

Mr. W. C. Sullivan

February 4, 1963

[REDACTED]

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Bland

NATION OF ISLAM
INTERNAL SECURITY - NOI

b7c

MALCOM X LITTLE
INTERNAL SECURITY - NOI

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/2/82 BY SP7 mbc

My memorandum 2-1-63 advised a scheduled program called "Black Muslim" would be presented at 7 p.m., Sunday, 2-3-63 on Channel 7, WMAL Television, Washington, D. C. "Black Muslims" is the term used by the news media in referring to the Nation of Islam (NOI). WMAL, the "Evening Star" (a Washington, D. C., daily newspaper) station, advised that one of the reasons they were presenting the program was because they felt it presented Malcom X and the "Black Muslims" in a "bad light."

The pretaped program was televised as scheduled. Malcom X, Minister of Temple Number 7, New York City, replied to questions asked by Matt Warren and Mal LaPlace, a colored announcer. His answers were usually very general, nonspecific and at times he even avoided answering questions by quoting Elijah Muhammad, leader of the NOI, and expounding the NOI "line" which is used to attract Negro people to the organization. His remarks included such comment as the group is a religious organization (Islam) and the term Negro means neuter, nothing or dead. The black people were kidnaped by the white man when African culture was higher than European culture. Malcom X claimed Muslims were taught to obey the law and to never initiate violence; however, they have the right to defend themselves. The "white press publishes false charges and does not print the true facts." For an example, the riots at the reformatory at Lorton, Virginia, was not caused by Muslims. Malcom was critical of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and those who advocate integration, as these groups are supported by "white people"; therefore, they do not represent the "black man."

During the program Malcom X did refer to the FBI on one occasion. He said, "The FBI spends 24 hours a day infiltrating or trying to infiltrate Muslims and after we hold our religious services they go from door to door and ask questions of persons

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Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
RE: NATION OF ISLAM
MALCOM X LITTLE
25-330971-34
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who come to the meetings to try and harass them and frighten them. The FBI really goes way beyond the call of its duty in the religious suppression of the Muslims in this country. We have many occasions where they have tried to threaten and frighten Negroes from becoming Muslims, but it doesn't work. Today they have a new Negro on the scene and the more harassment and threats the FBI or the police or anyone gives toward Islam or toward the Negro, it only makes us grow that much faster."

OBSERVATIONS:

In carrying out our responsibilities in the security field. b7D
b7C

However, the statements concerning harassment and threats are absolutely false and are additional examples of wild untrue statements made to influence the Negro.

The program did not put Malcom X or the "Black Muslims" in a "bad light." The "answers" given by Malcom X were not questioned. He was allowed to expound the NOI program in such a way that he created interest in the NOI. This is another example of the effect of publicity concerning the NOI. While it was intended to have an adverse affect, it created interest in the organization which was out of proportion to its importance.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that we continue to follow the approved policy of taking no steps which would give them additional publicity.

OK
H.