UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

9-C

February 26, 1971

BLACK STUDENT UNION;
PENNSYLVANIA MILITARY COLLEGE,
CHESTER, PA.

A confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past and is in a position to know of activities among students at Pennsylvania Military College (PMC), Chester, Pa., advised during November and December, 1970, the following information:

During October, 1970, a Black Festival Week was held at PMC. This was organized by about ten of the 35 Negro students who are currently enrolled as students at PMC. The arrangements and activity were not well-organized, and did not receive recognition or publicity outside the college community.

The purpose of the festival was to invite persons to view the works of art and products developed out of neighborhood arts and crafts programs which were displayed at the school. These items had been created reportedly by the black students at PMC and the black high school and grade school students in the predominately black neighborhoods adjacent to the urban campus of PMC.

This source stated that out of this activity, and as a result of the planning that went into the activity, there was formed on campus, a Black Student Union (BSU).

The BSU, at the outset, reportedly comprised all of the black students at PMC who had stated that the purpose of this organization was to enkindle a "spirit of black awareness" among the whole student body, and encourage a larger number of black high school students to seek enrollment at PMC.

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This source stated that BSU at PMC is a legitimate organization in that it is recognized by the school administration as a proper school activity; however, the organization is not funded through the student council nor does it have representation on the student council. There does not appear to be any connection between this organization and others on campus, insofar as control or influence on the activities of BSU. Also, there has been no indication that the BSU is influenced or controlled by any black militant individuals or organizations outside the campus.

The source stated the BSU has not engaged in any militant-type activity on campus, and have not advocated or supported any such activity elsewhere.

On February 24, 1971, this same source advised that he had learned that the BSU does not have designated officers or leaders with specific titles as do so many of the other campus student groups. He noted, however, that the leaders of the BSU are

[redacted], a student who resides on campus,
[redacted], a commuting student, residing at
[redacted], Chester, Pa.

This first source, as well as a second and third confidential source, who are in a position to know of black militant activity in the Chester, Pa., area, and have furnished reliable information in the past, advised the BSU at PMC have been basically dormant as an organization on campus and in the city of Chester. The group has not taken an active role in any local black militant activity and has not advocated or taken part in any disruptive action on campus.

These sources described the BSU as a somewhat disorganized group of students, possibly having a membership and/or following of no more than 30 students and possibly a few as a half dozen, who have not displayed radical or militant ideas, and do not appear to be aligned with any radical or black militant groups.