

SAC, Atlanta

October 30, 1968

Director, FBI (100-448006)

1 - [REDACTED]
1 - [REDACTED]
1 - [REDACTED]
1 - [REDACTED]

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM -
BLACK NATIONALIST - HATE GROUPS
RACIAL MATTERS
(BLACK PANTHER PARTY)

The Bureau is considering a counterintelligence operation designed to (1) cause friction between the extremist Black Panther Party (BPP) and the extremist Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and, (2) ridicule and help neutralize the BPP to its followers and in the ghetto generally. This operation would consist of circulation of the slogan: "According to zoologists, the main difference between a panther and other large cats is that the panther has the smallest head."

Thus, the "Panthers are pinheads." Circulation of this slogan would be attributed to SNCC. Possible methods of distribution of this slogan include printing of cards with the slogan and clandestine distribution by Agents or selected trusted informants. Another method would be through publication of the slogan in the news media through cooperative news media sources.

REC 49

353

Each office is requested to advise the Bureau of the following:

EX 109

OCT 30 1968

(1) Whether this technique would affect SNCC relations in your division.

MAILED 24
OCT 30 1968
COMM-FBI

- 2 - Boston
 - 2 - Cincinnati
 - 2 - Chicago
 - 2 - Los Angeles
 - 2 - Newark
 - 2 - New York
 - 2 - San Francisco
 - 2 - Seattle
- TJP:ekw (23)
- MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

hla
[Handwritten initials]
[Handwritten initials]
[Handwritten initials]

6

Letter to SAC, Atlanta

RE: COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM; BLACK PANTHER PARTY
100-448006

(2) Whether this slogan would decrease BPP recruiting.

(3) Whether you have news media sources who might be willing to publish an item to the effect that SNCC is circulating this slogan in a campaign against the BPP.

(4) Whether you have an informant in SNCC who might be able to persuade SNCC to circulate this slogan itself if a published item was furnished the informant.

(5) Suggestions for methods by which trusted informants and/or Agents could circulate this slogan.

No counterintelligence action should be taken without Bureau authority.