

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: DEC 13 1967

JD:OMF:clk

FROM : John Doar
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

DJ 170-57-5
34-035-18

SUBJECT: United States v. International Brotherhood
of Electrical Workers, Local No. 38;
Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and
Training Committee, Cleveland, Ohio
Employment
CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

On August 8, 1967, the United States filed a complaint under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 against the above named defendants, the union and its Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC). Among other things, the complaint alleges that Negroes have been excluded from journeyman membership in the union, from participation in the apprenticeship program administered by the JAC, and from the operation of the union hiring hall from which electricians are referred to jobs.

It appears that the union operates a hiring hall which serves as the exclusive source of electrical workers for those employers who are under the collective bargaining agreement with the union. An electrician, union or nonunion, who wishes to be referred out for a job is required to fill out an application at the hiring hall and is then referred to a contractor for work.

I have attached a list of Negro electricians (Attachment A) and a list of Negro electrical contractors (Attachment B) who are not members of the union and who work within the jurisdiction of Local 38. Please interview these persons to determine what information they have as to the policies and practices of Local 38. I have enclosed the names of some Negro electrical contractors because, according to our information, they have attempted to gain admission to the union as journeymen or apprentices, or have tried to use the hiring hall.

Fiss

Do not interview any officers or managing agents of Local 38 or its Joint Apprenticeship Committee, or any member of Local 38 with respect to the information sought in this request.

1. From each person interviewed, determine:
 - (a) his educational background, including any special schooling he may have had in electrical work;
 - (b) the length of time he has resided in the Cleveland area;
 - (c) the number of years he has worked as an electrician, the names of his employers, the kind of work he has done, and his present occupation; and
 - (d) any other information which may indicate his qualifications as an electrician (e.g., licenses obtained, city tests passed, awards received, etc.).
2. Ascertain whether the interviewee has ever applied for journeyman membership in Local 38. If so:
 - (a) give the dates and determine the circumstances surrounding the application, including what action, if any, the union took;
 - (b) determine the names of the officials of the union with whom he spoke and the substance of any conversations which may have taken place in connection with his application; and
 - (c) obtain copies of any correspondence exchanged between the applicant and the union.

3. Determine whether the interviewee has ever applied for admission into the apprenticeship program. If so:

- (a) give the dates and determine the circumstances surrounding the application, including what action, if any, the union took;
- (b) ascertain the names of the officials with whom he spoke and the substance of any conversations which may have taken place in connection with his application; and
- (c) obtain copies of any correspondence exchanged between the applicant and the union or its JAC.

4. Determine whether the interviewee has ever applied to the union hiring hall to be referred out for a job. If so:

- (a) give the dates and describe the circumstances of those applications, including whether the applicant filled out any form for referral, and the action, if any, taken by the union;
- (b) if the person was referred out, ascertain the name and race of the contractor to which he was referred, the work he performed, and the wage he received;
- (c) determine the names of the officials with whom he spoke with regard to his application for referral and the substance of any conversations which may have taken place in connection with his application; and
- (d) obtain copies of any correspondence exchanged between the applicant and the union.

ATTACHMENT A

James Floyd
2314 East 85th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Robert Fountroy
2114 East 105th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Booker T. Coles
1448 East 94th Street
Cleveland, Ohio
Ra. 1-9954

Elmer Thompson, Jr.
15101 Ohio Avenue
Suite 2
Cleveland, Ohio
587-5243

Robert Thompson
15106 Lawndale
Cleveland, Ohio
Lo. 1-1528

Theodore Pinkston
3385 East 145th Street
Cleveland, Ohio
Wo. 1-2781

Dempsey A. Pugh
1349 East 91st Street
Cleveland, Ohio
Ga. 1-3643

George Suddeth
3891 East 155th Street
Cleveland, Ohio
Lo. 1-8128

Eddie Lee Reese
3874 East 151st Street
Cleveland, Ohio
Lo. 1-9194

ATTACHMENT B

Clifton J. Callahan
C & J Electric
10820 Wade Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106
721-4450

Curtis Crook
Electronic Service Center
13931 Kinsman
Cleveland, Ohio 44120
561-1050

Richardson Electric Company
884 Herrick Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44108
451-3385

John Jackson
17206 South Miles
Cleveland, Ohio 44128

Ted Smith
4184 East 178th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Harold Dobbs
17212 Throckley Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio
921-7587

ROUTING SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Owen M. Fiss			
2.				
3.				
4.				

☐ SIGNATURE	☐ COMMENT	☐ PER CONVERSATION
☐ APPROVAL	☐ NECESSARY ACTION	☐ AS REQUESTED
☐ SEE ME	☐ NOTE AND RETURN	☐ NOTE AND FILE
☐ RECOMMENDATION	☐ CALL ME	☐ YOUR INFORMATION
☐ ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____		
☐ PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____		

REMARKS

Dear Owen:

I have enclosed a copy of the FBI request which we discussed over the phone. I have the original and the other copies ready to go if you approve. Please call me with your suggestions and revisions.

I have also enclosed your original letter and Mr. Norman's revised draft (including his covering note to Mr. Owen).

ARTHUR D. WOLF
12/7/67

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING & ROOM	EXT.	DATE

Wright

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

JD:OMF:clk

John Doar
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

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It appears that the union operates a hiring hall which serves as the exclusive source of electrical workers for those employers who are under the collective bargaining agreement with the union. An electrician, union or nonunion, who wishes to be referred out for a job is required to fill out an application at the hiring hall and is then referred to a contractor for work.

I have attached a list of Negro electricians (Attachment A) and a list of Negro electrical contractors (Attachment B) who are not members of the union and who work within the jurisdiction of Local 38. Please interview these persons to determine what information they have as to the policies and practices of Local 38. With regard to the Negro contractors, please limit the information obtained from them to the areas described below.

to be changed

Do not interview any officers or managing agents of Local 38 or its Joint Apprenticeship Committee, or any member of Local 38 with respect to the information sought in this request.

1. From each person interviewed, determine:

- (a) his educational background, including any special schooling he may have had in electrical work;
- (b) the length of time he has resided in the Cleveland area;
- (c) the number of years he has worked as an electrician, the names of his employers, the kind of work he has done, and his present occupation; and
- (d) any other information which may indicate his qualifications as an electrician (e.g., licenses obtained, city tests passed, awards received, etc.).

2. Ascertain whether the interviewee has ever applied for journeyman membership in Local 38. If so:

- (a) give the dates and determine the circumstances surrounding the application, including what action, if any, the union took;
- (b) determine the names of the officials of the union with whom he spoke and the substance of any conversations which may have taken place in connection with his application; and
- (c) obtain copies of any correspondence exchanged between the applicant and the union.

3. Determine whether the interviewee has ever applied for admission into the apprenticeship program. If so:

- (a) give the dates and determine the circumstances surrounding the application, including what action, if any, the union took;
- (b) ascertain the names of the officials with whom he spoke and the substance of any conversations which may have taken place in connection with his application; and
- (c) obtain copies of any correspondence exchanged between the applicant and the union or its JAC.

4. Determine whether the interviewee has ever applied to the union hiring hall to be referred out for a job. If so:

- (a) give the dates and describe the circumstances of those applications, including whether the applicant filled out any form for referral, and the action, if any, taken by the union;
- (b) if the person was referred out, ascertain the name and race of the contractor to which he was referred, the work he performed, and the wage he received;
- (c) determine the names of the officials with whom he spoke with regard to his application for referral and the substance of any conversations which may have taken place in connection with his application; and
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