN L. LEWIS, ET AL.  
CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

At the above time Mr. Frank Coleman of the Department called with respect to the situation which was reported in my memorandum of Saturday, August 28, 1943, that is, [REDACTED]

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Mr. Coleman advised [REDACTED] in my office that he personally took the matter up again with Mr. Carusi in the Attorney General's office and as a result he has reached an agreement with the Tax Division in the Department whereby arrangements will be made, according to Mr. Coleman, [REDACTED]

Respectfully,

*F. L. Welch*

F. L. Welch

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44-845-81  
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50 SEP 18 1943



2:45 PM

**Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
**Washington, D. C.**  
August 28, 1943

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: John L. Lewis et al  
Civil Rights & Domestic  
Violence

Mr. Frank Coleman, Civil Rights Section in the Department, called regarding this case. Mr. Coleman stated that he was concerned about the following possible conflict of investigative activity which has presented itself.

[REDACTED]

Mr. Coleman stated that for his part he desired to present the evidence regarding the violation by Elshoff to the same grand jury which would be called to hear the evidence developed by the Bureau in instant investigation regarding not only Elshoff's activities but also those of John L. Lewis and others.

[REDACTED]

RECORDED & INDEXED 47-845-82

Mr. Coleman requested advice from [REDACTED] who took the call, as to the Bureau's viewpoint in the matter. It was pointed out to him that very definitely the Bureau does not want any other investigators making inquiries regarding the same situation in any investigation, since it is highly undesirable from the standpoint of both organizations and [REDACTED] particularly stressed the fact that in an investigation as delicate as the present one it was felt that there would be no question but that the Bureau would strenuously object to any such procedure. It was pointed out to Mr. Coleman that necessarily in connection with investigation in this matter an accounting investigation would have to be made in accordance with the Department's request into the circumstances surrounding the payment of the \$225,000 to Carl Elshoff by the United Mine Workers and that after the Bureau had completed its investigation and the evidence developed had been reviewed in the Department [REDACTED]

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