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Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

AUG 11 1975

JSP:JHQ:PSL:WMH:bpm

J. Stanley Pottinger
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

DJ 168-20-10

W.M.H.
SAUG75
8/11/75

Unknown Subjects;
Georgia County Jails: Laurens
County Jail, Lowndes County
Jail, Terrell County Jail,
Walker County Jail, Ware County
Jail, Whitfield County Jail:
Enforcement of Wilson v. Kelley
CIVIL RIGHTS

On June 27, 1968, a federal court ordered that all public jails within the State of Georgia be desegregated. Wilson v. Kelley, 294 F. Supp. 1005 (N.D. Ga. 1968), aff'd 393 U.S. 266 (1968). In 1973, the United States became a party-intervenor in this case for enforcement purposes. Since that time, the United States has instigated enforcement actions against five Georgia counties pursuant to Wilson v. Kelley, and is investigating or has investigated other jails in Georgia for possible action. In addition, there has been enforcement litigation brought by private plaintiffs, not involving the United States.

In order to aid this Division in determining whether there has been and continues to be compliance with the Court's order in public jails in Georgia that we have not already investigated, we request that you conduct the following limited investigation:

cc: ✓ Records
Chrono
Queen
Lawrence
~~Trial/File~~
Investigation File
Hold
Dunbaugh
USA, Augusta, Ga.

Wilson v. Kelley



PC-GA-004-003

1. Make an unannounced visit to each facility captioned. Determine by visual inspection whether assignments of inmates to cells and cellblocks at the jails appear to be according to race. Prepare a sketch of each facility (not necessarily to scale) reflecting the location of all cells or cellblocks housing inmates. Label each cell or cellblock by its usual designation (e.g., B-1, Cellblock A, etc.), and indicate the race of every inmate in each such cell or cellblock. State what type of prisoner, e.g., felon, misdemeanor, female, juvenile, etc., is customarily housed in each such cell or cellblock.

2. Interview whatever official, or officials, is (are) in charge of each facility and determine whether there is any policy - formal or informal - of assigning all, most, some, or any black and white inmates to separate housing units within the facility on the basis, in whole or in part, of their respective races. If so, please determine:

(a) The alleged purpose for the assignment policy (e.g., to avoid violence); when it was instituted, and how long it has been in effect; obtain copies of any written documents which set forth this assignment policy;

(b) Whether the policy is applied to all or only part of the facility or its population; if the policy pertains to only a part of the population, determine which areas and what types of inmates are so assigned; specifically ascertain whether the policy usually or ever precludes inmates of different races from occupying the same cell and/or occupying different cells within the same cellblock, tier or floor.

3. In the event that your visual inspection reveals segregated housing within the jail, or in the event that jail officials indicate that they have any sort of policy of segregating inmates by race, then select four blacks at random and interview them to determine whether they or any other inmates have been housed with inmates of other races. Determine whether these inmates perceive any distinctions in treatment of inmates, possibly based in whole or in part on race, in:

- (a) The assignment of living quarters;
- (b) The granting of visitation privileges;
- (c) Medical care;
- (d) Job assignments (including selection for trusty status); if any;
- (e) Any other aspect of jail operations.

Obtain written statements from any inmate who has specific allegations to make regarding racial discrimination.

4. In the event that your visual inspection reveals segregated housing within the jail, or in the event that jail officials indicate that they have any sort of policy of segregating inmates by race, then obtain a list of inmates confined at the subject establishment for the preceding six-month period, such list to indicate:

- (a) Date of release (if any);
- (b) Race;
- (c) Housing assignment (e.g., cell number, room number, etc.);
- (d) Period of confinement (both within the establishment and within each cell to which the inmate was assigned);
- (e) Offense;
- (f) Sentence;
- (g) Job assignment (including trusty status), if any.