

Agency Information

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE DENVER	OFFICE OF ORIGIN KANSAS CITY	DATE 4/8/65	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 3/11 - 4/6/65
TITLE OF CASE "MINUTEMEN"		REPORT MADE BY JOSEPH C. LEARNED	TYPED BY pmb
		CHARACTER OF CASE INFORMATION CONCERNING (IS)	

REFERENCE: Report of SA JOSEPH C. LEARNED at Denver dated 3/17/65.

-P-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/19/83 BY SP8 BTJ/Ch
211,326

LEADS:

DENVER

At Salida, Colorado: Will report results of investigation of individuals who are active or suspected of being active in Minutemen (MM) at Salida.

At Monte Vista, Colorado: Will report results of investigation of individuals who are active or suspected of being active in MM at Monte Vista.

At Denver and Boulder, Colorado: Will report results of investigation of individuals who are active or suspected of being active in MM at Denver and Boulder.

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 7-Bureau (62-107261) 1-Secret Service, Denver 1-G-2, Chicago 1-INTC, Denver 1-OSI, Denver 1-ONI, Chicago 1-Los Angeles (Info) 2-Phoenix (105-1226) 3-Kansas City (62-7797) 3-Denver (62-1044) Attached Report		105-1280-239	
		SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____ SERIALIZED _____ FILED _____ JUL 12 1965 FBI - DALLAS	SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____ SERIALIZED _____ FILED _____ APR 13 1965 FBI - DENVER
		Notations <i>De Nieuw ... Monte Vista ...</i>	
Agency			
Request Recd.			
Date Fwd.			
How Fwd.			
By			

DN 62-1494

INFORMANTS:

<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
DN T-1 FORREST THOMPSON, Postmaster, Richmond, Missouri (who requested his identity be protected)	
DN T-2 ROY ZEHNA, Post Office Inspector's Office, Denver, Colorado (who requested his identity be protected)	
DN T-3 PSI HENRY F. RECEN	134-472A

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The sources at the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad mentioned in report are RAY BURRIS and WILLIAM TREAT, Special Agents Department.

Investigation at Phoenix, Arizona, was conducted by SA JOHN F. SHEIK. Investigation at Salida, Colorado, was conducted by SA WALLACE G. HAGUE, and at Monte Vista, Colorado, by SA ROBERT E. DENIER.

This report has been classified "Confidential" since data reported from DN T-3 could reasonably result in identification of a confidential informant of continuing value and compromise the effectiveness thereof, which could adversely affect the national defense.

Information regarding PHILIP PETARS has been previously furnished to the Bureau and Secret Service at Denver.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1-Secret Service, Denver
1-G-2, Chicago
1-INTC, Denver
1-OSI, Denver
1-ONI, Chicago

Report of: JOSEPH C. LEARNED Office: Denver, Colorado
Date: April 8, 1965

Field Office File #: 62-1494 Bureau File #: 62-107261

Title: "MINUTEMEN"

Character: INFORMATION CONCERNING (INTERNAL SECURITY)

Synopsis:

PHILIP PETARS, on interview, advised that he learned of "Minute-men" (MM) organization in 1963 while attending church services at the Soldiers of the Cross Church. He stated he has received literature from MM but would neither affirm nor deny that he has contributed any funds to MM. PETARS stated he does not approve of the organization if MM advocates any violence at any time. PETARS stated he was a very peaceful man and would make no threats against any public officials; however, he was very concerned about the United States becoming socialistic. PETARS referred to President JOHNSON as a "rat." PETARS states he does not know any individual who is a member of MM and does not consider himself a member of MM at the present time. THOMAS ARTHUR ROBB, presently a student for the ministry at the Soldiers of the Cross School, Evergreen, Colorado, advised that he receives publication "On Target" and that he sympathizes with the aims and purposes of MM. ROBB declined to state whether he has contributed any money to the MM. ROBB states he does not feel that he possesses any violent characteristics and does not believe in taking anyone's life. ROBB states he does not belong to any particular band or group of MM. ROBB states that he will be at Evergreen until 5/14/65. HARRIS BENJAMIN MILLER, in a letter dated 1961 to the FBI, urged the defeat of communism. July 23, 1961, issue of "The

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Denver Post" contained an item directed to "Outraged, Betrayed Americans," soliciting members for National Association for Constitutional Government, Denver, Colorado. Source reports HARRIS MILLER is connected with National Association for Constitutional Government. Background information regarding MILLER reflects that he is from Prichard, Alabama, and was opposed to integration. MILLER directed a letter to newspaper in Mobile, Alabama, opposing integration. MILLER was arrested in Mobile in August, 1961, on a game violation and had made application for the Prichard Police Department. MILLER directed MM member DAVID EUGENE PARSONS to "pick up information" about SA JOSEPH C. LEARNED, Denver FBI. MILLER advised PARSONS not to contact him until "the heat was off." DAVID LUDVIGSEN identified photograph of HARRIS MILLER as one of the individuals who interviewed him for MM membership. JAMES E. BAKER, Public Service Company employee, advised that PARSONS stated that he was in touch with MM. DAVID PARSONS told source in March, 1965, that one GEORGE TEBBS stated that "they" had a group in the "Gas Department" of Public Service Company. LYLE ESHE, Public Service Company employee, stated that PARSONS has been talking about his activities in MM for several months and told ESHE that he had a .30 M-1 carbine rifle. PARSONS asked ESHE if ESHE would reload 400 rounds of ammunition for him. PARSONS stated that ammunition was needed in connection with his MM activities. PARSONS owns a .25 Beretta automatic. Information received that MILTON GODFREY MYERS, Salida, Colorado, Fire Chief, has been in contact with MM to store rifles and ammunition. Information regarding WILLIAM SYLVAN COUCH and LONNIE COUCH, both Salida, set forth. C. B. TINSLEY, Monte Vista, Colorado, acknowledged membership in MM but declined to furnish any information concerning the organization.

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DETAILS:

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Name	HARRIS B. MILLER
Sex	Male
Race	White
Date of birth	August 20, 1930
Height	5'7"
Weight	189 pounds
Hair	Light brown, curly
Build	Heavy
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Light
Marital Status	Married, wife JULIE Daughter DONNA, age 8½; Son ALTON, age 7.

Mrs. EARL STRINGFELLOW was contacted at the Kress Department Store in Prichard, Alabama, on October 16, 1961, and she stated the following:

She said HARRIS B. MILLER was back in Mobile with his family and was residing at 423 Geneva Street, Alabama Village, Prichard, Alabama.

Denver T-3 advised on March 13, 1965, that DAVID EUGENE PARSONS, an employee of the Public Service Company (PSC), Denver, a self-admitted member of "Minutemen" (MM) advised the source the following on March 13, 1965:

PARSONS stated that on that evening he had driven to the residence of HARRIS MILLER and that MILLER had told him "CIA" Agents had been to visit MILLER that evening. MILLER related that one agent spoke to him directly and this agent was "Joe Learned, an FBI Agent, who was in reality a CIA Agent." MILLER told PARSONS he had seen a second agent in front of his house. MILLER told PARSONS that there was a "stool pigeon" in the group (MM).

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MILLER told PARSONS that Mr. LEARNED was a CIA Agent who lived at "681" Oneida Street, Denver, and then gave PARSONS a description of Mr. LEARNED. MILLER told PARSONS to drive by Mr. LEARNED's home and observe and pick up information about him. PARSONS indicated to this source that he liked and enjoyed this assignment and that he had planned to drive by LEARNED's residence.

(Special Agent JOSEPH C. LEARNED, Denver FBI Office, interviewed HARRIS BENJAMIN MILLER on April 23, 1964, in connection with investigation of the MM organization, at which time MILLER would neither deny nor affirm his activities in connection with the MM organization. It is to be noted that SA LEARNED's residence is listed in the Denver telephone directory as 636 Oneida Street, Denver, Colorado. SA LEARNED has not contacted MILLER since April 23, 1964.)

PARSONS related to the source that MILLER told him the CIA director in Denver, who was killed in an automobile collision on March 12, 1965, was probably killed by MM agents to prove to the Federal Government and citizens who were communist followers that they (MM) were a powerful and secret group with the means to strike out at anyone, anywhere, and at any time.

(The local press in Denver on March 12 and 13, 1965, reported the death of General H. LYNN OSTLER in an automobile accident which happened near Eagle, Colorado, on the morning of March 12, 1965. The press identified General OSTLER as the Regional Director of CIA. Through our sources connected with CIA, it was known on March 12, 1965, that General OSTLER's death was caused by a head-on collision of OSTLER's automobile with a truck which happened at approximately 7:00 A.M. on a main mountain highway located near Eagle, Colorado.)

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PARSONS related that MILLER told him there was a Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad (D&RG) train derailed in the area of the east portal of the Moffat Tunnel near Tolland, Colorado, by MM members to show their ability to create havoc and sabotage to transportation facilities.

(Our sources at D&RG have reported that they have received no information that the cause of the derailment of a freight train near the east portal of the Moffat Tunnel was caused by any planned sabotage.)

PARSONS also told this source that HARRIS MILLER told PARSONS not to contact MILLER again until "the heat was off" and to "lay low until CIA pressure was off." PARSONS also advised source that MILLER said PARSONS should check around quietly and without suspicion to find out if any members or potential members had been questioned by the FBI or CIA Agents.

On March 14, 1965, PARSONS told source that he had arranged for DAVID LUDVIGSEN, an employee of the PSC, to meet with HARRIS MILLER and two of MILLER's associates. LUDVIGSEN later told PARSONS that he did not join MM due to the fact the group demanded "blind faith in their group" and that he, LUDVIGSEN, might have to assassinate communists in the Government.

DAVID MARENTI LUDVIGSEN, 1180 Yosemite, Aurora, Colorado, advised on March 15, 1965, that he worked for the PSC in the Appliance Section. He stated that he had known DAVID EUGENE PARSONS approximately three or four years. He stated that both he and PARSONS, prior to the November, 1964, elections, worked on behalf of the candidacy of Senator BARRY GOLDWATER. He stated that PARSONS and he apparently had the same political beliefs and considered themselves conservatives.

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RE GEORGE SIDNEY TEBBS
RE DAVID EUGENE PARSONS

Denver T-3 advised on March 15, 1965, that DAVID EUGENE PARSONS stated on March 14, 1965, that he had just come from the apartment of GEORGE TEBBS located at 1365 Corona, Denver. PARSONS said that TEBBS has a Browning automatic rifle for sale for \$375. PARSONS said that TEBBS was a gun collector. PARSONS said that TEBBS sold him a carbine and that TEBBS had an AR 15 Armilite rifle. PARSONS noted that this was a semiautomatic rifle.

PARSONS displayed a piece of literature which source said was anti-Jewish in content. PARSONS said that TEBBS gets his copy of the publication "On Target" wrapped in an envelope that is sealed and then folded and placed in another envelope and mailed. PARSONS said that TEBBS told him that "they" had a group in the "gas department."

Source explained that PARSONS was referring to the Gas Department of the Public Service Company of Colorado.

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RE DAVID EUGENE PARSONS
RE GEORGE HOWARD SULLIVAN

Denver T-3 advised on March 11, 1965, that DAVID EUGENE PARSONS has a motorcycle license number TF-96 and a black Cadillac four-door sedan license TJ-8757.

PARSONS told source that GEORGE SULLIVAN had sold him a 25 Beretta automatic. PARSONS had previously said that he wanted a handgun which he could keep either in his truck or have with him while he was driving his taxicab.