

December 7 1976

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Richard L. Thornburgh
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

RLT:THH:RAH:LMB:ph
72-017-16

Jesse Helms, United States Senator from North Carolina, Election
Laws

Reference is made to your letterhead memorandum of August 30, 1976 in which you alerted us to a newspaper story depicting Senator Jesse Helms, of North Carolina, as having hosted on August 25, 1976, in Room G-219, Dirksen Senate Office Building, a fund-raising cocktail party for Stanley C. Burger, a Montana senatorial candidate. If this story is true, 18 U.S.C. §603, which prohibits Congressmen from using "any room or building occupied in the discharge of official duties" for the solicitation or receipt of political contributions, may have been violated.

To determine whether §603 has been violated, we request that the Bureau conduct the following preliminary investigation.

1) Please determine if, in fact, the fund-raising event was held in Room G-219, Dirksen Senate Office Building as reported.

2) If that event was held, please determine the nature of Room G-219. In particular, it would be useful to determine whether this room is used for public meetings and whether it was rented by Senator Helms or the Burger for U.S. Senate Committee for the event in question.

3) Please also check the Burger for U.S. Senate Committee's expenditure records at the Federal Election Commission for the months of August through October to see whether there is any indication of a rental payment having been made for the use of that room. To avoid undue publicity, it is requested that the Bureau use the Commission's private viewing room when it examines the Burger Committee records.

[redacted] of the Federal Election Commission's Office of Compliance has requested that before examining any Commission records, the Bureau contact him personally.

56-0529-1

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DEC 14 1976	
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CPD

[redacted] of the Public Integrity Section
will be responsible for this investigation. Any questions
about this matter should be directed to her at [redacted]

TRANSMIT VIA: AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE: _____

CLASSIFICATION: _____

DATE: 12/10/76

TO: SAC, WFO

From: Director, FBI

JESSE HELMS,
U. S. SENATOR FROM
NORTH CAROLINA;
ELECTION LAWS
(OO: WFO)

Enclosed are two copies of a self-explanatory Departmental letter dated 12/7/76.

Complete the requested investigation in accordance with the provisions of Section 35, Volume II, Manual of Instructions, and surep within 15 days of the receipt of this communication.

State in the first paragraph of the details of your report that it contains the results of a limited investigation and underscore the word limited
 preliminary preliminary

Advise all persons interviewed
 appropriate officials at the outset that this investigation is being conducted at the specific request of the U. S. Department of Justice.

Remarks: The Department has advised it has no objection to Senator Helms' Office being notified that a preliminary inquiry is being made in this matter. FBIHQ will handle notification to Senator Helms' Office.

Enc. (2) *DM*

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1 - SAC, Charlotte (INFO) (Enc.)

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56-529-2

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FBI - WASH. FIELD OFFICE	

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE WASHINGTON FIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN WASHINGTON FIELD	DATE 12/27/76	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 12/17/76
TITLE OF CASE JESSE HELMS, UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM NORTH CAROLINA		REPORT MADE BY SA [redacted]	TYPED BY <i>mer</i>
		CHARACTER OF CASE ELECTIONS LAWS	

REFERENCE: Buairtel to WFO dated 12/10/76.

- P -

ADMINISTRATIVE

If further investigation is deemed necessary in this matter, WFO will need a copy of the LHM mentioned in attachment to referenced airtel for background information and to set out leads to interview writer of newspaper article in question. Purpose of interview will be to determine why he considered cocktail party a fund raiser and, additionally, names of individuals present. Further, if [redacted] and Senator JESSE HELMS are interviewed at this time, it is to be noted they will have to be advised of their constitutional rights as set forth on a standard waiver of rights form.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
CON VIC.	PRETRIAL DIVERSION	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
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COPIES MADE:

3 - Bureau
① - WFO (56-529)

Agency	Request Recd.	Date Fwd.	How Fwd.	By

Notations

56-529-4

SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____
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FBI-WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

WFO 56-529

[redacted] Director, Food Services, United States Senate, Room 200, Dirksen Building, was advised that this investigation was being conducted at the specific request of the United States Department of Justice and that it involves a possible violation of 18 U.S.C., Section 603.

LEAD

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D. C. Will await review of this matter by Bureau and Department to determine if further investigation is warranted.

BW

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA [REDACTED] Office: Washington, D. C.
Date: December 27, 1976
Field Office File #: 56-529 Bureau File #:
Title: JESSE HELMS
UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM
NORTH CAROLINA
Character: ELECTION LAWS

Synopsis:

[REDACTED] Director, Food Services, United States Senate, interviewed 12/17/76, and he advised that Room G-219, Dirksen Building, is not available to the public and can only be made available by enforcement of a Senator. This particular room was booked for 8/25/76, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., under the name of Senator HELMS, with a guarantee that 100 people would be in attendance. The room was utilized for an unspecified function, and a bill of \$145.20 was paid for in cash by [REDACTED] National Campaign Political Action Committee. Room G-219, according to [REDACTED] is under the control of the restaurant and is utilized primarily for banquets and catered affairs. [REDACTED] stated that the day after the function was held, he received a call from someone in Senator HELM's office advising him that an individual from the New York Times had attended the function and was going to cause some trouble. The caller, who [REDACTED] did not remember by name, indicated that he was going to file a report stating that this was a fund-raising affair. A review of the BURGER for United States Senate Committee expenditure records for the months of August through October, 1976, failed to disclose any indication of a rental payment for the use of Room G-219 in the Dirksen Senate Office Building on 8/25/76.

- P -

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

The investigation contains the results of a limited investigation.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 12/30/76

[redacted] Director - Food Service, United States Senate, Room B-200, Dirksen Building, telephone 224-7196, was interviewed regarding the nature of Room G-219, Dirksen Senate Office Building, and additionally the user of the room on August 25, 1976. [redacted] was advised that this investigation was being conducted at the specific request of the U. S. Department of Justice and that it involved a possible violation of Title 18, U. S. Code, 603. [redacted] furnished the following information:

He said that Room G-219 is a thirty foot by forty foot, carpeted room controlled by the restaurant, that is utilized primarily for banquets and catered affairs. He indicated that this room is not opened to the public for meetings and can only be made available by endorsement of a Senator.

[redacted] advised that Room G-219 was booked for August 25, 1976, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. under the name of Senator HELMS with a guarantee that 100 people would be in attendance. [redacted] stated that the room was utilized for an unspecified function and the bill of \$145.20 which is itemized below was paid for in cash by [redacted] National Campaign Political Action Committee, telephone 522-2800.

ITEMIZED BILL

4 lbs of mixed nuts	\$ 16.00
3 cases Special Beverages	72.00
10% handling	7.20
Services and Labor	50.00
Total	<u>\$145.20</u>

[redacted] stated that the day after the function was held, he received a call from someone in HELM's office advising him that an individual from New York Times had attended the event and was going to cause some trouble. The caller, who [redacted] did not remember by name, indicated

Interviewed on 12/17/76 at Washington, D. C. File # 56-529
by SA [redacted] Jr. and [redacted] Date dictated 12/21/76

WFO 56-529

that the unidentified party from the New York Times was going to file a report stating that this was a fund-raising affair.

[redacted] said that the next time he heard anything about this function was when he was called to the office of [redacted] Staff Director, Rules Committee. [redacted] advised that the purpose of this meeting with [redacted] was to establish criteria for room endorsement to ensure that a problem such as this would not arise again. As a result of this meeting, [redacted] stated that in the future each endorsement for a room reservation will have to include a statement regarding its intended useage.

In conclusion, [redacted] stated that he did not know the purpose of the function held in Room G-219 on August 25, 1976. Additionally, he advised that [redacted] General Counsel for Rules and Administration would have to decide if a copy of the aforementioned itemized bill could be released to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as it is part of Senate records. [redacted] said he would call regarding [redacted] decision the beginning of next week.

x

10/19/77

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI.
FROM: SAC, WFO (56-529) (P)

JESSE HELMS;
UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM
NORTH CAROLINA
ELECTION LAWS

ReWFOreport of SA [redacted] dated, 12/27/76.

The Bureau is requested to advise results of review by the U. S. Department of Justice concerning this matter. If no additional investigation is requested regarding captioned matter, WFO intends to close its case, UACB.

3- Bureau
①- WFO

TDM:dar *dar*
(4)

JP

BB

56-529-6

Searched _____
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[Handwritten signature]

TRANSMIT VIA: AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE: _____

CLASSIFICATION: _____

DATE: 10/28/77

To: SAC, WFO (56-529)
From: Director, FBI (56-5298)

JESSE HELMS;
UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM
NORTH CAROLINA
ELECTION LAWS

Reurairtel 10/19/77.

Results of investigation were furnished to the Department on 1/6/77. No further requests for investigation have been received. Case should be closed.

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Date: 6/28/78
Initials: JG

CONSOLIDATED

Date: 6/28/78
Initials: JG

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DESTROY 10 YEARS

[Redacted box]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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