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File Folder JGR/FBI [FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION] (3)

FOIA

F05-139/01

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No			Pages	

LETTER

MARTIN KAISER TO WILLIAM WEBSTER RE FBI AGENTS

2 7/27/1983 B6

1236

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

E.O. 13233

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 16, 1983

FOR:

FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Additional Martin Kaiser Correspondence

You will recall that Martin Kaiser has written us in the past concerning his allegations of misconduct on the part of FBI agents. We referred his previous letters to the Department of Justice. Kaiser has now written Webster, stating that a Federal court in North Carolina has agreed with him, although no evidence or specifics are adduced to support this claim. In his letter to Webster, Kaiser claims the agents violated the FBI standards of conduct, and asks that they be fired. Kaiser sent you a copy of his letter to Webster, with a brief cover note.

As we decided before, this is not a matter in which the White House should become involved. No response is necessary, nor is any referral, since Justice already has the letter to Webster.

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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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ACTION CODES: A - Appropriate Action C - Comment/Recommendation D - Draft Response F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure	I - Info Copy Only/No Ac R - Direct Reply w/Copy S - For Signature X - Interim Reply	tion Necessary	DISPOSITION CODES: A - Answered
Comments:			

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() Secret Service Case

No previous File

MARTIN L. NAIDEN,

Countersurveillance • Bomb Detection • Surveillance Electronics

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Fred ding Fielding 27 Jyly 1983

The White House Washington, D C 20500

Attention: Ronald Reagan

President

My Dear Mr President:

Further to my previous letters concerning a corrupt group of F_B I agents we now have a ruling by the courts. The attached letter to Mr Webster, Director of the F B I, is self explanitory.

There has got to be an end to this matter and I remain convinced that the solution is within your power.

Truly,

Martin L Kaiser

President

Encl.

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name Roberts, John

CAS 8/12/2005

Withdrawer

File Folder

FOIA

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LETTER 1

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E.O. 13233

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

SECTION 1. ACTIVITIES AND STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

1-1 INTRODUCTION

Regulations concerning the conduct and activities of employees are published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 28, Section 45.735. Their source is found generally in Departmental Order 350-65 dated 12-28-65 which provides that employees shall:

- (1) Conduct themselves in a manner that creates and maintains respect for the Department of Justice and the U.S. Government. In all their activities, personal and official, they should always be mindful of the high standards of behavior expected of them.
- (2) Not give or in any way appear to give favored treatment or advantage to any member of the public, including former employees, who appear before the Department on their own behalf or on behalf of a non-governmental person.
- (3) Avoid any action which might result in, or create the appearance of-
 - (a) Using public office for private gain
 - (b) Giving preferential treatment to any person
 - (d) Losing complete independence or impartiality
 - (e) Making a Government decision outside official channels; or
 - (f) Affecting adversely the confidence of the public in the integrity of the Government

Departmental Order 350-65 further provides that an employee shall not have a direct or indirect financial interest that conflicts, or appears to conflict, with his Government duties and responsibilities. Such a conflict exists whenever the performance of the duties of an employee has or appears to have a direct and prodictable effect upon a financial interest of such employee or of his spouse, minor child, partner, person, or organization with which he is associated or is negotiating for future employment. A conflict of interest is deemed to exist even though there is no reason to suppose that the employee will in fact resolve the conflict to his own personal advantage rather than to that of the Government. The order also provides that no Department of Justice employee shall participate personally and substantially as a Government employee, through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, the rendering of advice; investigation or otherwise, in a judicial or other proceeding, application, request for a ruling or other determination, contract, claim, in which, to his knowledge, he, his spouse, minor child, partner, organization in which he is serving as officer, director, trustee, partner, or employee, or any person or organization with whom he is negotiating or has any arrangement concerning prospective employment, has a financial interest, unless authorized to do so by the Deputy Attorney General. This prohibition includes such financial interests as ownership of securities of corporations or other entities which may become involved in Bureau investigation. The prohibited actions include

SECTION 1 ACTIVITIES AND STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

ervisory decisions and recommendations, as well as investigative ivities. Any employee receiving an assignment involving any matters in the has a direct or indirect financial interest as defined in the artmental order shall immediately advise his superior and shall be reved of such assignment. Should there be a strong reason for requesting Department's approval for the employee to participate in the assignment, matter should be submitted to FBINQ for consideration regarding presention to the Department. In any event the employee should not participate such assignment until the Department's authorization has been received. departmental order specifically exempts from the above prohibition the ock, bond, or policy holdings of an employee in a mutual fund, investment upany, bank, or insurance company which owns an interest in an entity volved in the matter provided the fair value of the employee's holding does exceed one percent of the value of the reported assets of the mutual ad, investment company, or bank.

In furtherance of the above, the Bureau expects its employees to comport themselves that their activities both on and off duty will not scredit either themselves or the Bureau. Copies of Departmental Order 3-65 are furnished to employees during their indoctrination on entering the reau's service. Failure by an employee to follow these regulations will sult in appropriate disciplinary action including possible dismissal. The les and regulations regarding official and personal conduct which govern e granting of individual access to and use of Bureau cryptomaterials appear the COMSEC Custodian Manual (Section II, A, 5, pages 7-7c).

PERSONAL CONDUCT

Employees should never cause themselves to be mentally or physally unfit for duty. They are not permitted to consume alcoholic beverages ring working hours, including that time allotted for meal periods or any riod of leave taken if the employee intends to return to work before the rmination of working hours. The use of illegal drugs or narcotics or the use of any drugs or narcotics is strictly prohibited at any time. They st not, at any time, engage in criminal, dishonest, immoral or disgraceful nduct or other conduct prejudicial to the Government.

GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

All Government property, automobiles, supplies, equipment, teleones, and facilities are to be used solely for official purposes and are
to be converted to any employee's personal use. In this regard, however,
a use of equipment such as cameras for training and practice during nonwork
are shall be considered "official purposes." Any loss, misplacement, theft
destruction of Government property issued to any employee must be reported
his superior immediately.

3.1 Bureau Vehicles

Bureau vehicles are to be used for official business only. In nection with the use of Bureau vehicles, transportation and related rvices for other than Bureau employees are to be restricted to individuals their families, or aides accompanying them, who are traveling to attend reau sponsored or related functions or have other direct business to ansact with Bureau officials and officials of the Department of Justice aveling on official business. In no instance should such services be

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By ANNE-MARIE DOWNEY

ORO — Two used the crimito strengthen in a \$22 million ning from the ation and bug-swestern Bank, sfendants in the n federal court

ant in the civil used the FBI of the evidence. In defendant Maran 'electronics Cockeysville, reau agents or tered two taped switched taped also claimed removed docured files which the recovered.

ons were made hours of argu-Middle District I Judge Frank held a hearing notions pending thich began alers ago.

8, FBI agents ereton and Zafiled suit allegivil rights were their privacy then their conre electronicaluring their in-Northwestern ril to July 1977. Lowe charged uncan Jr., then Bank chairyn E. Bowers, president, concept the agents' none communiThey also claimed that Kaiser agreed to help Duncan and Bowers by possessing, selling, transporting and installing electronic surveillance equipment or bugs "to help them accomplish their sinister conspiratorial scheme." Northwestern Bank and Northwestern Financial Corp., the bank's holding company, also are defendants in the lawsuit.

The agents discovered they were being recorded while they were investigating financial irregularities at the North Wilkesboro-based bank. Duncan was convicted of misapplying bank funds and recording conversations of IRS agents who were reviewing bank records in October 1977, and in November 1977, he pleaded guilty to the bugging conspiracy against the FBI.

Bowers pleaded guilty to 'the conspiracy to record the FBI agents' conversations and to the actual bugging. However, Kaiser pleaded not guilty to charges related to the bugging and he was acquitted in federal court in Winston-Salem in February 1978.

Since Brereton and Lowe's suit was filed, it has become one of the most complicated civil cases ever in the U.S. Middle District. Three Greensboro attorneys -Bynum N. Hunter, Michael R. Abel and Ben F. Tennille - 1 have been released as defendants, and the remaining defendants and the plaintiffs have filed pages and pages of motions, affidavits and crossclaims. There also is a similar case filed by former FBI agent Donald G. Wilson for \$5.5 million in damages from Duncan, Bowers, Northwestern Bank and Northwestern Financial.

Lawyers for Duncan and Kaiser yesterday said Brereton and Lowe used the criminal investigation of their clients to prepare for their multimillion-dollar civil suit.

"They were given access and power of the federal government they should not have been given," Stephen Spring, a Louisiana attorney representing Kaiser said.

Dancan's attorney, Ted G. West, claimed that the former bank chairman agreed to plead guilty to the bugging conspiracy during a meeting with Brereton and a former U.S. attorney.

"We contend that Mr. Brereton and Mr. Lowe abused the process," West said. "That's what it boils down to in instigating a guilty plea from Mr. Duncan so they could have something to hang their hat on in this civil case."

He also said, "This court must and should look closely at a situation where investigators of the U.S. government pursue their investigation knowing during the entire course of the investigation that they have a civil suit in mind."

But Mike Bailey, one of Brereton's and Lowe's lawyers, said the agents were only fulfilling their obligations by investigating and helping prosecute the cases.

Kaiser filed a \$720,000 counterclaim against Brereton and Lowe in 1978 and last year he asked to add the FBI to his suit. He is seeking \$19.7 million from the FBI. Kaiser claimed the bureau "actually assisted and enabled... Brereton and Lowe to gain access to information and records while on bureau time and through bureau resources of information directly bearing to the outcome of the civil action."

Duncan also has asked the court to allow him to add the FBI, a former U.S. afterney and a former assistant U.S. attorney to his crossclaim against Brereton and Lowe. However, Bullock questioned whether the statutory limitation on adding to the crossclaims has run out.

Kaiser made other allegations against the FBI in his affidavit. He accused the bureau of fraudulently concealing and manufacturing evidence.

The Panasonic tape recorder presented at his criminal trial played at one-third normal speed, Kaiser said, but he said the recorder being used as evidence in the civil case operated at one-fourth normal speed. He also said tests showed that two tape recordings of Brereton and Lowe were not made on the tape recorder provided to Northwestern Bank in 1977 and that the two tapes were made on two different recorders, he said.

Kaiser said, "It is my belief based upon a review of tests that these modifications or manufacturing of evidence was performed by agents and/or employees of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as part of a conspiracy wherein the FBI acted in concert with plaintiffs Brereton and Lowe by attempting to convict me of a crime I did not commit ... and instituting the present civil suit as a retaliatory measure designed to drain me of funds necessarily spent in my defense."

Kaiser further charged that Brereton took documents out of the FBI files and that the bureau claims those papers are lost. He also said Brereton made misrepresentations to a grand jury which led to Kaiser's indictment on charges related to the bugging. Brereton did that, Kaiser said, so he could use the criminal trial to gather evidence for the civil case.

Duncan and Kaiser have filed motions for summary judgment and have asked for dismissal of the actions against them. Yesterday, attorneys for Northwestern Bank and Northwestern Financial Corp. also argued for summary judgment and dismissal.

"The bank was the one who was losing from this illegal activity, not just the customers, the bank," Richard Vanore, Northwestern attorney, said, "Because (Duncan) benefited is not sufficient to say the bank benefited and should be held responsible for his action."

He also charged that Brereton and Lowe are "seeking monetary damages as the real fruit of their criminal investigation."

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 7, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Representative Edwards and the FBI

You have asked for more information on the attached story from the November 1 New York Times. (Tab A). The FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC) is a clearinghouse for crime information provided by law enforcement entities at the Federal, state, and local level. The NCIC is perhaps best known as the source for the Bureau's annual crime statistics, but it also provides information of active investigative significance to law enforcement agencies. some time the FBI has been considering adding a "white collar crime" component to its NCIC files; at present information about such crimes is generally not compiled and thus not available to law enforcement agencies pursuing investigations in this area. Congressman Don Edwards (D-CA) has expressed concern that compiling and making available information on individuals suspected of involvement in white collar crime would violate the civil liberties of those individuals.

On October 12 the Bureau advised the staff of the House Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, chaired by Edwards, that staff counsel would not be permitted to attend meetings of the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee of the NCIC Advisory Policy Board. The meetings, which took place October 15-16, were called to consider adding white collar crime to NCIC coverage. Edwards protested this decision in an October 12 letter to Judge Webster, citing the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act making the open meeting requirements of that Act applicable to subcommittees, and the separate provision directing each committee of the House to "make a continuing review of the activities of each advisory committee under its jurisdiction." (Tab B). Edwards later wrote to the Attorney General to object in general to plans to expand coverage of the NCIC. (Tab C).

Justice has not yet responded to either of Edwards's letters. Judge Webster signed a reply dated October 31, contending that the subcommittee was not an advisory committee itself but simply functioning as staff for the advisory committee, an argument recently accepted in National Anti-Hunger Coalition v. Executive Committee of the President's

Private Sector Survey on Cost Control, 557 F. Supp. 524
(D.C. 1983), aff'd, 711 F.2d 1071 (D.C. Cir. 1983). (Tab D).
This reply has not been sent, because of internal Justice
Department objections to the validity of its legal reasoning.
I tend to agree with those within Justice who think the
argument in Webster's October 31 proposed reply is not
supported by the facts. The Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee, as its very name suggests, was not simply gathering data for the Advisory Policy Board but carrying out
advisory committee functions in its own right. As noted,
Justice is still working on a reply to Edwards, who probably
is correct on the Federal Advisory Committee Act points.

The New York Times

DATE: 1/-1-84
PAGE: A 2 9

Rep. Edwards Accuses F.B.I. of Breaking Law

By DAVID BURNHAM

Special to The New York Traces

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31 — The chairman of a House subcommittee has accused the Federal Bureau of Investigation of violating the law when it stopped a Congressional staff member from attending a meeting of a subcommittee of an advisory panel of the bureau.

Representative Don Edwards, Democrat of California, has protested the exclusion of John Briley, a lawyer for the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, from a meeting on Oct. 16 of the Pianning and Evaluation Subcommittee of the Advisory Policy

Board of the bureau's National Crime Information Center.

The subject of the closed meeting was a plan by the bureau to create a major new computer file about white-collar crime suspects and their associates. Under the proposal, 64,000 Federal, state and local criminal justice agencies could have access to the file in two years.

An F.B.I. paper said the plan would permit "a more efficient and effective field-wide coordination of major whitecollar crime investigations." But civil liberties experts contended the widespread exchange of "raw investigative files" would be a dangerous threat to

innocent Americans.

Mr. Edwards, the chairman of the Judiciary subcommittee, has said that the system should not be initiated without formal Congressional approval, but the bureau had no immediate response to Mr. Edwards's request that it not proceed with the system without Congressional action.

Hearings Planned Next Year

Mr. Edwards has also said he intends to hold hearings early next year on the plan, which has not yet been formally approved by either Attorney General William French Smith or the bureau's Director, William H. Webster. The bureau's test would not begin without that approval, and the computer system would take some months to develop.

In a letter to Mr. Webster, Mr. Edwards said that the decision not to allow Mr. Briley to attend the session "appeared to violate" two provisions of a law governing the practices of Federal advisory groups.

He said one section of the law mandated that such meetings "shall be open to the public," and a second requires each Congressional committee to review the activities of any advisory group under its jurisidiction.

A spokesman said the bureau was preparing a formal response to Mr. Edwards. He added, however, that the decision not to allow Mr. Briley to attend the meeting had been "based on sound legal precedent."

On Oct. 17, the day after the closed meeting of the advisory subcommittee,

the fall advisory board voted at a public session to approve a test of the computer project.

In the first step approved by the advisory panel, information about suspects and the associates of suspects being investigated for various financial crimes would be filed in the National Crime Information Center's computer network and would be exchanged among bureau agents, Justice Department lawyers and 11 other Federal law-enforcement agencies.

The staff paper added, however, that it was "fully anticipated that within two years" of the beginning of the project at the Federal level "access to what should be a significant data base regarding economic crime will be extended to all users of the National Crime Information Center."

The information the bureau is con-

templating collecting and distributing includes names of white-collar crime suspects and their associates and additional data such as Social Security numbers, passport numbers, bank account numbers, aliases, Selective Service numbers, driver's license numbers and automobile license numbers.

Mr. Edwards said the decision to prevent the staff of the House subcommutee from attending the advisory panel meeting conflicted with earlier practice. Congressional staff members altended the advisory panel's subcommittee meetings in August 1963, October 1963 and February 1964.

M ELAPH MELLE

JACE PROOPS TEX
ROSERT W. E-STERMISTER, WIS.
DON EDWARDS CALIF
JOHN CONYERS JR. BMCM.
JOHNE SEIBERLING, ONIC
ROMANO L. MAZZOU, EY
WILLIAM J. HUGHES N.J.
SAM B. HALL JR. TEX.
MIRE SYNAR, ORLA.
PATRICLA SCHROEDER COLO,
DAN GLICKMAN, KANS.
BARNEY FRANK, MASS.
GEO. W. CROCKETT, JR., MICH.
CHARLES E. SCHUMER, N.Y.
BRUCE A. MORRISON CONN.
EDWARD F. FEIGHAN, OHIO

LAWRENCE J. SINTH FLA HOWARD L. BERMAN, CALF. FREDERICK C. BOUDER VA HAMILTON FISH JR RY.
CARLOS J MOORNEAD CALIF
HENRY J HYDE. RL
THOMAS R EINONESS, OHIO
HAROLD S SAWYER MICH
DAN LUNGREN CALIF
F JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR, WIS.
BILL MCCOLUM FLA
E CLAY SHAW. JR, FLA.
GEORGE W GEKAS PA
MICHAEL DEWINE, OHIO

U.S. Pouse of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary Washington, D.C. 20515 Telephone: 202-225-3951

BTARR DIRECTOR

ALANT COPHY A

October 12, 1984

Honorable William Webster
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
J. Edgar Hoover Building
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Judge Webster:

The purpose of this letter is to express my deep concern over the decision by the Federal Bureau of Investigation that staff Counsel to the Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights will not be permitted to attend meetings of the various subcommittees of the NCIC Advisory Policy Board, scheduled for October 15 and 16.

This decision which was finally communicated to staff on Friday, October 12, is surprising in view of the invitations extended to, and accepted by staff, for previous subcommittee meetings held on August 19, 1983, October 3-4, 1983, and February 27-28, 1984. Moreover, the closing of these meetings appears to violate the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as follows:

Section 3(2) makes the Act generally applicable to "any committee... or any subcommittee or other subgroup thereof..."; and, Section 10(a)(1) mandates that the meetings shall be open to the public.

Section 5(a) requires that "each standing committee of... the House of Representatives shall make a continuing review of the activities of each advisory committee under its jurisdiction..." The attendance of Subcommittee Members and staff has not been sought or obtained as a matter of public participation.

I would greatly appreciate your personal reconsideration of this matter. The operation of the NCIC and its future direction are issues which will continue to receive close scrutiny by the subcommittee. The subcommittee staff's first hand observation of the development of recommendations which the Director receives from the Board, will assist the subcommittee to fulfill its responsibilities.

I look forward to your early response.

Sincerely,

Don Edwards

Chairman

Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights

on Edwards

DE: jbb

cc: Robert McConnell Fred Wynbrandt

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ODAS EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT CONTROL DATA

From EDWARDS, CHRM DON, SUBCOMM ON CIVIL & CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS
To AG.

Date Received 10-31-84 Date Due: 11-13-84 Control #: 4103115273
Subject & Date
10-26 LETTER EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE PROPOSED ADDITION
OF AN ECONOMIC GRIME INDEX TO THE NATIONAL CRIME INFO
CENTER. HE FEELS THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THERE BE AMPLE
OPPORTUNITY FOR APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEES TO EXAMINE THIS PROPOSAL. REQUESTS COPIES OF ANY
MEMORANDO ON THE PROPOSED INDEX WHICH WERE CIRCULATED TO
MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC CRIME COUNCIL.

Referred To Date	Referred To	Date
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Sig. For LJA	Date Released	HED

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Other Remarks

10,31-11:00

PETER W, RODING, JR. PLJL CHAIRMAN

POOKS, TEX AROCKS TEX.
T W LASTENMEIER WIS.
DWARDS CALIF
CONYERS JR., MICH.
F. SEIBERLING, OHIO
NO L MAZZOLI KY,
JM J HUGHES, N.J.
HALL JR., TEX. YNAR OKLA LICKMAN, KANS.
Y FRANK, MASS.
V. CROCKETT, JR., MICH.
ES E. SCHUMER, N.Y.

A. MORRISON, CONN. RD F. FEIGHAN, OHIO INCE J. SMITH, FLA. RICK C. BOUCHER, VA.

HAMILTON FISH. JR., N.Y. CARLOS J. MODRHEAD, CALIF, MENRY J. HYDE, ILL THOMAS N. KINDNESS OHIO. HAROLD & BAWYER, MICH. DAN LUNGREN, CALIF. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR., WIS BILL MCCOLLUM, FLA E CLAY SHAW, JR. FLA. GEORGE W. GEKAS, PA. MICHAEL DEWINE OHIO

U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary

Mashington, D.C. 20515 Telephone: 202-225-3951

ASSOCIATE COUNSEL ALAN F. COFFEY, JR.

GENERAL COUNSEL M ELAINE MIELKE

STAFF DIRECTOR

October 26, 198

The Honorable William French Smith Attorney General of the United States Department of Justice Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

The purpose of this letter is to express my concern over the proposed addition of an "Economic Crime Index" to the National Crime Information Center. According to an FBI staff paper, this condex has been endorsed by the Department's Economic Crime Councid, but will not become operational without your concurrence. മ

As I understand it, this new file would be comprised of information identifying individuals and their associates who have come under investigation for white-collar crime matters. In addition, the proponents anticipate that all NCIC users will eventually have access to the file.

This "intelligence file" appears to represent a major deviation from the system's current dedication to data bases derived from public record information. Accordingly, I hope you will give this proposal your personal attention and review.

In addition, it is essential that there be ample opportunity for the appropriate congressional oversight committees to fully examine this proposal. To assist the Subcommittee in its review, I would appreciate it if you would furnish copies of any memoranda on the proposed index which were circulated to members of the Economic Crime Council.

Sincerely,

Don Edwards

Don Edwards Chairman Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights

DE: jbb

cc: Robert McConnell Honorable Don Edwards

In National Anti-Hunger Coalition v. Executive

Committee of the President's Private Sector Survey on Cost

Control, 557 F. Supp. 524 (D.C. 1983), aff'd, 711 F.2d 1071

(D.C. Cir. 1983), the court considered the question of whether task forces set up to do "fact-gathering, statistical evaluations, and the formulation of preliminary reports" for a committee appointed by the President, but which had no authority to make recommendations to the President or federal agencies, were "subcommittees" for purposes of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The court held such task forces were not advisory committees within the terms of the Act, and thus were not subject to its procedural requirements. Judge Gesell observed:

"... (T) ask forces are not subject to FACA requirements. They do not directly advise the President or any federal agency, but rather provide information and recommendations for consideration to the Committee. Consequently, they are not directly 'established or utilized' by the President or any agency 'in the interest of obtaining advice or recommendations'.

The Act does not cover groups performing staff functions such as those performed by the so-called task forces.

The language of the statute itself distinguishes between advisory committee members and advisory committee staff.

Compare 5 U.S.C. App. I. 85(b)(2) with \$5(b)(5). Staff would be expected to perform exactly the sort of functions performed by the task forces at issue—gathering information, developing work plans, performing studies, drafting reports and even discussing preliminary findings with agency employees."

557 F. Supp. at 529.

Given their duties, the subcommittees are the functional equivalent of the task forces in <u>National Anti-Hunger Coalition</u>. Accordingly, subcommittees are not advisory committees for purposes of the Act, and the open meeting requirement does not apply to them.

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PETER W. RODING, JR. PLJL CHARMAN

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E. CLAY SHAW, JR., FLA.
GEORGE W., GEKAS, PA.
MICHAEL DYWINE, DHIO

U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary

ashington, **B.C.** 20515 **Celephone:** 202–225–3951

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DENERAL COUNSEL: M. ELAINE MIELKE

STAFF DIRECTOR

ASSOCIATE COUNSEL: ALAN F. COFFEY, JR.

The Honorable William French Smith Attorney General of the United States Department of Justice Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

The purpose of this letter is to express my concern over the proposed addition of an "Economic Crime Index" to the National Crime Information Center. According to an FBI staff paper, this condex has been endorsed by the Department's Economic Crime Councid, but will not become operational without your concurrence.

As I understand it, this new file would be comprised of information identifying individuals and their associates who have come under investigation for white-collar crime matters. In addition, the proponents anticipate that all NCIC users will eventually have access to the file.

This "intelligence file" appears to represent a major deviation from the system's current dedication to data bases derived from public record information. Accordingly, I hope you will give this proposal your personal attention and review.

In addition, it is essential that there be ample opportunity for the appropriate congressional oversight committees to fully examine this proposal. To assist the Subcommittee in its review, I would appreciate it if you would furnish copies of any memoranda on the proposed index which were circulated to members of the Economic Crime Council.

Sincerely,

Don Edwards

Don Edwards
Chairman
Subcommittee on Civil and
Constitutional Rights

DE: jbb

cc: Robert McConnell

The New York Times

DATE: 1/-/-84

PAGE: A29

Rep. Edwards Accuses F.B.I. of Breaking Law

By DAVID BURNHAM
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31 — The chairman of a House subcommittee has accused the Federal Bureau of Investigation of violating the law when it stopped a Congressional staff member from attending a meeting of a subcommittee of an advisory panel of the bureau.

Representative Don Edwards, Democrat of California, has protested the exclusion of John Briley, a lawyer for the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, from a meeting on Oct. 16 of the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee of the Advisory Policy

Board of the bureau's National Crime Information Center.

The subject of the closed meeting was a plan by the bureau to create a major new computer file about white-collar crime suspects and their associates. Under the proposal, 64,000 Federal, state and local criminal justice agencies could have access to the file in two years.

An F.B.I. paper said the plan would permit "a more efficient and effective field-wide coordination of major whitecollar crime investigations." But civil liberties experts contended the widespread exchange of "raw investigative files" would be a dangerous threat to

innocent Americans.

Mr. Edwards, the chairman of the Judiciary subcommittee, has said that the system should not be initiated without formal Congressional approval, but the bureau had no immediate response to Mr. Edwards's request that it not proceed with the system without Congressional action.

Hearings Planned Next Year

Mr. Edwards has also said he intends to hold hearings early next year on the plan, which has not yet been formally approved by either Attorney General William French Smith or the bureau's Director, William H. Webster. The bureau's test would not begin without that approval, and the computer system would take some months to develop.

In a letter to Mr. Webster, Mr. Edwards said that the decision not to allow Mr. Briley to attend the session "appeared to violate" two provisions of a law governing the practices of Federal advisory groups.

He said one section of the law mandated that such meetings "shall be open to the public," and a second requires each Congressional committee to review the activities of any advisory group under its jurisidiction.

A spokesman said the bureau was preparing a formal response to Mr. Edwards. He added, however, that the decision not to allow Mr. Briley to attend the meeting had been "based on sound legal precedent."

On Oct. 17, the day after the closed meeting of the advisory subcommittee,

the fall advisory board voted at a public session to approve a test of the computer project.

In the first step approved by the advisory panel, information about suspects and the associates of suspects being investigated for various financial crimes would be filed in the National Crime Information Center's computer network and would be exchanged among bureau agents, Justice Department lawyers and 11 other Federal law-enforcement agencies.

The staff paper added, however, that it was "fully anticipated that within two years" of the beginning of the project at the Federal level "access to what should be a significant data base regarding economic crime will be extended to all users of the National Crime Information Center."

The information the bureau is con-

templating collecting and distributing includes names of white-collar crime suspects and their associates and additional data such as Social Security numbers, passport numbers, bank account numbers, aliases, Selective Service numbers, driver's license numbers and automobile license numbers.

Mr. Edwards said the decision to prevent the staff of the House subcommuttee from attending the advisory panel meeting conflicted with earlier practice. Congressional staff members attended the advisory panel's subcommittee meetings in August 1983, October 1983 and February 1984.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Civil Court Case Involving Corrupt Conduct of FBI Agents

Based on my review of previous correspondence with Kaiser, I concluded that no response was appropriate to this latest letter. We previously referred his allegations of FBI misconduct to the Department of Justice for review. The present correspondence contains no new allegations. I do not expect Mr. Kaiser to be satisfied with any response we might send him.

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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