

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 11/29/2000

To: Criminal Investigative

Attn: AD Ruben Garcia, Jr.  
Room 7116

From: Criminal Investigative  
VCMOS/ Indian Country Unit/Room 11163  
Contact: SSA [redacted]

Approved By:

[redacted signature box]

b7C

Drafted By:

[redacted name box]

Case ID #: 198-HQ-C1256308 (Pending) - 284  
198A-MP-32250 (Closed) - 579

Title: RESMURS  
MINNEAPOLIS DIVISION

b7C

Synopsis: Minneapolis Division's request for funding of an outside contract with retired Special Agent [redacted]

Enclosure: Minneapolis EC to the Criminal Investigative Division, dated 11/17/2000.

Details: The RESMURS investigation involved the murders of Special Agents Ronald Williams and Jack Coler twenty five years ago on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Leonard Peltier was ultimately convicted of both murders and sentenced to life in prison.

Since Peltier's conviction, the case has been the subject of considerable media attention. Celebrity figures from around the world have questioned Peltier's conviction despite compelling evidence of his guilt and affirmations from every level of the federal court system. Minneapolis Division routinely is called upon to answer questions concerning this sensitive case and must go to great lengths to ensure that all disseminated information is fair, balanced, and impartial.

Minneapolis Division has expressed its desire to prepare a final and definitive summary of the events surrounding the RESMURS case. Minneapolis has outlined its proposal in the enclosed EC and are requesting financial support of this effort utilizing funds allocated to the ICU from the Violent Crime and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. This summary would be published in the form of a brochure that could be provided to field offices throughout the FBI for the purpose of addressing inquiries into the Peltier conviction by the media, general public, and other law enforcement agencies. The brochure would also serve to educate Agents in the FBI as to the facts

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Re: 198-HQ-C1256308, 11/29/2000

surrounding this important case. The brochure which prior to publishing would be reviewed, amended, and approved by FBIHQ and DOJ, would go far to address criticism directed at the FBI by some Peltier supporters for what they claim are the dissemination of "intentionally deceptive and inflammatory statements" made by a number of FBI officials regarding the Peltier case. The existence of this brochure will provide a final and definitive summary of the events surrounding this matter and preclude the legal expression of opinions made by individuals from being interpreted as the official facts of the case. This will directly support Agents working in Indian country assignments by providing them with a document that they can provide to individuals that they meet during the course of business who are concerned about this issue.

RECOMMENDATION: That the AD, CID, approve the use of \$6000.00 from mb7C CU budget in order to fund the outside contract of retired Special Agent [redacted] for the purpose of writing a RESMURS summary.

ACTION:  Approved.

Not approved.

~~See me.~~

AD Ruben Garcia, Jr.

Date

12/4/2000