

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 12/01/2005

To: San Francisco

Attn: San Francisco

From: San Francisco

ORA

Contact: [REDACTED]

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Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED]

evp *20P*

Case ID #: 44A-SF-A116309 (Pending) *165*

Title: Unknown (SUBJECTS):

ARSON OF [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] OAKLAND, CA

[REDACTED] (VICTIM)

[REDACTED] (VICTIM)

[REDACTED] (VICTIM)

Synopsis: To report on the incident on November 28, 2005, where the [REDACTED] located at [REDACTED] Oakland, California was set on fire. Oakland Fire Department (OFD) personnel on scene stated that the fire was initiated through an accelerant.

Details:

On November 28, 2005, at approximately 1:35 Oakland Police Department (OPD) Officers arrived at the [REDACTED] located at [REDACTED] Oakland, California responding to a call of a structure fire. At the time of their arrival, OFD had extinguished the fire inside the structure. OFD Battalion Chief L. Frediani on scene stated that the fire was arson and gasoline was used as an accelerant. Further accounts by OPD investigators state that unknown person(s) entered the store via unknown means and brought into the store three gas containers. The unknown person(s) then set the store on fire with an unknown hot object.

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On the same day of the Arson [REDACTED] contacted OPD [REDACTED] who had been missing since past midnight of [REDACTED] stated that he made numerous attempts to contact [REDACTED] through the morning

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of [redacted] was expected to open the store at 7:00 am on the same day, but never arrived. [redacted] was found in the trunk of his vehicle at approximately 1:30 pm on the same day, unharmed. As of the date of this EC it was not determined whether the alleged kidnap of [redacted] was related to the Arson. OPD continues to investigate this matter.

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[redacted] one of the owners of the store was interviewed shortly after the Arson and stated that the store was set on fire by Black Muslims. [redacted] was referring to the individuals who recently vandalized the [redacted] on November 23, 2005. The following is background information on the events.

On November 23, 2005, at the San Pablo Liquor Market, located at 2363 San Pablo, Oakland, California, at approximately 11:40 pm, approximately 10-12 male black suspects described to be in their early 20's, two may have been of Asian descent (from one eyewitness account), and one black subject in his 40's, all wearing suits with black bow ties. The older subject stated he was Muslim and asked a teller why they were selling alcohol to the community and the people. At that time suspects began to vandalize the inside of the store using black pipes to smash refrigerator glass doors and bottles. A teller stated that this same subject was blaming them for people (in the neighborhood) getting drunk. The tellers did not react to the suspects for fear of their safety. One witness observed at least one subject armed with what was described as a semi-automatic weapon. According to the store owner, there was over \$10,000 worth of damage to the store. OPD recovered one surveillance CD-rom that captured portions of the incident. This same video was used by the media to report on the incident.

A similar event occurred at the [redacted] a few minutes later where approximately 11-12 young black male suspects described to be in their early 20's and one black man in his 40's, armed with pipes, knives and guns entered [redacted] wearing suits and bow ties. The older subject asked the teller why they were selling beer and liquor to the black community. At that time, they began to vandalize the inside of the store by smashing liquor bottles and other merchandise using pipes. During the vandalism, the teller attempted to protect himself with a shotgun and was overwhelmed by several of the suspects and beaten. The shotgun was taken by the suspects which was recently purchased by a store employee. A witness stated that some of the suspects fled in an early 1990's model, burgundy Caprice.

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On November 24, 2005, at approx. 1:15 am an OPD officer identified a 1995 Chevy Caprice, California license plate [redacted] similar in description to the subject vehicle described during the vandalism at [redacted]

On November 28, 2005 OPD used confidential informants to identify six of the twelve suspects captured on surveillance video. The identified suspects were [redacted]
[redacted]

On November 29, 2005 [redacted] were arrested for Terrorist Threats, Conspiracy, Robbery and Vandalism for the events on November 23, 2005 at the San Pablo Ave Market and [redacted] Warrants for four other individuals are outstanding at the time this EC was written.

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From the date of this EC there has not been any apparent link to YBMB for the [redacted] arson or the alleged kidnap of [redacted]

OPD arson investigation continues with the support of federal agencies such as the department of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) and the FBI. The FBI will continue to monitor the progress of this investigation.

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