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JC-KS-001-010

Director, Federal Bureau of
Investigation

DLN:RWB:rb

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David L. Norman
Acting Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

D.J. 168-29-2
#15-805-12

United States v. Wyandotte County,
Kansas, et al.
Public Facilities (Jail).
Civil Rights Act of 1964

Reference is made to your memorandum dated February 1, 1970, enclosing the report of Special Agent Robert W. Harman, dated January 15, 1970, at your Kansas City, Missouri, field office, previous communications in captioned matter, and also to the report of Special Agent Ray Homesley dated November 4, 1968, captioned Unknown Subject, Deputy Sheriff, Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office, Kansas City, Kansas, Larry James Dooley, et al., victims.

On June 5, 1970, the United States sued various local officials in Wyandotte County, Kansas, to compel desegregation of the county jail. Among the issues in this litigation are whether the defendants have taken adequate steps to safeguard the inmates of the jail from violence, sexual attacks, and intimidation by other inmates, and also whether the desegregation of the jail can be accomplished without exacerbating these problems.

During voluntary discovery of some of the defendants' records in this case, it has come to our attention that incidents of inter-prisoner violence are frequent at the subject facility. Officers of the Sheriff's Department say these incidents usually are discovered after the fact and are hard to discern while they are in progress, because the warden has insufficient staff to patrol the jail continuously and the layout of the jail makes it difficult for officials in the jail office

cc: Records ✓
Chrono
Mr. Bourne
Mr. Jones
Mr. Turner
Mr. Gorman

Invest. File (Rm. 920)
USA, Wichita, Kansas

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to hear fights in the tanks and cells located away from them. Compare page 3 of Special Agent Homesley's report of November 4, 1968, and the diagram of the jail supplied on page 7 of Special Agent Harman's report of January 22, 1970. Even after a beating is discovered, jail officials say prosecution is difficult because the victims are afraid to talk and other inmates who are witnesses are reluctant to become involved.

In order to ascertain the extent to which inter-prisoner violence occurs and to evaluate the response of the officials to this violence, please conduct the following limited investigation:

1. Please locate and interview L. C. Jones and Joe Willy Jones for their versions of all details of the incident described by Larry James Dooley to Special Agent Homesley on September 4, 1968, including their estimate of the time involved in the incident, the noise created, and the time it took the officers to respond to the incident in some affirmative way. It is our understanding that L. C. Jones has moved to southeastern Missouri, and that he receives medical disability benefits from the Veterans' Administration. Joe Willy Jones lives at 13784 Lawrence Street, Bonner Springs, Kansas. The sister of L. C. Jones, a Mrs. Gordan, lives next door to Joe Willy Jones and has telephone number 402--4084.

2. Each of the persons named below is a former inmate at the Wyandotte County Jail who, jail records indicate, either suffered an injury or witnessed an incident of violence at the jail. With each name we have listed such descriptive data as can be found on casualty reports of these incidents in the Sheriff's office. Please locate and obtain responsive interviews from each of these persons to determine full details of how he came to be injured, who witnessed the incident, what injury he suffered, in what "tank" or cell the incident occurred, how long it was before he received medical or other attention from jail officials, and how jail officials' attention was called to his injury or incident.

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<u>Inmate</u>	<u>Date of Incident</u>	<u>Type of Incident</u>
Robert Joe Moore (white male)	2-19-69	Fight, hospitali- zation
John Caswell (white male)	2-19-69	Fell from bunk, hurt nose
Ike McCloud (Negro male)	3-23-69	Fight in East Tank, hit with mop bucket, laceration in head, treated at Bethany Hospital.
Ronald Eugene Logan (Springfield, Massachusetts, white male, federal prisoner)	9-10-69	Fell from bunk, hurt eye
Steve Roberts (Negro male)	11-19-69	Fell in shower, lip laceration, treated at Bethany Hospital
John Stanley Arnold (710 - 7th Street, Kansas City, Kansas)	1-7-70	Beaten, sent to Bethany Hospital
Jerry Lee Hildebrandt	3-10-70	Beaten in West Tank, head flattened and badly bruised nose
William Deal	5-3-70	Burned chest with cigarette, jumped, hit head on bunk, hospitalize.
George F. Shufflebeam (2501 Q Street, Omaha, Nebraska)	6-8-70	Fell from bunk, broke arm, treated at Bethany

<u>Inmate</u>	<u>Date of Incident</u>	<u>Type of Incident</u>
Jimmy Harris	8-1-70	Beaten by Robert Earl Burkes
Orr Lee	9-27-70	Fell, East Tank
Steve Pannell	9-24-70	Fell, hospitalized
Albert Thurman Wade (Negro male)	10-25-70	Beaten, suffered eye and back injuries, hospitalized
Forrest Jones (803 Oak Street, Kansas City, Kansas)	1-1-71	Fell in shower, bruised, cut lip, hospitalized
Robert Willis (federal prisoner)	1-2-71	Witnessed Jones' beating, said he would report incident to press if Jones not hospitalized
James Earl Banks (710 North 7th Street, Kansas City, Kansas)	1-9-71	Fight, hospitalized
Albert Lee Carter	3-6-71	Cut wrist, was not discovered for over three hours
John Hartley	3-6-71	Witnessed Carter incident above
Charles Lewis	3-31-71	Fell in shower. Later said he had been beaten
George Jenkins	4-6-71	Fell against bars, cut eye, later taken to Bethany Hospital

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3. Please obtain the necessary medical releases for these persons interviewed above and obtain hospital records indicating the type and extent of injury suffered and treatment received.