

UNCLASSIFIED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Electronic Communication

Title: (U) Open investigation based on allegations that children are being sexually exploited

Date: 04/02/2013

From: CHARLOTTE

CE11

Contact: [Redacted]

Approved By: [Redacted]

Drafted By: [Redacted]

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Case ID #: 31C-CE-2799059 (U) UNSUBS;
POSSIBLE CHILD VICTIMS;
TWELVE TRIBES COMPOUND;
HIDDENITE, NC

CHILD VICTIM/WITNESS IDENTITY INFORMATION

Protect identity in compliance with 18 USC 3509.

Synopsis: (U) To open investigation based upon a complaint received from Alexander County Sheriff's Office that children are being sexually exploited at the Twelve Tribes compound located in Hiddenite, North Carolina.

Preliminary Investigation Initiated: 04/02/2013, set to expire 10/02/2013

Enclosure(s): Enclosed are the following items:

- 1. (U) Complaint of [Redacted]
- 2. (U) Complaint of [Redacted]

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Details:

On [Redacted] HSI Special Agent [Redacted] reported that she received a call from the Alexander County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) related to an [Redacted] from a residence in Hiddenite, NC owned by a community called the Twelve Tribes.

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Title: (U) Open investigation based on allegations that children are being sexually exploited

Re: 31C-CE-2799059, 04/02/2013

[redacted] contacted the sheriff's office to advise that [redacted] ACSO Deputy [redacted] responded and was able to [redacted] from the community only with the assistance of multiple back up units and using [redacted] Male members of the community had been combative and and threatened physical confrontation so Deputy [redacted] had to call in emergency back up. SA [redacted] contacted ACSO Sgt. [redacted] to obtain further details.

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[redacted] at length on [redacted] and [redacted] advised SA [redacted] of the following:

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[redacted] is a member of the Twelve Tribes community in Hiddenite, NC and has been an inducted member for [redacted] Twelve Tribes has communes throughout the world and the Hiddenite location is the training center. There is drug use at the commune through baking drugs into "ritual" bread. LSD and hallucinogenic plants are usually used, however meth and heroin have been used. [redacted] accompanied members on one drug run to [redacted] the compound in Hiddenite. There are ritual ceremonies once a month which involve breaking the ritual bread and also involve sexual orgies. [redacted] told [redacted] that punishment within the cult is being beaten with a rod and having your wife or children sexually assaulted by cult members.

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[redacted] advised that the Sheriff's Office has been aware that the cult existed in Hiddenite since 2006. He also confirmed that much of the land in Hiddenite was owned by the Twelve Tribes because when families join the cult, they turn over their property to the cult.

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ACSO requested FBI assistance in investigating this matter and possibly bringing federal charges. ACSO will meet with the FBI on 4/2/13.

A check of [redacted] revealed other reported instances of sexual abuse which occurred in various Twelve Tribes locations within the US. Two of the prior complaints re attached. The other can be located in ACS,

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Title: (U) Open investigation based on allegations that children are being sexually exploited

Re: 31C-CE-2799059, 04/02/2013

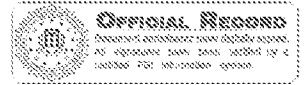
SI 62-0, serial 18249.

FBI Charlotte will open a preliminary investigation to determine if children are being sexually exploited within the cult.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Complaint Form

Title: (U) [redacted] Sexual Abuse of Children in Cult

Date: 03/18/2013

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Approved By: [redacted]

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Drafted By: [redacted]

Case ID #: 70-DN-0

(U) CRIME ON GOVT RESERVATION-DEATH OR SERVERE BODIL Y INJURY - ZERO FILE

Complaint Synopsis: (U) Sexual Abuse of Children in Cult/Manitou Springs, CO/DN

Received On: 03/15/2013

Receipt Method: Telephone

Received By: [redacted]

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Incident Type: Criminal Activity

Complaint Details:

On March 15, 2013, [redacted] called the Public Access Line to report sexual abuse of children in the TWELVE TRIBES cult located in Manitou Springs, Colorado.

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[redacted] stated that [redacted] due to the sexual abuse and beatings that he incurred from cult members.

[redacted] stated that the children are threatened not to tell the police or anyone about the beatings or sexual abuse. [redacted] has not contacted local police or Child Protective Services in the area.

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[redacted] stated that there is no one person in charge of the cult, and that members come and go regularly. [redacted] stated that [redacted] are still in the cult and that he has concerns for [redacted]

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Title: (U) [redacted] Sexual Abuse of Children in Cult
Re: 70-DN-0, 03/18/2013

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[redacted] stated that the cult runs a restaurant in Manitou Springs called [redacted]

[redacted]

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[redacted] is willing to testify in court regarding the sexual assault and beatings that he incurred from cult members.

[redacted] - Twelve Tribes - [redacted]

[redacted]

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Pre-Assessment Findings:

On 3/18/2013, VS [redacted] contacted [redacted] at the El Paso County Sheriff's Office (EPSO). [redacted] is the [redacted] for EPSO and also responsible for [redacted] for the Manitou Springs Police Department (MSPD). VS [redacted] provided [redacted] with the above information and the the contact information for the complainant. [redacted] was going to discuss the information with her law enforcement contacts at MSPD.

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Recommended Action: File to Existing Case

Entities:

[redacted] (Complainant, Person, U.S. Person? Yes)

Name/Biographical Information

Name: [redacted]
Born: [redacted]
Minor? [redacted]
Has Diplomatic Status? No

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Location

Address: [redacted]

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Title: (U) [redacted] Sexual Abuse of Children in Cult
Re: 70-DN-0, 03/18/2013

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City: [redacted]
State: [redacted]
Zip Code: [redacted]
Country: United States

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Communication Account

Type: Telephone
Account: [redacted]

Mate Factor (Reference, Organization, U.S. Person? Unknown)

Location

Address: [redacted]
City: [redacted]
State: [redacted]
Zip Code: [redacted]
Country: United States

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Communication Account

Type: Telephone
Account: [redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 07/26/2010

To: San Diego

Attn: VCMO

From: New Orleans
Squad 3

Contact: [Redacted]

Approved By: [Redacted]

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Drafted By: [Redacted] jlt

Case ID #: NO 306-0 (Pending)

Title: SERIAL KILLINGS ZERO FILE;
VC-VIC

Synopsis: To document allegation of a possible homicide.

Details: On July 13, 2010, a follow up was conducted in response to a call in complaint. The complainant [Redacted] advised that she was raised in a cult called The Twelve Tribes (cult), also known as [Redacted] which has communities all over the country to include Island Pond, Vermont; Lancaster, New Hampshire; Boston, Massachusetts; Westminister, New York; Arcadia, Florida; Hanau, Missouri; Vista, California; Chattanooga, Tennessee; and Savannah, Georgia. [Redacted] was a member of the cult from [Redacted] and lived for brief periods of time in [Redacted]

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[Redacted] During her time with the cult, [Redacted] was both a witness to as well as a victim of abuse. [Redacted] witnessed the most abuse while living in [Redacted] a community ran by [Redacted]

Recently [Redacted] has been in contact with other former members of the cult through Facebook. Through this contact, [Redacted] has discovered that while living with the cult, the other members had similar experiences, specifically involving excessive discipline and physical abuse.

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[Redacted] began communicating regularly with one particular former member, [Redacted] a resident of [Redacted] informed [Redacted] that as a child, she was both sexually and physically abused by cult members, particularly, [Redacted] from [Redacted] However [Redacted] had repressed the memories. Around early 2009, [Redacted] began seeing a psychologist, and her memories of the abuse resurfaced. [Redacted] psychologist reported the abuse to the local authorities in [Redacted] In addition, [Redacted] had contacted national leaders of the cult to inform them that she had been abused as a child. Around [Redacted] began having personal meetings with the cult leaders.

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To: San Diego From: New Orleans
Re: 306-0, 07/26/2010

On [redacted] directly after a meeting with cult leaders in [redacted] was in a car crash and was killed. [redacted] opines that the car crash was not accidental but rather orchestrated by cult members to prevent [redacted] from propagating the claims of abuse and seeking civil compensation or criminal charges. [redacted] advised that anyone who has spoken out against the cult in the past has had a similar, untimely accidental death, and she would be able to provide names of those individuals if needed.

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[redacted] can be described as follows:

Name:
Date of Birth:
SSAN:
Address:

Telephone:

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To: San Diego From: New Orleans
Re: 306-0, 07/26/2010

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1: (Info)

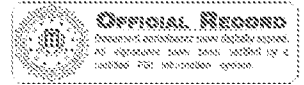
SAN DIEGO

AT VISTA

Read and clear

CC

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of entry 04/08/2013

[Redacted]

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was interviewed via telephone. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the interview, [Redacted] provided the following information:

[Redacted] came in contact with the TWELVE TRIBES about [Redacted] when [Redacted] were in [Redacted] Members of the TWELVE TRIBES referred them to the community in [Redacted] [Redacted] was attracted to the religion because [Redacted] and she needed a place to stay, which the community offered.

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A member named [Redacted] that told [Redacted] that children were abused by community members. On one occasion, [Redacted] walked into the dining room in the [Redacted] community and went into the kid's "wooping" room where a child was being hit with a "baroon stick" (phonetic spelling). She counted the child receiving 27 "licks." "Baroon" sticks are dipped in water to make them stronger. The child was [Redacted] [Redacted] was whipping the child. In the Twelve Tribe community, any community member is allowed to punish any child belonging to the community.

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[Redacted] would see members of the community taking children to the room to be "wooped." A child could be taken to the "wooping" room if he/she smiles at another child during "gathering" or if he/she is "horsing" around. Bigger children have missed "gathering" for a couple of days at a time because they were beaten so badly and left in a condition where they could not attend "gathering."

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During school hours, [Redacted] would see some of the boys in the community hanging out with older men who were not their fathers.

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[Redacted] does not think that the children were deprived of food as a form of punishment. However, if they missed "gathering" due to punishment, they did not receive food.

Investigation on 04/05/2013 at Charlotte, North Carolina, United States (Phone)

File # 31C-CE-2799059 Date drafted 04/07/2013

by [Redacted]

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31C-CE-2799059

Continuation of FD-302 of Interview of [REDACTED], On 04/05/2013, Page 2 of 3

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A member of the community named [REDACTED] that left the community. [REDACTED] was once locked in a cellar, beaten, and deprived of food.

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Children were routinely given alcohol at a service called "Breaking of Bread."

[REDACTED] stated that ex-members of the TWELVE TRIBES can be found in blogs. She is not in contact with members who are disassociated. [REDACTED] left the community because she could not take it and could not be submissive and perfect, [REDACTED] as was required by the community. The TWELVE TRIBE members work members to death. It was easy for [REDACTED] to leave the community because the community members did not want her there. [REDACTED] could not talk to [REDACTED] because it was against the rules for community members to associate with others outside of the community. [REDACTED] would sneak and call [REDACTED] every couple of days.

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One time, [REDACTED] He had never slept for three days. Members of the community [REDACTED] so that he could leave the community. In order to leave the community, [REDACTED] had to move [REDACTED] went to the doctor it was found that he had "meth" or opiates in his system. [REDACTED] believed that [REDACTED] was given drugs by members of the TWELVE TRIBES. The TWELVE TRIBES also tried to ship [REDACTED] out-of-state or out of the country to hide him from his family. The TWELVE TRIBES is known to have done that to other members.

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The TWELVE TRIBES claimed to be a non-profit organization, but it owns businesses. Members of the TWELVE TRIBES do not believe in visiting doctors' for medical treatment. They believe that if it is God's plan for you to die, then it will be so and one should not try to prevent it by visiting a doctor. The TWELVE TRIBES buries its own members, but [REDACTED] does not know where.

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On April 6, 2013, [REDACTED] provided additional information. Members of the TWELVE TRIBES wrap their babies so tightly in blankets that the babies cannot move and if they cry, the babies' mouths are covered. [REDACTED] could not remember the names of these babies nor the babies' parents. [REDACTED] might remember the names.

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Before meals, the children must say aloud a German phrase. There was a German family that lived within the community. The German father's child was a [REDACTED] year old girl who was very meek, mild, and sweet. Her father got angry with her and began "wooping" her and telling her to repeat the German phrase louder over and over again. At the next

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Continuation of FD-302 of Interview of [REDACTED], On 04/05/2013, Page 3 of 3b6
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gathering, the little girl said the German phrase loudly. At this, [REDACTED] felt like crying.

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The notes taken during this interview are enclosed in a 1A envelope attached to this communication.

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Physical 1A/1C Cover Sheet for Serial Export

Created From: 31C-CE-2799059
Serial 2

Package: 1A2

Stored Location: None

Summary: (U) Notes taken during
the interview of [redacted]
[redacted]

Acquired By: [redacted]

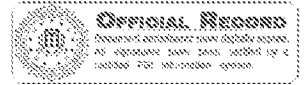
Acquired On: 2013-04-05

Acquired From: (U) [redacted]
[redacted]

United States

Attachment: (U) Notes taken during
the interview of [redacted]
[redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of entry 04/08/2013

[Redacted]

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[Redacted] was interviewed at the Charlotte Field Office of the FBI. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the interview, [Redacted] provided the following information:

[Redacted]

[Redacted] telephoned law enforcement on April 1, 2013, to report that [Redacted] was a member of the TWELVE TRIBES, and members of the religious group would not allow [Redacted] to leave the group's compound. [Redacted] finally fled from the compound and [Redacted] Members of the [Redacted] COMMUNITY

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[Redacted] The TWELVE TRIBES do not believe in modern medicine. [Redacted] believed that members may have died on the compound and were buried there. The TWELVE TRIBES has no respect for authority.

[Redacted] was introduced to the TWELVE TRIBES by a member that he met while he was [Redacted] telephone number [Redacted] checked out the TWELVE TRIBES for [Redacted] while he was [Redacted]

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[Redacted] joined the TWELVE TRIBES in [Redacted] They later went to the [Redacted] of the TWELVE TRIBES in [Redacted]

[Redacted] The other members are from out-of-state. Members of the community encourage new members to give up their properties, inheritances, and personal possessions, which are in turn used by the TWELVE TRIBES.

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The HIDDENITE COMMUNITY is a training center for the TWELVE TRIBES. EVERY three months, members rotate in and out of the TWELVE TRIBES communities. There are about 56 communities within the TWELVE TRIBES. Every three months, members of the HIDDENITE COMMUNITY leave and new members come to attend the School of Prophets and the Training Center. The Training Center teaches one how to discipline wives and children. The Cottage is a school for the children.

Investigation on 04/02/2013 at Charlotte, North Carolina, United States (In Person)

File # 31C-CE-2799059 Date drafted 04/08/2013

by [Redacted]

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31C-CE-2799059

Continuation of FD-302 of Interview of [REDACTED], On 04/02/2013, Page 2 of 5

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All disobedient members of the community are punished. [REDACTED] was punished for [REDACTED]. Disobedient men and women are disciplined by being hit at what is called by the TWELVE TRIBES a "dowel" (phonetic spelling).

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Members of the community attend PRT (Public Relations Training) where they are trained to recognize police and they are told what to tell the police if questioned. They are also shown pictures of known police officers.

[REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] was a member of the TWELVE TRIBES up until [REDACTED] when she left the group. [REDACTED] witnessed the beatings of children belonging to TWELVE TRIBES members. She left after witnessing a child being hit [REDACTED] (a member of the community) [REDACTED] with bruises on his face. [REDACTED] has not seen the sexual abuse of children within the community, but he has heard of it.

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Members of the TWELVE TRIBES began to give [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] he escaped from the compound and [REDACTED]

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and other drugs. On [REDACTED] most recent doctor's visit, the doctors established that [REDACTED] was mentally competent and had [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in his system. [REDACTED] had not knowingly ingested any such drugs. [REDACTED] has never taken [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (a member of the community) is a [REDACTED] He grows [REDACTED]

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The women are only given drugs when they take long trips or during "breaking of the bread." [REDACTED] attended a "breaking of the bread" ceremony where he was given a drink from the community cup and bread to eat. "Breaking of the bread" is a gathering where the adult members of the HIDDENITE COMMUNITY drink from a flask, which makes them hallucinate, and they eat bread. [REDACTED] suspects that there is LSD or "mushrooms" in the drink. The drink or food caused him to hallucinate. He awakened to a woman performing oral sex on him. This occurred at the Cottage in the HIDDENITE COMMUNITY. Sex orgies and "gang bangs" occur at the Cottage. Children are not allowed to go to the Cottage during breaking of the bread.

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Herpes and hepatitis are prevalent within the TWELVE TRIBES.

[REDACTED] the TWEVE TRIBES and lives in the HIDDENITE COMMUNITY. From 6:00 AM - 7:00 AM, all of the HIDDENITE COMMUNITY members congregate

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31C-CE-2799059

Continuation of FD-302 of Interview of [REDACTED], On 04/02/2013, Page 3 of 5

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as [REDACTED] provides them with direction and reads bible verses. They all congregate again from 6:00 PM until 7:00 PM, where members stand and tell what they have learned. These gatherings are called minha (phonetic spelling). The only excuse for not attending minha would be due to immobility or hospitalization.

The children drink alcohol when they congregate at the Conference Center. If a child or wife is missing from any of the gatherings, it have been because they were "gang banged." [REDACTED] was "gang banged" for being unfaithful.

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[REDACTED] has a slave named [REDACTED]. The slaves are black. The slaves choose to be slaves for [REDACTED] he doesn't force them to be slaves. Each tribe has a black family. [REDACTED] also has six virgins. The virgins are at least 18 years old. Two of [REDACTED] virgins are French and Spanish speaking.

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Within the HIDDENITE COMMUNITY compound, there are twelve houses and big warehouses that provide living spaces for members. The Lackey House has seven bedrooms and three bathrooms.

Upstairs in the Conference Center is where all files and computers are located. Each member has a personal file. Each member must adopt a Hebrew name.

[REDACTED] the printing shop within the HIDDENITE COMMUNITY and he [REDACTED] for anyone who [REDACTED] in the United States. The community has a machine in which you slide money into it and the machine extracts a metal strip out of the money [REDACTED] believes that a satellite monitors the metal strips in money. WESTERN UNION is not trusted because it leaves a paper trail.

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For a couple's anniversary, they can pick a person from the tribe to take to the Cottage and have sex. The councilmen can choose any woman as a wife, even if the woman is already married. If a husband refuses at first, he always gives in to the wishes of the councilmen.

A woman from [REDACTED] arrived with [REDACTED] after [REDACTED]. There came a point when the woman wanted to leave the community, but the community members [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to prevent her from leaving.

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[REDACTED] is an ex-member of the HIDDENITE COMMUNITY. He was one of the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] is in communication with one of [REDACTED]

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The HIDDENITE COMMUNITY has a [REDACTED]

31C-CE-2799059

Continuation of FD-302 of Interview of [REDACTED], On 04/02/2013, Page 4 of 5b6
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The TWELVE TRIBES used to be heavily armed until the raid in 1985. During the law enforcement raid upon the community in 1985, the TWELVE TRIBES did away with guns.

The HIDDENITE COMMUNITY puts a drug in the food of the workers that gives the workers the energy to work for long periods of time. Each delivery of the drug to the community is delivered by a different delivery company. The drug is stored in the warehouse or freezer on the compound in Hiddenite, North Carolina. The freezer is hidden. Only councilmen are allowed to handle deliveries to the compound. [REDACTED] believes that small amounts of the drug are placed in the food so as not to be detectable in a blood test. The TWELVE TRIBES also purchases shipments of bath salts.

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A "push" is when three to six people go from each of the 56 communities go to a location and work night and day for three straight days. The members of the "push" are allowed to drink the coffee that is provided to them. [REDACTED] believes that there is something added to the coffee that keeps the people awake and working for three straight days.

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Mante (phonetic spelling) is the name of a drink that members of the TWELVE TRIBES drink. The children drink mante also. However, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] do not drink it. Mante is also served in the form of a bar. People believe that they have received the holy spirit when they ingest mante. Mante and cocoa leaves are shipped to the United States from South America. The TWELVE TRIBES owns a ship that ships the products that they purchase from overseas. The ship is called the "PEACEMAKER" and is docked in Georgia. The TWELVE TRIBES also owns a large bus that follows [REDACTED] around the United States during his performances. The bus is also called the "PEACEMAKER."

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The TWELVE TRIBES has in-ground bunkers located in Buffalo, New York and Island Pond. [REDACTED] once stated that, "They are going to come in and run us off to the woods."

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[REDACTED] is very worried about the kids in the HIDDENITE COMMUNITY.

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Some of the addresses of properties in HIDDENITE, North Carolina owned by the HIDDENITE COMMUNITY are [REDACTED] registered to [REDACTED] and the HIDDENITE CONFERENCE CENTER located at 140 Old Mountain Road, Hiddenite, North Carolina.

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Notes taken during the interview are enclosed in a 1A attached to this communication.

31C-CE-2799059

Continuation of FD-302 of Interview of [redacted], On 04/02/2013, Page 5 of 5

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Physical 1A/1C Cover Sheet for Serial Export

Created From: 31C-CE-2799059
Serial 3
Package: 1A3
Stored Location: None
Summary: (U) Notes taken during
the interview of

Acquired By: [Redacted]

Acquired On: 2013-04-08

Acquired From: (U) [Redacted]

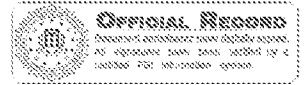
[Redacted]

United States

Attachment: (U) Notes taken during
the interview of

[Redacted]

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UNCLASSIFIED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Electronic Communication

Title: (U) Closing of investigation

Date: 09/06/2013

From: CHARLOTTE

CE11

Contact: [redacted]

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]

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Case ID #: 31C-CE-2799059 (U) UNSUBS;
POSSIBLE CHILD VICTIMS;
TWELVE TRIBES COMPOUND;
HIDDENITE, NC

Synopsis: (U) To request case closing of captioned investigation.

Preliminary Investigation Initiated: 04/02/2013, set to expire 10/02/2013

Details:

Writer requests to close the captioned investigation that is being investigated by the Sargeant [redacted] of the Alexander County Sheriff's Office. FBI assistance was offered in furtherance of the investigation. No further assistance has been requested.

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This case is considered closed.

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UNCLASSIFIED

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- _____

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date 6/28/84

Handwritten initials: JDS

FM SAC, ALBANY (44-0) ~~3A~~

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (ROUTINE)

BT

UNCLAS

DETAINMENT OF MEMBERS OF NORTH EAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH, ISLAND POND, VERMONT, JUNE 22, 1984, BY VERMONT STATE POLICE, INFORMATION CONCERNING.

FOR INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU, ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 20, 1984, VERMONT STATE POLICE EXECUTED WARRANT AT ISLAND POND, VERMONT, WITHOUT INCIDENT AND TRANSPORTED OVER 100 PERSONS TO NEWPORT, VERMONT, INCLUDING MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN. THE PURPOSE WAS TO EXAMINE THE CHILDREN FOR ANY SIGNS OF ALLEGED CHILD ABUSE. ALL PERSONS MEMBERS OF NORTH EAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH AT ISLAND POND. EXAMINATIONS WERE TO BE CONDUCTED BY VERMONT SOCIAL WELFARE.

1 - Albany
FPL:dld
(1)ld

Handwritten notes:
44A-2133
7/2/84
T. Hill 7/23/84
7/2/84
7/2/84

44A-2133-1
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

b6
b7c

Approved: PVD / Jan

Transmitted 208

(Number)

(Time)

Per [Signature]

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- _____

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

AL 44-0 PAGE TWO UNCLAS

Date _____

AT NEWPORT, SAME DATE, ALL CASES DISMISSED BY VERMONT DISTRICT JUDGE AND ALL PERSONS TRANSPORTED BACK TO THEIR RESIDENCES.

ORLEANS COUNTY STATE ATTORNEY ADVISED THE ACTION WAS TAKEN BECAUSE OF CHARGES OF CHILD ABUSE BY PARENTS AND ELDERS OF THE CHURCH IN THAT CHILDREN WERE SPANKED WITH SLENDER RODS FOR DISOBEDIENCE AND FOR DISCIPLINARY PURPOSES. ALLEGATIONS WERE MOSTLY FROM CHURCH DEFECTORS.

ACCORDING TO NEWS MEDIA, THE ACTION HAD THE APPROVAL OF THE VERMONT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE. THE JUDGE WHO DISMISSED THE CASES ADVISED NO PROBABLE CAUSE AND DENOUNCED THE ACTION.

NO COMPLAINTS REGARDING THIS MATTER HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY ALBANY AND NO INVESTIGATION CONTEMPLATED AT THIS TIME.

BT

‡

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b7c

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ Per _____
 (Number) (Time)

AL0008 1802137Z

RR HQ

DE AL

R 282025Z JUN 84

FM SAC, ALBANY (44-0)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (ROUTINE)

BT

UNCLAS

DETAINMENT OF MEMBERS OF NORTH EAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH,
ISLAND POND, VERMONT, JUNE 22, 1984, BY VERMONT STATE POLICE,
INFORMATION CONCERNING.

FOR INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU, ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 20,
1984, VERMONT STATE POLICE EXECUTED WARRANT AT ISLAND POND,
VERMONT, WITHOUT INCIDENT AND TRANSPORTED OVER 100 PERSONS TO
NEWPORT, VERMONT, INCLUDING MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN. THE
PURPOSE WAS TO EXAMINE THE CHILDREN FOR ANY SIGNS OF ALLEGED
CHILD ABUSE. ALL PERSONS MEMBERS OF NORTH EAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY
CHURCH AT ISLAND POND. EXAMINATIONS WERE TO BE CONDUCTED BY
VERMONT SOCIAL WELFARE.

2/11/84 - [redacted]

*Monitor for 4 months
but no active investigation
needed.*

44A-21337

SEARCHED	
SERIALIZED	J
INDEXED	J
FILED	J

b6
b7C

[Handwritten signature]

AL 44-0 PAGE TWO UNCLAS

AT NEWPORT, SAME DATE, ALL CASES DISMISSED BY VERMONT DISTRICT JUDGE AND ALL PERSONS TRANSPORTED BACK TO THEIR RESIDENCES.

ORLEANS COUNTY STATE ATTORNEY [REDACTED] ADVISED THE ACTION WAS TAKEN BECAUSE OF CHARGES OF CHILD ABUSE BY PARENTS AND ELDERS OF THE CHURCH IN THAT CHILDREN WERE SPANKED WITH SLENDER RODS FOR DISOBEDIENCE AND FOR DISCIPLINARY PURPOSES. ALLEGATIONS WERE MOSTLY FROM CHURCH DEFECTORS.

b6
b7c

ACCORDING TO NEWS MEDIA, THE ACTION HAD THE APPROVAL OF THE VERMONT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE. THE JUDGE WHO DISMISSED THE CASES ADVISED NO PROBABLE CAUSE AND DENOUNCED THE ACTION.

NO COMPLAINTS REGARDING THIS MATTER HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY ALBANY AND NO INVESTIGATION CONTEMPLATED AT THIS TIME.

BT



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Albany, New York

July 18, 1984

**DETAINMENT OF MEMBERS OF
NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH
ISLAND POND, VERMONT;
JUNE 22, 1984 - BY VERMONT STATE POLICE**

On June 22, 1984, over one hundred members, adults and children, of the NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH, Island Pond, Vermont, were detained and transported to Newport, Vermont, by VERMONT STATE POLICE. Officers acting on court approved warrants issued by Orleans County State Attorney and with knowledge and approval of Vermont Attorney General and the Governor of Vermont. Officers were accompanied by members of VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

This action was taken based on allegations of child abuse by members of the church. Allegations were made by defectors of the church.

Those detained were to be taken to facilities at Newport, Vermont, and the children were to be examined for physical signs of abuse.

Upon arrival at Newport, the warrants were dismissed by Vermont District Court Judge and the individuals were transported back to their residence without examination of the children.

This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

44A-2133-2

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

9/11

16

b6
b7c

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 7/18/84

FROM: SAC, ALBANY

ATTENTION: CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

- 1. Initial submission supplemental submission revision
- 2. File No: 44A-2133 (Include alpha)
- 3. Status: P (P - pending, P* - pending inactive, C - closed, RUC - referred upon completion)
- 4. Title: DETAINMENT OF MEMBERS OF NORTHEAST KINGDOM
COMMUNITY CHURCH
ISLAND POND, VERMONT;
6/22/84 - BY
VERMONT STATE POLICE

Re: Albany teletype to the Bureau dated 6/28/84, and Albany telcall to the Bureau dated 7/3/84.

5. If title changed, show previous title:

6. TYPE OF CASE: (check one)

- A. CR
- B. CRA64-E
- C. CRA64-PA
- D. CRA64-PE
- E. CRA64-PF
- F. CREL
- G. CRIPA
- H. DIH
- I. ECOA
- J. FRS
- K. ISS
- L. PRIV. ACT - CRIM.

7. AGENCY TYPE: (check one)

- A. City-County Jail
- B. Federal Agency
- C. Police Department
- D. Prison/Penitentiary
- E. Private Security
- F. Sheriff's Office
- G. State Police - Hwy Patrol
- H. Other
- I. Not pertinent

8. AGENCY NAME: VERMONT STATE POLICE (20) STATE: VT (use 2-char. abbrev.)

(omit if "Not pertinent" checked above)

9. ACTION: UACB

- (check if applicable) A. LHM enclosed
- B. LHM being submitted
- C. Report enclosed
- D. Report being submitted
- E. No further action being taken
- F. FD-376 (enclosure to LHM)

10. Further action: A. Investigation instituted

- B. Investigation continuing
- C. Investigation completed

11. Copy of above submitted to: (check as many as applicable)

- A. USA District of Vermont
- B. Secret Service
- C. BATF
- D. _____ (15) (other - specify)

2-Bureau (Encls. 4)

2-Albany

FPL/ed

(4)

44A-2133-3

SEARCHED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SERIALIZED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
INDEXED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FILED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

[Handwritten signature]

(ATTACHMENT A)

Enclosures

Victim _____

12. SUBJECTS (number):
- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|
| A. _____ Amer. Indian | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| B. _____ Asian | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| C. _____ Black | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| D. _____ Hispanic | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| E. _____ White | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| F. _____ Other | _____ Male | _____ Female |

If "Other" please specify: _____ (15)

13. VICTIMS (number):
- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| A. _____ Amer. Indian | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| B. _____ Asian | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| C. _____ Black | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| D. _____ Hispanic | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| E. <u>100+</u> White | <u>X</u> Male | <u>X</u> Female |
| F. _____ Other | _____ Male | _____ Female |

If "Other" please specify: _____ (15)

14. Other descriptive data re victims: _____ not applicable

- If applicable (number):
- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| A. _____ under 18 | C. _____ handicapped |
| B. _____ over 62 | D. _____ institutionalized |
- *children and adults**

15. Victim type (use best description, check more than one if applicable).

- A. brutality type _____ (15) (i.e., shooting; beating)
- B. nonbrutality
- C. death of victim
- D. suicide method _____ (15) (i.e., hanging, slashed wrist)
- E. known extremist group type _____ (15) (i.e., Klan, Nazi, JDL)
- F. suspected ext. group type _____ (15) (i.e., Klan, Nazi, JDL)
- G. cross burning
- H. migrant victim
- I. violence to property type _____ (15) (i.e., arson, shooting)
- J. ISS matter type _____ (i.e., peonage, enticement, servitude, other slavery)
- K. other explain _____ (25)

*16. Synopsis of Complaint - Date of initial complaint 6/22/84

On 6/22/84, over 100 members of captioned church detained by VERMONT STATE POLICE, accompanied by VERMONT SOCIAL WELFARE employees, for purposes of examination of children regarding allegations of child abuse. VERMONT DISTRICT COURT JUDGE dismissed warrants, persons returned to their homes, no complaints received by Albany.

*17. Indices: (check one) negative positive (if positive explain in body of report/LHM)

Remarks/Administrative

Routing Slip
0-7 (Rev. 5-28-82)

(Copies to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,

TO: LEGAT,

- XXX Albany
- Albuquerque
- Alexandria
- Anchorage
- Atlanta
- Baltimore
- Birmingham
- Boston
- Buffalo
- Butte
- Charlotte
- Chicago
- Cincinnati
- Cleveland
- Columbia
- Dallas
- Denver
- Detroit
- El Paso
- Honolulu

- Houston
- Indianapolis
- Jackson
- Jacksonville
- Kansas City
- Knoxville
- Las Vegas
- Little Rock
- Los Angeles
- Louisville
- Memphis
- Miami
- Milwaukee
- Minneapolis
- Mobile
- Newark
- New Haven
- New Orleans
- New York City
- Norfolk

- Oklahoma City
- Omaha
- Philadelphia
- Phoenix
- Pittsburgh
- Portland
- Richmond
- Sacramento
- St. Louis
- Salt Lake City
- San Antonio
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- San Juan
- Savannah
- Seattle
- Springfield
- Tampa
- Washington Field
- Quantico

- Bern
- Bogota
- Bonn
- Canberra
- Hong Kong
- London
- Mexico City
- Montevideo
- Ottawa
- Panama City
- Paris
- Rome
- Tokyo

- ASAC, New Rochelle (MRA)
- ASAC, Brooklyn-Queens (MRA)

8-8-84

Date

RE: DETAINMENT OF MEMBERS OF NORTHEAST KINGDOM
COMMUNITY CHURCH, ISLAND POND, VERMONT;
6-22-84-BY VERMONT STATE POLICE, CR, OO: AL

AIRTEL LHM DATED 7-18-84

Retention For appropriate

- For information optional action Surep, by _____
- The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, conceal all sources, paraphrase contents.
- Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____.

Remarks:

Review of re FD-610 reflects incorrect title.
Title should be: UNSUBS, VERMONT STATE POLICE;
MEMBERS OF NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH,
ISLAND POND, VERMONT-VICTIMS, CIVIL RIGHTS,
OO: ALBANY

Submit supplemental FD-610 with corrected title.

44A-2133-4

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 13 1984	
FBI - ALBANY	

Enc.
Bufile
Urfile

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 10/11/84

FROM: SAC, ALBANY

ATTENTION: CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

- 1. Initial submission supplemental submission revision
- 2. File No. ~~44A-2133~~ (include alpha)
- 3. Status: P (P - pending, P* - pending inactive, C - closed, RUC - referred upon completion)

4. Title: **CHANGED
UNSUBS;
VERMONT STATE POLICE;
MEMBERS OF NORTHEAST KINGDOM
COMMUNITY CHURCH
ISLAND POND, VERMONT - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS
OO: ALBANY**

Re: **Title marked "changed" to reflect appropriate title for this matter.
Albany teletype of 6/28/84 and FD-610 dated 7/18/84, captioned
"DETAINMENT OF MEMBERS OF NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH, ISLAND
POND, VERMONT, 6/22/84 BY VERMONT STATE POLICE"**

6. TYPE OF CASE: (check one)

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CR | D. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PE | G. <input type="checkbox"/> CRIPA | J. <input type="checkbox"/> FRS |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-E | E. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PF | H. <input type="checkbox"/> DH | K. <input type="checkbox"/> ISS |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PA | F. <input type="checkbox"/> CREL | I. <input type="checkbox"/> ECOA | L. <input type="checkbox"/> PRIV. ACT - CRIM. |

7. AGENCY TYPE: (check one)

- | | |
|---|--|
| A. <input type="checkbox"/> City-County Jail | F. <input type="checkbox"/> Sheriff's Office |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Agency | G. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Police - Hwy Patrol |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> Police Department | H. <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| D. <input type="checkbox"/> Prison/Penitentiary | I. <input type="checkbox"/> Not pertinent |
| E. <input type="checkbox"/> Private Security | |

8. AGENCY NAME: Vermont State Police (20) STATE: Vt. (use 2-char. abbrev.)
(omit if "Not pertinent" checked above):

9. ACTION: UACB:

- (check if applicable)
- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| A. <input type="checkbox"/> LHM enclosed | C. <input type="checkbox"/> Report enclosed | E. <input type="checkbox"/> No further action being taken |
| B. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LHM being submitted | D. <input type="checkbox"/> Report being submitted | F. <input type="checkbox"/> FD-376 (enclosure to LHM) |

*10. Further action: A. investigation instituted
B. investigation continuing
C. investigation completed

11. Copy of above submitted to: (check as many as applicable)

- | |
|--|
| A. <input type="checkbox"/> USA _____ |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> BATF |
| D. _____ (15) (other - specify) |

2 - Bureau
① - Albany (44A-2133)
FPL: csm
(3)
csm

44A-2133-5
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

Enclosures

[Redacted box with signature]

Victim _____

12. SUBJECTS (number):
- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|
| A. _____ Amer. Indian | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| B. _____ Asian | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| C. _____ Black | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| D. _____ Hispanic | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| E. _____ White | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| F. _____ Other | _____ Male | _____ Female |

If "Other" please specify: _____ (15)

13. VICTIMS (number):
- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| A. _____ Amer. Indian | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| B. _____ Asian | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| C. _____ Black | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| D. _____ Hispanic | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| E. <u>100</u> White | <u>X</u> Male | <u>X</u> Female |
| F. _____ Other | _____ Male | _____ Female |

If "Other" please specify: _____ (15)

14. Other descriptive data re victims: _____ not applicable

If applicable (number):

A. _____ under 18	C. _____ handicapped
B. _____ over 62	D. _____ institutionalized

15. Matter type (use best description, *** children and adults**, check more than one if applicable):

- | | | |
|---|---------------|---|
| A. <input type="checkbox"/> brutality | type _____ | (15) (i.e., shooting; beating) |
| B. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> nonbrutality | | |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> death of victim | | |
| D. <input type="checkbox"/> suicide | method _____ | (15) (i.e., hanging, slashed wrist) |
| E. <input type="checkbox"/> known extremist group | type _____ | (15) (i.e., Klan, Nazi, JDL) |
| F. <input type="checkbox"/> suspected ext. group | type _____ | (15) (i.e., Klan, Nazi, JDL) |
| G. <input type="checkbox"/> cross burning | | |
| H. <input type="checkbox"/> migrant victim | | |
| I. <input type="checkbox"/> violence to property | type _____ | (15) (i.e., arson, shooting) |
| J. <input type="checkbox"/> ISS matter | type _____ | (i.e., peonage, enticement, servitude, other slavery) |
| K. <input type="checkbox"/> other | explain _____ | (25) |

- *16. Synopsis of Complaint - Date of initial complaint 6/22/84

On 6/22/84, over 100 members of captioned church detained by VERMONT STATE POLICE, accompanied by VERMONT SOCIAL WELFARE employees, for purposes of examination of children regarding allegation of child abuse. VERMONT DISTRICT COURT JUDGE dismissed warrants, persons returned to their homes, no complaints received by Albany.

- *17. Indices: (check one) negative positive (if positive explain in body of report/LHM)

Remarks/Administrative

TO: SAC,

TO: LEGAT,

XXX

- Albany
- Albuquerque
- Alexandria
- Anchorage
- Atlanta
- Baltimore
- Birmingham
- Boston
- Buffalo
- Butte
- Charlotte
- Chicago
- Cincinnati
- Cleveland
- Columbia
- Dallas
- Denver
- Detroit
- El Paso
- Honolulu
- ASAC, New Rochelle (MRA)
- ASAC, Brooklyn-Queens (MRA)
- Houston
- Indianapolis
- Jackson
- Jacksonville
- Kansas City
- Knoxville
- Las Vegas
- Little Rock
- Los Angeles
- Louisville
- Memphis
- Miami
- Milwaukee
- Minneapolis
- Mobile
- Newark
- New Haven
- New Orleans
- New York City
- Norfolk

- Oklahoma City
- Omaha
- Philadelphia
- Phoenix
- Pittsburgh
- Portland
- Richmond
- Sacramento
- St. Louis
- Salt Lake City
- San Antonio
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- San Juan
- Savannah
- Seattle
- Springfield
- Tampa
- Washington Field
- Quantico

- Bern
- Bogota
- Bonn
- Canberra
- Hong Kong
- London
- Mexico City
- Montevideo
- Ottawa
- Panama City
- Paris
- Rome
- Tokyo

10-24-84
Date

RE: UNSUBS; VERMONT STATE POLICE; MEMBERS OF NORTH-EAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH, ISLAND POND, VERMONT-VICTIMS CIVIL RIGHTS, OO: ALBANY

- Retention For appropriate
- For information optional action Surep, by _____
 - The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, conceal all sources, paraphrase contents.
 - Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____.

Remarks:

Review of FD-610 dated 10-11-84 reflects incorrect alpha designation. Correct alpha character should be "B".

In addition, item number one was marked intial submission; it should have been marked supplemental submission. 44A-2133-6
FBIHQ copies corrected. Albany should make sure their copies are corrected.

Enc.
Bufile
Urfile

Handled

SEARCHED <i>RP</i>	INDEXED <i>[initials]</i>
SERIALIZED <i>[initials]</i>	FILED <i>[initials]</i>
OCT 29 1984	
ALBANY	

b6
b7c

TO: SAC,

TO: LEGAT,

XXX

- Albany
- Albuquerque
- Alexandria
- Anchorage
- Atlanta
- Baltimore
- Birmingham
- Boston
- Buffalo
- Butte
- Charlotte
- Chicago
- Cincinnati
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- Columbia
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- Honolulu
- ASAC, New Rochelle (MRA)
- ASAC, Brooklyn-Queens (MRA)

- Houston
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- Knoxville
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- Newark
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- New Orleans
- New York City
- Norfolk

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- Omaha
- Philadelphia
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- Sacramento
- St. Louis
- Salt Lake City
- San Antonio
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- San Juan
- Savannah
- Seattle
- Springfield
- Tampa
- Washington Field
- Quantico

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- Bogota
- Bonn
- Canberra
- Hong Kong
- London
- Mexico City
- Montevideo
- Ottawa
- Panama City
- Paris
- Rome
- Tokyo

11-20-84

Date

RE: UNSUBS; VERMONT STATE POLICE; MEMBERS OF NORTH EAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH, ISLAND POND, VERMONT VICTIMS CIVIL RIGHTS, OO: ALBANY

Retention For appropriate

- For information optional action Surep, by _____
- The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, conceal all sources, paraphrase contents.
- Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks: RE: Albany FD-610 dated 10-11-84.

Per referenced communication Albany indicated LHM being submitted. If no further incidents have occurred Albany should submit this communication in a closing status.

44A-2133-7

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 26 1984	
ALBANY	

Enc.
Bufile
Urfile

b6
b7C
FBI/DOJ

Albany New York 12201 1219

December 18, 1984

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;
VERMONT STATE POLICE
MEMBERS OF NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH
ISLAND POND, VERMONT-VICTIMS

On June 22, 1984 at Island Pond Vermont, officers of the Vermont State Police, armed with search warrants authorized by Vermont District Court and accompanied by state social workers, entered specific houses, named in the warrants and took into custody 112 children, all members of the Northeast Kingdom Community Church, Island Pond, Vermont. The warrants issued were based on child abuse allegations against members of the church. The warrants also authorized seizure of any evidence of child abuse. a

The children, along with 111 adults from the church were bused to Newport, Vermont, there to be examined by medical personnel for evidence of child abuse.

On June 22, 1984 Vermont District Judge FRANK MAHADY dismissed the warrants stating they were not specific enough and the children were returned to their homes the same day by Vermont State Police.

The daily newspaper "The Times Argus", Barre, Vermont stated in its June 23, 1984 edition that Vermont Governor RICHARD SNELLING had taken full responsibility for the raid explaining that it was "authorized by me in consultation with the attorney general at the request of the commissioner of Social and Rehabilitation Services." This same edition notes that the state had asked to detain the children for 72 hours for examination.

The church has been the subject of criticism by some people in Vermont for its strict adherence to its religious beliefs and its belief in corporal punishment of its children. As a result of the raid elders of the church made themselves available to the media and the public to explain their beliefs.

This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

44B-2133-8
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED
DEC 19 1984
FBI - ALBANY

RE UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; VERMONT STATE POLICE, MEMBERS OF THE NORTHEAST
COMMUNITY CHURCH, ISLAND POND, VERMONT

In the October 1, 1984 edition of the daily newspaper "The Burlington Free Press", Burlington, Vermont it was noted that some state officials contend that children in the church are still in danger of child abuse and that the children are not being sent to state approved schools.

In the August 9, 1984 edition of the "The Burlington Free Press", Judge FRANK MAHADY states that the raid was a "fishing expedition" and the state obviously did not have enough evidence of child abuse and was "merely trying to gain evidence to support the raid."

It is the public's general knowledge that the Northeast Kingdom Community Church was set up in Island Pond, Vermont in the mid 1970's by persons from Tennessee. The church is ruled by elders and all members are to turn their personal property over to the church. The members have purchased several houses and small businesses in Island Pond and are self supporting. They teach their children and do not send them to public school. Some of the members not involved in the small business are engaged in farming, the food raised being for use of the members.

This matter was discussed with Assistant U.S. Attorney [redacted] District of Vermont on June 28, 1984 at which time he advised that since the state police acted on legal warrants there was no action to be taken by the FBI. He advised that should any complaints of civil rights violations be received by the FBI concerning the matter he was to be advised. No complaints were received and no investigation is being conducted.

b6
b7c

12/18/84

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, ALBANY (44B-2133)(C)
SUBJECT: UNSUBS;
VERMONT STATE POLICE
MEMBERS OF THE NORTHEAST COMMUNITY CHURCH
ISLAND POND, VERMONT-VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS
OO:ALBANY

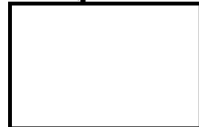
Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and two copies of LHM concerning this matter.

AUSA, Vermont being furnished copy of LHM by cover letter. 6

2-Bureau (Enc. 3)
①-Albany
FPL:amm amm
(3)

Class #k JK
JJK

44B-2133-9
JJK



b6
b7C

CASE AGENT - MARK FOR INDEXING

March 23, 1992

Honorable Sherwood Boehlert
Member of Congress
Room 200
Alexander Pirnie Federal Building
10 Broad Street
Utica, New York 13501

Dear Congressman Boehlert:

This is in further response to your February 21st communication to the Department of Justice on behalf of [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] 62-0-16031P3
[redacted] have written regarding the Northeast Kingdom Community Church located in Burlington, Vermont. They described this organization as a religious cult and stated their concern about the welfare of [redacted] who are associated with this group. As a parent, I can sympathize with their concern for their family members.

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As an investigative arm of the United States Department of Justice, the FBI investigates violations of Federal law which fall within our jurisdiction. We do not, however, infringe on the rights of either traditional or nontraditional religious groups to participate in activities protected by the First Amendment. If there is evidence that such groups have violated a law coming within the FBI's investigative authority, we would, of course, initiate an investigation. Based on the information provided, there is no indication of such a violation.

I would like to assure [redacted] that all allegations of criminal activity falling within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI will be carefully reviewed, and

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1 - Albany (44A-2133) - Enclosures (2)
Reurlet dated 3/17/92.

44A-2133-10

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SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 30 1992	
FBI - ALBANY	

[redacted]

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Honorable Sherwood Boehlert

appropriate action will be taken should the circumstances warrant it. They may wish to contact a representative of our office located at 445 Broadway, Albany, New York 12202-1219, or telephone (518) 465-7751, to provide any additional information they may have.

I hope the information I have provided will be of assistance to you in responding to your constituents.

Sincerely yours,

John E. Collingwood
Inspector in Charge
Congressional Affairs Office

1 - Executive Secretariat - Enclosure
Room 4400-AA, DOJ

SHERWOOD BOEHLERT
25TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEES:
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY
PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING

NORTHEAST-MIDWEST CONGRESSIONAL
COALITION

U.S. DELEGATION INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3225

RESPOND TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

1127 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3225
(202) 225-3665

CENTRAL OFFICE:

ALEXANDER PIRNIE FEDERAL BUILDING
10 BROAD STREET
UTICA, NEW YORK 13501
(315) 793-8146

TOLL FREE: 1-800-235-2525

92 FEB 24 P 4:54

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

February 21, 1992

Mr. W. Lee Rawls
Assistant Attorney General
Department of Justice
Constitution and 10th St. Nw
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Rawls:

Enclosed is correspondence I have received from [redacted]
[redacted] in regards to the Northeast Kingdom
Community Church, in Burlington, Vermont.

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[redacted] are very concerned over the welfare of
[redacted] I would appreciate your
review of this matter, and if there is any history of federal
laws being broken by this group, please send me the
information.

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Please reply to me at my District Office, Alexander
Pirnie Federal Building, 10 Broad Street, Room 200, Utica, New
York, 13501.

Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to hearing
from you.

Sincerely,

Sherwood Boehlert
Sherwood Boehlert
Member of Congress

SB:laj
Enclosure

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MAR 30 1992	
FBI - ALBANY	

CORTLAND
17 MAIN STREET
CORTLAND NEW YORK 13045

MANLEY HOUSE
42 S BROAD STREET
NORWICH, NEW YORK 13815

41 S MAIN STREET
ROOM 203
ONEONTA NEW YORK 13827

January 27, 1992

U. S. Congressman
 Sherwood L. Boehlert
 U. S. House of Representatives
 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Boehlert:

On [redacted]
 [redacted]

Vermont. They are now members of the Northeast Kingdom Community Church; a heavily male-dominated, destructive religious cult. They live in one house with approximately 31 other members, located in a college community, surrounded by dormitories; always attentive to students away from home, perhaps homesick, or "down" in some way, looking for a friend. This is when the group makes their move, preying on these young people. To join this community, an individual is required to give up all their "worldly" possessions; homes, cars, all personal belongings. The men rule over their wives and claim them as their possessions; one step up from slavery. There are no newspapers, radio, or TV, so the women and children are "out of touch" with most of the outside world, which is exactly as the commune is structured to be. The food they eat is a low protein diet, which negatively affects the mind.

Having read many newspaper and magazine articles, as well as talking with ex-cult members, [redacted] have become quite informed on this particular group. One ex-member I talked with insists on remaining anonymous, fearing for the friends he left behind in the commune. He claims to have on-going nightmares resulting from his lengthy stay at the community in Island Pond; another branch. He has shared much information with us, describing some sick, "suffering-for-the-Lord" situations. They have been known to pray for others to die.

I fear for [redacted] The children in this community are very strictly disciplined, starting at age 9 months. At this time they are struck with a "balloon" stick. As they become older the discipline becomes much more severe, along with continuous mental anguish. They are taught to "obey" on first command. These children have no toys and are not allowed to socialize with any neighbor children, only the children in the commune. [redacted] witnessed some of [redacted] schooling. It consisted of two boys sitting at a table in the direct sun, forbidden to leave the table, screwing and unscrewing a nut and bolt for "hand-co-ordination." Parents are warned their children will be taken from them if they fail to discipline them in the structured manner.

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If the children are removed from their parents' custody, they are then given to other parents who will "love" them as they should be loved. This obviously means the children will be controlled and disciplined in the "proper" manner. The children do not attend public schools. They are taught what the members think they should be taught. They are not immunized against childhood diseases and do not see doctors. There are no birth or death records and there is documentation of individuals dying and being buried on grounds. When new members are indoctrinated they are given new names. (Hebrew names) In this way, the members may be moved from one community to another should the need arise. (Such as a parent searching for a child) The other communities include the US, (Island Pond) Canada, France and Spain. ✓

At present there is a young woman living in Essex County, searching for her two young sons. The entire family once belonged to the community at Island Pond, Vt. However, due to degrading treatment, she left. She has since obtained custody of her sons, but the husband and boys have "vanished."

Slowly, but surely, over the past year, all communication between [redacted] has ceased. This is one of the cults' mind-controlling devices, to sever all ties between family members, so as to prevent interference from the "outside world."

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I don't understand how a group such as this, with well-documented negative publicity, continues to function. I sincerely believe someone is being paid off to overlook some of the goings on. Would it be possible for you to look into this matter for me? I have thus far contacted the following individuals for assistance: US Congressman Patrick Leahy, US Congressman Bernard Sanders, Senator James M. Jeffords, and Governor Howard Dean. Any assistance you may offer will be greatly appreciated. I have much documentation should you like to become more familiar with this community.



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Page 5 ~ Duplicate;

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CHICAGO

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PP HQ NK CG NY

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P 0281151Z FEB 83

FM ALBANY [redacted] (P)
TO DIRECTOR, FBI (PRIORITY)
SAC CHICAGO (PRIORITY)
TO NEWARK (PRIORITY)
TO NEW YORK (PRIORITY)
BT

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- _____ Desk # 1
- _____ Desk # 2
- _____ Desk # 3
- _____ Desk # 4
- _____ Squad # 5
- ✓ _____ Squad # 5-A
- _____ Squad # 5-B
- _____ Squad # 5-C
- _____ Squad # 6
- _____ Squad # 6-A
- _____ Squad # 6-B
- _____ Squad # 6-C
- _____ Squad # 7
- _____ Squad # 7-A
- _____ Squad # 7-B
- _____ Squad # 7-C
- _____ Squad # 8
- _____ Squad # 9
- _____ Squad # 10
- _____ Squad # 11
- _____ Squad # 12
- _____ Squad # 13
- _____ Squad # 13-A
- _____ Squad # 14
- _____ Squad # 15
- _____ Squad # 16

UNCLAS EFTO

FALN: DOMESTIC SECURITY, OO: CHICAGO.

RE BUTEL TO ALBANY DATED FEBRUARY 15, 1983 AND TELCALL FROM 1,2,3
MONTPELIER RA TO NEWARK, FEBRUARY 25, 1983.

DETECTIVE [redacted] VERMONT STATE POLICE, DERBY, VERMONT
ADVISED ON FEBRUARY 24, 1983, THAT [redacted] WHITE
MALE, [redacted] POB, UNKNOWN, CAME TO VERMONT FROM
TENNESSEE THREE YEARS AGO WITH SEVERAL PERSONS [redacted] THE

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N/A
lm
6:00
A

100-56841-890

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FEB 26 1983	
FBI - CHICAGO	

[redacted] [signature]

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[REDACTED] PAGE TWO, UNCLAS EFTO

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NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH AT ISLAND POND, VERMONT.

THE GROUP PURCHASED SEVERAL HOUSES IN THE VILLAGE AND OPERATE THE FARM, RESTAURANT, BAKERY AND APPLIANCE REPAIR BUSINESSES. HE ADVISED ALL PROPERTY INCLUDING EACH INDIVIDUAL AND CHILDREN ARE PROPERTY OF THE CHURCH. [REDACTED] WERE

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MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH AND HAD FOUR OR FIVE CHILDREN. [REDACTED] LEFT THE GROUP AND [REDACTED] WHO REMAINS WITH THE CHURCH.

[REDACTED] OF THE CHILDREN BUT ONE OF CHILDREN, A YOUNG GIRL NAMED [REDACTED] IS IN COMPANY OF [REDACTED] WHO IS BELIEVED TO BE IN PORTUGAL ATTEMPTING TO SET UP CHURCH THERE.

[REDACTED] ADVISED THERE HAVE BEEN ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE FROM DEFECTORS OF CHURCH. HE ADVISED [REDACTED] HAS BEEN TO THE AREA ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS AND PROFESSES TO BE EXPERT ON CULT AND MAY BE INVOLVED IN DEPROGRAMMING DEFECTORS. [REDACTED] ONLY ONCE AND BELIEVES [REDACTED] INTERESTED IN OBTAINING PUBLICITY FOR HIS OWN USE. [REDACTED] ADVISED ATTEMPTS TO DETERMINE [REDACTED] EXACT LOCATION NEGATIVE. THOSE AFFILIATED WITH THE CHURCH ARE NOT BELIGERENT, BUT THEY REFUSE TO FURNISH [REDACTED] WHEREABOUTS EVEN IF THEY KNOW.

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[REDACTED] PAGE THREE, UNCLAS EFTO

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INQUIRY AT US POST OFFICE, ISLAND POND, REVEALS [REDACTED]
HAS FURNISHED NO FORWARDING ADDRESS. HE HAS BEEN GONE FROM
THE AREA FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.

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[REDACTED] ADVISED CHURCH MEMBERS ARE HARD WORKING, INDUSTRIOUS
AND GIVE NO INDICATION OF BEING INVOLVED IN ANY FORM OF SUBVERSIVE
ACTIVITY. HE ADVISED US BORDER PATROL HAS REMOVED CANADIAN ALIENS
FROM GROUP IN THE PAST, WHO HAD ENTERED US ILLEGALLY TO JOIN THE
GROUP BUT PURPOSE OF THESE PERSONS BELIEVED TO BE STRICTLY FOR
THE PURPOSE OF LIVING WITH THE GROUP AND PRACTICING ITS PRINCIPLES.

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ON FEBRUARY 25, 1983, [REDACTED] ADVISED ONE DEFECTOR FROM THE
GROUP, [REDACTED]
WHO WAS [REDACTED] IN VIETNAM.

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[REDACTED] HAS ADVISED ALL MEMBERS TAKE MORNING PHYSICAL EXERCISES
IN GROUP BUT NO PARA MILITARY TRAINING. [REDACTED] AND FAMILY NOW
RESIDE IN [REDACTED] VERMONT.

BT

#

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1382926-0

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Page 2 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;

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U.S. Department of Justice



Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. [Redacted]

Moonah Place
Yarralumla, ACT 2600
December 15, 1999

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[Redacted]

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b7D

Dear [Redacted]

In response to your request about the "Twelve Tribes of Israel" religious organization, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) records were queried with no positive results.

FBI queries in reference to [Redacted] date of birth [Redacted] also proved negative.

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According to U.S. Customs travel records, [Redacted] has traveled internationally on [Redacted] Airlines and a [Redacted] Airline upon his return to [Redacted]. [Redacted] departure dates from the United States are unknown, however, on [Redacted] [Redacted] returned to [Redacted] Airport on a [Redacted] flight. On [Redacted] [Redacted] arrived at [Redacted] Airport on a [Redacted] Airline and on [Redacted] [Redacted] arrived at [Redacted] Airport on a [Redacted] flight.

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The FBI has no adverse information on [Redacted] or the "Twelve Tribes of Israel" religious sect. However, if any further information is developed [Redacted] [Redacted] will be notified.

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Sincerely yours,

[Redacted]
Legal Attache

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[Handwritten signature]
1/16/00

SSA [Redacted]
Supervisory Special Agent

[Redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
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FOI/PA# 1382926-0

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DE HQ 0098 0470445

ZNR UUUUU

R 152000Z FEB 83

FM DIRECTOR FBI

TO FBI CHICAGO ROUTINE

FBI NEWARK ROUTINE

FBI NEW YORK (JTF-2) ROUTINE

FBI ALBANY ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

FALM; DOMESTIC SECURITY; OO: CHICAGO

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, WHICH WAS RECEIVED AS A RESULT OF AN INQUIRY BEING CONDUCTED IN AN EFFORT TO LOCATE A MISSING AMERICAN CHILD OVERSEAS.



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[Redacted], WHO CAN BE REACHED AT TELEPHONE [Redacted]

WISHES TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING [Redacted]

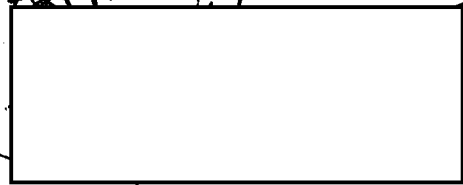
b6
b7C

WHO IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH, ISLAND POND, VERMONT. ACCORDING TO [Redacted]

@ lead
~~177~~

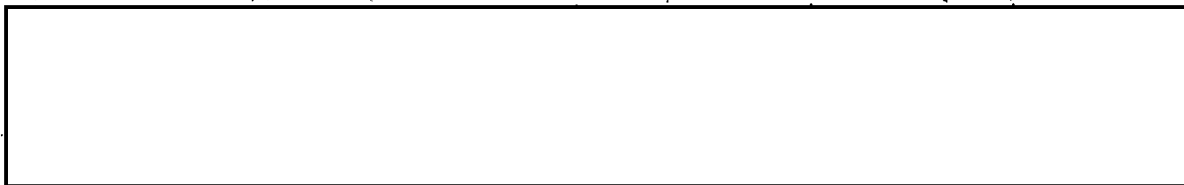
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PAGE TWO DE HQ 0098 UNCLAS



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FBIHQ INDICES ARE NEGATIVE REGARDING [REDACTED] AND THE NORTH-
EAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH. NEWARK SHOULD INTERVIEW [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] REGARDING THIS INFORMATION AND ALL RECIPIENTS SHOULD
EXPEDITIOUSLY CONTACT ALL LOGICAL SOURCES AND CHECK OFFICE
INDICES ON THE ABOVE. RECIPIENTS SHOULD SUBMIT TELETYPE
SUMMARY RESULTS TO FBIHQ AND ALL OTHER RECIPIENTS OF THIS
COMMUNICATIONS.

BT

0098

NNNN

TO: SAC:

- Albany
- Albuquerque
- Alexandria
- Anchorage
- Atlanta
- Baltimore
- Birmingham
- Boston
- Buffalo
- Butte
- Charlotte
- Chicago
- Cincinnati
- Cleveland
- Columbia
- Dallas
- Denver
- Detroit
- El Paso
- Honolulu
- ASAC, New Rochelle (MRA)
- ASAC, Brooklyn-Queens (MRA)
- Houston
- Indianapolis
- Jackson
- Jacksonville
- Kansas City
- Knoxville
- Las Vegas
- Little Rock
- Los Angeles
- Louisville
- Memphis
- Miami
- Milwaukee
- Minneapolis
- Mobile
- Newark
- New Haven
- New Orleans
- New York City
- Norfolk

- Oklahoma City
- Omaha
- Philadelphia
- Phoenix
- Pittsburgh
- Portland
- Richmond
- Sacramento
- St. Louis
- Salt Lake City
- San Antonio
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- San Juan
- Savannah
- Seattle
- Springfield
- Tampa
- Washington Field
- Quantico

- Bern
- Bogota
- Bonn
- Canberra
- Hong Kong
- London
- Mexico City
- Montevideo
- Ottawa
- Panama City
- Paris
- Rome
- Tokyo

2-15-83

Date

RE: Bureau teletype to CG, NY,AL, and NK dated 2-15-83

Subject: FALN
Domestic Security
OO: NY

- Retention For appropriate
- For information
 - optional
 - action
 - Surep, by _____
- The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, conceal all sources, paraphrase contents.
- Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks:

Call [redacted] tell him to hold off leads until he sees this and your [redacted]

2/18/83

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b7C

cc to [redacted]

Enc. (1)
Bufile
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[redacted]

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FEB 17 1983	
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Elaine Isaacson—Burlington Free Press



Ira Wyman

Kingdom members: 'Trying to live a quiet, godly life'

The Browns with trooper Cunningham: 'I couldn't stand listening to them cry'

The Kingdom at Island Pond

Folks in the tiny Vermont village of Island Pond (population: 1,542), nestled in rugged mountains near the Canadian border, like to say they live in "God's country." But lately residents have begun to fear that some of their neighbors may be confusing God with Elbert Eugene Spriggs. A Chattanooga carnival barker turned self-proclaimed Christian apostle, Spriggs has established a fundamentalist Christian community—the Northeast Kingdom Community Church—in Island Pond and settled 300 devoted followers there. And although the town originally welcomed the Kingdom, a bitter child-custody dispute between an ex-Spriggs follower and his wife—still a group member—has unleashed charges of widespread child abuse among members of the Kingdom and triggered a boycott of half a dozen church-owned businesses by some locals.

Outwardly, subjects of the Kingdom are a tranquil lot—quiet young men and modest women with kerchiefs on their heads. The charges against them became public at a hearing in which former church member Juan Mattatall—excommunicated for questioning the gospel according to Spriggs—sought custody of his five children, still living with his wife in one of the 13 Victorian homes that serve as communes. Witnesses testified that all the Kingdom's children, from tots to teens, received frequent and lengthy bare-bottom thrashings with wooden rods—during which they were supposed to smile and thank their elders. The beatings so upset Charles and Tommye Brown, a couple recruited personally by Spriggs in Wyoming, that they quit the Kingdom only a few months after hitchhiking for two weeks to reach it. "I couldn't stand what they were doing to their chil-

dren," said Tommye. "I couldn't stand listening to them cry."

The Kingdom defends its "spare the rod, spoil the child" philosophy as Old Testament discipline that drives out the Devil and renders the youngsters pure of heart. "We're just trying to live a quiet, godly life," says Bill Hinchliffe, a cheerful, young deacon. Local authorities have not been able to confirm child-abuse charges because the Kingdom is virtually a closed society that shuns contact with the outside world. Vermont state trooper Kathy Cunningham has followed the case closely, but says the police cannot do much. "They've taken away all our normal ways to detect child abuse," she says. "There are no teachers to report scars, no doctors to report anything funny."

Deaths: There are also no doctors to save lives. Local officials say that the Kingdom's reliance on paramedics and a makeshift health facility may have led to the deaths of three infants, including one whose spinal meningitis was misdiagnosed as an ear infection. Cunningham says one of the dead babies weighed only 13 pounds at eight months but had never been brought to a hospital.

Elbert Spriggs could hardly have imagined such problems in 1972 when he founded a shelter for runaways, drug abusers and other alienated youths in Chattanooga. But when he discovered that his troubled flock was unwelcome in a local church, he simply began one of his own—and it soon became a potent force.

"Gene started feeling his oats, and we were working so hard toward the Kingdom of God that we started to feel like a superior people," recalls Cliff Daniels, who joined the church at 17 after a long talking session with Spriggs and later became his right-hand man. Daniels, who quit the church in 1976 before it left Tennessee, charges that Spriggs "is a father in the truest meaning of the word . . . he has manipulated people's emotions, life-style and thoughts, and used the Bible to do this."

Yankee Thrift: If Spriggs is manipulating his flock in Island Pond, he is doing it mostly from afar these days. Seldom seen in Vermont, he is reportedly camping with his fourth wife and one of Mattatall's children in Portugal, where followers say he contemplates establishing another Kingdom. Back in Vermont the Kingdom appears to be thriving despite the boycott, thanks in part to two traditional New England virtues: a reluctance to interfere in the affairs of neighbors, and



John W. Coniglio—Chattanooga Times

Spriggs: Seldom seen

good, old-fashioned Yankee thrift. "They do fine work," says one local, "and they charge a whole lot less than most folks around here." Others believe that in any case, the controversy is overblown. "I think the whole disadvantage for the group is that the Jonestown incident has sort of influenced townsfolk," says Beverly Pepin, a local hairdresser. "The only comparison between Jim Jones and Gene Spriggs is that when Jones started, he felt he was the disciple of Christ too." Says one of the church's members: "We really trust in the Lord to vindicate us."

MARK STARR with MARSHA ZABARSKY
in Island Pond

[REDACTED] PAGE TWO, UNCLAS EFTO

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ALBANY SOURCE WAS RECONTACTED ON FEBRUARY 23, 1983 BUT WAS
UNABLE TO FURNISH ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] OR THE EVEBOM BOMBINGS. ALBANY SOURCE WILL FURNISH
ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DEVELOPED REGARDING [REDACTED] AND THE EVEBOM
BOMBINGS.

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BT

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RR HQ AL CG NY

DE NK

R 242100Z FEB 83

FM NEWARK [redacted] (P) [redacted]

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TO DIRECTOR (ROUTINE)

ALBANY (ROUTINE)

CHICAGO (ROUTINE)

NEW YORK (ROUTINE)

BT

UNCLAS

*88-7530-3
91A-789A-510 p.6*

FALN; DOMESTIC SECURITY; OO: CHICAGO

RE: BUREAU TELETYPE TO NEWARK, DATED FEBRUARY 16, 1983.

NEWARK INDICES CONCERNING [redacted]

b6
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[redacted] AND THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH PRODUCED
NEGATIVE RESULTS.

ON FEBRUARY 23, 1983, [redacted] TELEPHONE NUMBER [redacted]

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[redacted] WAS TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED AND HE ADVISED HE WOULD BE
AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW CONCERNING [redacted] AND ANY RELATION HE
MAY HAVE WITH THE FALN ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1983.

RECEIVING OFFICES WILL IMMEDIATELY BE APPRISED OF

[redacted]

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SERIALIZED <i>g</i>	FILED <i>g</i>
FEB 21 1983	
FBI - ALBANY	

[redacted] *AAA*

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PAGE TWO



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INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY



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BT

FBI

016

2215

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- _____

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date 2/25/83

FM ALBANY [redacted] (P) b3
 TO DIRECTOR, FBI (PRIORITY) b7E
 SAC CHICAGO (PRIORITY) 1/19/83
 TO NEWARK (PRIORITY) 00562
 TO NEW YORK (PRIORITY) 1/19/83

BT

UNCLAS EFTO

FALN; DOMESTIC SECURITY, OO: CHICAGO.

RE BUTEL TO ALBANY DATED FEBRUARY 15, 1983 AND TELCALL FROM MONTPELIER RA TO NEWARK, FEBRUARY 25, 1983.

DETECTIVE [redacted] VERMONT STATE POLICE, DERBY, VERMONT b6
 ADVISED ON FEBRUARY 24, 1983, THAT [redacted] WHITE b7C
 MALE, BORN [redacted] POB, UNKNOWN, CAME TO VERMONT FROM
 TENNESSEE THREE YEARS AGO WITH SEVERAL PERSONS [redacted] THE

[redacted]

SEARCHED
 SERIALIZED
 INDEXED
 FILED

1- [redacted] b3
 PPL/vep b7E
 (1)

[redacted]

Approved: [signature]

Transmitted [signature] (Number) (Time)

Per [signature]

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- _____

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date _____

[] PAGE TWO, UNCLAS EFTO

b3
b7E

NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH AT ISLAND POND, VERMONT.

THE GROUP PURCHASED SEVERAL HOUSES IN THE VILLAGE AND OPERATE THE FARM, RESTAURANT, BAKERY AND APPLIANCE REPAIR BUSINESSES.

HE ADVISED ALL PROPERTY INCLUDING EACH INDIVIDUAL AND CHILDREN ARE PROPERTY OF THE CHURCH. [] WERE

MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH AND HAD FOUR OR FIVE CHILDREN. [] LEFT THE GROUP [] WHO REMAINS WITH THE CHURCH.

[] OF THE CHILDREN BUT ONE OF CHILDREN, A YOUNG GIRL NAMED [] IS IN COMPANY OF [] WHO IS BELIEVED TO BE IN PORTUGAL ATTEMPTING TO SET UP CHURCH THERE.

[] ADVISED THERE HAVE BEEN ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE FROM DEFECTORS OF CHURCH. HE ADVISED [] HAS BEEN TO THE AREA ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS AND PROFESSES TO BE EXPERT ON CULT AND MAY BE INVOLVED IN DEPROGRAMMING DEFECTORS. [] ONLY ONCE AND BELIEVES [] INTERESTED IN OBTAINING PUBLICITY FOR HIS OWN USE. [] ADVISED ATTEMPTS TO DETERMINE [] EXACT LOCATION NEGATIVE. THOSE AFFILIATED WITH THE CHURCH ARE NOT BELIGERENT, BUT THEY REFUSE TO FURNISH [] WHEREABOUTS EVEN IF THEY KNOW.

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Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ (Number) _____ (Time) Per _____

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- _____

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date _____

[REDACTED] PAGE THREE, UNCLAS EFTO b3
b7E

INQUIRY AT US POST OFFICE, ISLAND POND, REVEALS [REDACTED] HAS FURNISHED NO FORWARDING ADDRESS. HE HAS BEEN GONE FROM THE AREA FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.

[REDACTED] ADVISED CHURCH MEMBERS ARE HARD WORKING, INDUSTRIOUS AND GIVE NO INDICATION OF BEING INVOLVED IN ANY FORM OF SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY. HE ADVISED US BORDER PATROL HAS REMOVED CANADIAN ALIENS FROM GROUP IN THE PAST, WHO HAD ENTERED US ILLEGALLY TO JOIN THE GROUP BUT PURPOSE OF THESE PERSONS BELIEVED TO BE STRICTLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF LIVING WITH THE GROUP AND PRACTICING ITS PRINCIPLES.

ON FEBRUARY 25, 1983, [REDACTED] ADVISED ONE DEFECTOR FROM THE GROUP, [REDACTED] WHO WAS [REDACTED] IN VIETNAM.

[REDACTED] HAS ADVISED ALL MEMBERS TAKE MORNING PHYSICAL EXERCISES IN GROUP BUT NO PARA MILITARY TRAINING. [REDACTED] AND FAMILY NOW RESIDE IN [REDACTED] VERMONT.

BT

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Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ (Number) _____ (Time) Per _____

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FM NEWARK [REDACTED]

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TO DIRECTOR (ROUTINE)

ALBANY (ROUTINE)

NEW YORK (ROUTINE)

BT

~~UNCLAS~~

FALN; D.S.; OO: CHICAGO

RE BUREAU TELETYPE TO NEWARK, FEBRUARY 16, 1983.

ON MARCH 7, 1983, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] WAS INTERVIEWED CONCERNING [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] POSSIBLE AFFILIATION WITH THE FALN.

THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARIZED VERSION OF THE INTERVIEW:

[REDACTED] BEGAN THE INTERVIEW BY GIVING A BRIEF BACKGROUND OF [REDACTED]

b6
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[REDACTED] AND HOW [REDACTED] THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM

COMMUNITY CHURCH IN ISLAND POND, VERMONT. [REDACTED] STATED THAT

BECAUSE OF NUMEROUS COURT PROCEEDINGS AGAINST [REDACTED] GROUP

IN LATE 1981, [REDACTED] FLED TO WEST GERMANY AND SWEDEN.

WHILE

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[REDACTED]

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NEWARK

UNCLAS

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IN EUROPE UNCONFIRMED SOURCES ADVISED [REDACTED] MAY HAVE HAD CONTACT WITH THE PLO. AFTER AGAIN CONFRONTING PROBLEMS IN EUROPE [REDACTED] RELOCATED TO PORTUGAL.

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WHILE IN PORTUGAL, [REDACTED] WAS VISITED BY SEVERAL MEMBERS OF HIS VERMONT GROUP TO DISCUSS VARIOUS PROBLEMS CURRENTLY ENCOUNTERED BY THE GROUP IN THE U.S. ONE OF THESE PROBLEMS WAS THE INCREASING PRESSURE AND EXPOSURE [REDACTED] WAS UNDER IN VERMONT DUE TO A PHOTO OF [REDACTED] AND NUMEROUS FALN LEADERS THAT WAS BEING CIRCULATED. AFTER SHOWN THIS PHOTO BY MEMBERS OF THE GROUP, [REDACTED] SUPPOSEDLY BROKE DOWN CRYING AND STATED "I THOUGHT I HAD ANOTHER TEN YEARS".

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[REDACTED] FURTHER STATED THAT [REDACTED] WHILE BOTH IN EUROPE AND PORTUGAL HAD MADE NUMEROUS ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT POLITICAL ACTIVIST GROUPS INSTEAD

OF COMMONLY KNOWN RELIGIOUS GROUPS, BECAUSE [REDACTED] FELT HIS FOLLOWSHIP WAS DWINDLING.

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IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT NONE OF THE INFORMATION GIVEN ABOVE COULD BE SUBSTANTIATED THROUGH CONCRETE EVIDENCE. [REDACTED] DID ADVISE THAT HE WOULD IN THE FUTURE ATTEMPT TO ACQUIRE THE PHOTO MENTIONED ABOVE OR FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS PHOTO. [REDACTED] ADVISED THAT STATE TROOPER [REDACTED] VERMONT STATE POLICE IN

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PAGE THREE

NEWARK [REDACTED]

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ISLAND POND, VERMONT, COULD PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS GROUP, IF REQUESTED.

[REDACTED] ALSO SUPPLIED A FOURTEEN PAGE ESSAY CONCERNING [REDACTED] AND HIS FOLLOWERS.

NEWARK AT THIS POINT FEELS THAT DUE TO LACK OF SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO PROVE THAT [REDACTED] IS IN CONTACT WITH THE FALN, NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION CONCERNING THIS MATTER SHOULD BE CONDUCTED.

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NEWARK IF REQUESTED BY RECEIVING OFFICES WILL SUPPLY A COPY OF THIS FOURTEEN PAGE ESSAY SUPPLIED BY [REDACTED]

BT

1/12/83

[Redacted]

Informant advised [Redacted] of the Northeast Kingdom Community Church, Island Pond, Vermont, was currently wanted by Vermont authorities for manslaughter. Informant further advised [Redacted] organization were engaged in smuggling activities off the coast of the State of Maine, and were utilizing a ship of some kind in furtherance of these activities. Informant was unable to specify the type of smuggling or the exact location of same.

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[Redacted]

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 13 1983	

Closed

JWA

[Redacted]

(encls)

AA

[Redacted]

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