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Threats against Senator Neville Bonner and Aboriginal establishments in Queensland

SECRET

FILE No.

71/6037

PART No.

PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT

CLASSIFICATION

Limited
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SECRET

THREATS AGAINST SENATOR MEVILLE BONNER
AND ABORIGINAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN
QLD.

RELATED PAPERS

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LIMITED TO.
1 SEC.
2 DEP. SEC.
3 FIRST AM. SEC.
4 SECURITY OFFICER
5 MR. LEGRAIN.

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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

CANBERRA



21 DEC 1971

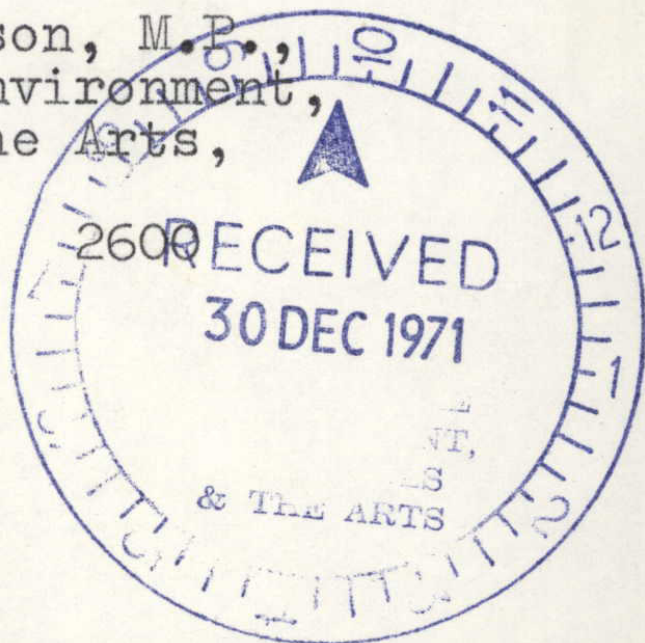
With the Compliments

of the

Prime Minister

PK

The Hon. Peter Howson, M.P.,
Minister for the Environment,
Aborigines and the Arts,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.



→ Dept



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PRIME MINISTER,
CANBERRA.

21 DEC 1971

My dear Senator,

I refer to your telegram and suggestion that I call an early meeting of Commonwealth and State Ministers concerned with Aboriginal Affairs to discuss the question of "black power" in Australia.

I appreciate your concern over this matter and have passed your request on to my colleague, the Minister for the Environment, Aborigines and the Arts, for his consideration. It may be helpful if you were to provide Mr Howson with any additional information or comments you have to assist him in his consideration of your request.

Yours sincerely,

WILLIAM McMAHON

(William McMahon)

Senator N.T. Bonner,
The Senate,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600

7
AUSTRALIAN POST OFFICE
TELEGRAM

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RT HON W MCMAHON - PRIME MINISTER
PARLIAMENT HOUSE 93
CANBERRA ACT

REFERENCE CONTINUING ARTICLES ON BLACK POWER IN SUNDAY
AUSTRALIAN STRONGLY URGE YOU TO CALL AN EARLY MEETING OF
COMMONWEALTH AND STATE MINISTERS FOR ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS
AND THEIR OFFICERS TO DISCUSS SITUATION CANNOT STRESS
TOO STRONGLY THE NEED FOR IMMEDIATE AND FIRM GOVERNMENT
ACTION IN THIS REGARDS

... NEVILLE T BONNER SENATOR FOR QLD

QRT T QLD)30

J. M. & C.
URGENT !!

AUSTRALIAN POST OFFICE
TELEGRAM

AI
3-45p MR 7



71/6037. 6.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

CANBERRA A. C. T

The Secretary,
Department of the Environment,
Aborigines and the Arts,
P.O. Box 5,
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600

21 DEC 1971

With the Compliments

of the

Acting Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER

AND CABINET

*Copy sent to Office of Aboriginal Affairs
24-12-71 Made*



PRIME MINISTER,
CANBERRA.

21 DEC 1971

My dear Senator,

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Yours sincerely,

WILLIAM McMAHON

(William McMahon)

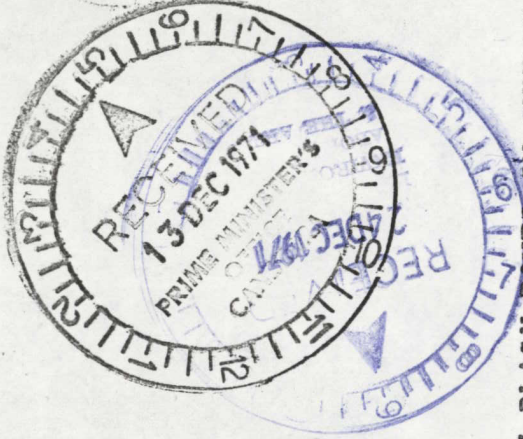
Senator N.T. Bonner,
The Senate,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600

AUSTRALIAN POST OFFICE
TELEGRAM

AUSTRALIAN POST OFFICE
TELEGRAM

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RT HON W MCMAHON - PRIME MINISTER
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
CANNBERRA ACT

93

REFERENCE CONTINUING ARTICLES ON BLACK POWER IN SUNDAY
AUSTRALIAN STRONGLY URGE YOU TO CALL AN EARLY MEETING OF
COMMONWEALTH AND STATE MINISTERS FOR ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS
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ACTION IN THIS REGARDS

... NEVILLE T BONNER SENATOR FOR QLD

QRT T-QLD)30

J. M. & C.
URGENT !!

3-457 M8



COMMONWEALTH POLICE FORCE

49 Jardine Street Kingston A.C.T. 2604

Postal Address: Box 339 Kingston A.C.T. 2604

Telephone: 950381 Telex: AA62001

SECRET

Our ref: 71/5245

Your ref:

9 September 1971.

The Secretary,
Department of the Environment, Aborigines,
Arts and Tourist Activities,
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600.

Threats against Senator Neville BONNER
and Aboriginal Establishments in
Queensland

...

Forwarded herewith for your information is a report by Sergeant W.C. Humphris of my Queensland office.

The results of the further inquiries will be forwarded immediately they are received.

Copies of the report have also been sent to the Secretary, Attorney-General's Department and the Secretary, Department of the Interior.

1. Mr Decker

2. B. return

B. Townsend
10/9/71

J. M. Davis
(J. M. DAVIS)
Commissioner

SECRET

Mr Townsend

Thanks.

RLD

14/9/71

heads

B. report + P.A.

RLD 15/9

WH:EJ

IN YOUR REPLY PLEASE
QUOTE THIS NUMBER
CIQ/AAO/1 (2)TELEPHONE No. 51-8144
TELEGRAPH 'COMPOL'
BOX 491, P.O.
FORTITUDE VALLEY, 4006.COMMONWEALTH POLICE FORCE
21-23 McLACHLAN STREET
FORTITUDE VALLEY, 4006.
BRISBANE.

3 September, 1971.

Officer-in-Charge,
District of Queensland.Threats against Senator Neville BONNER
and Aboriginal Establishments in Queensland.

I have to report that as instructed by Inspector E. GEORGE, I interviewed Senator Neville BONNER at 3.30pm, 2.9.71, at his chambers, Commonwealth Offices, Anzac Square, Adelaide Street, Brisbane.

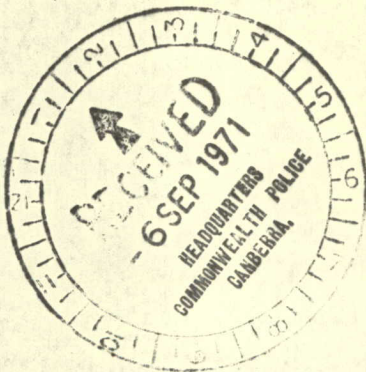
2. Senator BONNER stated that he had received certain information from Joyce WILDING, which he thought this Office should be aware of. Mrs. WILDING is matron of the Opal Joyce Wilding Memorial Home for Aboriginals at 2331 Pacific Highway, Eight Mile Plains, Brisbane, and comes in contact with all classes of people through her welfare work for the aboriginal people. She informed Senator BONNER that she had received the following information from a source she did not wish to disclose. Mrs. WILDING also wishes that her name be kept anonymous.

- a. Radicals from the Aboriginal Tribal Council, universities and other radical elements intend to group together from various States and take over by force, if necessary, the aboriginal settlement on Palm Island. Mrs. WILDING was told that this group has enough arms to do so.
- b. To take over the Department of Aboriginal and Island Affairs Office, 135 George Street, Brisbane.
- c. To do bodily harm to Senator BONNER and even go as far as to exterminate him. If they cannot get to him they intend to take over the Opal Joyce WILDING Memorial Home in Brisbane, which action they believe will bring Mr. BONNER out in the open.

3. Senator BONNER supports the authorities in their dealings with the aboriginal question and it is no doubt for this reason that the radical element is against him. Senator BONNER is himself an aboriginal.

4. The Queensland Police Special Branch have interviewed Senator BONNER and are submitting a report to their Commissioner. Apart from Senator BONNER's secretary, the chief attendant at the Commonwealth Offices, Chief Property Office, Department of the Interior, Special Branch and this Office no other person is aware of the information outlined in this report and Mr. BONNER requests this information be kept as confidential as possible.

.. /2

D/c. J. D. Davies

SECRET

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5. Senator BONNER places little substance in the information he has received. However, he thought this Office and the State Police should be made aware of what he had heard. He believes there is no threat to the Commonwealth Offices or his staff, but has notified his Secretary and the chief attendant at the Commonwealth Offices, Anzac Square, Brisbane to notify Special Branch or this Office immediately on the arrival of any suspicious person or parcels at his Office.

6. Perhaps a copy of this report may be forwarded to Head Office for information.

W.C. Humphris
(W.C. HUMPHRIS)
Sergeant 2/c.

The Commissioner,
Canberra.

Forwarded for information. The Chief Property Officer, Department of Interior, Brisbane originally notified this office, having been advised by the Chief Attendant at the Parliamentary Offices, Brisbane. Enquiries will be continued with a view to establishing the identity of the radicals concerned.

K.G. Ellis
(K.G. ELLIS)
Officer-in-Charge
Queensland.

SECRET

INDEX CLASSIFICATION

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| C'WEALTH Police force. | L MacC. |
| SEN. BOWNER. | MacC. |
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