

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : James P. Turner

DATE: March 28, 1967

FROM : Hugh W. Fleischer

SUBJECT: Sobol v. Leander H. Perez, et al

At your request I went to the U. S. District Court Clerk's office on this date to look at the Sobol file and relate the substance of any new pleadings to Dave Norman.

The Clerk's office informed me that Judge Fred J. Cassibry, the trial judge, had the record. I asked Judge Cassibry's secretary if I might look at the record in the Clerk's office to which she consented. She told me that the Judge was not going to hear the motion for summary judgment on March 29, 1967, the date for which it had been noticed by Leander H. Perez, Sr. I did not see anyone other than the secretary at this time. I left my name and position with her.

I went to the Clerk's office where I called Dave Norman and Brian Landsberg. During the course of our conversation, it was decided that several pleadings and briefs should be copied for their use.

While waiting for these copies to be produced in the Clerk's office, Judge Cassibry came in looking for me. He told me that the motion for summary judgment was indefinitely postponed and that he hoped that further proceedings by his court be avoided by virtue of an agreement which he had proposed to the attorneys in the case. His proposal was that Plaquemines authorities drop the charges against Sobol and that Sobol be accompanied by local counsel while trying cases in Plaquemines Parish.

cc: Doar
Norman

The Judge said that, following the application for a TRO by the plaintiffs, the Parish had informally agreed to take no action in the Sobol case pending some action by the federal court. By reason of this informal agreement, there has been no arraignment nor any other action by the Parish subsequent to Sobol's arrest.

The Judge concluded by saying that he planned no action unless Al Bronstein or the Parish attorneys pushed him.

The Judge did not ask and I did not state what interest the Department had in the case.

On the basis of Judge Cassibry's demeanor during this conversation and my knowledge of him, I felt that his action in seeking me out was an innocent attempt to be helpful to the Department of Justice rather than a means of suggesting that the Department was not needed in this case.