

MEMORANDUM FOR BOB HALDEMAN

FROM: Donald Rumsfeld

SUBJECT: Omaha

In light of the proposed visit to Omaha, you should be aware of the following facts.

Within recent months, there has been considerable public discussion of Black Panther activities in the City of Omaha linked with OEO programs.

On August 23, one policeman was killed and seven injured when a bomb went off in a vacant house. The police had responded to an anonymous phone call indicating there was some problem with the residents and found a suitcase sitting in the middle of the floor. When the suitcase was moved, the bomb exploded.

Two individuals implicated in the bombing had been employed by programs funded by the Office of Economic Opportunity in the City of Omaha. One, David Rice, had worked in the Omaha CAP. He had been fired by the CAP six days prior to the bombing and has now been charged with first degree murder. Mr. Rice was not an employee at the time of the bombing or his arrest.

Another individual, Eddie Bolden, worked in an Opportunities Industrialization Center in Omaha joint-funded by OEO, the Department of Labor and HEW.

Mr. Bolden was also arrested in connection with the bombing but has been released on a \$5,000 recognizance bond as a material witness. No formal charges have been filed against him.

At the time of his arrest, the program suspended him and he has since resigned, so he is no longer employed either.



There have been numerous press reports concerning the employment of these two individuals who have been linked with the Black Panther Party and are now implicated in the bombings. The F.B.I. and the Justice Department have been actively involved in the investigations. Our own review of the matter and investigation indicates that there is no further action required on our part at this time, since both individuals are now off the payroll.

If the subject comes up, I would decline comment on the grounds that it is a criminal matter with prosecution underway. Certainly the Administration stands ready to take whatever action is deemed appropriate to punish the guilty party to the full extent of the law.

Dick Cheney:ep 10-27-70

✓ WH Files - 2

OEO Files - Cheney - 2

