

FBI

Date: 3/13/64

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

1a AIRTEL

----- (Priority) -----

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-152759)
SUBJECT: MUSLIM MOSQUE, INC.
IS - X
(OO:NY)

Re NY teletype dated 3/12/64, captioned as above,
and NY airtel with LHM dated 3/9/64, captioned "MALCOLM K.
LITTLE, aka, IS-NOI."

- 5-Bureau (Encls. 8) (RM)
 - (1-25-330971) (NOI)
 - (1-100-399321) (MALCOLM LITTLE)
- 2-Baltimore (Encls. 2) (RM)
 - (1-██████████)
- 2-Chicago (Encls. 2) (RM)
 - (1-100-35635) (NOI)
- 2-Philadelphia (Encls. 2) (RM)
 - (██████████)
- 2-Phoenix (Encls. 2) (RM)
 - (1-105-93) (NOI)
- 1-New York (105-7609) (NOI) (412)
- 1-New York (105-8999) (MALCOLM LITTLE) (412)
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- 1-New York (100-152759) (412)
- 1-Supervisor #412

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-10-02 BY SP7 MAC/PC
96,975, # 207,150, # 235,215

ENCLOSURE

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66 MAR 27 1964
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(24)
[Handwritten initials]

100-399321
NOT RECORDED
46 MAR 23 1964

CARBON COPY

NY 100-102125

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are eight copies, and for Baltimore, Chicago, Philadelphia and Phoenix two copies each of a LHM concerning a press conference held by MALCOLM K. LITTLE in NYC, on 3/12/64, in which he announced the organization of his new Mosque captioned above.

SAS [redacted] and [redacted] attended the press conference obtaining the information and prepared statements set forth. Photographs were also obtained.

b7c
b7E

[redacted] was placed on a mailing list, passed [redacted] It was also discreetly ascertained that bills incurred by the new organization were being sent to 23-11 97th Street, East Elmhurst, Queens, NY, the residence of LITTLE.

The above SAS observed five apparent NOI members who were with LITTLE, four of whom were identified and set out in the LHM. They apparently were a part of LITTLE's new Mosque and JAMES 67X WARDEN appeared to be MALCOLM's first assistant, although he denied holding any title or position. The other four when questioned would only reply "no comment".

b7c

With the exception of [redacted] who is on the SI of the NYO, the others were not the subject of active investigation since they held no official position in the NOI. They and their file numbers are:

Name

Bufile

NY file

b7c

[redacted]

[redacted]
none
none

[redacted]

b7c

NY 100-152759

One of the reporters present at the news conference was WILLIAM WORTHY [REDACTED] who was also observed after the conference in conversation with LITTLE and WARDEN. **b7c**

The sources utilized in the LHM are set forth below:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7D

The LHM is not classified since the information furnished by the above sources would not tend to identify them.

In view of the fact that this organization has been formed by LITTLE, has attracted some NOI members, and has similar tenets to the NOI, the NYO has opened a case on it. The activities of this organization will be followed and the Bureau kept advised UACB.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York

March 13, 1964

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Muslim Mosque, Incorporated
Internal Security - Miscellaneous

On March 12, 1964, Malcolm K. Little, known generally as Malcolm X, held a press conference at 11:00 a.m. in the Tapestry Suite of the Park Sheraton Hotel, 7th Avenue and 55th Street, New York, New York. Approximately 50 persons attended the conference.

Malcolm K. Little

On September 18, 1963, [REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] advised that Malcolm X was the Minister of Nation of Islam (NOI) Mosque Number 7, New York, New York, and a national representative of Elijah Muhammad who fulfills speaking engagements throughout the United States for the latter.

The December 5, 1963, edition of "The New York Times", a daily newspaper published in New York, New York, contained an article on page 22 indicating that Malcolm X had been suspended by Elijah Mohammad. The suspension was based

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496,975, #207,150, #235,255

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DATE 2/10/82 BY SP7 MAC/JC

Muslim Mosque, Incorporated

on a remark at New York City on December 1, 1963, by Malcolm X to the effect that the assassination of President Kennedy was an instance of the "chickens coming home to roost."

The March 9, 1964, edition of "The New York Times", on page one, contained an article which reflected that on March 8, 1964, Malcolm X announced that he had broken with Elijah Muhammad and the Nation of Islam (NOI). The break was the result of his continued suspension from the NOI, and he indicated that he would organize a politically oriented "black nationalist party".

A characterization of the NOI and NOI Mosque Number 7, New York City, are attached hereto  **LD**

Malcolm X opened his press conference by reading a telegram he had sent to Elijah Muhammad on March 11, 1964. In this telegram he indicated that he had not left the NOI of his own free will, but had been pressured out by a conspiracy between Captain Joseph (Gravitt) in New York and national NOI officials at the Chicago Headquarters of the NOI.

Muslim Mosque, Incorporated

Joseph Gravitt

b7D [REDACTED] advised on March 5, 1964, that as of that date Joseph Gravitt was the Captain in charge of the Fruit of Islam (FOI) of NOI Mosque Number 7, New York City.

A characterization of the FOI is attached hereto [REDACTED]

b7D [REDACTED]

Malcolm X continued his press conference by reading a prepared statement, the complete text of which follows:

Muslin Mosque, Incorporated

"Because 1964 threatens to be a very explosive year on the racial front, and because I myself intend to be very active in every phase of the American Negro struggle for HUMAN RIGHTS, I have called this press conference this morning in order to clarify my own position in the struggle...especially in regards to politics and non-violence.

"I wish to speak to you for ten or fifteen minutes and then open myself for questions.

"I am and always will be a Muslim. My religion is Islam. I still believe that Mr. Muhammad's analysis of the problem is the most realistic, and that his solution is the best one. This means that I too believe the best solution is complete separation, with our people going back home, to our own African homeland.

"But separation back to Africa is still a long-range program, and while it is yet to materialize, 22 million of our people who are still here in America need better food, clothing, housing, education and jobs right now. Mr. Muhammad's program does point us back homeward, but it also contains within it what we could and should be doing to help solve many of our own problems while we are still here.

"Internal differences within the Nation of Islam forced me out of it. I did not leave of my own free will. But now that it has happened I intend to make the most of it. Now that I have more independence-of-action I intend to use a more flexible approach toward working with others to get a solution to this problem.

"I do not pretend to be a divine man, but I do believe in divine guidance, divine power, and in the fulfillment of divine prophecy. I am not educated, nor am I an expert in any particular field...but I am sincere, and my sincerity are my credentials:

Muslim Mosque, Incorporated

"I'm not out to fight other Negro leaders or organizations. We must find a common approach, a common solution, to a common problem. As of this minute, I've forgotten everything bad that the other leaders have said about me, and I pray they can also forget the many bad things I've said about them.

"The problem facing our people here in America is bigger than all other personal or organizational differences. Therefore, as leaders, we must stop worrying about the threat that we seem to think we pose to each other's personal prestige, and concentrate our united efforts toward solving the unending hurt that is being done daily to our people here in America.

* * * * *

"I am going to organize and head a new Mosque in New York City, known as the Muslim Mosque, Incorporated. This gives us a religious base, and the spiritual force necessary to rid our people of the vices that destroy the moral fiber of our community.

"Our political philosophy will be Black Nationalism. Our economic and social philosophy will be Black Nationalism. Our cultural emphasis will be Black Nationalism.

"Many of our people aren't religiously inclined, so the Muslim Mosque, Incorporated will be organized in such a manner to provide for the active participation of all Negroes in our political, economic, and social programs, despite their religious or non-religious beliefs.

"The political philosophy of Black Nationalism means: we must control the politics and the politicians of our community. They must no longer take orders from outside forces. We will organize and sweep out of office all Negro politicians who are puppets for the outside forces.

Muslim Mosque, Incorporated

"Our accent will be upon youth: we need new ideas, new methods, new approaches. We will call upon young students of political science throughout the nation to help us. We will encourage these young students to launch their own independent study, and then give us their analysis and their suggestions. We are completely disenchanted with the old, adult, established politicians. We want to see some new faces...more militant faces.

"Concerning the 1964 elections: we will keep our plans on this a secret until a later date... but we don't intend for our people to be the victims of a political sell-out again in 1964.

"The Muslim Mosque, Incorporated will remain wide-open for ideas and financial aid from all quarters. Whites can help us, but they can't join us. There can be no black-white unity until there is first some black unity. There can be no workers solidarity until there is first some racial solidarity. We cannot think of uniting with others, until after we have first united among ourselves. We cannot think of being acceptable to others until we have first proven acceptable to ourselves. One can't unite bananas with scattered leaves.

"Concerning non-violence: it is criminal to teach a man not to defend himself when he is the constant victim of brutal attacks. It is legal and lawful to own a shotgun or a rifle. We believe in obeying the law.

"In areas where our people are the constant victims of brutality, and the government seems unable or unwilling to protect them,...we should form rifle-clubs that can be used to defend our lives and our property in times of emergency, such as happened last year in Birmingham, Ala.; Plagemine, La.; Cambridge, Md.; and Danville, Va. When our people are being bitten by dogs, they are within their rights to kill those dogs.

Muslim Mosque, Incorporated

"We should be peaceful, law abiding...but the time has come for the American Negro to fight back in self-defense whenever and wherever he is being unjustly and unlawfully attacked.

"If the government thinks I am doing wrong for saying this, then let the government start its job."

Muslim Mosque, Incorporated

Malcolm X then responded to questions from the various news representatives present, furnishing the following information:

Re Muslim Mosque, Incorporated

The Mosque would have temporary headquarters at the Hotel Theresa, 2090 Seventh Avenue (at 125th Street), New York, New York, and there are no present plans for any Mosques outside of New York City.

He would not have gone out on his own if he had not received evidence of support. He stated that in the last several days he had received numerous calls from all over the country offering him support and asking him to speak. Malcolm X stated he would make absolutely no effort to draw away any of the followers of Elijah Muhammad, but some NOI members have come over to him. He refused to reveal the number of NOI members who have come over to him, nor would he reveal the total number of his followers or identify them by name. He also stated that his Mosque would have the same moral standards as the NOI. He stated that he would retain his name "Malcolm X" which he had obtained in the NOI.

Malcolm X also announced that his Mosque would hold a "restricted" meeting at 8:30 p.m., Sunday, March 15, 1964, at the George Washington Carver Club, Amsterdam Avenue and 145th Street, New York City.

Muslim Mosque, Incorporated

When Malcolm X was asked whether his new Mosque would accept financial support from a known Communist group, he replied by telling a story. In the story he indicated that if he were a prisoner of a wolf he would accept release from captivity from any source. When newsmen unanimously exclaimed that this meant he would accept financial support from Communists, Malcolm X denied it and stated "I only told you a story about a wolf!"

Muslim Mosque, Incorporated

Re Politics

Malcolm X announced that he had absolutely no plans to run for political office and at this time he did not care to reveal what specific political plans his Mosque had for the forthcoming elections.

Re Racial Matters

Malcolm X exclaimed that he did not believe that coexistence between the white and Negro race would ever come about. He also classified as "counterfeit" the current Civil Rights Bill under consideration by the United States Congress since it gives nothing to the Negroes in the North.

Malcolm X announced that on Saturday noon, March 14, 1964 he would meet in Chester, Pennsylvania with civil rights leaders Stanley Branche of Chester, Reverend Milton Galamison of Brooklyn, New York, and Mrs. Gloria Richardson of Cambridge, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting was not revealed.

Re Travel

Malcolm X advised that he had no plans at this time to make an overseas trip.

The following known members of NOI Mosque Number 7, New York City, were observed at this press conference by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. They were assisting Malcolm X with the handling of details and arrangement of the conference, and James 67X Warden was in charge.

James 67X Warden

67D
On March 2, 1964, [REDACTED] advised that James 67X was then a Lieutenant of the FOI of NOI Mosque Number 7, New York City.

Muslim Mosque, Incorporated

Chester X last name unknown (LNU)

On February 10, 1964, [REDACTED] advised that Chester X was then a member of NOI Mosque Number 7, New York City. b7D

Gladstone X (LNU)

On November 12, 1963, [REDACTED] advised that Gladstone X was then a member of NOI Mosque Number 7, New York City. b7D

Sidney 2X (LNU)

On December 4, 1963, [REDACTED] advised that Sidney 2X was then a member of NOI Mosque Number 7, New York City. b7D

The March 13, 1964 edition of "The New York Times", contained an article on page 20 relative to the above press conference of Malcolm X.

The March 14, 1964 edition of the "New York Amsterdam News" a Negro newspaper published weekly in New York, New York, contained on page 1, an article concerning the above actions of Malcolm X based on an exclusive interview with Malcolm X.

[REDACTED] b7D

1.

APPENDIX

FRUIT OF ISLAM

On July 10, 1963, a source advised that the Fruit of Islam (FOI) is a group within the Nation of Islam (NOI) composed of male members of the NOI. The purpose of the FOI is to protect officials and property of the NOI, assure compliance of members with NOI teachings and to prepare for the "War of Armageddon". Members of the FOI are required to participate in military drill and are afforded the opportunity to engage in judo training. The FOI is governed by a military system wherein the members are controlled by general orders similar to those issued by regular military organizations.

1.

APPENDIX

NATION OF ISLAM

In January, 1957, a source advised ELIJAH MUHAMMAD has described his organization on a nationwide basis as the "Nation of Islam" and "Muhammad's Temples of Islam".

On July 10, 1963, a second source advised ELIJAH MUHAMMAD is the national leader of the Nation of Islam (NOI); Muhammad's Temple of Islam No. 2,5335 South Greenwood Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, is the national headquarters of the NOI; and in mid-1960, MUHAMMAD and other NOI officials, when referring to MUHAMMAD's organization on a nationwide basis, commenced using either "Mosque" or "Temple" when mentioning one of "Muhammad's Temples of Islam".

The NOI is an all-Negro organization which was originally organized in 1930 in Detroit, Michigan. MUHAMMAD claims to have been selected by Allah, the Supreme Being, to lead the so-called Negro race out of slavery in the wilderness of North America by establishing an independent black nation in the United States. Members following MUHAMMAD's teachings and his interpretation of the "Koran" believe there is no such thing as a Negro; that the so-called Negroes are slaves of the white race, referred to as "white devils", in the United States; and that the white race, because of its exploitation of the so-called Negroes, must and will be destroyed in the approaching "War of Armageddon".

In the past, officials and members of the NOI, including MUHAMMAD, have refused to register under the provisions of the Selective Service Acts and have declared that members owe no allegiance to the United States.

2.

APPENDIX

NATION OF ISLAM

On May 5, 1958, the first source advised MUHAMMAD had, upon advice of legal counsel, tempered his personal statements and instructions to his ministers concerning the principles of his organization in order to avoid possible prosecution by the United States Government; however, he did not indicate any fundamental changes in the teachings of his organization.

On July 10, 1963, a third source advised MUHAMMAD had early in July, 1958, decided to de-emphasize the religious aspects of the teachings of Islam and to stress the economic benefits to be derived by those Negroes who joined the NOI. This policy change, according to MUHAMMAD, would help him acquire additional followers and create more interest in his programs.

1.

APPENDIX

NATION OF ISLAM
MOSQUE #7, NEW YORK CITY

On May 3, 1963, a source advised that the Nation of Islam (NOI) affiliate in New York City is known as Mosque #7, also known as Temple #7, and is located at 102 West 116th Street, New York City. Mosque #7 is a part of the NOI headed by ELIJAH MUHAMMAD, with headquarters in Chicago, Illinois. Mosque #7 follows the policies and programs as set forth by ELIJAH MUHAMMAD.

The date Mosque #7 originated in New York City is not known.

However, in connection with the origin of Mosque #7, it should be noted that in 1953, a second source advised that there was a temple of the NOI (known to source then as the Muslim Cult of Islam) in New York City located at 135th Street and Seventh Avenue, as far back as 1947.