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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
DeLoach	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont *albr*

FROM : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS*

SUBJECT: DR. AND MRS. HARRY A. OVERSTREET  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA

DATE: October 13, 1965

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. M. A. Jones
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. R. W. Smith
- 1 - Mr. J. M. Sizoo

As you know, I have been working with Dr. and Mrs. Harry A. Overstreet on a book which they have been writing on the FBI. A special effort has been made to come up with a book that is unique and unlike any written previously on the Bureau. The book is being prepared so as to be thought-provoking and to appeal not only to the supporters of the Bureau but to those individuals "on the fence" and those in opposition to this Bureau. I have long felt that a book of this kind is badly needed.

Parenthetically, it should be noted that in a scholarly and incisive manner the Overstreets' new book discredits many of the claims and stereotyped attitudes of anti-Bureau critics such as the scurrilous Fred J. Cook, author of "The FBI Nobody Knows" (fully reviewed when published in the past year); James Wechsler, editor of the anti-FBI "New York Post"; and Max Lowenthal, enemy of the Bureau, whose book "The FBI," published in 1950, has been reviewed and refuted by this Bureau previously. The Overstreets' book also effectively attacks those individuals who believe that an anti-FBI attitude is a required sign of "liberalism."

Enclosed is the Overstreets' manuscript for Part 1 of the book and one chapter of Part 2 which is being submitted for your information and for reading by the Crime Records Division.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the manuscript be returned to me when it has been read.

WCS:vms  
(8)

Enclosure

ENCLOSURE

ENCL. BEHIND FILE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/CAL

245472

FEB 24 1966

54 MAR 3 1966

This is a copy to Mr. Sullivan  
 WCS: vms  
 11/17/65  
 26

*R. W. Smith*

*3*

*100-114575-1578*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

- 1 - Mr. A. H. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. J. P. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. M. A. Jones

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS*

FROM : Mr. R. W. Smith *J*

SUBJECT: DR. AND MRS. HARRY A. OVERSTREET  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA

DATE: November 26, 1965

- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. R. W. Smith
- 1 - Mr. R. S. Garner
- 1 - Mr. J. M. Sizoo

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-2-86 BY SP8BJS/col

By memorandum dated October 13, 1965, with same caption, Assistant Director Sullivan said he had been working with Dr. and Mrs. Overstreet on a book which they have been writing on the FBI. Referenced memorandum referred the manuscript of the first eleven chapters of that book to the Crime Records Division for reading. Suggestions for improving the manuscript made by that Division have been incorporated in the revised manuscript of eleven chapters which is attached hereto. This is the only portion of the book which has been completed to date. Assistant Director C. D. DeLoach has personally reviewed the eleven chapters and made suggestions for improving which have been incorporated also.

As noted by Mr. Sullivan in referenced memorandum, a special effort has been made to prepare a book that is unique and unlike any previously written on the Bureau. It is noted that the manuscript as it now stands is very thought-provoking and will appeal not only to those individuals who already support the Bureau but also to many individuals "on the fence" and others who are outright critics of the Bureau. It is the type of book needed at this time on the FBI.

The Overstreets among other things have presented in a rational and incisive manner a refutation of many claims made by such anti-Bureau critics as the scurrilous Fred J. Cook; James Wechsler, Editor of the anti-FBI "New York Post"; and Max Lowenthal, author of "The FBI," published in 1950, a book that has been reviewed and refuted by the Bureau previously. The Overstreets condemn individuals who feel that it is necessary to be "anti-FBI" in order to be regarded as a "liberal" in this country. The Overstreets also present a capable rebuttal to extremism of both the "right" and "left." They are working steadily to complete further chapters for the book which will be reviewed by us.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For the information of and perusal by the Director.

Enclosure *attached*  
JMS:mab (9)

69 JAN 7 1966

EX-103

REC-10

100-114575-158

15 JAN 5 1966

*W.C.S.*  
*J.P.M.*  
*R.S.G.*  
*M.A.J.*  
*W.C.S.*  
*J.P.M.*  
*R.S.G.*  
*M.A.J.*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Wick	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Wick

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS*

DATE: 1/19/66

FROM : Mr. R. W. Smith *RWS*

- 1 - Mr. M. A. Jones
- 1 - Mr. W.C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. R.W. Smith
- 1 - Mr. Garner

SUBJECT: DR. HARRY A. OVERSTREET  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(RESEARCH-SATELLITE)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/OL  
245472

b6  
b7c

By enclosed letter signed [redacted] Massachusetts, the Director was requested to advise her if he had written a letter to Dr. Overstreet on his 90th birthday. Dr. Overstreet and his wife are currently writing a book favorable to the FBI. The completed parts of the book have been reviewed by the Domestic Intelligence Division and the Crime Records Division and suggestions for improvement were incorporated in the manuscript that was forwarded for the Director's information by memorandum from Mr. Smith to Mr. Sullivan dated November 26, 1965, captioned as above.

The Director did write letters to Dr. Overstreet on both his 80th and 90th birthday celebrations, the latter being on October 25, 1965. [redacted] is apparently questioning the Director's judgment in commenting in the October 25, 1965, congratulatory letter that Dr. Overstreet, by using his unique experience and abilities in analyzing communism, has "contributed significantly to the intelligent and, therefore, more effective opposition to communism." It is noted that in his writings and speeches Dr. Overstreet has never held any sympathy for communism and his recent books have, in fact, been dedicated to alerting our citizens to the tyrannical nature of communism and its tactics of deceit and violence in trying to subvert our freedoms.

Bufiles show that [redacted] writing on July 23, 1965, as [redacted] of the same address, requested to be placed on the Bureau mailing list. The Bureau determined that her husband, [redacted] was [redacted] of the John Birch Society. As a result of such information, she was advised by letter August 5, 1965, from the Director that it would not be possible to send her material on a continuing basis. In view of her husband's relationship with the John Birch Society, it is possible that she intends to draw the Director into a public controversy over Dr. Overstreet for the benefit of that "extremist" group.

The file copy of the Director's letter of October 25, 1965 to Dr. Overstreet is also enclosed with its cover memorandum.

Enclosures  
100-114575

CONTINUED - OVER

ENCLOSURE

REC-100-114575-159  
JAN 20 1966

RESEARCH-SATELLITE

Memorandum for Mr. Sullivan  
RE: DR. HARRY A. OVERSTREET

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the writer's apparent questioning of the Director's judgment and her possible intent to draw the Director into public controversy on Dr. Overstreet, it is recommended that no answer be given to her letter.

*D*      *as*      *W.E.S.*      *N*      *JS*      *J*  
*1/29*  
*gal*

[Redacted]  
[Redacted] Mass.

January 15, 1966

b6  
b7c

40  
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/cal  
245472

Dear Sir:

I was recently advised that you had sent Mr. Harry A. Overstreet, on the occasion of his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, a letter commending him in his fight against communism.

In view of Mr. Overstreet's background of affiliations with communist front organizations as documented by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, I question this. Will

ENCLOSURE

REC-4100-114575-159

you please advise if you did send Mr. Overstreet a letter of commendation. If such letter is a matter of public record, may I have a copy? Thank you very much

18 JAN 27 1966

CORR

[Redacted]



VAN LOON BROS. MUSKEGON & OTTAWA COUNTIES, INC.

2187 LAKESHORE DRIVE • MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN • PHONE PL 5-1161

49441

MESSAGE

REPLY

TO

Mr. J. EDGAR HOOVER

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON - D.C.

DATE

2/9/66

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ  
245472

DEAR MR. HOOVER, OUR CHURCH (THE LAKESIDE METHODIST) IS

GOING TO HAVE A SERIES OF LECTURES  
ON EXTREMISM USING THE BOOK "THE  
STRANGE TACTICS OF EXTREMISM" BY HARRY

AND DONALD OVERSTREET. I HAVE READ  
CONFLICTING REPORTS ABOUT THESE AUTHORS.

IS THERE ANY PUBLIC INFORMATION AVAIL-  
ABLE ABOUT THESE PEOPLE? ARE THEY

COMMUNISTS OR ASSOCIATED WITH COMMUNIST  
FRONT ORGANIZATIONS? I DO NOT WISH

INSTRUCTIONS TO SENDER:

DATE

TO SEE A GOOD FELLOW CHURCH

MEMBER BE DUPED INTO GIVING  
SOME INCORRECT INFORMATION TO HIS  
FRIENDS AND FELLOW MEMBERS.

I HOPE THAT I AM NOT OUT OF LINE  
IN MAKING THIS REQUEST. ANY INFOR-  
MATION YOU CAN PROVIDE WILL BE  
GREATLY APPRECIATED.

b6  
b7c

Sincerely,

very interested in preserving  
our heritage and our  
Constitution.

COPIES DESTROYED

INSTRUCTIONS TO RECEIVER

1. WRITE REPLY 2. DETACH STUB, KEEP PINK COPY, RETURN WHITE COPY TO

29 FEB 22 1974

KEEP YELLOW COPY. 2. SEND WHITE AND PINK COPIES WITH CARBON INTACT.

2/11/66  
off: [unclear]  
mail

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. Wick	✓
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

[Redacted]  
[Redacted] Mass

January 15, 1966

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I was recently advised that you had sent Mr. Harry A. Overstreet, on the occasion of his 90th birthday, a letter commending him in his fight against communism. In view of Mr. Overstreet's background of affiliations with communist front organizations, as documented by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, I question this. Will you please advise if you did send Mr. Overstreet a letter of commendation. If such letter is a matter of public record, may I have a copy? Thank you very much.

b6  
b7c

[Redacted]

COPY:nm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8EJS/cal  
245472

JAN 17 1966

February 15, 1966

REC 70

100-114575-160

b6  
b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/CSL  
245472

[Redacted]

Muskegon, Michigan 49441

Dear [Redacted]

Your communication of February 7th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy, and why I cannot furnish you the data you desire.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Dr. and Mrs. Harry A. Overstreet are well known to the Bureau, and we have assisted them in preparing books.

DFC:cao

(3)

cao

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Wick \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 2  
FEB 15 1966  
COMM-FBI

66 FEB 21 1966

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

WILSONS-1/2/24

FEB 15 11 29 AM '66  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

*Leo*

*P* *V*

*Jo*

*WPA*

*DA*

*Paul*

TRUE COPY

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington - D. C.

2/7/66

Dear Mr. Hoover,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/COL  
245472

Our Church (The Lakeside Methodist) is going to have a series of lectures on extremism using the book "The Strange Tactics of Extremism" by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet. I have read conflicting reports about these authors. Is there any public information available about these people? Are they communists or associated with Communist Front organizations? I do not wish to see a good fellow church member be duped into giving some incorrect information to his friends and fellow members.

I hope that I am not out of line in making this request. Any information you can provide will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

b6  
b7c

[Redacted] (an American very interested in preserving our heritage and our Constitution.

*1cc  
2-11-66  
Revised*

*ack:  
2-11-66  
OFC! read  
mm*

REC 70 100-114575-160

18 FEB 18 1966



**VAN LOON BROS.**  
ACCOUNTING SERVICE I. B. M. EQUIPMENT  
2187 LAKESHORE DRIVE MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN  
DISTRIBUTOR FOR STATE OF MICHIGAN

March 2, 1966

REC-48

100-114575-161

*J.W. Smith*  
*Casper*  
*J. Sullivan*

[Redacted]

Rochester, New York 14615

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-82 BY SP8BTJ/COL  
245472

Dear [Redacted]

I received your letter of February 17th, with enclosure, concerning Dr. Harry A. Overstreet.

Let me assure you at the outset that the FBI does not issue clearances or nonclearances of any type. Over the years this Bureau has enjoyed cordial relations with Dr. Overstreet, and I did write him on his 90th birthday. However, I did not use the words attributed to me in the article you forwarded.

MAILED 4  
MAR 2 1966  
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

- 1 - Buffalo - Enclosures (2)
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enclosures (2)

NOTE: [Redacted] is not identifiable in Bufiles. Dr. Harry A. Overstreet is well known to the Bureau and is currently preparing a book on the FBI which is very favorable to us. Smith to Sullivan memorandum 1-19-66 concerned an inquiry from a Massachusetts resident along the same general lines as the current incoming. It was noted that Mr. Hoover did write Dr. Overstreet on both his 80th and 90th birthday celebrations, with the latter on October 25, 1965. This letter was hand delivered by Assistant Director William C. Sullivan. A copy is attached. While the wording congratulates Dr. Overstreet for his contribution to the field of anticommunism, no specific statement calling him a "great patriot" is contained therein. In view of the issues involved, the above answer is deemed appropriate.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Wick \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DTP:kcf (5)  
MAR 13 1966

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*W.C. Sullivan*  
*245472*

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
MAR 2 11 41 AM '66  
FEB 25 4 03 PM '66

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Casper	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Felt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gale	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

[Redacted]  
 Rochester, New York 14615  
 February 17, 1966

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 Washington, D. C.

b6  
 b7c

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In reference to the attached clipping. I was not under the impression that a function of the FBI was to "clear" anyone. I thought that its only function was as investigative body. Could you tell me if you did indeed pay tribute to Harry A. Overstreet as a "great patriot". I personally can not believe that you did. The mention of citations against Mr. Overstreet (as outlined in the attached clipping from the Rochester, New York DEMOCRAT & CHRONICLE) I obtained from APPENDIX IX of which I have a copy.

Sincerely,  
 [Redacted]

Enc. attached

EX-100-114575-161  
 FEB 21 1966  
 REC'D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/csl  
 243472

REC-48 100-114575-161  
 38  
 12 FEB 21 1966

ENCLOSURE

CORRESPONDENCE

ROCHESTER New York

Detractors Answered

DEC. 12-1-65

# Overstreet Deceived By Reds, Wife Says

If you discuss hatreds, you find haters.

As soon as The Democrat and Chronicle began publishing the current series EXTREMISM TODAY: A TWO-WAY THREAT, detractors of the authors took pen in hand or sat down at their typewriters.

Some of them went back 24 years to "uncover" the liberal leanings of the writers.

The following facts seem pertinent.

Harry A. Overstreet, co-author of the series, at one time three decades or so ago, unwittingly joined or supported nine organizations listed as "subversive" by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, his wife and fellow author said yesterday.

### 'Non-Communist'

But an investigation, made at his request in 1953 in California, declared him definitely a "non-Communist."

Following the California investigation, Overstreet was cleared by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and since that time, the Overstreets have enjoyed a close relationship with the FBI.

On Oct. 25 last, Overstreet's 80th birthday, a portion of the celebration was the reading of a letter from J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director, in which tribute was paid to the author as a "great patriot."

After the Overstreets published their "What We Must Know About Communism" in 1950, President Eisenhower suggested it, as a book "every American should read." It was widely hailed as a complete and compact analysis of the Communist conspiracy.

### Background Checked

This was some of the background established before The Democrat and Chronicle started the Overstreet series.

Overstreet, author of about 20 books and professor emeritus of City College of New York, supported the groups without knowing they were Communist-inspired, Mrs. Bonaro Overstreet said in a telephone interview from their home in Falls Church, Va.

"Harry was so busy in those years," said Mrs. Overstreet. "His mistake was that when something seemed like a good and liberal cause, one that could

help people, he just naturally tried to do what he could."

Mrs. Overstreet said her husband never attended the organization's meetings, adding, "It was a tenuous sort of thing."

### Wartime Groups

"The bulk of them were wartime things, mostly involving the Spanish Civil War," Mrs. Overstreet said.

She confirmed her husband's association with nine groups mentioned in one of the reader's letters to the editor. They are:

American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born (signed statement); American Committee to Save Refugees (signed statement); Committee of the American Friends of Spanish Democracy (member); The Medical Bureau, American Friends (member); Descendants of the American Revolution (member); Friends of the American Lincoln Brigade (signed statement); Schappes Defense Committee (signed statement); Spanish Relief Campaign (member).

### Wanted to Help

Mrs. Overstreet said her husband, "with no stimulating cause," went before the California House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1953 and "asked what he could do as a person having made mistakes of this kind."

The committee, Mrs. Overstreet said, suggested that her husband draft an affidavit listing the Communist "fronts" he had unwittingly joined, plus any other organizations "to put the thing in perspective." It also advised him to seek a public hearing to "clear up ambiguities."

In October 1953, the committee chairman advised Overstreet there was "no need" for a hearing, Mrs. Overstreet said. In 1950, it advised the professor that he was regarded as a "non-Communist" who had been deceived into his connections with the "fronts."

- This was written by me.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/GO

245472

00 114575-161

October 25, 1965

100-114575-153

- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. W.C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. R.W. Smith
- 1 - Mr. Garner

Dr. Harry A. Overstreet  
 3409 Fiddler's Green  
 Lake Barcroft  
 Falls Church, Virginia

Dear Dr. Overstreet:

I should like to extend to you my greetings on the occasion of your 90th birthday. Your years have spanned a significant segment of our Nation's history and your efforts to relate the individual to his surroundings in this era of rapid change are widely known and genuinely appreciated by those who are aware of the ever-increasing complexity of life today.

By utilizing your unique experience and abilities in the field of education and psychology in your analyses of communism and its threat to freedom, you have contributed significantly to the intelligent and, therefore, more effective opposition to communism.

Sincerely yours,

WCS:cr/vms  
(8)

DATE 5-21-86  
245472

SP8BTJ/CAL

NOTE: See memorandum Sullivan to Belmont dated 10/19/65 re "Dr. Harry A. Overstreet, Falls Church, Virginia, Information Concerning," WCS:cr. Letter dated October 25, 1965, since that is birthday of Dr. Overstreet and letter to be delivered personally by Mr. W. C. Sullivan. Director's note paper used for special congratulatory purpose.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
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- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
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- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

57 FEB 3 1966

letter delivered to Dr. Overstreet 10/25/65

OCT 25 15 1965

W.C.S.

Handwritten initials

69 NOV 9 1965 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

OCT 22 4 52 PM '65  
REC'D READING ROOM  
FBI

ENCLOSURE

100-114575-161

Handwritten signatures and initials

March 16, 1966

*100-114575-162*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/ksy  
205472

*Smith*  
*J. J. Sizoo*

[Redacted]

Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania 18360

b6  
b7c

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of March 9th has been received.

With respect to your request, the FBI being strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAR 15 11 13 AM '66  
FBI  
REC'D-READING ROOM

MAILED 11  
MAR 16 1966  
COMM-FBI

NOTE: [Redacted] is not identifiable in Bufiles. The Overstreets are well known to the Bureau and are currently preparing a book on the FBI which is very favorable. This Bureau has assisted them in the preparation of books in the past.

DFC:mel (3)

*mel*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Wick \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
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- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

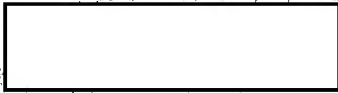
MAR 28 1966

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*W. J. ...*

*pdw*

TRUE COPY



Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania 18360

Mar 9, 1966

F. B. I.  
Washington D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BJJ/csl  
245472

b6  
b7c

Dear Sir -

Will you please research Harry & Bonaro Overstreet, authors of "What we Must Know about Communism," and let me know whether or not they are subversive?

Thank you,

/s/



REC-103

100-114575-162

10 MAR 22 1966

CORRESPONDENCE

176 16  
ack 3/15/66  
AT:mel

b6  
b7C

[Redacted]  
STROUDSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 19360

C-15

Mar 9, 1966

S. B. J.  
Washington

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/col

Dear Sid - 245472

Will you please  
research Harry & Bonaro  
Overstreet, authors of  
"What we must know  
about Communism", and  
let me know whether  
or not they are  
subversive?

Thank you,

[Redacted]

ack 3/15/66  
OFC: aep.

CORRESPONDENCE  
JDS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-31-86 BY SP8BTJ/col  
245472

40 MAR 17 1966

EXP. PROC.

REC-117

100-114575-163  
MAR 17 1966

247  
57 APR 12 1966

CORRESPONDENCE  
JDS

March 14-66

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In the January issue of Arizona's PTA Bulletin, there is an article on the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration of Harry A. Overstreet. They have included your name in a list of birthday messages received by him but only quote from yours, which seems to me a subtle way of trying to clear him of the "rumors" going around of his subversive activities which the PTA has not acknowledged though the record shows differently.

They quote your message as being: "Your years have spanned a significant segment of our nation's history and your efforts to relate the individual to his surroundings in this era of rapid change are widely known and genuinely appreciated by those who are

aware of the ever increasing complexity of life today. By utilizing your unique experience and abilities in the field of education and psychology in your analyses of Communism and its threats to freedom you have contributed significantly to the intelligent and, therefore, effective opposition to "communism".

I hope to have you comment on the above as I cannot feel that even the recent work of Mr. Overstreet warrants a note of gratitude for preserving the American way of life. As it true that you are against outlawing the Communist party as it seems I recall Overstreet mentioning?

Was your assistant, William C. Sullivan, at this birthday gathering be-

cause of his personal friendships  
with Mr. Overstreet, at your  
request, or at theirs?

I am somewhat puzzled  
by all this in view of your  
past vigorous opposition to  
anti-American attitude.

Sincerely,

A rectangular box with a black border, used to redact the signature of the sender.

Prescott,

Arizona

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

March 14 - '66

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In the January issue of Arizona's PTA Bulletin, there is an article on the 90th birthday celebration of Harry A. Overstreet. They have included your name in a list of birthday messages received by him but only quote from yours, which seems to me a subtle way of trying to clear him of the "rumors" going around of his subversive activities which the PTA has not acknowledge though the record shows differently.

They quote your message as being: "Your years have spanned a significant segment of our Nations history and your efforts to relate the individual to his surroundings in this era of rapid change are widely known and genuinely appreciated by those who are aware of the ever increasing complexity of life today. By utilizing your unique experience and abilities in the field of education and psychology in your analyses of communism and its threat to freedom you have contributed significantly to the intelligent and, there, effective opposition to communism"

I hope to have you comment on the above as I cannot feel that even the recent work of Mr. Overstreet warrants a note of gratitude for preserving the American way of life. Is it true that you are against outlawing the communist party as it seems I recall Overstreet mentioning?

Was your assistant, William C. Sullivan, at this birthday gathering because of his personal friendship with Mr. Overstreet, at your request, or at theirs?

I am somewhat puzzled by all this in view of your past vigorous opposition to anti-American attitude.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

Prescott, Arizona

b6  
b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BJ/COL

245472

COPY:nm

MAR 20 1966

CORRESPONDENCE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Wick	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. C. D. DeLoach

DATE: March 23, 1966

FROM : W. C. Sullivan

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. M. A. Jones
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Smith
- 1 - Mr. Garner

SUBJECT: DR. HARRY A. OVERSTREET  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(RESEARCH-SATELLITE)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BJT/col  
P45472

The enclosed letter from [redacted] Prescott, Arizona, is critical of the Director's congratulatory letter to Dr. Overstreet on his 90th birthday in view of his past record of "subversive activities." [redacted] stated that she does not "feel that even the recent work of Mr. Overstreet warrants a note of gratitude for preserving the American way of life." She wishes to know whether I attended Dr. Overstreet's birthday party because of my personal friendship with him, at the Director's request, or at the Overstreets'. She further inquired if the Director favors outlawing the Communist Party.

Dr. Overstreet and his wife are now preparing a book which is most favorable to the Bureau. The completed portions have been reviewed by the Domestic Intelligence and Crime Records Divisions and recommendations have been made for improvement in the manuscript.

The Director did write letters to Dr. Overstreet on the occasion of both his 80th and 90th birthdays, the latter being 10/25/65. I attended Dr. Overstreet's birthday party and personally delivered the Director's letter to him. The file copy of this letter, dated 10/25/65, is also enclosed with its cover memorandum.

In his writings and speeches, Dr. Overstreet has never manifested any sympathy for communism and his recent books have been devoted to alerting the American people to the subversive and totalitarian nature of communism as well as the evils of extremism of the far right.

Enclosures

100-114575

RSG:cr  
(7)

51 APR 19 1966

100-114575-164

REC-117  
MAR 29 1966

CONTINUED - OVER

RESEARCH SATELLITE

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
Re: DR. HARRY A. OVERSTREET  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA  
100-114575

b6  
b7c

Gus Hall, General Secretary of the Communist Party, USA, at a press conference on 2/23/66, assailed Dr. Overstreet for his "filthy, criminal falsehoods" against the communist movement.

Bufiles reveal that [redacted] has written the Bureau on four previous occasions, beginning in November, 1961. Her letters were always complimentary to the Director and the Bureau, but in a letter dated 2/26/62, she expressed sentiments for the John Birch Society and Major General Edwin A. Walker, indicating that she did not believe their views and activities were detrimental to the country's welfare.

In her current letter, [redacted] is obviously questioning the Director's judgment in sending Dr. Overstreet a congratulatory birthday message and my presence at his birthday party. Since she seems intent on provoking a pointless controversy with the Director, I do not believe her letter should be acknowledged.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the writer's obvious questioning of the Director's judgment and her seeming intent to provoke a pointless controversy with the Director, it is recommended that her letter not be answered.

*p* *wed* *J* *S* *RAY*

March 29, 1966

b6  
b7c

[Redacted]

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Dear Mr. Hoover:

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/CS

215472

Enclosed is copy of a letter I wrote to [Redacted] of  
the Baptist Sunday School Board regarding reference material in  
our Adult Teachers' Quarterly, along with a copy of his reply.

As you can see, [Redacted] apparently was not interested in my  
observations regarding Dr. Overstreet's and Dr. Niebuhr's "alleged  
activities". Since writing to [Redacted] I have further infor-  
mation regarding these two men which I have also enclosed.

You will note further that [Redacted] quoted you but did not give  
the source of his information. Will you please advise me whether  
or not you actually made the statement quoted by [Redacted] I  
would appreciate it very much if you could give me this information  
at an early date so I can advise several other members of my church  
who signed the letter I wrote to [Redacted] and who have ques-  
tioned me about this.

If you have any other documentation regarding Dr. Overstreet's and  
Dr. Niebuhr's activities, I will be grateful for any help you can  
give me.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted Signature]

100-114575-

NOT RECORDED  
191 APR 13 1966

~~APR 12 1966~~

3 ENCLOSURE  
AJP/ome 4/2/66

ENCLOSURE

CORRECTED

ORIGINAL FILED IN 121-33418-20

February 9, 1966

Literature Department  
Baptist Sunday School Board  
Southern Baptist Convention  
127 North Ninth Avenue  
Nashville, Tennessee

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/csl  
245472

Attention:

Dear

We would like an investigation and an explanation as to why the writings of men like Harry A. Overstreet and Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr are recommended to the teachers of adult Sunday School classes. We are referring to the article entitled "Some Helpful Books" by Joseph F. Green on page 6 of the Adult Teachers quarterly, the February, 1966 issue.

To those of us who have been studying the Communist movement in the United States, these names are familiar. Mr. Overstreet and his activities are mentioned in the following books and articles, among others:

None Dare Call it Treason by John Stormer  
What We Must Know About Overstreet by Edward Janisch

b6  
b7c

Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr is mentioned in

Collectivism in the Churches by Edgar C. Bundy  
Invisible Government by Dan Smoot  
Democrats' Dilemma by Phillip M. Crane.

It seems strange that Mr. Green as editor of specialized books, Broadman Books Department, Baptist Sunday School Board could be so uninformed or misinformed about men like Mr. Overstreet and Dr. Niebuhr. In either event, we question Mr. Green's qualifications for writing the Sunday School lessons for young adults, or any other Southern Baptist literature.

This is the second time to our knowledge that a serious mistake in source material has appeared in our literature. We are referring to the July-August-September issue of the Young Peoples' Training Union Quarterly and the unfortunate recommended reading list.

We would appreciate hearing from you in regard to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

100-114575 -

# The Sunday School Board

[Redacted]

March 7, 1966

b6  
b7c

[Redacted]

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114

Dear [Redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/col  
245472

Thank you for your letter of February 9. As I understand the letter, you are concerned with activities of Dr. Overstreet and Dr. Niebuhr.

The books mentioned by Dr. Green are The Mature Mind, by Dr. Overstreet, and The Nature and Destiny of Man, by Dr. Niebuhr. It is to whatever truth there may be in these books that Dr. Green's references are made, not to some alleged activities of the writers outside of the scope of these particular books.

We have yet to be able to find an author to recommend whose life is a perfect one. We do attempt to point teachers and students to the works of imperfect human authors which seem to contain virtues worthy of study.

It might be of incidental interest to you to know that only this past week I ran across a quotation concerning Dr. Overstreet. It was a statement made by Mr. J. Edgar Hoover on the occasion of Dr. Overstreet's ninetieth birthday. Mr. Hoover says, in part:

"By utilizing your unique experience and abilities in the field of education and psychology, in your analysis of communism and its threat to freedom, you have contributed significantly to the intelligent and, therefore, effective opposition to communism."

Thank you for giving us the opportunity of sharing these thoughts with you.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

ENCLOSURE

100-114575-

The following information is taken from:

Investigation of Un-American Propaganda Activities in the U. S.  
Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives,  
Seventy-Eighth Congress, Second Session, H. Res 282  
Appendix Part IX  
Communist Front Organizations With Special Reference to the National Citizens  
Political Action Committee  
1944

Harry A. Overstreet was affiliated with the following Communist front organizations:

American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom

The American Committee Sponsors a Citizens Rally - to answer the attack on  
Public Education, Carnegie Hall April 13, 1940

American Committee to Save Refugees (Exhibit #2- For the Rescue of Refugees)

Committee to Save Spain and China

Descendants of the American Revolution

Call to a Conference on Constitutional Liberties

Schappes Defense Committee

Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr

American Friends of the Chinese People

American Friends of Spanish Democracy (Executive Committee)

American League for Peace & Democracy

American Student Union

Committee for a Boycott Against Japanese Aggression

Consumers National Federation

Coordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo

German Supporters

Golden Book of American Friendship with the Soviet Union

Youth Committee for May Day

National Religious and Labor Foundation

Party and Party Line Publications - "Voice of Protestant Thought & Action"

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5/1/86 BY SP8 BTJ/C/L  
215472

ENCLOSURE 100-114575-

June 2, 1966

JM  
REC-28

100-114575-165

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/cbl  
245472

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
L. P. ...  
J. ...  
...

[Redacted address line]

Birmingham, Alabama 35215

b6  
b7c

Dear [Redacted name]

I received your letter of May 25th, with enclosure, and want to thank you for your thoughtfulness in writing as well as your favorable remarks concerning my work. You may be certain I will strive to merit your continued approval.

With respect to your inquiry, this Bureau has enjoyed cordial relations with Dr. Overstreet over the years, and I did write him on his 90th birthday expressing the sentiments to which you referred.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

- 1 - Birmingham - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enclosure

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The booklet, "What You Should Know About the Overstreets," is critical of Dr. Overstreet and contains examples of apparently contradictory statements from his books. The letter from the Director to Dr. Overstreet on his 90th birthday was hand delivered by Assistant Director William C. Sullivan and a copy is attached.

DFC:jss (5)

MAILED 5  
JUN 2 1966  
COMM-FBI

JUN 7 2 28 PM '66

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Wick \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

737  
JUN 10 1966

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
wfa  
...

027

May 25, 1966  
Birmingham, Ala.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/csl  
245472

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Wick	✓
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover Director  
Federal Bureau Investigation

Dear Sir.

Dr. Harry A. Overstreet

On a recent visit to the Baptist Book Store in Birmingham I found a copy of Mind Alive by Dr. Harry Overstreet and his wife. I protested the sale of the book in the Baptist Book Store, because I feel Dr. Overstreet is somewhat of a dubious character. My complaint along with a copy of "What you should know about the Overstreets" by Mr. Edward Janisch was forwarded to the Office of Denominational Relations 127 Ninth Ave. No. Nashville Tenn. I have received a letter from Mr. Gomer R. Lesch Director of this office in which he states.

It is difficult to reconcile what he says (Mr. Janisch) with the statement J. Edgar Hoover recently made about Dr. Overstreet. The director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation said:

"By utilizing your unique experience and abilities in the field of education and psychology, in your analysis of Communism and its threat to freedom, you have contributed significantly to the intelligent and, therefore, effective opposition to Communism."

Sir, I would like to know if you made this statement and so would you care to explain? I have read your book Masters of Deceit. I have recommended it to other people, and have bought copies and given them away. I live in fear of the day when you may retire or be replaced. As you know without my saying so you are relied on heavily by the Anti-communist in this Country, but the statement referred to above has me stopped cold in my effort to get

8-1

MAY 31 1966  
34  
a

ENCLOSURE  
ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

copies  
ck 6-2-66  
DPC/emo  
me

REC-28 100-114575-165

MAY 31 1966

CORRESPONDENCE

Hon J. Edgar Hoover

-2-

May 25, 1966

Dr. Overstreets book taken off the shelf of the Baptist Book Store.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted signature block]

Birmingham, Ala. 35215

b6  
b7C

P.S.

I am a member of the Center Crest Baptist Church in  
Center Point, Ala.

October 25, 1965

100-1-115-153

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. W.C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. R.W. Smith
- 1 - Mr. Garner

Dr. Harry A. Overstreet  
 3409 Fiddler's Green  
 Lake Barcroft  
 Falls Church, Virginia

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

8/22

Dear Dr. Overstreet:

I should like to extend to you my greetings on the occasion of your 90th birthday. Your years have spanned a significant segment of our Nation's history and your efforts to relate the individual to his surroundings in this era of rapid change are widely known and genuinely appreciated by those who are aware of the ever-increasing complexity of life today.

By utilizing your unique experience and abilities in the field of education and psychology in your analyses of communism and its threat to freedom, you have contributed significantly to the intelligent and, therefore, more effective opposition to communism.

Sincerely yours,

REC'D READING ROOM  
 FBI  
 Oct 22 4 52 PM '65

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BJJ/CAL  
 245472

WCS:cr/vms  
 (8)

NOTE: See memorandum Sullivan to Belmont dated 10/19/65 re "Dr. Harry A. Overstreet, Falls Church, Virginia, Information Concerning," WCS:cr. Letter dated October 25, 1965, since that is birthday of Dr. Overstreet and letter to be delivered personally by Mr. W. C. Sullivan. Director's note paper used for special congratulatory purpose.

1966  
 SEARCHED  
 INDEXED  
 SERIALIZED  
 FILED  
 OCT 25 1965  
 FBI - FALLS CHURCH  
 W.C.S.  
 [Handwritten initials and signatures]

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

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 b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/COL  
245472

100-114575-165

ENCLOSURE



*What We Must Know About*

**OVERSTREET**

by

EDWARD JANISCH

*Booklet*

### ABOUT THIS ARTICLE

These reprints of *What We Must Know About Overstreet*, by Edward Janisch, will be sent postpaid to any address in the United States, at the following prices:

In Quantities of	10- 99 .....	10¢ each
In Quantities of	100-999 .....	8¢ each
In Quantities of	1,000 or more .....	7¢ each

This article first appeared in the October, 1959 issue of AMERICAN OPINION, an informal monthly review edited by Robert Welch. The subscription rate to the magazine is ten dollars per year, to any address in the United States and Canada; twelve dollars to others countries. For either reprints or subscriptions address

AMERICAN OPINION, Belmont, Massachusetts 02178

## WHAT WE MUST KNOW ABOUT OVERSTREET

by

EDWARD JANISCH

FEW BOOKS ON Communism have been favored with the bright publicity that has surrounded the Overstreets' *What We Must Know About Communism*. The late Mr. Dulles recommended that the President read it. Newspaper and TV pictures followed, showing Eisenhower with the book in his hand. With such high endorsement to help, the book has gone through many printings. Some metropolitan dailies have run it in installments. An inexpensive paperback edition of this "masterful study of Communism" has been prepared for use as a college text. And the ghost of Stalin must be whispering to Khrushchev, "for this, there should be dancing on our side of the street."

I say this because Overstreet, over the years, has lent his name to Communist causes and his pen to a program of softening us to the threat of the conspiracy. His recent book on Communism does not, in my opinion, represent a departure from the general line of his leftist thinking, except for a clever surface attack, on Communism. The book is dynamite for the unsuspecting general reader who may pick it up as a guide to Communism because of the official fanfares of praise he has heard. If what I say sounds alarmist, it is because I intend that it should. What we must know about Overstreet is just as alarming as what we must really know about Communism.

Harry Allen Overstreet, retired pro-

fessor and chairman of the philosophy department at City College of New York, and now lecturer and writer on psychology, mental health, adult education, and communism, has fostered in his writings a materialistic outlook that has ranged from orthodox Marxism to cultural relativism. It is Overstreet who fathered the notion of the "mature mind." If you agree with his radical beliefs, you are "mature." If, on the other hand, you are one of those *backward souls* who believes in God, love of country, free enterprise, investigations of Communism, and if you have other similar attitudes respected by the overwhelming majority of Americans, then you are "immature"; and quite possibly, according to Professor Overstreet, you are on the road to mental illness.

What I have said is not my imagination running wild. It is the core of Overstreet's thinking, made abundantly clear for anyone who will take the trouble to read even a few of his books. Some of them are: *The Enduring Quest* (1931), *A Declaration of Interdependence* (1937), *The Mature Mind* (1949), *The Great Enterprise* (1952); and those books written jointly with his wife, Bonaro Overstreet, *The Mind Alive* (1954), *The Mind Goes Forth* (1956), and the recent, *What We Must Know About Communism* (1958).

All of these books have had wide circulation. But I must caution the prospective reader. Overstreet is as slick and slippery as an Owen Lattimore. His

## What We Must Know About Overstreet

writings are one of the little webs which, along with many other webs, the Communists weave together to make up the Big Lie of their total web of deception. He does his work with half-truth, glittering generality, misplaced emphasis, significant omission, and other tricks that mark the profic popularizer and propaganda hack. The trained reader, however, who is able to find his way through the silver linings into the dark clouds themselves, will soon see that what appear on the surface of Overstreet's writings to be the grandiose schemes of a super-idealist are, in fact, rank examples of leftist propaganda.

### II

A SAMPLE OF THIS master of confusion at work might serve as a good introduction to his background. Professor Overstreet writes in *The Mind Alive*, 1954, that he and his wife recently "had occasion . . . to try to clear up, not only for the record but for our own minds, certain tenuous associations one of us had a decade or more ago with several groups that were later shown to be tainted by Communist infiltration . . . we went to Washington and to the office of one individual who . . . was known for his 'toughness toward anything that savored of Communism. We put our problem to him—particularly with regard to one organization which we could only vaguely place but that he told us had been practicing a calculated subversion even at the time when one of us had unsuspectingly signed one of its petitions. He laid the facts before us—and they were striking enough to make us feel abashed . . ."

Here is indeed a touching picture of

injured innocence, painted with tears. But it is highly deceptive. Before I deal with those "tenuous associations," I should like to skim over the social philosophy of poor, unsuspecting, abashed Professor Overstreet.

His *Mature Mind*, 1949, had an unusually profound respect for Karl Marx, whose "piled up proofs" of the abuses of the economic processes "was a job well done." For Overstreet, this was a "triumph of logic," and Marx's "urgent demand that working men stop taking the economic order for granted was a bid for the increased use of the mind." It's unfortunate though, the professor tells us, that the "social regeneration" was to be accomplished by force. What, other than Marx's exhortation to revolution and violence, does Overstreet mean by "urgent demand?"

Karl Marx in his own lifetime would have been delighted to know what an American professor would proclaim in 1949: Our economic system uses fear as a weapon to such an extent that everywhere, men and women are terrified over the prospect of losing their jobs; the system is so bad as to cause a *dominant* fear by ten-year-old American children that their fathers will lose their jobs and end up on the industrial scrapheap. And that's not all. According to Overstreet: "Our strange economy has never been interested in the whole human being, but only in those aspects of his nature from which some monetary profit could be derived." Unsuspecting, "abashed" Overstreet is of the opinion that industry, business and some of the professions have acted as a conspiracy to prevent raising the standard of living, so that they could make bigger profits.

I don't want to belabor the point, but

## What We Must Know About Overstreet

one of Overstreet's earlier ideas, penned in 1931, is as good an index of his thinking as any: "Until various sharp-eyed men of a more realistic turn saw through the pleasant sham, it was a prevalent habit to praise the workers as the salt of the earth and quote Scripture to them about the virtue of industry . . . In those days the simple workers, thus bedazzled, would fling up their caps and cheer lustily in honor of their own greatness and glory." Marx put it much more simply: "Religion is the opium of the people." And Lenin, another favorite of Overstreet, used the words, "spiritual gin." When the facts were laid before him, unsuspecting Dr. Overstreet felt "abashed."

### III

WITH THIS AS BACKGROUND, it might be well to investigate those "tenuous associations" that Overstreet could only vaguely recall. After all, this man-of-the-mature-mind tells us, in 1949, the "thing we can do to make clear the image of maturing is to associate ourselves with groups that promote maturing." He associated himself with the following nine Communist front organizations, stretching from the 1930's to August, 1950:

Member, New York Committee of the American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom, as shown on letterheads dated September, 1939 and December, 1939. Signer of petition, January, 1940; sponsor, according to a leaflet, of a Rally held in April, 1940.

*The Daily Worker*, August, 1950 reported that Overstreet had signed a statement against denaturalization is-

sued by the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born. This Committee had been officially listed as *subversive a number of years before Overstreet lent it his support.*

Signed a public statement of the American Committee to Save Refugees. Again, this Committee had been officially declared subversive *before Overstreet gave it his support.*

Professor Overstreet was listed on the letterhead of the Committee of the American Friends of Spanish Democracy, February, 1938; also, he was Committee member of the Medical Bureau, American Friends (see their letterhead, November, 1936; *New Masses*, January, 1937).

Member of Descendants of the American Revolution, as shown by the *Daily Worker*, February, 1939. Also named as sponsor on the pamphlet, "Descendants of the American Revolution."

Signed circular for Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

Signer, 1943, of message of National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, addressed to United States House of Representatives. *Again, this front was listed before Overstreet lent it his support.*

Signer of a letter sponsored by the Schappes Defense Committee, October, 1944. *Again, this front was listed before Overstreet lent it his support.*

"Children in Concentration Camps" reveals that Professor Overstreet was

## What We Must Know About Overstreet

a sponsor of the Spanish Relief Campaign.

Surely there is nothing "flimsy" or "slight" — or *tenuous* — about so impressive a background of Communist front associations. And when Overstreet writes "associations of . . . a decade or more ago," he apparently does not mean, by "decade," ten years. What of his claim that several groups "were later shown to be tainted by Communist infiltration?" A quick check of the list will show that American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, American Committee to Save Refugees, The National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, The Schappes Defense Committee — *all of these, as we have indicated above, were listed before Dr. Overstreet lent them his services.* Some one is telling tales, and it is not the public record.

In sum, what Overstreet wrote in *The Mind Alive*, 1954, is a calculated mis-statement of the facts; the "associations" were specific, not "tenuous"; the "decade or so ago" omits his more recent activities; and the "later shown to be Communist-tainted" is a bold fairy tale.

Dr. Overstreet fails to mention, in *The Mind Alive*, that six months earlier, on July 21, 1953, he had filed an affidavit with the House Un-American Activities Committee at *his own* request. He did this, he claims in the affidavit, to set the record straight, and because patriotic groups were disturbing his lecture plans in California and Arizona. Possibly the Professor had other reasons for attempting to "purify" himself, but he has not made them public.

His reasoning in the affidavit is well

worth a close examination, and it is just as loaded as the statement on "tenuous associations."

Dr. Overstreet states that he has never been a Communist or a sympathizer with Communist tactics or philosophy, except for a brief hope that the Russian Revolution might lead to democracy in Russia. Also, that he never knowingly helped a movement or organization that had Communist aims. Can it be that this educated man, this professor of philosophy and psychology, this nation-wide lecturer, this "mature" mind, who is mentioned nine times as lending his name to Communist causes, did so *all nine times* without knowing what he was doing? Yes, he tells us, and without blushing.

He tells us that one of the reasons why he made these "mistakes" was because he was "profoundly aware of the rising menace of fascism," but that he was not "in any equal measure aware of communist infiltration." Our *new expert* on Communism adds, that when appeals came to him that sounded humanitarian, he had "little or no suspicion that they might be communist." How much, Professor Overstreet, is a "little?" Further, since his retirement at CUNY, he has led a "nomadic life," lecturing all over the country. Hence, he reacted to these organizations on "cursory" information. A most immature thing for a mature mind to do. Besides, claims Overstreet, as if to clinch his argument, in his writings he has consistently "stated and restated (his) confidence in our American way of life." This should prove that he was not favoring Communism. In this double talk Professor Overstreet could hardly have been referring to his passage on "Our strange economy," which

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is a good example of his "confidence" in our way of life.

The specific reasons he offers for lending his name to the Communist fronts include: A number of names on a list were so impressive, he thought this reason enough to sign; a petition sounded convincing; he always tends to contribute to refugee causes; for the Spanish fronts, he had a complete belief and he was "very tardy and reluctant" about changing his mind on these; some strangers came to his hotel room and asked him if he would like to join a group more liberal than the Sons and Daughters of the Revolution, and he said yes; he hated Schappes, a fellow teacher, and felt guilty about it, so he signed the petition to make sure he was being fair.

Time won't permit a detailed analysis of all of these tenuous excuses, but I do want to examine his statement on the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. Here, he signed a Communist protest against the proceedings of the Dies Committee, and he adds, "I still feel that the House Committee hearings as they were being conducted at that time called for protest." Professor Overstreet adds that, "almost up to the present" he had underestimated Communist infiltration; hence, he did not see the need for the Committee.

The reader might get the impression that Overstreet is talking about the 1930's. I shall show shortly that one of the most savage attacks in either English or Russian was made by Overstreet, not only against the Hon. Martin Dies, but against the Committee in general, and "McCarthyism," in 1952! When Overstreet tells us in his affidavit of 1953 that he has now "definitely" changed his mind, he is using

Newspeak or his personality has undergone shock treatment—and I do not think it is the latter.

Professor Overstreet explains that "there may seem to be a discrepancy between my prolonged self-searching . . . and my signing . . . of petitions that I did not investigate at all. I can only say that . . . I was not yet suspicious of Communist infiltration of humanitarian causes." Seem to be? This is more calculated nonsense! These are listed *Communist fronts*, pure and simple, and *not* "humanitarian causes."

For what it's worth, our new expert on Communism ends his 1953 affidavit by stating: "I am no longer in doubt about the Communist threat." To show his good faith, he indicates that he testified before a Senate Committee, where he stated that Communists ought not teach; and, that he is writing a book about the psychological threat Communism poses. And woe to us from that book and the others he has written.

### IV

OVERSTREET QUOTED from his own writings to demonstrate to *his* personal satisfaction that he had never been sympathetic to Communism. I shall use this method to examine his writings from 1949 to the writing of his book on *Communism* in 1958. From an examination of themes from *his* books, the reader can decide to what purposes Professor Overstreet has been sympathetic.

(1) First, though the order is not important, he *savagely denounces Congressional investigations of Communism: and, later, he steadily minimizes their work to nothingness.* Dr. Overstreet in 1952, shortly before he filed his affidavit with the House Un-American Activities Committee, wrote one of the

most vicious attacks on Congressional investigations ever printed. He pictures the Hon. Martin Dies as a malicious reactionary, who has used the cover of a feigned Communist threat to smash liberal ideas, and all ideas. Similarly, Overstreet finds "McCarthyism" a "ruthless" imitation of the techniques of totalitarianism. The professor charges that the House Committee, "far from guarding our nation against subversives," has used the trust of the American people "to subvert certain American freedoms . . . It has been able, in an alarming degree, to terrorize non-conformity into silence." Venom-spewing Overstreet insists that the Committee's practices "had been a favorite method of totalitarianism." The hearings "appear" to be imitating "the mass trials of Communist China (where) thousands of the accused were disposed of by the roar of the 'People's' Court—Kill—Kill—Kill!"

That is what Overstreet wrote in 1952. The discerning reader will not be amazed by the shifts and dodges concocted in *The Mind Alive*, two years later, 1954, where the professor piously tells us that, in 1952, he and his wife sat at a Senate Internal Security Committee Hearing and observed some cynical Communists "actually" using obstructionist tactics. It doesn't take "abashed" Overstreet long to get back to his line. The trouble is, he writes, these Committees were "amateurishly set up," because we are all amateurs to this "age of conspiracy," and, "the type of person to be hunted out and exposed was so vaguely defined that wide latitude was given to ignorance, prejudice, partisan animosity, political ambition, and/or the publicity hunter. Also, because the methods to be used

were so unprecedented, proper safeguards were not provided "against harming the innocent." What is the difference between this double talk and his vicious slander in 1952?

Overstreet next quickly gets rid of the various government listings with a slick discourse on: "What kind of research has preceded the listing? Does it mean . . .?" And with a host of similar absurd questions, unsuspecting, duped Overstreet demonstrates that listings are subject to error and no answer to the Communist threat. Loyalty oaths go the same way. And he writes that the alternative to government investigations "is an effective inside program for preventing Communist infiltration."

This man who himself claims that he was duped, and who allegedly would not himself read the reports citing the Communist fronts to which he lent his name, is now asking citizens to do *their own* policing and to read about Communism.

His line two years later, in 1956, cautions us against "cynical Communists," and at the same time warns us against "subverting the constitution by using words such as "Fifth Amendment Communist." In 1958 the House Committee is not mentioned, in what purports to be a guide to *what we must know about Communism*, except in *one* sentence, where the Committee is included among an assortment of groups that have said that Negroes are loyal.

Is it necessary to mention that Overstreet stated in his 1953 affidavit to the House Committee that he has "definitely changed his mind," and now recognizes the necessity for the Committee to investigate "undercover subversion" of the Conspiracy "on a full time

basis?" Maybe it is. He changes his supposed views so rapidly, so cleverly, and so boldly that you need a guide to keep up with him.

(2) A second important theme in Professor Overstreet's writings is his systematic *attack on anti-Communists, whom he likens to hate-mongers, fascists, and—especially—personality disorder cases.* The reader will remember that Overstreet stressed in his affidavit, 1953, that he has consistently "stated and restated" his "confidence in our American way of life." Let's look at some more of that "confidence," *à la Overstreet*, in 1949: "Political authoritarianism is now in such full swing," (that) "while a man looks silly kicking a chair, he can,—our political assumptions being what they are—look brave, loyal, and patriotic kicking an enemy who has been officially labelled 'kickable.'" The Professor adds that if the man "kicks hard enough . . . he may even be appointed to office or receive a monthly stipend from his government." Freedom is slavery, and Orwell's ghost might well consult Overstreet to get the proper *Newspeak* that equals "confidence" in this age of brave, new experts on Communism.

Dr. Overstreet uses "psychology" as a weapon for his smear attacks on patriots. *Character structure* is a key phrase in his arsenal, and from 1949 on, the professor insists that there is something deficient or defective in the character or personality structure of Americans who are resolute in their fight against Communism.

Thus, in 1952, Overstreet whined that he and his ilk who "saw hope in the Russian Revolution," and who cared about "injustice," were now being hounded by patriots who were skeptical

of his dodges. More often than not, Overstreet claims, these *hounders* were satisfied with "prevailing inhumanities; or were ignorant of them; or were morally indifferent to them . . . They hate communism . . . much as communism hated fascism and Nazism." Sly Overstreet cautions his readers to: "*Beware of the wolves in our midst in anti-Communist clothing.*" All of this "hostility" and "disguised totalitarianism," claims the professor, is a conspiracy, not to root out subversives, but to "smash the liberals." And if you don't know this, you're "a lamb among the wolves. *And what are we among the Overstreets?*"

Dr. Overstreet wages the same psychological warfare in 1954, as he smashes out at the determined efforts of patriots by labelling them "exaggerated expressions of personality problems; as hostility and frustration on the rampage; as deep emotional insecurity venting itself."

The line doesn't change with time. In 1956 he simply has found more "scientific evidence" for his former notions on *authoritarian personalities* and *sick anti-Communists*. By 1958, our new what-have-you-in-Communist-expert-clothing has it that the "majority" of anti-Communists "are still inventing the Communism to which they are opposed: fashioning it out of what they have hated and feared in the American scene." Please note the use of the word "majority"—*Overstreet has not been attacking some lone crank or disgruntled clique.*

(3) The first two themes eliminated Congressional investigations of Communism and the vigilant work of private citizens. The next important theme represents one of Overstreet's *solutions*

to the problem of Communism. Dr. Overstreet would "enlighten" his readers about the Communist Conspiracy, but then tell them that "understanding," not tough laws, is the way to deal with it.

The time is 1952, as he asks: "Has the reader had the uncanny experience of being called a Communist because he has expressed a liberal view?" A few of Overstreet's liberal views in that year include his denunciation of security procedures for obtaining passports (the professor must be happy on that score today), and his belief that loyalty oaths are an imitation of "Communist methods" and an infringement on personal rights "so long as (the person) performs no acts that go counter to the laws of the land." They further include such a "liberal view" as that the way to resolve the conflict with Russia is through "contacts with cultures" or that we must achieve "the toleration of certain minimal differences within even the most tyrannical culture, with all such toleration implies in the way of the re-animation of men's minds." *Let's all get re-animated with a certain minimal amount of Communism.*

Overstreet in 1954 alerts us to the "new and startling story we are beginning to learn." "We must do something," to counter this "real and present danger." But contrary to the Court, which used 'real and present' instead of *clear and present danger*, to show that conspiracy to initiate a revolution when the time is ripe is a grave crime, Overstreet orders our common defense as follows: "The program does not invite us to do enough things to the enemy directly and forcibly." Rather, we are supposed to "do things to ourselves" — whatever that double

talk means —that will make us less vulnerable to a "Conspiratorial Communist." Overstreet tells us that a "direct hitting-out" at Communism is a "dubious contribution." It's rather strange that Professor Overstreet can use the *real and present danger* language of the Court, and still recommend that we defend ourselves by doing nothing about Communism.

But it's not strange that Overstreet's 1954 "real and present danger" becomes a chapter on "Clear and Present Danger" in 1956. The double talk was no longer necessary by then. The professor now tells us that we must do the opposite of the "extremist" and adopt "the far more exacting and lonely tactics of the moderating mind." This means "respecting the established habits and attitudes, vested interests, traditions, and deep loyalties of the individuals and groups on both sides of a given issue." We ought to invite both sides to think of these issues "as able to be modified." After all, writes Overstreet, the position on a given issue is "partly, rather than absolutely right," and it is a product of "human history rather than 'nature.'" Isn't Dr. Overstreet saying, let's *respect* Communism, and *modify* our stand? After all, we're only partly right, and besides, our belief in natural principles will fall to pieces once we accept the human history concept of Marxism.

(4) The 'we're only partly right' tactic of Overstreet goes back to his *Mature Mind*, 1949, and serves as a key to the next interwoven theme: *Seek understanding and agreement with the Soviet Union*. Despite the Communist gobbling up of Eastern Europe, he tells us not to adopt the "we-are-good-and-you-are-not-so-good" attitude in dealing

with Russia.

In 1952, Dr. Overstreet gives us the startling news that the Soviet Regime has murdered upwards of 3,000,000 peasants (how modest he is with his statistics). But before long he advises us that people are never as bad or as good "as the doctrines they profess." It would be a "great mistake" to believe that "all of the Russian government" is "irrevocably committed in practice to the wholly collectivised man." And I think it would be a fatal mistake to believe Overstreet.

Professor Overstreet's defense program in that year of the Korean war called for "weakening the enemy from within" . . . making his resistance less because he finds less he is called upon to resist . . . we are fighting, "not an immutable doctrine called communism but mutable people who call themselves communists."

Two years later, in 1954, Dr. Overstreet writes approvingly that in Korea "the way to settlement is being sought without either side having won." It is not surprising that he is pleased that we were fighting a war we were not permitted to win. What is needed, Overstreet tells us, is participation in United Nations projects that foster "mutual respect." He isn't, of course, referring to a police action.

And what is our mature mind thinking in 1956? Nuclear developments are such "that the danger inherent in war now precludes the danger of there being a war." This new tactic of his, throwing a smoke cloud over the Kremlin's clear plan to use military stratagems and pre-emptive wars, depending on the chance of success, should be watched closely. The thing to do in this cold war, which Overstreet insists

will not get hot, is to work through the United Nations for "mutual understanding rather than . . . proud stand-pattism." Our "weapons" will be "ideas" and "patterns of human relationships." Overstreet's line doesn't change one bit in *What We Must Know About Communism*, in 1958.

(5) Now that we've got rid of every imaginable program of defense against Communism, and realize that our best defense is "mutual understanding," we might consider briefly the fifth theme from Overstreet which I have selected: *Renunciation of patriotism for world citizenship.*

Harry Allen Overstreet has no room in his heart for singular love of his country. He attacks patriotism as if it were a disease. In 1949 he tells us that "an emotional tie-up" with our own group, so that we think it is more right and reasonable than other groups, makes us "hostile." Dr. Overstreet especially denounces our political institutions for making us "hostile," and for shouting "treason" at those who are trying to build the "supra-ethnic mind."

In 1952, the professor lauds "the mature individual" whose "voice and vote can be enlisted in opposition to the chauvinistic nationalism and in support of the more genuine patriotism of a united mankind." Two years later, it is the same thing, only more so. Now, our "good-will" ought to include even the "enemy"; unlike the "emotionally disturbed individual" who is against the unfamiliar and the foreign, we need the "extraordinary health and faith" of a "sense of the species."

In 1956 Overstreet spells out precisely what he means by "one world." "Why," he asks, "should we lock ourselves up

with our tight walls of national suspicion—glaring at one another—when we might have a far better time of it by talking things over together; getting the hand of one another's problems; lending a hand?" *Lending a hand (tenuously?)*.

This brief picture I've developed—and it is brief in relation to all of the things Overstreet has said and written—represents the background of our new expert on Communism. His past record is enough to alarm even the most forgiving and gentle nature.

But what is truly fantastic, is that Professor Overstreet could take his former leftist notions, plus some deadly new ones, and boldly throw them into a book on Communism that has won the approval of our top policy-makers.

V

ANOTHER GENERATION—if we are still free—may well remember the Overstreets' *What We Must Know About Communism*, as a stupendous attempt that was designed to soften us at the very hour of our crisis. I say this, because the book attempts to make palatable certain notions which would, if accepted by large numbers of Americans, render us helpless in the face of the onslaught of World Communism.

Here is a book on Communism in which not one of J. Edgar Hoover's somber warnings is mentioned—(Overstreet mentions the F.B.I. chief as being opposed to outlawing the Party). Here's a book in which espionage, a major activity and purpose of the Party, gets less than a page of asides. In short, it is a book as conspicuous by what it omits as by what it includes. A brief examination of some of Overstreet's central ideas will show what I mean.

The first stick of dynamite planted by the professor is a "new look" for Khrushchev. The Red boss is a "leader of the Lenin type," who is opposed to a Stalinist cult-of-the-personality dictatorship. Good evidence of this is Premier Khrushchev's February, 1956 speech exposing Stalin. Actually, "Khrushchev adheres consistently and most strictly to the principles of collective leadership and fights energetically for the observance of the Leninist standards of Party life." *Every quotation in this paragraph is taken from the latest official Soviet biography of Khrushchev—and I have used it without fear because it summarizes concisely Professor Overstreet's position, and duplicates much of his language.*

The second phase of this "new look" is to picture "professional" Party-man Khrushchev as a "humane" sort of fellow who is opposed to using terror on a Stalinist scale, unless it is forced on him, as it was in Hungary, where he was protecting a vital interest of the Revolution. Thus, the Overstreets would have us believe that "No one, perhaps, has felt the brunt of Khrushchev's terror more decisively than have the Soviet writers." Hungarians, treated as an aside in this context, would hardly agree with Overstreet's estimate of Khrushchev's terror or its most likely target. They, as do countless millions of others, know him for the savage that he is.

What is the purpose of this "new look," which pictures Khrushchev as a humane, collective-type leader dedicated to Partyism? It is to show us that this "professional" does not want a hot war with us. This is Overstreet's second stick of dynamite.

Khrushchev wants to defeat us

through economic competition, and only in this way, claims Dr. Overstreet. The Russians intend to win, the professor tells us, and this new type of "co-existence" is part of the "permanent revolution." Watch the tricks of propagandist Overstreet:

"It would be sheer folly, however, for us to think that such competition with the Soviet Union can be peaceful. Khrushchev has already made clear that he rates it as a non-shooting phase of the 'permanent revolution' . . ."

Please reread that statement. It is perfect Newspeak: It's folly to think that the competition can be peaceful; but it is non-shooting! Let me complete the quotation to show once more what we are up against with Overstreet.

" . . . This means that every positive policy we adopt, every creative program we set up for cultural exchange or foreign aid, will be declared by the Soviet Union and all Communist Parties around the world to be a form of imperialism."

We'd like to have Professor Overstreet name for us just one Communist, of his acquaintance or otherwise, who is opposed to "cultural exchange"! No amount of build-up, with words like "positive policy" and "creative program," can alter the fact that "cultural exchange" is a dearly held Communist idea, never denounced. As to foreign aid, just where are the screams from Moscow about our aid to Tito, Gomulka, and Sukarno, among others?

It might be well to have Professor Overstreet sum up this second major notion of his: "Soviet Imperialism . . . is a specific product of the Khrushchev era of 'peaceful competition' and it represents one major aspect of the

USSR's effort to take over the world without the risks involved in open warfare." I could cite a dozen experts who are warning us about Soviet plans for limited war. [*And the very day this is being put in shape for the printer, the Communists are using armed forces in an attempt to take over Laos.* Editor.] The question to be asked is: *Why has Overstreet completely omitted military stratagems and force, the bolshevik standard tactics, as well as subversion and espionage, from his study?*

There are two possible answers. The first is, to soften us by giving us a dream world in which Communist tanks are absent. The second is what I consider to be the third stick of planted dynamite: *A demand that we negotiate and go to the Summit—and by so doing, also give Khrushchev permanent title to Eastern Europe.* Harry and Bonaro Overstreet insist that Khrushchev demands that the West respect the *status quo* in Eastern Europe at any Summit Conference. The Red leader will permit no discussion on the satellite countries, about whom we must forget. And what does our expert on Communism suggest?

"*We believe in negotiations.*" Dr. Overstreet insists that we negotiate "whenever there is hope of achieving even small dependable agreements." And he specifies that we dash off to the Summit.

Professor Overstreet, who knows all about these things, tells us that we must bargain with the Communists. And this bargaining "embodies both a respect for what each party has declared indispensable to *separate well-being* and what all parties have agreed on as indispensable to their *common well-being.*"

In short, we are to run to the Summit

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after telling Khrushchev we have no more interest in Eastern Europe; and then, at the Summit, we will see what more we can bargain away.

The fourth stick of dynamite—there are more, the ones I've selected are simply more glaring—deals with an old problem of Overstreet's: *Communist control*, (or should I say, "understanding?"). The professor has a huge dialectical discourse on the problem of what to do with "conspiratorial communists," but he resolves it all with a quotation: "Freedom for the wise is so supremely important that it is worth the price of making the silly free, too." We have remembered this comment because it expresses a point of view which most of us Americans profoundly cherish. It is in the spirit of this viewpoint that a great many anti-Communists have opposed all attempts to make any legal distinction between Communists and non-Communists in terms of freedoms to be exercised."

Does the reader know any anti-Communists who consider Communists to be "silly," or who have opposed making laws to protect ourselves? Because we mustn't legislate or investigate or apparently do anything about Communists, the professor tells us, "We as citizens, therefore, must equip ourselves to do *by understanding* what cannot be done *by law*." This is Overstreet's plan of defense.

The book ends with pleas for more "tenderness" and less hostility; for more rights for the "individual"; for "inclusiveness," rather than narrow national-mindedness; and with a plea to halt nuclear tests. Dr. Overstreet — fittingly, we think — quotes Norman Cousins:

"The question is not what policy we should devise that makes sense for America alone but rather what policy makes sense in human terms." Of course the nine hundred million enslaved subjects of the Soviet tyranny do not come within the "human terms" for consideration. Their condition, as simply Soviet cattle without human rights, is a *fait accompli* which has no bearing on American policy to be determined with regard for the whole human race.

### VI

THE REPORT OF THE 1958 American Bar Association Special Committee On Communist Tactics, Strategy, And Objectives, listed the following among the major Communist Tactics:

Nullification of the Smith Act and other anti-Communist legislation  
The Peace Offensive  
Summit Conferences  
Cultural Exchanges  
Halt Nuclear tests

You will note that Professor Overstreet batted one thousand for the Communist objectives in that list. And you will already have noted that the Overstreets' most distinguished reader, President Eisenhower, has invited the humane and professional Party man, Khrushchev—with some twelve million coldblooded murders in his record — to a summit of the summits. The only surprise left for you is the fact that, in the latest editions of that same Bar Association Committee Report, Professor Overstreet's book appears in the bibliography as suggested reading. As the little boy said, when he heard the clock strike fourteen, "it's later than it has ever been before."

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June 10, 1965

Prof. H. A. Overstreet,  
College of the City of N.Y.,  
New York City, N.Y.

My dear Prof. Overstreet,

Under separate cover I am sending you a copy of my book "The Government--Strikes Weaker". I have taken the privilege of autographing it.

I am sorry that I was unable to arrange my time so as to keep that appointment of mine with you. Court orders in Michigan broke up my plans.

There is nothing I would appreciate more than your going thru the book and giving me a criticism of it. Perhaps you could write a review of it and send it to some of your magazines?

By the way I wonder whether it would not be possible for us to get together for a few minutes during the last week in June. Am planning to be out of town for a few days beginning the 16th.

Hoping to hear from you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

The above letter did not appear in the original printing of Mr. Janisch's article, but was added in the December, 1965 reprint of "What We Must Know About Overstreet."

When Jay Lovestone sent this letter to Overstreet, Lovestone was the official, admitted, recognized head of the Communist Party in the United States, and *The Workers' Party Of America* was at that time the *official* name of what is now the CPUSA. Our reproduction here is from the *original* letter, and American Opinion assures Prof. Overstreet that it came into our hands through entirely legal and proper methods.

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[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114

b6  
b7c

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of March 29th, with enclosures,  
has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, the FBI does  
not issue clearances or nonclearances of any type. In  
addition, information contained in our files must be main-  
tained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the  
Department of Justice. Therefore, I am certain you will  
understand why I am not in a position to furnish you the  
specific data you requested.

With respect to [Redacted] letter, I  
wrote Dr. Overstreet on his 90th birthday and did use the  
language mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

b6  
b7c

MAILED 22  
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1 - Oklahoma City - Enclosures (4)

NOTE: [Redacted] and Dr. Sullivan are not identifiable in Bufiles.  
Dr. Niebuhr is well known in Bufiles for his left-wing activities.

DTP:cmc (4)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Wick \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
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- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
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December 2, 1966

BY LIAISON

BONARD W. OVERSTREET

Honorable Marvin Watson  
Special Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

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DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/KOL  
245472

Dear Mr. Watson:

Reference is made to the name check request from  
Mrs. Mildred Stegall regarding the forthcoming Women's White  
House Supper Buffet.

b6  
b7C

The files of the FBI were checked and found to contain  
no derogatory information identifiable with the following individuals:

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[Redacted]

V

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Delivered to Mildred Stegall  
on 12-5-66  
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Rel  
low

edm

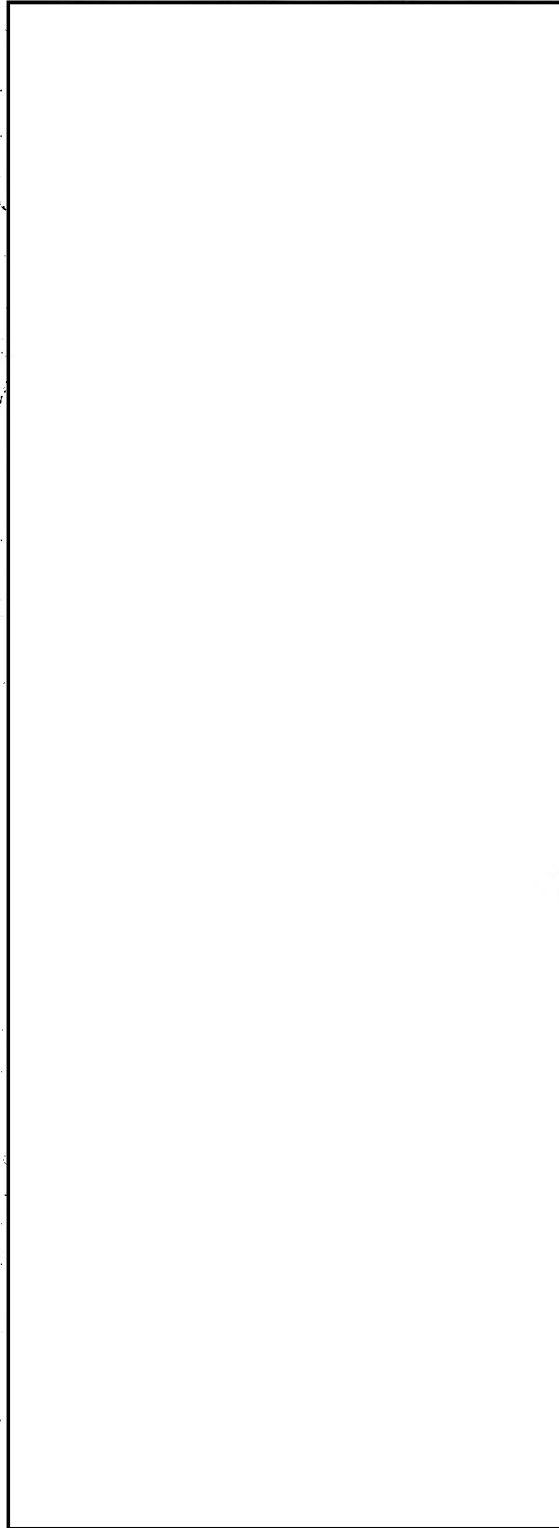
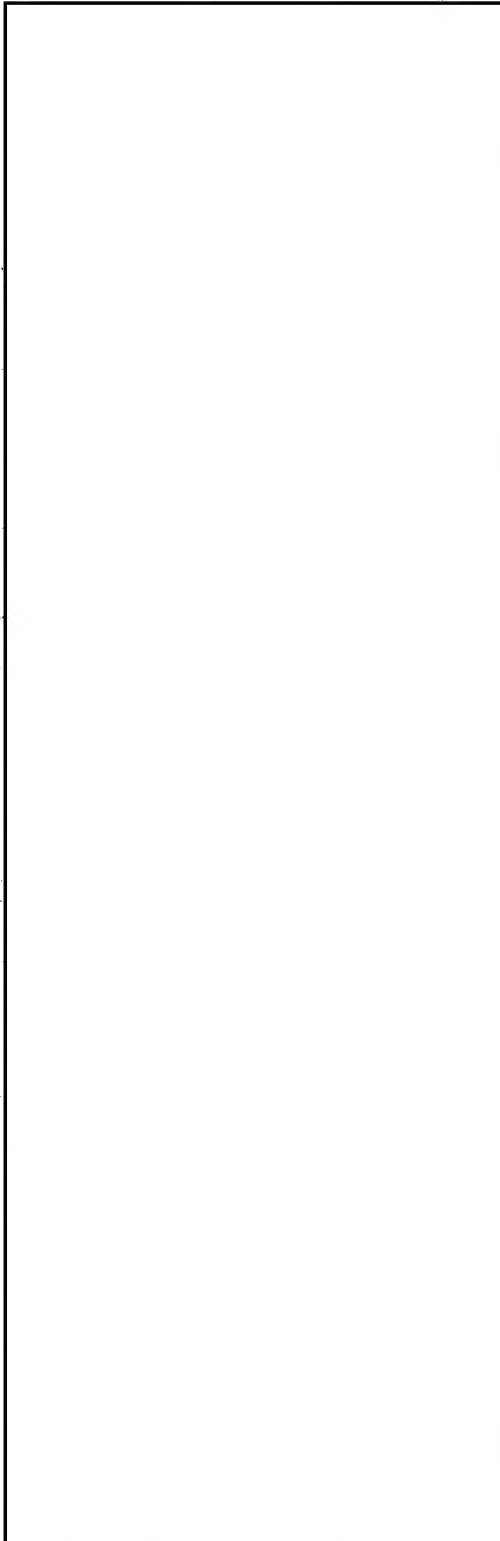
- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Wick \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_

6-1 Mr. DeLoach (sent direct)-Enclosures (13) 1-Mr. Gale-Enclosures (13)  
MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT  1-Mr. Rosen-Enclosures (13) JMM:jah (8)

F309

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-5-97216  
DEC 7 5 06 PM '66

Honorable Marvin Watson



b6  
b7C

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Wick \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

Honorable Marvin Watson

D.C.

[Redacted] SUMMARY  
Mrs. Bonaro W. Overstreet

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

b6  
b7c

The fingerprint files of the Identification Division of the FBI contain no arrest data identifiable with the above-mentioned individuals based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

Attached are separate memoranda on each of the following individuals:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

With respect to the memorandum regarding [Redacted] you may desire to inquire of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service for additional information concerning the allegation set forth in the memorandum. A copy of this communication has not been sent to the Acting Attorney General.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (17)

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Overstreet, Bonaro W.

Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

R# 201 Date 11/30 Searcher Initial 208

Prod. 3

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

Bonaro Mrs.

I 105-97148-144

Bonardo (Var)

The War called Peace

see Bureau library

Bonaro (Var)

SD

Harry A. Mrs. (aka)

ND 62-104401-2873

ND 94-5-51653

Harry Allan Mrs. (aka)

SD

Wilkinson, Bonaro (Var)

NK

Ref. on sp not listed

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Branch

19\_\_

Name Searching Unit - Room 6527  
 Service Unit - Room 6524  
 Forward to File Review  
 Attention \_\_\_\_\_  
 Return to \_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

Regular Request (Analytical Search)  
 All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)  
 Subversive References Only  
 Nonsubversive References Only  
 Main *Search* References Only

Type of Search Requested *from 1960*

Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exact Name Only (On the Nose)  
 Birthdate Variations

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/CA  
245472

Subject *Queer Street, Bonara W.*  
 Birthdate & Place \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address *3409 Fiddlers Green*

Localities \_\_\_\_\_  
 R. *671* Date *11/30* Searcher Initials *208*  
 Prod. *15*

	FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
<del>I</del>	100-114575	
	Bonara W. Mrs.	
<del>I</del>	94-1-9347-31	
	Bonara Wilkinson (Bu)	
	<i>50</i>	b2 b7D
<del>I</del>	62-107611-5	
<del>I</del>	62-106364-A	<i>Los Angeles Times</i>
<del>I</del>	94-1-369-1836	17472
<del>I</del>	105-97148-136	
<del>I</del>	105-34237-8+31	
<del>I</del>	105-119840-2	<i>ex # 7</i>
<del>I</del>		<i>- 5 ex # 2</i>
<del>I</del>	94-61769-2	
<del>I</del>	100-50869-13885	
<del>I</del>		
	Bonara Mrs.	
<del>I</del>	62-107261-1326	
<del>I</del>	62-109057-103	

NOV 10 1960

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Mohr

November 27, 1968

- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. W.C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. R.W. Smith
- 1 - Mr. Garner

*ph*

Mrs. Harry A. Overstreet  
 3409 Fiddler's Green  
 Falls Church, Virginia 22044

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/col  
 245472

Dear Mrs. Overstreet:

In response to your letter of November 25, 1968, it is a long-standing policy of this Bureau that all appointments to the position of Special Agent are based entirely on the current needs of the service and on the qualifications of the individual applicant. In the past some of our Special Agents who have resigned for personal reasons have been reinstated at their request when these prerequisites existed.

As a matter of normal procedure, Special Agents do have extensive experience in the field prior to reassignment to headquarters as training instructors or for supervisory duties. In addition, as you suggested in your inquiry, these men have special abilities and have maintained a quality performance over a prolonged period of time.

You have my permission to quote this reply.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

REC 74 100-114575-167

NOV 27 1968

*ee B. gnt*

JEK:ebp  
 (9) *ebp*

NOTE:

See memorandum Sullivan to DeLoach, dated 11/26/68, captioned "Mrs. Harry A. Overstreet, Falls Church, Virginia, Information Concerning, (Research-Satellite)," prepared by JEK:ebp.

MAILED 4  
 NOV 27 1968  
 COMM-FBI

DEC 2 1968

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

Personnel routing slip:  
 DeLoach  
 Mohr  
 Bishop  
 Casper  
 Callahan  
 Conrad  
 Felt  
 Gale  
 Rosen  
 Sullivan  
 Tavel  
 Trotter  
 Tele. Room  
 Holmes  
 Gandy

*WEL*  
*AS*  
*DeLoach*  
*W.C. Sullivan*  
*J. Edgar Hoover*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. C. D. DeLoach

DATE: November 26, 1968

FROM : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT: MRS. HARRY A. OVERSTREET  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(RESEARCH-SATELLITE)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BJK/CS  
245472

This is to recommend that a letter over the Director's signature, which sets forth Bureau policy on reinstating Special Agents and assigning Special Agents to headquarters, be sent to Mrs. Overstreet and that she be given permission to quote this letter.

For the past three or four years, Mrs. Overstreet and her husband, who are strong supporters of the Bureau and well-known authors, have been writing a book regarding the FBI. The writing of this book is nearing completion.

In her incoming letter, which is attached, Mrs. Overstreet states that she has been unable to find anything in the public domain pertaining to Bureau policy on the reappointment of Special Agents and the assignment of Special Agents to headquarters, particularly to the Training Division. She asks, therefore, for a statement on this policy which she could quote, if necessary, to refute allegations emanating from the likes of Fred Cook and Jack Levine.

In view of the fact that her intention is to support the FBI, I believe that we should honor her request.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached letter be sent to Mrs. Overstreet.

- Enclosures  
JEK:ebp (8)  
1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Mohr  
1 - Mr. Callahan  
1 - Mr. Bishop
- EX-113  
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. C. R. Smith  
1 - Mr. Garner

54 DEC 16 1968

REC 36

25 DEC 2 1968

ENCLOSURE

*Bill Windley*

*File 5 Jan*

*Wes*

*John*

*John*

*John*

BONARO W. OVERSTREET  
3409 FIDDLER'S GREEN  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA  
22044

November 25, 1968

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
FBI  
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/COL

Dear Mr. Hoover:

245472

In The FBI Nobody Knows, p. 39, Fred Cook, on the theme of Jack Levine's unsuccessful effort to secure re-appointment as a Special Agent, says that it was

naive of Levine to suppose that, once he had resigned, he would ever be reinstated, much less given a more responsible post in the training department. The FBI does not work that way, and he should have known it.

We have been unable to find in the public domain any official statement that would clarify Bureau policy with regard to the matters touched upon by Cook. We are venturing, therefore, to ask the two questions that follow -- in order that we may be able properly to evaluate what he says:

1. Have there been instances of the reinstatement of Special Agents who have resigned for personal reasons and have then indicated their wish to return to the FBI?
2. Would it not be most unusual for any Special Agent to be assigned to the training "department", or to Washington headquarters in any capacity, until he had had extensive and diverse experience out in the field; and, with respect to the training department, until he had acquired specialized expertness in some phase of the Bureau's work?

We would be most grateful for whatever answer you can give to these questions and for permission to quote it, in whole or part.

Sincerely

*100-114575-108*  
*Bonaro W. Overstreet*

Mrs. H.A. Overstreet

ENCLOSURE

*Bonaro W. Overstreet*

*Memo W.C. Sullivan to  
S.D. DeLoach 11/26/68  
JFK:slp (Encs)*

*JFK:slp*

*11/27/68*

January 28, 1969

*gm*

*8-1*

Dr. Harry A. Overstreet  
3409 Fiddlers Green  
Lake Barcroft  
Falls Church, Virginia 22044

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/COL

245472

Dear Dr. Overstreet:

It was certainly thoughtful of Mrs. Overstreet and you to send me an autographed copy of your book, "The FBI In Our Open Society."

Your writings should do much to neutralize and minimize the vicious attacks which have been made upon this Bureau by several of its outspoken critics.

Sincerely yours, REC 13

*Clyde Tolson*

100-114575-169

Clyde Tolson

SI-115

19 JAN 28 1969

NOTE: Based on memorandum, W. C. Sullivan to Mr. DeLoach, dated 1-24-69, captioned: "The FBI In Our Open Society" by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet"; WCS:dgf.

PDW:rif (3)

*ref*

*TBB*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 4  
JAN 28 1969  
COMM-FBI

54 FEB 5 - 1969

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*D*

*Jan*

*a*

*hand*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TO : Mr. Bishop *[initials]*

DATE: 2-18-69

FROM : M. A. Jones *[initials]*

SUBJECT: "THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY" BY HARRY AND BONARO OVERSTREET  
PUBLICITY APPEARING IN THE MARCH ISSUE OF "THE INVESTIGATOR"

*[Handwritten signature]*

Captioned book has just been published by the W. W. Norton Company and represents the FBI in a favorable manner. It is easy to read and highly informative. Special arrangements have been made with the publisher to secure copies for sale to Bureau employees at the special discount rate of \$3.75. This is an outstanding offer and one which should be publicized because the price to the Bureau is \$3.47 1/2 per copy for 1,000 copies, plus a trucking charge of \$40.00 per 1,000 copies. This would mean a cost of \$3.51 1/2 per book. It will be necessary to add a small handling charge and it seems that \$3.75 is an excellent price. It is proposed that the following write-up to publicize the book appear "boxed in" at the lower right-hand corner of page six on the proof copy of "The Investigator." A photograph appears at that location; however, it will be deleted from the magazine:

"THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY"  
by  
Harry and Bonaro Overstreet

An excellent new book about the FBI by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet, well-known scholars and educators, has just been published by the W. W. Norton Company. It is entitled "The FBI in Our Open Society" and emphasizes that the Bureau's operations do not in any way represent a threat to the freedoms of our free and open society. This interesting and intellectually stimulating work exposes the false charges made against the FBI by a few detractors. By a special offer limited to FBI employees, the book is available at a discount price of \$3.75. The FBIRA is handling orders, which can now be placed through your office representative."

RECOMMENDATION:

That the write-up appearing above be approved for inclusion in the March, 1969, issue of "The Investigator."

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Bishop

JRP:faj/ksf

55 MAR 20 1969

# 243,466  
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 3-22-85 BY SP8 [initials]  
 5-21-86 SP8 [initials] # 275,770

REC-30 / 100-114575-170

FEB 20 1969

CRIME RESEARCH

*[Handwritten checkmarks and initials]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

*m & [signature]*

*for BUCHANAN*

TO : Mr. Bishop *[initials]*

DATE: 2-17-69

FROM : M. A. Jones *[initials]*

SUBJECT: "THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY"  
BY HARRY AND BONARO OVERSTREET

*Q*

Reference is made to Mr. DeLoach's note to Mr. Tolson, 2-4-69, indicating that Norton Publishing Company had advised that it would make available copies of captioned book to FBI personnel for approximately \$3.50 per book. We ordered 1,000 copies and asked the publisher to verify for us the exact price per copy so that we could advise FBI employees. We have just received word from the publisher that the price to the FBIRA for 1,000 copies is \$3.47 1/2 per copy, plus a trucking charge of \$40.00 per 1,000 copies. This would mean a cost of \$3.51 1/2 per book to the FBIRA.

In order to take care of handling charges, it is felt we should offer the book at \$3.75 to our employees. An appropriate note is being placed in the March issue of "The Investigator" that the book is available at this price.

RECOMMENDATION:

That attached SAC letter be approved and disseminated to the field.

*#243, 466*  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE *3-22-85* BY *SP8 BTJ/lak*  
*5-21-86 SP8 BTJ/lak*  
*1245472*

*Q*

Enclosure *- detached*

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Bishop - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Casper - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Callahan (Attn. Mr. Rogers) - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan (Attn. Mr. Gray) - Enclosure

*WVY*  
*OH*  
REC 43  
*100-114525-171*  
ST-106  
FEB 25 1969

59 JVA:rog (9)  
MAR 4 - 1969

CRIME RESEARCH

February 24, 1969

REC-113

100-114575 172

44  
25

8

b6  
b7c

*Handwritten initials/signature*

[Redacted]

INFORMANT

Rome, Georgia 30161

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/CL  
245 472

Dear [Redacted]

In reply to your letter of February 17th, this Bureau has enjoyed cordial relations with Dr. Overstreet over the years and I have corresponded with him.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Dr. Harry A. Overstreet is well known to the Bureau and has published a book on the FBI which is very favorable.

JBT:dla (3)

*dla*

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten initials*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 10  
FEB 24 1969  
COMM-FBI

MAR - 4 1969

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

19  
24

[Redacted]  
ROME, GEORGIA 3-0-61  
[Redacted] cam

[Redacted]

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. DeLoach ✓
- Mr. Mohr ✓
- Mr. Bishop ✓
- Mr. Casper ✓
- Mr. Callahan ✓
- Mr. Conrad ✓
- Mr. Felt ✓
- Mr. Gale ✓
- Mr. Rosen ✓
- Mr. Sullivan ✓
- Mr. Tavel ✓
- Mr. Trotter ✓
- Tele. Room ✓
- Miss Holmes ✓
- Miss Gandy ✓

February 17, 1969

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/CAL  
245472

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20000

b6  
b7C

Dear Sir,

I have just been conversing with a friend of mine and we are in some disagreement. He stated that you were a good friend of Dr. and Mrs. Harry Overstreet and said that he could prove it. Is there any truth to this statement?

I would sincerely appreciate your reply to this question.

Cordially,

[Redacted Signature]

EXP. PROC.  
34 FEB 19 1969  
[Handwritten initials]

REC-113

100-114575-172

12 FEB 19 1969  
26

ack/monl  
2-24-69  
JBT/dla

CORRESPONDENCE

mm



PERSONAL ATTENTION  
SAC LETTER 69-14

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

RA

February 25, 1969

(A) "THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY" BY HARRY AND BONARO OVERSTREET -- W. W. Norton Company has just published "The FBI in Our Open Society" by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet. This is an excellent book and portrays the FBI in a most favorable way. Dr. and Mrs. Overstreet, well-known scholars and educators, have carefully studied and refuted the false charges made against the Bureau by such vicious critics as Max Lowenthal, Fred J. Cook and William W. Turner. The Overstreets emphasize that the operations of the FBI do not in any way represent a threat to the freedoms of our free and open society and that charges that the Bureau is a national police agency are completely false. The book is highly readable, intellectually stimulating and extremely lucid.

The Bureau has made arrangements with W. W. Norton Company to secure copies of this book for sale to employees at the special discount rate of \$3.75.

You should survey your personnel and advise the Bureau promptly of the number of books to be sent to your office. All initial orders should be submitted by routing slip marked "Attention, Crime Records Section" and should be accompanied by one check payable to the FBI Recreation Association covering the entire order. Subsequently, of course, additional orders can be submitted in the same manner.

In order to facilitate the handling of orders, one employee should be designated in each office or section at the Seat of Government to coordinate the orders. All books mailed will be addressed to the SAC but should be distributed in the various offices by the employee handling orders. The Bureau should be notified if books ordered are not received within a few weeks so they can be traced through the mails.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/CAL  
245472

100-114575

NOT RECORDED  
128 MAR 5 1969

56 MAR 6 1969

66-04-3648

ORIGINAL FILED IN

March 10, 1969

Dr. Harry A. Overstreet  
3409 Fiddlers Green  
Lake Barcroft  
Falls Church, Virginia 22044

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-82 BY SP1BTS/ka  
245472

Dear Dr. Overstreet:

It is a pleasure to enclose a copy of the  
March, 1969, issue of "The Investigator," our employee  
publication in the FBI. An announcement of the splendid  
new book written by your wife and you appears on page 6,  
and I thought you might like to have this copy.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

100-114595-173

REC-104

19 MAR 11 1969

Enclosure

NOTE: Our relations have been cordial with the Overstreets.

JRP:faj (6)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 22  
MAR 10 1969  
COMM-FBI

56 MAR 17 1969

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten mark]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten initials and marks]*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Tavel *ST*

DATE: 3-10-69

FROM : F. W. Waikart

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF BOOK,  
"THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY"  
ON "CAPITAL TIELINE"  
CHANNEL 4  
3-7-69

*By Bonaro Overstreet*

- Tolson
- DeLoach
- Mohr
- Bishop
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

*51*  
*243 466*  
*5-21-86*  
*58075/col*  
*245472*  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE *2-22-85* BY *SP8 JJA/ab*

*Harry Overstreet*  
*Bonaro Overstreet*  
*Mrs. Harry Overstreet*

Reference is made to the attached memorandum from Mr. Jones to Mr. Bishop dated 3-7-69 reporting an interview of Mrs. Overstreet, author of captioned book, by Mac McGarry during which a woman caller stated she had called the FBI locally about two weeks ago and it was obvious to her that the Bureau's telephone operators "did not know their own department." She said it appeared that they did not know to whom she should be referred to discuss the matter with which she was concerned. She went on to say that this was very common in Washington and felt that all telephone operators should have been better trained. The Director noted, "Look into operation of our telephone room."

All of our telephone operators have been interviewed and cannot remember receiving such a call. For the Director's information, every effort is made to promptly and accurately handle incoming telephone calls. This normally involves identifying the person being called and/or the extension number. If neither of these is known by the caller and he is vague or uncertain as to subject matter, he is immediately connected with the Complaint Desk in the Washington Field Office where someone is on duty at all times during the day. After hours and on week ends and holidays, such calls are referred to the Agent on duty in one of the investigative divisions at the Seat of Government.

ACTION:

*100-114575-174*  
NOT RECORDED

MAR 12 1969

As indicated, we cannot identify the caller in this instance because she did not identify herself or what she was calling about. However, all telephone operators have been alerted and will use exceptional care to promptly complete all incoming calls.

Enclosure  
1 - Mr. Bishop  
FWW:bpr  
(4) 100-414575-174  
3-11-69

ENCLOSURE

*It is imperative that our telephone operators be courteous & knowledgeable-*

55 MAR 27 1969 226

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-3093-519

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Bishop

DATE: 3-7-69

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF BOOK,  
"THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY"  
ON "CAPITAL TIELINE"  
CHANNEL 4  
3-7-69

SYNOPSIS:

Author of captioned book interviewed by Mac McGarry. She said no evidence uncovered supporting allegation that FBI exceeds authority. In reference to relations between the Director and the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Mrs. Overstreet pointed out the problem arose after King had made exaggerated statement and that she and her husband had found no evidence that the statement by King was true. One telephone caller complained she had called the Bureau previously and it appeared Bureau telephone operators did not know to whom she should be referred. Mrs. Overstreet refuted contention of another caller that Bureau should have kept a closer watch on Lee Harvey Oswald. She also corrected another caller who alleged that the conviction rate for major crimes was decreasing.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

- 1 - Mr. Tolson
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Tavel

*Book into operation of our telephone room*

DETAILS - OVER

MAR 12 1969

CJH:nls (8)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 5-22-85 BY SP8 BJS/cak  
 245472 5-21-86 SP8 BJS/cak

ORIGINAL FILED IN 166-3093-579

CRIME RESEARCH  
COMM. SECT.

*Memorandum to Jones  
Fw: 3-10-69*

M. A. Jones to Bishop memo  
RE: "THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY"

DETAILS:

Captioned book, which was written by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet, was the subject of a discussion on captioned television program this morning. Mrs. Bonaro Overstreet was the guest and she was interviewed by Mac McGarry. It is noted our files contain no derogatory information regarding McGarry, who also moderates another television program, "It's Academic," where Mr. DeLoach appeared recently as a guest.

Mrs. Overstreet discussed in general the contents of the book. At one point, she noted that there seemed to be a great deal of criticism these days concerning the FBI allegedly exceeding its authority. Mrs. Overstreet said that she and her husband had uncovered no evidence whatever that this was true.

When the program was opened to telephone callers, one person mentioned the relations between the Director and the late Dr. Martin Luther King and wanted Mrs. Overstreet's opinion concerning Mr. Hoover's characterization of King. She pointed out that this came up after King had made "an exaggerated statement" that there was a disproportionate number of southern FBI Agents serving in southern offices. She said that she and her husband had examined this matter and had found no evidence whatever that the statement by King was true.

Another caller wanted to know who would be in line to succeed the Director upon his retirement. Mrs. Overstreet replied that she had no information concerning this, but hoped that the person selected would come from within the organization. She mentioned the desirability of maintaining a continuity of leadership and avoiding political influences within the FBI.

At this point, Mrs. Overstreet gave a brief historical run-down of the Bureau and dwelled at some length on the matter of professional-type police officers, which the Director has always advocated. She said it was absolutely necessary to upgrade the caliber of local officers and insure that there was better training, more discriminating selection, and higher salaries for local officers.

M. A. Jones to Bishop memo  
RE: "THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY"

One woman caller stated that she had called the FBI locally about two weeks ago and it was obvious to her that the Bureau's telephone operators did not "know their own department." She said it appeared that they did not know to whom she should be referred to discuss the matter with which she was concerned. She went on to say that this was very common in Washington and felt that all telephone operators should have better training. Mrs. Overstreet had no comment, but McGarry said, "If the FBI is listening, you can bet that's happening right now."

Mrs. Overstreet briefly discussed the Bureau's jurisdiction, mentioning in particular kidnaping, the history behind the presumptive clause, etc. At this point, a male caller wanted to know why the Bureau had not kept a closer watch on Lee Harvey Oswald. Mrs. Overstreet replied that the Bureau had no reason to believe that he was inclined toward violence. The caller responded by stating that this should have been apparent from a very abusive letter Oswald directed to the top echelon of the Navy. Mrs. Overstreet said she was aware of this letter but indicated it was unfair to criticize the FBI in this manner because the Bureau had never been given a copy of the letter by the Navy. The caller then tried to illustrate Oswald's proclivity toward violence by maintaining that he was active in distributing pamphlets in New Orleans after which he went to Cuba. Mrs. Overstreet replied that Oswald went to Mexico, not Cuba. She concluded by pointing out that the Bureau, on at least two occasions during its investigation of Oswald, had interviewed him and had been given no reason to believe that he was violence prone in any way.

The final caller wanted to know what the FBI was doing while our conviction rate for major crimes, including bank robbery, was decreasing drastically. When told that this was not the case and asked where his figures came from, the caller replied that these were his "personal statistics," based upon what he read in the newspapers. Mrs. Overstreet said that this was hardly valid and emphasized that just recently the Attorney General had issued a report emphasizing that the rate of conviction of these crimes was increasing. McGarry concluded by noting that setting one's self up as a bureau of statistics is "not the type of thing we would want to be governed by."

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Bishop
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

BONARO W. OVERSTREET  
 3409 FIDDLER'S GREEN  
 FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA  
 22044

March 13, 1969

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
 FBI  
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thank you very warmly for sending us the copy of the March Investigator, with the announcement about our book. Not only were we glad to have this item but also we enjoyed going through the entire issue.

We do hope that the book will be useful.

Sincerely,

*Bonaro Overstreet*  
 Mrs. H.A. Overstreet

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/KCL  
 245472

MAR 17 1969

*Handwritten scribble*

*no air necessary*  
 REC-103  
 8 J R

100-114575-175

MAR 19 1969

54 MAR 25 1969

*Handwritten initials/signature in top right corner.*

March 12, 1969

REC-49  
EX-49

100-114575-76

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/CS

EX 106

[Redacted address line]

Rome, Georgia 30161

Dear [Redacted name]

*Handwritten signature/initials on the right side.*

b6  
b7c

Mr. Hoover has received your letter of March 4, 1969.

With regard to your comments, he asked me to advise you that the files of the FBI are maintained as confidential pursuant to Department of Justice regulations. However, Dr. and Mrs. Overstreet have been most cooperative with and helpful to the FBI over the years.

Sincerely yours,

*Handwritten signature: HSI Helen Gandy*

Helen W. Gandy  
Secretary

FBI  
MAIL ROOM  
S. SAH, JR.

MAILED 22  
MAR 13 1969  
COMM-FBI

NOTE: [Redacted] in 2-69 wrote the Director asking if he was a good friend of the Overstreets, and was advised the Bureau has enjoyed cordial relations with them. [Redacted] current letter gives the impression that he is very right wing, with preconceived ideas of the Overstreets as "pseudo-liberals" and "anti-anti-communists." It is felt a letter over Miss Gandy's signature is feasible.

1 - Mr. Sullivan

JVA:pls/clw  
(5)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAR 28 1969

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*Handwritten notes and stamps at the bottom right, including "RECORDED" and "INDEXED".*

ROME, GEORGIA

b6  
b7C

March 4, 1969

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20535

8-10  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BJK/kl  
245472

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Dear Mr. Hoover,

HARRY A. OVERSTREET

Please forgive me for belaboring a point with you but I am quite confused with regards to your answer of February 24, 1969, about cordial relations with Dr. Harry Overstreet.

My understanding is that Dr. and Mrs. Overstreet have been affiliated with nine communist front organizations and that he was an officer in the League for Industrial Democracy and the Student Intercollegiate Socialist Society. His book "What We Must Know About Communism," offers socialism as the answer to prevent communism and also his book "The Strange Tatics of Extremism" is strangely anti-anti-communist and only has a shallow inditement of Communism. With his involvement in the LID and the ISS, this is understandable; but your answer to my letter with regards to the cordial relations of the F.B.I. with Dr. Overstreet leaves me quite confused and perplexed; particularly after your statement to the House Committee on Un-American Activities, March 26, 1947, in which you said, "I would have no fears if more Americans possessed the zeal, the fervor, the persistence, and the industry to learn about this menace of Red fascism. I do fear for the liberal and progressive who has been hoodwinked and duped into joining hands with the Communists." And, there are many other statements you have made in this vein regarding pseudo-liberals and anti-anti-communists.

I have read your books "Master of Deceit" and "A Study of Communism" and have read most of your testimony regarding communism to the House appropriations committee and I respect you as a great American. That is why your opinion weigh's heavily with me.

Your answer will sincerely appreciated.

Cordially,

[Redacted signature]

ACK REC-106  
JVA:pw

100-114575-176

EX 106

MAR 19 1969

~~EXP. PROC.~~

MAR 6 1969

CORRESPONDENCE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

TO : Mr. Bishop DATE: 4-1-69

FROM : G. E. Malmfeldt

*Television Station  
WRC-TV*

SUBJECT: TELEVISION PROGRAM "TOPIC"  
WRC-TV (CHANNEL 4)  
SUNDAY, 3-30-69

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTS/col  
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This memo is to advise that the subject of captioned program was "The FBI Today." The moderator was Syndicated Columnist Roscoe Drummond, and the guests were Mrs. Bonaro Overstreet and Admiral William Mott, former Judge Advocate General - USN.

After introduction of the guests, during which Mrs. Overstreet was recognized as the author of the book, "The FBI In Our Open Society," the discussion centered around five main issues, namely; (1) Why the FBI is controversial, (2) Has the FBI done its job in enforcing Civil Rights laws, (3) Criticism regarding selection of the Ten Most Wanted List, (4) Is it proper for the Director of an agency to serve for 45 years when the President can only serve eight years, and (5) Is the Director an empire builder. It was generally agreed the criticism of the Bureau's work is due to a misunderstanding of its functions and the content of the laws over which it has investigative jurisdiction. Drummond made the observation that he sees no particular reason why the FBI should be loved in order to do its job properly, but it must have understanding and respect.

Regarding the job in the Civil Rights field, both guests agreed that the Bureau has done a dedicated job, and Admiral Mott stated he is impressed with the thoroughness of FBI investigations and pointed out that the FBI is not an enforcement agency; consequently, it has no authority for enforcing the law. It was also mentioned the Bureau has furnished enough information to the Department of Justice for it to make its decisions with respect to prosecutions in these cases.

In discussing the criticism with regard to the selection of individuals designated to appear on the Ten Most Wanted List, it was indicated the press is advised when an individual is placed on the list and when they are apprehended, and it could inform the people with respect to this information if it chose to do so. Mrs. Overstreet pointed out that in some instances the press has failed to do this. She also made mention of the fact the list is often made up of individuals wanted by the local police rather than the FBI, and the average time a person stays on the list is approximately 148 days.

They all agreed the Director has had the confidence of the people as well as the present and past Presidents. There is no need for change just for the sake of change, and Mrs. Overstreet indicated she thought there is a need for continuity of investigative agencies when Attorney Generals come and go so frequently.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- ALA:kce (6)
- 1 - Mr. M. A. Jones
- CONTINUED - OVER

APR 22 1969

CRIME RESEARCH

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-114575-29

Memorandum to Mr. Bishop  
RE: Television Program "TOPIC"

It was also mentioned that the Director is not an empire builder and that the growth of the Bureau has been due to the increase in crime and the increase in its investigative responsibility. It was stated the Director has always been against a National Police Force and that he refused President Roosevelt's suggestion that he head all Federal investigative agencies.

Bufiles disclose we wrote Dr. Harry A. Overstreet on 1-28-69 thanking him for the excellent portrayal of the work of this Bureau in the book written by Mrs. Overstreet and him.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

*gwb*

*✓*

*TEB*

*Alb*

*h*

*D*

April 7, 1969

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/col  
245472

Mrs. Harry A. Overstreet  
3409 Fiddlers Green  
Lake Barcroft  
Falls Church, Virginia 22044

Dear Mrs. Overstreet:

It was kind of you to comment as you did  
on the television program "TOPIC" on March 30th con-  
cerning my administration of the FBI. Your support of  
the activities of this Bureau is indeed gratifying and my  
associates join me in expressing sincere thanks.

*wasb.DC*

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Dr. Harry A. and Bonaro Overstreet are the authors of the book,  
"The FBI In Our Open Society," and this letter was recommended by  
memorandum from Mr. Sullivan to Mr. DeLoach dated 4-2-69 and  
captioned "Television Program "TOPIC," WRC-TV (Channel 4), Sunday,  
3-30-69." Address per mailing list for Dr. Overstreet.

ALA:ekw (3)

*ekw*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 10  
APR 8 - 1969  
COMM-FBI

REC-10

*TSB*  
100-114575-177

APR 10 20 PM '69  
19 APR 9 1969

6 APR 16 1969

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Bishop

DATE: 3-26-69

FROM : M. A. Jones ✓

SUBJECT: "THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY"  
*Book* BY DR. HARRY AND BONARO OVERSTREET

*Handwritten signatures and initials, including "M.A. Jones" and "Bishop".*

Mr. Tolson has requested a report on the sale of the above-titled book to date. On 2-6-69, we ordered 1000 copies of this book. We were advised the books would arrive here about March 1. When they did not arrive by March 4, the publisher was contacted, and it was determined the books had not been shipped as of that date. A company official explained there had been a misunderstanding within the company and said the books would be sent immediately. They were shipped the next day and received about March 10. From that time through today, we have disposed of 818 copies. Twenty-five Field Offices and Legats have ordered 332 books. Forty-five Field Offices and Legats have not yet ordered. The balance of the books disposed of, namely 486 copies, have been sold to the various Divisions here at Headquarters. A statistical summary is attached.

RECOMMENDATION:

*2000 more copies have been ordered*

○ For information.  
HARRY OVERSTREET

Enclosure

- 1 - Mr. Tolson - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Bishop - Enclosure
- 1 - Miss Gandy - Enclosure

BMS:scd  
(8)

# 243 466  
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 DATE 3-22-85 BY SP8 BTJ/abk  
 245472 5-21-86 SP8 BTJ/abk

*Handwritten initials "TEB" and other marks.*

*Handwritten notes and arrows:*  
 ↑ 3/16 ✓  
 ↓ mes. ✓  
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REC-106

100-114575-178

APR 14 1969

51 APR 22 1969

*Handwritten signatures and initials, including "BMS".*

THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY

Field offices that  
have already ordered

Number of Books

Albuquerque	5
Anchorage	13
Baltimore	20
Birmingham	14
Chicago	70
Cleveland	22
Detroit	23
El Paso	3
Honolulu	11
Jackson	18
Louisville	9
Memphis	11
Milwaukee	15
Philadelphia	8
San Antonio	11
Sacramento	16
Salt Lake City	9
Springfield	15
Tampa	10

Legats

Buenos Aires	4
London	15
Manila	2
Ottawa	2
Santo Domingo	2
Rome	4

TOTAL 332

Number of Field Offices and Legats that have ordered - 25

Number of Field Offices and Legats that have not ordered - 45

100-114575-178  
ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3-22-85 BY SP8 BTJ/cbr

2/5/72 5-21-86

April 7, 1969

REC-84

100-114575-179

Rear Admiral William C. Mott, USN (Retired)  
Executive Vice President  
United States Independent  
Telephone Association  
438 Pennsylvania Building  
Washington, D. C. 20004

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/CSL  
245472

Dear Admiral Mott:

I did not want this opportunity to pass  
without extending my appreciation and that of my  
associates for the kind comments regarding my work  
and the activities of the FBI which you expressed on  
the television program "TOPIC" on March 30th. Your  
support means a great deal to me.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 10  
APR 8 - 1969  
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Admiral Mott is on the Special Correspondents List. This letter  
was recommended by memorandum from Mr. Sullivan to Mr. DeLoach  
dated 4/2/69 and captioned "Television Program 'TOPIC', WRC-TV  
(Channel 4), Sunday, 3/30/69."

ALA:cae (3)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

4 APR 24 1969

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

APR 14 1969  
Handwritten initials and signatures: JEB, [unclear], [unclear]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. C. D. DeLoach

DATE: April 2, 1969

FROM : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT: TELEVISION PROGRAM "TOPIC"  
WRC-TV (CHANNEL 4)  
SUNDAY, 3/30/69

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/col  
245472

Reference is made to memorandum, same caption, G. E. Malmfeldt to Mr. Bishop, dated 4/1/69, advising that Mrs. Bonaro Overstreet and Admiral William C. Mott, former Judge Advocate General, U. S. Navy, appeared on captioned program to discuss the book, "The FBI In Our Open Society," by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet which is highly favorable to the Bureau.

Mrs. Overstreet and Admiral Mott did an extremely effective job on the program in presenting the Director and the Bureau in an objective, favorable light, as noted in referenced memorandum, and I have learned that they both went to considerable personal effort and time to contribute to the presentation that so capably outlined the jurisdiction of the Bureau and so graciously acknowledged the important place of the Director and the Bureau in our society of freedom under law.

RECOMMENDATION:

That if the Director approves, this memorandum be forwarded to the Crime Records Division for the preparation of letters of thanks to Mrs. Overstreet and Admiral Mott for their support of the Bureau on captioned program.

WCS:ebp  
(5) *ebp*

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Malmfeldt
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

*P*

94-45505-30

*11 02*

*WCS*

REC-8A 100-114575-179

APR 14 1969

APR 16 1969

*let to Mott  
4-7-69  
ALA/see*

*let to Mrs. Overstreet  
4-7-69  
ALA/see*

*S*  
PERS. FILE UNIT

*Jain*

April 16, 1969

Dr. Harry A. Overstreet  
3409 Fiddlers Green  
Lake Barcroft  
Falls Church, Virginia 22044

Dear Dr. Overstreet:

I am enclosing a copy of an editorial by  
Mr. Mike Kingston which appeared in the April 11th  
issue of "The Dallas Morning News" and which I thought  
you might like to read.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Overstreet  
and you,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9  
APR 16 1969  
COMM-FBI

Enclosure

LMG:kas (3)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/cac  
245472

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

51 APR 22 1969

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

REC 44

100-114575-180

TEB  
HW

19 APR 17 1969

4/11/69

AIRTEL

*Encl  
p1*

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

ATTENTION: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR WILLIAM C. SULLIVAN

FROM: SAC, DALLAS

RE: THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY BY  
HARRY AND BONARO OVERSTREET

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/Col  
245472

There are transmitted herewith three copies of a very favorable editorial on this book which appeared this date in The Dallas Morning News. This editorial and review of the book was by MIKE KINGSTON, Editorial Staff Writer, Dallas Morning News, Young and Houston Streets, Dallas, Texas 75202.

It is recommended that a letter from the Director be directed to KINGSTON. It is noted that he recently wrote a very favorable editorial on the Director's book on Communism and he is most friendly with the office.

ORIGINAL FILED IN 94-8-81-370

2 - Bureau (Enc. 3)  
1 - Dallas  
JGS:mfr  
(3)

**ENCLOSURE**

100-114575

**NOT RECORDED**  
**15 MAY 7 1969**

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# 'The Problem With the FBI Is...'

By **MIKE KINGSTON**  
Editorial Staff Writer

"THE PROBLEM WITH the FBI is . . ." So runs the theme of critical books and articles about the investigative arm of the Justice Department.

The criticisms cover a lot of political territory: The FBI is a police-state agency; it's communist-infiltrated; it's fascist; it's pro civil rights; it's anticivil rights. So goes the endless list of charges that range to the FBI's organization in 1908.

The Communist party of the United States regularly charges the bureau with police-state tactics and opposition to basic constitutional rights. This figures, since the party has been under close observation for more than 50 years. Civil-rights groups are equally critical, but for a different reason. They claim the FBI ignores their cause.

Harry and Bonaro Overstreet have taken a new look at the agency in a recent book published by W. W. Norton, Inc., "The FBI in Our Open Society."

**MOST CRITICISM** arises from a lack of understanding of the bureau's basic nature. It was organized as the investigative branch of the Justice Department. Prior to 1908, the department's investigations were carried out either by private detectives or by agents "borrowed" from the Secret Service.

Atty. Gen. Charles Joseph Bonaparte, who was considered an outstanding liberal of his day for his record in social reform

work in Maryland, felt that neither investigative practice was acceptable.

Bonaparte called on Congress for creation of the department's own staff. The proposed bureau's investigators would owe allegiance only to the Justice Department.

There were abuses of power during the early days of the FBI. Finally, the corruption and abuses of power during the Harding administration prompted a housecleaning. Atty. Gen. Harlan Stone, later a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, named a young attorney, J. Edgar Hoover, as director of the bureau with orders to clean it up.

**HOOVER'S COURSE** was simple: The FBI would operate within the jurisdiction designated by orders from the attorney general, the president and laws by Congress. And this is the course it has followed.

The FBI's responsibility is to investigate certain alleged violations of federal law. If Congress does not grant investigative powers to another agency, it automatically falls under the FBI's jurisdiction.

Some critics claim that growth of the bureau reflects Hoover's personal quest for power. But more accurately, it reflects expansion of federal laws the bureau is called upon to enforce.

The bureau is charged with national security under presidential order, and in this jurisdiction it has kept domestic Communists under surveillance for many years. When a law is broken, the violator is prosecuted. The CPUSA, consequently, is a vehement critic of the FBI.

Unfortunately, many liberals see the bureau in the same light. Civil-rights activists have charged that FBI agents have worked in consort with Southern officers to deprive Negroes and others of their civil rights. Some have suggested that enforcement of civil-rights laws be taken out of the bureau's hands and given to some other agency.



KINGSTON

HARRY BONARO OVERSTREET

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

2D

"The Dallas Morning News" Dallas, Texas

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/CAL 245472

Date: 4-11-69

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Jack B. Kruger

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Dallas

Being Investigated

100-114595-

ENCLOSURE ENCLOSURE

2/10

Typical of misinformation on which some liberals base their criticism is the death of civil-rights worker Medgar Evers in Jackson, Miss., in 1963. Many charged that the bureau should have given Evers and his family protection following threats on his life. Its failure to do so was judged proof that enforcement of civil-rights laws should be removed from the bureau's jurisdiction.

The bureau, however, is not empowered to provide protection for anyone. This is the responsibility of the local police, and Hoover has meticulously separated federal and local jurisdictions to keep the FBI from developing into a police-state agency.

In the Evers case, the FBI did investigate and develop a case against a suspect for conspiring to violate another's civil rights. The evidence and the suspect were turned over to local authorities, who filed murder charges. Juries later acquitted the suspect on two occasions.

Criticism from the far right and the Ku Klux Klan is of a different stripe. According to them, the FBI's activities in enforcement of civil-rights laws is an indication that it has been infiltrated by Communists, although Director Hoover is spared direct criticism.

AND SO it goes. From the left and right, the criticism continues. Many critical exposes, the Overstreets observe and document, contain so many inaccuracies and innuendoes that at best they are "intellectually dishonest."

So the real problem with the FBI seems to be that it is operating within the framework of law and presidential order as it should. The "problem" will remain only a figment of imagination until the agency starts trying to anticipate what Congress will pass into law or sets its own standards as to which laws it will enforce and which it won't. Under Hoover's leadership, neither course is likely.

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. DeLoach ✓
- Mr. Mohr ✓
- Mr. Bishop ✓
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen ✓
- Mr. Sullivan ✓
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

**BONARO W. OVERSTREET**  
 3409 FIDDLER'S GREEN  
 FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA  
 22044

*Bonaro*

April 14, 1969

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/col  
 245472

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
 FBI  
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thank you very warmly  
 for your generous letter about the TV  
 program. I could not have wanted more  
 knowledgeable, concerned, and stimu-  
 lating persons with whom to talk than  
 Admiral Mott and Roscoe Drummond. We  
 all felt when the time was up that we  
 had scarcely begun our exchange of  
 ideas.

Sincerely,

*Bonaro Overstreet*  
 Mrs. H.A. Overstreet

EXP. PROC.  
 APR 15 1969

*See Monday*

REC-104

*No file  
 to file  
 4/16/69*

100-114575-181

10 APR 15 1969

54 MAY 21 1969

John M. ...  
 CORRESPONDENCE

April 16, 1969

100-414575-

Mr. Mike Kingston  
The Dallas Morning News  
Communications Center  
Dallas, Texas 75222

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/CS L  
245472

Dear Mr. Kingston:

Special Agent in Charge Shanahan has furnished me a copy of your editorial, "The Problem With the FBI Is...", which appeared in the April 11th issue of your newspaper.

This was an excellent review of Harry and Bonaro Overstreet's book, "The FBI in Our Open Society," and I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of the editorial to them. Your very generous comments regarding the work of this Bureau and support are deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

- 1 - Dallas Reurairtel 4/11/69.
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach (detached)
- 1 - Mr. Bishop (detached)

NOTE: On 3/7/69 we sent a letter to Kingston regarding his favorable review of the Director's book "J. Edgar Hoover on Communism." The Editorial Director of his paper, Dick West, is on the Special Correspondents List. This letter recommended by the SAC, Dallas.

LMG:kas (7)

MAILED 9  
APR 16 1969  
COMM-FBI

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Ret

Kas

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placed in Record 4-27-69  
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RP

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6 MAY 19 1969

TELETYPE UNIT

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

(April 29, 1969)

212-831-2462

From the desk of Dr. Ruth Alexander

To Mr. Hoover:

Please don't be mad at me for not giving the Overstreet book a rave review. John (Malone) sent it to me and said you liked it. But I could not in, good conscience, do other than I did.

If you want any last minute changes, phone me. I'll phone my Executive Editor Sterling Noel of the Baltimore News-American. Otherwise, I'll let it stand.

Love

(Dr. Ruth Alexander)

(Ruth Alexander, Ph. D., L. L. D.  
11 East 86th Street  
New York, New York 10028)

COPY:nm

- MR. TOLSON \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. DELOACH \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. MOHR \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. BISHOP \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. CASPER \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. CALLAHAN \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. CONRAD \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. FELT \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. GALE \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. ROSEN \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. SULLIVAN \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. TAVEL \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. TROTTER \_\_\_\_\_
- MR. JONES \_\_\_\_\_
- TELE. ROOM \_\_\_\_\_
- MISS HOLMES \_\_\_\_\_
- MRS. METCAL \_\_\_\_\_
- MISS GANDY \_\_\_\_\_

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DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/COL

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5-1-69

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~~EXP. PROC~~  
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ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

25 JUN 9 1969

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ORIGINAL FILED IN

5/24

WORTH ALEXANDER  
MAY 4TH, 1969

C-O-P-Y

OUR AMERICA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJkd  
245472

THAT WELL KNOWN HUSBAND-AND-WIFE TEAM OF BONARO AND HARRY OVERSTREET HAVE JUST COME UP WITH A NEW BOOK CALLED "THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY". IT MIGHT MORE ACCURATELY BE CALLED "THE FBI IN OUR PERMISSIVE SOCIETY", WHERE ANYTHING GOES. THIS INCLUDES VICIOUS SNIPING AT ITS DIRECTOR, JOHN EDGAR HOOVER, BY EDITORS, COLUMNISTS, CRIMINALS, SELF-STYLED LIBERALS AND OTHERS IN NEED OF AN UNDER-ARM DEODERANT. IT IS THE TRAGEDY OF THE 20TH CENTURY THAT THIS GREAT MAN, ON WHOM OUR SURVIVAL DEPENDS, SHOULD BE SUBORDINATE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND THE SUPREME COURT WHOSE WARPED IDEA OF INTERPRETATION OF LAW ENCOMPASSES LEGISLATION OF LAW. BUT HOOVER IS LIKE THE MAN ON THE FLYING TRAPEZE. HE OBEYS THE LETTER OF THE LAW AND NEVER LOSES HIS FOOTING. NOR HAS HE EVER SOUGHT THAT ABSOLUTE POWER WHICH SO CORRUPTS SO MANY OF HIS SUPERIORS--POLITICIANS ALL.

I ASSUMED THE OVERSTREET BOOK WOULD BE A CHRONICLE OF THE MAGNIFICENT ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FBI THROUGHOUT THE VAST AREA IN WHICH IT OPERATES. INSTEAD, THE BOOK IS A VERITABLE CATALOGUE OF ATTACKS BY HOOVER'S MOST HOSTILE AND ARTICULATE CRITICS WHO ARE IN POSITIONS TO INFLUENCE OPINION. I AM SURE THE OVERSTREETS MEANT WELL BY ATTEMPTING TO REFUTE THESE CRITICS. BUT HOOVER'S ENEMIES WILL NOT BELIEVE THEIR PAINSTAKING PROOF OF FALSITY AND MAY WELL PROFIT BY THE PUBLICITY INADVERTENTLY GIVEN THEM, FUTURE POTENTIAL CRITICS AND FENCE-SITTERS. AS FOR HOOVER'S FRIENDS, WHO NUMBER MILLIONS, MANY WILL BE OUTRAGED FOR A TIME AND THEN SINK BACK INTO THAT PASSIVITY ENGENDERED BY OUR NATIONAL NARCOTIC ADDICTION TO COMMERCIAL AMUSEMENT. A FEW FURIOUS ONES WILL MAINTAIN THAT THE PERFORMANCE OF THE FBI, OUR BUREAU OF SURVIVAL, NEEDS NO FURTHER DEFENSE, EVEN BY WELL-WISHERS SUCH AS THE KINDLY AND CONCERNED OVERSTREETS.

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

I CAN'T REMEMBER THE TITLES OF THE ARTICLES AND BOOKS CITED. BUT I REMEMBER

TURNER AND MAX LOWE ~~ET AL~~ -- ALL CLAIMING TO HAVE INSIDE KNOWLEDGE OF THE WICKED WORKINGS OF THE FBI. ONE MAN CALLED HIS THING, "CRIME IS TOO BIG FOR THE FBI". NOTHING IS TOO BIG FOR THE FBI, IF ITS DUTIES WERE NOT OVER-EXTENDED OVER OUR VAST WASTELAND OF EVIL. SINCE SURVIVAL SHOULD BE OUR PRIMARY CONCERN, EVEN TO POLITICIANS, ~~HOOVER'S~~ HOOVER'S HANDS SHOULD NOT BE MANACLED BY EXTRA-CURRICULA ACTIVITIES. HE SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON THE COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY, WITH EVERY DETAIL OF WHICH HE IS MASTER, FROM THE POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF PORNOGRAPHY TO DIALECTIC MATERIALISM, -- EACH CUNNINGLY DESIGNED TO DEBAUCH AND CONQUER OUR AMERICA.

CURIOSLY ENOUGH, THE FBI HAS VIVID ANSWER TO ITS CRITICS IN TELEVISION. WE ARE INDEBTED TO ABC FOR DRAMATIZING "THE FBI" EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT, BASED ON ACTUAL CASES. PICTURES HAVE REPLACED THE AUTHORITY OF PRINT, AS WE HAVE REGRESSED TO OUR ANCESTOR, THE CAVE MAN, TO WHOM VIOLENCE IS DOING WHAT COMES NATURALLY. WHY NOT? THEN, AS NOW, NO PUNISHMENT ATTACHES TO VIOLENCE. ON ABC'S "THE FBI" WE ARE EYEWITNESSES TO A PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE MIRACLES PERFORMED BY THE BUREAU AGAINST OUR VARIED ENEMIES WITHIN AND WITHOUT. SINCE TELEVISION IS PRIMARILY A SALES MEDIUM, "THE FBI" IS NOT SO PRETENTIOUS AS TO ADVERTISE ITSELF AS "EDUCATIONAL" -- PERISH THE WORD! YET IT GIVES THE MOST CONSISTENTLY INFORMATIVE AND EXCITING DRAMA ON ANY NETWORK ALL WEEK LONG.

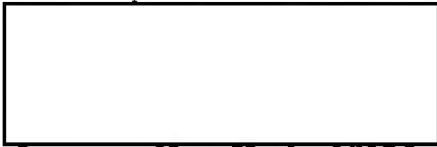
BEFORE MR. HOOVER RETIRES, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE HIS MAGNIFICENT FACE, ITS STRONG FEATURES UNCOMPROMISED BY FLATTERY, IMMORTALIZED IN STONE, BESIDE WASHINGTON AND LINCOLN, ON MOUNT RUSHMOORE IN THE BLACK HILLS OF SOUTH DAKOTA. IT WOULD BE FOREVER A SMALL TOKEN OF OUR GRATITUDE FOR THE MAN WHO WILL HAVE PRESERVED OUR AMERICA FROM DESTRUCTION.

RUTH ALEXANDER  
MAY 4TH, 1969

May 28, 1969

REC-91

100-114575-182



Oswego, New York 13126

b6  
b7C

Dear



I have received your letter of May 24th and appreciate the favorable remarks as well as your expression of support for this Bureau.

In response to your inquiry concerning unwarranted criticism of the FBI, it is suggested you read "The FBI in Our Open Society" by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet. This book contains data concerning some of the vicious attacks leveled at this Bureau over the years by its most persistent critics and also sets forth the true facts which speak for themselves and completely negate their allegations. It may be available in your local library.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

# 243,466  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3-22-85 BY SP8 BTB/kcl  
245472 5-21-86 SP8 BTB/kcl

NOTE: Bufiles disclose an outgoing to correspondent on 11-8-67 acknowledging his favorable comments concerning the Director and his high regards for the Bureau.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FMG:kce (3)

MAILED 7  
MAY 28 1969  
COMM-FBI

79 MAY 29 1969

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TEB

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Memorandum from A.W.Gray  
to Mr. W.C.Sullivan

Re: Summary of "The FBI in our Open Society,"  
a book by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet

ADDENDUM (6/9/69), CDD:csh

I believe that the attached monograph, if disseminated to all field offices, will represent a quick source of reference in connection with the greater majority of questions that might come up regarding criticism of the Director and the FBI.

The thought may arise that it is inadvisable to disseminate this in the form of a monograph to field offices, inasmuch as someone may give it out to our enemies. While this may happen, I doubt that there is any danger involved, since this monograph or memorandum is based strictly on the Overstreets' book and therefore is of public source origin.

  
C. D. DeLoach

*OK.*  
*H*

*✓*

*TSB*  
*NR*

*done 6-16-69*  
*gab*

*Very well done. Digest should be commended.*  
*H*

*Copies sent Field Office + SOG officials 6/24/69*  
*JWS*

Oswego, New York  
May 24, 1969

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

13126  
al. (jeb)

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Dept. of Justice  
Washington, D.C.

*(o'd on yellow)*

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Friday, in the lab., some discussion of Communist activity in this country came up, and I mentioned something about the F.B.I.'s information on the subject. A young woman employee said to me: "Are you serious? Do you really believe anything the F.B.I. says? "

My reply was: "I believe the F.B.I. and you'd better too. If you can't believe in the F.B.I. you can't believe in anything. You might as well go back to believing that the world is square." I asked her where she ever got the notion that the F.B.I. was untrustworthy. She said that her impressions had been arrived at largely on the basis of some story about the connection of the F.B.I. with the Warren Commission Report on the death of John Kennedy, and from remarks heard on a T.V. interview from the author ( said to be a former F.B.I. employee) of a book critical of the F.B.I. & its director.

I've heard that young people today rarely read anything, and they apparently accept anything they hear uncritically - especially if it's something against what the rest of us have always considered the Right, the True, and the Beautiful. But the young woman's remarks have bothered me so much that I have to write to you to ask whether you might be willing to suggest what you consider to be the best, and the quickest way to correct false impressions held about the F.B.I.

It's only a guess on my part, but I imagine that the F.B.I. is "generously" allowed to take the "credit" for a number of things which the Public finds hard to swallow, and which have really been perpetrated by other elements in the Justice Department or the Executive Branch. And some misconceptions arise because of a misunderstanding of the legal responsibility of the Bureau & its proper role in our society. I hope you can throw a little light on this touchy subject of the Bureau's public image, and what to do to keep it accurate.

REC-91

100-114575-182

Sincerely yours,

MAY 27 1969



OSWEGO NY 13126

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DATE 3-22-85 BY SP8 BTJ/KOC  
5-21-86 245472

EXP. PROC.  
34 MAY 27 1969

ack/mon  
5/28/69  
Tell him to read  
the Overstreets Book.

COPY MADE FOR MR. TOLSON

b6  
b7c

May 1, 1969

100-114575-

②

Dr. Ruth Alexander  
11 East 86th Street  
New York, New York 10028

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

Dear Dr. Alexander:

Your letter, enclosing a copy of your review relating to "The FBI in Our Open Society," was received on April 29th. It was most thoughtful of you to send it on, and I have no changes to suggest. I would, however, like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the kind comments which you make concerning the FBI and me.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

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DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/csl  
245472

NOTE: Dr. Alexander is on the Special Correspondents List.

MAILED 22  
MAY 2 - 1969  
COMM-FBI

TDH:paa/ccb (5)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
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- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
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- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

55 JUN 18 1969

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
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Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
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Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. C. D. DeLoach

DATE: May 26, 1969

FROM : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT: "THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY"  
ENDORSEMENT BY PRESIDENT OF  
SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

For your information, Dr. Willis M. Tate, President, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, has informed me that he has authorized his public endorsement of "The FBI In Our Open Society," the new book in which the Overstreets set the record straight on some of the disgusting attacks which have been made against the Bureau through the years.

HARRY

Dr. Tate, whom I have known for some years, told me that he rarely endorses books, but, having read it, he was so impressed by its contents that he wanted to publicly support it. Tate feels very strongly about the necessity for wide dissemination of this factual information about the Bureau and said he hopes that his endorsement of it will be of assistance to the Director and the FBI.

I have told Dr. Tate that support from an educator of his stature is indeed welcome.

ACTION:

None. For information of the Director.

WCS:ebp

(3)

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

#243466  
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DATE 3-22-85 BY SP8 BJK/ahk  
245472 SP8 BTJ/cal 5-21-86

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*WCS*  
*WCS*

REC-81

100-114575-183

MAY 29 1969

59 JUN 13 1969

MAY 28 1969  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

*John*

Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bishop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Casper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Holmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: June 4, 1969

FROM : A. W. Gray *AWG*

- 1 - Mr. C.D. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. W.C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. A.W. Gray
- 1 - Mr. R.S. Garner
- 1 - Mr. J.M. Sizoo

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF "THE FBI IN OUR  
OPEN SOCIETY," A BOOK BY  
HARRY AND BONARO OVERSTREET  
MONOGRAPH  
RESEARCH-SATELLITE MATTER

HARRY OVERSTREET

Approval requested for captioned monograph prepared by the Research-Satellite Section to be disseminated to all field offices and Legal Attaches.

"The FBI in Our Open Society" by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet portrays the FBI in a most favorable way and the Director in thanking the authors for an autographed copy of the book stated that he intended to refer people to their perceptive writings. This has been done when appropriate in replies to persons writing to the Director. The book was called to the attention of Bureau personnel in SAC Letter 69-14 dated 2/25/69 which noted the book refutes false charges of such vicious critics as Max Lowenthal, Fred J. Cook, and [redacted] and that Bureau personnel can obtain the book at the special discount rate of \$3.75.

b6  
b7c

Attached summary has been prepared to provide a ready reference for Bureau personnel in rebutting numerous unfounded claims against the Bureau and will also serve as a guide to the reading of the book's detailed and thorough analysis of FBI operations.

This document has been proofread by the Reading Room. Upon approval, the Research-Satellite Section will arrange for printing and distribution.

RECOMMENDATION:

That this monograph, the file copy, and Xeroxed copy of the original which are enclosed, be approved for dissemination to all field offices and Legal Attaches.

Enclosures

JMS:wh  
(8)

(SEE ADDENDUM - NEXT PAGE)

REC-54

100-114575-184

EX - 111

JUN 19 1969

ENCLOSURE

51 JUL 1 1969

RESEARCH-SATELLITE SECTION PERSONNEL RECORDS UNIT

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 DATE 3-22-85 BY SP-5 JAL/STW  
 205772

**SUMMARY**  
**OF**  
**"THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY"**  
**A Book by**  
**Harry and Bonaro Overstreet**

(Not for Dissemination Outside the Bureau)

June, 1969

**John Edgar Hoover, Director**  
**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**Department of Justice**

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JMS:mes

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100-114575-184 Wed  
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## FOREWORD

"The FBI in Our Open Society," written by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet and released for sale in February, 1969, is an inquiry into the nature and operations of the FBI. It discusses in detail many of the virulent charges that the FBI runs "amuck" without regard to the rights of individuals and groups and is, therefore, a danger to our democratic society. The conclusions reached by the authors state that such criticism is unfair, not factual, and that the FBI, far from being a danger to our society, has capably and properly stood as a defense of law and the rights of citizens.

This document has been prepared to summarize the authors' analysis of many of the unfounded, slanted, or distorted charges against the FBI and its leadership. It should be a helpful reference in rebutting the various anti-FBI charges. In addition, it is designed to serve as a guide to the reading of the book which is highly readable and intellectually stimulating. Certainly, the book deserves to be read because of its detailed and thorough analysis of FBI operations and its conclusions that present the FBI in an objective and favorable light.

In their rebuttals of anti-FBI claims, the authors rely, not on "inside information," but on sources available to public viewing. That approach, of course, increases the effectiveness of their survey of FBI critics, for it makes obvious the bias of those who carelessly or purposely neglect or distort what is "on the record."

## PART I

PART I--Introduction to Complexity--covers the origin and history of the FBI up to the appointment of Mr. Hoover as Director in 1924.

CHAPTER ONE--The Past That Was Prologue--concerns the creation of the FBI as a result of growth of Federal laws. It traces the origins of the Attorney General's position and the Department of Justice, and notes the investigative resources of the Federal Government during the Presidency of Theodore Roosevelt.

1. The FBI is a by-product of the expansion of Federal laws.
2. The Attorney General's position was created by Congress in 1789 and the Attorney General was given administrative control over United States district attorneys and marshals by Congress in 1861.
3. The Department of Justice was created by Congress with the Attorney General as its head in 1870.
4. Congress first voted \$50,000 for the detection and prosecution of crimes against the United States in 1871.
5. Secret Service agents, hired detectives, and examiners were used by the Attorney General in investigations of alleged violations.
6. Opposition developed to the use of hired detectives since some had criminal or unsavory backgrounds.

7. President Theodore Roosevelt was opposed by politicians and business interests in his efforts to control the "trusts" and fight corruption in Federal land dealings.

CHAPTER TWO--Challenge and Decision--discusses the action of Attorney General Charles J. Bonaparte in establishing the Bureau of Investigation to provide the Department of Justice with its own investigators.

1. Attorney General Charles J. Bonaparte sought a permanent detective force for the Department of Justice to end the practice of "borrowing" investigators from the Secret Service.

2. In 1908, Congress denied money for payment to Secret Service agents detailed or transferred for use by other agencies.

3. Attorney General Bonaparte on July 1, 1908, created a force of detectives, special agents, and examiners under a chief examiner, and this group became a permanent subdivision of the Department of Justice on July 27, 1908, under Presidential instructions.

4. Conflict arose immediately between President Theodore Roosevelt and Congressional figures over the creation of the special subdivision.

5. The subdivision was named the Bureau of Investigation in 1909 by Attorney General George W. Wickersham under President Taft.

**CHAPTER THREE--The Making of Dark Years--** depicts several questionable activities of the Bureau of Investigation during and shortly after World War I that are in contrast to Mr. Hoover's policies. It concludes with the naming of Mr. Hoover as Director in 1924.

1. At the urging of A. Bruce Bielaski, head of the Bureau of Investigation, Attorney General Thomas W. Gregory used a private group, the American Protective League (APL), to investigate and report disloyal acts during World War I. Badges and cards bearing "Secret Service Division" were sanctioned for APL members. Mr. Hoover, by contrast, has never allowed volunteers to invade FBI areas of responsibility.

2. In World War I, "dragnet" methods were used against draft dodgers, a procedure for mass arrests never authorized by Mr. Hoover.

3. The "Palmer raids" under Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer in 1919 and 1920 involved excesses in arrest procedures that were directed by William J. Flynn, then head of the Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Hoover, then in charge of the General Intelligence Division of the Bureau, had no control over the Bureau's field work.

4. Mr. Hoover was named Director of the Bureau of Investigation in 1924 after a long search by Attorney General Harlan Fiske Stone and a careful inquiry into Mr. Hoover's background and performance in the Department of Justice since 1917.

## PART II

PART II--Men at Work--explores the modern FBI, including the means of control over its operations.

CHAPTER FOUR--The Searchlight of Tragedy-- considers the testimony of Mr. Hoover and former Assistant to the Director Alan H. Belmont before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy (Warren Commission). Mr. Hoover expressed reluctance to install extreme security measures as smacking of a "police state."

1. In discussing before the Warren Commission in 1964 the security of a President, Mr. Hoover said that "absolute security" would be impossible without a "police state" and "we don't want that." He noted further that the "enforcement of security and the enforcement of laws dealing with subversion ought to be handled in the American manner." In this regard, Mr. Hoover voiced his concern that increased security measures tend to "diminish the area of the rights of the individual."

2. Drew Pearson, Harold Feldman, and former Special Agent William W. Turner were critical of the FBI's handling of Oswald after his return from Russia and prior to the assassination of President Kennedy. The three "would all give far more weight than would either Hoover or (Chief of the Secret Service) Rowley to personal erraticisms, a professed belief in Marxism, and overt, but nonviolent, manifestations of pro-Communism."

It is pertinent to ask if the critics would have said the FBI "persecuted" Oswald had it taken him into custody or closely surveilled him because of his background.

3. The Warren Commission report noted that the new standards for referring individuals to the Secret Service as threats against the President are still too narrow and might not have resulted in "referral of Oswald to Secret Service."

CHAPTER FIVE--The Bureau's License to Act--  
affirms that the FBI must have proper authority before investigation.

1. While the FBI's jurisdiction is continually being expanded, there are limitations on its actions. Only when Congress makes some act a Federal crime can the FBI investigate. Also, if the Supreme Court, on constitutional grounds, reverses a conviction in a Federal case involving the FBI, the FBI then must end investigations under the invalidated law.

2. The FBI cannot be properly charged with infringing on constitutional rights by conducting investigations under laws or sections of laws which are later declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. For the FBI to refuse to investigate alleged violations of certain laws or sections of laws it believes unconstitutional prior to such court decisions would be to arrogate to itself the right to anticipate Supreme Court rulings.

CHAPTER SIX--The Intelligence Assignment--  
discusses the FBI's activities in the intelligence field and notes that neither Congress nor the Supreme Court has questioned the FBI's right to carry out its responsibilities in the security and intelligence fields.

1. The FBI was ordered into the intelligence field in 1939 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.
2. Mr. Hoover has been condemned for exaggerating the threat of espionage, specifically by Fred J. Cook, although Mr. Hoover's statements and policies refute such claims.
3. Mr. Hoover refused to accept help from volunteer "investigators" in World War II and vigilantism was kept to a low level during this period. This rational approach to security is also noted in Mr. Hoover's opposition to the internment of the West Coast Japanese at that time.
4. The Supreme Court, in deciding that the State of Pennsylvania's sedition law was pre-empted by Federal statutes in national security matters, made "unassailable" the right and duty of the FBI to carry out both its law enforcement and its intelligence functions in the national security field.
5. The Supreme Court, while holding against several statutes of Congress in the security field, has not questioned the right of Congress to legislate in that field.

CHAPTER SEVEN--The Problem of Size--provides rebuttal to the claim that Mr. Hoover seeks to expand the size and influence of the FBI.

1. Mr. Hoover has stated his preference for a smaller FBI despite critics' charges that he seeks to enlarge it.

2. Former Special Agent Turner has charged that Mr. Hoover uses the automobile theft statistics to justify the "Bureau's appropriation," but the House Subcommittee on Appropriations knows the meaning of the statistics and can evaluate them accordingly.

3. In 1940, the "New York Daily News" warned that Congress should withhold funds for Mr. Hoover if it did not want an American OGPU. By way of contrast, in the same year Mr. Hoover turned down the plan of then Attorney General Robert H. Jackson to have Mr. Hoover assume direction of all Federal investigative and intelligence agencies.

4. Mr. Hoover stated in his testimony for the 1962 FBI appropriation that the additional work given the FBI had been absorbed with present personnel despite the fact that the hearing indicated he could have had more funds for the asking.

5. The growth of the FBI cannot be seen as an isolated phenomenon, for it has been given duties that eventually required more personnel.

6. In his book, "The Federal Bureau of Investigation," Max Lowenthal uses a statement of Senator Kenneth McKellar who claimed astonishment at the growth of the "secret service" of the Department of Justice in the 1930s. The Senator was a member of the Congress that had passed kidnapping and extortion

laws and a packet of laws called the Federal Crime Act--laws that Mr. Hoover did not author, but which drastically enlarged FBI jurisdiction.

7. Calls for reduction in the size of the FBI have not been constructive, but destructive, in spirit. Alternatives to continued growth of the FBI would involve greater assumption of responsibilities on local and state levels and also by private interests.

CHAPTER EIGHT--Checks and Controls--analyzes internal and external controls on the FBI which prevent it from being a "runaway" agency.

1. The primary danger from FBI growth is that of decentralization which would weaken the structure of accountability.

2. The FBI chain of command with strict channels of operations and reporting provides an important internal control.

3. The external controls of the FBI include the letter of the law, the Attorney General, Department of Justice policies, Congressional appropriation committees, and the courts. Mr. Hoover himself has stated that the FBI should never be permitted to become an independent agency operating without checks and controls.

4. The growth of the FBI has not necessarily resulted in a decrease in control by the Attorney General as size alone does not determine the degree of accountability. What is important are the means used to review and control FBI operations and personnel.

5. One problem in insuring proper use of the Bureau can come from an Attorney General who wants to use the FBI for his own purposes. Attorney General Palmer and Attorney General Harry Daugherty are two Attorneys General who infected the old Bureau of Investigation with the spirit of illegality.

6. Former Special Agent Jack Levine has claimed that FBI agents use wiretaps not known to FBI officials or the Department of Justice in order to secure high conviction statistics reportedly demanded by Mr. Hoover. If true, such a situation would mean that wiretap evidence could be smuggled into the Government's evidence, a most implausible circumstance.

7. Critic Fred J. Cook has charged that Mr. Hoover's concern for the letter of the law leaves little room for the "free-wheeling detective work" needed to fight organized crime. This belief is unusual since Cook has accepted Levine's charge that FBI Agents wiretap illicitly and smuggle data into evidence. Such free-wheeling would obviously be the "surest way" for the FBI to help criminals remain free from court sanction.

**CHAPTER NINE--The Eavesdropping Problem--**  
concludes that surveillance by electronic means is essential to the security of our society, although its use must be balanced against the constitutional rights of our citizens to privacy.

1. The problem in the use of electronic surveillances in our open society is to achieve a balance of society's rights and those of the individual.

2. Mr. Hoover's longtime approach to wiretap activities has called for close controls and includes written authority from the Attorney General.

3. Lowenthal states in his book, "The Federal Bureau of Investigation," that Senator Burton K. Wheeler acknowledged that a Senate Committee report in 1940 was aimed at the FBI because of its wiretapping. Actually, Senator Wheeler never did acknowledge what Lowenthal claims and the hearings covered in the report are related not to FBI wiretapping, but to private wiretapping of political figures.

4. Legislation sought by Attorneys General Robert F. Kennedy and Nicholas Katzenbach would have outlawed private and public wiretaps and then spelled out, in the public interest, a few exceptions to the general rule.

5. Morris Ernst, then counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union, stated in 1950 that he had checked into charges of misconduct by FBI Agents, but concluded that a smear campaign was being carried on against Mr. Hoover since the charges could not be substantiated. Lowenthal in his book published in 1950 claims uninhibited indulgence in illegal wiretapping by the FBI, but offers no evidence of having investigated those matters as did Ernst.

**CHAPTER TEN--The Informant--**outlines the role of informants in FBI operations and presents support for the use of informants from prominent public officials and agencies.

1. Criticism of Mr. Hoover, as in "The Nation" of November 30, 1964, for finding "informers" to be "truly patriotic individuals" seems to convey a high moral tone. However, those who have criticized the FBI's use of informants are selective in their thinking and thus do not condemn the use of informants "across the board" as a matter of principle--only when the informants are used against themselves or those with whom they are sympathetic.

2. The double standard the critics advocate in informant use is typified by the writings of Fred J. Cook in his book, "The FBI Nobody Knows." Cook condemns FBI informants who are witnesses against communist defendants as an unstable lot while calling for penetration of underworld mobs by persons less law-bound than FBI agents.

3. The use of informants is defended by statements of Judge Learned Hand, former Attorneys General Kennedy and Katzenbach, other former Justice Department officials, and the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice.

4. While critics have voiced a fear of informants, a safeguard on the use of informants is provided by the courts which must pass on the admissibility of evidence given by informants as witnesses.

### PART III

PART III--This Controversial Bureau--analyzes the controversial nature of the FBI as a reflection of the various segments of our society which hold strong and clashing viewpoints.

CHAPTER ELEVEN--The FBI in the American Scene--sets the stage for other chapters by noting several aspects of the FBI's controversial nature, including its need to remain silent about much of its work.

1. The FBI is controversial since groups--criminal and subversive--whose interests may suffer as a result of FBI investigations attack the FBI and its methods to divert attention from the groups' activities.

2. Another reason the FBI is controversial is that it bears "the burden of man's ancient, well-justified fear of a secret police." This is compounded because much of the FBI's work must remain unpublicized.

3. A third reason for the FBI's being controversial involves the complexity of jurisdiction in the United States. The FBI is attacked by those who believe the Federal Government is imposing its will on the states as well as by those who believe the Federal Government is yielding to States' rightists.

4. Several cases, including the Weinberger kidnapping case in 1956, the bombings in and near Birmingham, Alabama,

in 1963, and the murder of Medgar Evers, NAACP field representative, in Jackson, Mississippi, in 1963, illustrate the controversy regarding overlapping jurisdictions and demands for either more or less action by Federal authorities.

5. James A. Wechsler, "New York Post" writer, has falsely accused Mr. Hoover of failure to push FBI investigations to discover those responsible for racial violence in the South because Mr. Hoover wanted to remain in favor with "Southerners" who controlled the FBI's budget. At the time of his charge, only one member of the House Subcommittee on Appropriations was from below the Mason-Dixon Line--Congressman Robert L. Sikes of Florida. Also, Wechsler implied that the FBI should have been guarding Medgar Evers as a result of previous threats against him. This, of course, is a police function which the Justice Department could not have authorized.

CHAPTER TWELVE--Out of Communism's Lexicon--  
covers the Communist Party, USA, propaganda efforts to reduce the "power" of the FBI.

1. The Communist Party, USA, has conducted a long campaign of rigid, repetitious anti-FBI propaganda that tries to create in the American people a distrust of the FBI which will do what the Party by itself cannot do: curtail the FBI's power to do its job.

2. The nature and continuity of the anti-FBI campaign are illustrated by reviews that have appeared in the Communist

Party press about two anti-FBI books--"The Federal Bureau of Investigation" by Max Lowenthal and "The FBI Nobody Knows" by Fred J. Cook. These books, being strongly critical of the FBI, are praised for revealing the "dangers" of the FBI to our society. However, the reviewers note that neither Lowenthal nor Cook gives a Marxist-Leninist interpretation to the FBI's existence and actions.

3. In their lengthy campaign against Mr. Hoover, the communists have labelled him a "Gestapoman" and leader of a "frame-up gang." They have likened the FBI to the secret police of the Russian czars--the Okrana--while not mentioning Stalin's secret police.

4. Cropping up from time to time in communist propoganda is an effort to name Mr. Hoover as the "hatchet man" in the "Palmer raids" of 1919-1920, although Mr. Hoover did not set the pattern of the raids and did not participate in them. Rebuttal to such charges is shown in a speech by Congressman Emanuel Celler of New York in 1940 as well as in a Congressional inquiry into the raids that did not place any blame on Mr. Hoover.

5. Many who believe the FBI is a threat to our type of society are not communists, but they are intellectually dishonest by "loading" the evidence, as do the communists, to make a case against the FBI.

6. The FBI and other Government agencies must be measured against standards of our own society, not by those of a Party forbidden to do other than denounce any institution that thwarts communism's "historic mission" to control all countries of the world.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN--Babel, U.S.A.--develops the theme that claims of inadequate or improper FBI activities need checking before acceptance as statements of fact.

1. In judging statements about an agency like the FBI, it is necessary to note contradictions, to assign varying degrees of importance to the different types of evidence, and to seek the authority for the statements.

2. Criticism of the FBI's Most Wanted Program by a "Las Vegas Review-Courier" article in 1963--that when criminals are put on the list the FBI has them staked out and picks them up as soon as wanted notices are published--and by Negro activist Dick Gregory in 1964--that the "top ten" are wanted for minor crimes or moral matters--is refuted by facts overlooked or omitted purposely by those critics.

3. Charges by columnists Chalmers Roberts and Drew Pearson in 1963 and 1964 that Mr. Hoover has long feuded with the Secret Service and the CIA are contrary to voluntary statements placed on the record by those presently or in the past in key posts in those agencies, including Secret Service

Chief James J. Rowley and the late Allen Dulles, former Director of the CIA.

4. Drew Pearson charged in 1963 that Mr. Hoover wanted to take over the work of the Criminal Investigative Division of the Army in the continental United States. But, in claiming unnamed members of the Army agency as the source, Pearson has relieved the reader of accepting such "pig-in-a-poke" evidence.

5. Rumors picturing Mr. Hoover as seeking to enlarge his power assume he wants the FBI to grow bigger and have his jurisdiction expanded. Repeated so often that it is hardly questioned, this assumption is in contradiction to Mr. Hoover's opposition to various plans to place him over several agencies or to absorb them into the FBI.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN--Expose after Expose--  
notes that "The Nation" magazine, in presenting its anti-FBI articles, does not represent a truly liberal approach.

1. "The Nation" has a right to believe what it wants about Mr. Hoover and to express its opinions in editorials. However, its expose articles on the FBI are not editorials and it is relevant to ask what level of reportage they represent.

2. The continuance of our system may not depend on Mr. Hoover, "The Nation," or the authors, but one thing indispensable is a liberalism that shows fairness to those criticized, respect for rules of evidence, and a sense of responsibility to those asked to believe our words.

3. "Hoover and the Red Scare," an article by former Special Agent Jack Levine in "The Nation" of October 20, 1962, should be viewed in the light of his admitted short career in the FBI and an admitted lack of experience in the internal security field.

4. Also to be questioned are several contradictions in the Levine-based criticism of the FBI. For instance, contradictory versions of his reason for joining the FBI are presented--(1) curiosity to see what the FBI was like and (2) attraction to the lofty ideal the FBI projected of "honest, dedicated law enforcement and unselfish public service." There is a contrast also in two public versions of why he left the FBI--(1) disillusionment with the FBI and (2) desire to aid his parents overburdened with business responsibilities.

5. Levine's article charges that the Communist Party, USA, was so weak and so largely composed of FBI informants that it was no threat. However, Mr. Hoover, Levine claims, called it a threat to justify huge budget requests. Levine also claims that White House and Justice Department officials were astonished when informed by him of the number of informants and the FBI's plan to neutralize the American communists if a Soviet-United States war becomes likely. That information of such sensitive and classified matters was given, according to Levine, to new Agents in training but not to top Government officials is implausible.

6. "The Nation," in accepting Levine's statements as gospel, did more than various Congressmen and newsmen who asked Levine to document his charges of misconduct against Mr. Hoover and the FBI. The fact that newsmen asked for documentation caused Levine to regard the newsmen as fearful that publication of criticism of Mr. Hoover would cause an adverse reaction among advertisers. This explanation by Levine appears melodramatic.

7. "Oswald and the FBI" by Harold Feldman in "The Nation" of January 24, 1964, presents the theme that Oswald was probably an FBI "informer" and that is why his name was not given to Secret Service prior to the assassination of President Kennedy. Feldman claims that statements supporting the FBI's investigation of the assassination should be suspect as leaked on FBI orders or slanted by intimidated witnesses. While seeking to show itself as well documented, the article actually relies on several questionable sources, especially those identified as anonymous, to make a case that Oswald was an FBI informant, a conclusion not substantiated by the Warren Commission inquiry.

8. If "The Nation" can find only rumor-laden and implausible material to undercut the FBI, then the FBI cannot be doing too bad a job.

CHAPTER FIFTEEN--Who Thinks He Wants What?--  
discusses criticism of Mr. Hoover and the  
FBI by "New York Post" writer James A.  
Wechsler.

1. Those virulent individuals who want Mr. Hoover removed are similar to John Birch Society followers who have proposed that Chief Justice Earl Warren be impeached. They would want the FBI to become responsive to their values alone. Their demands, therefore, must be scrutinized to prevent the FBI from becoming an investigative body that would be intolerable.

2. Wechsler charges in a "New York Post" column in 1963 that the FBI was keeping the Communist Party alive and actually strengthening it through informants and their activities. Curiously, while protesting against FBI penetration of the Party, in the same year Wechsler condemns the FBI for alleged failure to penetrate the "racist mobs." Actually, the FBI had penetrated the Klan groups to the point that those groups had imposed security measures making it difficult for informants to operate.

3. Another of Wechsler's criticisms, made in "The Progressive" magazine in 1964, is that all Federal activity in the civil rights field should be taken from the FBI and given to some agency that could protect the "freedom fighters," since the FBI had failed to do so. What Wechsler was demanding, again curiously, was that a duly assigned part of FBI work

should be transferred because the FBI was not trespassing beyond the limits of its assignments to perform strictly police functions.

4. Despite Wechsler's above demand, he does not provide the answers to pertinent questions such as: Does he propose an alternative agency to be given broader power by Congress than that given to the FBI? Does he advocate a constitutional amendment to transfer police powers vested in the states? Does he visualize an agency that, when a good cause is at issue, would not be inhibited by law?

5. Wechsler in a 1965 "New York Post" editorial attacks Mr. Hoover for "again trespassing into dubious areas," primarily the University of California at Berkeley. Inquiry showed that FBI Agents were only "looking on" since the FBI has intelligence responsibilities requiring it to collect data about incidents and persons on and off campuses in the national security field.

6. It is unfortunate that Wechsler has ignored the FBI's performance of its role in the civil rights field and has chosen to condemn it for not doing what it could not do legally. His hostility to Mr. Hoover and the FBI actually renders a negative service to the cause that Wechsler supports.

CHAPTER SIXTEEN---The FBI According to Lowenthal--  
is a refutation of much of Lowenthal's  
criticism of the FBI in his book, "The Federal  
Bureau of Investigation."

1. Published in 1950, Lowenthal's book, "The Federal Bureau of Investigation," contains the most extensive criticism of the FBI. While Lowenthal as an author is granted the privilege of selecting material for his anti-FBI presentation, he abuses that privilege by omitting data needed to properly evaluate the propriety of his choices.

2. Lowenthal uses the 1908 statements of several Congressmen concerning the dangers of a central police or spy system in the Federal Government to imply that they held the view that the creation of the Bureau of Investigation would result in an undesirable agency. However, the statements were actually directed against the use of the Secret Service as a central source of investigative manpower and not against the type of departmental force that Attorney General Bonaparte wanted to establish.

3. Lowenthal states that Congress in 1908, by ending the practice of Government agencies borrowing Secret Service agents, showed the intention of denying the Attorney General the right to employ detectives. However, Congress did vote money that the Attorney General sought in order to employ detectives and, as a result, he created the Bureau of Investigation on July 1, 1908.

4. Lowenthal's book is slanted toward showing that the modern FBI is the realization of Congressional fears of 1908 that a "Federal police force at the Department of Justice would some day adopt practices...abhorrent to democracy."

5. In addition to being unwanted, Lowenthal charges that the Bureau of Investigation was unneeded since its early cases were of a "somewhat makeshift character." He passes over the fact that there were important cases under investigation at the time, including antitrust cases.

6. The Mann Act, passed in 1910, according to Lowenthal, gave the Bureau of Investigation its taste for cases that make headlines. He omits mentioning, however, that publicized Departmental policy in 1911 was that the focus on Mann Act investigations should be strictly on cases involving commercialism in interstate transportation for immoral purposes. Lowenthal, not looking at the full picture of the Mann Act cases during Mr. Hoover's direction of the FBI, omits discussion of commercialized incidents.

7. Lowenthal charges that the 1940 arrests of individuals in Detroit and Milwaukee for alleged criminal action in recruiting for Spanish Civil War service raised doubts that the FBI was successful in indoctrinating its agents in the "true meaning and purpose of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights." He also claims that Attorney General Robert H. Jackson's investigator reported that FBI Agents had engaged in conduct possibly violating the Constitution. This claim is contradictory to the actual statements of Attorney General Jackson and his aide which exonerated the FBI Agents of illegal methods of arrest and questioning in the above matter.

8. While Lowenthal's book presents much documentation, sources used actually disprove the points made by him, for they are generally taken out of context. It appears, therefore, that the long listing of sources is designed not to encourage the reader to read those materials, but to impress the reader that further inquiry is not necessary.

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN--The FBI According to Cook--  
covers criticism of the FBI presented by Fred  
J. Cook in his book, "The FBI Nobody Knows."

1. Most of Cook's case against Mr. Hoover and the FBI comes from secondary sources, including Lowenthal's book which Cook claims "was not factually discredited in any respect" when published.

2. Cook's opinion that Congressmen were enraged by Attorney General Bonaparte's creation of the Bureau of Investigation in 1908 makes Bonaparte a villain. By contrast, Bonaparte actually fought political corruption and could not be bribed or intimidated by the "trusts" then attempting to extend their economic control--a cause to which Cook himself has addressed much sympathy.

3. Cook relies also on former Special Agent Jack Levine, depicting him as having an "all-American-boy look" and a successful FBI career before resigning. Needless to say, numerous facts in the public domain have been omitted by Cook, for they contradict his views of Levine and the FBI.

4. Levine, in his campaign attacking Mr. Hoover, offered information on FBI activities in organized crime,

civil rights, and infiltration of the Communist Party, USA, to various Government officials who, Levine improperly surmised, had not been advised of such matters by the FBI.

5. Cook at one point berates Don Whitehead, author of "The FBI Story," as an FBI apologist. Later in his own book, Cook grants Whitehead more authority than he possessed in quoting from Whitehead as a person having "access" to FBI files.

6. Cook also discusses, as did Lowenthal, the arrests of recruiters for the Spanish Civil War in 1940. To buttress his anti-FBI bias in this case, Cook uses the anti-FBI remarks of Senator George W. Norris whose views of the arrests were admittedly based upon an editorial in an issue of "The New Republic" in 1940 which was not alleged by the Senator to contain "facts" known to him personally.

7. Cook claims that official Washington is intimidated by Mr. Hoover, citing a situation in which the publisher of the "New York Post" had found that "some of the most distinguished figures on the Hill simply will not be quoted on the subject of Hoover." In addition, Cook, through quotes from unnamed liberal Congressmen who express fear of Mr. Hoover, attempts to make Mr. Hoover responsible for an atmosphere of conformity. It can be said that the unnamed Congressmen seem to be feeble carriers of the liberal tradition if they are afraid to express their views.

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN--The Turner Story--refutes  
some of the criticisms by former Special Agent  
William W. Turner.

1. Former Special Agent William W. Turner wrote an article for "Saga" magazine of March, 1964, entitled "The FBI Could Have Saved President Kennedy's Life!" The article claims that Turner's inquiry into the assassination showed that the FBI had included Oswald's name on a "risk list" that was given to Secret Service somewhat reluctantly due to FBI jealousy of the Secret Service. Actually, evidence shows there was no such list.

2. Turner claims in this article that a Dallas FBI Agent had interviewed Oswald ten days before the assassination, contrary to later testimony in the Warren Commission inquiry that determined Oswald had not been interviewed by the FBI after his return from Mexico in early October, 1963.

3. Turner concluded in 1964 from his inquiry that Oswald was the lone assassin with no plot involved. In 1967, he changed his opinion by advocating a conspiracy thesis in several "Ramparts" magazine articles, the plot allegedly designed to prevent a detente with Cuba which President Kennedy was supposedly planning.

4. In an article in "The Nation" of November 8, 1965, entitled "Crime Is Too Big for the FBI," Turner falsely alleges that the FBI avoids coming to grips with organized crime and has "pet crimes"--bank robberies, kidnappings, and car thefts--in

which it "specializes." Such crimes, Turner wrongly asserts, are mostly "amateurish" capers easily investigated to a conclusion.

5. Turner is contemptuous of the FBI's war on criminal gangs in the 1930s, charging that Agents indulged in reckless gunfire. This charge recalls a statement made by Senator Kenneth McKellar in the 1937 Senate Appropriations Committee hearings that he saw no excuse for so much gunfire by FBI Agents in gangster investigations. The then Senator Harry Truman asked at that point, "How would you catch them, Senator, if they commenced shooting at you?"

6. According to Turner, Mr. Hoover would not cooperate with a special Justice Department group on organized crime in the late 1950s. The group was actually satisfied with FBI help at first, but later wanted a substantial number of FBI Agents assigned to it. Mr. Hoover turned down the request to avoid making the FBI an agent-lending bureau.

7. Turner also charges that the FBI had authority for a massive campaign against organized crime but was "legalistic" in saying it had little jurisdiction in such matters. While listing several laws available to fight organized crime, Turner forgot to mention that the more significant of those laws were not enacted while he was with the FBI and that Robert F. Kennedy, while Attorney General, stated that the laws passed in 1961 and 1962 gave the FBI jurisdiction "for the first time" to investigate large-scale gambling, the primary source of wealth for the criminal syndicates. Since the passage of those laws,

the FBI has been increasingly successful in bringing hoodlums to justice.

8. Documents related to Turner's discharge from the FBI and his later attempts to gain reinstatement are discussed in some detail from court records. Turner's basis for demanding re-employment in the FBI is his claim of immunity from FBI action resulting from his efforts to discredit Mr. Hoover and the FBI--and not a claim that the accusatory statements he made were true.

CHAPTER NINETEEN--The Exploitative Adulators--  
probes the "far right" in its selective  
support of Mr. Hoover and the FBI.

1. Several elements of the "far right," such as the United Klans of America and the National States Rights Party, have prepared anti-FBI propaganda no less virulent than that of the communist left. For example, the National States Rights Party labelled three FBI informants in the 1964 Mississippi civil rights workers murder case as "lying paid pimps."

2. Other less extreme groups of the "far right" praise Mr. Hoover and quote him extensively, but in a way that seeks to justify their own views. For instance, the Church League of America tried to dissociate Mr. Hoover from Assistant Director W. C. Sullivan's speeches in the early 1960s which

denied "an extensive and substantial infiltration of the American clergy" by communists. The League tried to show that these speeches contradicted Mr. Hoover. Another group explained that Mr. Hoover was pressured by the Kennedy Administration to have the speeches made.

3. The "far right" quotes Mr. Hoover often, but it also ignores his statements that are unpalatable to them--such as his statements to the Warren Commission that the "extreme right is just as much a danger to this country as is the extreme left," and that he found no evidence of any foreign or domestic conspiracy "that culminated in the assassination of President Kennedy."

4. The anticommunism of the "far right" and Mr. Hoover are not cut from the same cloth, for Mr. Hoover is committed to liberty under law. He shows no obsession with the "communist menace" as do the "far rightists" who even see a communist plot in the enactment of gun control measures. Communist domination of major organized groups in the civil rights field is alleged despite Mr. Hoover's publicized disclaimers that the legitimate groups have by and large warded off communist efforts at penetration.

## PART IV

PART IV--Unfinished Business--concerns the unwarranted criticism of the FBI in the fields of civil rights and organized crime investigations.

CHAPTER TWENTY--One Federal Suit--discusses an FBI-investigated case in which the Department of Justice successfully sought an injunction to prevent the harassing of Negroes and civil rights workers in Bogalusa, Louisiana.

1. The FBI provided extensive evidence for the Department of Justice in connection with the Department's civil suit in 1965 seeking an injunction against the Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, the Anti-Communist Christian Association, and 38 individuals in and around Bogalusa, Louisiana. The suit sought to prevent them from interfering with persons seeking to exercise rights guaranteed under the Constitution.

2. The evidence against the defendants was so overwhelming that the defense admitted what many witnesses would have been called to prove in order to reduce the revelation of numerous assaults and acts of intimidation and harassment. A three-judge panel in Federal Court granted the injunction in December, 1965.

3. The FBI's task of gathering evidence to use in court against a Klan defendant calls for ingenuity, courage, and patience as shown in the Bogalusa trial through revelation of

Klan procedures to screen and prevent members from serving as FBI informants.

CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE--FBI vs. KKK--is concerned with the FBI's efforts to investigate the Ku Klux Klan and to develop informants within Klan groups.

1. The FBI has been involved in investigation of Klan activities since 1921 and was investigating 14 Klan-type organizations 100 years after the founding of the KKK in 1865.

2. The Klan groups attempt to create a public image of patriotism, dedication to Christian principles, and ardent anticommunism as a "respectable" cover for the terror and violence of hard-core members.

3. The impulse killing of Lemuel Penn, the Washington, D. C., Negro educator, in 1964 in Georgia points to the fact that FBI informants are unable to give advance warning of violence when Klan-type individuals follow impulse rather than plans. The suspects in the Penn case were arrested by the FBI and with evidence collected were turned over to state authorities for murder charges. Acquitted of the murder charges, several of the suspects were later convicted in Federal court of conspiring to deprive a citizen of his civil and constitutional rights.

4. The charge of James A. Wechsler of the "New York Post" that the FBI has shown neither the will nor capacity to cope with anti-Negro violence in the South is ill-founded since

the FBI has identified and arrested numerous suspects in anti-civil-rights violence and has been praised in the past by such groups as the NAACP for its investigations in such matters.

CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO--Federal Law and Civil Rights--considers the Federal statutes under which the FBI operates in the civil rights field.

1. Statutes under which the FBI investigates in the civil rights field are in two categories: (1) older criminal statutes surviving from the Reconstruction Era, including Sections 241, 242, and 371 of Title 18, U.S. Code, and (2) the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960, 1964, 1965, and 1968 which are both criminal and civil.

2. Section 241 of Title 18, U.S. Code, forbids a conspiracy by two or more persons to deprive a citizen of constitutional and legal rights. The Supreme Court has for almost a century been ruling as to specific rights involved and now there is usually a precedent when the Department of Justice orders the FBI to investigate an alleged infringement of rights or to arrest a suspect under Section 241. The section is limited to citizens, not aliens, and as a conspiracy statute is useless when the threat to civil liberty comes from the action of one person alone.

3. Section 242 of Title 18, U.S. Code, forbids willfully depriving the rights of persons under color of law,

statute, ordinance, regulation, or custom and is commonly called the police-brutality statute.

4. Section 371 of Title 18, U.S. Code, is the general conspiracy statute aimed at reaching persons willfully encouraging and helping the commission of any Federal crime and is used in conjunction with both Sections 241 and 242.

5. There was a broad attack on the FBI's use of Section 242 in the early 1950s. Mr. Hoover, in a letter in "The New York Times" of August 26, 1953, replied to the then Governors Fine, Battle, and Dewey of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and New York respectively by stating that Section 242 was still the law of the land and that the Attorney General had the duty to set policy for the FBI to investigate alleged violations of laws enacted by Congress.

6. In a decision in the case of the three civil rights workers killed in Mississippi in 1964, which the FBI solved, the Supreme Court in 1968 held that private persons "jointly engaged with state officials" in a violation of Section 242 are acting under "color of law" for the purposes of the statute.

7. The Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960, 1964, 1965, and 1968 deal primarily with the area of civil law and are aimed at protecting and promoting the exercise and enjoyment of civil rights and basic opportunities in various fields, including local and national elections, housing, entertainment, education, and

acts, to share investigative know-how, and to discuss mob control.

3. Civil rights cases are hard to prosecute because of the limits of Federal law and because of the verdicts often given by juries with no seeming relation to the evidence presented. The results of FBI investigations and Federal prosecutions cannot be measured solely by convictions. For instance, following vigorous FBI investigations in lynching cases in the 1940s, the number of lynchings declined. Also, each conviction under the police brutality statute--Section 242 of Title 18, U.S. Code--has been a lever to end practices inimical to due process.

4. In 1961, the FBI, at the instruction of the Department of Justice, conducted a survey in 294 cities in 17 states regarding segregation practices in interstate bus facilities. The evidence was used by the Department to gain an Interstate Commerce Commission ruling to end such segregation.

5. In 1961 and 1962, the FBI investigated allegations of racial discrimination in voting in more than 100 counties. The Department of Justice used the data collected in filing 30 suits in five states. One former Department official has noted that the mere starting of an FBI investigation frequently brings compliance with laws providing equal rights for Negroes.

6. James A. Wechsler, in alleging that the FBI has been a failure in the civil rights field, has quoted from four

religion. The 1968 Act has sections of both criminal and civil law, several forbidding interstate travel to aid, incite, or participate in rioting and to teach the manufacture or use of firearms and explosives to foment civil disorders.

8. While the FBI assignments in the civil rights field are broader than in 1957, in no statute is there any authority for the FBI to protect individuals and civil rights workers as is often demanded.

CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE--The FBI and Civil Rights--relates to FBI handling of complaints in civil rights matters.

1. FBI procedure after the receipt of a civil rights complaint in police brutality cases is to make a preliminary investigation and refer the matter to the Department of Justice for consideration as to further action. Other complaints in the civil rights field are referred to the Department of Justice which decides whether or not Federal prosecution is justified and, if so, the FBI is then instructed to investigate to collect evidence.

2. The FBI has sought good working relations with local officers interested in doing a responsible job in the civil rights field and has furnished such officers information from informants that has helped identify perpetrators of non-Federal crimes. In addition, the FBI has participated in many police training schools, providing instruction to clarify elements and constitutional significance of the civil rights

paragraphs of a 1947 report of President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights. His presentation of the quotes would indicate the FBI had been singled out for criticism for inadequate performance in civil rights matters at that time. Actually, the paragraphs are from a section of the report containing broad recommendations for improvement of Federal civil rights enforcement machinery, for the Committee found perfection at no point in that machinery. Wechsler also omitted mentioning the Committee's praise for the FBI, United States Attorneys, and the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice in handling civil rights matters. The record shows that, despite Wechsler's attempt to claim otherwise, the FBI has been active and successful in its civil rights investigations.

CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR--The What and How of Organized Crime--discusses organized crime and the effectiveness of the FBI in fighting it.

1. Organized crime's accumulation of wealth enables it to purchase power by corrupting officials. Its primary source of funds is gambling, followed by loan-sharking. Becoming more important as its source of wealth is its infiltration of legitimate business.

2. La Cosa Nostra, which dominates organized crime, uses murder to eliminate those it cannot control. With a membership of about 5,000, it is divided into 24 "families" throughout the country.

3. To combat organized crime, law enforcement needs to penetrate a shroud of secrecy. The FBI for several decades has collected "inside" data for its own use and for dissemination to aid local and national law enforcement agencies. The President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice said in 1967 that the FBI alone had been able to "document fully the national scope" of La Cosa Nostra groups. This assessment contradicts the claims of Fred J. Cook and former Special Agent Turner that Mr. Hoover and the FBI have been unwilling and unable to penetrate and come to grips with the underworld. Turner also goes so far as to imply that Mr. Hoover himself may have been under the influence of organized crime forces.

CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE--Elements of a Counter-Offensive--summarizes the cases of several high-ranking criminals in La Cosa Nostra in which the FBI investigated and collected evidence for the convictions.

1. Despite the problems of obtaining witnesses to testify, convictions of high-echelon hoodlums in organized crime are increasing. In cases investigated by the FBI in whole or in part, 281 convictions of organized crime figures were secured in fiscal year 1968.

2. The convictions of such hoodlums have consequences that adversely affect organized crime. These include the creation

of fear of prosecution among other hoodlums, the closing of income sources, and a struggle for leadership involving gang warfare.

3. The elements of an effective counteroffensive against organized crime include Federal laws that reach into various aspects of the crime group operations; improvement of local police forces to be more competent and less corruptible; the concern of citizens at the grass roots; and a body at the Federal level--the Organized Crime and Racketeering Section of the Department of Justice--to aid interagency collaboration.

4. Anti-FBI propagandists, particularly former Special Agent Turner and Fred J. Cook, claim that, while Mr. Hoover has failed against organized crime, the Justice Department's Special Group on Organized Crime of the late 1950s was necessary for a successful attack on the crime syndicates. Twenty of those at the 1957 Apalachin, New York, hoodlum meeting were convicted under a Federal conspiracy charge promulgated by the Special Group, a development applauded by Cook. The convictions, however, were reversed on appeal--a fact admitted by Cook but without his indicating the reasons which certainly cast doubt on the Special Group's tactics. The court's decision of reversal castigated the Group's approach as a travesty upon due process, and one judge said the prosecution should not have been initiated. This, of course, places Cook in the position of supporting questionable procedures in fighting crime.

CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX--The FBI and the Concerned Citizen--lists citizens' responsibilities to the FBI and closes with a discussion of the FBI's part in the Federal employee security investigations.

1. In our system of government that is committed to preserving a balance between heritage and heresy, the FBI performs a dual role of gathering intelligence about forces threatening our society and of helping to bring to prosecution those forces which have violated laws in crossing the line between legitimate dissent and lawbreaking.

2. If our system of freedom under law is to be maintained, citizens must not claim a special privilege to break the law nor must the law be changed except by duly provided means. In addition, the criminal must not be regarded as a hero or underdog. To help reduce crime, the public should also respond positively to suggestions that serve to lessen crime, such as locking the doors of parked cars.

3. The public owes the FBI--and every other agency of our Government--in this time of irresponsible and calculated rumor-mongering a refusal to repeat criticism until the charges are checked as to accuracy.

4. The FBI should be able to count on community interest in police-improvement programs that are needed to raise law enforcement standards in our Nation.

5. In the Federal Government applicant screening process, the FBI operates under a fixed policy that those who investigate

must not evaluate, and no evidence has been found that the FBI departs from the policy established in two executive orders.

6. There is a complaint that the FBI's so-called "dossiers" on individuals are receptive to malicious falsehood. The FBI does take all types of information, for how could it select and reject information from citizens and agencies without substituting for investigation some "intuitive" method to separate fact from falsehood. Also, FBI files must be confidential in order for it to remain a neutral recipient of data.

7. The Federal employee security program which was initiated after World War II was condemned by some as a gigantic "witch-hunt" used by Mr. Hoover in his "war" on liberals and dissenters. Morris Ernst, as counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union, checked out numerous complaints and concluded there was no convincing evidence to support the charges. Ernst, reporting on his findings in an article, "Why I No Longer Fear the FBI," in the "Reader's Digest," December, 1950, notes that the FBI was being attacked for conducting a "witch-hunt" by some, while others attacked it for not finding as many subversives as they thought it should.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

BONARO W. OVERSTREET  
 3409 FIDDLER'S GREEN  
 FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA  
 22044

July 31, 1969

*Mrs. H. A. Overstreet*

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

May I send for both of us our very warm thanks for the autographed copy of your ON COMMUNISM? We are pleased and proud to have it.

And since we do have it, we will give our own earlier copy to our local library. It is a great gathering place for students in search of resource materials; so we try to insure there being on the shelves as many useful items as we can provide.

Sincerely,  
*Bonaro Overstreet*  
*Bonaro Overstreet*  
*(Mrs. H.A.)*

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CORRESPONDENCE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
ATTENTION: RESEARCH-SATELLITE SECTION

DATE: 8/5/69

*als*

FROM : SAC, SALT LAKE CITY

*McCullough  
Gibson*

SUBJECT: ~~"THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY"~~  
DIVISION 5 SUMMARY OF CAPTIONED BOOK

*Harry*

The Salt Lake City Division has already had two occasions to utilize the summary of the Overstreets' book prepared by the Research-Satellite Section, and found it to be exceedingly well prepared and most useful. The brief but very much to-the-point arguments as set forth with regard to each of the controversial points concerned make the summary exceptionally adaptable to preparing material for speeches designed to show the falsity of allegations by certain of the Bureau's detractors.

The summary will undoubtedly be useful in the future in preparing material for public appearances and in answering questions in connection with these appearances.

- 2 - Bureau
  - 1 - Salt Lake City
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*[Signature]*  
RESEARCH-SATELLITE



September 23, 1969

Honorable John O. Marsh, Jr.  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

My dear Congressman:

Thank you for your comments in the September 19th issue of the Congressional Record regarding our operations as described in the Harry J. Overstreets' book, "The FBI in Our Open Society." As you indicated, it is a forthright and factual portrayal of the FBI's activities, and I am grateful to you for bringing this work to the attention of your colleagues.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 20  
SEP 23 1969  
COMM-FBI

1 - Richmond

NOTE: We have had previous cordial relations with Congressman Marsh.

HCS:kce (4)

ENCLOSURE

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- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
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THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY

**HON. JOHN O. MARSH, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 1969

Mr. MARSH. Mr. Speaker, there was recently published by the W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., the book entitled "The FBI in Our Open Society" by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet, which I think is worthy of mention to members.

In their book, "The FBI in Our Open Society," Harry and Bonaro Overstreet, present a careful and well-documented study of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Having become interested in the work of this investigative and law-enforcement agency and having heard tales of its so-called interference with the processes expected in a free society, the Overstreets set about studying the facts behind the establishment and operation of this organization. And what they have found is presented here in an objective and highly informative portrayal of the Bureau and its work.

The book tells the story of the FBI—its founding and the reason behind its existence; its relation to the Secret Service, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Justice Department; and its work on the American scene, especially with regard to the movements of communism and civil rights. Throughout there is an acute awareness of the problems involved in a free society where each individual is granted certain fundamental rights under the Constitution. The place of an enforcement agency which must protect the rights of its citizens, but must also assure the national security of the country becomes a highly delicate one of carefully drawing the line between the needs

of its double jurisdiction. The Overstreets do not gloss over this difficulty. It is a very present factor in their presentation. But because they readily admit the problems to be faced, they are also able to show how unfair much of the criticism leveled against the FBI and its Director, J. Edgar Hoover, has been.

The Overstreets also point out how Hoover's personal direction of the FBI has been to avoid bringing ever increasing areas of jurisdiction under its authority. They answer criticism of the agency by pointing out how ambiguous this criticism has been. While the FBI has been denigrated, for instance, for its failure to protect the lives of civil rights workers, it is likewise criticized for the extent of its authority. The two are incompatible. The one implies that the FBI should increase its jurisdiction into the area reserved to State and local law enforcement officials while the other asks for a decrease in the areas over which the FBI exercises its power.

Most importantly, the book shows how the FBI is limited to areas in which Federal statutes have been enacted. The agency operates in the fields of intelligence and of law enforcement where Federal legislation has been passed—and, as such, the Overstreets show how very well the Bureau has stayed within its authority. They summarize the essence of the complexity of the situation in the concluding paragraph of the book:

The work of the FBI is far less melodramatic than it is often made to appear and far more quietly dramatic than is commonly realized. The drama stems from its relationship of freedom's enterprise.

This book is an especially valuable reference for one who wishes to trace the history of the FBI and its performance and record in the highly sensitive area relating to civil liberties. To those who are concerned about this aspect of the Bureau's operation, it should be reassuring.

To the serious reader, or student, who wants to learn more of the operation of this highly effective and valuable American agency, the book is a valuable source.

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October 28, 1969

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*A. J. [unclear]*  
*J. M. [unclear]*

[Redacted]

Ligonier, Pennsylvania

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter, with enclosure, was received on October 23rd.

While I wish to be of assistance to you, I am unable to comment with respect to your specific inquiries since information in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. Harry and Bonaro Overstreet are authors of "The FBI in Our Open Society," which is an accurate portrayal of some of the operations of this Bureau. Over the years the FBI has enjoyed cordial relations with the Overstreets.

Although it is not possible to send you material on a continuing basis, I am enclosing some literature which I trust will be of interest to you.

Your enclosure is being returned as requested.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

✓

*Tom [unclear]*

*Gene [unclear]*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Walters \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
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- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (4)

An Analysis of the New Left: A Gospel of Nihilism  
Director's Testimony 4/17/69 re Organized Crime  
Director's Testimony 4/17/69 re Communist, Racial and Extremist Groups  
NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.  
Bu. Confid. Return Address used on address label.

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OCT 29 1969  
COMM-FBI

57 NOV 24 1969

October 1969

Director John Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

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8-1

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/col  
busy 243472

Dear Sir:

I know you are very busy and are doing a tremendous job to protect the security of our nation from those who choose to be our enemies from within and outside the continental boundaries of the United State of America, but I would appreciate a service from you on information on whether or not the author of " The strange tactics of Extremism" - Harry Overstreet is a past registered Communist with the government or is there sufficient evidence that he he is a member of the Communist Party in the United States.

My reason for asking is this: I am a member of the Herb Philbrick "ANTI-COMMUNIST CONGRESS " and in a recent discussion with a local liberal pastor who<sup>se</sup> church is a member of NCC, I mention<sup>ed</sup> that he did not act in the best interest of his congregation when he recommended that his members read the book " The strange tactics of extremism" and they will learn more about the right- wingers.

I mention<sup>ed</sup> that the author had been publicized as being a member of known and registered communist organizations. He remarked,

You can't prove it- you can't prove it. I told him that if I did prove it, would he evaluate his opinion of this man and advise his congregation not to read such publicat~~ions~~ions. He said, "e would,

but the facts would have to be official and not heresay or that he member of fringe area organizations of the new left. Will you help me Sir.

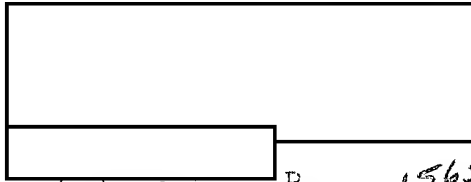
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CORRESPONDENCE

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Ligonier, Pa.

15658 ✓

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b7c

Telephone (202) 638-6010

**UNITED STATES ANTI-COMMUNIST CONGRESS, Inc.**

1221 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NORTHWEST WASHINGTON D.C. 20005

**'RESPONSIBLE ANTI-COMMUNISM'**



July 8, 1969

[Redacted address line]

Twin, Pa. 15642

Dear [Redacted name]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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Enclosed you will find the latest edition of the Washington Intelligence Report, a sample copy of the Congressional Record, and your membership card.

b6  
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Sincerely Yours,

[Redacted signature]

National Director

Dear Sir: Here is the proof of what I have said is true.

I would like this returned as is Sir. Thank you.

Special note: I have taken a job as a free lance reporter with a news paper that covers a local area of over 50,000 people and if you have press releases that can help our people to help themselves please place me on the mailing list to receive these publications and I promise that the people will receive them.

ENCLOSURE

700-114575-187

~~Confidential~~

I request your confidence and please note what you

*Original returned  
to [Redacted]  
letter 10/20/69  
acc*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Walters	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Soyars	_____
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Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Bishop *RB*

DATE: 2/26/70

FROM : M. A. Jones *MAJ*

b6  
b7c

SUBJECT: "THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY" *book*  
BY HARRY AND BONARO OVERSTREET

*OVERSTREET HARRY*

Yesterday your office received a call from [redacted] W. W. Norton and Company, publisher of the above-mentioned book, which is most favorable in its treatment of the FBI. [redacted] stated that his company was over stocked on this particular book, which originally sold for \$6.95, and he wondered whether the FBI Recreation Association or the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation would be interested in 17,000 copies of this book at \$1.00 per copy. [redacted] recalled that the FBI Recreation Association and the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation had each purchased copies of the book in the past.

[redacted] was thanked for his call and, while no encouragement was given to him, he was told that he would be called back concerning this matter (area code 212 [redacted] in New York City). *any*

At the present time the Bureau's Library has an ample supply of this particular book. No additional copies are needed in the foreseeable future. While this would be a good bargain if the books were needed, it is not felt that additional copies should be purchased at this time for sale to Bureau employees through the FBI Recreation Association.

### RECOMMENDATION:

That [redacted] be called back, thanked for his most generous offer and told that additional copies of the book are not needed at this time by either the FBI Recreation Association or the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Miss Gandy
- 1 - M. A. Jones
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

REC-6  
*Suggest the JEH Foundation purchase 2500 additional copies to give to colleges.*

5 MAR 18 1970  
Suggest the JEH Foundation purchase 2500 additional copies to give to colleges.

D.

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28 APR 24 1970  
MAJ:paa

*2,500 Books  
Order Set  
3-27-70  
BMB*

*CRIME LABORATORY*

**HARFORD JUNIOR COLLEGE**

401 THOMAS RUN ROAD  
BEL AIR, MARYLAND 21014  
PHONE: 301-734-7171

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Walters	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Soyars	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Harford Junior College Library  
May 21, 1970

The J. Edgar Hoover Commission  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

*HARRY OVERSTREET*

I wish to acknowledge with grateful appreciation the gift copy of Overstreet, The FBI in Our Open Society recently received by Harford Junior College Library. It will be made available to the college community as soon as processed for circulation.

b6  
b7c

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted Signature Box]

Head Librarian

**EXP. PROC.**  
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CORRESPONDENCE

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LENOIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE

KINSTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28501

*Spears*

*126f*

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

May 19, 1970

*Harry Overstreet*

The J. Edgar Hoover Foundation  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Thank you for sending me the copy of The FBI  
in Our Open Society by the Overstreets. I look  
forward to reading this book and shall place it in  
our college library when I finish.

*jes*

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature area]

[Redacted return address area]

*N.C.*

91 MAY 25 1970

EXP. PROC. 40

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Walters
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Bishop
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Soyars
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

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245472

REC 18

100-114575-190

*no ack due*

MAY 25 1970

59 JUN 9 1970 (327)

CORRESPONDENCE

# Gordon Military College

BARNESVILLE, GEORGIA

ROBERT M. RUE  
PRESIDENT

June 8, 1970

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

The J. Edgar Hoover Foundation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

*HAPPY* This is to acknowledge and to express our appreciation for the book by Overstreet, The FBI in our open society, which you recently sent to our library.

This book will, I am sure, prove of great interest and great worth to our students. It is already available to them.

We appreciate your interest in our school as indicated by your gift.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Name]

Augusta Lambdin Library  
Gordon Military College  
Barnesville, Georgia 30204

EXP. PROC.  
JUN 15 1970  
35

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/csl  
245472

b6  
b7c

REC-64 100-114575-191

EX-112

18 JUN 15 1970

60 JUN 23 1970

CORRESPONDENCE



**GUILFORD TECHNICAL INSTITUTE**

JAMESTOWN, NORTH CAROLINA 27282

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

June 12, 1970

The J. Edgar Hoover Foundation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

With great appreciation the Guilford Technical Institute Library acknowledges the receipt of The FBI in Our Open Society by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet. This book is a welcome addition to our library.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/csl  
245472

*OVERSTREET*

**EXP. PROC.**  
34 JUN 15 1970

cc: Dr. Luther Medlin  
President, GTI

b6  
b7c

*EXP. PROC.*  
*REC-64*

*100-114575-192*

**JUN 15 1970**

CORRESPONDENCE

60 JUN 23 1970

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Walters	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Bishop *TBB*

DATE: 6/11/70

FROM : M. A. Jones *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: "THE FBI IN OUR OPEN SOCIETY" BY HARRY AND BONARO OVERSTREET, PUBLISHED BY W. W. NORTON & COMPANY, INC., NEW YORK, NEW YORK

When "The FBI In Our Open Society" by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet was first published, the Bureau Library, through the FBI Recreation Association, ordered what we felt to be an adequate supply for sale to Bureau employees at the reduced price of \$3.75 per copy. While the book sold quite well for several weeks, the sales have tapered off, and this seems to be due to the fact that the publisher was overstocked and has been selling the book through book stores for \$1.00 per copy or even less.

As a result of the diminishing sales, the Bureau Library has approximately 1,000 copies of the book on hand. Rather than hold these books indefinitely and run the risk of our supply becoming completely worthless, it is felt we should reduce the price to \$1.00 per copy and so notify the SACs and Bureau officials by routing slip at this time.

Mr. Joseph A. Sizoo, President of the FBIRA, is in agreement with this proposal.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the approximately 1,000 copies of "The FBI In Our Open Society," which are on hand, be offered for sale to Bureau employees at \$1.00 per copy, and the employees be notified.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Callahan

BMS:sel  
(6)

4-243 466  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3-22-85 BY SP7 [Signature]  
205472 5-21-86 SP8GTS/col

EX-109

REC-36

JUN 26 1970

CRIME RESEARCH

5 5 JUL 1 1970  
F467

193

PomB

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY  
HOPKINSVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY 42240

July 13, 1970

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Walters	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Soyars	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

The J. Edgar Hoover Foundation  
Washington,  
D. C.

Gentlemen:

*Harry Overstreet*

I have received a copy of The FBI In our Open Society from The J. Edgar Hoover Foundation and am grateful to you for forwarding this excellent book by the Overstreets to me. The publication is being placed in our College library for the use of our many students.

Thank you very much for providing this book to me and to Hopkinsville Community College.

Very truly yours,



b6  
b7c

dlw

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/cal  
245472

EX-117  
REC-51

100-114575 - 194

14 JUL 20 1970

F 183  
56 JUL 24 1970

*No ack necessary -  
reply would be  
in hands for change.*

8-19-70

PLAINTEXT

REC-32

TELEGRAM

100-114575-195

URGENT

MRS. HARRY A. OVERSTREET  
3409 FIDDLERS GREEN  
LAKE BARCROFT  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA ~~22041~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/CL  
245472

I WAS DEEPLY SADDENED TO LEARN OF DR. OVERSTREET'S  
PASSING AND WANT YOU TO KNOW YOU HAVE MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY.  
WORDS CERTAINLY ARE INADEQUATE AT A TIME LIKE THIS, BUT I HOPE  
YOU WILL DERIVE SOME MEASURE OF COMFORT FROM KNOWING THAT  
OTHERS SHARE YOUR SORROW. MY ASSOCIATES AND I ARE MOST  
APPRECIATIVE OF THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WHICH WE IN THE FBI WERE  
PRIVILEGED TO HAVE WITH DR. OVERSTREET. YOU CAN BE  
JUSTIFIABLY PROUD OF THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH HE MADE TO  
HIS COUNTRY AND THE HIGH ESTEEM IN WHICH HE IS HELD.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 19 1970

WESTERN UNION

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

- 1 - Mr. Bishop (detached)
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan (detached)

- 1 - Mr. Brennan (detached)
- 1 - Miss Gandy (detached)

NOTE: See M. A. Jones to Bishop memo dated 8/17/70, captioned  
"Dr. Harry A. Overstreet." Address per Special Correspondents List.

FCS:mcb<sup>mcb</sup> (10)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Brennan, C.D. \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Walters \_\_\_\_\_
- Soyars \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

54 AUG 31 1970 270

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*Handwritten signatures and initials: jll, TOB, [unclear]*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
Sullivan	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Brennan, C.D.	_____
Callahan	_____
Casper	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Tavel	_____
Walters	_____
Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Bishop *BR*

FROM : M. *McJones*

SUBJECT: DR. HARRY A. OVERSTREET

DATE: 8/17/70

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8 BTJ/col  
245472 *M. A. Jones*

We learned that captioned individual died this morning. As you know, Dr. Overstreet, and his wife Bonaro Overstreet, were ardent friends and supporters of Mr. Hoover and the FBI. In fact, they had just authored an excellent book about the FBI entitled "The FBI In Our Open Society" which has been well received.

Dr. Harry Overstreet is the author of numerous books and articles and is extremely well known for his scholarship. He formerly was a university professor and has maintained an active interest not only in education but also in law enforcement. The Overstreets were personally known to Assistant to the Director Sullivan. Over the years, the Bureau received a number of inquiries from citizens accusing the Overstreets of being either pro-communist or extremely liberal. Actually, neither in his writings nor his speeches did Dr. Overstreet ever manifest any sympathy for communism. His recent books have been devoted to alerting the American public to the subversive nature of communism as well as the evils of extremism of the far right. The Director wrote letters to Dr. Overstreet on the occasion of both his 80th and 90th birthdays, the later being 10/25/65.

It is felt the Director would want to write a ~~letter~~ telegram of sympathy to Mrs. Overstreet.

RECOMMENDATION:

That attached ~~letter~~ telegram be sent to Mrs. Overstreet.

Enclosure

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Bishop - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Brennan - Enclosure

FCS:dkg/mjl  
(7)

4 AUG 25 1970

*114575-195*  
*Director's file*  
*approved w/ [unclear]*  
*8-17-70*  
*Document with [unclear]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

EX 106

REC-57

100-114575-176

August 26, 1970

b6  
b7c

[Redacted]  
Trites Stationery and Books  
21 Mississaga Street East  
Orillia, Ontario, Canada

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP8BTJ/csl  
245472

Dear [Redacted]

In answer to your inquiry received on August 21st, this Bureau does not have for distribution a copy of the book, "Hoover's FBI: The Men and the Myth," by William W. Turner. You may wish to inform your customer that this publication is nothing more than a collection of old, time-worn, discredited and grossly inaccurate material of the nature that Turner and other enemies of this Bureau have repeatedly put out in an effort to undermine public confidence in the FBI and in me.

*Book sent 8/27/70*

Although it is now out of print, I am sending to you, under separate cover, a copy of "The FBI in Our Open Society" by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet which you may wish to furnish to your customer. This book contains data concerning some of the vicious attacks leveled at this Bureau over the years by its most persistent critics and also sets forth the true facts which speak for themselves and completely negate their allegations.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 21  
AUG 28 1970  
COMM-FBI

1 - Ottawa - Enclosure

Attention, Legal Attache: Neither correspondent nor this book firm is identifiable in Bufiles.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Brennan, C.D. \_\_\_\_\_
- Cullahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Walters \_\_\_\_\_
- Soyars \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DCL:llk (5)

*gentlemanly person to file*

6 SEP

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*WILLIAMS-4778*



**Trites**

**STATIONERY AND BOOKS**

21, MISSISSAGA STREET EAST - ORILLIA, ONTARIO  
Office Supplies and Business Furniture . . . . . Stationery and Books  
TELEPHONES: (705) 326 - 3338 : OFFICE SUPPLY DIVISION: (705) 326 - 4361

August 14, 1970

*Handwritten signature*

The Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-86 BY SP9 BTJ/col  
245472

Gentlemen:

We are interested in obtaining one copy of  
"Hoover's F. B. I. - The Men and the Myth", by  
W. W. Turner.

As our customer is most anxious to purchase this  
book, could you possibly send it to us, or forward to  
us the name of a publisher who could supply it.

*Handwritten signature*

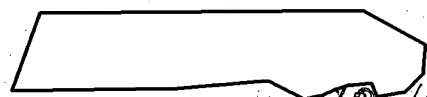
Thanking you in advance for the attention, I know  
this request will meet, we remain,

Yours truly

b6  
b7c

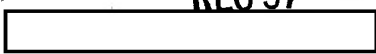
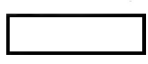
TRITES STATIONERY & BOOKS

EX 106



REC-57

114 595-196



18 AUG 27 1970

CORRESPONDENCE

PERS. REC. UNIT

*ack/and  
DCL: lrp  
26  
8/23/70  
Nhe*

BONARO W. OVERSTREET  
3409 FIDDLER'S GREEN  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA  
22044

August 25, 1970

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. Sullivan ✓
- Mr. Mohr ✓
- Mr. Bishop ✓
- Mr. Brennan CD ✓
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Walters
- Mr. Soyars
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5-21-82 BY SP8 BT/les  
245472

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thank you very warmly for your generous telegram and for the beautiful basket of flowers that came from you and your associates. Both were deeply appreciated. Both served as part of the fabric of friendship by which I felt myself supported: the fabric of friendship and shared concern.

We have lived here for almost fifteen years, having bought our house on October 1, 1955 -- less than a month before Harry's 80th birthday. One morning several years ago I saw him looking meditative, with a sort of quiet half-smile on his face; so I asked him what he was thinking about. He said, "It doesn't seem quite normal for a person who's had as long and happy a life as I've had to feel that his happiest decade began when he was eighty." But he did feel that. We both have found our years here enormously educative and rewarding -- and our relationship with the FBI has been one chief reason for our having found them so.

It does not seem at all irrelevant, therefore, to include in this letter a word about the deep satisfaction it gave us to have William Sullivan prompted to his present post. He has become very much part of our own lives; and as our acquaintanceship has deepened so has our conviction that he is one of the most unique (and intelligent; and dedicated) personalities that we have ever been privileged to know.

Sincerely, *Bonaro Overstreet*

*Bonaro Overstreet*  
Mrs. H.A. Overstreet

REC-36

100-114575-197

10 SEP 3 1970

59 SEP 16 1970

REC. UNIT

EXP. PROC.  
33  
AUG 26 1970

*Copy 8-1*  
*[Signature]*

March 19, 1976

Mrs. Harry Overstreet  
Northern Virginia Doctors Hospital  
601 South Carlyn Spring Road  
Arlington, Virginia 22204

Dear Mrs. Overstreet:

Your friends in the FBI were indeed sorry to learn of your hospitalization and they all join me in sending you this note of best wishes. We did want you to know that our thoughts and prayers are

with you and we wish you a quick and complete recovery.

MAILED 6  
MAR 19 1976  
FBI

Sincerely,

Clarence Kelley EX-112

b6  
b7C

NOTE: Mr. and Mrs. Overstreet wrote a book about the FBI and our relations with them over the years have been cordial. SA [redacted] was telephonically advised that Mrs. Overstreet suffered a heart attack and is in the Northern Virginia Doctors Hospital.

REC-94 100-114575-198

awt:acr (3)

- Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Asst. Dir.:
- Admin. \_\_\_\_\_
- Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_
- Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_
- Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ident. \_\_\_\_\_
- Inspection \_\_\_\_\_
- Intell. \_\_\_\_\_
- Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_
- Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_
- Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Training \_\_\_\_\_
- Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_
- Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

ack

APPROVED: *[Signature]*

Assec. Dir. _____	Comp. Syst. _____	Laboratory _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____	Ext. Affairs _____	Legal Coun. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____	Gen. Inv. _____	Plan. & Eval. _____
Asst. Dir.:	Ident. _____	Rec. Mgmt. _____
Admin. _____	Inspection _____	Spec. Inv. _____
	Intell. _____	Training _____

18 MAR 22 1976

56 MAR 30 1976

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

April 26, 1976

REC- 85 / 100 - 114575 - 199

EX-104

Mrs. Harry Overstreet  
3409 Fiddler's Green  
Falls Church, Virginia 22044

Dear Mrs. Overstreet:

I was pleased to learn from your letter of April 18th that you are out of the hospital and regaining your strength.

I have heard and read nothing but compliments of the work of you and your late husband, and it would indeed be a pleasure to meet you. Please contact my office and my Secretary will arrange a mutually convenient time and date.

Sincerely yours,

G. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

b6  
b7c

MAILED 6  
APR 27 1976  
FBI

- 1 - [redacted] - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Moore - Enclosure
- 1 - Telephone Room - Enclosure

NOTE: Mr. and Mrs. Overstreet wrote a book about the FBI and our relations with them over the years have been cordial. Mrs. Overstreet suffered a heart attack and Mr. Kelley extended his best wishes for a quick and complete recovery by letter 3-19-76.

- Sec. Dir.
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv.
- Ident.
- Inspection
- Intell.
- Laboratory
- Legal Coun.
- Plan. & Eval.
- Spec. Inv.
- Training
- Telephone Rm.
- Director Sec'y

MN:glh (6)

APPROVED:

- Assoc. Dir.
- Dep. AD Adm.
- Dep. AD Inv.
- Asst. Dir.:
- Admin.

- Comp. Syst.
- Ext. Affairs
- Gen. Inv.
- Ident.
- Inspection
- Intell.

- Laboratory
- Legal Coun.
- Plan. & Eval.
- Rec. Mgnt.
- Spec. Inv.
- Training

*Jew*

*[Handwritten signature]*

20 MAY 1976

TELETYPE UNIT

BONARO W. OVERSTREET  
3409 FIDDLER'S GREEN  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA  
22044

April 18, 1976

*mm*  
*26*  
*ack*  
*OK*

Assoc. Dir.	_____
Dep.-A.D.-Adm.	_____
Dep.-A.D.-Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Admin.	_____
Comp. Syst.	_____
Ext. Affairs	_____
Gen. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Inspection	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Eval.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Spec. Inv.	_____
Training	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

Mr. Clarence Kelley  
Director  
FBI  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Mr. Kelley,

My warm thanks to you for the generous letter you sent while I was in the hospital. I appreciated it very much indeed. I am at home again and am gradually regaining strength.

Your letter encouraged me to say something that I have been tempted to say ever since you became Director -- or at least ever since the pattern of your directorship began to take visible shape. What has held me back has been a reluctance to intrude upon your busyness.

Sometime, if there ever is a time of respite for you, and if I am again able to trek into the city, I would greatly value a chance to meet you. This is not a self-indulgent wish. The fact is that, because of our authorship of the book, I am asked so many questions about the FBI and where it is going that I think I could be more useful if I knew more. Obviously, I am not asking for inside information; but when I am asked about you and how you are handling things, I find it a practical disadvantage to have to say that I have never met you. John Malone, incidentally, agrees with me on this: he thinks I should become acquainted.

Use your own judgment about this. I simply want you to know that I am, in all the informal ways that open up for me, still trying to emphasize the merits of the Bureau.

EX-104

REC-85

100-114525-199

Sincerely,

*Bonaro W. Overstreet*  
Bonaro W. Overstreet

Copy made for Tele. Rm.

4/20/76 *g...*

5-19  
4 APR 20 1976

CORRESPONDENCE

*NML*

*ok 4-26-76*  
*mm: g...*

EXP. PROC.  
34 APR 20 1976

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

- Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Asst. Dir.:
- Admin. \_\_\_\_\_
- Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_
- Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_
- Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ident. \_\_\_\_\_
- Inspection \_\_\_\_\_
- Intell. \_\_\_\_\_
- Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_
- Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_
- Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_
- Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Training \_\_\_\_\_
- Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

TO : Mr. Moore

DATE: 11-4-76

FROM : C. P. Monroe

SUBJECT: MRS. BONARO W. OVERSTREET  
 3409 FIDDLERS GREEN  
 FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA  
 (703) 256-4144  
 DINNER INVITATION EXTENDED TO THE DIRECTOR  
 AND HIS WIFE

*See under data files*

PURPOSE:

To advise the Director of Mrs. Overstreet's dinner invitation to Mr. and Mrs. Kelley.

SYNOPSIS:

Mrs. Bonaro W. Overstreet, co-author of "The FBI in Our Open Society," on October 29, 1976, telephonically advised she had seen Mr. Kelley in late July, 1976, and indicated she would call the Director to arrange a convenient time for him to have dinner at her home. Mrs. Overstreet now was calling to invite the Director and his wife to dinner at a time and date to be left to Mr. Kelley's discretion. She indicated she would like Mr. Kelley to return her call for the above-stated purpose. Mrs. Overstreet indicated she would thereafter forward to the Director directions to her home, should Mr. Kelley accept her invitation. Bufiles reflect a cordial relationship with Mrs. Overstreet and her now-deceased husband, Dr. Harry A. Overstreet, in the past. Records indicate Mrs. Overstreet met with the Director on June 29, 1976, at FBI Headquarters. There is no record of her meeting with the Director in July, 1976.

100-114575-200

RECOMMENDATIONS:

EX-109

REC-86

~~94-64862-2~~

1) That, should the Director desire to accept Mrs. Overstreet's dinner invitation, he (Mr. Kelley) select a convenient date and time.

b6  
b7c

- 1 - Mr. Moore
- 1 - Mr. Malmfeldt
- 1 - [Redacted]
- 1 - Telephone Room

WET:slr (8)

*OK*

*Mr. Kelley had dinner with Mrs. Overstreet on Nov. 30, 1976.*

24 DEC 1 1976

SWG

CONTINUED - OVER

*Handwritten notes and stamps in bottom right corner, including a circular stamp with 'DEC 1 1976' and other illegible text.*

Monroe to Moore memo  
RE: MRS. BONARO W. OVERSTREET

2) That, following the Director's decision, this memorandum be returned to the Research Section, External Affairs Division, in order that Mrs. Overstreet can be accordingly advised.

APPROVED:	Adm. Serv.....	Legal Coun.....
	Ext. Affairs.....	Plan. & Insp.....
Director.....	Fin. & Pers.....	Rec. Mgt.....
Assoc. Dir. <i>AK</i> .....	Gen. Inv.....	S. & T. Serv.....
Dep. AD Adm. <i>AK</i> .....	Ident.....	Spec. Inv.....
Dep. AD Inv.....	Intell.....	Training.....

DETAILS:

On October 29, 1976, Mrs. Bonaro W. Overstreet, co-author of "The FBI in Our Open Society" telephonically contacted the Director's Office and was referred to the External Affairs Division Interview Room.

Mrs. Overstreet stated that she knows the Director personally and had visited him at FBIHQ in late July, 1976. At that time, she had indicated she would call the Director and arrange a convenient time for him to have dinner at her home.

Mrs. Overstreet advised that the purpose of her present call was to invite the Director and his wife to dinner at her home, the date and time of which would be left to the Director's discretion. She indicated she would like the Director to return her call for the above-stated purpose.

Mrs. Overstreet advised she has forwarded no written invitation because she has only limited use of her right hand. Should Mr. Kelley accept her invitation, she would forward to him (Mr. Kelley) the necessary directions to her residence.

INFORMATION IN BUFILES:

Bufiles indicate Bonaro W. Overstreet and her scholar-author husband, Dr. Harry A. Overstreet, co-authored "The FBI in Our Open Society," which was released for sale in 1969 and concluded that the FBI has capably and properly stood as a defense of law and the rights of citizens. The Bureau has

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Monroe to Moore memo

RE: MRS. BONARO W. OVERSTREET

maintained a cordial relationship with the Overstreets over the years. Dr. Overstreet passed away in 1970. Mr. Kelley by letter dated 3-13-76, extended his best wishes for a quick and complete recovery to Mrs. Overstreet when she was hospitalized for a heart attack. Mrs. Overstreet, by letter 4-18-76, expressed a desire to meet the Director; and, by letter 4-24-76, Mr. Kelley agreed to such a meeting on a mutually convenient date. Records indicate that Mrs. Overstreet met with Mr. Kelley on 6-29-76 at FBIHQ. Possibly, at that meeting Mrs. Overstreet mentioned extending a dinner invitation to Mr. Kelley at a future date. There is no record of Mrs. Overstreet meeting with Mr. Kelley in July, 1976.